



Heather Butler, MP

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier

Friday, 14 August 2009

Elizabeth College Helping to Promote Science

Elizabeth College is helping to foster primary schools students' interest in science as part of National Science Week.

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, Heather Butler, said students from the college would next week lead free science activities for students from Kinder to grade 6.

Speaking at the college's National Science Week lunch today, Ms Butler said the week runs from August 17 – 21 and is designed to make students aware of how science can impact on their future and future careers.

"The theme of the week at Elizabeth College is Science Provides Options Without Limits," Ms Butler said.

"Activities that will be run for primary students include experiments with hot air balloons, how science is used in cooking, sports science, DNA and how car engines work.

"The aim is to get young people excited about science and its many applications," she said.

Ms Butler said science and science teaching was a vital part of Tasmania's future.

"In order to build a clever Tasmania and a strong economy we need people who are innovative, enterprising and have the ability to question and enquire.

"The teaching of science is an important part of the Tasmanian curriculum which provides relevant, real-life learning experiences for students.

"The State Government is also acting to ensure that more university graduates choose science teaching as a career by offering incentives such as the Maths/Science Graduate Recruitment program and Maths/Science Higher Education Loan Payment Scholarships.

"Twenty six new science and language centres will be built in Tasmanian Government schools through the Australian Government's multi-billion dollar Building the Education Revolution program.

"The funding is for new or major refurbishments of science laboratories or language centres to create state of the art facilities.

"I'd like to congratulate Elizabeth College staff and students on their involvement in National Science Week," Ms Butler said.