




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 11 September 2014

MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Harlin State School

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (2.31 pm): I am extremely proud to rise in the House this afternoon knowing full well that approximately 45 wonderful students from Harlin State School have tuned in to watch Queensland parliament and to hear their local member speak. They will be seeing everything that is going on in the House.

One of the reasons I became a member of this great House was to represent my community. Back in 2012 I had an opportunity to visit one of my 36 schools, Harlin State School—a beautiful small community in the Brisbane Valley. On that day I entered a classroom, which those young children are hopefully sitting in today watching parliament. It was extremely crowded. The room was very small. I spoke to the then teacher, Mr Andrew Worthington, who said to me, 'We have been asking for years for a classroom and this will never happen.' I talked to the principal, Mrs Kay Rye. We worked very hard, together with the school community. I am extremely proud that last week, on 3 September, I was able to officially open the Harlin State School's new building. It was an extremely wonderful day for me. I really want to acknowledge the hard work of Mrs Kay Rye. I also acknowledge the senior class teacher, Kerry Derksen; the amazing admin officer, Narelle Maller; the music and HPE teacher Felicity; junior teacher Susan Hallas and language teacher Gladwyn Arwadi.

Also on that day we were able to hear from the school leaders: Taylor Williams, Katie Humphreys, Caleb Karreman and Amber Williams. These wonderful children stood up and spoke in front of a huge number of community members including other local principals. It was also wonderful to have an afternoon tea, put on by the local P&C. I must credit the president, Helen Golinski, for her amazing sponge cake; the secretary, Ngaio Deer; and the treasurer, Sharelle Cooper, for their hard work for this amazing little community.

Another fantastic thing that happened on that day was that Mrs Dallas Williams, who planted the first tree at Harlin, was able to plant another tree on that site along with five of her grandchildren, who have all attended Harlin State School. They planted a native tree to commemorate the opening of this new building.

This school, which is now 106 years old, is just a fantastic, wonderful little community. I stand here today and wave to all of those amazing students of the Harlin State School. Thank you for making me very proud.