



Speech by

Peta-Kaye Croft

MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

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LABRADOR STATE SCHOOL, PEACE DAY CONCERT

Mrs CROFT (Broadwater—ALP) (1.04 a.m.): Recently I had the pleasure of attending the Labrador primary school's Peace Day concert, an event that celebrates the Labrador community's many diverse cultures and the children's desire to learn and play in an environment that is caring, considerate and peaceful. I understand that the preparations for the concert were a real school effort that began the day before the concert with the special education unit hosting a breakfast during which the school's string quartet played to the delight of indulging staff and special guests. For the students there was cake and a sausage sizzle organised by year 6S and 6R, the advertising for the concert was coordinated by year 5MB and the programs for the day were made by year 6B. During the week 5L arranged competitions through their newspaper, years prep to 3 had a colouring-in competition and years 4 to 7 made over 2,000 paper cranes that are being sent to Hiroshima's peace garden.

There was a real excitement in the air on concert day. A traditional welcome by the two Kombumerri elders was followed by a popular multicultural parade with more than 30 students from different cultural backgrounds appearing on stage in their national costume. All year levels participated in the concert songs that depicted peace, harmony and fun. From the Beatles' *Imagine* to *Baby, I Need Your Loving*, every performance gave the audience something to sing along to. Jan Hounslow, a former teacher of 30 years at Labrador, presented the Jan Hounslow Peace Medallion to Mason Fasavalu. Mason was recognised by Labrador State School for being respected, for demonstrating integrity and self-discipline and for not being afraid to stand up for what is right.

A guest appearance by the Wiggles' cousins, the Giggles—Principal Brian Ragh, teachers David Hartley and Peter Tyne and groundsman Trevor Bogle—was a big hit. The staff and the community enjoyed a morning tea catered for by the SEU and sponsored by the school P&C. To see the laughter on the children's faces, to see them cheering as those in national dress walked on to the stage and to see the whole Labrador community strongly supporting a Peace Day concert such as this was truly uplifting.

Labrador primary school is to be congratulated for its commitment to creating an open-minded and peaceful environment within the school grounds and to running programs such as the Peaceful School project, helping students to address issues of responsibility and conflict resolution. I hope, too, that one day we will see peace on this earth and that these children's wishes will come true. I say congratulations to all the staff and students at Labrador primary school.