

Hello Everyone,

In a few days, on Wednesday 21 June, it will officially be the shortest day of the year. That means it will also be the longest night! For many societies and cultures, it is a time of feasting and celebration, dancing, singing, sitting around the fire and sharing stories. Storytelling is not as common as it was years ago, yet it remains a vital part of awakening a child's imagination to new possibilities. May you each find time in the approaching school holidays to sit together with your children over a meal or around the fire and recount a life-changing adventure, a moment of inspiration, or a tale of love.

A huge thank you to the families who turned out to the Big Breakfast last Thursday provided by Eastlake Church. It was a chilly start to the day, however it was lovely to see students with bright smiles and fabulous manners receiving a bacon and egg roll and some fruit to fill their bellies. Our students were greeted by Mandurah Major Rhys Williams, Mandurah Councillors Daniel Wilkins, Amber Kearn and Don Pember along with a representative from Relationships Australia Mr Andre.

As the cold weather sets in for the year, I ask parents to support our school's dress code by providing a navy jumper or cardigan for your child to wear whilst at school. Please remember to write your family name in the jumper as they often become misplaced and we like to return them to the correct child!

IMPORTANT DATES

Jun 21 – Faction Cross Country

Jun 30 – Final Day Term 2

Jul 17 – Staff Development Day

Our school newsletter is a marvellous opportunity for our school to reach out to families and our community and share the amazing programs and celebrate the achievements of our students. Of course, this is only a one-way communication, and we would love to hear your stories about your children. I strongly encourage parents and carers to be in regular contact with classroom teachers to share both the celebrations and challenges in your child's life. Families will be invited early next term to meet with teachers and set academic, social and behavioural goals which form the basis of each students' Individual Education Plan (IEP). Together we can make a strong partnership and work towards improving outcomes for your child.

Finally, as for so many schools, high workloads means some of our teachers have been unable to contribute their class news in time for this issue. Nevertheless, there is news from six classes, the teachers of sport, music, science and worm farming, plus some communications for parents in the following pages.

Happy reading.

Tamarra Rekman

Deputy Principal



Jul 18 – Students start Term 3

Jul 31 – Two-week swimming program starts for classes PP to Year 2

Sep 01 – Whole School Faction Carnival

SPORTS

Term 2 in PE, the students have been actively engaged in a variety of sports activities. The younger students have been developing their abilities in throwing, catching, jumping as well as learning how to share and work with their classmates. These students also love to incorporate music within their lessons and enjoy dancing before, during and after PE lessons. The kindy students have enjoyed a variety of obstacle courses and enjoy count downs before and during jumping on the trampoline, into bean bags and as part of their obstacle course activities.

Grades 3-6 have completed their basketball skill sessions and have moved onto soccer. Basketball was a hit with all students with a huge improvement seen in areas of dribbling, passing and goal shooting. Soccer began in week 6 and students have been learning how to 'trap' the ball to stop it and to use the inside part of their feet to dribble the ball and pass it. The students have scored some great goals out on the oval!

In weeks 9 & 10, all classes in the school will have the opportunity to participate in a soccer coaching clinic on Wednesdays and Thursday. This is a great opportunity and will be run by a football schools inclusive soccer coach, delivered in partnership with Special Olympics Australia. This will end our term with excitement and is not to be missed!

Kate Dee



Kindy kids enjoying a verandah obstacle out of the rain.

MUSIC



Riverside ESC's musicians have been hard at work this term, and I am incredibly proud of their weekly commitment, engagement and dedication. Rooms 11, 19, 33, 36, 37, 10 and 4 have been working towards a school assembly performance for the final assembly of the term, which takes place at the Friday morning assembly on **30th of June**. These classes will be singing in English, Noongar and Auslan to George Walley's *Wanjoo My Friend*. We are excited about their big performance and welcome and encourage friends and families to come and watch our students shine!

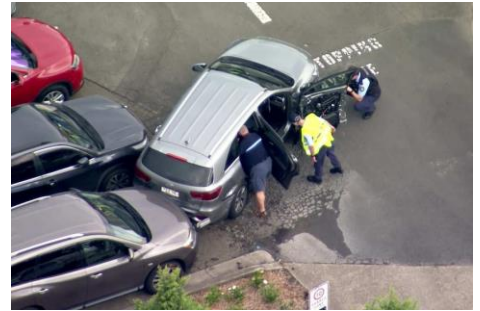
This term, our junior years were introduced to boomwhackers. Now all classes can play them! Boomwhackers are lightweight, hollow, colour-coded, plastic tubes, tuned to musical pitches by length. They produce musical tones when struck together or on the floor. It has been fantastic to see all year levels learning to play various songs with our boomwhackers, and I have been very impressed with their ability to follow and play along to our class songs so beautifully. Well done, musicians, you are all superstars!

Sophia Lewis



PARENT NOTIFICATIONS

SCHOOL PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF is always a time of traffic congestion and it can be chaotic. Little cars, big cars, vans, people-movers, the occasional delivery trucks and cyclists and pedestrians – and amongst all these are your children, our students, trusting we will do the right thing by keeping them safe. They trust the big people in their lives to drive thoughtfully, follow the signs and take care of them and others.



A big thank you to everyone who abide by the rules and directions. However, some of our parents and carers don't think these basic parking protocols and courtesies apply to them. Despite repeated communications and personal approaches by staff, a small number of drivers are still bringing their vehicles into the staff carpark and/or parking them on pathways at the school entrance. The image above is of a serious accident in the school carpark in Australia. It must not happen here. We ask you please, do not drive onsite to pick up or drop off your children unless you have a visible ACROD permit.

We hope you will understand that from time to time we will lock the driveway gate without notice and leave it locked for the day. Any cars parked inside without permission may not be able to exit until end of the school day.

YOUR 2023 VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION – A REMINDER



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. Just give us a call. **We extend our thanks to families who have already paid.**

LOST PROPERTY is a perennial challenge for families and for schools. Our staff do a terrific job of returning misplaced and discarded items of clothing to students. Naturally, this task relies on each item having a name tag.

Items without tags are passed to the library awaiting someone to come and claim them. The rack outside the library is again getting full. One of these items could be yours.



Please take some time to name your child's clothing and other school items. Property not claimed may be passed to families in need.

ROOM 35

Greetings to you all as Semester 1 draws to a close. We hope you take time during the term break to enjoy recreation and family activities with your children that refresh and enrich you all.

Although this event happened earlier this term I would like to acknowledge our focus on Mother's Day and recognise the special place all mothers have in our heart and lives. Students enjoyed painting images of themselves with their mothers and we used these pictures to make cards.

We also did our first ever cooking lesson as a precursor to our cooking program planned for Term 3. All the students were very excited to mix, roll and decorate custard cookies – we had a great time doing this together. They had to taste test them to make sure they were okay before we sent them home and we got 'they are great'. Perhaps you would like to plan a cooking day together with your child during the holidays and let us know how it went.



L-R: Callum mixes butter and sugar, Thomas expertly rolls the dough, and Charleigh pours beaten egg into the mixing bowl.

In English this term we have focused on CVC words. Students are learning to isolate, blend and manipulate phonemes of S, A, T, P, I and N to make single syllable words. It can be quite difficult at times, but students are showing the value of perseverance and are working hard to grasp the concept. Altogether in English, there are 44 phonemes, or word sounds, that make up our language.

In Maths (number) our focus has been on number recognition, formation and counting to 20. Students are consolidating their understanding by naming numbers in sequence, connecting number names and numerals to quantities and counting forward and backward, initially to 20. Our students have also enjoyed the measurement unit using direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer/shorter, holds more/less, or is heavier or lighter. There are so many fun activities to do that help us with the understanding of the language of measurement.



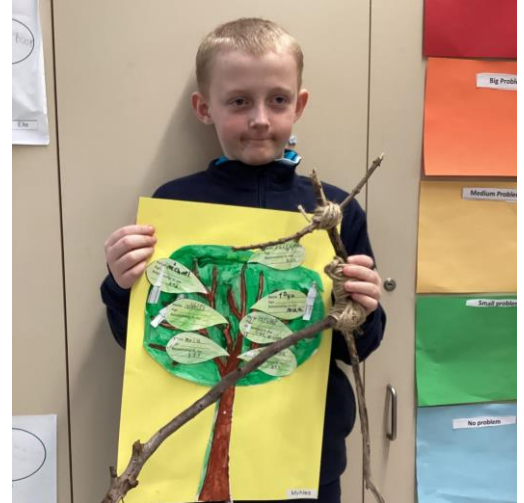
As we finish up our assessments for Semester 1 school reports, it is great to see the achievements of our students and how hard they are working towards achieving their goals. Learning new things can be challenging and I am very proud of the effort that every student puts into their work.

Bev Mattin

ROOM 33

Hello families and carers. This term in English we have continued to focus on narratives and have studied two story books written by the author Julie Donaldson, 'The Gruffalo's Child' and 'Stick Man'. Students have enjoyed retelling the story orally and developing an awareness of the use of punctuation to assist with reading with expression. For instance, bold print and exclamation marks remind us to read with a loud expressive voice, whilst speech marks tell us the part of the text which is spoken by different characters, and we can change our voice for to represent these characters to make it sound more interesting.

Students have also retold the story in written form using a narrative template. They also created their own stories about 'Stick Man'. He certainly has had some exciting adventures, in a car and a wedding. In Art, students have made their own 'Stick Man' out of sticks that they collected, as well as a family tree which included their own family members.



In Maths, students are continuing to learn their times tables – we even have a student who has mastered their 12x's! Students have also been completing subtraction, multiplication and division sums and some are learning to use regrouping (a method of addition and subtraction that combines numbers into groups of tens).

On Friday afternoons students have enjoyed using the 'DASH' robots. They have been using 'DASH' to play soccer, to play hide and seek, as well as program 'DASH' to say things with their voice, such as actions for students to perform.

Students have been training for the Cross Country and are looking forward to participating in the event in Week 9. As I have reminded the students the event is not just about winning but having a go and doing your personal best. Most importantly everyone participating will earn points for their faction.

Students are also looking forward to the upcoming soccer clinics in Week 9 and 10. Soccer has been a very popular sport in Physical Education so having a specialist instructor will be an exciting activity to look forward to for the end of the term.

Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Grobler



ROOM 36

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

We have had a great Term 2 and it is hard to believe we are almost halfway through the year already! We have been busy in Room 36 with lots of hard work and some excellent achievements.

I would like to give a warm welcome to a new student in our class: Jake! Jake is a wonderful addition to our classroom and enjoys jumping on the trampoline, bouncing on a fit ball and creating with play dough.



In Design and Technology, we have been working on a project of designing and making a boat that will float on water and hold 10 marbles in it from recycled materials. The students loved seeing all the different bottles and containers and talking about what food or drink they were from. They enjoyed assembling their creations and also seeing what their peers had created. They were all very excited when it came time to take our boats to the water and test whether they would in fact float or if they sank!

Every Wednesday afternoon we have been participating in soccer lessons with Rooms 33 and 37. The students have been learning to dribble the ball around cones on the ground, pass the ball to a partner and trying to score a goal. It has been great to see their skills progress over the weeks and the students all showing great turn-taking and sportsmanship.

On Tuesday 30th of May, we participated in an Aboriginal Garden incursion run by Miss Terry, our HASS teacher. The students first completed an art activity where they painted tiles which are going to be displayed in the Aboriginal garden. Then as a class they planted native seedlings in the garden and used the watering can to ensure they were well watered in. The students enjoyed their time and said they would be able to come back to the garden to see their plants and to watch them grow.



I hope you all have a great second term school holidays and look forward to your safe return to school in Term 3.

Miss Carvell

ROOM 37

Dear Families of Room 37,

Wow! We have made it halfway through the year and so much learning has been taking place. Students have engaged in so many activities relating to English and Maths. There has been a progression in student achievement, and this has led to an improvement in self-esteem and enjoyment of learning.

Students have shown not only improvement in their learning but also building great friendships. As part of our class routine, we try to allow for some time to build, construct as well as complete puzzles. The students enjoy these problem-solving activities and allows for greater creativity, innovation and communication.

I have been very proud of the students of room 37 and I look forward to seeing how semester 2 unfolds.

David de Groot – Teacher



WHOLE SCHOOL POSITIVE REWARD SYSTEM

Riverside ESC and Riverside PS work collaboratively to establish, implement and promote a consistent whole school learning environment focused on positive behaviour that supports social, emotional and academic success.

Using an online platform called Class Dojo, we have adopted a whole school positive reward system that allocates 'dojo' points to students who demonstrate Riverside Values. Students can choose a special character (monster) to represent themselves in this points system.



Students are able to achieve classroom awards and whole school rewards once they reach independent targets and school targets. At 60,000 dojos over the whole school the PBS committee organise a fun activity that everyone can participate in.

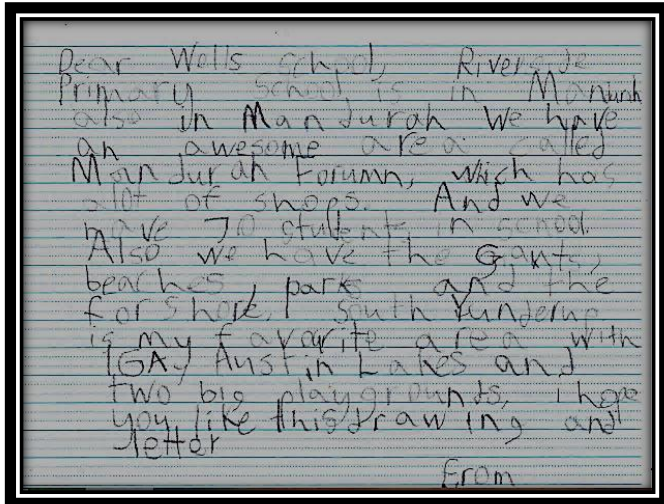
The Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) value for week 9 is:

We will use technology and the internet appropriately.

ROOM 10

Dear parents and guardians,

Room 10 was fortunate to connect with a primary school in Wells, Somerset, England to be part of their STEM project. They exchanged letters and pictures, sharing information about the school day, where they are in the world and the climate.



In the literacy sessions, the students have been discovering their superhero qualities through the book 'Traction Man'. They have given classroom objects humanistic qualities and written their own adventures with their personal superhero toy.

In the numeracy sessions, the students have been researching the cost of food, measuring, preparing food and using their money skills during café sessions. It has been wonderful to watch their independence grow and how much they enjoy taking part in café. See some great photos of our activities below.



We are looking forward to the rest of the term,

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



ROOM 4

Hello everyone. We have come to the end of another wonderful semester. In English, the students have been reading a story called 'Traction Man' by Mini Grey. The story book has been a huge success and the students have absolutely loved the interesting characters. The students have been using our Talk 4 Writing scheme to rewrite their own version of Traction Man. They have been using Key Word Sign to retell the story to the rest of the class.

In HASS, the students have been learning about native plants. During our incursion ran by Miss Terry, the students planted beautiful native plants in our ever-growing Aboriginal garden. Here we have Curtis making sure that the roots are buried deep into the soil. The students also painted an individual tile inspired by the indigenous plants we examined which will be placed together to make a piece of artwork in the garden.

Across the year 5 and 6 classes, the students have been taking it in turns to visit the shops every week. The aim is to develop life skills such as independent living as we prepare some of our students for high school.

Students have been designing a shopping list of affordable food to create healthy, cheap meals. The groups alternate



between cooking, shopping, cleaning, serving at café. The students are selling the meals which they cook themselves to staff and the profits will go toward the students' end of year camp.



The shopping trips to Woolworths have been very successful and all students have experienced: using a bus pass, checking the bus timetable, walking to the shops, finding their items and carrying them in their own shopping baskets. They then scan their food and pack it away nicely into a trolley. I have been very proud of the excellent behaviour from the students as we explore our local community.

Here we have Room 4 feeling very proud after a successful shopping trip.

Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Carey, and Mrs. Shepherd.

SCIENCE

Students have been working very hard this term towards their science IEP goals, and I am very proud of their consistent determination, work ethic and dedication.

This term, classes were introduced to a new interactive resource of the Sun, Moon and Earth. Our senior students have been exploring the Earth's rotation, orbit and seasonal changes using hands-on demonstrations that enable them to manipulate and move the model while explaining Earth's movement and different timescales. Our junior years have used the model's Sunlight to explore the Moon phases in detail. I have been impressed with everyone's concentration and careful demonstrations.



Dane (Rm 4) explains Earth's rotation and orbit using a new science resource.



Beau (Rm 37) with his Emu in the Night Sky artwork.

Over the last few weeks, all classes have explored science through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and participated in various hands-on activities. Our senior students have been studying Aboriginal astronomy by researching and collecting data and information on the Emu in the night sky. Students have creatively presented their understanding through beautiful artwork currently displayed in their rooms. Our junior years have been exploring weather patterns through Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives with a focus on the 6 Noongar seasons and have also represented their understanding through creative artwork.

A big thank you to all our scientists; your hard work and dedication in your weekly classes have not gone unnoticed. Sophia Lewis

WORM FARMING

Room 36 has been given the opportunity and responsibility to look after Riverside ESC's worm farm and have been doing a fabulous job. Riverside ESC has adopted a waste wise policy and participates in the 'WasteSorted' schools' program. Our school aims to encourage and direct the school community to be proactive in teaching sustainability and implementing sustainable practices in daily life at school. Teaching practices such as recycling, vegetable gardening, worm farming and composting allows meaningful hands-on learning opportunities for our students whilst instilling ecological-sound attitudes and habits.

Room 36 are passionate about caring for the environment and would like our school to reduce waste. They have committed their Thursday afternoons to the school worm farm which involves students collecting worm/scrap buckets from each classroom, breaking the scraps down before feeding the worms and ensuring the worm farm has just the right amount of water. The worm juice is then collected for the Wanjoo Café veggie patch. Well done, Room 36!



Riley prepares food scraps for the breaking down process.

Sophia Lewis