



Speech by

Mr P. PURCELL

MEMBER FOR BULIMBA

Hansard 7 December 1999

**THIS FANTASTIC CENTURY SCHOOLS HISTORY COMPETITION;
GATEWAY INDUSTRIES COMMUNITY SAFETY CALENDAR 2000**

Mr PURCELL (Bulimba—ALP) (12.31 p.m.): I would like to congratulate a couple of schools in my electorate whose students have done themselves proud, their parents proud, and their fellow students proud. The students of those schools entered the This Fantastic Century Schools History Competition. In the pictorial section, a \$1,000 prize went to the Hemmant State Primary School. At that school, Years 3, 4 and 5 students compiled a picture book of vibrant, colourful drawings that give a very real sense of the life and history of the school. The picture book ranged from a sombre image of the Founding Fathers in 1864 to a bright picture of Years 3, 4 and 5 students in 1999. I congratulate those students on the wonderful work they did on that pictorial.

Also, the latest technologies were put to use by Norman Park State School Year 7 students. Their entry won the \$1,000 multimedia award. Melissa Walker, David Kinder and Billie-Lee Malcolm presented their school's history with special effects that included the school bell tolling, animated talking heads and the schoolboy howling while he was getting the cuts. Also, Year 2 students of the Norman Park State School entered a pictorial of students during the 1920s, the 1960s and the 1990s, which was highly commended.

This year, the Hemmant State School is 137 years old. It is the oldest continuously operating State school in Queensland. John Christianson is the principal of that school, and I would like to congratulate him on the marvellous work that is doing with the students. The Norman Park State School will be 100 years old next year. Val Thomas is the principal of that school. Lately, she has been a bit crook, so Carolyn Waterson is currently the acting principal.

I would also like to mention some awards that were given to two schools in my electorate. The students of the Hemmant State School were awarded a prize for their pictorial work for the Gateway Industries Community Safety Calendar 2000. They drew pictures to show children the safe way to handle fire and chemicals. Although chemicals and fuels are essential to our daily lives, they bring with them their own potential for disaster if they are not managed properly. The students of the Murarrie State School also provided a pictorial for that calendar, and were well represented tonight at the award ceremony.

BP, Shell, Incitec, Rhone Poulenc and Queensland Cement, which are members of the Gateway Industries Group, along with the Department of Emergency Services, put together that calendar, which was launched tonight. It was designed to act as a constant reminder against hazard at work and in the home. It will be distributed to households neighbouring the Gateway Industries Group's work sites. Each month of that calendar features an excellent safety message and students from local primary schools, to of which are located in my electorate, put a great deal of effort into illustrating each message.

It is particularly timely to launch the calendar now. Traditionally, the Christmas holiday period can be a particularly dangerous time for inquisitive children, as they spend whole days at home and have a lot of time on their hands. In fact, over 70% of the 26,000 calls made to the Poison Information Centre each year relate to children who have swallowed or come into contact with chemicals during the summer holiday period. I encourage everybody to pay careful attention to the calendar's safety message and to be vigilant about the potential hazards inside and outside the home.

I would also like to reiterate my congratulations to those two schools, the principals and the teachers on taking the time and effort to encourage the children to enter their drawings in such competitions so that they can show their skills and show off their schools.
