

Riverside ESC Newsletter



“Happy Holidays”



Janet Marter (Manager Corporate Services) and Tara Yates (School Officer) are the front end of our busy administration team. Janet started at this campus in 2001 and Tara at the beginning of this year. Between them they manage the conceivable and often inconceivable questions and issues that arise with warmth, professionalism and an occasional dash of humour.

Being the first port of call for all new families to our school, our admin team get to meet you early in your school journey and get to know every student and every parent and carer that come through the front door. That relationship continues right through to graduation. Like our educational staff they are committed to every student's wellbeing and opportunity to thrive. Like you, they celebrate your child's success.

They convey to you at this time their very best wishes for the holiday season and the forthcoming school year.

Important Dates

- Dec 13 – Year 6 Graduation
- Dec 19 – End of School Year
- Jan 28 – School Office opens
- Feb 03 – Students return 2020

PRINCIPAL COMMENTS



Hello Everyone,

As we draw to the close of this school year there is much to be celebrated. I am very proud to lead a school with wonderful dedicated staff and a vibrant parent and carers community. Our students have achieved a lot. It is a joy to watch them blossom and grow to their potential as they engage with their learning and develop social relationships.

All this would not be possible without my staff who work so hard to support our students and your children and I again acknowledge all they do in going above and beyond their duty. They deserve full credit for making RESC 'tick'.

I extend my thanks to my Administration Team: our Deputy Mrs Rekman, our MCS Mrs Marter and our School Officer Mrs Yates - as the school's 'first line' they do a wonderful job.

I thank Mr Perry for his expertise in putting together our publications, newsletters and website, providing vital information to our parent community.

And finally to you all - our wonderful parents and carers. It is an honour being part of your lives as we extend our helping hand and expertise in educating your children. You are all truly my heroes.

On Wednesday 4/12 the Department of Education's **School Review Team** attended to complete a review of RESC. The day went well and I am anticipating the forthcoming report will confirm we are so much more than just an 'effective' school; once the report is made available for public viewing it will be posted on our website. I would like to thank everyone involved with all aspects of preparation and for meeting with the Review Team. Your contributions have been gratefully received.

School reports will be sent home during week 10 for everyone except our Graduates who will receive theirs in their graduation pack.

The last day for students will be Thursday 19th December. Staff will be ensuring all student personal items are returned home.

On Friday 13th December I will be farewelling our wonderful **Year 6 Graduates**. They will be honoured at the Riverside Schools' Graduation Ceremony to be held at Eastlake Church commencing at 9.00am. Please note this is a ticket only event and parents and guests should arrive early.

There will be a whole school **Presentation Assembly** on Wednesday 18th December, to which all parents are welcome to attend. For students getting awards you will be notified accordingly.

2020 School Year: If you have not yet received a student booklist please call the office and Mrs Yates will assist you. Students return to school on February 3rd. You can always check the dates and other school information by visiting our website at www.riversideesc.wa.edu.au.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to everyone for a safe, prosperous and happy holiday season. Thank you for all the terrific support you have given both to myself and to the school. Your vote of confidence is very much appreciated.

Jim Douglas

Principal

ROOM 31

Hello to all parents and carers associated with Room 31.

For some unknown reason, the end of the school year just sneaks up and BAM! before we know it, we are waving the students goodbye and wishing you, the families we have worked with and come to know, a happy holiday and a Merry Christmas. For some of you, our time together draws to an end as your children all too soon move on to other classrooms. It is hard to say goodbye to students we have come to know so well; students that have laughed with us, perhaps cried with us, entertained us, warmed our hearts and shown us the individual talents they each possess.

To those families leaving Room 31, it has been a privilege being part of your child's schooling and we send them on their way with our warmest wishes. We will enjoy watching them grow as they move through our school.

To the families staying with us, we look forward to 2020 and continuing the journey we started this year with you.

This year we had four year groups in our classroom, from Kindergarten to Year Two. That is a huge undertaking. Our program could not have been implemented without the dedication and respect the staff have for the students in our care. We have had eight Education Assistants working in our classroom this year, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for the effort they have put into the classroom. None of us could do the work on our own and we must rely on one another to work as a successful team.



I'd like to express my sincerest thanks to (pictured from left to right): Miss Caroline Somerton, Mrs Julie Cordall, Mrs Sam Smith, Mrs Leanne McEvatt, Miss Gillian Madden, Mrs Christine Douglas, Miss Delia, and Ms Fiona Punch.

From us all, we wish you, our families, a safe, happy and restful holiday break.

Kind regards,

Glen Webber

ROOM 35

Well what a year we have had. There have been many changes. Our classroom has gone from an undersea world with fish and sharks to a green jungle full of wild animals. We have seen staff changes: we said goodbye to Mrs Cordall and Mrs Shepherd, and welcomed new staff Ms Punch, Mrs Douglas, Mrs Somerton and Mrs Reid. We have said goodbye to two students: Sofia who moved to Mrs Broadbent's class and Kennedy, who moved away and is attending a new school. Riverside Education Support Centre is always welcoming new students and we have been delighted this year to welcome Lewis, River and Faythe.

Term 4 has been very busy with students continuing to work towards achieving their Semester 2 learning goals. All of my students have done an amazing job showing progress in their learning which is evident in their reports. It has been a pleasure to watch them improve so much from the start of the year.

In health, we have been enjoying riding our bikes on the bike course. The students are getting really good and it is definitely a favourite activity on the schedule. They have been also learning about the 5 food groups and what kinds of foods belong in them. We have also continued our cooking program and have started our Christmas cooking program. So far, we have made chocolate balls and hot chocolate reindeers. Our dance program has been really popular and it has been great to see the students have fun while learning to dance. A big thank you must go to our patient dance teacher who has done a great job teaching the students different dance moves.





Recently Room 35 attended our school’s annual end-of-school-year picnic at Caterpillar Park. It was a very hot day but we managed to still have fun. Everyone enjoyed a surprise visit from Santa and he even had a small gift for everyone there, which was well received. In the classroom we have set up a Christmas corner with a special post office Santa box for any letters to Santa. I wonder if Santa will reply.

Room 35 is winding down for the end of the year, so this week we will be sending home all the students’ work, as well as any school supplies the students still have. If you haven’t already returned the form for a new FREE school shirt for the 2020 school year, then please do so before the end of the school term.

I personally want to thank all the past and present staff in Room 35 for the support you have given me and the students throughout 2019. You have all done an amazing job. I want to thank the parents too, for allowing me to teach your students, it truly has been a rewarding year full of memories that I will cherish always.

Finally the staff of Room 35 wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all when we commence the 2020 school year.

Mrs Gollan, Mrs Tilbee, Mrs Douglas, Ms Punch, Mrs Somerton and Mrs Reid.

ROOM 19

Welcome to the end of the school year – a year that has gone fast and this term even more so.

Our students are continuing to work hard with Literacy and Numeracy activities but they are Christmas themed! Lots of crafts are also being completed and the classroom is looking very glittery – as well as the staff!

Cooking is also continuing with the making and baking of cookies – trees, snowmen and reindeers! They have to make the cookie dough then roll, cook



and decorate. There is no doubt the favourite part of cooking is the eating! We hope the families enjoy all the extra cookies that are being sent home for afternoon tea.



Our class has been lucky to attend fishing sessions with Fishability Mandurah. We have had two sessions fishing underneath the new Mandurah Bridge. We caught 2 fish and 1 crab! The wonderful volunteers provide everything we need and even bait the hooks for us. We have had lots of fun and

really enjoyed our time fishing. Lunch and a play on the foreshore playground finishes the day of before returning to school on a bus.

We wish all our families a very merry Christmas and hope you have a wonderful holiday with your children.

ROOM 11

We have had such a busy semester in Room 11! This term we have been enjoying weekly Dance lessons within our Arts program. Each Monday morning in Term 4 we have begun our week with an incursion from Infinite Limits Dance company. The students have been enthusiastic participants in dance lessons, improving their technique and fitness. Back in class we have been studying the elements of dance and viewed dances from different cultural groups around the world. We have been learning how to make respectful comments about the dances we have watched and have enjoyed having a go at some of the different cultures' dance moves!

In recent weeks we have been busily getting into the Christmas spirit by decking out our classroom with beautiful Christmas crafts, writing letters to Santa and working together to cook up some delicious Christmas treats. Room 11 students love cooking lessons and have shown pleasing progress in their communication and independence in this area. We enjoyed baking Christmas Cookies this week, which we iced and decorated, and enjoyed for morning tea.

For all the students' hard work and efforts, they have been earning play money coins for their piggy banks. This term we have created a positive behaviour reward system encompassing our money and financial mathematics learning. Students earn play money for being a good learner, being safe at school and for showing kindness and respect. Then each Friday afternoon students break open their piggy banks, count all their coins and then go 'shopping' in our classroom prize box! Students can purchase prizes for their good behaviour such as mini tubs of sensory slime for \$1. Room 11 students have worked hard this term and enjoyed playing with their hard-earned rewards.

All staff would like to wish our students and families a safe and joyful summer break.

Best wishes from Samantha, Lauren, Sanchia, Oxana, Maxine and Kamalini

ROOM 33

It is week 8 and the excitement is building as our students engage in the variety of Christmas-themed craft activities. As you may be aware Mrs Hart is on Long Service Leave for weeks 8 and 9 but we have the lovely Ms Margot stepping in to Room 33 and she has lots of interesting lessons planned.



Thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to Caterpillar Park last Friday to participate in a wonderful day that celebrated not just our amazing students but also our class and whole-school communities. We were so pleased the day did not get any hotter and Santa didn't melt!



The students are still enjoying our dancing lessons that we do every Monday morning and have all improved with their dance skills. This program has been wonderful for building student fitness as

well as encouraging the expression of some new 'moves'.

We take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas from all of us in Room 33.

ROOM 4



On Friday the 6th of December, the whole ESC made our annual pilgrimage to Caterpillar Park in Mandurah as we celebrate the lead up to Christmas and year end. This excursion is always looked forward to by our students, a whole day of free play on the equipment available at the park, singing Christmas Carols led by Mrs Williams and a sausage sizzle lunch.

After lunch, the students were enthralled by the appearance of their favourite man in red. No it wasn't, Mr Douglas in his Liverpool gear, it was none other than Santa Claus himself! Taking a break from his Christmas preparations to hand out some sweets to our well deserving students. Despite the heat, it was a fantastic day out and we look forward to doing it all again next year!

On a sad note, we say Goodbye to our year 6 students from Room 4. Indiana, Seth, Archie, Aliya, Ryan and Jesse, you will be sorely missed by our class and by the school. We have loved seeing you progress this year and looking forward to hearing of your High School successes.

From the staff and students of Room 4, have a wonderful Christmas and a safe and happy holidays.

Room 10

We apologise for no item being available from Room 10 in this issue.

Mrs Cairns and her team extend their best wishes for a safe holiday season and a happy new year.

RIVERSIDE SCHOOLS P&C

Thank you to all families and friends for your support during 2019. Being part of the P&C is enriching in so many ways, not the least being to gain a better understanding about what it takes to successfully operate and resource our two schools – Riverside ESC and Riverside PS.

Come join us in 2020. Tahni Emons, President