




Speech By
Corrine McMillan

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

Record of Proceedings, 11 December 2024

ADJOURNMENT

Jack Watts Legacy

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (12.52 am): Like many of my colleagues, I have had the privilege of attending the graduation ceremonies for the exceptional class of 2024. I congratulate year 12 students in the Mansfield electorate for their hard work, dedication and resilience throughout their school years. Your achievements are a testament to your commitments and to your perseverance. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the teachers, parents and carers who have supported these students every step of the way. Like me, they understand the profound impact a quality education has in empowering a bright future, setting our students on the path to success.

The Mansfield electorate is home to some of the most inspiring people I know. One such family has touched my heart and the hearts and lives of countless others. Recently I attended the Jack Watts Legacy golf day, a wonderful event in support of the Mater Foundation and the fundraising efforts of Shaune Watts and his family. The Jack Watts Legacy was established in honour of Jack Watts, the late son of Kimberly and Shaune and the brother of Ella and Noah—an extraordinary family. Jack, a former student at Mansfield State High School, was just 18 years old when he tragically lost his 2½-year battle with cancer just two months after graduating. His death was an unimaginable loss; however, in the face of such profound grief the Watts family has shown incredible strength and resilience.

In 2009, long before Jack's passing, they were committed to fundraising. It coincided with the loss of Shaune's mother to leukaemia. To date they have raised over \$900,000 for causes close to their hearts, including My Little Miracles and the Leukaemia Foundation. These funds have gone to support crucial accommodation for leukaemia patients and purchase vital equipment for the Neonatal Critical Care Unit at the Mater Hospital. With the loss of Jack, the Watts family chose to continue their mission, transitioning their efforts into the Jack Watts Legacy. The funds raised accelerate clinical trials for people with rare-cancer diagnoses. The Jack Watts Legacy is more than just a fundraising initiative; it is a beacon of hope for those in need. In Jack's memory the Watts family is providing a brighter future for Queenslanders, ensuring Jack's spirit lives on in every life that is touched by this important work. These are locals whose courage and determination inspire us all.

Finally, I am hearing whispers that the hours of operation will be cut at the Mount Gravatt nurse-led clinic as they have been in Gladstone. My community is on high alert for any LNP cuts.