Hello Everyone,

We are well into Term 4 and almost at the end of the 2015 school year. Students are still very busy and I am impressed with their endeavour and commitment. As always our staff are working hard to support your children in providing them the best education possible. May I extend my thanks to everyone for your continued support of our great school.

**Student Reports:** Student reports will be sent home in Week 10.

**20th Anniversary:** On Friday 30th October we joined with Riverside Primary School to celebrate our 20th anniversary. I would like to thank all past and present staff, students and families for their contribution over the years. It was a well-attended event, distinguished by the presence of David Templeman MLA and past principals, and Jayden Cooper did a fantastic job in representing the school to help with cutting the cake. An article – *Riverside Celebrates 20 Years* – appears on our website under What’s New.

**Board Meeting:** On Wednesday 18th November there will be an open School Board meeting, which means anyone may attend. It will be held in the staff room commencing at 6.30pm. If you do plan on attending could you please let the office know for catering purposes. I am urgently seeking parent representation and at least one community member. If you know of anyone or are interested in either of these positions could you please contact the school.

**School Review:** We have just completed our 3 year IPS cycle and subsequently were reviewed over two full days last week (November 9-10). The Reviewers were very complimentary and were impressed with our school. Their full report will be available early in 2016 and posted onto our website.

**Enrolments:** We are now taking K-6 enrolments for 2016. There are specific criteria for an entry into an Education Support Centre. Please contact the office for further information.

**Annual School Party:** Our annual school party will take place on Friday 4th December (Caterpillar Park). Families are invited and there will be a free sausage sizzle lunch and drinks. Notes will be sent home shortly.

**Swimming Lessons:** Swimming lessons for PP-6 will commence in Week 7 (23-27th November). Approval notes have already gone home, please return to the school with your payment promptly.

**School Camp 2016:** The school will be holding a camp in 2016. A Camp Committee has been organised and will be meeting shortly. We will provide updates about location and cost as soon as possible. If you have any ideas for or are able to assist with fundraising please contact the office.

**Newsletter:** We have changed the editorial style of our newsletter to give you, as parents, caregivers, and supporters of Riverside ESC, a better understanding of the term by term operations of our classrooms and the activities we use to engage and motivate your child(ren) to learn. We hope you like it. Your feedback over the next two issues will help define our approach for 2016, so please take a moment to send in your comments.

Best regards,

Jim Douglas,
Principal
Room 31

Hello to all the parents and carers associated with the Riverside Education Support Centre. My name is Glen Webber. I am the new Kindergarten/Pre-primary teacher and I have come to you this term from Baldivis Primary School where I have spent time as both a Kindergarten and Pre-primary teacher over the last 12 years. I look forward to working alongside you all over the next 15 months towards great outcomes for your children.

In our Kindergarten/Pre-primary classroom this term, the children have been very busy. They have been using their senses to explore a variety of textures and smells, including Goop, Soap Slime and ice cubes that have been filled with animal shapes, number blocks, alphabet blocks and glitter. It has been very popular and every child is learning to wait patiently for a turn every day!

Each morning we have been having an energetic workout using Dough Gym. Each child has been using their body and a little ball of play dough to work towards better coordination. These playful exercises will help develop stronger muscles in the arms and hands, which in turn will assist them to become more independent with various tasks, as well as better writers in the years to come.

A couple of weeks ago the children received the generous gift of their very own handmade purple circle mat from one of our Education Assistants, Mrs Hiron. This mat will assist each child to focus and concentrate for longer periods, as well as reinforcing our Protective Behaviours program that empowers the children to assist them in staying safe.

I would like to thank everyone at Riverside ESC for their warm welcome and assistance so far, especially the hardworking Education Assistants in Room 31. We look forward to reporting later in the term on more exciting things that have been happening in our classroom.

Room 32

Term 4 in Room 32 is going to see some very exciting activities and learning programs. We are all looking forward to a term of celebrations where we are learning about the types of ‘celebrations’ families in Australia acknowledge. So far to date we have learnt about Birthdays, Mothers Day, Easter, NAIDOC and this week we are looking at ‘New Year’s Day’ celebrations.

In Maths this term we are focusing on Chance and Data. We are learning about the possibility of something happening and not happening. These lessons are lots of fun and we are really grasping the concepts.

Finally, Room 32 and Room 35 presented the whole school assembly last Friday. We were very busy learning the words Mia playing with Goop.
and actions to the song “We All Go Travelling By.” This consolidated all of the learning we did about different types of transport. As part of our English Narrative lessons we read lots of great transport stories such as ‘Emergency, Emergency’, ‘Planes’ and ‘The Wheels on the Bus’. As you can see from the photo we did lots of activities about the wonderful stories we read.

Room 33

The children in year 5/6 have been working hard on their enterprise project. Café 33 is a once weekly pop-up café in our room from which we sell drinks and light snacks to the staff of Riverside Schools. The students have been fully involved in all processes from conducting market research to naming the Café.

Each week the children collect orders and on Tuesdays prepare and deliver the goods to the customers. This supports our business plan by giving the students experience in real life situations such as positive social interaction with good role models, organisation skills, cash handling experience and numeracy and literacy skills.

The profits made by Café 33 are going to be used to fund an end of year excursion for the children. They are very excited about the excursion and feel pride in the achievement of having earned the money to pay for their own excursion.

Café 33 is doing a wonderful trade thanks to the support of our lovely customers and the hard work of the students in our room. We are excited about the introduction of iced coffee to our menu for the summer term!

Room 34

As term 4 has progressed using our theme of ‘Farms’, the students of Room 34 have been reading, writing, singing and making artworks related to farms and the people, animals and machinery that live and work on them.

Our staff has worked extremely hard to ensure that each student is assisted and/or supported to complete their work and participate in all classroom activities. In Physical Education lessons with Room 33 we have begun to learn the game of table tennis and the students have been making excellent progress learning this new skill. Don’t be surprised if your kids ask you for a new ping pong table!
With our community access program to Mandurah Forum and the shopping precinct near the foreshore, our students are becoming more independent when using their SmartRider cards and transferring to other buses. It has been a very pleasing result to see these students progress and gain more confidence in travelling on public transport.

The next few weeks of term will include swimming lessons, whole school picnic and final assessments for student reports. With summer well and truly on its way, please ensure that your children have water bottles daily.

Alisdair McGuffin, Rm34 Teacher

**Room 35**

This term our theme is ‘space’ and we have a very special visitor in our classroom! Her name is Astrid. Astrid gets to go home and have a 2 night sleepover with our students and they get to write in a diary and tell us all about the fabulous adventures they have had at home with her. We have been singing songs about the solar system and learning lots of interesting facts about the planets. We are using our knowledge of the planets in our writing activities and creating lots of interesting paintings of each planet, their moons and stars.

Images: Here is Astrid playing at mat time, helping with dishes, riding Milo the horse and finding the Moon!

**Room 36**

This term in Room 36 we have been very lucky to have Mrs Vogel join us from Challenger Institute of Technology (TAFE) - Mandurah Campus. Ms Vogel is completing her Certificate 4 in Education Assistant - Special Needs. She will be with us for 4 weeks while we assist her with her own personal growth and development.
We have also transitioned a new student into our class this term. Jamilee has joined us from Room 37; she is settling into Room 36 nicely and she and her classmates are getting to know each other.

Due to swimming lessons coming up in week 7, Room 36 together with Room 37 have been looking at ‘public vs. private’. We have been discussing public and private body parts, clothing and places. We have been talking about what is appropriate to do at home and comparing this with what is appropriate to do at school or the swimming pools.

As school reports are coming up quickly I am pleased to state that many of the students have achieved their goals for the semester. The students have worked very hard this term with their English and Maths. For example, Jaydan works quickly through his double digit addition and subtraction sums without mistake and Jasmin has progressed through 3 levels of her reading books.

As we are moving into hotter weather please don’t forget to send your student with a cold drink bottle every day. Thanks.

Room 37

This term has seen a few changes in Room 37. Welcome to Madelyn, our new student, Mrs Boyes, our EA on prac from Challenger TAFE and Mrs Williams, our new classroom teacher. All staff and students are settling in to the new class routines and procedures.

Our focus areas for the term are Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing. Students participate in individual and group activities for reading and spelling, using iPad programs to assist their learning. Mrs Williams has been reading stories aloud, with funny voices and lots of over acting, and the students have enjoyed writing their own versions of the story. Parents are welcome to come in to class and see our versions of ‘All Monkeys Eat Bananas’ and ‘Pig the Pug’.

Our numeracy program focus is number, time and money. Each week we count and calculate in small groups, including our Friday Online Shopping session where we purchase shopping items for our cooking program. The students are improving their skills at sniffing out a bargain.

Student safety and wellbeing is at the top of our priority list every day in Room 37. The staff work hard to ensure all students feel safe at school and know how to get support if they feel unsafe. We practice ways of calming down when we feel anxious or angry and have feelings charts on our desks to communicate our feelings to others.

We are on the countdown to Christmas and can’t wait to break open the glitter and sequins and start ‘Christmas crafting’.

Image: Practising our emergency call for HELP on Daniel Morcombe Day.
Courses for Parents and Caregivers

Three new courses are being presented in Mandurah by Relationships Australia. For details go to “What’s New” on the home page of our School Website.

**Parenting Teens** – perfect to inform and support parents of teens and soon to be teens! Tuesday 17 November, 6.30pm to 9pm

**Mindfulness** – have you heard about mindfulness before but wondered what it was all about? At this introductory night you will learn about this powerful mental tool! Monday 30 November, 6.30pm to 9pm

**Healthy Self Esteem** – learn some great new strategies to build on your self-esteem! Wednesday 2 December, 6.30pm to 9pm.

Dental Therapy News

Hello to all families. Please be reminded to update our staff when you change address. All appointments are posted home. Schools do not advise us when an address is changed; so you may have missed your child’s appointment.

Enrolment is through to YEAR 11 or 17th birthday, so we will continue to see your child after Primary School.

If you are new to the area or state, please be invited to enrol your child for ongoing free Dental Care. Currently we have 7 clinics in the Peel Region, and have 17,942 children enrolled.

Our programme of fissure sealing new permanent teeth will soon hopefully show a reduction in dental disease of permanent teeth.

Parents are encouraged to supervise brushing through Primary years. Limiting sweets and acid producing drinks is strongly recommended.

We look forward to hearing from you soon if you have any concerns. You can call us on 9581 3895 or email us on GreenfieldsDTC@dental.health.wa.gov.au

With thanks,
Greenfields Dental Team

Dads Supporting Dads Groups

Join us for a FREE BBQ and chat about taking care of yourself and your family. It is a chance for men to develop and share issues, in a supported and confidential environment. All Dads are welcome to the open group, which are run by experienced facilitators who work with men.

Every Monday through to 14 December 2015
6.30pm – 8.30pm at 21 George St, Mandurah

Please call 6164 0600 to register your interest or obtain more information. (Funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services)