

**EDNEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Statement by Member for Forrestfield*

**MR N.W. MORTON (Forrestfield)** [12.56 pm]: On Wednesday, 29 June 2016, I attended Edney Primary School in High Wycombe for a flag-raising ceremony along with my federal colleague the member for Swan, Steve Irons, MP. The school has invested in a further three flag poles, giving it a total of four flag poles, so that it can display the Australian flag, the Western Australian flag, the Aboriginal flag and the Edney Primary School flag. It was my great pleasure as the state member of Parliament to present the school with a Western Australian flag.

The flagpoles are situated around the school's Anzac memorial, where the school comes together each year to remember the sacrifice of those brave men and women in combat on Anzac Day. The memorial will now have the four flags flying above it. It was great to see the students organising and running the flag-raising ceremony and to see the pride and enthusiasm from the students and the wider school community about finally having the four flags flying within their school grounds.

During the flag-raising ceremony I had a chance to address the school community and talk about the significance of flags: that they give us a sense of belonging and that they represent the ideals and beliefs we want others to see in us. Given that it was during the lead-up to the Rio Olympic Games, I also used the notion of all of our athletes uniting to represent our country under the Australian flag and, as such, representing all Australians. Therefore, there was an expectation that they would represent all Australians in a way that upheld the ideals and beliefs that were close to the hearts of all Australians. Similarly, with their school flag now flying within their school grounds, there was an expectation that all members of the Edney Primary School community would aspire to the ideals that were represented by the school flag—things such as the school's values. I congratulate all at the school involved in the development of the four flag poles, and I hope the flags continue to fly proudly over the school grounds for many years to come.