

Riverside ESC Newsletter

Issue 6 2022



PRINCIPAL COMMENTS



Hello to parents and carers,

Spring is here. The birds and the bees are busy everywhere, and gardens and countryside are bursting into bloom. Hopefully the approaching warmer weather will help overcome the various bugs that have affected students and staff during this busy and demanding term. Soon the term break will be here, a time for rejuvenation and play, and I look forward to seeing all our students return happy and healthy on Tuesday 11th October.

Our 2022 Learning Journey is scheduled for Wednesday 21st September. You are invited to visit your child's classroom to view their work and meet with their Teacher. Your child's classroom teacher will be in touch about their respective schedules on the day. There will also be a P&C Sausage Sizzle available that afternoon.

I would like to thank all our wonderful students who actively participated in the many events throughout the annual sports (faction) carnival - a truly commendable effort. Thank you, too, to all the parents and carers who came to cheer your children on! As always, my staff were fantastic in providing their support for students - it was a successful day!

Many of you will be aware of the Federal Government's decision to proclaim Thursday 22 September a national day of mourning for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. There will be no school on this day.

The school office will be open on Monday 10th October for enquiries as we get ready to start Term 4. Transition programs are in full swing for our Year 6 students who we will farewell in December. And new enrolment inquiries are welcome.

Finally, thank you everyone for your support during this term. I extend my best wishes for a safe holiday period.

Jim Douglas, Principal

A Holiday Activity (see p.2)



RAT Testing Kits

If you require any more Rapid Antigen Test's (RAT's) please contact the School Office.

IMPORTANT DATES

Sep 21 – Learning Journey

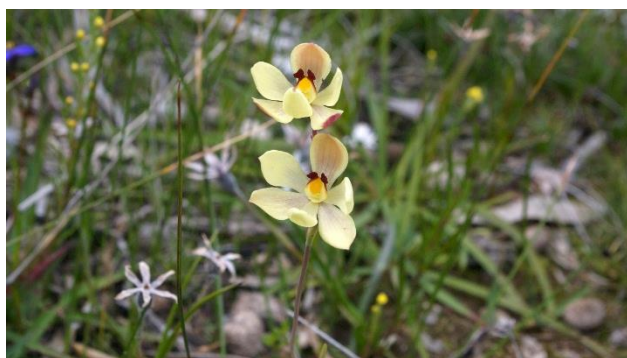
Sep 23 – End of Term 3

Sep 22 – National Day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth II

Oct 11 – Students commence Term 4

WILDFLOWER SEASON – A HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

In this land of incredible diversity, why not take a day with your children and friends to discover the proliferation of wildflowers in our region. Whether it be a visit to Kings Park, Mandurah's Estuary Walk, or the Serpentine National Park Wildflower Trail, there are many options to explore.



ROOM 31

Hello to all parents and carers associated with Room 31. The end of term 3 is quickly approaching. Winter has been particularly difficult for staff and students this year, and the coming holiday break will be a wonderful opportunity for us all to rest, recover and finish 2022 on a high next term.

In the classroom we have focussed on communication with our students. It is impossible to implement a one-size fits all strategy, thus we provide a number of approaches to cater for various levels of joint engagement. Our students are all visual learners. For that reason we have adopted a range of visual communication modalities to support them become effective expressive and receptive learners. We are currently using PECS, (Picture Exchange Communication System), PODD, (Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display), and Visual Aprons to supply varying levels of support.

Visuals -

- allow the time for students to process the verbal language that accompanies them.
- are permanent whereas spoken words evaporate into thin air.
- assist students in seeing what our spoken words mean.
- are transferable between environments.
- have no attitude. There is no tone, no disapproval and no frustration.
- reduce anxiety (as a result of the above-mentioned points).



Visual Apron



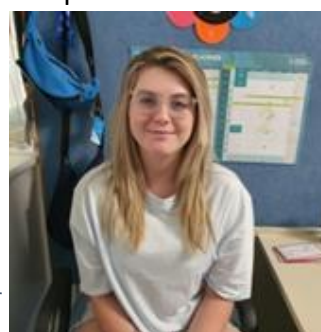
Amara is telling Mr Webber something important using the PODD.

As a staff we have observed the wonderful gains the students are making. Maladaptive behaviours are declining as they become better equipped to overcome the frustration that being unable to communicate needs and wants brings. We are very proud of our students and really enjoy watching their personal growth, and when they can tell us things, we learn more about them as people and watch them gently emerge.

Finally, it is with sorrow that I inform you of the departure of one of our valued Allied Professionals this week. Miss Mikayla Raabe is leaving not only Riverside Education Support Centre, but Western Australia as she pursues a wonderful opportunity on Hayman Island in the Whitsundays.

I acknowledge the patience, understanding, empathy and compassion that Mikayla has brought to her role. It is not an easy one, but our classroom could not have functioned the way it has without her, so on behalf of Riverside ESC, I wish her all the very best in her new pursuit and look forward to hearing of her success in her new position.

Thank you, Mikayla, for your generosity of spirit.



Glen Webber

ROOM 32

Term 3 is flying by for Room 32! We have been exploring space as part of our studies this term. Our students have been experimenting with engineering whilst making their own rocket ships, each with its own specifications.



Our students have also enjoyed cooking and experimenting with different flavour combinations. You can see that the end result of home-made pizzas and cakes was enjoyed by all!



Room 32 are looking forward to the upcoming school holidays and wish everyone a safe and relaxing break!

See you in Term 4!!

Mrs Wardle

ROOM 35

Hello to all Room 35 families!

We have nearly reached the end of the alphabet in our Animal of the Week program! We started the year with the letter A, and the alligator was our animal of the week in Week 1 of Term 1. The letter Z will be the focus of Week 9 of this term when students will be learning about zebras. Students have really enjoyed learning about different animals each week and have given me a list of animals they would like to learn more about in future weeks. Pictured right are the beautiful vultures our students made in the letter craft activity for the letter V.



Students have been learning to log on to a laptop using their own username and password during technology lessons. Once they have logged on, they are guided in opening Microsoft Word, typing their name, and changing the font type, size and colour. They have found it challenging to navigate with the laptop touchpad as most students are used to touch screen functions. However, they have been persevering and are becoming more accustomed to moving the cursor with a gentle touch.

Our puffer fish are nearly complete, and students have added lips, fins and spikes to their paper maché structures. They are looking forward to painting their fish and adding eyes once they have hardened.

On behalf of the team in Room 35, I wish our students and families a very happy and safe spring holiday break.

Mrs Margot, Mrs Tilbee, Miss Somerton, Mrs O'Connor and Mrs de Boer



ROOM 19

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

We have had an amazing term in room 19. The Pre-primary and Year 1 students have loved getting to know one another. During Book Week we read so many books and looked for rhyming words. The students loved dressing up and made Mexican hats alongside Alpacas with Maracas.



During Digital Technology lessons, the students are learning to use Apps to create poster, like the beautiful one below and to code with Scratch Junior. There are improving their skills and can follow instructions to create a fun piece of work.



In Maths, the students are using Numicon, pop sticks and other materials to help them to learn mathematical concepts.



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

Mrs Blockley, Ms Punch, Miss Hamilton and Mrs Bell

ROOM 11

Dear Families and Carers,

Room 11 has had a busy second half of the term participating in lots of school events. In Week 5 we celebrated National Science Week. The theme was 'Glass: More than meets the eye'. Students learnt about the importance of recycling glass jars, bottles and containers and putting them in the recycle bin at home so they can be used to make new glass jars, bottles and containers, therefore importantly looking after our environment by reducing landfill. They also had the opportunity to make lovely stained-glass windows from card and cellophane which are displayed on our classroom door.

Week 6 was Book Week, the theme being 'Dream with your eyes wide open'. Students were intrigued with the display in the library. It was wonderful that everyone in Rm 11 dressed-up for Book Week on the Friday. We had all sorts of dress-ups: PJ's, pirates, fairies, superheroes and a knight. It was also our turn to present our Assembly item with Rm 4 and Rm 36 for which we sang the song 'Try Everything' from the movie Zootopia. A wonderful performance by all.



On Friday of Week 7 we had the Riverside Schools Athletics Carnival. Rm 11 students have spent some considerable time familiarising themselves with the events held prior to the day by practising during their class physical education lessons with Mrs Anderson as well as participating in Year 3/4 whole school sport on Wednesday afternoons. It was great to see everyone having a good time.

Riverside Schools have 'Learning Journey', on Wednesday 21st September in Week 10. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to come in and see their child's work. Students have some lovely work on display for you to come and see in Rm 11. I hope to see you there.

Mrs Edwards and Mrs Grobler



ROOM 33

Hello from Room 33 as we say goodbye to Term 3.

Term 3 has been a busy one - what with Athletics Carnival, Book Week Dressup, Fathers Day Stall, Learning Journey and all of our normal learning!

We have finished up this term by looking at 'Debating'. The students have thoroughly enjoyed this topic and have developed a good understanding 'that we can all have different opinions but still be friends'. Over the 3 weeks the students chose a topic for debate, researched it on the laptops to support their individual opinion and then presented their debate to the class.

Some of our student debate topics were:

Espen - 'Ipad games are good for kids'

Mia - 'The pool is better than the beach'

Aysha - 'Cats are better pets'

Dane - 'The beach is better than the pool'

Leah - 'Dogs are better pets'

On Friday 9th September we enjoyed the 2022 Athletics Carnival. Although we had a few students away, the ones that attended had a fabulous day in the sunshine, running races, doing passball, tunnel ball, long jump and knock'm down. Espen (pictured above) gave it his all during his 100 metre running race, even with a smile.

This term we have also been looking at healthy and unhealthy foods, food pyramids, good and bad fats and finally reading labels of food products that we are able to purchase from the shops. Students compared the fat content, sugar content and the ingredient list of both Oreos and White Rice. They were able to see how a more natural product has far less ingredients than a processed product such as biscuits. Perhaps you can have a look at the food labels next time you shop with your child and see if they can provide you with any information.

Finally, as you all know this is my last term working at Riverside Education Support Centre which means this is my final newsletter for Room 33. I have had such a wonderful time working with your children. You have all made my job far easier by providing me with support over the time I have known you. I have had the privilege of working with some of your children for 3 years and it has been amazing watching them learn, grow and develop into amazing people. Hopefully I may have another opportunity to teach them again as they move to high school. So remember to look me up at Halls Head College ESC.

Alicia Hart



Ronnie having a last photo with Mrs Hart



NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 2022

National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science and technology, held this year from 13th to 21st August in events all across Australia. It was marked with several learning activities at Riverside ESC.



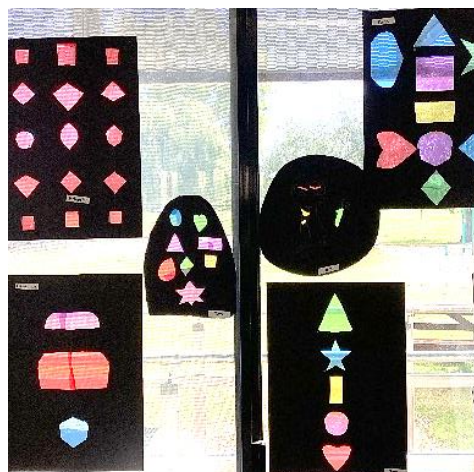
Established in 1997, National Science Week provides an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of Australian scientists to the world of knowledge. Another of its aims is to encourage younger people to be fascinated by the world we live in. And so it was that our students embraced this national school-based theme of "Glass: More than meets the eye".



The theme derives from the UN International Year of Glass. It celebrates the many roles that glass plays in our lives – from phone screens to optical fibre to glassware in labs – plus investigating glass as a part of our sustainable future. It was a delight to see our students so engaged with this topic.

Our students:

1. examined glass recycling and how Australia is moving towards a more circular economy (reusing and making things out of previously used glass), as opposed to a linear economy (using an item once then discarding it).
2. viewed a video from the CSIRO titled "So, what is glass?"
<https://vimeo.com/738518659>
3. watched some extremely talented artists making things from glass and observed the equipment they required, how they addressed risk management, resources required, etc. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxgIEeIBCfo>



Students were then challenged to design and create a look-alike stained-glass window to display in their classrooms. From our smallest kindergarten students to our graduating Year Sixers, everyone showed amazing creativity with their designs, concentration and fine motor skills as evidenced by the photographs below.

Well done to all Riverside Education Support Centre creative Superstars!



ROOM 36

Hello to all parents and carers of students in Room 36.

We are getting closer to the end of term and the weather is finally getting warmer. The students have been busy with their routines and getting their IEP goals achieved.

In Week 5, 6 and 7 we were lucky enough to have a practicum student in our classroom. Mrs Arthur was a great asset to our class during her time here at Riverside and the students loved her engaging lessons and responded well to her kind and caring nature. We wish her so much luck in her final year of her degree!

On Friday of Week 6 Riverside Primary Schools celebrated Book Week. Our students dressed up as their favourite book characters. The theme of this year's book week was 'Dreaming with eyes open'. We made some beautiful dream catchers with feathers, string, glitter and photos of the kids in their book week costumes. The students had to write down their dreams on the dream catcher. One student stated his dreams were to drive a tesla, to live in the bush and to do tricks in a car. Another student stated that she wanted to be an animal rescuer, see the penguins and to play Minecraft all day!



Tate, Sarah and Jaxon with Mrs Arthur.



Tate all dressed up for Book Week!

On Friday of Week 7 Riverside Primary Schools had our Athletics Carnival. Unfortunately, we had lots of absences on the day, but Tate Smith and Ella-Grace Tanner represented our classroom well by participating in events and showing good sportsmanship! Way to go Ella-Grace and Tate!

On Thursday of Week 8 Riverside Primary Schools celebrated R U OK? Day. Some of our students chose to wear yellow and buy cupcakes from the cupcake sale. We also talked about the meaning of this event as a classroom by discussing what R U OK? Day is all about. We watched a video and talked about the importance of being a kind friend in our classroom so that we can support each other if we are going through a tough time or having a bad day. We finished off the day by having the students describe why they were good friends. I must say I am very proud

of our students for being such kind friends. They often stick up for each other when it is needed, comfort each other when they are sad and share and play with each other.

I hope this update finds you well! Enjoy the upcoming school holidays.

Ashlee

ROOM 37

What a fun filled exciting Term 3 we have had! There has been so much going on this term. We had an excellent faction carnival this year with lots of participation from all of our students. Everyone had a wonderful day and tried their very best. We saw some excellent demonstrations of sportsmanship from the students and our sportsperson of the day was Kai. Kai tried his very best in all of the activities and his behaviour was excellent all day. Kai put in 100% effort into the 100m sprint and did very well.



We also had Book Week this term and the students thoroughly enjoyed dressing up as their favourite characters. Here we have certificate winner and best costume winner, Noah who came dressed as a Tetris block. Everyone thought it was very funny that he wanted to pose both horizontally and vertically for the photograph.

The students have been working very hard on their R U OK Day posters for the competition. We had some excellent entries from our class. The students have been focussing a lot this term on ways that we can all improve our own mental health. Some examples are:

- Taking up a new hobby
- Exercising
- Talking to someone new
- Doing some artwork.



This term we also had EA Appreciation Day. I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the EAs who work at our school to make it such a lovely place for our students.

A huge Happy Birthday to Kai and Noah who celebrated their birthdays this month.

Thank you, parents and carers again, for your ongoing support.

Enjoy the rest of Term 3,

from Mrs Gibson, Mrs Hanney and Mrs Reid

ROOM 4

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

We are nearing the Term 3 school holidays and the weather is starting to warm up. We have had a great few weeks with lots of exciting events happening in our school. On the 24th of August, we celebrated Brayden's 10th birthday with chocolate cupcakes which were enjoyed by all.

In Week 6, we celebrated Book Week and the theme this year was 'Dreaming with your eyes open'. The students loved seeing the display in the library and participating in the Book Week activities. We participated in the Dress Up Day with students being the Hulk, a cat, Nick Wilde, Batman and a superhero and the teachers being Elsa and Anna. Everyone had an amazing day.



I would like to say a huge congratulations to all students from Rooms 11, 35 and 4 on your performance at the whole school assembly on Friday 26th August. You all put in so much effort in practicing the lyrics and key word signs. I am so proud of you!



On Friday of Week 7, we had our long-awaited Faction Athletics Carnival. Our students have been participating in athletics training all term in preparation. All students participated in team games, running and jumps and throw events. They demonstrated great sportsmanship and resilience on the day. We all had a wonderful day and our students should be incredibly proud of their behaviour as well as participation in events.

I look forward to writing to you again in Term 4.

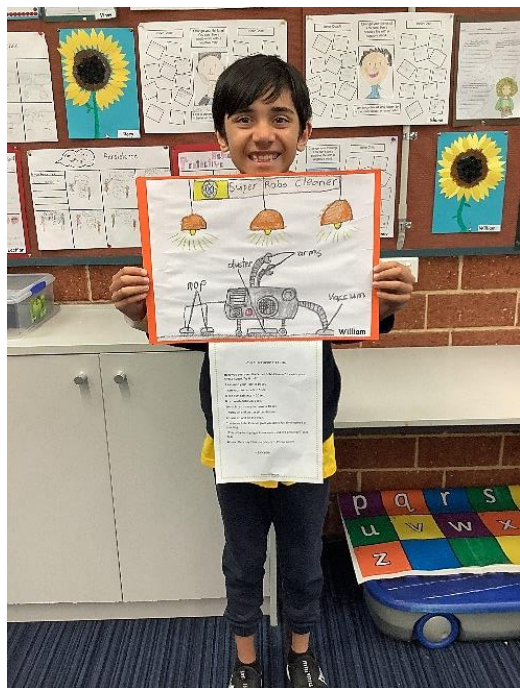
Miss Carvell

Room 10

Welcome to the end of Term 3. What a busy term!

Possum Café continues to be the best part of our students' week. This term we changed the way we did our shopping. We still do our online shopping list but now we go and get the ingredients each week from Woolworths. With the stormy weather we've had this winter it has been fun walking to and from the bus under umbrellas in the rain. It's all worth it as students are more confident in locating their ingredients within the store and using cash to purchase their goods.

In Maths we have just finished a unit on decimals and place value. Students have had to convert fractions to decimals, place decimals on number lines, order decimals from highest to lowest, add, subtract and times by decimals. Our Café program reinforces why we learn about decimals as we have to work out how much profit we will be making from our estimated orders. Students are realising the real-life applications to the lessons taught in school.



This term our focus in English has been writing Persuasive Texts. Students have worked through a Talk for Writing booklet which led to them designing a 'gadget'. It was fun watching everyone start the unit looking at spy gadgets and making their spy names. We followed this up by looking at structures of persuasive texts and the devices we use when trying to persuade someone to 'purchase' a gadget. Students finished the unit with designing a poster of their gadget.

In health we are starting a unit on Cyberbullying. We will be looking at defining bullying, different types of bullying, the effects of bullying and what to do about it. As many of our students are using so many different social media platforms it is important to understand the importance of social etiquette, how we should communicate positively with others and what to do if we feel unsafe when online.

This unit follows on from our Digital Technology unit where we looked at how to be good digital citizens.

We hope you all have a relaxing and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you for the last term of the year.

Mrs Mattin