



Speech By
Corrine McMillan

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

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ADJOURNMENT

Mansfield Electorate

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (7.16 pm): The Mansfield electorate has kicked off 2023 with many activities and events to celebrate and embrace our diverse community. It was a pleasure to welcome the Lunar New Year of the Rabbit with the Taiwanese community and my colleagues, Peter Russo MP, member for Toohey, the member for Stretton and the member for Algeester at a wonderful gala dinner. On 26 January it was an honour to welcome our new Australian citizens at a ceremony hosted by the Lions Club of Brisbane MacGregor, which was coordinated by Wishart resident Surendra Prasad. On this day I also attended the inauguration festival of the new Brisbane Bhakti Yoga Centre in Burbank, the Greenleaves Retirement Village BBQ in Upper Mt Gravatt and finished off the day with a community street party on Mount Gravatt Hill coordinated by Upper Mount Gravatt resident Greg Goebel.

I have held mobile offices across the electorate to discuss many issues with residents at Mount Gravatt Plaza, the Village Upper Mount Gravatt, Rochedale Village and Coffee with a Cop at Flying Pepper Cafe. I would like to thank Senior Sergeant Dave Stafford and the Upper Mount Gravatt Police Station for meeting Rochedale residents. Special congratulations to Flying Pepper owner Lucy for winning my February business-of-the-month award.

It has been the first time since 2020 that our schools have had a smooth start to the school term due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to sincerely thank our principals, teachers, teacher aides, administration, cleaning and maintenance staff, parents and carers for supporting our students in what has been a challenging few years. The smoother new year has enabled our schools to reintroduce leadership and induction ceremonies for our students and for their parents and carers to share in this celebration.

It has been a pleasure to present badges and certificates to our emerging leaders at Mount Gravatt East State School led by principal Rachel Korst, Mackenzie State School led by Gina Bryant, Wishart State School led by Ray Bloxham and St Bernard's Catholic Primary School led by new principal Dan Hodge. Clairvaux MacKillop College hosted a brilliant STEM program event about space exploration for the next generation of space leaders. In an Australian first, Clairvaux's brightest students are working with Griffith University and industry partners to build and launch a satellite this year.

I would also like to congratulate Mansfield State High School under the exceptional stewardship of my good friend principal Karen Tanks which saw three 2022 graduates receive Distinguished Academic Achievers Awards. Congratulations to students Aakash Bhattacharya, Julia de Beer and Varsha Gopal on their dedication and hard work to achieve this esteemed recognition. Well done to our students.