

MADELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL — TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Statement by Member for Girrawheen

MS M.M. QUIRK (Girrawheen) [12.58 pm]: This week I attended the tenth anniversary celebrations at Madeley Primary School. Joining principal Lainie Beccegato, who has been at the school for all of those 10 years, were foundation principal Kim Anderson and his successor Stephen Bevan.

The school opened with 185 students; now there are 510. It was one of the first schools to become an independent public school. The three “Cs” are the values fostered at Madeley—community, curriculum and care. Its school logo, with three parallel sweeps, is a reminder that the land on which the school was built was formerly used as market gardens. I congratulate the board, chaired by Paul Thomas, for its contributions. I am struck at the extremely small turnover of staff at the school over the decade. That speaks volumes.

Highlights of the Madeley school year are the Book Week parade, the “Madeley Cup”, “Madeley’s Got Talent”, Anzac Day and Easter on the green.

Former student Clare Gamble, who is 22, gave her recollections of years 6 and 7—the creation of veggie gardens, the sports carnival and when they turned each of their classrooms into restaurants. In Clare’s words, it was a place where students felt safe to be themselves. It is terrific to hear that Clare is now at university studying to be a teacher.

Madeley Primary is blessed with an active P&C, now under the leadership of Peter Withnell, with many volunteers value-adding to the school experience for students. Over the decade, it has raised a staggering \$190 000. The icing on the birthday cake is the allocation this week to the school of \$52 573 under the McGowan government’s school maintenance blitz!

Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm