



Riverside Education Support Centre

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue 11, 2017



Hello everyone,

As Term 4 draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful parent and carer community for your continued support throughout the year. I have met with many of you individually and as families, this is always a wonderful experience for me to be able to assist with aspects of your child's education and to be able to get to know you better.

I extend my sincere thanks to all Riverside staff. Our classrooms function because of the hard work and dedication extended to our students from a wonderful staff group. I am continually pleased with the lesson presentation and content that teachers prepare and engage our students with and the ability of our Education Assistants to make resources and have classrooms prepared as centres of learning.

Riverside is a wonderful school and our students are placed at the forefront of everything we do. Well done to everyone.

As always, there are a few matters to bring to your attention:

School Office Extension: Thank you for your patience during the office extension build. The project is due for completion by December 15. Staff will move into the building during January/February 2018.

School Picnic at Caterpillar Park: The annual school picnic will be held on Friday 24th November at Caterpillar Park. Parents are invited to attend from 11.00am and join us for a sausage sizzle lunch. You may wish to leave the picnic with your child/ren after the activity – you are welcome to do so but please ensure you convey this to staff on or before the day.

Colour Run: The Schools P&C have arranged a 'Colour Run' activity to be held on Friday 1st December from 1.45pm - 2.45pm. A consent letter will be sent home which should be returned promptly. Students will only be able to participate in the activity if they have a signed consent form. If your child is on the school bus and you would prefer to pick them up after the activity, please let the bus staff know. More details at the end of this newsletter.

Graduation: Our Year 6 students' Graduation Ceremony will be held on Friday 8th December commencing at 9.00am. All parents and family of our graduates are invited to attend the Ceremony and join us for a morning tea from 10.30am.

School Reports: Your child's school report will be sent home in Week 9, 4th December.

End of School Year: Term 4 and the end of the school year for students is Thursday 14th December.

School Newsletter: The format of the newsletter is under review. Have your say. See page 7.

Best regards,

Jim Douglas, Principal

Important Dates

Nov 24	School Picnic at Caterpillar Park
Nov 29	Parent Volunteer Morning Tea
Nov 30	Celebrate Ability Day – whole school excursion
Dec 01	P&C Colour Run
Dec 08	Year 6 Graduation
Dec 11	Junior Christmas Concert
Dec 13	Presentation Assembly
Dec 14	Final Student Day of 2017
Jan 31	2018 School Year Starts

Kindergarten

We have all been having lots of fun in Room 35. Our main story focus for the last two weeks has been “Goldilocks and the Three Bears”. The students have enjoyed the story and loved joining in and waking me up when I pretend to be asleep as Goldilocks!

The students have also been exploring their own interests such as music, dancing, construction play and crafts. Ethan is working on a special project to create a large Thomas the Tank Engine model. I look forward to sharing the end result with you.

We have also been focussing on turn taking and cooperating with others. The students have really enjoyed the Pass the Parcel game that we have been playing.

We are looking forward to the Colour Run on Friday 1st December. Please remember to send in an old white tee shirt and hat for your child to wear while participating.



Rachael Cairns

Room 31

We hope this newsletter finds you well and happy, especially now that the beautiful sunshine is with us and summer draws near.

With water safety an important consideration at this time of year, it is fortuitous that our pre-primary students have just completed their two week block of lessons at the Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre. The children were exceptional in the pool and all parents/caregivers should be very proud of them. Surrounded by noise and a multitude of distractions, they were able to focus on their teachers, listen carefully and follow instructions, which not only ensured improvements in their capabilities in the water but also kept them safe!



Espen did a fantastic job getting used to having water on his face, blowing bubbles in the water and even trying a back-float!

Well done Espen.



Ronald realised very quickly how enjoyable swimming can be! The trust he had in the staff that supported him was lovely to see.



Curtis did a back-float independently! WOW!

Well done Curtis.

I extend an enormous thank you to our Education Assistants: Mr Anderson, Mrs Stimson, Mrs O'Connor and Mrs McEvatt, who did a fantastic job of supporting students in the pool, giving them the space they needed to grow while also being cognisant of each child's safety and limits. It was a very positive experience for all children and one I am sure they will look forward to again next year.

In the classroom, we have been pursuing our normal routines with a focus on oral language, literacy and numeracy. In week 5, students worked with the picture book, *5 Little Men In A Flying Saucer*, illustrated by Don Crisp.

The students subsequently engaged in a variety of kinaesthetic activities. This not only assists with their comprehension, memory and ability to recall the sequence of events in the story, but also provides a springboard that allows us to integrate other curriculum areas into this important routine.

The children engaged in The Arts by constructing their own alien, and in Mathematics by practicing counting backwards from 5-1 as well as partitioning the number 5. Most importantly, they were developing their oral language skills as part of our English program. In addition to following multi-step instructions, the children were required to describe their alien. This involves a degree of semantic awareness and is quite a high level semantic skill requiring extensive knowledge of the vocabulary of colour, shape, size and parts. With guidance from staff, the children took turns and Mrs Hardy scribed onto the whiteboard what each child said.



Espen, your alien looks very colourful and what a very apt description!

The aliens look fantastic and the children were very proud of them and their descriptions!

We have but one newsletter article left for 2017. We look forward to bringing it to you in the coming weeks as we prepare to say goodbye to another school year.

Room 19

Hello again. This term is passing by so quickly that we have already starting thinking about Christmas!

Swimming lessons in Week 3 and 4 proved to be very successful and we saw all our students progressing with their skills and confidence in and around water. Thank you to our swimming instructors who were so patient with us all and really made the lessons such a positive experience.

Cooking lessons with Mrs Green on Friday continue to be a big success. In week 5 our students made pizzas for lunch with plenty of fresh food for our toppings: pineapple, spinach, capsicum, mushrooms, ham and salami and of course cheese! Students were able to cut vegetables, grate cheese and spread pizza sauce onto the muffins. There has been great improvement of skills associated with handling cooking utensils and equipment.

We have now had our last riding lesson for the year and look forward to picking up the program again in 2018. Mrs McGovern made a card with painted feet (the children's) to look like horses, to say thank you to all the volunteers who lead the horses. Because of the heat and flies, our students donned fly nets over their safety helmets, while the horses wore special fly-protection glasses!

We have a busy end of term with three excursions: First, Mrs Filer has taken our class to the butchers to see how he cuts meat up and makes sausages. We will cook the sausages this week, with mash potato and vegetables. Then there is the whole school picnic where we look forward to joining with parents and caregivers for fun and lunch at Caterpillar Park. Our third trip sees us going to Rockingham to the Celebrate Ability Day. There will be lots of activities there and we get to watch the school choir perform.

Room 11



At the end of week 2 our class joined Room 33 and went for a walk to the local Playground. On the way we tallied the different birds that we saw or heard. We displayed this information in a big chart when we got back to school.

Like other classes, we have been busy with swimming lessons. The students enjoyed them and were very well behaved. Thank you to the parents and carers for remembering the bathers and towels.

Two weeks ago we read the book called *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson. Miss M dressed up as the witch and the EA's were the different animals in the story. The students were very engaged and enjoyed the story which we then sequenced with pictures and writing.



We also had fun doing craft activities for Halloween. We made Pumpkin feelings, Mummy early warning signs and network brooms. As a special treat we also did apple bobbing. It looks easier than it is!

We are looking forward to the next few weeks with some very special and exciting Christmas activities planned.

Room 4

Room 4 have been very busy and working hard since our last newsletter. Students were successful during swimming lessons at the Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre. They enjoyed many experiences which included the use of floating devices and water noodles in order to feel buoyancy and the floating sensation, gliding forward and backward while kicking in a horizontal body position and identifying objects under water. Well done to all students; your enthusiasm and behaviour was exemplary throughout the whole two weeks of swimming!

We have also been utilising the new bike track where students learn important rules about bike safety. Students learn important skills such as balance and co-ordination, pedalling, steering, breaking and stopping on visual and verbal signals. Bike riding also helps develop core strength and gross motor development.

Here are some photos of Ryan, Kerensa-Lily and Courtney enjoying this great facility.



Design and Technologies with Mrs Edwards

With Mrs Edwards Room 4 have been exploring electronics. They are encouraged to use and follow pictorial sequenced steps to build simple electronic circuits to operate a light bulb and a fan. It is rather like following the instructions when building Lego. These activities also encourage students to find solutions when there is a problem with the design such as when the light bulb does not turn on or the fan does not turn. The students thoroughly enjoy these STEM (Science Technology Enterprise Mathematic) focused activities being both hands on and of high interest in our increasingly technological world.



We hope you enjoyed our Newsletter. Until next time goodbye from all students and staff of Room 4.

Room 33

Hello parents and carers of Room 33. We have been learning while having fun:

- Two weeks of swimming lessons were a huge success – our students did themselves proud in every way.
- ‘Apple bobbing’ with Mrs Filer for Halloween. The children showed tremendous encouragement towards each other and had great fun.
- Our ‘All About Me’ wall featured Holly S. She likes pizza and birthday parties but dislikes roller coasters.
- We’ve made a post box for class and have been writing letters to each other. Our students have written wonderful things to each other and to staff, demonstrating great progress with writing and reading. Files of letters will go home with children at the end of the year.



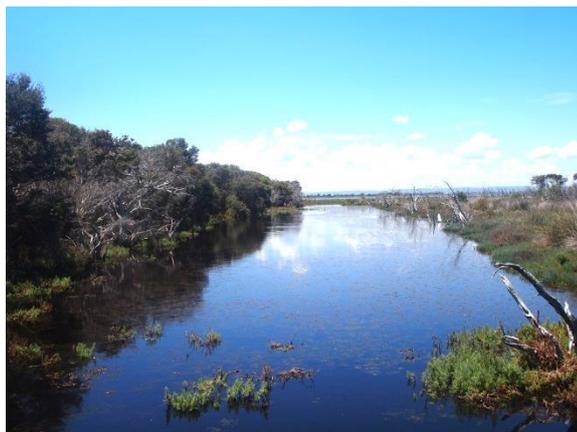
We are approaching a great time of year - CHRISTMAS!!!! We shall be working on lots of Christmas activities. This will include a class Christmas lunch party and a wedding party for our lovely EA Miss Penny, who is to be married during the school holidays.

Bring on the festivities ☺

Room 7

We are now into the final weeks of term 4, 2017 – how quickly the term has progressed!

Apart from swimming, which was notable for determined participation by our students, we have been studying Mandurah's waterways. This has given our students an insight into the wonderful local environment in which we live. Excursions to the Creery Wetlands and Samphire Nature Reserves provided them with an opportunity to observe a multitude of wildlife and vegetation that inhabit these eco systems; we saw many birds, crabs, fish and insects that inhabit the Mandurah Estuary. During our in-class activities we have investigated, discussed and written about the wide variety of recreational activities around our Mandurah waterways that we can enjoy including fishing, boating, swimming and surfing. We have also discussed connections relating to Mandurah's Indigenous population, who lived in this region successfully hunting and gathering for many thousands of years.



As of Friday Nov 17, I will be taking long service leave until the end of term. Arrangements have been made for the successful transition of teaching to Mrs Williams and Mrs Cairns in week 7 and Mr Thomas for weeks 8 – 10. I wish to thank you all for your support this year and assisting us to provide the best education possible for your children through IEP meetings, external agency support in speech and occupational therapies, and regular contact with you in relation to your student's school experience. It has been a pleasure to meet you all and I wish you all a very happy and safe festive season and holidays.

Room 10



Some of the students visited Parliament house on Wednesday 26th October with Mrs Filer as part of their Year 6 curriculum. It was a fantastic day, made all the better by having the Honourable David Templeman as host to the visit and a follow-up lunch. Mr Templeman's long association with Riverside ESC is greatly valued and his warmth and ability when meeting with our students welcomed by all.

SCHOOL NEWS

School Photos - Kapture Photography

We have been advised by Kapture Photography that all sports and/or special team photos taken this year will be removed from their website at the close of Term 4. This is your last chance to view and purchase these photographs. Please visit <http://www.kapture.com.au> and access the gallery using our school code J9V6V. This code can also be used to purchase class or individual photographs should you have not ordered earlier in the year.

The School Newsletter is Changing in 2018 – Have Your Say

The format and content of our school newsletter is up for review. We would like to hear from you about what sorts of things you find useful in the newsletter. Please have a think about this and send us your thoughts, by letter or by emailing riverside.esc@education.wa.edu.au.

- a. Do you just read about your class or the whole newsletter from front to back?
- b. Do you scan just for the images?
- c. Are you looking for information that should be there but isn't?
- d. Is it good as it is?
- e. Are the community and service items of interest?
- f. Is it too long? (We won't ask if it is too short!).

Riverside Schools P&C News

School Colour Fun Run – this week. Are you ready?

Parents/Carers are reminded to return sponsorship forms and monies to the P&C DROP BOX in the school office by Wednesday 22nd November latest. Forms need to be accompanied by your signed consent form (on the letter that has been sent home).

Parents of students that travel by school bus may prefer to collect their children from school on this day. Please advise the school if this is your intention.

Dental News

GREENFIELDS DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE CLOSURE DATES: Friday 22.12.2017 to Monday 21.01.2018 inclusive

In case of EMERGENCY please call....

- Between 8am-4.30pm Mount Henry: 9313 0552
- For after-hours emergencies please call: 9325 3452

We re-open Tuesday 23.01.2018

9 ZAMBESI DR GREENIFELDS

PH: 9581 3895

COMMUNITY NEWS

Relationships Australia: Courses in Mandurah

As a community-based, not-for-profit Australian organisation, Relationships Australia provides education activities which may be of interest to our parent/carer community. A course fee applies (\$30 per person, or \$15 for concession card holders) and bookings are essential.

Successful Single Parenting

For men and women: People become single parents through a range of life choices and circumstances. Single parenting is different in many ways, compared to a two parent household, and can have its difficulties and challenges.

Whatever the challenges it is important to live your life in ways that show your children you are happy. This will help them accept and value their lifestyle.

Wednesday 22 November, 9.30am to 12 noon

Dads Understanding Daughters

For men: Find out how to build a rewarding father-daughter relationship at our Mandurah workshop. As the primary male role model in a girl's life, Dads play an important role in the development of their self-concept and self-esteem. This can often affect how they relate to others, particularly to boys and men.

Wednesday 22 November, 6.30pm to 9pm

Stronger Stepfamilies

For couples: Couples are encouraged to participate in this course together, however if this is not possible, it is possible for one partner to participate on their own.

Step-families and blended families operate differently, their dynamics are complex and there is a need for special understanding and management for a healthy step-family to grow. This one night workshop helps you understand the differences inherent in being a step or blended family and equips you with skills to create a loving and successful family.

Wednesday 29 November, 6.30pm to 9pm

Coaching Kids' Emotions

For parents and carers: Every parent or carer wants to their best for their child but can often feel overwhelmed. After many decades of research it has been found that one of the most useful skills and awareness a parent can give their child is emotional intelligence. This means helping their child to recognize what they are feeling and help them to understand why.

This seminar explores the most helpful ways of responding to a child to help them to learn how to regulate their own emotions.

Tuesday 5 December, 9.30am to 12noon

Details:

Mandurah
(Counselling &
Education)

Lotteries House
7 Anzac Place, Mandurah WA 6210
PO Box 3080, Mandurah East WA 6210

(08) 6164 0588

See flyers for these Courses: <http://riversideesc.wa.edu.au/communication/what-s-new-blog/114-new-courses-from-relationship-australia>
