



Speech by

**JULIE ATTWOOD**

**MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY**

---

Hansard 15 September 1999

### **GOOD NEWS LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

**Mrs ATTWOOD** (Mount Ommaney—ALP) (10.18 a.m.): Last month I had much pleasure in officially opening the Good News Lutheran School's new Computer Learning Laboratory. The school principal, Mr Lloyd Fyfe, parents, staff and children at the school worked hard to make this great futuristic asset a reality. Pastor Jim Strelan blessed and dedicated the laboratory for the use of the school.

This prefabricated building by Hardies Construction was lifted into its current position by a crane and was painted in magnificent heritage colours to blend in with the school's environment. However, prior to its opening, the building was defaced by graffiti vandals, who also hit the Jamboree Heights State School. More expenditure was required to again restore the building to its heritage colours. These graffiti vandals do not seem to care where they leave their mark and do not think about the consequences of their actions, that is, that young children will miss out on funds used to clean up the mess.

The laws regarding the sale of spray cans need to be looked at again. Shop owners sell to anyone and everyone without question. But the Good News Lutheran School is defiant that these vandals will not hinder their progress. This great new laboratory will serve this school for generations to come and is a milestone in the further development opportunities for its children.

Over 30 computers are set up in a spacious classroom environment and computer screens are able to be displayed by a projector onto the front wall. The P & F fundraised to purchase the chairs which can comfortably sit children from Year 1 to Year 7. The future of these children will depend on their ability to know how computers work, to use them in a variety of occupations and to be able to have access to a wide range of information available on the Internet. Information is a powerful tool which will be used by future employers to determine who gets the job.

The Good News facility will also allow parents to train on computers not only to keep up with their children but also to assist them with their own work and community activities. Many people are starting to realise that they cannot be computer phobic forever, that more and more of our lives are being touched in some way by information technology.

---