

Riverside ESC Newsletter



Issue 4 2022

PRINCIPAL COMMENTS

Hello to parents and carers,

Thank you to all our families who have worked hard this term to keep our students at school. It has been a tumultuous term for many families with illness and as a school we appreciate the difficulties you have faced in maintaining routine and consistency within the household.

Our school has also experienced strain in keeping classrooms open due to staff illness and I will take this opportunity to thank staff who have been incredibly flexible and dedicated in maintaining as much consistency as possible for students. As always, we continue to work with each and every family to provide the best possible education for our students.

The school reports will be coming home in the next week and are a reflection of how students have grown and developed over the semester, and I hope you will enjoy reading how much growth has been achieved by your child this year. Many families have taken up the opportunity to visit the school and participate in a lesson on literacy this semester and we hope you will join with us in celebrating your child's achievements in this area. Next semester we anticipate you will be invited to visit classrooms again, either through a learning journey or a numeracy morning, with classroom teachers reaching out to families at the appropriate times.

There will be a few new faces joining our staff next semester as some of our wonderful teachers are moving on to other schools or heading abroad. We will say farewell to teachers Mrs Delaporte and Mrs Franzone, and education assistant Mrs Williamson at the end of this term, and wish each of you well in your new endeavours. These staff brought a wealth of experience to their classrooms and leave our students the better for all they have contributed. We look forward to introducing new staff in the next newsletter – so stay tuned!

There will also be changes to some of our classroom student cohorts, as we continue to accept new student enrolments. We continually strive for the right balance in classrooms to optimise learning. Such changes are always accompanied by careful consideration of the most beneficial social, emotional, physical and academic learning environments for all students. If your child is moved to a new classroom, you will be notified individually.

(Continued next page)



SCHOOL BOARD UPDATE

Riverside Schools' Board Chair Report –

Dr Alison Soerensen

As for so many schools, COVID-19 has caused significant disruption. The impact on teachers, students and their families has been profound and undoubtedly is yet to be fully realised. As a Board we have continued to meet on a six-weekly basis to provide constructive feedback to our principals on issues such as budgets, annual school reports and several school projects. We acknowledge their efforts and leadership through these uncertain times.

The Board looks forward to welcoming interested parents, teachers and community members to our open meeting on Monday, September 5. More details to follow early in Term 3.

TENNIS SKILLS IMPARTED



Many of our students have begun learning the rudiments of tennis.

Read more in class news.

I take this opportunity to wish all of our families and staff a restful holiday, staying safe and connected with your loved ones.

Best regards, Tamarra Rekman, Deputy Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Jun 21 – P&C General Meeting (all welcome)

Jul 18 – Staff Professional Day (no students)

Jul 01 – Students finish Term 2

Jul 19 – Students commence Term 3



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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT



Parents who are carers may now be eligible to join Saver Plus and get up to \$500 for education costs.

We at Saver Plus understand that carers have extra responsibilities, which means they are unable to work. So, we have expanded our income requirement to reflect this and have **included Carers Payment as an eligible income source.**

Email EnquiriesSP@bsl.org.au or call us on 1300 610 355.

Lynn Jacob

(Saver Plus - Community Engagement Specialist)

Or visit the website at www.bsl.org.au.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR THE SAVER PLUS PROGRAM?

- ☒ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card **AND** an eligible Centrelink payment*
- ☒ Be studying yourself **OR** have a child in school (can be starting next year)
- ☒ Have regular income from work (either yourself or your partner)*
- ☒ Be 18+ years old

*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible

saverplus

Riverside Schools P&C Update

Hello to all parents and carers,

I am pleased to provide the following update on behalf of the P&C.

Fundraising: During the last fundraising activity, an amazing 708 tubs of cookie dough were sold. Early calculations suggest the profit will exceed \$2,800.

The Father's Day stall, our next event, will be held on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th August, a week earlier than planned due to the sports carnival. We look forward to your support, by placing a reminder on your home calendar.

There will also be a Sausage Sizzle for Learning Journey again this year, details to be provided closer to the time.

Canteen: Our Canteen Manager Kelly Connolly has expressed her appreciation to all parents who have taken the time to say hello and wish her well.

On the last day of term (Friday July 1st), the Canteen will be closed for recess but there will be a special Sausage Sizzle Lunch for students and Staff.

Viv Cantem

Riverside Schools P&C President

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

My name is Jess and I'm from the Child and Parent Centre - Dudley Park, under Anglicare WA. One of my roles is the 'My Time' facilitator. My Time is a group for parents that have children with disabilities, chronic illness and/or developmental delay where they can have a couple of hours for themselves to have a chat with like-minded parents who understand what it's like. It is a place to unwind.



MyTime

*supporting parents of
children with disabilities*

We have a play leader (his name is Mitch) who will occupy the children whilst the parents interact. Unfortunately, due to low numbers, we are at risk of being cancelled, and as a parent of a child with disabilities myself, I am saddened by this, as I think it's a great supportive program.

I am hoping My Time will be of interest to members of your school community group. It would be wonderful to get more parents involved. It operates every Thursday, from 10:30AM to 12:30PM at Child and Parent Centre – Dudley Park, Kooljack Street.

Your support is greatly appreciated! Parents, please feel free to call me on 9537 5603 if you have any questions. I work Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Jessica Abbott

My Time Facilitator and Early Years Activities Officer
Child and Parent Centre-Dudley Park

in partnership with



ROOM 31

Hello to all parents and carers associated with Room 31.

It is hard to believe we are almost half-way through the school year. In the coming weeks our students will be receiving their school reports. Unfortunately, our classroom programs have been severely impacted this term through staff and student absences due to COVID 19 and other illnesses. We are looking forward to Term 3 when we can once again implement all our planning.



Semester One is important for your children as it is when they are expected to adapt to our classroom routine, begin developing positive relationships with all staff and adapt to classroom expectations. As the semester has progressed, we have observed the children following routines for longer periods and transitioning without becoming dysregulated, engaging in more directed experiences as their levels of joint attention improve, and understanding that staff are safe and we are available to support them to co-regulate when they are overwhelmed with big feelings.

Although staff have a very wide window of tolerance for socially unacceptable behaviours, we also have expectations that are communicated via a very specific limit-setting process. The positive changes we have seen in our students have resulted in a calmer classroom, thus we have better engagement with more aspects of the routine and stronger relationships between staff and students. We look forward to further improvement in Semester 2 as our students ability to regulate and attend improves, allowing increased access to curriculum.

‘Sensory Experience’, pictured above right, is a very popular routine. In this instance, our shredded paper play allows our students to practise what it feels like to be excited, before returning to calm, then back again to calm, again and again.

Playing with ‘Shorn the Sheet’ and our pool noodles helps our students develop self-control, as it can be very difficult indeed to wait when you are excited!

Glen Webber



ROOM 32

What interesting weather we have been having this term! It has been fantastic to watch our students exercise inside and outside, understanding that the wet weather can be both fun and challenging. Many of our students have been wearing wet-weather gear at recess and lunch times, allowing them greater freedom to play and explore the outdoors in rain or shine.

We give a warm welcome to a new student in our class: Alyxandar! Aly is a wonderful addition to our classroom and has settled into the daily routines with ease and is making new friends every day!



Students have had the opportunity to engage in outdoor play and experimentation with our neighbouring classroom and friends. Pictured left is an all-in interactive play session that started as making a sandcastle and then transformed into making a functioning volcano, complete with red lava! Massive thanks to Mr Webber

for making the volcano play, a great way to spend lunch time!

Students in Room 32 have been working hard each morning to improve their skills in writing, counting and patterning. Below are: Dominic, Zen and Chevie, working through their individual work boxes where they personally select between 2-4 activities each day. Students have a high degree of control over what they complete each day, and it has been pleasing to see the variety of preferred activities increase as the term has progressed.



As we go into school holidays, all staff in Room 32 wish students and their families a safe and enjoyable break and look forward to exciting learning adventures in Term 3.

Mrs Wardle

ROOM 35

Hello to all room 35 families!

Room 35 have had a very busy and successful first semester. Students have thoroughly enjoyed their weekly trips to Fairbridge for horse riding, and we are all sad that these lessons will be coming to an end. The instructors have patiently taught our boys and girls some valuable skills, and we will miss interacting with the gentle Shiloh, Chips, RJ, Lily and Chico. Thank you to Wayne for driving us there and back every week, and to Taylor and all the RDA volunteers for such fantastic lessons!

Students have been taking part in tennis lessons on Tuesdays. Room 35 and Room 11 participate together and have been learning various tennis skills. They are learning to hold the racket properly, hit the balls with the racket, balance balls on the racket, as well as other important skills such as listening to instructions and waiting their turn.

Media Arts lessons have been a hit this semester and all students have been enthusiastically involved. They have explored close-up and black and white photography and created their own graphic designs using the Tate Paint online interactive app. Everyone's favourite project was using the Play School Art Maker App to create their own



movie. Using this app, students selected their settings and characters, then manipulated their characters in the setting to create a story. Various scenes using different settings were recorded and combined to make a short movie. Mr Douglas, Mrs Rekman and Mr Perry visited our class and made a very appreciative audience when viewing the final works.

Our students have worked hard towards their goals this semester and we are very proud of them. Pictured left is Ahriella working hard towards achieving her writing goals.

Wishing our families a happy and safe winter holidays.

Mrs Margot, Mrs Tilbee, Mrs Sumner and Mrs de Boer



ROOM 19

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

The students are coming to the end of a busy Term 2. They have been working hard on improving their pencil control, reading and writing during literacy rotations. They have used their imagination skills, engaging with reusable materials to make many different things, such as monsters, cars or trains.



Xavier (pictured above) has been working hard on his pencil skills. Good job, Xavier!

The students have been enjoyed listening to traditional tales such as *Goldilocks*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, *The Gingerbread Man* and *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*.

They each have taken turns at a literacy station working on pre-writing skills, phonics and reading. They are all working really hard at each table on a wide range of skills every day, building their confidence and abilities. The students are following routines and enjoying being part of the Year 1 playground for recess and lunch too.

As part of the *Three Little Pigs* story, they showed their creativity by making crafts out of recycled materials such as old boxes, sticks collected by students from the playground and containers bought in by staff members. After reading the story, we made a house of straw, a house of sticks and a house of bricks. The students enjoyed role playing the story with their houses.



This week we read the story *The Enormous Turnip*. We measured the ingredients to prepare the



vegetables for a delicious turnip and pumpkin soup. After the adults had cut up the vegetables, students had turns pouring and stirring the soup. We all enjoyed some warm soup on a cold day.

Enjoy the holidays!

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

ROOM 11

Dear Families and Carers,

A big hello and thank you to all the parents and care-givers of the boys in Room 11.

We have been busy as usual experiencing new ways to learn, share and socialise. Hands-on play based activities have been very well received, with our room experiencing ringing, beeping, horns sounding and much more as the BeeBots and Robo-caterpillars make their way around the room.

Tennis has been a bit of a challenge for our boys but there have been some balls flying through the air and our tidier students practicing collecting and returning balls. Thank you to Mr Johnny for your expertise and patience.



The school cross country run was a lot of fun for the students and the staff with Mrs Smith, Hooper, Williamson and Delaporte running the circuit with the boys. Even a smattering of rain could not dampen our spirits. I am very proud of our boys for completing this event, and look forward to the upcoming athletics events.

Wednesday was also the last day for one of our

EA's, Mrs Williamson, who has now left Riverside to take up a position at another school. Thank you Mrs Williamson for your care of the students in our room.

And finally, congratulations to Harrison Schroder (right) who is the recipient of a much deserved Merit Certificate.



Mrs Delaporte

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



ROOM 33

Hi to all the parents and carers of Room 33. Term two has been another busy term, and unfortunately we had a two-week disruption with most of us being unwell with COVID earlier in the term.

Now we are all back on track we have been able to do some fantastic work, enjoy birthday celebrations and achieve some great outcomes that are demonstrated in our up and coming school reports.

On Friday 3rd June, we enjoyed a wonderful morning tea with the parents of Room 33. The students loved entertaining their parents and showing them the amazing work they have completed, as well as showing off their classroom. We all enjoyed some lovely food and having a chat with one another.

Left (above): Ronald and his mum



Left (below): Aysha enjoying morning tea with her mum

This semester we have been looking at fiction and non-fiction books. Students were able to identify whether we were reading a story book or a book that was giving us information. So far we have read the following fiction stories: 'Digby the Dog' and 'Mucky Yucky Eaters'.

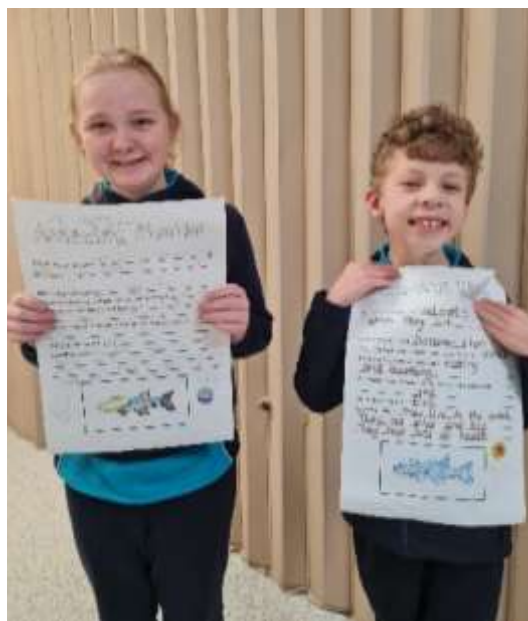
We have also read the non-fiction book 'Amazing Sharks', which provided some great facts about sharks. Students learned that in a life time a shark loses around 30 000 teeth, they are able to see at the bottom of the big dark ocean, and there are different sharks including the Hammerhead, Whale Shark, Cookie Cutter and Reef Shark. Everyone really enjoyed the opportunity to read about

these amazing creatures of the sea.

Right: Leah and Espen answered comprehension questions about Amazing Sharks.

Finally, our class and Room 36 are practising our assembly item which we will be performing at the final assembly for this term. We are really enjoying this and hope that all our parents and carers are able to come. You will be super proud seeing us up on the front stage singing and dancing.

Alicia Hart



ROOM 36

Darcey and Sean enjoying tennis lessons.

Hello to all parents and care givers of students in Room 36,

I hope this update finds everyone well! We have been very busy in our classroom with our routines and learning programs. I have just finished writing each student's report comments and I know all of you will be very proud when you see what your children have achieved this semester. I encourage you to celebrate your child's successes with them and read comments that will make them proud of what they have achieved.

This term, we have been loving our weekly tennis lessons on a Tuesday with our great tennis coach Johnny. The students have shown great determination when practicing their tennis skills. I have been blown away several times with some impressive hits of the tennis ball!

On the 15th of June, our students attended the Riverside Primary School's Cross Country event. All students who participated were so excited and had a great time running for their factions.

This term, our classroom took on the Riverside Worm Farm. The worm farm is a great way to teach our students about sustainability and recycling of food waste. We have created 8 jobs to complete at worm farm and each child is allocated something to do such as sorting the food scraps, or cleaning out the buckets. I have enjoyed watching our student's independence grow as they visit each classroom, knock on the door and ask for their worm farm bucket. We all get excited each time we see a worm!

On Friday the 1st of July Room 36 is presenting their assembly item. As previously stated in the note sent home, we would love it if parents and



Paige delights in bike riding!



Room 36 having fun at cross country.

carers could watch our item and come back to the classroom to celebrate a successful term with morning tea. We are all really excited and have started a countdown on the whiteboard looking forward to our special morning.

I hope you have a lovely school holidays spending time together with your family.

Ashlee

ROOM 37

Hello parents and carers of Room 37,

We have had a wonderful term, with lots of hard work and excellent achievements.

In English, the students have finished their final piece of independent writing. They have been retelling *The Hedgehog* story by Dick King Smith. The students have been adding in extra information to make their writing more exciting. We have been experimenting with metaphors and similes.

Here (at right) we have our star writer of the week, Dylan. Dylan has been trying very hard with his handwriting. He has won his pen license. We were all very impressed with the effort and descriptive language he put into his work. He has been describing how human legs would look to a hedgehog and wrote, 'The crowds long legs looked like a green and tall dark forest.' What a fantastic simile!

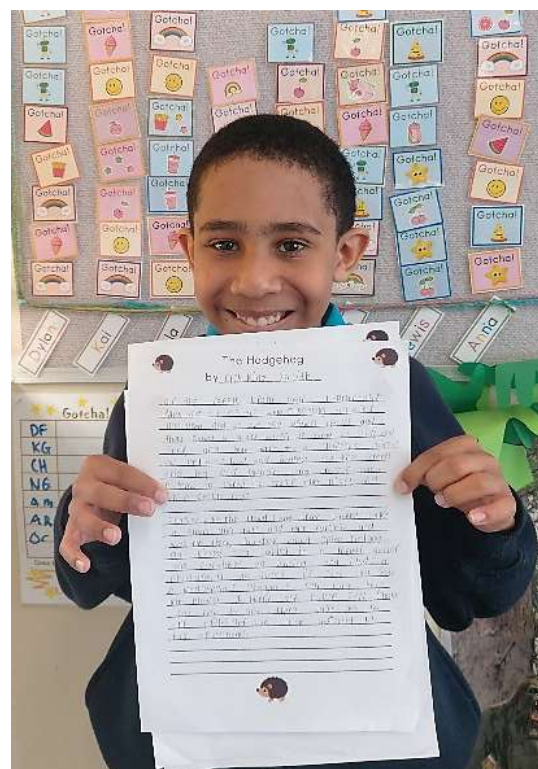
In Protective Behaviours lessons, the students have been learning about the importance of body ownership and awareness. Our senior students have been very mature when learning about a very important concept of consent. The students understand that they own their body and are in control of what happens to it. The concept of consent is an important topic which I encourage you to talk about at home too.

The students created F.R.I.E.S (pictured right) linked to each of the primary elements of consent.

Congratulations to Ollie, who has learnt his division facts for his 6 times tables!

Thank you, everyone, for all of your ongoing hard work and support as we work together to achieve wonderful things.

Mrs Gibson, Mrs Green,
Mrs Reid, Mrs Hanney



ROOM 4

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

I am always amazed at how quickly the school year passes us by. It is nearly the end of Term 2 and our Semester one reports are now completed and you will be receiving them very soon.

Starting in week 6 this term, students have been participating in tennis lessons every Tuesday with tennis coach Johnny. The students have learnt how to balance the tennis ball on their racquets, how to hit the ball over the net back to the coach and how to hit the ball at a target. They have thoroughly enjoyed these lessons each week. It was also nice being active outside of the classroom while learning new skills.



In Design and Technology lessons this semester our students have been learning about how to be safe and hygienic when handling, preparing, cooking and storing food. All students were very excited when it was time to design their pizza's and were saying they could not wait to make and eat them. From making pizza's and having a turn at preparing the crunch and sip plate for their peers the student's abilities in using a knife safely have improved.

Our whole school Faction Cross Country race was on Wednesday the 15th June. Our students made sure that even if they were not able to run the whole race that they walked the race and crossed the finish line. It was very exciting to be a part of such a big race out on the oval and have the parents, families and staff members cheering. Well done to everyone for trying their best.

I hope you all have a safe and happy Term 2 holidays and I look forward to seeing you all after the school holidays to start Semester 2.

Miss Carvell



Room 10

Welcome to the last newsletter for the term and semester! School holidays are nearly here and after a busy term ending with assessments and reports everyone is ready for a break.

Following a long break due to restrictions because of the Covid pandemic, Possum Café has now recommenced. Students are busy preparing, cooking and serving staff a range of delicious hot meals, cakes and coffees. All the explicit teaching lessons during English, Health and Maths are being transferred into life skills through the café program. It is wonderful to see student confidence in their skills growing each week as they become more familiar with routines and processes of the program.

In English this term students have been working on writing Narratives. We have worked through a unit of work which leads students into writing an engaging narrative text using a set format. We have had good discussions about each stage of the writing process and it is great to see how creative we can become when talking about characters and settings. The drawings that have been created to show a setting have been fantastic.

Following on from our unit on Money, our Maths focus for the past two weeks has been Time. Students have completed a range of time activities. We have looked at time to the minute and elapsed time, time tables and completed a 'sands of time' investigation where students got to consolidate their knowledge and understanding of time in a real-world context.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you back in Term 3.

Mrs Mattin

