

# Riverside ESC Newsletter

Issue 3 2022



## PRINCIPAL COMMENTS



Hello to everyone,

If you have not already brought out your warm winter wear, these chilly nights and wet weather remind us all that the season has changed. Now is the time to ensure winter uniforms will keep your child warm and protected.

The COVID-19 situation continues to significantly affect school operations and highlights the necessity for regular health checking. Any symptoms of cold/flu or C-19 should be monitored and your child should remain at home. This includes mild to heavy sniffles, coughs, running noses and such like. I have asked staff to be extra vigilant especially as we enter winter season and if your child presents as unwell you may be called to come pick them up from school. I appreciate this is a difficult time for everyone, the more safety measures are in place the quicker an end to spreading the virus will be accomplished.

My sincere thanks go to everyone for your support, patience and consideration during this period of challenge in keeping everyone safe and well. I also extend thanks to my amazing staff who have worked tirelessly during such a difficult time, this includes a batch of Relief staff who have been very generous with their time covering for staff.

Here are a few other matters of interest to convey:

**RAT Tests:** free RAT Tests are available for families/carers to pick up from the Admin Office.

**Year 6 Transition:** Our Year 6 students will be commencing their transition to High School program shortly. If you are still contemplating which school to send your child to in 2023 and need to discuss some options please contact my Deputy Principal, Tamara Rekman.

*(Continued next page)*

## THANK YOU P&C!



P&C Day WA is a day for school communities to give thanks to their P&C for all their hard work and contributions. Last Friday, staff and students from both Riverside Schools contributed messages of thanks and a morning tea to mark our appreciation for our brilliant Riverside Primary Schools P&C Association.



Speaking on behalf of RESC and RPS, Principal Jim Douglas thanked the P&C not just for their exemplary fundraising efforts but also for their ongoing support with facilitating community connection and goodwill. A well functioning P&C is an asset that upholds the whole school - we are very grateful to you.



See page 3 for P&C Report.

School Bus Service: If your child is going to be absent or have an extended absence from school can you please contact the respective bus staff so they can adjust their schedules accordingly.

P&C Day: On Friday 20 May both schools celebrated and acknowledged Riverside Schools' P&C with a morning tea. Each classroom made thank-you cards that were displayed at the morning tea. Our P&C do a magnificent job. If you are interested or may have some time to volunteer in assisting then please contact Admin or the President, Viv Cantem (email: [riversidepandc@mail.tidyhq.com](mailto:riversidepandc@mail.tidyhq.com)).

Best regards, Jim Douglas, Principal

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## IMPORTANT DATES

May 24 – P&C Meeting (all welcome)	Jun 21 – P&C General Meeting (all welcome)
May 25 – National Simultaneous Storytime	Jul 01 – Students finish Term 2
Jun 06 – WA Day (public holiday)	Jul 18 – Staff Professional Day (no students)
Jun 13 – Riverside Schools Board Meeting	Jul 19 – Students commence Term 3

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## Workshop: Intro to the NDIS and Community Connections

An interactive workshop, facilitated by APM Communities and Wanslea Early Childhood Approach, about the eligibility process to access the NDIS for the two pathways 0-6 years and 7 years plus.

Learn about inclusive activities and opportunities to get involved in the Mandurah community and network with other families in your local area. There will be opportunity for Q&A.

Accessibility: ACROD parking and an accessible toilet available at both libraries. Please contact Fiona on details to the right to request a social script for these sessions.

- 8 June 2022, 10 am to 12 noon at Mandurah Library
- Morning tea provided at the in-person workshop. Registration essential, please email [Fiona.Allen@mandurah.wa.gov.au](mailto:Fiona.Allen@mandurah.wa.gov.au) or call 0417 146 153.

To print the flyer provided by City of Mandurah, please [click here](#).

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## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2022 VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION?

Each year, families and carers are invited to pay a voluntary contribution that assists our school acquire additional classroom resources. While it is a choice to pay, the higher the number of contributions received the more effectively can the acquisition program benefit all our students.

For ease of payment, EFT is available by speaking to our office personnel.



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*With apologies, the editor is unable to include articles from Rooms 10, 31 and 33 in this newsletter.*

## Riverside Schools P&C Update



**Canteen News:** Welcome to our new Canteen Manager Kelly Connolly. Kelly comes with great references and recommendations; she has long-standing experience in the hospitality trade and is certified in cake baking and decoration.

We look forward to building a strong working relationship with Kelly and can't wait to see all the positive changes she adds to our School Canteen.

**Fundraising News:** Mother's Day brought in a profit of \$1949.11. A big thank you to all the parents and kids who supported this event; it is always appreciated.

Billy G Cookie Dough order forms were sent out last week – it is an online procedure. If any parents have difficulty placing orders please contact our Fundraiser Convenor Lauren McCarthy via the P&C email address.

**Nature Playground:** The P&C has donated an additional \$10, 000 towards this project this Term. We are very excited to see the completed 1<sup>st</sup> stage construction next Term.

**Next General Meeting:** Tuesday 24th May at 9AM in the Staffroom. Please come along and meet our Committee members.

Viv Cantem, P&C President

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## Library Book Fair

Thank you, Michelle and Cindy, for organising a colourful and inspiring Book Fair for our students.





## ROOM 32

A belated welcome back to school for Term 2!

We give a warm welcome to our new student in our class: Charleigh! Charleigh is a wonderful addition to our classroom and enjoys playing in the home corner, dressing up and creating with play dough.



Students have had the opportunity classify animals and items into categories of where they belong: land, water or sky. We have converted one wall in our room to allow students to place animals where they would usually be found. Each of the animals from our shared stories have found a new home on landscape wall,

including “The Very Cranky Bear” and “Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See”.

“Where is The Green Sheep” is one of our students’ favourite stories but Room 32 have taken this to a new level, learning how to sign the story! It has taken a lot of concentration and practice, but students are now confidently signing most of this fun story with just a little help from enthusiastic staff members.

As the term progresses and the weather changes, students are learning to cope with the challenges of rainy days. Jumping in puddles and running around in light rain is one of students’ favourite activities in Term 2. Students are also learning how to judge when the weather is changing and if they can stay outside or need to come in to stay dry and safe. This is a massive learning opportunity in both prediction and self-control and students are improving each rainy day.



Art and Design Technology sessions in Room 32 have taken on a variety of forms. Students have been able to create interesting cupcake decorations as well as collage art using both natural and man-made materials.

Mrs Wardle

## ROOM 35

Hello to all room 35 families!

Our students have been working very hard this term and particularly enjoy our 'Animal of the Week' program. Students have been excited to learn interesting facts about a different animal each week. The week's animal is used as a theme to create artworks and alphabet letter crafts, as well as in stories and songs using Key Word Sign. So far, students have learnt about alligators, bears, caterpillars, dogs, elephants, frogs, geese, horses, insects, jellyfish, koalas, lions and mice. Once we reach the end of the alphabet with zebra, students will be able to request other animals of their choice as future themes.



In Health, students have been learning about community helpers such as police officers, firefighters, paramedics and doctors. Students have learnt that these people can be identified by their uniforms and name badges and are safer strangers who can help us. They have enjoyed learning about these professions and imagining themselves in these roles.

We wish all our families a safe and enjoyable remainder of Term 2.

Mrs Margot, Mrs Tilbee, Mrs Sumner, Mrs O'Connor and Mrs de Boer





## ROOM 19

Hello parents, families and carers of the children in Room 19,

We have had an amazing start to the term and the students are enjoying exploring traditional tales, such as *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* and *The Little Red Hen*. The students particularly loved *Little Red Riding Hood*; they have thoroughly enjoyed retelling it in their own way and loved role-playing the parts! We incorporated our weekly cooking, and the students made wholesome apple and banana muffins and healthy snacks for Little Red Riding Hood's grandma to eat (seen below with Blake and Hubert enjoying the food!)



In Health, the students are learning about how important it is to say 'No' if they feel unsure about a situation and who they can turn to when they need to talk about something that worries them.

In Mathematics, the students have been learning to measure length and compare sizes. We have been using blocks to compare heights and teddy bears to find out what things are bigger or smaller in the classroom.

We are looking forward to the rest of a fun filled term!

Mrs Blockley, Ms Punch, Miss Hamilton, Ms Somerton and Mrs Green!

**National Simultaneous Storytime – May 25<sup>th</sup>** The book this year is *Family Tree* by Josh Pyke. The Library will be setting up a tree with picnic blankets underneath. For those of you with children at home, try linking to <https://www.alia.org.au/nss> or [#1MillionKidsReading](https://www.1millionkidsreading.com).

## ROOM 11

Dear Families and Carers, the weeks have just flown by and we have now finished week four of our 10-week term 2! The boys of Room 11 have settled back into school routine and are working hard each day to do their best. We have had a few disruptions in our room due to COVID-19 but are looking forward to our normal routine returning very soon.

We have been working with our hands a lot this term with cooking, maths and art. Here are some photos of our students learning and enjoying our activities.



Our PBS values have been a high priority in our room and the students have worked through each of the values and enjoyed making the Acts of Kindness hearts.

Singing is one of the most enjoyable learning activities in our room.

Each child is learning so much using this happy rhythmic pathway. Some of our non-verbal children are now responding with sound to our regular songs and rhymes. These successes are wonderful.

Sharon Delaporte

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**HAS YOUR CHILD CHANGED OR STOPPED THEIR MEDICATION?  
PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO LET US KNOW.**

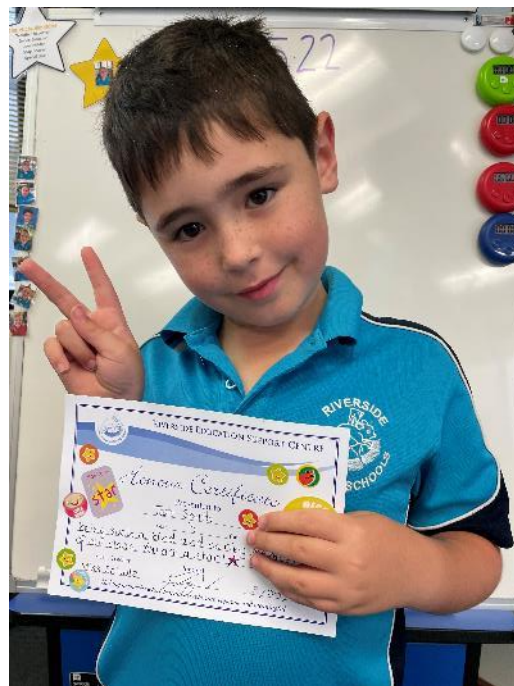


## ROOM 36

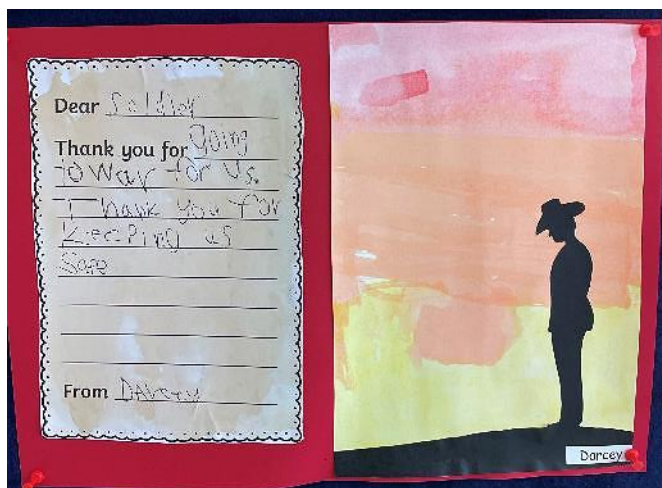
Hi, parents and care givers of students in Room 36. We all can't believe we are almost half way through Term 2. The cooler weather has certainly settled in and each morning we enjoy the heater being on.

Unfortunately, like all classrooms we have had many absences due to illness. We have missed every child that has been off sick and it is always a celebration when our students return. I am really looking forward to the day in the near future when we have all 8 students present again!

We have enjoyed our weekly cooking lessons on a Friday. So far this term we have created ANZAC biscuits, Mother's Day scrub, apple turnovers and ham and cheese muffins. Our cooking lessons teach students many skills such as measuring, chopping, grating, cracking eggs and introducing them to new foods. In addition to this, cooking is also a time when students need to practice their ability to use patience and share.



*Tate with his honour certificate.*



*Darcey's amazing ANZAC artwork*

In Week 2 for Mother's Day, we created beautiful cards and body scrubs for the special woman in our lives. I would like to wish every mother, grandmother and carer in our classroom a belated very happy Mother's Day. We are all grateful for the love and support you give your children.

And finally, we congratulate Tate for his much deserved Honour Certificate, for "being such a kind and caring member of our class. You are a star."

I hope this update finds all of you well.

Stay warm!

Ashlee



*Sean making his Mum her Mother's Day present.*



## ROOM 37

Hello families and friends of Room 37.

Term 2 has been filled with exciting learning opportunities and laughter. The students have been working very hard to collect as many gotcha tickets as possible following our whole school positive behaviour reward system. Congratulations to Lewis, who was the winner for this week.

In English, the class have been reading 'The Hodgeheg' by Dick King-Smith. The students have been really enjoying the book and discussing the story from the animals' perspectives. Noah said, "It is a book about road safety and hedgehogs. Do not run across the road, you can get hit by a car. Always look both ways and watch where you are going. I like the book because it has funny humour in it and a serious message."



In Health, the students have been discussing respectful relationships and how relationships are might change as we grow up and get older. They have been discussing 'fake news' and how to check the credibility of information. This is particularly important during times when global news is being discussed on the playground. Questions you can ask the children at home might be:



- Where has the information come from?
- Who wrote this?
- Why would they have written this?
- Can we trust everything we read or see online?

At left, we have Noah standing in front of our affirmation door. Around the door are positive uplifting affirmations to read to ourselves everyday as we pass through the door as a reminder that we are so unique and special. Kai's favourite affirmation is, "I am powerful!"

Congratulations to Curtis, who has learnt how to do the splits!

Thank you for all of your ongoing hard work and support as we work together to achieve wonderful things during these tricky times!

Mrs Gibson, Mrs Green, Mrs Reid, Mrs Hanney

## ROOM 4

Hello to all parents, families and carers of children in Room 4.

Term 2 is well underway, and the students are working hard in all of their subject areas towards their IEP goals. I look forward to highlighting each of their achievements to you when you receive their Semester 1 school reports.



In the last week of Term 1 we celebrated Easter by making Easter bunny headbands, Easter bunny baskets and we had an Easter egg hunt. The students loved wearing their Easter bunny headbands and wore them all day long. They were super excited when it was time to use their Easter baskets to hold the Easter eggs they had found.

In week 2, we celebrated Mother's Day by making teapot cards and rocky road. The students all enjoyed cutting up the lolly snakes and marshmallows into small pieces and mixing them into the melted chocolate. It was quite hard to resist wanting to eat

our rocky road ingredients but with teacher persuasion the mixture survived and went into the fridge to set. The students were all very excited to be surprising their mums with their special creations. I hope all of the mothers of the students in our class had a wonderful day.



In week 3, it was our class's turn to have our schools' dolls Kyi and Ruby to care for. The students have all loved having a turn of having Kyi or Ruby sit with them during our morning mat session and helping them do our morning fitness session. Having Kyi and Ruby in our classroom has also helped us to have a quieter classroom at times as Kyi and Ruby get very tired and need lots of sleeps during the day.

I look forward to updating you next time with all the activities we have been doing in Room 4 over Term 2.

Miss Carvell



## Makuru—season of fertility

Acknowledgement:  
Information is from Bureau of  
Meteorology website. Images  
sourced independently.

**Winter: June-July – the next season of the Nyoongar calendar**

Central themes: Time to move inland  
More food available

Representative colour: Dark blue (symbolising rain and cold weather)

The lifestyle for the Nyoongar communities during Makuru:

Makuru sees the coldest and wettest time of the year come into full swing. Traditionally, this was a good time of the year to move back inland from the coast as the winds turned to the west and south bringing the cold weather, rains and occasionally snow on the peaks of the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges.



As the waterways and catchments started to fill, people were able to move about their country with ease and thus their food sources changed from sea, estuarine and lake foods to those of the lands in particular the grazing animals such as the kangaroo. As well as a food source, animals provided people with many other things. For example, 'Yongar' or kangaroos not only provided meat but also 'bookas' (animal skin cloaks that were used as the nights became much cooler). Nothing was left; even the bones and sinews were used in the manufacturing of bookas and for hunting tools such as spears.

Makuru is also a time for a lot of animals to be pairing up in preparation for breeding in the coming season. If you look carefully, you might now see pairs of 'Wardongs' (ravens) flying together. You also notice these pairs not making the usual 'ark ark arrrrrk' that these birds are well known for when flying solo. Upon the lakes and rivers of the Southwest, you'll also start to see a large influx of the Black Swan or 'Mali' as they too prepare to nest and breed.



Flowers that will start to emerge include the blues and purples of the Blueberry Lilly (*Dianella revoluta*) and the Purple Flags (*Patersonia occidentalis*). As the season comes to a close, you should also start to notice the white flowers of the weeping peppermint (*Agonis flexuosa*) as the blues start to make way for the white and cream flowers of Djilba.