

BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL — 120TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Statement by Member for Belmont

MS C.M. ROWE (Belmont) [12.58 pm]: I wish to pay tribute to one of my wonderful local schools, Belmont Primary. This year marks the 120-year anniversary of the school. Last Friday, the school celebrated this special milestone. As part of their celebrations, I was delighted to attend their amazing morning tea, which had been prepared by the teachers and many dedicated parents who wanted to make sure this special occasion was appropriately acknowledged. The children, principal, staff and parents dressed up in outfits that may have been worn 120 years ago. I was so impressed to see the effort students had gone to on their costumes. No doubt parents spent a great deal of time assisting their kids on this front as well—so, well done!

There were historical displays around the school library, with memorabilia, information about the school since its inception and class photographs dating back to the late 1890s. A number of parents from the P&C set up an old-fashioned lolly stall for children and students, and visitors went to classrooms to share tales of the past. Some of the dedicated parents are also making commemorative T-shirts for every student and teacher to mark this significant occasion in the school's history. This involves a great deal of work and I would like to acknowledge their efforts. I am pleased to be able to sponsor their anniversary T-shirts.

It is fair to say that one of the highlights for the kids was the enormous birthday cake, which was lovingly and beautifully made by Jagdeep Gill for all of the students to enjoy. I wish to congratulate Stephanie Dann, the dedicated and hardworking principal at Belmont Primary, and all the teachers and staff for making this special day come to fruition. In particular, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of the parents at Belmont Primary, most especially their tireless P&C members Rosaleen Lovick, or 'Nana Ros' as she is fondly known; Lillia Escobar; Belinda Frew; Erin Aikman; Laura Lawrence; Katherine Truong; and Lauren Dower.

I am so proud to have such a great school in my local community and thank you for including me in the 120-year anniversary for your school. Happy birthday, Belmont Primary!

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm