

SPRINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Statement by Member for Hillarys

MR P.A. KATSAMBANIS (Hillarys) [12.50 pm]: On Friday, 29 March, I had the opportunity to attend an assembly at Springfield Primary School and present it with four new flags—the Australian flag, the Western Australian flag, the Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait Islander flag. Springfield Primary School in Kallaroo is an outstanding and much-loved school in my electorate. It is ably led by its new principal, Vanessa Blythe, and has a sound reputation for delivering quality education, and cultural and pastoral care programs. At its core, the school's purpose is to develop the academic, physical and moral skills and habits that will enable all students to achieve independence and responsibility. It also has a diverse and broad cross-section of different ethnic backgrounds. The school cohort has 67 students who were born overseas and 144 students whose parents were born in a different country.

Like other schools in my electorate, Springfield Primary School is long overdue new buildings and much-needed facility upgrades. Despite this, the staff and parents continue to operate with enthusiasm and drive in pursuit of educational excellence for their students. Our flags are important national symbols. They are symbols of our freedom, national pride and history. It is always a great honour that in my capacity as a member of Parliament I am able to present our national flags and speak about their meaning and heritage. I was proud to do so at Springfield Primary School in Kallaroo a few weeks ago.