

Greetings to all members of the Riverside Schools community. At this halfway stage of Term 1 it is my pleasure to write to inform you of the wonderful start to the 2023 school year - IEP goals are being formulated, children are engaged, planning is being put into action.

As you will read over the following pages, staff have assisted each and every student to find their way amongst a sea of new faces, new and established routines, new classrooms and another school year. Of course, there are some challenges, there always will be in a school, but we are excited about early progress and our collaborations with parents and carers toward achieving best possible outcomes for all.

Our enrolment profile has changed slightly this year due to the welcome inflow of new kindy and pre-primary students. We have 82 enrolments, our highest number since inception, comprising about one third in each of Kindy/Pre-primary, Junior Primary and Senior Primary.

2023 is an important year for our school. In term 2 we will undergo a formal review by inspectors of the Department of Education. We look forward to this opportunity to learn from their observations and recommendations. Through our website we shall be sharing the outcome of the review with you all.

This year our teaching is guided by FOCUS 2023 and STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS 2020-2024. These initiatives of the Director General of Education's Classroom First Strategy promote effective leadership and teaching while maximising the care and development of all students. You can find out more about these guiding documents on the Department's website.

Our own website continues to be an important communication tool and is a key resource for parents to find information about enrolments, bus services, uniforms, canteen and so much more. It remains the primary source of new enrolment inquiries too.

Before I close, let me remind you of a few essentials for the year:

- School start time for students is now 8:40.
- Inform us ASAP if your child is going to be absent.
- Students must remain away from school if they are ill, especially with highly contagious symptoms.
- Children should not be absent for vacations during term time without the Principal's permission.
- Do not drive your vehicle onto school grounds. The only exception is for holders of current ACROD permits who are picking up enrolled students.
- Hats must be worn for outdoor play.
- The canteen is open every day except Tuesday.
- Annual contributions are due now.

In closing, may we remind parents and carers our door is always open to discuss educational matters relating to your child. For our mutual convenience we recommend you call ahead to set up an appointment.

All the best for 2023. Jim Douglas, Principal



ROOM 31

On behalf of all staff in Room 31, I would like to welcome all our Kindergarten families to Riverside. We look forward to working alongside you as we support your children in working towards developmentally appropriate outcomes.

I am grateful to those parents who have already afforded me the opportunity to meet with them, and for the honesty and genuine commitment each has toward supporting their child, and us as staff in the classroom. I look forward to meeting with those remaining parents as the term progresses.

Our term has started in a very relaxed manner, as our students familiarise themselves with a new environment, new adults and new friends. Our focus has been on establishing a calm, warm and caring environment where the creation of enabling and respectful relationships is paramount.

My planning for this year is focused on driving joint engagement with our students, to increase eye-contact, elicit emotional responses, accept staff direction, promote persistence and most importantly, begin to settle into routine. Our students have demonstrated willing adaptability, and parents and carers should be very proud of their children.

Classroom routines are facilitated through playful activity and students have disclosed a lot of information about themselves, concerning what they like, don't like, willingness to engage, how each communicates, obsessive behaviours and such like, that allows us to engage with each at an individual level.

Some of the ways in which play is so important to your child are:

- It helps to build confidence.
- Children begin to develop social skills such as sharing and waiting for a turn.
- It further develops language skills.
- It develops persistence.
- It develops physical skills.

Glen Webber



Throwing shredded paper is exciting!



Sensory play with paint is so much fun!

IMPORTANT DATES

Mar 06 - Labour Day (public holiday)

Mar 20 - Combined Schools Board Meeting

Apr 06 - last day Term 1

ROOM 32

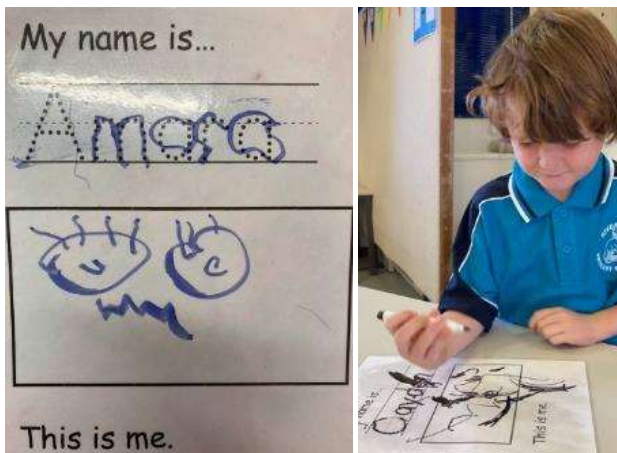
What a busy start to the 2023 school year we have had in Room 32!

We give a warm welcome to our new and returning students in our class, and to their families and carers. All of our students have made a fantastic start to the new school year and have enjoyed making new friends with their kind nature and big smiles!

During the term we have been reading books about healthy eating choices and where students live, including “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” and “I’m Australian Too”. Our classroom has been a hive of activity with students making their very own caterpillars, butterflies, healthy muffins and world globes.

We have loved experimenting with all different materials in our sensory play. In the image below, Jayce and Nate are exploring the scented play dough whilst they are learning colours and how to count using dice and the PODD book. The PODD book is a fabulous communication tool for our students that struggle with freely communicating with others.

Each morning our students get ready for the workday by writing their name and checking in on how they are feeling. Below are some examples of our students’ amazing efforts and openly showing us how they feel. When students can openly show their feelings, it allows our staff to validate “where they are at” and assist them in regulating and feeling calm and ready for learning.



As the term progresses, our students will be learning about their big feelings and how they can make good choices. We are using the “Good Choice Rainbow” to help each student make a good choice with their behaviours so they can move over the rainbow to the pot of gold. This is a fantastic steppingstone for our students as they learn that it is ok to have big feelings but that we can keep our hands to ourselves and keep everyone safe.

On behalf of all of the staff in Room 32, we would like to congratulate our students on a fantastic start to Term 1! We are looking forward to seeing more growth and fun times in the weeks ahead.

Tanya Wardle



ROOM 35

Welcome parents and students to Pre-Primary. We have had a very busy start to the year with students settling into full time school, a new classroom and getting to know new teachers.

Students have made a tremendous start to the school year and are starting to settle into classroom routines, working hard during structured learning times, and enjoying the freedom of playing with new friends (and seeing old ones) during recess and lunch times.

In English our focus for the semester will be on the alphabet. We are learning to recognise, name, sound out and write each letter, starting with the letters -

S A T P I N

Letters can be a little tricky but the with support and encouragement of our teaching staff the students are working hard and trying their best. It is great to see them demonstrating a growing independence with their learning and moving between each activity with the help of an activity schedule.

In Math our focus is on numbers to 20.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

We are counting, ordering and recognising each number. Songs are always a fun way to learn, and we have plenty of movement and action songs to help up learn and remember.

Protective Behaviours is a very big focus within our class. We have looked at different feelings we have and are learning how they make us feel and act. We made a 'bunch of feelings' and it was great to see that students could recognise so many different types of feelings. They really enjoyed using playdough to make facial expressions to represent different feelings. We are currently working on body parts, particularly identifying private and public body parts.

It has been lovely meeting with each family to discuss the setting of goals for the semester. We look forward to working with each family to support students, not only in their academic learning but also with their social and emotional wellbeing.

Bev Mattin

Meet the DOTT Teachers

Mrs Lewis

Humanities & Social Sciences
(HASS)



Hi, my name is Mrs Lewis, and I am the Science and Arts teacher for 2023. I joined the RESC teaching team in term 4 of 2022.

I look forward to an exciting, fun-filled year supporting students to learn, grow and develop their skills and knowledge.

In Science this year, we will focus on Earth and Space Science in semester one and Physical Science in semester two. In the Arts, we will focus on Music in semester one and Dance in semester two.

If you see me around the school, please feel free to come and say hi and introduce yourself.

Fun facts:

- I moved to the area last year after travelling around Australia for four years.
- I grew up in southwest Victoria in a small coastal town called Portland.
- I love the beach, hiking, surfing and yoga. Before my teaching career, I worked as a professional dancer in the Performing Arts industry.

Miss Terry

Humanities & Social Sciences (HASS)



Hi, my name is Breanna Terry, and I am very excited to be the HASS teacher at Riverside Education Support Centre for 2023. I moved to the Mandurah area 3 years ago and I am proud to live on lands of the Binjareb/Pinjarup people of the Noongar nation.

I am very passionate about my teaching and put 100% effort into everything I do. I believe it is important for all students to be supported in their school socially, emotionally and of course academically.

I hope to bring a warm and friendly spirit to the classroom and look forward to meeting you all very soon!

Fun Facts:

- I have a pet dog called Shelby.
- I like all colours, but my favourite is blue.
- My favourite hobbies are baking and reading.
- My favourite dessert to bake are chocolate brownies.
- When I was kid, my favourite books were the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series.

Miss Shrewsbury

Physical Education Specialist



Hello! My name is Miss Shrewsbury. I am the Physical Education Teacher.

In Phys Ed, we will be focusing on understanding movement in semester one. In Pre-Primary Health Education for semester one, we will be focusing on communicating and interacting for health and well-being in semester one.

I have just moved to the area from Busselton in the Southwest, and prior to that I lived in the Pilbara. I am looking forward to meeting everyone and sharing my love of Phys Ed and my 'sport for life' philosophy with the students.

Fun Facts:

- I lived and taught in London for 2 years and used my holidays to travel throughout Europe and visit family in UK and Ireland.
- I love almost every sport I've played, especially AFL, netball, surfing and touch rugby.
- I've just made it into the WAFLW squad to play for Peel Thunder!

ROOM 19

Welcome to Term 1, 2023 in Room 19. My name is Michelle Anderson and I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to work with such a diverse and absolutely delightful group of students this year.

The first 4 weeks of this term have flown by, and it has been wonderful getting to know every one of these amazing people, discover their interests and how they learn. This year will see a combination of both play-based and formal learning with a focus on catering to students individual learning, social and emotional requirements.

This semester sees us participating in horse-riding with RDA WA Murray Mandurah Group. The activity commenced last week for some of our students, and we hope to have the majority of the class attending within the next couple of weeks. It is a very worthwhile experience for our students and one they enjoy immensely.

Life skills will also be a key feature of the student learning this year. We will be conducting cooking lessons each week, focusing on the skills required for the preparation of simple meals such as pancakes and sandwiches. Hygiene and social skills will also be focus areas.



I have had the pleasure of meeting with most parents for student IEP meetings. It has been fantastic to meet you all and get to know a little more about your child in order to set appropriate and achievable goals for this semester. Let's keep that good communication going throughout the year.

In Room 19, our education staff are looking forward to a fantastic and successful year and are excited to see what the students can achieve.

Michelle Anderson

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2023 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.

ROOM 11



We have had a busy start to Term 1 in Room 11 with teacher Miss Dee and Education Assistants Miss Lane, Ms. Hatton and Mrs. Barrett. We welcomed new students to the school: Ruby, Emerson and Sophia. Everyone has been enjoying eating food outside as a class.

This Term we are practicing our letter formations and handwriting of the letters s, a, t, p, i, and n. Some students are writing their letters through a sensory experience such as play dough, shaving cream or rice. They are learning to recognise these letter sounds and say words starting with their sounds. And they are listening to different farm books such as 'Hattie and the Fox'.



In Maths, students are learning to recognise and order numbers as well as count objects through games and hands on activities. In Measurement, they are learning to estimate, compare and measure the height, weight and capacity of different objects. In Health, they are learning about the zones of regulation, which helps them to recognise their emotions and use strategies to help them when experiencing different zones. Students are also using sign language to communicate wants and needs and sign songs.

Outside water play has been a very popular learning activity. Moving water to and from containers using cups, spoons and filters is tricky business requiring lots of care and patience!

Finally, students are participating in a range of fine motor activities, working through craft workshops to create numbers, letters and the book of the week.

Miss Dee



ROOM 33



Room 33 has had a lovely start to 2023. We have all been getting to know each other, developing an understanding of our differences and similarities as well as discussing the meaning of friendship. Students have identified traits that they think are important in a friend, such as kind, helpful, a good listener, fun, someone to laugh with, sharing and taking turns. Our focus in Health this term will be 'Friendship', identifying values and social skills that promote friendship as well as dealing with our emotions appropriately when dealing with disagreements and new challenges.

For the first Semester our English studies will explore the use of Narratives (how to tell a story), both in reading and writing. Our focus in Mental Maths will be recalling Timetable facts. Whilst in Number we will focus on understanding place value, as well as developing mental and written strategies to solve addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems. Mrs. Grobler who teaches on Mondays will be focusing on Measurement and Geometry in Math, and also teaching Design and Technology. In Key Word Sign we will be learning to sign the weather as part of our daily morning routine.

The first four weeks have flown by, particularly with having swimming lessons at the beach during Weeks 3 & 4. The weather was beautiful most days and students enjoyed the experience whilst learning important swimming and safety skills in the open water. In Week 2 we also had a special visit from the West Coast Eagles. We learnt a lot about their need to eat healthy and exercise, to work as a

team and deal with challenges. It was great to see so many students eagerly raising their hands to ask questions.

I'd also like to thank Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Henny and Miss A for all their work in assisting in the smooth start to Term 1 for Rm 33. I also extend big thanks to parents for attending IEP meetings, it has been great to have the opportunity to meet with you.

Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Grobler



ROOM 36

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

For those of you we worked with in 2022, we would like to welcome you back to our classroom and we look forward to seeing the progress your children make throughout this year. To those of you who are new to Room 36 we welcome you to our class community and we look forward to getting to know you and working together for the benefit of your children.

We have had a great start to the year so far and Room 36 is now a Year 3 and Year 4 classroom of 6 students. The students have all settled in well to the new school year in a new classroom with new routines after the big school holidays. It has been great to see friendships amongst the students start to develop especially at recess and lunch playtimes.

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who made time for their children's IEP meetings. We have been busy in the classroom doing some testing and activities in all of our subject areas to develop your children's IEP goals for the semester.

The students have just finished two weeks of swimming lessons at Avalon Beach in Falcon which was a great source of excitement for those participating. All of the students have made great progress with their confidence in the water which was great to see.



This semester we are working on Measurement and Geometry in Maths which has the students using a ruler to measure the length of different objects. In Protective Behaviours we are revisiting concepts such as early warning signs and the safety continuum. We are mainly focusing on feelings that arise and trying to identify what causes them. In Health we are covering how to stay safe within the school, house and community. In Design and Technology, we have started to learn about all the different materials objects are made from, e.g., wood, metal, glass and plastic. These are just some of the many things we will be busy doing lots of activities and learning in this semester.

We look forward to bringing you updates of our students and our classroom as the school year progresses.

Miss Carvell

Science and The Arts

Hello to all parents and carers at Riverside ESC. In case I have not yet had the chance to meet you officially, my name is Sophia Lewis (Mrs. Lewis), and I am the Science and The Arts teacher for 2023. You can read a little about me already on the “Meet the DOTT Teachers” page.

I began teaching Science and the Arts at Riverside ESC in term four last year and feel fortunate to take on the same role again this year. This semester in Science, we are focusing on Earth and Space Sciences. Many classes have begun exploring concepts such as daily and seasonal changes in our environment, observable changes in the sky and Earth’s rotation and revolution. My lessons involve inquiry-based learning where students are already asking big questions about the weather around them and what is occurring in the skies above them. It has been both exciting and inspiring to observe. I look forward to a semester of hands-on science exploration, teaching and learning.

This semester in The Arts, we are focusing on Music and have already begun making some loud but creative sounds! Over the semester, students will develop their aural (hearing) skills by exploring elements of Music, including rhythm, tempo, pitch and dynamics. Over the last couple of weeks, students have been developing these skills with different percussion instruments such as maracas, handbells, castanets, triangles and bongo drums. Throughout the semester, students will be introduced to various instruments where they will copy and create basic percussion rhythms and learn to play some simple songs.

I look forward to a fun-filled year supporting our students as they learn, grow and develop their skills and knowledge through the Arts.

Sophia Lewis



Photos (left to right):

- Curtis and Dane from Room 4 learning about the difference Moon phases using Oreo cookies.
- Jack and Aria from Room 19 learning to play different percussion instruments.
- Amara from Room 32 is exploring the changes in daily weather by sorting pictures into hot and cold temperatures.
- Chevie from Room 11 is creating short rhythms and recording them for playback on our giant floor piano.

ROOM 37

Dear Parents and Families of Room 37,

It has been an excellent start to 2023 with a lot happening in a very short space of time. I have had the pleasure of getting to know a new group of students and Education Assistants who have been invaluable in assisting the teaching and learning of our students.

We have had an exciting few weeks thus far. Our class enjoyed an opportunity to meet three of the West Coast Eagles players who shared their advice and encouragement to live a healthy, active lifestyle. Many of the students asked important questions about diet and exercise that led to a variety of further discussion.



Students have also had a chance to experience several interesting projects as part of their learning. This included: constructing a variety of buildings in Mathematics, creating simple origami paperfolding (for fine motor skills) and building a medieval catapult for Design and Technology. The students were fully engaged and focused which was great to see.



Room 37 has hosted a Pre-Service Teacher Student for this year. Mrs. Teila Lamb has spent the first few weeks in our classroom as part of her university studies. She has worked very hard to assist students in their learning and has organised some fantastic hands-on activities such as learning about capacity with a variety of containers, filled with water or sand. I want to thank her for being part of our class and look forward to her return in term 3.

Our class has completed two weeks of swimming lessons at Avalon Beach which challenged many of the students to step out of their comfort zone to try and improve their swimming awareness and ability.

I want to thank my colleagues and parents for their support of our class, and I look forward to sending through the next update to the community.

Mr. de Groot

ROOM 10

Welcome back to school! It has been a pleasure to meet you over the past few weeks and getting to know your child.

It has been a fabulous start to the year and the students are settling into their new routines and have been working hard. They have been loving the opportunity to swim in the ocean at Avalon Beach for their swimming lessons during weeks 3 and 4.

In the literacy sessions, the students have been enjoying “Flat Stanley” and learning about narrative writing using a framework. The focus has been on sentence structure and using ‘WOW’ words to describe situations. WOW words are really interesting adjectives like incredible, beautiful, frightening, enormous, etc.

In the numeracy sessions, the students have been focusing on breaking apart big numbers. They have used materials to show their addition skills and have revisited their fraction knowledge.



The students of Room 10 are a class who share a love of the Arts, especially drawing, singing, dancing, and creating objects with Lego. We have a drawing corner in the room, to allow the students to explore their creativity and enjoy regular music ‘brain breaks’.

Our class will be organising a café service in Term 2. During this term, they are learning how to run a café, how important their personal hygiene is and how to keep food safe.

Lastly, Room 10 has the pleasure of announcing that Lainee has been chosen to be a school councillor for Semester 1. She will be an awesome leader and support to others.

We are looking forward to the rest of the term,

Mrs. Blockley, Mrs. Medlam, Miss Hamilton-Roberts, Mrs. Reid



DUDLEY PARK C&PC COURSES FOR PARENTS



The Dudley Park Child and Parent Centre offers a range of FREE services and programs for parents and carers. Programs are tailored to meet the needs of our community and include workshops like Mealtime Problems, Toileting and more. See the list of currently available courses with links to information on our website under “What’s New”.

ROOM 4

Welcome parents and caregivers to a new year in Room 4. As a senior room, expectations of independence are starting to be stretched as they prepare for transitioning to high school. As a class, we have already noticed huge leaps of progress with the student's independence.

We have kicked off the year with an exciting visit from the West Coast Eagles. The players came to talk to the students about the importance of a healthy diet and exercise. They have inspired our students to play soccer and football more during recess and lunch times; it has been wonderful to watch.



The students have had a splashing time down at Avalon beach for their swimming lessons. It has been wonderful to watch their confidence develop as they get further into the water. The students have made progress with their independence getting dried and changed themselves. A fantastic effort across all of the groups.

In our Talk for Writing sessions, the students have been reading the book Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown. They have been retelling the story using Key Word Sign and drawing pictures to represent the key events. Students will be working towards retelling and rewriting the story in their own words using a story map of their own pictures. It has been wonderful to see the student's confidence to grow in our writing sessions as they begin to share more ideas.



Achievement of the week:

Congratulations to Curtis for winning student council award. We are all very proud of you.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year.

Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Carey, Miss Park and Mrs. Shephard.

Connecting
Community for Kids



All Abilities



POP-UP PLAY



We welcome all families in the Mandurah area to join us at one of our All Abilities Pop-Up Play sessions at Caterpillar Park.

The sessions are aimed at children aged 0-5 years, of all abilities, to play in a safe and welcoming space.

- Pavement for wheelchairs / prams
- Fully enclosed
- ACROD parking
- Accessible toilet

A light morning tea will be provided but please bring your own picnic rug, water, hat and sun screen.

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Visit www.dss.gov.au for more information.



Sessions

Dates: Tuesday 14 February
Tuesday 28 February
Tuesday 14 March
Tuesday 28 March

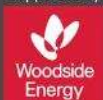
Time: 9.30am - 11am

Venue: Caterpillar Park, Park Road, Mandurah



To view this event in large text on our website scan the QR code.

Supported by



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