

SUSTAINABILITY AND WASTE REDUCTION INITIATIVES — BICTON

Statement by Member for Bicton

MRS L.M. O'MALLEY (Bicton) [1.02 pm]: On 1 July, the McGowan government will take a historic step forward in the war on waste with the banning of lightweight single-use plastic bags. Two-thirds of the electorate of Bicton is bordered by the mighty Swan River, and I sincerely thank and acknowledge the community groups and individuals who participate in planting, weeding and clean-up programs along our local stretch of river and foreshore. In particular, I wish to acknowledge the sustainability leadership shown by teacher Hannah Fey and her students at Santa Maria College in Attadale. Hannah runs the school's student sustainability group, Eco Sisters, which was formed to educate and inspire students to be environmentally responsible. The group has 130 students. Eco Sisters works to reduce waste, recycle when possible and make a positive change in student attitudes. The students also work with local community groups at the river foreshore, with recent outings resulting in the planting of 550 banksia trees.

Student Jade Destremau is a leader in the war on waste at Santa Maria, successfully lobbying the school cafe to stop using plastic packaging, which has been replaced with biodegradable packaging made from recycled sugarcane pulp. I join Jade's peers, teacher and family in congratulating her on her current and future achievements. Eco Sisters has taken its sustainability efforts to the next level by partnering with GreenBatch to collect and recycle polyethylene terephthalate plastic bottles. The bottles, collected in purple bins at the school, are put through a process whereby they are turned into 3D printer filament, which the school then uses in its 3D printers.

The school has collected over 1 000 bottles to date and has plans to expand this service to the local community. The school is truly worthy of the title Sustainable Santa!

Sitting suspended from 1.03 to 2.00 pm