Hello Everyone,

As Term 1 draws to a close, I can happily report our students have settled well into their individualised programs. Indeed, visiting the classrooms I can see they are ‘busy’ places with lots of learning engagement. Of course, this successful start to the school year doesn’t just happen, so on behalf of everyone I would like to take this opportunity to thank my hard working staff for their time and effort in making this a seamless back-to-school transition for our students. Well done to everybody.

**Student Reports** are being prepared and will be posted out in week 8. If you have any questions or queries about the report please contact your child’s Teacher in the first instance.

**Independent Public School (IPS) Review**: As an IPS school Riverside ESC will be undergoing its first 3 year cycle review, this will be happening in November 2015. More information about what this entails will be forthcoming via our newsletter, website and home letters. I encourage you to show an interest in this review and if you would like to be part of a parent representation to talk to the Reviewers please let me know.

**Parents and Citizens Committee (P&C)**: I invite you to consider becoming part of the combined Riverside School’s P&C Committee. It is a good opportunity for you to have a say in school matters and learn about some of the intricacies of school management. We will be introducing the office Bearers in future correspondence. The P&C meet once a month and the meeting goes for approximately 1 hour.

**School Website**: Our school website is under final review before going ‘live’ – conservatively it will be launched in two weeks, perhaps sooner. I have reviewed the site and it does look very good. Thanks to Mr David Perry our IT specialist for all his hard work in getting the site to this stage.

**Student Behaviour**: As I have mentioned previously, here at Riverside ESC we take student behaviour extremely seriously. We have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy towards bullying - it is not acceptable and has no place in our school. Any students who choose to participate in bullying behaviour will be dealt with swiftly and the appropriate consequences will be meted out. Any student on the receiving end of bullying incidents will be provided with the appropriate support and care to reassure them that Riverside ESC is a safe place.

From time to time a minority of students may require more extensive and structured support for their behaviour - this may include being moved to another area, being placed on an IBMP or other strategies that may be deemed appropriate.

Some students may require further intervention with the use of an approved restraint technique (TEAM Teach). All staff have been trained in this technique and it is approved by the Department of Education under strict guidelines for usage. If anyone requires further information about this technique and the circumstances for its use please do not hesitate to contact me.

I will always endeavour to ensure Riverside ESC is a safe and enjoyable environment for learning for your child.

I would like to thank everyone for your continued support.

Kind Regards, Jim Douglas, Principal

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Room 31

We are half way through term 1 and having a fab time. We are learning new songs, making friends and doing great work.

Some of our speckled frogs:

We made dragons using the concept circle colours for the Chinese New Year.

Room 32

Room 32 had a fantastic fun filled day at the Swimming Carnival which was held together with Meadow Springs Education Support Centre at the Pinjarra Aquatic Centre last week. The morning consisted of races and lots of ribbons and in the afternoon there were games and free swimming. We especially enjoyed the whirlpool and the waterfall.

Room 33

Room 33 has had a busy few weeks. We are enjoying visiting Endeavour Primary ESC for our choir practices each Wednesday. We have been working hard to learn our words and dance moves. Our first performance is on Wednesday 1st April.
We have also been choosing appropriate books from the library to read to the children in Mrs Hart’s class in room 32. The children loved listening to our stories and we are looking forward to reading to them again next week.

Finally, we have also been creating and decorating crabs to go on display at Mandurah’s Crab Fest on 14th and 15th March.

Room 34

Every Wednesday morning we head up to Malibu School to use the wonderful facilities there. The students can ride bicycles around a bike track, play on the playground, use the gym or spend time in the sensory room.

The sensory room is particularly popular. In there, the students can play in a large ball pit, look at fish swimming in bubbles, or engage in a number of other stimulating activities.

Geoff (left) and Katie (above) enjoy time in the sensory room at Malibu School

There is also a trampoline at the centre which is very popular amongst the students. We all love going up to Malibu and look forward to it every week.
Room 35

So far this term we have been reading story books about different insects and animals. So far we have read *The Very Lazy Butterfly*, *The Very Cranky Bear* and *The Very Busy Spider*.

Memphis and Holly painting the web for *The Very Busy Spider*

We have been ‘very busy students’ working hard to practice our alphabet sounds and letter formation.

Our annual swimming carnival, held last week, was fabulous fun. We swam in noodle races, board races and had some fun time in the whirlpool and waterfall.

Thank you to the parents for attending our meetings - it was great to meet you all. Welcome to Room 35!

Room 36

The students have been enjoying the tales of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *The Gingerbread Man* and the *Three Little Pigs*. The students have been participating in craft activities relating to these fairy tales with lots of enthusiasm.

Our fantastic swimmers showed off their water skills as last week’s school swimming (11 March). This is Jasmin and Holly showing their beautiful ribbons. Everyone had a great day combining with Meadow Springs School.

Room 37

Students in room 37 attended a swimming carnival at Pinjarra pool they all had a fantastic time with excellent behaviour. Thank you to our parents who came and supported our children and staff.