

**SPRINGFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Statement by Member for Hillarys*

**MR P.A. KATSAMBANIS (Hillarys)** [12.53 pm]: Hillarys is blessed with wonderful school communities, committed principals, teachers and staff, great students and supportive parents who all work hard to achieve optimal results for our children. However, many of my local school communities are putting up with substandard buildings that are well past their use-by date. Despite this, the staff and parents continue to operate with enthusiasm and drive in pursuit of educational excellence for their students. Regular maintenance funding is just doing a patch-up job. Fixing ceilings just before they collapse, repainting crumbling walls or plugging leaks in rusting roofs are only temporary solutions when the buildings are simply well past their use-by date. One such school is Springfield Primary School in Kallaroo. Its 50-year-old buildings can no longer just be patched up. These buildings need to be rebuilt, to give our teachers and students the opportunity to learn in a welcoming environment. Earlier this week I welcomed the opportunity to take the Leader of the Opposition, Liza Harvey, to Springfield Primary School so that she could appreciate how critical it is to back up the efforts of the principal, teachers, staff, parents and students of this great school by providing the appropriate learning facilities that they need and deserve. Urgent funding needs to be prioritised for this school and several others in the Hillarys electorate. Our children need and deserve appropriate twenty-first century facilities, so that they can continue their wonderful learning.