



Riverside Education Support Centre

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 06, 2017



Hello everyone, it is my pleasure to take a few minutes to write to you as the end of first semester of 2017 draws near. Our school is growing, so let me update you on some changes.

Classroom Moves:

I am happy to announce that we will be moving students out of demountable rooms and into permanent fixture classrooms for the start of Term 3. I will shortly release a map of the revised whole school layout pinpointing ESC classrooms. We will be dispensing with our '30's' numbering model and be naming rooms after their current number. I would like to thank Principal Mrs Cherie Dobbs and her Administration team for their consultation and collaboration during the planning of this move. This is a great example of Riverside Schools working together to ensure all students receive the maximum benefit for their education. The School Board has welcomed this joint agreement.

Student Moves:

Due to an increase in student enrolments we will have to make some adjustments to classes and to student and staff placements. This will involve the creation of 2 new rooms: a dedicated Kindergarten class and an extra year 1-2 class. We are currently working on student movements; if your child is affected you will be informed accordingly. There will also be some staff movement to support our new classes and they will be announced at the same time.

Important Dates

Jun 30	End of Term 2
Jul 18	Students start Term 3

Reports

Student reports will be sent home at the beginning of Week 10.

WA Education Awards

Nominations are now open for this year's WA Education Awards. Please contact the school if you wish to nominate a staff member from your child's school. Alternatively you can contact Jamie McElroy, Department of Education, on 9264 4483 for further information.

Smoking Not Permitted Anywhere at School:

I remind everyone that Department of Education sites are considered to be public places so smoking is not permitted in or near any buildings, in vehicles or on school grounds (including the car park). This complements WA State Government policy on smoking in public places.

Term 3

Term 3 will commence for staff on Monday 17th July and students on Tuesday 18th July.

I would like to thank all staff and students for a productive Term, well done everyone.

Jim Douglas

Principal

Room 31

Hello to all parents and carers associated with Room 31.

Second term is coming to an end, however the children have been as busy as ever and I'm sure will enjoy their well-deserved holiday break.

We have two new friends who have started in our classroom since our last newsletter and it gives us great pleasure to welcome Sofia, Ethan and their families to not only Room 31, but to Riverside ESC. We look forward to working with your children and getting to know you all better.

We have recently introduced a Language Experience routine to our classroom. It gives the children the opportunity to link their personal experience to reading, writing, speaking and listening.



We were so excited playing with “Shorn the Sheet,” as part of our first Language Experience.

It begins with the children sharing a planned, structured experience together that should be highly motivating. Following this, the children provide verbal input about the experience to create the text, then ‘read’ the text together to determine if the text needs editing, before finalising it and adding illustrations or photographs to create a record of the experience. We aim to produce short ‘books’ of our experiences that the children will use in future to take on the role of a reader and enjoy alone or with friends.

Our first experience was playing with “Shorn the Sheet”. In the accompanying photographs you can see how we used it and how excited the children were!

In future newsletters we look forward to letting you know of the different experiences the children have engaged in, together with the texts they have generated.

Last term, the children worked through a program about “Me,” with a focus on body parts and what they do. As an extension of this, we have explicitly introduced a new aspect of our Protective Behaviours program. It focusses on the children’s bodies as their own personal space, which we refer to as their own ‘purple circle.’ This program will include introducing and reinforcing the concept that some parts of the children’s bodies are acceptable for the public to see, and some are private, and which these are.

This knowledge is designed to help the children protect themselves in years to come and ensure they remain safe.

All children in the class will have their own purple body, such as you see in the photograph, traced by a staff member, to work with during this program. We hope that the children take the vocabulary of the program home so you can help reinforce the concepts introduced at school.

On behalf of all staff in Room 31, I wish you all a safe, happy holiday and look forward to seeing the children recharged and ready for an exciting Term 3.

Glen Webber, Room 31



All children will have their own body traced, to use as part of our introduction to the purple concept circle, just like the one you see here.

Room 32

Hello everyone. It is hard to believe it is almost the end of Semester one. All students have worked very hard on their learning and at the end of term reports will be sent home for parents and families to see the fantastic progress they have made over the last two terms.



MUSIC: Recently in The Arts learning area the students enjoyed learning about beat in music. Beat is the ongoing and steady repetitive pulse that occurs in songs, chants, rhymes, and music. An example of beat is the beating of a heart. To feel beat we moved our heads from side to side like a clock beating “tick tock, tick tock”. Then we played out beat to the song ‘Rain Rain, Go Away, Come Again Another Day’ by touching body parts, selecting blocks to match the beats in the

song and of course by playing a variety of musical instruments. The students then had an opportunity to write the beats in the song.

MATHEMATICAL CONSTRUCTION: Recently the school purchased some exciting new mathematical construction and hands on resources. Last Friday afternoon students in Room 32 were able to experiment with using some of the new equipment. Through concrete materials children use their fine motor and hand-eye coordination to learn many things such as patterning, symmetry, shape, space and area knowledge. They also learn about teamwork, social language and problem solving. The activity was enjoyed by all as you can see by the photos below.



COOKING (with Mrs Greenwood): Since commencing cooking half way through term 2, students have enjoyed learning the skills and processes involved in the production of simple recipes. Opportunities are provided to taste foods that they may not have experienced before further exploring health and making healthy food choices. Importantly students learn what choices influence a healthy, active lifestyle. We have incorporated Maths concepts into cooking, with this term focusing on, volume and parts of a whole, i.e. fractions.

Students learn to work together and co-operate with others and enjoy the social nature of sharing the eating of food. My background as a teacher in home Economics for many years allows me to teach and enjoy sharing this knowledge with the amazing children of Room 32.



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

In Science Mrs Edwards introduced students to robotic Bee-Bots (see photo). The Bee-Bots programmable robot introduces young students to the basics of early computer coding and programming using simple algorithms and directional language. Students very much enjoyed using them and were able to estimate and then program how many steps it might take for their Bee-Bot to walk a chosen path.



Until next semester may all students and families enjoy the holidays and make some happy and lasting memories together. With best wishes from all our Education Assistants (Mrs Vincent, Mrs M.B., Mrs Sumner, Mrs Smith, Mrs Cordall and Mrs Bone) and Teachers (Mrs Greenwood, Mrs Edwards, Mrs Filer & Mrs McGuffin).

Room 33



This Term we have been working on our STEM skills, beginning with basic direction tasks which we will build on later in the Term. An area of our classroom floor has been turned into a maze which the children must navigate in pairs using only 3 basic instructions (Forward, Left, Right). One student is blindfolded and must rely on their partner's instructions to successfully navigate the maze. This simple activity kept the students engaged and greatly improved their directional skills. It also required them to really listen to and cooperate with their peers.

We also had some fun with the Edisons which are small orange car-like robots that use barcodes to function. The students had their Edison read a barcode for 'Line Tracking' which meant that it would follow a black line. We then created our own tracks for the Edison to follow. Each student had very different ideas for their tracks and were thrilled to watch the Edison drive the track that they had created.



On June 25, the staff of Room 33 hosted the Biggest Morning Tea in the staffroom. The event, organised by Mrs Barrett (one of Room 33's EA's), was very successful. EA's and teachers from the Education Support Centre donated homemade goods to be sold on the day and we are very pleased to report that \$658.60 was raised for the Cancer Council.

Room 35

Reports are now completed and everyone is looking forward to a relaxing holiday at the end of next week. We have had such a busy term and it is hard to believe that we are half way through the year!

This semester in English the main focus has been the letters of the alphabet. We have worked hard on recognising and sounding out the letters and letter formation. Extension activities have worked on writing words and simple sentences. Using a visual schedule, students are completing a range of activities each day including reading and comprehension, handwriting practice, pre-writing patterns, syllables and rhyme. It has been fantastic to see the students taking responsibility for their own work by following the schedule and beginning to show independence with their work.

Maths rotations are proving to be very exciting and students are offered a range of activities. These can vary from number formation practice, addition and subtraction, patterns and shapes. Students are showing an understanding of concepts being covered and are working well within the set time for each activity.

Health this semester has covered the Concept Circles and Early Warning Signs. We have completed lots of art activities and students have been able to demonstrate a good understanding the concepts covered. In PATHS lessons we have spent a lot of time recognising a range of feelings and understanding how they make us feel and behave. These feelings along with learning how to get along with everyone in the class have been explicitly taught and students are now beginning to show greater tolerance and understanding towards their peers.

Along with all of this our theme this term has been 'pirates'. Our class looks fantastic with all the student work displayed showing our friendly pirates and their ships, hats and all the equipment a pirate needs. Staff are busy preparing a treasure hunt around the school for the last week of term. This will finalise our theme and we will turn our attention to dinosaurs next term.

Reports have now been finalised and will be sent home before the school holidays. Students have worked hard towards achieving set goals and should be commended on their effort. New goals will be set early next term and I look forward to meeting again with parents to discuss their child's progress.

Everyone in Room 35 wishes you all a safe and relaxing holiday. Enjoy the time with your families and we look forward to seeing you back in Term 3.



The winter sun draws smiles from teachers Mr McGuffin and Mrs Filer on recess duty.

Room 36

Greetings Parents and Carers,

Term 2 is almost complete and the students of Room 36 have been working extremely well during our new TEACCH rotations program. As I mentioned in our last newsletter, the children rotate through literacy and numeracy stations in pairs. We time each rotation for 12 minutes allowing the students to do short intensive activities, and move on to the next rotation. The



4 square handball at PE weeks 5 -7

outcomes of this strategy thus far have been very positive, and we plan to continue next term with some slight modifications to ensure that we are giving students exposure and access to all parts of the curriculum. The students of Room 36 have participated in morning fitness and physical education activities this term, learning and consolidating many of the fundamental movement skills that will enable them to lead more healthy active lives. I have observed an increase in many of our students' fitness, leading to a more positive attitude to the challenges encountered in learning and participating in new sports. One of our students has participated in the Interschool sports program this term, representing our school in volleyball and being picked for the lightning carnival squad in week 9. Congratulations and well done Haydn, for your commitment and effort.



Students at the Oral Language station during our TEACCH rotations

Our journey to different countries has continued and in the last 4 weeks we have been studying Egypt (see our wonderful Egyptian mummies in the image right), New Zealand and Greece. The students have been learning how to research facts using the internet and display their findings in Microsoft PowerPoint presentations. Some of our students are becoming quite skilled in the use of this program and we are seeing some really well constructed presentations.



Protective behaviour lessons each week this term have included cyber safety, The 5 no's, public and private, networks and stranger danger. Each Thursday the students participate in games to develop respect and cooperation with others, resilience and team building. These activities will continue to be a part of our room and schools focus on Health and Protective behaviours.

Thank you all for your cooperation and assistance given this term. Have a great holiday and we will see you all again in Term 3. Please note I will be away on long service leave for the first two weeks of next term and Mrs Greenwood will look after the class in my absence.

Teaching staff Room 36

Mr McGuffin

Room 37

A big hello to all our parents and carers from Room 37. We can't believe it is already the end of semester 1! It is time for all of our wonderful students to bring home their reports and show you how well they have all done.



On Mondays we continue to do sport with Room 36. We have just finished learning how to play foursquare and are now starting to practice for the whole school athletic carnival during Term 3. We are learning how to play the team games with our friends from room 36. We have already practiced tunnel ball and will learn how to play pass-ball, flag relay, 'rob the nest' and lots of other games.

On Friday we celebrated NAIDOC day. We learnt about Aboriginal culture through story, as well as learning some Noongar words such as Djidi Djidi meaning Willy Wag Tail, Bindi Bindi is Butterfly and Kwilena means Dolphin. We also got to taste Emu and Kangaroo sausage, which most of us enjoyed. Here is a photo of both Archie and Memphis participating in a Noongar game. They had to throw a ball aiming it at the Noongar animals.



We have continued with our weekly literacy lessons reading stories about pets. This week we read 'Harriet and the Fox'. The students wrote great paragraphs describing their favourite part of the story. Each week they are writing more and more. Our lesson was finished up with a fun art activity which this week was Harriet the Hen decorated with eticol dye and lots of orange, red and brown feathers.

Finally we would like to wish our wonderful parents and students a fantastic and safe school holidays. We will see you in term 3 ready for another term of hard work and lots of fun.

SCHOOL NEWS

New Amenities Block

Walls and a roof are evidence of progress with our new amenities block. Unfortunately there have been a number of factors delaying the project and we are hopeful of completion before the end of Term 3.



WAGSMS approves Grant for RESC



The WA Government Schools Music Society (WAGSMS) assists schools to carry out musical activities with grants to support participation in wholly Public School projects. We heard this week that a grant to the sum of \$750 has been approved.

Our application for the grant explained our intention to create an auditory play space where students can access musical instruments during play times. A 'sound' playground will provide our students with a fun and sense-stimulating activity zone with opportunities for exploration, improvisation and cooperation.

The grant will be directed to the purchase of an Alto Quartet Ensemble, produced by Percussion Play Australia. The installation will be located in the vicinity of our new bike track and hopefully will be in place before end of Term 3.

We express our sincere appreciation to WAGSMS for the grant, and a big thank you to staff members Mrs Williams and Ms Baker for their work to secure the grant.



Woolworths Earn & Learn 2017

An opportunity to acquire new learning resources for our school



Shop at Woolies from July 26 to September 19 to get stickers

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school/early learning centre – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 26th July to Tuesday 19th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you'd like to know more visit www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn.