



# Riverside Education Support Centre

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 02, 2016



Hello Everyone,

Hopefully you have all read our first newsletter of the school year, issued last week, in which I introduced the various activities and information that help our school function. So, for this issue, with just a few short words from me, it is the teachers' turn to introduce their year to you and discuss some of the activities already underway.

The start of the year can be quite stressful for students and families as everyone adjusts to the school routine. These routines are important and set the tone for a successful school year, so please contact us regarding any issues in these first weeks.

We have all experienced extremely hot weather in February, perhaps a sign of things to come as our weather patterns change. All classrooms are air-conditioned so students' well-being and study should not be affected. Like you, we know children do get very tired in this heat and they are constantly monitored for fluid intake and comfort. As always, hats and drink bottles are essential components of the school day.

I know I mentioned this last week but keeping up attendance at school is both a legal requirement and also a vital factor in how the children adjust to our expectations of behaviour and integrate with their new social networks. Please keep up the good work.

Best regards,

Jim Douglas, Principal

Check out **Important Dates** at the end of the Classroom Reports.

### Room 31

To all the parents and carers associated with Riverside Education Support Centre, we in Room 31 would like to extend a big welcome to you all for the beginning of the 2016 school year.

In our classroom we welcome back 5 families from 2015, as well as meeting the de Groot, Diggles, Huerlin and Stevens families who are new to our school this year.

The children have settled into school very quickly. Our routine is becoming established and the children's awareness of our expectations developing.



With the use of our 'purple circles' to sit on, the children are becoming more attentive during teacher directed routines. This will enable us to introduce more curriculum based activities throughout the year as the children learn to focus for longer.

Music forms a very big part of our program at this stage and the children thoroughly enjoy the movement aspect. It is not only a vehicle for free expression, but one for developing listening skills and providing opportunity for each child to regulate their own behaviour. At the moment, our favourite songs are "10 Little Indians," "Miss Polly Had A Dolly," and "The Gorilla Dance." It is delightful to see every child willing to move and participate.

The other popular aspect of our program right now is Story Time. We listen to the same story each day during the week. As a result, the children develop an awareness of the text and are able to use their prior experience with the book to contribute to discussion and the actual story-telling. It is a terrific platform to introduce new concepts and vocabulary to the children, as well as improve comprehension through our questioning about the book. So far we have read "Spot Goes To The Farm," "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," "The Blue Balloon", and in Week 4 "We're Going On A Bear Hunt."

We look forward to letting you know of other exciting experiences happening in our classroom over the coming year, and the progress the children are making.

Best wishes to everyone for a wonderful 2016, from all of us in Room 31.

### Room 32



Room 32 have gotten off to a fabulous start to 2016. Our little pre-primary people have moved into big school with great enthusiasm and interest, whilst our year 1's and 2's are showing them how it's done with great leadership.

This year is going to bring with it lots of exciting activities and learning around 'my name, what I look like, the people in my family and celebrations we have'. This is part of the WA History Curriculum.



In Maths we are working very hard on number. Some of our students will be learning how to do addition sums, while others are learning how to count small collections. The students appear very excited about what they have already achieved this term and its only week 4!

### Room 33

A warm welcome to all students, parents and carers to Room 33 (one in a minion is our class motto). It has been a great start to the year and already we have been learning so much. Our class has enjoyed cooking pancakes and quiche with Room 34. There has been a request to make chicken nuggets. Delicious!

We also had the privilege of a visit from The Milo T-20 Cricket co-ordinator. We were able to play many collaborative games to help our batting, throwing and catching skills. It was awesome.

So far we have been learning about Number and Measurement including time and money. Soon we will go shopping and estimate how many kilometres away we have to drive. Making a reasonable guess/estimate can be tricky!

We have been reading lots of Big Books which we love because we can read the story together. We like to predict what might happen and can sometimes connect and relate to the story. We also learn lots about print which will help our writing skills.

One of the books we loved reading was The Hungry Giant. We dressed up and acted out the story. It was very very funny. Our listening and speaking skills were so good! We hope you like the photos of us acting out the story!



Bye for now from Room 33.

## Room 34

Welcome back to all parents/Carers and students to room 34. We have 2 new additional students to our class this year - Joshua and Emma who have enjoyed the transition to Room 34 and making friends with their fellow students.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have made themselves available for IEP meetings. It has been great to meet with you all to discuss the plans and hopes you all have for your children. The students are all working very well with our programmes tailored to each child's ability, interests and needs.

Staff of Room 34 this year are: Mrs Julie Hiron, Mrs Pauline Sharratt, Mrs Claire Stimson, Mrs Sarah Barrett, Mrs Sam Smith and Mr Nathan Anderson. All the Education Assistants have done a fantastic job thus far, getting to know our students, and making our room an exciting and fun place to be.

Term 1 is always a very busy time and this one is no exception. We have Friday sports beginning week 5, our swimming carnival in week 6, community access



excursions beginning week 5. We are also collaborating with other classrooms and will be doing Physical Education with the students of room 37 on Thursdays and cooking with the students of room 34 on Fridays.

## Room 35

Welcome back to school and Room 35! We have had a fantastic start to the year and students have settled well into classroom routines. Thank you to parents who have supplied the necessary resources. We appreciate your promptness in doing this as it makes for a smooth start to the year.

We have had a very hot start to the school year. Whilst our classrooms are air conditioned students still need to be well hydrated. Please ensure that your child has a full water bottle each day. I find that students drink more when they have access to their own water bottle in the class. We are more than happy to refill it during the day!

The students have been fantastic in bringing in crunch and sip each day. We have had a great selection of fruits to choose from and indeed, our break time fruit and vegetable plate looks very colourful.



This term we have started looking at African Animals. Our backdrop is beginning to look very colourful with our meerkats and giraffes. Keep an eye out for other animals – you never know where they may appear! Students are learning many interesting facts about each animal and are enjoying doing art work using a variety of materials. Fine motor and writing skills are quickly improving with all the hard work.



I look forward to meeting with each family as we start setting goals for Semester 1. As many of our students are on the bus to and from school we don't get to see you often. These meetings are important, for this is the time when we get to discuss many aspects of your child's education. Parents and Carers, please do make time for this.

You will also have the opportunity to come into the class and work with your child throughout the

year. These mornings are always enjoyed by all – students, parents and staff.

Again welcome to Room 35. We look forward to a busy and exciting year.

## Room 36



Room 36 would like to welcome everyone to the 2016 school year. This year we will be learning about Community Helpers. We have begun learning about Fire fighters. So far we have learnt about smoke alarms and how often we should change their battery, what happens if our clothes catch on fire, who to call in case of an emergency and how bush fires begin.

Throughout the semester we will be learning about ambulance workers, police officers, transit workers, librarians and many more. We hope to visit some of these people

throughout the semester to speak with them about their roles within the community. We are very excited about the semester ahead!

## Room 37

Room 37 would like to give you a warm welcome to this academic year 2016. The students and staff in Room 37 have had a fantastic start to 2016! Everyone has settled in very well.

Our very successful Café Project is open for 'business' again this year with many new experiences awaiting our students as they learn about service, communication, money and more. We are intending to make our own food to sell with one sweet and one savoury item each week. Ice coffees will continue on the menu for term one and hot chocolate will be back for terms two and three. We hope that all of the staff continue to enjoy the service that we are able to provide. We also hope to get uniforms to make our Café Project look more professional. Watch this space!



This term our theme is Vikings and we are having fun learning about Viking culture and reading 'How to train your dragon' by Cressida Cowell.

We look forward to updating you again soon.

## RESC Important Dates

Mar 07 – Labour Day (Public Holiday)

Mar 08 – Swimming Carnival (Please return your permission note with the \$5 nominal fee)

Mar 21 – Riverside Primary Schools P&C Annual General Meeting. 6PM - All welcome.

Mar 25 – Good Friday (Public Holiday)

Mar 28 – Easter Monday (Public Holiday)

Mar 29 – Easter Tuesday (Public Holiday)

Apr 08 – Last Day Term 1

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Relationships Australia Mandurah** offers fathers who require parenting support, a social opportunity to interact with other fathers who are experiencing similar parenting challenges in a program called **4Dads**.

4Dads is a Dads Supporting Dads Group (DSDG) operating out of Relationships Australia's George Street office on Monday nights. **DSDG invites dads to drop in, to enjoy a BBQ dinner and social interaction with other dads before an informal discussion on dad's parenting lead by the participants.**

Andre, the community development officer for 4Dads Mandurah, said, "We recognised the need for a dads only parenting groups of a less formal nature to traditional education programs whilst still enabling dads to strengthen their parenting skills". The group adopted this relaxed style approach after a trial in 2015, which demonstrated stronger group unity and comradery compared to the classroom style seminars. 4Dads also offers 1on1 referral service for dads who are seeking guidance on a range of parenting, family and separation issues.

4Dads runs from 6:30 to 8:30pm at 21 George Street, Mandurah. For further information visit the website at [www.relationshipswa.org.au](http://www.relationshipswa.org.au) or email [4families@relationshipswa.org.au](mailto:4families@relationshipswa.org.au) (08) 6164 0600.

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**Billy Dower Youth Centre** is offering a **Young Women's Program** (ages 11 to 17). The program commenced Tuesday 16th February 2016 and runs until Tuesday 12th April (excluding Easter Tuesday). Cost \$2.00 each week – healthy snacks included. Inquiries welcome.

Contacts: Tamara Mott or Sharon Russell on 9550 3670.



Every year there is a well-documented rise in asthma flare-ups and hospitalisations when students return to school after the Christmas break. This year Asthma Australia has created a campaign for parents of students with asthma to prepare them for this worldwide phenomenon.

Go to: [https://gallery.mailchimp.com/b71126302c18d7d14c6fc08a1/files/BTSAC\\_02.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/b71126302c18d7d14c6fc08a1/files/BTSAC_02.pdf)



Right Track is a Public Transport Authority (PTA) program that's all about safer travel and encourages young passengers to become more responsible for their own safety and to make positive choices.

The program aims to help young people understand why there is a code of behaviour for public transport by looking at the rights and responsibilities of all passengers. It is approached through youth engagement activities as well as through a school education program which is endorsed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

Go to: <http://www.righttrack.wa.gov.au/Home/tabid/223/language/en-AU/Default.aspx>

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### School Dental Service: Greenfields Dental Therapy Centre

Located at Greenfields Primary,  
9 Zambesi Drive, Greenfields 6210  
PH: 9581 3895

Open: Mon-Fri from 8am to 4pm.

This is a free service for general dental requirements. Children are eligible from PRP or the year they turn 5yrs old.



Figure 1: Image from Department of Dental Hygiene and Therapy at the Oral Health Centre of Western Australia.

Eligibility ends when they enter YR 12 or when they turn 17YO, whichever comes first.

**After Hours Emergency:** The School Dental Service doesn't provide after-hours emergency treatment. In the Metropolitan area – please contact your local private dentist or, if eligible the after-hours emergency service on 9325 3452.

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## SCHOOL WEBSITE: [www.riversideesc.wa.edu.au](http://www.riversideesc.wa.edu.au)

Check out our school website. Here are just some of the new articles and changes you will find under “What’s New” or under the Category tabs:

- 2016 Uniform List and Order form
- 2016 Summer Menu for Canteen
- Important Dates and Calendar Updates
- 2015 School Review added to School Reports and Reviews webpage
- Update on P&C, including opportunities to assist and about the forthcoming AGM
- Billy Dower Youth Centre announces Young Women’s Program which will interest girls aged 11 and older
- WA Off Road Racing Association presents its 5th annual day out for children with disabilities AND their families
- ... and Useful Links and General Links webpages have been updated and expanded.