

# Harness power of the sun to pay less

## EDITORIAL

By EVE CROLE

IN recent years a number of schools have been provided with solar panels to cut back on coal-fired electricity.

This is a very good idea and I hope it will continue as it will be better for our community.

The previous federal government did this good thing for the environment and for schools.

Hopefully, the new government will carry on doing this and I would strongly recommend the Coalition to continue supporting schools with similar initiatives.

By having solar panels installed, it is making a difference to our environment and hip pockets by using renewable energy and not a lot of fossil fuels.

It is very good because sunlight is absorbed into the panels and it provides free electricity.

It would be great if the new government provided funding for more schools and houses.

Holy Spirit Primary Kurri Kurri has solar panels and it has been worth the effort. The solar panels are providing schools with enough

electricity without burning fossil fuels.

I believe it is better if we all use solar panels because it does not harm the environment - it harnesses what is naturally there.

Schools can also put the money they save into other school needs like sporting equipment.

Children at Holy Spirit Kurri Kurri are enjoying their new equipment and are feeling a lot happier knowing that we are not spending as much money on electricity and we are not destroying our beautiful environment.

School principals are feeling better because they are saving school funds and do not have extremely high electricity bills.

This makes everyone very happy. This is going to be better for our schools and the extra money can be spent on educating the children.

Solar panels are a wonderful thing because they give clean energy, they do not burn fossil fuels, and they provide you with free energy.

With a sunny country like ours, it makes sense to use a power source we have easy access to.

Solar panels are doing a lot for our school, saving us money, letting us have a better future with clean air.



POWER: MP Joel Fitzgibbon with John Chambers, Jonah Beavis and Lara Aspinall. Inset picture: Joel Holly-Madden

# Solar action is smart choice

By JESSICA JEFFRIES and ELLA MCGOREY

OVER the past few years, schools have been applying for \$50,000 grants from the federal government for renewable energy.

These have been used to buy solar panels to produce electricity and also to educate students about what is best for the environment and our future.

At Holy Spirit Primary School Kurri Kurri, the recently installed 64 solar panels are great for combating climate change and help the environment by not burning coal.

The solar panels are using the power of the sun and converting it

into electricity. Mr Chambers, who was the school co-ordinator of the project, applied for the funding.

His successful application ensured that the school got the necessary money.

Solar panels produce zero greenhouse gasses and receive most sunlight when they are facing north.

Many schools have received these grants and have had significant cost savings.

The federal member for Hunter Joel Fitzgibbon visited the school recently to explain the great benefits.

"These panels will help the school and the environment," Mr Fitzgibbon said.

# Kurri clinic to support town boom

By JONAH BEAVIS

PLANS are being made in Kurri Kurri to build a medical centre on Lang Street.

It is going to be a professional centre, open to the public.

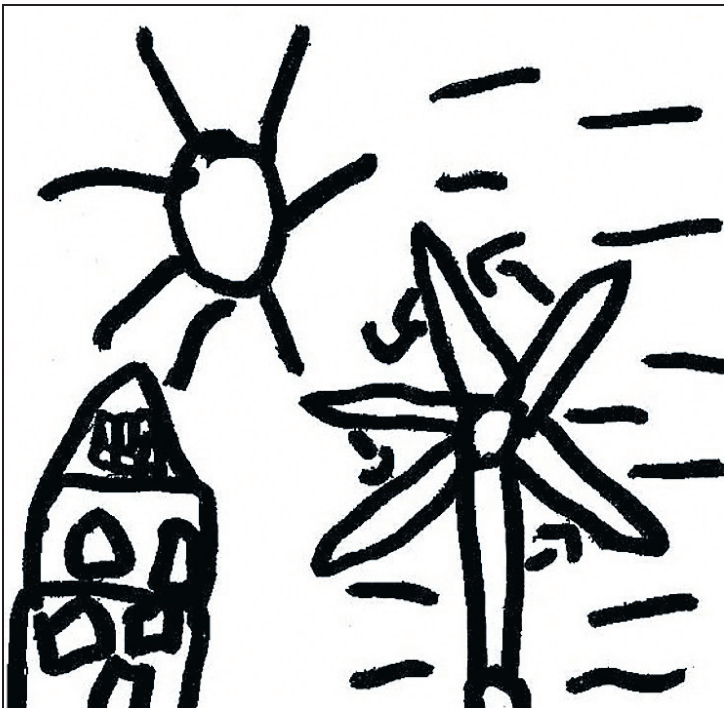
The people working at hospitals now days are getting older and some hospitals need more doctors and nurses. This medical centre will bring young doctors and nurses to help the older ones and improve the services available.

The federal government funded most of the money with a Primary Care Infrastructure Grant. The price of the medical centre is estimated to be \$2.6 million.

The centre will start with two doctors, but with capacity for six. It will have two sessional rooms for allied health providers, two treatment rooms, a nurse's station, reception and waiting room, and administration facilities. There will also be a pathology collection centre connected to the clinic.

"There is a strong need for increased services in the area as there is a great deal of growth in the Kurri district. Almost 2000 building sites are to be opened within the area. Older houses are being renovated too," explained resident Rod Doherty.

Along with the soon-to-be opened F3 link road, Kurri Kurri is set for a boom. A medical centre is great news.



Cartoon: Jack Tredinnick

# The brushstroke will let the games begin

By ISABELLA GUADAGINNI

ARTWORK has been all the rage at Holy Spirit Primary School Kurri Kurri.

The school has introduced large-scale paintings for the children to play on during their lunch and recess.

Some of these artworks are called the alphabet snake, twister, hopscotch and number worm.

The games have rules to help students learn about playing safe and obeying school rules.

They were painted by artist L James, who paints fun games for schools.

The artworks were painted by free hand using oil-based paint.

They were kindly donated by the Parents and Friends Association at a cost of almost \$2000.

More than 10 games were placed around parts of the school playground.

The artworks were painted to give the children a fun and active lunchtime. They are also used for activities and the students love them.



CREATIVE FUN: Holy Spirit students enjoying the giant art murals by L James. Picture: Joel Holly-Madden

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