

**WOODLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL ARTS FESTIVAL**

*Statement by Member for Scarborough*

**MRS L.M. HARVEY (Scarborough)** [12.57 pm]: Earlier this morning, I had the pleasure of presenting awards to the winners of the Woodlands Primary School Arts Festival, an event partially funded by my school and church community events grants. I would like to acknowledge the winners of the art awards, they being kindergarten student Emma Brown Cooper; pre-primary student Jemma Fountain; year 1 student Luke Maxton; year 2 student Ari Karhunen; year 3 student Amelia Owers; year 4 student Raija Karhunen; year 5 student Stephanie Carmichael; year 6 student Sophie Minissale; and Christine Liau from year 7. The work, which was exhibited to the community at the open night last Wednesday, was of extremely high quality, and I congratulate all the students of Woodlands Primary School who participated. I would particularly like to acknowledge the hard work of the year 7 school councillors who organised and managed the successful event.

Woodlands Primary School is going through an exciting transition to independent public schools status. The principal, Linda Humphreys, was informing me of this transition and noted that the school is unlikely to be taking on the responsibility for building maintenance, given the age of the school. However, they were looking forward to engaging in the interview and employment process for a position to be filled at the school for next year. The ability of Woodlands to choose elements of the IPS program that it feels comfortable and competent to manage is a demonstration of the success of this initiative. It highlights that the program allows decisions to be made at a local level in the interest of the school community as determined by the school community. The school community has been invigorated by this new level of empowerment. I look forward to other schools within my electorate applying to become independent public schools in the future.