



Riverside Education Support Centre

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 03, 2017



Hello Everyone,

As we enter the last week of Term 1 I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff and students for their efforts during the Term.

New Bike Track: The new bike track should be completed & ready for use by the start of Term 2. Thanks to Mr McGuffin for

coordinating the project. The City of Mandurah have kindly donated some traffic signs, these will be installed once the line markings have been applied. Bike education will become part of RESC curriculum for our students.

Swimming Carnival: Our recent swimming carnival was a great success. We had a good parent turn out and the students had a lovely time. Thanks to staff for all their effort supervising and engaging with our students.

New Toilet Block: Unfortunately due to a design discrepancy the new toilet block build has been delayed. I am still waiting to hear from the builder to confirm a new completion date.

IEPs: Thanks to all of you who attended meetings with your child's Teacher to discuss their IEPs. These will be sent home this week.

Term 2 Commencement Dates:

- Monday 24 April: School open for staff return only.
- Tuesday 25 April: School closed for ANZAC Day Public Holiday.
- Wednesday 26 April: Students return to school.

Ms Bloor: Ms Bloor has recently announced that she will be leaving Riverside Primary School. On behalf of all Riverside ESC staff & students I would like to extend our thanks to Deb for her support as Principal and wish her well for the future.

Kind regards,

Jim Douglas,

Principal

TOILET BLOCK PROGRESS:

Yes, it's the same photo as last issue. Unfortunately an error of measurement means the building has now gone back to the drawing table, needing to be redesigned to fit the available space.

We will provide an update in Term 2 but completion at this stage will likely be sometime in Term 3.



Room 31

Welcome to all parents and carers associated with Room 31. It is difficult to believe we are almost at the end of Term 1. Time has passed very quickly.

The children have settled into the classroom routine. They are continuing to develop positive relationships with staff and fostering relationships with their peers. They are also becoming increasingly functional in a school environment: more independent, more attentive and able to focus for longer periods.

During the term, as part of our semantics program, we have been developing the children's awareness of food. Their ability to identify and label a variety of foods has improved significantly. The children have thoroughly enjoyed a cooking session with Mrs Douglas every week and eating different, fresh foods has reinforced their awareness. The fresh foods they have tried include yoghurt, onion, olives, kiwi fruit, ham, feta cheese, cucumber, kale and others. As a result, we are ready to begin using this growing awareness as a vehicle to educate them about healthy and unhealthy foods. We will begin to sort foods daily according to those criteria, which will then lead us to describing food, improving the children's vocabulary, and thus working towards improving the children's oral language, which we know plays a significant part in the development of literacy in the coming years.



In the last newsletter, we reported on our focus on music and movement in the classroom. It has been used not only as a method of improving oral language and literacy, but to reinforce mathematical concepts such as the principles of counting, size and comparative vocabulary and sorting.

After singing the song, "Silly Billy Blunder," we developed our hand strength through paper tearing and making our own

rain, then letting it 'pour' out of the umbrella over our heads at the conclusion of "Rain Rain Go Away." Look at the smile on Curtis' face!

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and look forward to working with the children towards positive outcomes in Term 2.

Glen Webber, Room 31

Room 32

Once again, a big hello from Room 32.

This term it has been possible for the Year 1 & 2 students in room 32 to participate in a program made available by Riding for the Disabled Association of Western Australia Inc. (RDAWA) through their Murray-Mandurah branch. The horse riding helps to improve coordination, balance, muscle development and fitness. It also boosts personal confidence, self-esteem, communications skills and trust.



Mia



Shayla

Students are supervised by two Education Assistants from Riverside Education Support Centre (Mrs Cordall and Mrs Bone) and with their support the students communicate and follow the instructor's directions to engage in a variety of fun, challenging and physical activities on their horse. For example, games are devised that enable the children to let go with one hand, grab a specific object and then deliver it to another location within the arena.



Erica



Lucas

The patient staff at RDAWA encourage all children to build confidence and trust with the particular horse that is assigned to them (see photos below). It has been wonderful to see all the students grow and gain confidence as they represent Riverside Education Support Centre so proudly. d students in Room 32.

In Mathematics students are completing a unit on money which is being taught in conjunction with number. As a class we discussed and brainstormed what money is used for and how to earn it, for example by working and doing chores/jobs to help someone. The students experienced learning to identify and describe the features of Australian coins and that the value of the coin is not related to its size. We made a class shop writing the symbols for dollars (\$) and cents © and with support the students are learning that different combinations of coins could make up 10c, 15c or 20c. The photo above shows the joy the children experience setting up and buying from their shop while learning about money matters.



Lucas buying from the class shop

Room 33



On March 17, one of our student counsellors from Room 33 travelled with other year 6 students to the annual Young Leaders Conference in Perth. Students who are deemed to possess leadership potential by their school are selected to attend these events.

Approximately 23,000 students across Australia attend these events each year. This year the theme was 'Together We Can'.

At this year's event the speakers included: Samantha Skinner, general manager of Halogen Australia; Tracey Yo, a Today Perth presenter and published author;

Ashleigh Nelson and Rachel Lynch, members of the Hockeyroos; Peter Sharp, a social artist; and Darren Lemman, a social innovator and founder of the Dreamfit Foundation.

The aim of the conference is to inspire & influence a generation of young people to lead themselves and others. It was a fantastic and inspiring event for the students who thoroughly enjoyed listening to the speakers.

Room 35

The end of term has fast approached and we are all ready for the holidays. Our children have been working so hard and are looking forward to doing lots of Easter activities in the last week leading up to the whole school Easter assembly. Look out for our awesome hats – we will be the class with fantastic rabbit ears.

We are looking forward to seeing all our parents and carers on Thursday morning for morning tea. You will have the opportunity to work with your child while she/he does some English activities and joins in our 'brain breaks'.

Everyone really enjoyed the swimming carnival – it was fun racing with the noodles and kick boards and in the afternoon the children got to play under the waterfall and in the whirl pool. Returning via bus to school after a busy day, the children were very quiet indeed!

Feelings have been explored during Health lessons, learning about what to do if we feel very excited, mad or angry. Our class now have a calming corner where children can go to calm down and practice 'the turtle' (stop, breath, calm down, then talk to a teacher about what has caused the feeling). Along with 'quiet' time the children are beginning to understand their behaviours and what can be done to regulate them in a positive way.

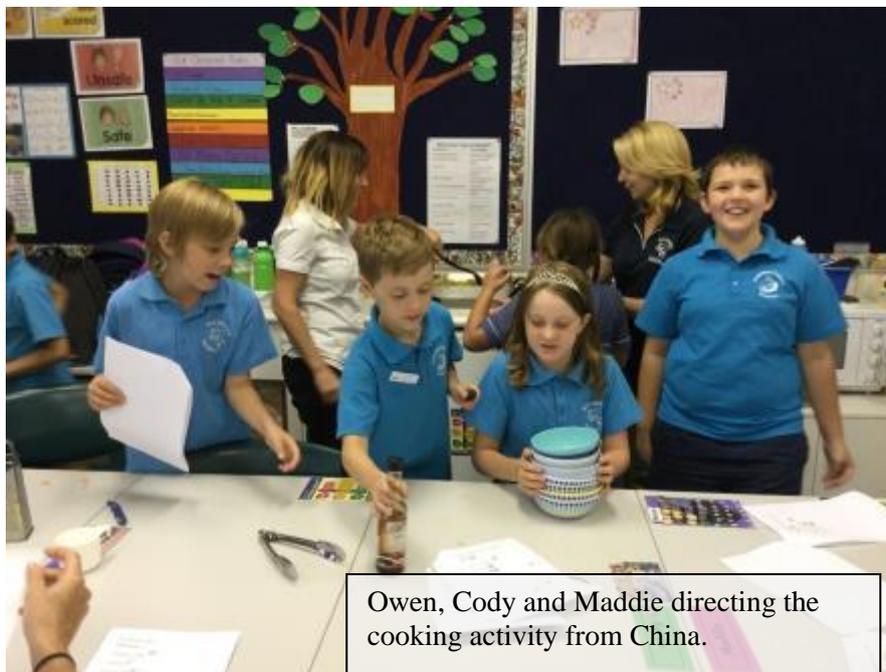
We would like to say thanks to Deborah Loader who has been in doing her Education Assistant training. We hope you enjoyed being in our class and look forward to seeing you again in Term 2.

We wish all our families a safe and relaxing holiday and look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready to learn in Term 2.

Room 36

Greetings Parents and Carers.

We have completed a very successful term in Room 36, and with our hard working EA's helping students with their individual programs also and creating excellent activities for our students to participate in, our students have completed some great work and been challenged to improve their levels of understanding and their output. I congratulate you all as with your assistance, the children have begun a homework and home reading program. Whilst there have been some modifications needed with the difficulty of some of the work, we appreciate the assistance you have provided.



Owen, Cody and Maddie directing the cooking activity from China.

The theme for this term has been Countries of The World and we looked at the cultures of Mexico, France, Russia and China. We researched features of each country, created artworks, cooked traditional dishes, and were even treated to a slideshow presentation by our EA – Mrs Gnatyuk, who originally came to Australia from Russia.

The children have really enjoyed the activities and learning that has taken place around this theme. We will be

continuing our travels in term 2.

We hope that you have a safe and happy Easter, whatever you choose to do in the holidays with your friends, family and carers.

Thankyou.

Staff of Room 36.

Room 37

Wow, we can't believe it is nearly the end of Term 1, and what a term it has been! Last week we welcomed a new student to our class. We are certainly a busy little room, working hard and learning new things every day. Last week we also had our swimming carnival. It was such a great day but boy were we exhausted by the end of it. I must say I was very proud of how Room 37 behaved at the carnival. We look forward to this event with Meadow Springs every year.

Miss 'M' is teaching Room 37 how to measure objects using a ruler. It is quite a tricky concept remembering to measure accurately and precisely but the concepts are being grasped. In Maths the children are also getting very good at reading a clock to the hour and half past. I am sure they can start telling you the time at home using an analogue clock.

Our theme 'the ocean' is continuing as we read stories like *Thomas and Grandpa*, *Fishing with Grandma* and *Sharing a Shell*. Students are expected to write a small paragraph about their favourite

part of the story as well as identify the role of an Author and Illustrator. They then get to do an art activity based on the story. We have made a fish tank, decorated a shell picture and made a fish using a cd disk. These fun activities are looked forward to each week.



Our preparations for the break include opportunities for Easter baking and craft.

And an Easter Egg hunt planned this week, but it's a surprise - Yum Yum!

SCHOOL NEWS

RESC Bike Track

Great progress has been made with developing the bike track and it is expected to be ready for use by the start of Term 2.

It will be a great asset for both RESC and RPS, increasing children's abilities and awareness when using bicycles.



The 20mm of rubberised softfall has now been laid. Next step is to mark up the track with lines which is planned for this coming weekend.