

Riverside ESC Newsletter



Issue 5 2022

PRINCIPAL COMMENTS



Hello to parents and carers,

In this newsletter are some wonderful articles about learning activities and experiences in our amazing classrooms and beyond. We have completed another very successful two weeks of swimming lessons at the pool and soon everyone will participate in the Faction Carnival, hopefully in fine weather. There are some important announcements too, so enjoy a good read.

Vacations: All schools have generous holidays to refresh students and staff. However, from time to time a family will choose a vacation time that conflicts with designated school attendance dates. If this happens, parents/carers are required to consider the following as per Department of Education guidelines:

- Parents/Carers must seek approval for student vacation absence from principal and must declare the dates the student will be away from school.
- The Principal will review the request and decide if there are reasonable grounds to approve the absence.
- Finally, Principals can request students complete a work package during their absence.

I respectfully ask all parents/carers to meet with me to discuss any vacation planned to occur during term dates as soon as convenient.

Faction Carnival: The whole school Faction Carnival day will be held on Friday 2nd September (weather permitting). There will be provisions to purchase some food & drinks on the day, hosted by our P&C. I would discourage the purchase or bringing onto the school oval any take-away food during the Carnival hours. Please come along to support your child and their Faction on this fun day.

(Continued next page)

SCHOOL BOARD INVITATION

Dr Alison Soerensen, Chair

School Boards are made up of staff, parents and community members who come together with the best interests of our students and school in mind. A theme at recent meetings has been 'giving back'. Whether it be through joining the P&C or the Schools' Board, donating resources to the school library, participating in fundraisers or donating money to the schools' "Contributions Account" to be earmarked for students in need - there are a wide range of opportunities for each of us to offer something back. It doesn't need to be big, or often - **when we all give a little, it has the capacity to make a big difference.**

Once a year, the Schools' Board holds an open meeting. It is an opportunity for interested parents, staff and community members to come along and learn a little more about what we do. For some it translates to nominating to join the Board whilst for others, it is a single opportunity for connection and better understanding.

Open Board Meeting: Monday Sep 5, 6:00-7.30PM, Staffroom.

Wine and cheese will be provided. We kindly request those interested in attending RSVP to riverside.ps.contact@education.wa.edu.au - please title your email 'Open Board Meeting'.

Principal comments continued:

EA Appreciation Day: Tuesday 30th August is National Education Assistant Day. All of the EA's at RESC are fabulous and do a wonderful job supporting students in our classrooms and beyond. Their tireless work ensures classrooms run smoothly. As principal of the school, I am so grateful for our EA's and I hope you will join me in showing appreciation for them on their day of recognition.

School Board Open Meeting: I join with the Chair of the Board, Dr Alison Soerensen, in inviting you to attend the Riverside Schools Board 'open' meeting on Monday 5th September, commencing 6.00pm. It is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the functions of the board and how you could contribute to the guidance and oversight of Riverside Schools as a board member. There will be some light refreshments during & after the meeting. Please RSVP by Friday 2nd September using the contact details on the front page.

Finally, may I extend my thanks to you all for supporting the school through the turbulent periods of COVID. Whilst we are not 'out of the woods' yet, things have improved. However, the school will remain cautious and be ever alert to prevent any further spread. Some rules as per WA Health and DoE still apply and will be monitored accordingly. Currently there is a supply of free RAT tests you can pick up from the school if you have not already done so. Again my sincere thanks to you all.

Best regards,

Jim Douglas, Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 24 – P&C Fathers Day Stall (Kindy/PP)

Aug 25 – P&C Fathers Day Stall (Yr1-6)

Aug 26 – Book Week Dress-up Day

Sep 02 – Athletics (Faction) Carnival

Sep 05 – Riverside Schools' Board Open Meeting. *(RSVP - see front page for details).*



Riverside Schools P&C Update

Hello to all parents and carers, here are some fundraising reminders:

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.

Viv Cantem

Riverside Schools P&C President

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Fun swimming lessons for children aged five to 17 years of age in both the October and January school holidays.

VacSwim has helped children across Western Australia to stay safe and confident in the water for over 100 years. We offer:

- vital swimming and water safety skills
- lessons for beginner, intermediate and advanced swimmers
- a variety of programs ranging from five to nine days
- opportunities to progress through stages 1-16 and obtain Bronze Medallion
- lessons at over 180 pool and beach locations throughout Western Australia
- friendly, qualified swimming staff.

Programs operate in line with current health advice. For more information about local programs please go online to the Department of Education's **Programs and Locations** webpage at <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/programs-and-locations?redirect=%2Fvacswim>

Enrolling children with special needs

Children with special needs are encouraged to enrol in VacSwim.

Enrolments are open for the October swimming program. We recommend enrolling early to avoid disappointment. You can enrol your child if they will be five years or more when they start the program.

If participation is conditional on special precautions being taken, the parent/carer must arrange suitable supervision before enrolment is completed. If possible, smaller class sizes may be arranged, please contact VacSwim immediately after enrolling (see contact details below).

The easiest way to enrol is online at <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/enrolling-in-vacswim>.

Please also complete the **special needs form** (<https://www.education.wa.edu.au/dl/ro1dd6>) to help VacSwim plan the lessons for your child.

For any VacSwim enrolment queries, please telephone 9402 6412 or email vacswim@education.wa.edu.au.





The P&C would appreciate school community support of sweet donations towards our Cake Stall for the Athletics Carnival on Friday 2nd September.

When: Wednesday 31st August between 2-3pm or Thursday 1st September between 8.30-9.30am.

Where: Please drop all donations off to the Staffroom.

This allows us to slice and package up the items ready for sale on Friday.

Alternatively, items can be dropped off to the P&C tent Friday morning, however please have items sliced ready for sale.

Due to allergies please supply an ingredient list with your donation.

NO nuts or fresh cream items please.

If you have any questions please contact Lauren at fundraising.rpsandc@yahoo.com

ROOM 31

Hello to all parents and carers associated with Room 31.

It is with pleasure that we welcome the Muhammad family to our classroom this term. Arshman started with us today and has already demonstrated his willingness to connect with staff and explore our indoor and outdoor environments. We look forward to working with Arsh and his family towards positive outcomes for him.

It is with great excitement that we inform you of the changes coming to our Kindergarten/Pre-primary outdoor space. During the last set of school holidays, we were fortunate enough to have balancing logs installed by our school P and C, which have proven to be very popular with our students, so many thanks to them for organising this playground feature. We have also been lucky enough to receive as a donation 25 large logs to create additional features for our playground space. We cannot thank Beaver Tree Services enough for this donation.

Our reasons for modifying the playground are varied. They are based around:

1. Physical activity and skill development: Outdoor play promotes improved eye-hand and eye-foot co-ordination, increased muscle strength and tone, provides more opportunity for our students to cross their midlines, use bi-lateral integration, (using both sides of the body to complete a task), which is an indicator that both sides of the brain are communicating effectively and sharing information.



2. Social and Emotional Development: Outdoor play allows our students to test their physical limits, teaches them to accept their own limits and to acknowledge their strengths, it supports regulated behaviour and the development of resilience, as well as encouraging varied social relationships where co-operation, compromise, respect and responsibility are encouraged.

We look forward in coming newsletters to showing you how our play space is changing.

In the photographs on the previous page, we can see Elijah balancing on our new beam and Emma playing with the new outdoor threading game.

Glen Webber

ROOM 32

Term 3 has started with a flurry of activity and excitement for Room 32!

We give a warm welcome to two new students in our class: Matthew and Thomas! Tommy is a wonderful addition to our classroom and has settled into the daily routines with ease and is making new friends every day! Tommy is a super star at communicating with sign language and is teaching his new friends and teachers a thing or two! Matthew is another



welcome addition to our room and is particularly skilful at making play dough food and figurine creations to share with his friends and teachers.



Our Pre-primary students have had the benefit and excitement of swimming lessons this term. During weeks 3 and 4, students and their supporting EA's visited the MARC and took part in lessons that were not only teaching them the basics of water safety but were a whole lot of fun!

Room 32 would like to thank the Riverside P & C for the

most generous additions to our playground. Students have had a fantastic time climbing, balancing and exploring the new nature obstacle course installed over the school holidays. We are very grateful for the new additions and look forward to many more hours of adventures!

Mrs Wardle

ROOM 35

Hello to all Room 35 families! We have welcomed four new students to our classroom and they are all settling in very well.

It was with great excitement that we started swimming lessons in week 3. Students could not wait to get changed and travel on the big bus to Mandurah



Aquatic and Recreation Centre each day. The swimming instructors worked with students in different groups to teach a range of swimming skills. Well done to our students who showed great listening and behaviour during these lessons.

This term it is our classroom's turn to have the school dolls, Kyi and Ruby, much to the students' delight. Kyi and Ruby have been joining many school activities and the students are enjoying playing with them.



Students have been getting their hands sticky with paper mâché while covering a balloon with layers of newspaper and glue. While some students were hesitant to begin with, they soon overcame their fear and all joined in, having great fun in the process. Once the balloons have been covered with enough layers and are dry, students will remove the balloon from the inside and use their shape to create a puffer fish. Students are looking forward to using foam art to create the lips, fins and spikes, and to painting them once finished. Watch this space!

Mrs Margot, Mrs Tilbee, Mrs O'Connor and Mrs De Boer.



ROOM 19

Welcome parents, families, and carers of the children in Room 19.

This term, our class has grown to 8 students and we have welcomed 6 new students. It has been a pleasure to meet, or speak with you, over the last few weeks and get to know your child. We have celebrated two birthdays and the students are enjoying getting to know one and other.

Swimming lessons have been a wonderful success, with all our participating students loving the experience.

This term we are focusing on repetition of sounds in words and the students are enjoying rhyming books and poems. We have been focusing on building friendships and have shared the story 'Little Beauty' by Anthony Browne, about a very special gorilla who understood sign language and asked his keepers for a friend. They give him a kitten. The story is based on a real female gorilla called Koko who was born in San Francisco Zoo.



Despite the weather, we have been able to enjoy being outside during our weekly horse-riding lessons with the Year 1 students who did not participate last term. Horse-riding involves games and can improve balance, strengthen muscles, and coordination.

We're looking forward to the rest of a fun packed term.

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



ROOM 11

Dear Families and Carers, Room 11 has had a great start to Term 3. They have new classroom teachers: Mrs Edwards (Tuesdays to Fridays) and Mrs Grobler (Mondays only). It has been wonderful to see students settling so well into new classroom routines, with the much-appreciated support of our classroom Education Assistants Mrs Brown, Miss Hooper, Mrs Smith, and Miss Dinsdale.

The focus for Term 3 has been introducing English and Maths work trays. Students have their own individual work trays in which they are required to work through a set of four trays for both English and Maths. The students are becoming familiar with the routine and enjoy this aspect as well as developing independence at completing some tasks.

At recess and lunch students are also being encouraged to develop their independence by walking to and from the classroom to the Year 3/4 Playground by themselves. They are doing a fantastic job, whilst being supervised from a distance.

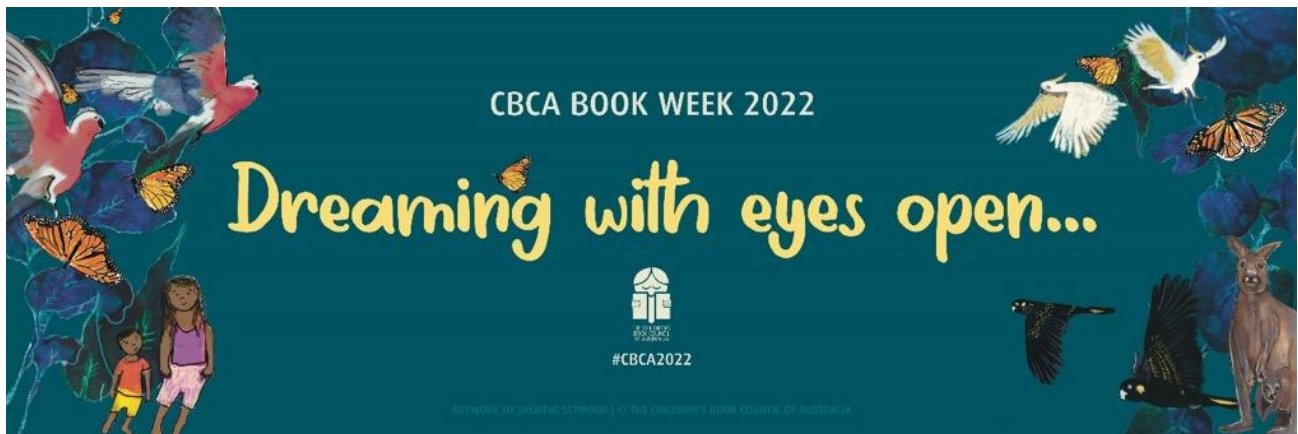
Our theme this term is 'Colours'. Students have been practising to sign colours in Key Word Sign. We have been reading picture books about colours and using the Podd book and Key Word Sign to assist in retelling the stories. In Protective Behaviours we have begun learning about The Concept Circle, beginning with the purple circle, our personal space. In Maths we have been identifying and sorting colours and using different colours to graph information.

Room 11 have also been busy practising their assembly item with Rooms 4 and 35; this will be performed at Assembly on Friday of Week 6. This is also Book Week dress up day. We look forward to you watching us perform at Assembly.

Mrs Edwards and Mrs Grobler



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



Book Week's Dress-Up Day is coming Friday August 26

This year's theme is 'dreaming with eyes open'.

It celebrates the capacity in each and every child to enter into a good story with imagination, hope, expectation, excitement and so much more.

Dress-up Day attracts four special prizes, one for each of the following categories:

- Most creative costume
- Most like a book character costume
- Funniest costume
- Best home made costume



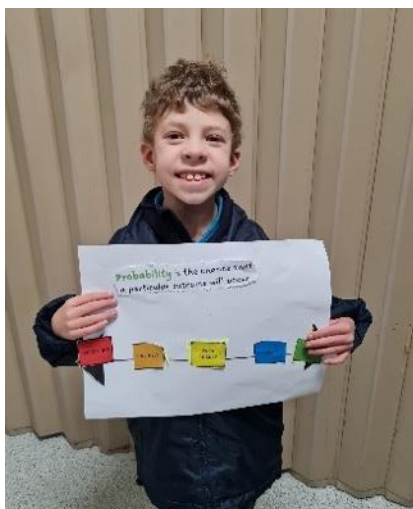
So, come along on Friday 26th ready to celebrate your favourite book character by dressing up with eyes wide open.



ROOM 33

Hello from Room 33. Wow! Term 3, how quickly is this year going?

It has been another busy term and this semester one of our math focus' is Statistics and Probability. We have been looking at the types of words we use when discussing the probability of different scenarios and each student made their own probability line. The student's task was to label a probability line using the words impossible, certain, likely, unlikely, and even chance. In our follow up lesson, they then used the probability line to place different events on it using their knowledge about probability. These events included going to school on a rocket ship, breathing, going for a swim, going on a train, making the bed and the sky raining lollies. All the students are working really hard and developing some great knowledge in a fun way.



Espen (left) and Tyrone (right) display their Probability Lines

In Digital Technology this semester we are focussing on using Laptops. While some of the students are able to do this, the focus for others is to turn the laptop on, log on and use a word document to type their name, address and birthdate. Students also access the program 'StudyLadder' which enables them to complete individual tasks that are set at their ability level in both Math

and English. All of the students are becoming very competent lap top users, demonstrating great navigation and safety skills.

This term we are studying texts and looking at how text can be presented in a variety of ways, including cartoons and stories. Students created their own cartoon character, giving them a name and describing what there purpose was. We had some great creations including Ugly Troll, who pushes people off of the bridge, Super Rosie who has bang powers and destroys villains and Bluey the super hero who freezes her victims.

Let me finish with a very exciting moment in our classroom this week. Two of our year 6 students, Aysha and Mia, received their new leavers shirts and were so excited that they immediately had to go and put them on to give us a show.

Alicia Hart



ROOM 36

Hi parents and carers of students in Room 36,

I hope this newsletter update finds you well. Thank you to everyone that has attended an IEP meeting either via phone call or in person. It has been great to update you on how your child is going in Room 36 and share their Semester 2 IEP goals with you. I am looking forward to watching our students shine in Semester 2!

This term we have started to learn about fractions. The students have been enjoying these hands-on lessons of using fairy bread and play doh to represent common fractions. This week, students worked in a 'pizza shop'. Miss Scholz wrote a fraction on the board such as a $\frac{1}{2}$. Students have to read the fraction correctly, cut their play-doh pizza in half and then serve it on a plate to Miss Scholz. Students have also enjoyed cooking lessons where they get to put their fraction knowledge into practice by reading recipes and using cup measurements.



Paige cutting her fairy bread into eighths.



We are still enjoying looking after the Worm Farm each week! The students absolutely love collecting the Crunch N Sip scrap buckets from the classrooms, sorting the scraps, finding worms, pouring the worm juice into the gardens and returning the scrap buckets to the classrooms.

This week we had the pleasure of celebrating Sean's 10th birthday, celebrated by the whole or Room 36. Sean's mum got pizza delivered and Mrs Vincent cooked us some yummy cupcakes and we all shared our favourite thing about Sean and guessed what present he was going to receive after school; none of us were right though!

We are looking forward to more sunshine in Room 36. We have been working hard in the classroom with our learning programs so that when we have a sunny day we can get out and enjoy the amazing bike track!

Thanks for reading,

Ashlee

ROOM 37

Hello parents and carers of Room 37, we have had a wonderful term, with outstanding behaviour and excellent work.

In English, the students have been reading balanced arguments and using language of debate to consider other people's opinions. Students have been suggesting arguments for and against and generating their own conclusions based on both opinions. It is such an important life skill to understand both perspectives.

In our Talk4Writing sessions, we have been reading 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson; a delightful story about a baby owl who learns to love the dark. Students have been using LOTE and key word sign to retell the story to the class. Here we have an inventive piece of artwork by Anna, titled 'Stay Sharp'. A piece of artwork made out of pencil shavings! How creative!



In maths, we have been looking at chance and probabilities. I was surprised at how many students thought it was not impossible, just 'highly unlikely' for me to fly around the classroom. Here we have our students conducting their own probability experiments by calculating how likely it would be that the spinner lands on a particular colour. Using language like 'likely' and 'highly unlikely' for every day scenarios is an excellent idea to promote mathematical language usage at home.

and 'highly unlikely' for every day scenarios is an excellent idea to promote mathematical language usage at home.

Achievement of the week: Congratulations to Ayla, who has started to use her talking device a lot more in class time.

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

Mrs Gibson, Mrs Sumner, Mrs Reid, Mrs Hanney

ROOM 4

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

Our students have settled into semester 2 very well and have been enjoying various activities and working hard in the classroom. It has been an extremely busy start to the term getting all of our IEP goals set for another semester full of learning. Thank you to all the parents that have met with me for an IEP meeting either via phone call or face to face. It is wonderful to spend time discussing student's progress and next steps with you all. I know your children are going to make you extremely proud this semester with all that they are going to achieve.



In Maths, we have started learning about chance this term and the students have been enjoying playing games that involve chance. Their two favourite games are 'Lucky Ducks' and 'Diving Board Bonanza'. Last week we celebrated Riley's 9th birthday with a yummy chocolate mud cake, which was enjoyed by all.



This term, we have lots more exciting things planned including celebrating Book Week and the whole school Faction Carnival on Friday in week 7. Students have been practising all of the events with Mrs Anderson and in their whole-school sports lessons. I am sure the carnival day will be great fun for all. Another big event this term is our assembly item, which will be presented at the whole school assembly on Friday 26th August (week 6). Room 4, Room 11 and Room 35 have been working very hard, practising the song and keyword signs. I hope you are all able to make it on this day and watch us sing our little hearts out.



I look forward to updating you all on how these events went later in the term.

Miss Carvell

Room 10

Welcome back to school following a well-earned break for everyone.

Room 10 started off the term with some great news for our students doing the school Café program. We are now heading out to the shopping centre to purchase our goods for this week's cooking. Not only are the students doing the online estimate for what we need to get they are now having to locate and purchase their goods. Some really great skills are now coming into practical and real life practice whilst on our shopping expedition. Students are really showing maturity and are certainly making our staff very proud of their efforts.

Our maths program has started with a unit on fractions. Our students have been learning to recognise fraction numbers, order them on number lines and count in fractions. All these skills are put into practice during cooking lesson for our Café program. This transference of skills is important for staff to be able to see that students do fully understand the skill taught during explicit teaching of math concepts.



Our English program has introduced the genre of persuasive writing. Students are working through two units of work with explicit teaching of the structure and wording of persuasive texts. The goal is to design a gadget then write a persuasive text with the aim of encouraging others to purchase the product. It is wonderful to see all the original and detailed designs the students are creating. They certainly are getting some of the language of persuasive writing and we look forward to seeing the finished design and listening to them present their text.

We have started our Health program around the topic of Refusing Medicines, Tobacco and Alcohol they may be offered. We are covering this program in three parts – what are drugs and why we use them, knowing the facts (what's in them, the law) and finally, how to avoid them. This last topic is important as we want our students to be able to make informed decisions and feel confident in being able to say 'no'. Role play scenarios and learning to use an assertive voice have been fun ways for students to develop a range ways they feel confident in refusing tobacco or alcohol they may be offered.

Beside all the curriculum content being covered our students are now getting ready for high school. Dates are being set for transition and students will get a look at what school they will likely be attending next year. Whilst we see some very nervous students first step into high school, they quickly gain confidence and look forward to their next visits. New friendships are formed and connections are started with their high school teachers. This is important to help with the transition from a very familiar primary school into a new and very different setting of high school.

We hope everyone is keeping well during these stormy winter days. I look forward to meeting with parents formally again during the coming weeks for the setting of goals for Semester 2.

Mrs Mattin