



Riverside Education Support Centre

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 01, 2017



Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you all had a pleasant holiday break, but now it's back to business! I would like to extend a very special welcome to our new students and their families; we hope your stay with us will be an enjoyable one. I look forward to working with you all in 2017.

Staff: There have been minimal changes to our staff for 2017. We welcome back Mrs Filer after a long holiday. Mrs Cairns will be on parental leave until October. I would encourage parents to get to know your child's teacher and support staff, they are most welcoming and will be able to assist you.

IEP: Your child's teacher will be contacting you shortly to arrange an interview to discuss their Individual Education Plan (IEP). This is a good opportunity for you to be part of the planning for your child's education and to have some input into their needs and outcomes.

Communicable Diseases Guidelines: From time to time children attend school with some conditions that require attention as per the Department of Health's Communicable Diseases (CD) guidelines booklet. Some of these include head lice, ringworm, school sores and such like. If our staff observe your child has a communicable infection as defined by these guidelines they will contact you either immediately or at the close of the school day to discuss appropriate action. A copy of the CD guidelines is on our website for your reference – see [Useful Links for Parents and Caregivers](#). Thank you for your support with this sensitive issue.

School Bus: If your child is not attending school or a change to your circumstances negates the need for using the school bus, please let the Bus Driver and bus aide know. Also, unless we are notified otherwise by an approved parent/carer your child will be placed on the bus at home time.

Attendance: It is mandatory that children attend school. We have a robust tracking system and there may be times your child's teacher is asked to contact you to follow up school absences. Please remember to let the school know if your child is going to be absent from school so that it can be entered onto our system, avoiding the need for follow up.

Swimming Carnival: Our annual swimming carnival with Meadow Springs ESC will be held on Tuesday 21st March. You are more than welcome to attend, further details will be forthcoming.

Important Dates

Mar 06	Labour Day
Mar 21	Swimming Carnival
Apr 07	End Term 1

New Toilet Block: Last year the Department of Education approved our application for a new purpose-built toilet block for ESC students, for which construction is currently underway. We always maintain a dignity and privacy for students who require assistance with their toileting and this new facility will be a great addition to our school. The building should be completed and commissioned before end of April.

Parent Survey: My sincere thanks to those parents and carers that took time to complete the 2016 survey. The results have been collated and have been placed on our website for your perusal – see Parent Survey Results under [Our School](#). Your feedback has again demonstrated that we are a good school. I will always work hard to ensure there is continuous improvement to ensure your child receives the best education available.

I thank you for your continued support of our great school. Please feel free to contact me if you need to discuss anything, I have an open door policy so you are always welcome to pop in.

Kind regards,

Jim Douglas, Principal.

Room 31

Hello Parents and Caregivers associated with Room 31. Welcome to the 2017 school year at Riverside Education Support Centre. We look forward to getting to know you and working towards meaningful and positive outcomes for your children.

For your information it is our pleasure to introduce our staff for 2017:

Mrs Yvonne Medlam – Education Assistant
Ms Somerton – Education Assistant
Mrs O'Connor – Education Assistant
Mrs McEvatt – Education Assistant
Mr Nathan Anderson – Education Assistant
Mrs Christine Douglas – Education Assistant
Mr Glen Webber – Teacher
Mrs Diana Edwards – Teacher
Mrs Louise Filer – Teacher



Bentley is enjoying the Hopper!

It is very rewarding to be able to work again with our families who were with us in 2016, but to also welcome and work alongside the Burman, Cross, Kidd, Read-Jones and Sutton families who have joined us in 2017.

Our foci this term will include forging positive relationships between the staff and children through respect, clear and consistent expectations, developmentally appropriate routines, patience, laughter and a positive, success-oriented and rewarding environment.

We also seek to establish a positive rapport between the children, through beginning to develop a culture of mutual respect, working towards sharing, compromise, effective communication and participation.

As we work towards these areas of focus in the first weeks of 2017, the children have been exploring the indoor and outdoor environments, developing the ability to focus on staff, listen actively and follow instructions.

During these times, we were able to take wonderful photos, some of which you see here. As the term progresses we look forward to reporting further on what Room 31 children have been engaged in.



Ronald enjoyed using his senses to explore the Goop!



Locklyn was intrigued, having his hands massaged with blue paint.

Glen Webber, Room 31

Room 32

Hi to all from Room 32. Starting school has been so exciting, especially for some of our students who have just started in junior primary.

During our first two weeks we sequenced numbers onto rocket ships, counting down from 10 to zero before blast off! Other challenges included identifying missing numbers between 10 and 20 and learning to combine and add numbers together.

We have been reading funny Big Books, including *Baaboomb*, about farm animals, and *The Snake Cake*. The latter book led to acting out the snake cake story and making the queen lots of different shaped cakes. The Smartboard has also been used for assisted reading, including the popular story about *The Fat Cat* and his friends.

Revising letter sound names and practicing reading is part of our morning routine. Students also practice writing their name and verbally saying their address. You may like to offer your child an opportunity to reinforce this activity at home.

This year we welcome a new girl called Shayla who is awesome at drawing. You will see a photo of her with Chanel. They both made beautiful queens even though they were a bit bossy!

I am supported this year by Mrs Wiseman, Mrs Filer and Mrs Edwards who teach cooking, geography, history, science and how to measure in maths. We are ably assisted by Education Assistants Mrs Smith, Mrs Vincent, Mrs MB, Mrs Cordall and Ms Bone.

We hope you like our photos. Bye for now from the staff and students of Room 32.

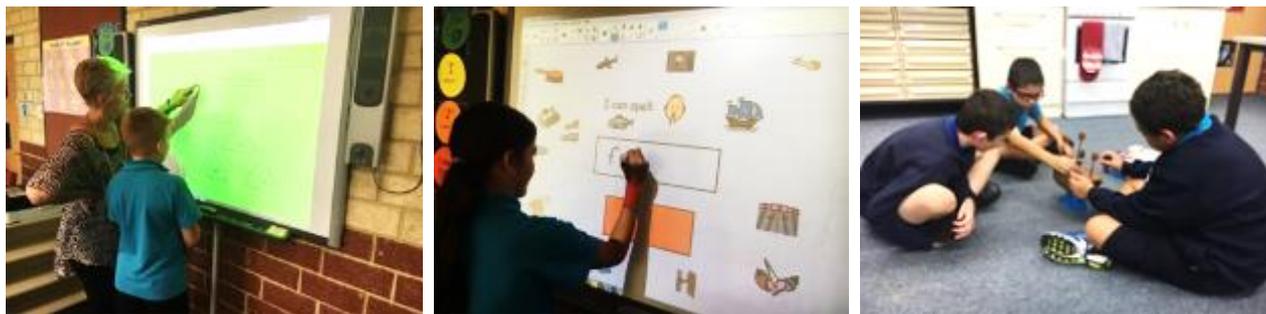


Room 33

Hello everyone. Welcome back to another year after a long Christmas break. We hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday period. Room 33 is now the senior class and we have welcomed some new friends for our final year of primary school.

Our students are already hard at work and have been busy with a rotation of activities covering time, money, phonics and continuing work on spelling and sight words.

This term our theme is the human body and lots of exciting and engaging activities are planned. For instance, this week we learnt all about teeth: what the different parts are called and which teeth tear, slice and grind when we eat!



We are also undertaking Café 33 this year and next week we begin our community access. Every Monday we will catch the bus to the local shop and purchase ingredients for our café cooking. Students will be learning road safety, tagging on and off buses, finding items around the shop and using the checkout.

Room 35

Welcome back to school and Room 35. We hope you had a great holiday and enjoyed the time with your children. The students (and staff) are really excited to be back. We have been working hard getting to know one another and are settling into routines quickly. This term we welcome Mrs Filer and Mrs Edwards into our class. We look forward to doing History and Science with our DOTT teachers.



This term our theme will be 'ABC 123'. We have started the theme well with the letter 'S'. In English we have been writing all different sizes of letters, finding words that begin with this letter and cutting and making a large letter 'S' with six stars.

Maths has seen the students counting to 20, matching numbers to words and pictures and learning to write numbers.

I look forward to meeting with all our parents and carers in the next couple of weeks as we set goals for our students for Semester 1. This is a great opportunity to get together and see what is happening in our class.

Again, welcome back. 2017 is going to be a busy and exciting year.

Room 36

Greetings everyone and welcome back to school for 2017.

This year Room 36 has been assigned to Mr McGuffin and consists of year 4 and year 5 students. I would like to give a brief introduction of the Education Assistants in our class this year. Mrs Stanley, Mrs Frost and Ms Madden are all full time in the class. Ms Delia, Mrs Brown, Mrs O and Mrs Hatton are all 2-3 days per week. They are all very competent and enthusiastic educators and will assist me to give our students individual and group instruction.

I have been in contact with Parents and Carers of the students in our room to arrange IEP meetings and these will take place in weeks 3 and 4 at the arranged times. I am also available most afternoons

to talk with Parents and Carers if you have any concerns regarding your children's school experience. Please ring and make appointments through the school office.

The students of Room 36 have settled in beautifully and have already begun engaging in curriculum activities with enthusiasm and persistence. The activities we use across all learning areas are Australian and State curriculum aligned, which the students will find challenging. However, we shall endeavour to work through all learning challenges and adjust levels of difficulty accordingly.



This term we will be studying a selection of well-known international countries, learning about their culture, food and people through internet study, books and posters. If your child requests help with searching for information at home or the local library, please assist if you can. Last week we began studying China and we made Chicken Chow Mein during our Health/Cooking lesson. The children all really enjoyed creating this yummy, healthy dish and even using chopsticks! They might even want to make it at home! Mrs Stanley brought in some beautiful items that she had bought on a trip to Hong Kong. In week four we 'travel' to Mexico, and we are all excited to learn about the culture and features of that country.

We know that our students are going to have a great time in this class and welcome you all to enjoy their school experience as part of our class community.

Room 37



Hi, I'm Alicia Hart and I wish you a warm welcome from myself and my team for Term 1, 2017! Joining me in my year 3-4 class this year are Mrs Hiron, Mrs Irvine, Mrs Kew, Mrs O'Brien, Miss Penny and Ms Punch. Mrs Edwards will be teaching science and Mrs Filer History/Geography.

We have all had a great summer break and are raring to go and ready to make happy learning memories this year.

Our first term theme is the ocean and we've dived straight in! Our students have designed their own sea creatures and have made some sparkly "Twiggles" Turtles. Our class is already looking lovely and colourful!

Our reward system is also ocean based and each child is an ocean creature. The children earn shells for good work and behaviour then get to go to the prize box. With our great class of students I think the prize box will need replenishing often.



We got off to a great start of term with our lovely student Aliya having her birthday on the first day back at school. We had an impromptu birthday party and all ate too much cake!

We know this year in Room 37 is going to be wonderful. Looking forward to sharing our news with you throughout the year.

SCHOOL NEWS

Introducing our Deputy Principal

Riverside Education Support Centre has grown in student numbers over the past decade. During this time we have worked hard to ensure a smooth transition for staff and students across all aspects of the school. Such growth and commitment has necessitated the creation of a dedicated Deputy Principal to oversee:

- New Student Intake and student psychological review cycles
- Student Attendance
- Student Curriculum, and
- Student Behaviour Management

Alongside our Principal, the Deputy Principal (DP) will meet with new families and work with them on best placement for individual students, and consider the eligibility requirements necessary for placement.

Additionally, the Deputy role will also involve working alongside teachers to ensure the individual curriculum needs are met for each student. Student attendance and behaviour will also be considered on a needs basis and remedial work will be conducted between classroom teachers and the Deputy Principal.

Tamarra Rekman, appointed to the position of Deputy Principal from 2017, has worked in various roles at Riverside Education Support Centre since 2003. She began at Riverside as a classroom teacher and has also worked in the role of Student Services Coordinator. Tamarra is actively involved in the school community and has a strong enthusiasm for working with students with special educational needs.

“I live and work in Mandurah and feel it is a great place to raise my children. I love working with the students, parents and staff at Riverside Education Support Centre.”

2017 Term 1 P&C Canteen Menu

Riverside P&C has published the 2017 Canteen Menu, now available on our website under the “Information” tab. In order for the canteen to provide best service, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Complete a complimentary lunch bag for any HOT RECESS items and all other lunch order.
- DO NOT staple or sticky tape your lunch bags.
- Submit to the Canteen from 8.30am

The success of our canteen relies heavily on the support of volunteers. If you can help please contact the P&C or let our office staff know and we will pass your message on.



Schools Alive Choir

As 2017 begins so does our Schools Alive Choir for another exciting time of rehearsals and performances. Congratulations to Karen Ugle-Pascoe, Maddie Critch, Cody Ironmonger and Haydn Randall-Markey for representing Riverside ESC this year. Look out for further updates in the Newsletter.



Cessation of Fax Service

In keeping with Department of Education policy, the school no longer has a fax machine. Please delete this number from your records. Our school is contactable by phone at 9534 0328 or email riverside.esc@education.wa.edu.au.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Relationships Australia

Tina Gratton, Relationships Educator - Education Services, informs us that Relationships Australia, an organisation committed to supporting parents in Mandurah, has a great range of workshops coming up for parents in March that will benefit parents and families in our school community.

Upcoming courses for parents are:

- Tuesday 7 March – Successful Single Parenting
- Thursday 2 March – Step Families, An Introduction
- Saturday 11 March – Rock & Water (for parents and children)
- Thursday 16 March – Mums Raising Teenage Boys
- Monday 27 March – Teens and Anger

Contact Tina: 1300 364 2777 / email Tina.Gratton@RelationshipsWA.org.au for further information, or go to <http://www.relationshipswa.org.au>

P&C News – see back page

RIVERSIDE P&C News

You Are Invited to the ...

FIRST GENERAL MEETING FOR 2017!
Monday 27th February, 6.30-7.30pm
Riverside Schools Staffroom
Non-members are welcome!!!

Have some new ideas? Love to feel like part of a team? If your answer is 'Yes!' and if you've ever thought about getting more involved with your school now is the perfect time to do it!

Make some great friends, learn some new skills, find a new outlet for the talents you may already have, and be rewarded in knowing you're helping make both schools a better place for our kids.

RSVP: to the email address below

IMPORTANT NOTE:

This year the P&C will have several positions that need to be filled. Important Office Bearer positions, such as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer MUST to be filled after the Annual General Meeting on the 27th of March or the P&C will not be able to continue to operate.

This means NO Canteen and NO on-site Uniform Shop.

We will also need Convenors for the Canteen, Uniform Shop and Fundraising plus sub-committee members to work with/assist each of them and general committee members.

Instead of asking "Why you?" ask yourself, "Why NOT you?"

FROM THE CANTEEN

SUMMER MENU

The new menu for Summer is now out, please make sure you are ordering from the correct menu as some items and prices have changed since last year.

PLEASE NOTE: The **DAILY MEAL DEALS** have also changed please make sure you are using the **NEW MENU**. If you didn't receive one or have lost your copy Trudy has extras in the canteen and you can also download it from both schools websites.

PRE-ORDER RECESS

We also encourage you to pre-order your recess items to avoid disappointment,

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Canteen volunteers each receive a voucher to spend in the canteen upon completion of a shift. You also receive lunch and a drink if you volunteer for a full shift. Sound good? Fill out a volunteer form today at the canteen.

FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

GRADUATION SHIRTS

Order Forms for Graduation Shirts will be sent home with Year 6 students soon. The cost of the shirts will be \$40, same as last year. You will be able to pay with EFTPOS if you place your order at the Uniform Shop during opening hours, alternately you can place the order form and the correct monies in a sealed envelope and leave it in the P&C Dropbox inside the administration office. Orders MUST be in by Friday the 10th of March, late orders cannot be accepted.

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