



Speech By Steve Minnikin

MEMBER FOR CHATSWORTH

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Chatsworth Electorate, C&Ks

Mr MINNIKIN (Chatsworth—LNP) (2.31 pm): Today I rise to acknowledge the sensational work being carried out every day by our dedicated staff at the four C&K kindergartens in the Chatsworth community. The Chatsworth electorate is fortunate enough to have four fantastic C&K kindergartens located in Carindale, Carina, Camp Hill and Gumdale. On the weekend it was a very special occasion for one of the C&Ks. The Carina C&K celebrated its 50th birthday, and what an incredible milestone. It was an absolute delight to be part of the celebrations and it was a pleasure to sponsor its chocolate birthday cake.

Every year around 50 children enter Carina C&K and it is at this early learning centre that they are nurtured to grow and flourish into confident students. Carina C&K is where a lifelong education adventure awaits and has started for over 2½ thousand little Queenslanders. What a truly remarkable achievement making an indelible imprint on the lives of so many young Queenslanders. It was a celebration for not only the kids currently enrolled and their families but also past students. In acknowledging the people behind the scenes at this fantastic kindy, a shout-out must go to Sue Hansford, the director of the Carina C&K kindy.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate Helen from Camp Hill C&K kindy. Next year marks Helen's 40th anniversary of working at Camp Hill C&K. She has been there since 1980. It was a pleasure to have personally thanked her for everything she has done and continues to still do for our children. It is people like her who truly make an impact in our community and I really do commend her—40 years! Additionally, a special mention to Claire Pitman, the President of the Camp Hill kindy, who has done an incredible job organising many successful events. A fine example would be the ladies' gala event that was held over the weekend. Claire also needs to be thanked for all the hard work she put into fundraise for a beehive to be installed at the kindy. When I first heard about the beehive, I thought it was a fantastic initiative and I was pleased to donate towards the cost to install one.

Community early learning centres like C&K play an important role in teaching and developing our youngest Queenslanders and making them into future leaders who go on to greatly contribute to our society. To all the directors, teaching staff, presidents and parents, I want to sincerely thank each and every one of you for the things that you do, big and small, for our kids every single day. I personally love to read, so I was really glad to be able to attend the C&Ks throughout the year to read to the little bookworms. It is funny how the classic *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* still remains a favourite to this day, and what an iconic childhood classic. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the C&Ks. Well done to all four of them in the Chatsworth electorate.