



Riverside Education Support Centre

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 03, 2016



Hello to Everybody,

The Term is quickly passing us by and already students are anxiously engaged in lots of good rich learning experiences. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy Easter break. Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Student Behaviour: Riverside staff put a lot of time, effort and planning into ensuring classrooms are a positive, safe place for staff and students. There may be occasions when a student's behaviour becomes too disruptive, hence creating an unsafe environment and staff intervention is necessary. We take student behaviour extremely seriously; staff are well experienced in putting together behaviour management plans to which your input will also be very valuable, hence I would encourage you if you are contacted about your child's behaviour, to work with us towards ensuring a positive outcome.

Swimming Carnival: Our recent joint schools swimming carnival with Meadow Springs ESC was a great success. My thanks are extended to our organiser Mrs Sharon Baker and all staff, parents and carers who assisted on the day.

School Camp: The dates for our school camp will be September 14-16 (Term 3). Notes have gone home informing you of deposit and payment details. As planning progresses you will be informed accordingly. There may be a number of fund raising activities that you will be invited to participate in which will help to lower the cost of the camp. If you have any issues about payment of a deposit or any other financial queries please talk to your child's teacher.

Parent Survey: As part of Education Department requirements we have to complete a parent survey in 2016. This will occur during Term 2. It will be by voluntary participation, I would encourage everyone to participate as your feedback is always extremely useful and appreciated. Details will be posted on our website soon.

Sensory Room: As I have previously reported our new sensory room is now in use. If you are interested in viewing the room please let the school know to schedule an appointment.

Easter Break: The school will not be open from **25-29 March** inclusive for the Easter break. Students will return to school on Wednesday 30 March.

P & C Meeting: The P & C will be holding their annual AGM on Monday 21 March – that's tonight. I will announce the Office Bearers in my next newsletter. Our P&C are fantastic & work tirelessly to ensure both schools receive the benefits. I would encourage you to support our P&C in any way you can. Our very successful Easter raffle will take place this Thursday 24 March, where there will be lots of yummy prizes.

Best regards,

Jim Douglas, Principal

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

Riverside Schools P&C NEWS The latest information from your P&C ...	From our CANTEEN CONGRATULATIONS! Please congratulate Trudy Cates on being appointed to the position of Canteen Manager. Trudy has worked in our canteen for a number of years and we know that she will do a terrific job. We would also like to thank those who applied for the position, particularly those with ties to the school. We have some very talented and qualified parents and grandparents, we are lucky to have them.	The AGM This year's AGM will be held in the schools staff room on Monday the 21st of March at 6.00pm with drinks and nibbles to follow. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. Please arrive at least 10 minutes early as the meeting will start at 6.00pm sharp. As all committee positions will become vacant at the start of the meeting if you wish to nominate for a position you will need to complete a nomination form upon arrival, please allow plenty of time to do this. Or, you are welcome to fill out a nomination form beforehand. If you would like one emailed to you please send your request to riversidepandc@yahoo.com.au . See you there!
	REMINDER: Last day for Easter Raffle donations and raffle tickets is Monday 21st March!	

Room 31

Hello to all children, parents and caregivers at Riverside ESC, from Room 31.

It is with great pleasure that we welcome to our classroom, Mrs MB, who had an unfortunate fall just before the school term started. She has been very pleased to meet the children and get back into the business of educating!



Mrs B.

First term is moving very quickly. The children have adapted to our routine and are continuing to develop the skills to manage themselves more independently in the classroom. Our focus for the children is on making good choices and self-regulating their behaviour. With a great deal of positive reinforcement from staff, the children have made great gains in this regard and we are very proud of them.

Story Time continues to be one of our favourite routines. Our most popular story has been Michael Rosen's, "We're Going on a Bear Hunt." The repetitive language and 'sing-song' quality of the text was an instant hit with the children. As a result, using various art techniques and materials, we made all the props that would enable us to stage a drama of the book. As staff narrated, every child walked through the 'swishy, swashy' grass, walked through the 'splash-splish' water, waded through the 'squelch, squerch' mud, 'stumble-tripped' through the forest and walked through the swirling, whirling snowstorm, only to discover a bear in the cave! It was very exciting and the children's favourite part was screaming "IT'S A BEAR!" We plan as much movement as possible following our story time, using a multi-sensory approach that enables the children to develop a better understanding of the story, the books sequence of events, the characters and the vocabulary used. The best part for staff is watching every child participate, with big smiles on their faces.



Shane proudly wears his spider hat

We have also introduced a phonics program into the classroom and the children are learning their sounds. We have introduced the s, a, t and p sounds so far. We use various activities to help reinforce these sounds. Some of these include making spider hats for s, apple printing for a, making tiger tails for t and cooking popcorn in an open pan for p.

Cooking the popcorn was very popular and the children got very excited seeing it pop out of the pan and onto our paper. It was very pleasing also to see the children listening and following instructions so well, to keep themselves safe.

One other area we are focussing on is the children's ability to not just count, but count using their principles of counting. This means understanding that numbers are always said in the same order from 1-10, understanding that when we touch an object we only say one number, and understanding what 'how many?' means. The children have already shown improvement in this area and we continue to reinforce these understandings.

We look forward to sharing more news from our classroom later in the year!

Room 32

We have had a busy start to Term 1. Already we have learnt about circles and squares in geometry and have identified lots of objects within our environment that have these attributes. We will be moving onto rectangles and triangles next.

This term we were lucky enough to have a purpose built Sensory Room made for us. Each class is able to visit this room weekly and experience a variety of activities, investigate surfaces and textures and develop both our gross motor and fine motor skills in a safe, controlled, vibrant environment.



Erica showing her giraffe made of squares and Leah with her circle pig.



Lucas on the Sensory Room climbing frame

Finally our Year 1's went to the Riverside/Meadow Springs Ed Support Centre Swimming Carnival at the Pinjarra pool. We had so much fun swimming, cheering and supporting our friends. It was a great day for all.



Erica trying out the SR ball pit

Room 33

Room 33 have been working very hard this term learning a lot about money and time in our maths lessons. We also made our own analogue and digital clocks which was lots of fun. They also look really cool displayed in our room!

We have continued reading our Big Books and read Fifteen Pigs on a Pirate Ship. The story was very humorous so after we stopped laughing we made pirate pigs and treasure chests. Our pirate pigs even have a maths sum on their tummy and we used number lines to help us work out the answers.

Another activity we have loved doing is reading new words doing some 'live spelling' with sounds. By swapping and changing sounds around in the words we were able to make new ones.



Here are some photos of us reading our Big Books and having fun learning to read.



Llisa McGuffin

Room 34

Term 1 is now into full swing and the students of Room 34 have been progressing very well with their new routines and activities.



Weekly Physical Education lessons with Rooms 33 and 37 have been a huge success, with the children participating in groups learning how to play cricket with the fundamental movement skills of catching, throwing and batting over the last 4 weeks. We will now be concentrating on a modified version of volleyball skills until the end of term.

Our Community Access Program has begun with our first visit to the Mandurah Forum in week 5. Students all listened very carefully and took great care crossing the road and

walking through the car park. We purchased groceries from Woolworths for our cooking lesson later in the week.

The students all enjoyed the swimming carnival at Pinjarra pool with Meadow Springs School and it was great to see the students cheer each other on in what was a very well organised event.

Semester 1 IEP's have now been completed and sent home. Programs and activities to assist our students to achieve their individual goals are in place and we are confident that your children will enjoy and succeed in achieving those goals.



Alisdair McGuffin

Room 35

Wow! This term is going by so quickly – we are half way through it already. We have had a busy start to the year and have now settled into class routines.

Our African animals are starting to take over our class! We have made giraffes, meerkats, monkeys, elephants and birds. We are enjoying reading books on the different animals and learning interesting facts about them. We still have so many more animals to look forward learning about.

In English we have been focusing on our letter knowledge and doing lots of activities to do with the letter of the day. We liked digging in the sand for letters and pictures, making words in shaving cream, painting and of course play-doh. In between all the hands on work we are learning how to form our letters and keep them neatly on the line.

Maths has seen us working on number recognition and counting. We are getting very good at this and enjoy the many activities that help us. Our favourites are Bingo and the Lady Bug Maths App on the IPAD.

This week saw us head out of school for the day to Pinjarra Aquatic Centre for a swimming carnival. A great day was had by all! It was great fun doing our races and having some free play with the balls and noodles. We were exhausted by the end of the day and there lots of tired – but very happy faces.



Look at all those ribbons!!!



And the WINNER is ... !

Room 36



Room 36 has been learning about community helpers and so far we have been looking at Fire fighters. At our WHAS assembly we showed some of our work and preformed a song called Get Out and Stay Out. It is about what to do if there was a fire in your house.

We are now learning about Police Officers and how they can help us in the community. So far we have learnt about what they wear and all the different things Police Officers do in the community. We have even got to have a look at a real police hat, batten and a police torch.

Room 37

Term one is going very well for Room 37. All students have been participating in their learning programmes with enthusiasm. I am very proud of them all!

Some of you may know that Clean up Australia Day takes place on Sunday 6th March. Both schools participated in cleaning up our school grounds on Friday 19th February. Fortunately there was not too much rubbish to be picked up, which was fantastic! More information on this can be found at www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au.

Four students from our class are participating in the 'Silver Chain community project' organised by Mrs Wiseman. This involves spending time once each fortnight with senior citizens at their retirement home reading, chatting and playing games. The students involved enjoyed their first afternoon and look forward to their next visit.

We have begun the 'Zones of Regulation programme' within the class. This involves being able to identify our emotions, using appropriate vocabulary and learning strategies to control the emotions that we are experiencing. Letters were sent home outlining the concepts that will be covered throughout the programme and the terms that we will be using. Please feel free to contact myself if you would like more information about this programme.

Thank you to all parents/carers who contribute a piece of fruit for our class Crunch and Sip. This is a necessary sensory break for the students and a chance to refuel and hydrate.

Rachael Cairns

RESC Important Dates

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

Apr 26 – First Day Term 2

PUBLIC NOTICES

Bike Week Pedal Power Family Movie Night (FREE)

A unique free fun event for all ages and abilities. Thursday 24 March 2016 06:30pm - 09:00pm (Hosted by Life Cykel and Mandurah City Rotary Club). Bring a chair or rug and insect repellent.

Pee Wee's Big Adventure (PG) ([You Tube Trailer – click here](#)) will be screened using power generated by members of the audience taking turns to pedal ten special bicycles.

Before the movie, enjoy other fun bike powered activities and low cost refreshments.