



Speech By
Natalie Marr

MEMBER FOR THURINGOWA

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ADJOURNMENT

Thuringowa Electorate, Schools

 **Ms MARR** (Thuringowa—LNP) (9.21 pm): I rise today to share a few words about one of the true highlights of serving as the member for Thuringowa—spending time with our young people and school communities over recent weeks. Being part of these vibrant school communities really is the best part of my job. There is nothing quite like seeing the energy, the pride and the bright futures shining through in the eyes of our students.

Over the past weeks I have had the privilege of attending school assemblies to celebrate and support our school leaders, and each one has left me feeling truly grateful and warmed by the spirit of our local kids. It has been especially heartening to hear directly from principals and staff about how the Crisafulli government's Back to School Boost—that practical \$100 credit per primary school student—has made a real difference for families. Each school has managed it in ways that best suit their own demographics and families' needs, whether putting it towards uniforms, books, stationery, excursions or other essentials to ease the back-to-school costs.

I was particularly pleased to hear from Heatley primary school how this support contributed to an increase in early start-of-year attendance. The \$100 for each child helped ensure students could get the things they needed on the very first day, be it uniforms, books or other basics—removing barriers for families and helping more kids settle in quickly and confidently. Stories like that show how targeted relief can have a tangible impact on engagement and belonging.

I was delighted to join several school assemblies—Rasmussen State School, where the enthusiasm was infectious and the sense of community so strong; Kelso State School, where the warmth and welcome from students and staff alike made it a joy to be there; and Kirwan State School, which brought such heartfelt moments. The children's joy and the deep respect they showed for the occasion was truly inspiring. I was equally proud to be at Heatley State High School and Thuringowa State High School, witnessing the confidence and leadership our older students are already displaying.

A special thank you goes to the Premier for making time in a busy schedule to join me at Kirwan primary school for their school leaders assembly. It meant a great deal to share that experience together, and I was so proud to witness the genuine happiness on the faces of those young leaders and the respect the entire event deserved. Moments like that remind us why we do this work.

To the schools I was unable to attend due to clashing commitments during parliament week, thank you sincerely for your kind invitations. I hope the small gift I sent brought a smile and conveyed how much your welcome meant to me. I look forward to joining you soon.

These school visits fill my heart with gratitude for the dedicated teachers, supportive families and incredible students in Thuringowa. They are the future of our community, and it is an honour to stand alongside them, watching them lead by example and being kind to their peers. We are in good hands for 2026 in Thuringowa.