



Speech by

# CARRYN SULLIVAN

MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE

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Hansard 27 November 2001

## BEACHMERE PRIMARY SCHOOL, VISIT TO PARLIAMENT HOUSE

**Mrs CARRYN SULLIVAN** (Pumicestone—ALP) (1.12 a.m.): On Wednesday, 31 November I had the privilege of escorting Year 5F from the Beachmere State Primary School in the electorate of Pumicestone on a tour of Parliament House. The children were accompanied by their teacher, Danette Flick, and parents Jacqueline Baker, Tracey Keeling and Bev Burgess. All were transported to and from parliament in the safe hands of Ralf Bonnick.

The excursion proved very productive. The day began with a tour of the old upper house chamber organised by Pat Kane, and the tour guide was Leo Scanlon, followed by morning tea kindly organised by the parliamentary catering staff. I joined the tour at 11.30 and led the group on the second part of the tour, which included a visit to the gallery, level 5 meeting rooms, level 7, where they enjoyed a view of South Bank, and offices on level 13. The children took a keen interest in the increased number of women in parliament and found it amusing when informed that the women parliamentarians on level 13 have taken over the male toilets as they were much bigger and had access to a large mirror, which the men seldom used.

I found the children were genuinely interested in the history of this place and asked many interesting and valid questions. Miss Flick had prepared a small booklet for her class to gather relevant information as the tour proceeded, and they left the building with a wealth of factual information and drawings.

The class was greeted by the Minister for Education, the Honourable Anna Bligh, who took the time to stop and chat with the children about their school and the local area. The Honourable Henry Palaszczuk also added some words of wisdom before the children signed the visitors' book and departed for South Bank aboard the ferry for lunch. As the class was departing, a number of children asked if the Premier could sign their information booklet, but since time did not permit, I suggested that I would send them something with his signature on it, which I have since done.

I would like to place on record the names of the Year 5F students: Zoe MacLean, Nick Hackett, Len Kettleton, Aaron Turner, William Rees, Josh Breedon, Christopher Ferris, Aaron Justice, Sarah Wigzell, Ashleigh Heywood, Kristi Nicholls, Jade Cashe, Adam Dowse, Lachlan Buttifant, Glenn Crimmin, Jessica Graham, Ashleigh Waldron, Jasmine Rendell, Matt Daniels and Ben Burgess. It was my pleasure to escort such a great group around the parliament, and I hope they enjoyed the experience as much as I did.

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