



Speech by

Paul Hoolihan

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

Hansard Thursday, 30 March 2006

NERIMBERA STATE SCHOOL

Mr HOOLIHAN (Keppel—ALP) (10.23 pm): I would like to draw the attention of this House to one of the small schools which is situated in my electorate. I have a number of small schools, but one of the big schools in terms of achievements is Nerimbera State School. In 2003 Nerimbera State School was presented with an environmental award by the then minister, the Hon. Dean Wells. That was for the design of a rubbish collection point, which is now used throughout the Livingstone shire. In 2004 this school started a campaign for the elimination of plastic bags in shopping. It introduced its own blue shopping bags. Nerimbera State School is also a reef guardian school. It plays a big part in protecting our reef and looking after inshore waters.

Last Friday, 24 March I attended Nerimbera State School for a very special occasion. The principal, one of the mothers and all of the children at the school had endeavoured to raise money for the Queensland Cancer Fund. The principal had her head shaved, as did one of the mothers, and the children had their hair coloured. That was a great achievement and they managed to raise in excess of \$2,000. Honourable members may well say that is not very much, but everyone should take note that Nerimbera State School has 14 students, the eldest of whom is one student in grade 7. They have undertaken all of this over the last three or four years. I think that is punching a little bit above their weight.

To the principal, Mrs Elena Keating, all of the parents who support Nerimbera State School and the students who have done so much for their own area and their own environment, I say: well done.