



Riverside Education Support Centre

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 11, 2016



Hi All,

We are approaching the end of 2016 with less than five full weeks to go until we farewell Year 6 and prepare school reports for all our wonderful students. Every day here is different: challenging, exciting and deeply rewarding as we watch our students achieve the impossible and lead them into a future with choices and possibilities. And, as you can see from my photo, opportunities for engagement are endless! (See Room 33, page 4.)

School Reports: Teachers are currently completing your child's report and I am looking forward to reading and signing them off. I plan to have them distributed for taking home before end of Week 9.

Class Lists 2017: Class lists for 2017 are currently being finalised and should be available to parents sometime during Week 9 (possibly earlier). Your child's Teacher will make contact with you once I have formally released the lists.

School Picnic: Our whole school picnic will be held on 25 November at Caterpillar Park in Mandurah, commencing at 10.30am. Children will be travelling by bus. Final details of the event will be released shortly.

Most important - if you plan on attending and taking your child home from the park at the end of the event, please communicate your intention to staff on the day.

Head Lice and Ringworm: Recently there have been a number of cases of students presenting with head lice and on occasion suspected ringworm. You will always be notified if we think your child needs to be treated. Please be aware that we must follow strict Health Department guidelines to ensure either condition can be prevented from spreading. This typically means you will be contacted to pick your child up from school to commence treatment or seek some medical advice.

Summer Weather: Although the weather continues to be erratic can you please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather conditions, in particular for the hot days of late Spring and Summer. We follow a strict uniform policy and 'no hat- no play' policy.

Graduation 2016: Riverside ESC will have 10 Graduates this year; they will be farewelled at their Graduation Ceremony on Friday 9th December.

I look forward to communicating with you again in our final newsletter of 2016, and in the meantime reiterate that my door is always open for you to raise matters of concern, or indeed share a particular achievement by your child.

Jim Douglas, Principal

Important Dates

Nov 25	Xmas at Caterpillar Park
Nov 30	Board Meeting 6:30 PM
Dec 07	Schools Alive Choir at RESC (12:30 – 1:00 pm)
Dec 09	Year 6 Graduation
Dec 14	Presentation Assembly
Dec 15	End of school year

School Survey

Opens next week – see page 7

Room 31

Hello to all parents and carers associated with Room 31. As forecast, our final term for 2016 has been a busy one.

Our ‘Smash! Bang! Crash!’ routine continues daily to help address the children’s sensory diets and self-regulation. It is arguably our most popular routine each day! The routine has proven to be a wonderful vehicle for the introduction of the Alert program that I have mentioned in previous newsletters. To remind you, the Alert program assists the children in determining their levels of alertness independently. It has been very pleasing to listen to the children beginning to use the vocabulary associated with this program before and during a range of activities.

What is also surprising is to listen to the children apply the vocabulary in a range of contexts outside the ‘Smash! Bang! Crash!’ routine. Over the years to come, this awareness is going to help them regulate their behaviour, establish better relationships with peers and adults, cope with successes and disappointments and remain attentive in a classroom.

Each day of the school week, the children, with staff, engage in another routine we call “One Kind Word.” It is a way to model the use of positive, affirming vocabulary that promotes happy, healthy relationships between students and staff, as well as between the children. It is lovely to see each child respond so positively to this language. The effect it has on their self-esteem and their ability to use this vocabulary with others is very powerful.

I have mentioned the introduction of key-word signing in our classroom in past newsletters. The children are exposed to signing every day and are becoming adept at using it independently to be expressive or respond to staff. Some children are generalising the use of these signs outside normal routines and it is a constant reminder of how powerful this communication strategy is.

As so much happens in a classroom each week and we cannot describe it all, you may like to ask your child the following questions;

1. Who rode in the Rattletrap Car?
2. What do we do with the Bead Bottle?
3. How do we use the punching ball?
4. Say good morning using signs.

Our next newsletter will be our last for 2016. At that time, we look forward to reporting on the year that has been!



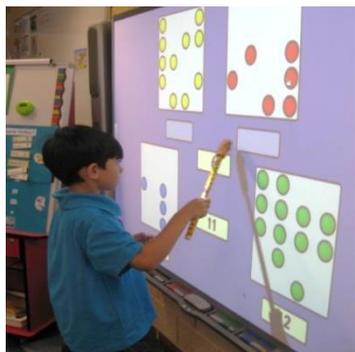
We are working towards hearing and identifying the initial sounds in words. Mia can hear the ‘m’ sound in the word mask!

Room 32



We are on the count down until the end of our school year and Room 32 students are still working hard, both in and out of the classroom. On Fridays we have been enjoying a bike riding session. Students have had the opportunity to ride a variety of bikes, some even having a go on a bike with no trainer wheels. It

is a great lesson with students practicing good listening skills, peer co-operation and bike safety. All of the students in Room 32 always remember to put on their bike helmets and enjoy one of the highlights of our school week safely.



This term we welcomed a new student to our class. William (pictured left) has settled well into his new classroom and has become a cheerful, happy classmate to everyone in our room.

On Tuesdays we have Mrs Brennan come into our classroom. She has been reading different fairy tale stories to us. We have just done lots of activities about Jack and the Beanstalk. We are currently growing our own beanstalks and we have even made a magic bean stew which was very healthy and delicious. Mrs Brennan is now reading *The Ugly Duckling* and we are starting lots of activities about this.

On Friday 28th all of the Education Support Centre students and teachers acknowledged Day for Daniel. Room 32 talked a lot about stranger danger and the early warning signs our bodies have when we are feeling unsafe or uncomfortable. After lunch we then joined the other classes and sat and enjoyed some lovely food and shared with the other classes the wonderful work we did in Room 32 for Daniel Morcombe Day.

Room 33

A big hello to everyone from Room 33.

Our term is moving on very quickly and during the last few weeks there has been a lot of work happening in our room. Mrs Mac has been testing our students on all the information they have been learning throughout Semester two in preparation for end-of-year reports. She is proud to see that everyone is continuing to learn and make good progress! Pictured (right) are Rose, Owen and Tyler writing their own story about the dog Clever Max after hearing the story. What fantastic writing everyone in Room 33 did!



Our class has been looking at the world globe on 'Google Earth' and the children were able to see and zoom up close to Uluru, the Yankunytjatjara name for Ayers Rock. Yankunytjatjara is an indigenous dialect of the aboriginal people of the land Uluru is located on. We also looked for our neighbouring countries Indonesia and New Zealand as well as England, Ireland, America and Africa. This was followed up by a Google Earth search for local places of interest in Mandurah. Altogether, the activity was "cool"!

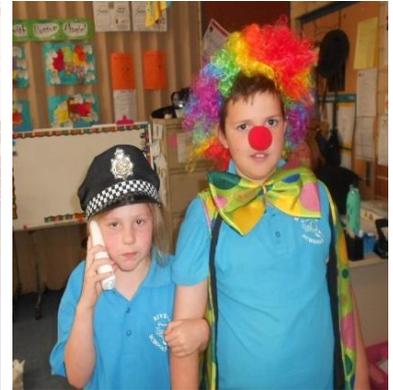
As we said in our last newsletter we celebrated Day for Daniel on October 28th. Pictured to the right is our whole class, all specially dressed in Red for Daniel.





This week in Protective Behaviours we learned about 'No, Go, Tell'. Our students learned that if someone bullies them, or says or does something they don't like or feel comfortable about they will feel Early Warning Signs (the body's way of telling the brain something is not right). We named this feeling INSTINCT. Everyone had fun acting out how to say this in different situations and had to complete an Obstacle Course blindfolded and then say what their 'feelings' were about it.

As part of our Arts program last week, lots of fun was had dressing up as clowns and making up each other's clown faces.



We checked out different types of clowns and then each child planned their special look. What great names – we had Cocoa, Bozo, Candy, Curley and more. A visit to Principle Jim Douglas's office was a highlight, especially when he put on a clown wig as well! We all laughed and laughed. It was a great day.

Mrs McGuffin will be on Long Service Leave for weeks 6 to 9 this term, returning in the last week of term 4. We welcome Mrs Dawn Greenwood who has been in our room on several occasions this year and is a familiar face. She arrived Monday morning this week looking forward to teaching the wonderful Room 33 Minions. In this second half of term 4 we will begin our program of Xmas Art and Xmas cooking. We are all looking forward to having so much fun getting into the Xmas Spirit over the next 5 weeks.

Until next time, take care, stay safe and goodbye from Room 33.

Room 34

Dear Parents and Carers,



The term is now in full swing and the students of Room 34 have been on an exciting journey through 'Space' in the last 5 weeks! Our excursion to Scitech was fantastic and the students were enthralled by the presentation of the animated movie 'Tilt' in the domed 'Omni theatre'. Through this feature

film our students were introduced to the effects of the solar system on our planet Earth's weather and seasons. It also took us to the far reaches of our solar system and our place in the Milky Way. It really was a very exciting adventure.

The students were then able to visit the Scitech adventure zone and investigate all manner of objects and apparatus that function using levers, cogs, and gravity, compressed air and pulley systems. They all had a great time using the equipment available and were very keen to stay a little longer than we had time for. Our students behaved beautifully and were a credit to you all and Riverside ESC. I would thoroughly recommend a visit to Scitech in the holidays, as it is a great way to spend a whole day.

We will continue our journey through space each week in all curriculum areas until the end of term. The language of this theme is quite unique, and a word wall has been started using words that we have come across whilst reading both fact and fiction books in class. It has been very rewarding to observe our students engaging in this topic, and the activities planned around it.

We have another transition visit to Halls Head this week (Thurs 17th Nov) for the year 6 students. Lunch orders can be made from their canteen or students can bring their own.

As the summer begins, I would like to remind you all of the need to keep your children 'Sun-smart' and use sunscreen on their exposed skin daily. We will be experiencing some really warm weather over the last few weeks of school.

Alisdair McGuffin, Rm 34 teacher.

Room 35

Hello everyone. Last Wednesday marked our last horse riding lesson for 2016. Our students have thoroughly enjoyed their lessons and they thank the volunteers at RDA Fairbridge for their time and patience. Next year a whole new group of students get to go and we hope they enjoy horse riding too. A picnic lunch and play at the Pinjarra Park on the way back to school was all part of the final day, made even better because we shared some donuts to celebrate Holly's birthday. What a fantastic way to end horse riding lessons!



This term we have been reading Dr Seuss books. They really are wonderful books to read and it has been great to see students enjoying the shared reading of the story and then re-reading the books during silent reading time. Our class is looking very colourful with lots of artwork based on the books. In English we have been working on the beginning, middle and ending of a story and we are doing really well remembering what happened then putting that information into sentences.

Money has been a big focus during our maths sessions. The children have learnt to identify the value, sort coins and even started to add coins together. We will be using some of this knowledge in our Christmas activities when we look through magazines and see what can be bought for a given amount of money. We have also been working hard on writing numbers correctly. With all our practice everyone is getting really good at identifying and writing numbers during a variety of fun activities.

Our protective behaviour lessons have been focusing on Concept Circles, safety and network hands. Ways to help keep us safe were explored and consolidated on Day for Daniel on 28th October and we wore red to mark the day. The 'red food' party at the end of the day was wonderful! All in all, it was an enjoyable and instructive day, getting together with the whole school and showing off the work we completed whilst enjoying some really nice food.

Room 36

This term in Room 36 our students are working as a team to complete our cooking lessons. We follow the same recipe two weeks in a row. The first week Miss Whiteley teaches the step-by-step instructions required to complete the recipe. The following week, the children work together as a team to complete the same recipe with no adult help. On Friday the mixture was looking a little runny so Maddie had a great idea to add more flour to the mix before putting the muffins into the oven.



Unfortunately last week in Room 36 we had to say goodbye to Mrs Hatton. Mrs Hatton was in class completing an Education Assistant prac from FTTA and has been with us for 4 weeks. In that time Mrs Hatton became a treasured part of Room 36 and will be sorely missed by staff and students. However, we wish her all the best in her future career as an Education Assistant.

Room 37

Last week, Café 33 prepared lemon and coconut slice, bacon and onion quiche and an assortment of delicious coffees to sell to staff, with the funds going to our sister school in Bali. Room 37 students made the food, took orders from the staff, delivered the orders and collected the funds. We are proud to say that we managed to raise over \$200, with all proceeds going to the Bali school. Congratulations to everyone for a huge team effort throughout the whole week.

Money from previous school fundraisers for the Bali school has gone towards a sink for students to wash their hands and some play equipment.

This semester we have been doing a lot of work on 'The Zones of Regulation', which helps students to identify and expand their knowledge of the different emotions and which of the 4 'zones' the emotion they are feeling puts them into. When in the green zone we are feeling good and ready to learn. In our last session we experimented with different sensory tools such as stress balls; the ball pit in the schools therapy room; and weighted blankets to help the students identify which items might help them get back into the green zone if they are feeling tired, angry or frustrated. Our intention is for the students to integrate this knowledge to help them self-regulate as they experience the emotions of leaving our school and transition to high school.

Important dates coming up:

Transition visit to Halls Head ESC 17/11/2016
Whole school picnic 25/11/2016
Transition visit to Halls Head ESC 01/12/2016
Transition visit to Coodanup CC..... 06/12/2016
Silver Chain Christmas Party 07/12/2016
Graduation Ceremony 09/12/2016

Special Event - City of Rockingham



Celebrate Ability! Friday 2nd December – Gary Holland Community Centre; 10 AM – 2 PM

Celebrate Ability! is a free community event to celebrate International Day of People with Disability. The event provides community members of all abilities with an opportunity to take part in a range of fun activities and enjoy live entertainment.

Riverside ESC is planning a whole-school, no-cost excursion with students attending by school bus. Parents and carers are welcome to join us on the day but will need to travel by your own means.

Look out for information and approval-to-participate forms that will be sent home with students shortly.

Website: www.rockingham.wa.gov.au/Events/2016/December/Celebrate-Ability!

School Survey – Have Your Say about Riverside ESC

As part of our Independent Public School mandated compliance, we invite all parents and carers of our students to participate in a school survey prepared by the WA Department of Education. The survey will be available via a link on our website and also sent home as hard copy by early next week. Your feedback is always helpful to assist us with future school planning and a summary of the surveys received will be published on our website at www.riversideesc.wa.edu.au.

Contact Details and Emergency Details

Have you or your child's support persons moved recently? Changed phone numbers or email address? Are your child's enrolment details up to date?

If the answer to any of these questions is no, please phone our office at 9534 0328 or email riverside.esc@education.wa.edu.au.

OTHER NEWS

City of Mandurah – Groovy Fun

MyPark Grooves is a series of fun and entertaining events held in parks around Mandurah and is an opportunity to get together with your family, friends and neighbours to celebrate and reconnect with your local park. The next two events are:

Nov 20 [Duverney Reserve](#) (Cnr Steerforth Drive & Alderley Drive, Coodanup)

Nov 27 [Quarry Adventure Park](#) (Pebble Beach Boulevard, Meadow Springs)

Each event starts at 3 PM and finishes at 6 PM.

Vacswim: Enrol now for Summer School Holiday Swimming Lessons



It is important for every child to learn to swim properly and develop essential water safety skills. VacSwim December/January school holiday swimming lessons are run by instructors who teach children the skills to be confident swimmers and safe in the water. Find out more and enrol online at education.wa.edu.au/swimming or telephone 9402 6412. Enrolment closure dates for each program are shown below.

Program 1 40 minute lessons
Every week day from Tuesday 3
to Friday 13 January 2017
Enrolments close
Monday 28 November 2016

Short program 35 minute lessons
Every day from Monday 9
to Friday 13 January 2017
Enrolments close
Monday 28 November 2016

Program 2 45 minute lessons
Every week day from Monday 16
to Wednesday 25 January 2017
Enrolments close
Monday 5 December 2016

Early start program 45 minute lessons
Every day from Saturday 17
(limited Wheatbelt centres) to Friday 23 December 2016
Enrolments close
Monday 14 November 2016

Book Lists 2017 - Reminder

Book lists have now been sent home to parents. They need to be returned to the school no later than Friday, November 25th.

A banner for Riverside P&C News featuring a blue background with white handprints and the text "RIVERSIDE P&C News" in bold black letters.

RIVERSIDE P&C News

LUNCH SPECIAL - Tues 22nd Nov: Don't miss out on a Sausage Sizzle & a drink for \$5.00! Orders MUST be in by Wed 16th of November. If you're free to help on this day please let us know via riversidepandc@yahoo.com.au.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS 2017 - It's a scary thought but 2017 isn't very far away at all! Pre-order for next year now! You can also pre-order faction shirts that can be worn on school sports days as well as at the Faction Carnival. A HUGE THANK YOU to those of you who have already pre-ordered, making our task so much easier!
