

Riverside ESC Newsletter

August 2018

PRINCIPAL COMMENTS

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to this edition of our Newsletter. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of our school. All staff are working hard supporting our students to make sure they have fantastic & engaging learning experiences. You are always welcome to discuss any issues or pop in for a chat; my door is always open.

Book Week: Week 6 (20-24/8) is book Week which & it will be celebrated across both schools. The theme is 'Find your Treasure'. Staff will be assisting students with this theme with a variety of literary activities throughout the week. On Wednesday 22/08 will be dress up day, both students & staff are encouraged to dress for the theme. Our students really enjoy this particular day & I look forward to seeing a range of fun & creative costumes.

Faction Carnival: The combined school's faction carnival will be held during Week 7 on the 29/08 if there is inclement weather on this day then Friday 31/08 will be the backup day. Please feel free to attend to cheer on your children.

P&C: I would like to thank the whole-school P&C for their continued support of our school. Parents I would encourage you to consider becoming involved.

Kindy Enrolments: Our Kindy enrolments for 2019 are open throughout the school year. If you are aware of any families who may have a child with a diagnosed disability & are eligible to enrol in our school, please share this information. I am happy to discuss any prospective enrolments accordingly.

School Survey: In the coming weeks I will be releasing a school survey which you will be invited to participate in. Past surveys have been generously supported and, as always, your feedback both positive and negative will become a vital aid for our future school planning.

Website Updates: With the assistance of JDesign Perth, our website at www.riversideesc.wa.edu.au has been updated with some wonderful new images. The website is packed full of useful information including a page about Important Dates, a school calendar and a "What's New section."
(... cont'd)



Music routine in Room 31 (see pg. 3)

Who can nominate an excellent teacher? YOU CAN - IT'S EASY!

For 24 years, the National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEITA) has provided communities with the opportunity to formally recognise and thank outstanding teachers and leaders.

Now it's your turn - tell NEITA all about your inspirational teacher! Parents, members of the community and students are invited to nominate an excellent educator. Winners receive a \$5000 grant they can use for their school.

To take the next step, go to "DO YOU KNOW AN EXCELLENT EDUCATOR?" at asg.com.au.

MANAGEMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

As part of the regular occupational safety and health updates that are managed with the support of the Department of Education, staff at Riverside ESC have been updated on correct procedures for managing any situation that may involve the transmission of infectious diseases. Riverside ESC is committed to maintaining a safe place of work and study.

Education Director General Sharyn O'Neill will be WA's next Public Sector Commissioner, bringing to a close her tenure as the longest-serving head of education in Australia. She has driven major reforms, including initiating the Independent Public School system to which both Riverside ESC and Riverside PS transitioned in 2013. (See more at [DET Press](#).) On behalf of our Riverside community, I wish Ms O'Neill every success and thank her for the major contribution she has made to improved schooling in WA.



Best regards,
Jim Douglas, Principal

Thank you, Mandurah Murray Mayday Club, for your ongoing community support of our School. The school has received a Mayday donation of \$1,000 toward the costs of the 2018 School camp for Year 5 and Year 6 students. This year's camp will be held at Lansdale Farm School.

From the Desk of Deputy Principal, Tamarra Rekman

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It is winter and a great time of the year! Halfway through the year is a fantastic time to look back and celebrate achievements, whilst being hopeful while we plan for the rest of the year.

Hopefully you have had a chance to review your child's school report and already met with your classroom teacher to develop an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to move forward for this semester. Staff have been working to create programs that are rich and engaging, whilst aligned to the National Curriculum. Curriculum adjustments are made for every student at Riverside ESC and I would like to thank every teacher for their dedication and professionalism they have shown towards the stringent planning processes for your child.

During the mid-year reflection, student attendance has come to be highlighted. It is vitally important that student attendance remains high, in order to achieve the set IEP goals. This is a joint responsibility between the school and the parents. Please work with your classroom teachers to ensure your child comes to school every day.

While it can be tempting to take advantage of discount offers for accommodation and flights during the school term, we strongly encourage you to organise holidays during school holiday periods to make sure your child doesn't miss out on school. You will have received a letter about attendance last week, if you have any questions around this or any other issue, I ask you to make an appointment to see me to discuss it.

It's NOT OK to miss school if your child:

- is celebrating a birthday
- is visiting family and friends
- is looking after other children
- has appointments such as haircuts and minor check ups
- is going on a family holiday
- has slept in or had a big weekend
- doesn't want to attend a particular lesson

If possible, routine medical and other health appointments should be made either before or after school, or during the school holidays. I look forward to seeing every student at school every day!

ROOM 31

Dear Parents and Caregivers of Room 31,

Our classroom is one that embraces our children's natural love of music and movement. Through our music program each morning, we allow the children to use their large muscles and expend excess energy, which enables them to focus more effectively when settling into the ensuing Language routine.



Music and movement improves the children's fine and gross motor co-ordination, their spatial awareness and rhythm, all of which is linked to improved pre-reading skills. The children are also developing increased levels of joint attention; this encourages higher levels of focus which staff utilise to support communication strategies such as key-word sign and PECS, (Picture Exchange Communication System). It also assists in developing relationships as the children demonstrate improved eye-contact and use staff as social references.

And it is fun! Your children may remember some of our favourite songs, such as *Mr Frog*, *Little Red Wagon* and *I Am A Fine Musician*. If prompted, they may be able to sing it for you.

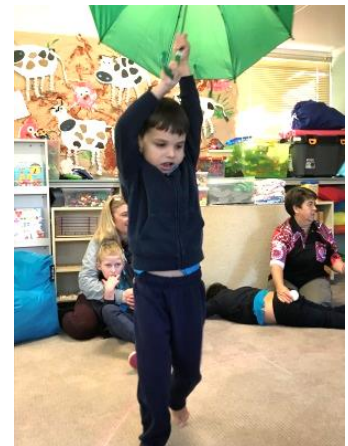
The photos on this page were taken during our music routine. The expressions on the children's faces show how much they enjoy this aspect of their school day. (Above: Thomas and Ms Punch enjoying "Mr Frog!" Below: Jacob is enjoying "Silly Billy Blunder" with his umbrella in the air.)

We look forward to reporting to you later in the term on other aspects of our routine and the experiences the children have been engaged in!

We extend a warm welcome to the Williams and Erceg families and look forward to generating wonderful outcomes for their children.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our wonderful team of positive, dedicated staff working with the children this year, including Mrs Christine Douglas, Miss Delia, Miss Gillian Madden, Miss Sarah Morrison, Ms Fiona Punch, Mrs Sam Smith and Miss Caroline Somerton.

Glenn Webber



AN OPPORTUNITY: HEALTH INDUSTRY TRAINING

Health Industry Training (HIT) offers Certificate III in Individual Support, specialising in both Disability and Aged Care / Home & Community Care. The course will be delivered under the Priority Industry Program, offered by the Department of Workforce and Training WA, and is available to any who may be unemployed or looking to return to work. (Subsidised funding is now available.)

The course is set to commence from HIT's office in Malaga this month, and will run during school days and times. If interested, contact Anita Pacey, WA Program Manager on 1300 381 415 or email apacey@healthindustrytraining.org. Or go to <https://healthindustrytraining.org/courses/certificate-iii-individual-support/>.

ROOM 19

Welcome to Room 19. We have had a very busy year so far and this looks likely to continue in Semester 2.



We have welcomed two new students into our class, Brayden (left) and Cane (right). It is always great to welcome new students and their families not only to our class but to the wider school community. It is lovely to see them settle into class routines and making new friends.

New goals are just being set for Semester 2 and this gives me the opportunity to meet formally with parents and caregivers to discuss the achievements made during Semester 1 and the intended goals for the remainder of the year. It is also a time for reflection for all the staff in the class at just how much progress our students are making.

Community Access Programs

This semester our class attends horse riding lessons with the Riding for the Disabled at Fairbridge in Pinjarra. With the help of volunteer leaders and teaching instructors our students have been learning to make the horses go, stop and turn left or right. When the weather is nice a walk around the beautiful Fairbridge Village allows for demonstration of skills taught in the arena.

Another part of our community access programs was attending a fishing program with Fishability. With the help of volunteers, we were able to catch whiting in the Mandurah Estuary (too small to eat so we had to release them). Our students were very excited to be able to learn how to attach the bait, cast and reel in – and even more so when there was a fish on the end!

Without the help of so many volunteers within our community programs such as RDA and Fishability would not be possible. We thank everyone involved. Our students get so much pleasure and the experience and knowledge you pass on is invaluable.



Health

In conjunction with Riverside Primary School we have implemented a ‘Values’ program. Respect is the value we have focused on these past 2 weeks. Students have learnt what respect means and how we can demonstrate it by doing a variety of activities within the learning areas of Health, English and Maths.

By integrating a topic across all learning areas it allows for consolidation of the concept in a variety of ways. Respect is also one our class and school positive behaviour focuses. They include Be Safe, Try our Best and Show Respect and Kindness.

Important Dates

- Aug 22 “Find Your Treasure” dress-up day
- Aug 27 Jumps & Throws Carnival
- Aug 29 Athletics Carnival
- Aug 31 Athletics backup if 29th is wet
- Sep 21 End Term 3
- Oct 29 Students start Term 4

ROOM 11

Hi families and community,

Room 11 have been focused on becoming positive and active citizens in our classroom and around our school. One of the ways we have been working on this is through our values based reward system in our class. In our room we can earn points for demonstrating the values-

- Showing kindness and respect for ourselves and others
- Considering our own and others safety
- Trying our best to learn

We have been using social stories and video clips to learn about and explicitly teach how these values look and feel. The students have shown a positive improvement in their behaviours and how they interact with each other. This term we will be giving out bronze, silver and gold awards to students who have been demonstrating these values regularly.

This approach in our classroom also supports the National Framework for values Education in

Australian schools. As a whole school, we have also introduced values based rewards to be given out at our assemblies to recognise students who have displayed the focus value over each fortnight. Our goal is the empower students to become aware of how their actions can positively influence others and how they can lead an active and more productive life.



ROOM 33

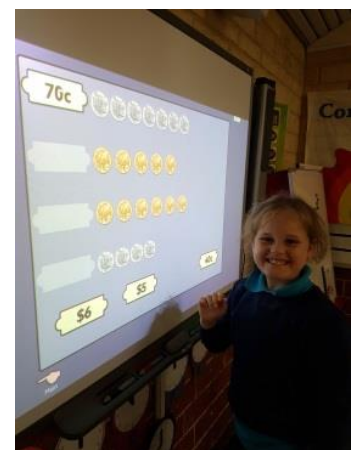


Room 33 has gotten off to a very busy, enjoyable start to Term 3. Now that swimming lessons are over we will be resuming our normal programs in the classroom.

Towards the end of Term 2 we introduced maths rotations. The children have responded positively to these individualised workstations and are able to move to each new activity independently. They are working extremely hard on their individual IEP goals and are well on their way to achieving their outcomes with great

results. We rotate between 5 stations over a 60-minute period. Students are working on Number, Time, Money and Statistics and Probability.

Focus (above left) is completing one of his activities at his Money rotation. He is showing us different ways of making up 40 cents. Chanel (right) is matching the value of the coins to each collection.



We are also working on a computer program called Studyladder. This online study tool allows students to complete activities that are suitable to their own level. Each student has been practicing their mathematic skills using classroom computers in one of the rotations. We are able to supervise, support and monitor each student's progress. All of the students are very motivated and enjoy getting onto the computers to complete their work.

ROOM 11

In-term swimming is a school-based swimming program for children from pre-primary to year 6. With countless beaches and many school-age children having backyard pools, it is very much part of the Australian lifestyle to be around water. For this reason, water skills and safe practices are essential for Australian children.

Riverside ESC and Riverside Primary have been taking part in combined daily swimming lessons for weeks 3 & 4 of Term 3 at the Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre. The students are split into their swimming groups based on their current skill level, with the aim to build up both their confidence and abilities in the water. Each group has a designated swimming instructor as well as multiple staff supervising from the poolside. At the end of the two weeks, students from both schools are expected to demonstrate what they have learnt from their instructor in order to pass their swimming stage.

Room 4 students have demonstrated fantastic water safety skills over the 2 weeks. Our less confident swimmers have been practicing floating on their back on top of the water unassisted and moving confidently through the water with buoyancy aids. Our top swimmer, Indiana, has been learning backstroke and freestyle. The Room 4 staff are extremely proud of the respectful way our students have interacted with all their swimming instructors as well as their progress in the pool. They have all proven themselves to be competent in the water.

Riverside ESC would like to acknowledge our staff for providing additional support in the water with our students for the two weeks as well the Mandurah bus services for safely transporting all students to and from the pool each day.



Aliya practicing her floating in the water with Mrs Barrett



Ryan working on his level 2 overarm

ROOM 10

Term 3 is extremely busy for Room 10. We have visits to John Tonkin College ESC. (JTCEC), transitions to Halls Head Community College ESC (HHCCESC), a Parliament House tour and lunch, swimming lessons and faction carnival all this term!

As part of our technology and community links programs we have been visiting John Tonkin College ESC every Friday this term. Our students have been working in the workshop to construct a stool made of wood and canvas. They have been using equipment such as the drop saw, vice, sanding blocks, electric hand drill, electric screw driver and drill press under close supervision of Riverside and JTCEC staff. They have also been working in the art studio to create 3D prints of stencils they have designed and constructed themselves. During the final visit in week 7 students will be able to cook lunch in the fully equipped kitchen and have beauty treatments in the school's salon room.

The students are thoroughly enjoying the visits each week and the Staff from JTCEC have been extremely friendly, kind and helpful. They have been providing morning tea for us each week and even gave each student a bag full of goodies on week 1. Thank you to all of the staff. We look forward to showing you the final products!

Year 6 students had their first transition visit to HHCCESC in week 3. They were introduced to the Principal, teachers and current students, some of whom our students recognised as graduates of our school. Students had a great day getting to know the school and how the timetable works. The transition visits are extremely important as they help the students to feel more comfortable about moving up to High School and builds their confidence. They will be having another visit in week 7 and 2 further visits in term 4.



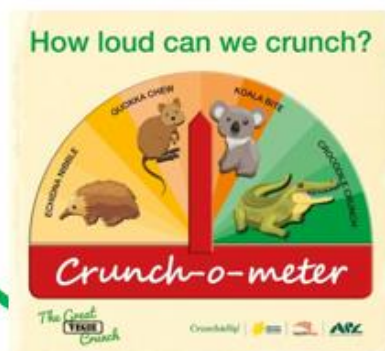
The Great Veggie Crunch!

What's that? Turn to page 8.

The Great VEGIE Crunch



Our school is taking part in The Great Vegie Crunch, joining with schools from across Western Australia to simultaneously crunch on fresh vegetables – and have fun doing it! Did you know that only 1 in 6 WA school aged children are eating the daily recommended intake of vegies? The Great Vegie Crunch aims to change that and educate students on the importance of eating more vegetables.



When: 4th September 2018

Please ensure your child brings: some fresh, washed vegetables to crunch on. Maybe a carrot or sugar snap peas, or cut up some capsicum, broccoli, cucumber or celery?

Parents are very welcome to join in!

More information is available here: www.crunchandsip.com.au/events