

Riverside ESC Newsletter



Issue 7 2022

PRINCIPAL COMMENTS



Hello to parents and carers,

There is a real buzz around school at the moment. Perhaps it is the enthusiasm for learning generated from the many activities reported in the following pages; perhaps it is the excitement of pending graduation for our year 6 students, or it may just be the warming weather that indicates approaching summer and the end of another school year. Whatever it is, we are thankful life at school is 'good'.

As usual, there are a few items to draw your attention to:

Graduation: Our Year 6 cohort of students will graduate on 9th December. The Ceremony is being finalised and parents/carers will be advised of the details in the next few weeks. All students have put in a wonderful effort during their time at Riverside ESC. Whilst it will be sad to say goodbye, I am always excited for their new opportunities in High School.

School Fees & Charges: School fees & charges for 2023 will shortly be distributed to parents/carers. In light of current economic challenges we have striven to keep these charges to a minimum. I encourage everyone to support the voluntary contribution contribute by making payment at the school office. The income is of great assistance with providing supported activities for our students.

2023 Booklists: will also be distributed soon. Should you require further information on these or the school contributions please contact the office.

School Reports: I will be sending home your child's final report for 2022 in Week 9. Our students work so hard throughout the year and I always enjoy reading and acknowledging their progress and successes.

Best regards,

Jim Douglas, Principal

A Day for Daniel



See classroom reports for more details on the following pages.

OTHER NOTIFICATIONS

Parent Vehicles on School Grounds Not Permitted

Recent changes to street parking greatly improved accessible parking for parents and carers for drop-off and pick up, yet some parents persist in driving in the gate to drop their children off. This creates an unacceptable risk for everyone using the carpark.

Parents with displayed ACROD parking permits are welcome to use the disability parking bays for dropping off students with mobility issues.

Parents arriving at school for meetings may only use the available visitor parking just inside the gates. These spaces are often fully occupied by visiting therapists and specialists so we recommend street parking where possible.

Unauthorised Extended School Holidays

Students have approximately 12 weeks of authorised school holidays a year, not including public holidays. Extending your planned vacations into term time may have a detrimental educational and social impact on your child's learning as well as affect census-based funding. Only the Principal can approve extensions of leave, so if you are making plans please be sure to communicate your intentions to the Principal as soon as possible. Term 1 2023 commences Wednesday 1st February.

RAT Testing Kits

We still have a good supply of test kits. If you require any more Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT's) please contact the School Office.

World Teacher Day

Our teachers make a difference to the lives of young people every day and so it was that their vocation was acknowledged on October 28. In Western Australian public schools, more than 24,500 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers were active educators during 2021-22. Teachers play an important role in our community and we at Riverside ESC thank our wonderful team and all teachers for their passion and dedication to inspire children and young people.

School Bus Applications for 2023

The cut-off date for School Bus Applications for Term 1 2023 is November 26. Please take action if you have moved or are enrolling new students.

IMPORTANT DATES

Nov 12 – School Disco (P&C Fundraiser)

Nov 26 – School Bus cut-off for Term 1 2023

Nov 28 – Schools Board Meeting 6:00 PM

Dec 01 – Colour Run

Dec 09 – Year 6 Graduation

Dec 14 – Presentation Assembly

Dec 15 – End of the 2022 school year

Feb 01 2023 – the new school year begins

ROOM 31

Hello to all parents and carers associated with Room 31.

As a classroom staff this term, we are observing changes in our students. One of the most pleasing of these is the increased capacity of the children to engage jointly with staff. Joint engagement refers to the engagement of staff with the children for a period of time whilst they are focussed on the same object.

It is such an important aspect of our program because:

- It promotes pragmatic skills such as making eye-contact and turn taking during the back and forth of an interaction. Interaction is based upon the use of everyone's mirror neurons. Mirror neurons in the pre-frontal cortex help us decode, receive and interpret the intentions and emotions behind the action, particularly facial expressions. The better we are at interpreting facial expressions the more active our own mirror neuron system becomes.
- It encourages the use of Serve and Return interactions between people. As a result, the wiring of the brain effects future behaviour and quality of relationships including: the ability to self-regulate emotions; ability to focus and listen effectively; and higher learning functions (pre-frontal cortex) such as attention, learning, retention, self-control, memory, etc.; essential for success at school and in the wider world.
- It allows us to introduce visual communication modalities to our students.

Due to our students' increased levels of joint engagement, we have been able to introduce a Story Time routine each day. Picture books are an essential part of our literacy program and we are so pleased to have reached this point. Thus far we have read *The Blue Balloon* by Mick Inkpen; *Mouse Paint* by Ellen Walsh; *Rex Wrecks It!* by Ben Clanton; and *The Little Mouse, Red Ripe Strawberry* and *Big Hungry Bear* by Don Wood.



Our follow up activities to Ellen Walsh's picture book *Mouse Paint* resulted in the children producing this wonderful mural.

Glen Webber



Our students are listening to Ben Clanton's picture book, *Rex Wrecks It!*

We look forward to increased levels of joint engagement so we can introduce other important elements to our classroom routine to support student learning.

ROOM 32

Room 32

What a busy and fun-filled term we have had so far in Room 32! Students have been to outer space, noisy farmyards, danced with Alpacas (with Maracas) and even to the river to



find out “Who Sank the Boat?” As part of the learning and thinking & English curriculum, students in Room 32 have been able to practice their Key Word Sign skills and identify rhyming words whilst listening to a wide range of stories from around the world. It is amazing where you can go with a good book!

We have been expanding our experiences with Bee Bots in the classroom. The Bee Bots are small robots that require simple programming from the students to move in different directions. Students have learned how to make their Bee Bot turn left or right and move forwards or backwards. You can see how focussed the students are when they are programming and observing their Bee Bot move to a target location.



Water play is an important part of life in Room 32, especially as the hot weather returns. Students have enjoyed transferring water between different sized containers and also creating a vacuum between bottles. It is fantastic to watch their inquisitive minds work out how to solve the problem of careful water transfer and then persevere when their first idea is not quite right.

Room 32 are excited for the upcoming celebrations for end of year and can't wait to share their projects and performances.

Mrs Wardle

ROOM 35

Hello to all families of Room 35! This has certainly been a busy and productive term.

Thank you to all parents and carers who joined us for our numeracy morning. The students were very excited to have you help them cut fruit into halves, quarters and eighths to make a fruit salad which they enjoyed eating afterwards.

Room 35 made a beautiful poster for the 'Day for Daniel' which depicted their trust networks. Students also did a wonderful job of presenting their poster to the other classes and explaining what it was about. Pictured on the right is Ashton and Hubert holding our class' poster.

Students and adults in our class had a lot of fun creating creepy selfies using an app on the iPad. We put these together to create a spooky Halloween display in our classroom which is pictured below.

Students also enjoyed a morning of sensory play outside on Halloween, including coloured spaghetti worms, plastic eyeballs hidden in a mixture of cornflower and water, and coloured kinetic sand. Pictured on the right is Valli experimenting with vinegar and bicarbonate of soda.

Our students are looking forward to more fun-filled adventures this term, especially Christmas themed lessons and crafts.



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

ROOM 19

Welcome parents, families and carers of the children in Room 19. This term is going so fast and we are very proud of the progress all of our students are making.

This term the students have focused on their writing skills and enjoyed discovering new characters through shared reading sessions. They particularly enjoyed listening to *Owl Babies*, then making and eating 'owl toast'!



As part of the 'Day for Daniel' which highlights the importance of protective behaviours, the students created a class poster (above) to display personal safety messages and enjoyed a shared morning tea.

This term the students are focusing maths and more maths! They have an ice cream parlour where they can practice buying and selling their goodies! They celebrated maths on Maths Day and were able to visit and learn in 2 other classrooms.



The students love learning through food, so we used their measuring skills to make butter. They poured cream into a plastic container and each took turns to shake it until the cream turned into butter! They timed how long it took, only 20 minutes with the help of a few marbles to mix! Delicious!

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

Mrs Blockley, Ms Punch, Miss Hamilton, Mrs Bell

FUN SCIENCE FACT:

Butter is made by separating fat molecules from the liquid in cream.

When you shake cream for a period of time, the fat molecules clump together into a solid called butter. The liquid that is separated from the fat is called buttermilk.



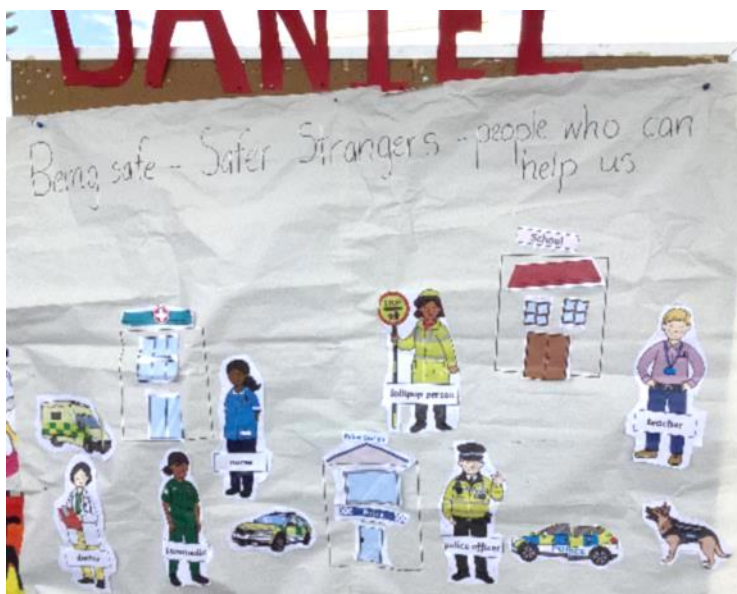
ROOM 11

Dear Families and Carers,

Last Friday week was 'Day for Daniel', an event organised by the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. The day focuses on educating children about personal safety awareness, in particular protective behaviours.

Students participated in a lesson about rules for being safe, what feeling safe and unsafe feels like as well as situations when they feel safe and don't feel safe.

They also learnt about people who can help them in the community (safer strangers) other than significant family members, such as the police, paramedics, doctors, nurses as well as teachers. The lesson included the roles of these community helpers, the uniforms they wear and the places they work.



The students made a fantastic poster (above) which they shared with the school during our 'Day for Daniel' sharing session.

We also enjoyed a lovely picnic with all the ESC classes, sharing red food, lots of healthy red fruit and vegetables too.

In Week 4 we celebrated 'Math Day'. Students rotated through classes to participate in some fun and

exciting maths lessons. Students visited Room 36 and sorted M&M's into their colours as well as counting and graphing their results on a bar graph. Next, they visited Rm 4 where the students did some measuring. They traced their feet and hands and used unifix cubes to measure their length as well as measuring the length of a jelly snake.

This week Room 11 also had their 'Math Morning', inviting parents into the classroom to observe their children participating in a maths lesson. Students took part in some energetic maths songs and then completed their activities in their maths trays. They all worked very hard to complete all activities in their maths trays. Great job!

Mrs Edwards and Mrs Grobler

ROOM 33

Dear Parents of Room 33,

I want to thank you and the wider school community for the warm welcome I have received at Riverside ESC. I have only been here a few weeks and already have felt very much a part of the team here.

As part of my role as classroom teacher I have had the great opportunity to meet and work with my year 5/6 students and be actively engaged in their learning. So far, we have learnt important English skills emphasising reading, handwriting, comprehension, storytelling, spelling, sentence structure and speaking in front of the class. Each student has put in an excellent effort leading to slow and steady improvement. In maths our class has focussed on measurement, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Also ordering numbers, subitizing, number patterns, the use of online maths programs among many other things. Students in Room 33 have also enjoyed a wide variety of craft activities.

We are currently covering topics in protective behaviours and health relating to puberty, cyber safety and stranger danger to equip the students with life skills to keep them safe. Riverside ESC has participated in Daniel Morcombe day on the 28th of October to reinforce many of the skills and knowledge gained in various health and protective behaviours sessions.

'School photos' was a successful day with students creating memories for their families by having class photos, individual photos and photos with siblings which was great to see.

I want to thank everyone in Riverside ESC, including my EAs Mrs Medlam, Mrs Hannam, Mrs Reid, Mrs Sumner and Miss Hart for all their hard work, support and expertise.

David de Groot - Teacher, Room 33



ROOM 36

Hi parents and carers of students in Room 36,

We in Room 36 are so excited that the weather is finally warming up! We have been enjoying the sunshine by going outside to play dodgeball.

I have been busy assessing students on their IEP goals. All students in our classroom should be very proud of what they have achieved this semester.

This term, we have celebrated some awesome whole school events at Riverside ESC including Daniel Morcombe Day and Math Day.

On Friday the 28th of October, Riverside ESC celebrated Day for Daniel. Our classroom participated in a lesson on 'body clues'. Body clues are when our body is telling us that we are feeling unsafe. The students labelled body clues on a human template and we created a class poster. On the day, Tate presented our poster and all students enjoyed sharing yummy red food.

On Tuesday the 1st of November, Riverside ESC participated in a Math Day. Students rotated around the school learning various math concepts from other teachers. At the end of the day, all students from Riverside ESC came together for a sharing session. Lainee spoke for our classroom about the fraction activities we completed in Room 36. Well done to Ella-Grace who received a reward for the effort she put in on the day.

We have more exciting events coming up throughout the term like our fishing lessons with Fishability on Thursday the 10th of November and Thursday the 1st of December. We also have the Colour Run when we return to school on Thursday the 1st of December. I am sure we will manage to squeeze in a class party and fun Christmas activities to celebrate an amazing year.

I look forward to updating you on all the fun we are having in Room 36 when we speak again in Week 8.

Enjoy the sunshine!

Ashlee

Image 1: Lainee and Sarah having fun with dress ups.

Image 2: Jaxon enjoying the red food picnic!

Image 3: Tate and Paige eating red food on 'Day for Daniel'.



ROOM 37

Hello everyone. In Room 37, the students thoroughly enjoyed our Bush tucker incursion. They learnt so many interesting facts about native plants and how they can be used in cooking and in medicine.

The students from our class discovered that gardening can help to improve our mental health in so many ways. We learnt a microbe found in soil acts as a natural antidepressant, making us feel happier inside. There are now so many budding gardeners in our school.

Pictured (below right) is Kai, who was being a mentor to a younger pupil, helping to plant some new plants in our Aboriginal garden.

High School

Our year 6 students have begun transitions to their various new high schools and they are all very excited to be moving up to year 7. We have had excellent reports about the fantastic behaviour displayed by all our students, who are making us very proud at Riverside.

Protective Behaviours



The senior students have been learning about the importance of online safety. The students learnt about the dangers of webcams and cameras being used by others and we revised some ideas of how to protect ourselves from strangers online.

Celebrations

A huge congratulations goes to Ollie, who was the winner of the Maths Day Award, and to Noah who won our spooky story competition for Halloween.

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

Enjoy the rest of Term 4.

from Mrs Gibson, Mrs Hanney and Mrs Reid



ROOM 4

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

I cannot believe how quickly this semester is going and that we are already halfway through Term 4. Room 4 students have had an amazing start to the term and are working hard to achieve their goals before the end of the year.



At the end of Term 3 we were lucky enough to have a Bush Tucker Incursion where we planted native Australian Bush Tucker plants into our Aboriginal Garden and learnt all about them. The students loved digging the holes in the soil with their hands and being part of the planting process. They are excited to try some of the plants in the future when they are ready.



On Friday the 28th of October we commemorated Day for Daniel. The staff and students wore red to represent awareness for child safety. Our class made a poster on the Protective Behaviours topic of Public and Private. This was presented to all classes and we really enjoyed listening to the other classes present their posters. The students then shared a picnic with lots of different red foods. Our class made red jelly cups, which were enjoyed by all!

On Tuesday in Week 4 we participated in Maths Day where we rotated through lessons on fractions, data and probability and measuring objects. We enjoyed getting to go to other classrooms and having different teachers for our Maths concepts. The lessons all included lots of hands-on manipulatives as well as food, which we all loved.

I would like to thank all the parents who came to our Maths afternoon Tea and participated in a Maths lesson with our class on their favourite ice creams. It was great to have your involvement in the lesson and see the wonderful work we have been doing in Maths.

As we continue through Term 4, we are excited for the upcoming end of year celebrations and Christmas activities. I look forward to sharing our final update for the year at the end of the term.

Miss Carvell



Room 10

Welcome to the last term of the year, the last term for our year 6 students at primary school. This term is full of transition activities at the high schools our leavers will be attending. Lots of new friends to meet, lots of new teachers and lots of different classrooms.

This term is looking extremely full with lots of exciting events. Our first couple of weeks included a Maths Morning with parents, Math and Daniel Morcombe Days.

It was lovely to welcome parents into our classroom to see what the students are working on in maths, particularly the Café Program. Each week the students survey staff to see who would like to place an order. Totals of items ordered are then tallied using learned multiplication skills to estimate income for the week. Students then go online for prices to help write a shopping list and calculate expenditure for the week. Again, multiplication and addition skills are used to calculate how much money will be needed to take shopping on Tuesdays to cover the cost of purchases. Our parents got to see some of the 'behind the scenes' work that goes into the Café program. Students have become very competent in understanding how to set out multiplication problems for easy calculation.

Daniel Morcombe Day is an annual October event, during which everyone is invited to wear red. Students consolidate their knowledge of protective behaviours from weekly lessons into a presentation to the whole school. They are learning a range of strategies to assist them when they feel unsafe or unsure. Being able to speak publicly to their peers not only educates others but consolidates their own learning. Our class's allocated theme was 'recognise, react and report'. Students spent the week developing this theme and created a poster that gave information on how to recognise early warning signs, what to do if they arise, and who to speak with when that happens. The finished posters looked fantastic and really demonstrated our students' understanding.

Math Day is always fun. Our students rotated to different classrooms and completed a range of activities from the maths curriculum. In Room 10 our focus was money. We got to work together as a group on some interactive online activities before splitting into three different ability groups. We spent time sorting and recognising money, adding money, and calculating change as well as working out percentage discounts. It was great to see students engaging in maths so enthusiastically.

Students should feel very proud with the level of engagement they are showing with their work. They approach each task with a positive approach. Well done to everyone of you.



Mrs Mattin

School DISCO

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES & VILLAINS

SAT 12th NOV

RPS undercover area

WOW

PRICES

\$10.00 ticket
3 party pies or sausage rolls,
juice box & 2 glow sticks

\$6.00 ticket
2 glow sticks

TICKET SALES
TUES: 1st & 8th Nov
THURS: 3rd & 10th Nov
FRI: 4th & 11th Nov

Orders can also be placed in the P&C dropbox with your child's name, room number, food selection & money.
Or contact Lauren for bank transfer option.

BOOM!

TIMES
Kindy/Pre-Primary
3.30 - 4.30pm

*This session is a sensory session.
1 parent is encouraged to stay.*

CONTACT
Fundraising
Convenor Lauren