

**NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK**

*Statement by Member for Bicton*

**MRS L.M. O'MALLEY (Bicton)** [12.55 pm]: During August, schools in my electorate of Bicton undertook a variety of innovative and imaginative projects for National Science Week. This year's theme, "Game changers and change makers" saw Palmyra Primary School brought to a standstill by an asteroid landing. Although the landing was staged and the meteorite was made of foam, pupils learned some valuable skills as part of National Science Week. I acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of school science coordinator and preprimary teacher Jessica Arthur and parent Jess Spaven, who collaborated to ignite the children's imagination and inspire scientific inquiry.

Bicton Primary School turned its focus to people with different abilities, encouraging students to have better understanding of the visual, auditory or physical challenges that some people face. Students and parents enjoyed a science night featuring special guest speaker Maddy Heady, a 16-year-old girl who spoke about life with cerebral palsy. As the first school in the electorate of Bicton to be selected to have a classroom converted into a science lab, National Science Week had even greater significance this year at Bicton Primary School.

Richmond Primary School took 152 years 4, 5 and 6 students to Scitech for some hands-on science. Melville Primary School had year 4 students learning about drones, and all classes discussed famous Australian science success stories. Santa Maria College's year 11 students treated the school to liquid nitrogen-made ice-cream and served over 300 scoops to eager students. Our Lady of Fatima Primary School had year 6 students experimenting with magnetic slime, solar-powered light bulbs and lots more.

I congratulate all my local schools on their activities during science week.