




Speech By
Hermann Vorster

MEMBER FOR BURLEIGH

Record of Proceedings, 18 November 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Burleigh Electorate, Schools

 **Mr VORSTER** (Burleigh—LNP) (9.09 pm): As the year draws to a close I have had the opportunity, as have many other members, to spend time at my schools and see all of the fantastic work unfolding across many campuses. Students are rightfully excited that the year is coming to a conclusion because they also have had an opportunity to see what they have learned and how they have grown. They wait with eager anticipation, I am sure, for the return of school next year.

Although we are ending the school year, it does not mean that good things are not happening on campuses across the Burleigh electorate. I want to single out a few kids doing some brilliant things who I think deserve praise and to have their names entered into the public record. The first is young Charlotte Brown. She contacted me as a passionate member of the Palm Beach community desperately worried over the health of Tallebudgera Creek. Not just to complain but in order to prompt action, she asked whether something could be done. I was so inspired by Charlotte's plea that I worked with Charlotte and her teacher, Mrs Hughes, to host a clean-up of Tallebudgera Creek this last weekend. Charlotte did a great job of collecting her classmates with the promise of cookies, her teacher and even school principal Mr Scott Anderson to a great clean-up event.

We were joined by Dr Sally Gregory, an icon of Tallebudgera Creek, who has committed not only her academic life but also her whole physical being to environmental causes. She is in that creek day in and day out with her diving gear collecting debris from that creek to restore it to pristine condition. What Sally was able to do with those kids was demonstrate what real environmental action looked like, to inspire Charlotte and her classmates to real action. We collected litter along the whole stretch of Tallebudgera Creek through Kevin Gates Park to Echo Beach. Then we returned, of course, for our cookies. Charlotte represented the best of the power of one translating into the action of many.

I also want to single out Tilly Brearley from Hillcrest Christian College. Although this school is not in my electorate, Tilly is a local constituent who organised her own beach clean-up of beautiful Burleigh Beach. To Charlotte and Tilly: thank you so much.

In closing, I want to shine a light on Mr Kerry Sutton, a year 4 teacher at Caningeraba State School, who encouraged all students in his class to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Mr Sutton is a treasure of the Burleigh community and he has made a real impact on those young lives.