

Hello families, carers, guardians and friends,

We are entering into a busy second half of the school year. All Individual Learning Programs (IEPs) have been written up and will shortly be sent home. It is also a time when the weather begins to change and the delights of spring emerge. Perhaps, like me, you are looking forward to warmer days and a renewal of energy that touches us all.

The **whole school faction carnival** is scheduled for 1st September (end of Week 7) – this is always a high energy and fun day. Please feel free to come along and celebrate the wonderful individual achievements of every student who participates. Further information of events and rules for the day will be forthcoming next week.

**Swimming Lessons:** Regrettably and due to unforeseen circumstances our recent swimming lessons at MARC had to be cancelled. Refunds will be issued in due course. Thanks for supporting the program.

**School Board:** Thank you to the parents/carers who have expressed interest in becoming a Board Member. We have the numbers now to progress toward officially forming an RESC School Board which is very exciting. If you still wish to nominate please send me an email to [james.douglas@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:james.douglas@education.wa.edu.au)

**Student Absence:** Please inform the school if your child is absent or going to be absent from

school. Staff may also phone to ascertain a reason for non-attendance as it is a DoE requirement that student absences are reported.

**New Teachers:** I would like to officially welcome new teachers to Riverside ESC: Ms Kerry Sadler in Rm 33, Ms Stewart in Rm 37 & Mrs McCarthy as our DOTT teacher delivering the HaSS curriculum. It is great to have you all onboard.

**Student Medication:** If your child needs to have medication administered or there is a change in their medication can you ensure you provide an up-to-date form to the school. Your child's teacher can help you with this requirement.

**School Photos:** Student photos are scheduled for Week 8, 5-7 September. Further information will be forthcoming in relation to schedules and payment.

Best regards,

Jim Douglas  
Principal



## IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 25 – Book Week Dress-up Day

Sep 01 – Whole School Faction Carnival

Sep 05-07 – School Photos

Sep 14 – R U Ok Day

Sep 20 – Learning Journey

Sep 22 – Last Day of Term 3

## ROOM 31

Hello to all parents associated with Room 31, we hope this newsletter finds you healthy and warm.

Winter has well and truly set in this term, and with all the rain we have had, our students have needed to adjust to modified routines, meaning more time indoors. They have coped very well. Outdoor play, representing an opportunity to release energy and frustrations and to find some space to self-isolate for a little while if needed, is so important to our students, as we are sure you know!

Indoor activities are going well too, I am so pleased with the way many of our students are able to attend to story time routine. Some can attend for the reading of an entire picture book, some for a few minutes and some barely any time at all. Through these varying levels of engagement our students are disclosing information about how much joint attention and joint engagement they are capable of. This information informs the ongoing application and adjustment of individualized learning programs.

Reading to our students is the cornerstone of developing the skills of pre-literacy, that children require to work towards future reading and writing success. We read the same picture book 3 times per week. This allows the students to really apply their developing visual and auditory memories. It is also an effective tool in improving comprehension as we discuss the concepts of who, where and what. As their teacher, such repetitive activity assists me to differentiate between students who are capable of answering inferential as well as literal questions. It also assists me to reinforce phonological awareness (the sounds of words) via the blending and segmentation of words and syllables and improving awareness of the concepts and conventions of print such as print on a page moving from left to right and top to bottom.



In the above photographs, you can see the mural we made representing the picture book, “We’re Going On a Bear Hunt” by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury. The mural allows staff to consistently



reference the book and its narrative sequence and vocabulary, to encourage children to recall characters and content, to dramatise favoured parts of the story, and even interact with it as we move their own personal characters around the mural as well as reveal the bear hiding in her cave.

Hunter (far left) is walking through the ‘swishy swashy’ grass on his bear hunt.

Alex (left) is struggling through the ‘squelchy, squerchy’ mud, looking for a bear.

Our students should be very proud of their effort in working together to create something so beneficial.

Glen Webber, Rm 31 Teacher



## ROOM 32

Swimming, swimming – in Room 32, all we can think about is our swimming lessons! It has been a great incentive to getting our class work done. We have also welcomed back student teacher Miss Cassy from Murdoch Uni who has been engaging students in a range of exciting learning experiences.



During the term, we have been reading books about friendship, families, and Aboriginal dreamtime stories including “The Rainbow Fish”, “How to Make a Friend in 6 Easy Steps” and “All about my Family”, “The Rainbow Serpent” and “Tiddalick the Frog”. Our classroom has created a story map of the Rainbow Fish and have been reciting it with signs. We will be practicing how to create our own simple stories in English and Media arts using storybook creator apps. Students have also been learning about different families and making houses with their own family drawings.

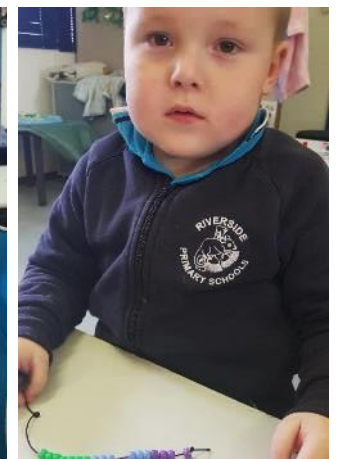
We enjoyed learning about Aboriginal people and cultures for our

NAIDOC week activities. The students were hooked by the dreamtime stories and intrigued by the photos of different rock paintings. We had a go at creating abstract rainbow serpents with our rock paint pouring art activity. The digital story “Tiddalick the Frog” formed part of this program; it uses some Wonnarua language (Hunter Valley, NSW) and was narrated by a Wonnarua Elder.



Each morning our students have been writing their full names and for health they have also been learning their addresses and birthdays. We have been checking in on how they are feeling every morning while learning about feelings and early warning signs. The students have been learning protective behaviours which are being practiced in the classroom and playground, including saying or signing “no, stop, I don’t like it”.

We have also been learning about what makes a good friend. For national friendship day our classroom created friendship bracelets while also practicing how to make patterns. Patterns and sorting have been a focus in our mathematics learning while we are learning all about data and simple graphing. As a class we collected data on our favourite foods. We were all surprised that cheese was a least favourite but not at all surprised that sweets like cakes, icecream and lollies were favourites! Luckily fruit was still up near the top of the list.



Room 32, well done on a fantastic start to Term 3! We are looking forward to seeing more growth and fun times in the weeks ahead.

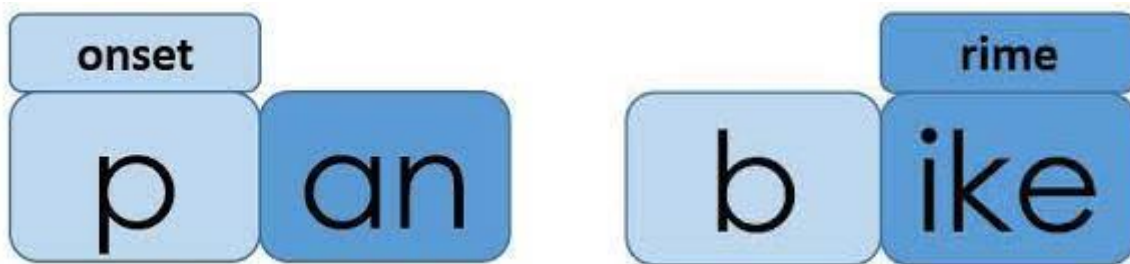
Tanya Wardell

## ROOM 35

Welcome to the halfway point of the term. We have had a fantastic start and our students are working hard across all learning areas.

We started swimming lessons and were having a fabulous time until we had a huge storm and the pool got damaged. What to do with the disappointment felt by the students? Well, the Education Assistants decided we should do something special for a day – and what a day we had. Cooking, slime, playdough, and painting. It was a lovely way to get over the disappointment of swimming being cancelled.

One of our focus goals for the semester is Onset and Rime. Students are working hard to segment single syllable words into onset and rime in preparedness for spelling.



They are getting quick at being able to blend the sounds together and say the word. All those 10-minute practice sessions are allowing the students to demonstrate an understanding of onset and rime. This week we are playing board games to help consolidate their knowledge before moving onto phonemic blending.

In Maths our current focus is addition. Students are using concrete materials to add groups together. We are learning to count to a set number, count on, group to find a total and what the symbols of addition and equals look like. Some students are using a calculator to check their answers! It is very impressive to see how quick they are at picking up the concept. Next week we will be moving onto subtraction.



Week 5 sees the class start cooking lessons. We are learning to follow a sequence of steps to make cupcakes. We have started with plain cupcakes and have come up with a variety of sweet and savoury muffins to cook and eat. Some students found it very difficult to wait for the cakes to be ready – they smelled so delicious in the oven cooking! We did enjoy eating them – but not until we had washed and dried our dishes. Cleaning up is also part of the program but the students just enjoyed playing in the water as well.

I am enjoying meeting the parents formally to celebrate student successes and discuss goals for Semester 2. All our students are making such good progress and are happy and settled into class routines. It is great to see how proud they are of their work and the fabulous work effort that they are all demonstrating.

Mrs Mattin



## ROOM 11

Hello everyone,

Term 3 has seen a very busy start for Room 11. We started horse riding on our second day back at school and we now have 5 students riding every Wednesday. The students have been learning how about safety times to wear when riding, how to mount and dismount and are gaining more confidence with each ride.

By week 3, we started swimming lessons and had all students in the class swimming enthusiastically! All students have been gaining independence in organising their swimming gear and have shown huge responsibility with walking to and from the bus and using seatbelts on the bus.

This term we are learning lots of new concepts in class. We are learning about the chance of something occurring and using the words 'will', 'won't' and 'might' during discussions. The students have been enthusiastically using tallying to collect data and make decisions about what we cook on Fridays, based on student polls. In the next few lessons we will be learning about creating graphs to represent this information.

So far during cooking, our student polls have selected cupcakes (blue cakes and pink icing, based on student polls), chocolate muffins, hot dogs and choc chip cookies. Pizza has been a close contender the past couple of weeks!



This term we've also been learning about money which has been of great interest to all students. We are learning how much each coin is worth and which coins are worth more than others. To reinforce this learning, we have been playing shops and interactive games on the smartboard.

Room 11 have been enjoying lots of key word sign learning this term

as well. All students have shown great ability to remember their letter signing and now know all the colours of the rainbow! Last week we began learning how to sign emotions as well. We have our assembly with Room 19 coming up on Friday in week 6 and we will be performing "I can sing a rainbow" which will mean we can demonstrate to the school how well we can sign the colours of the rainbow!

Room 11 students love to learn. We are using our smartboard each day to encourage independence and engagement with our learning and it has encouraged even our friends who don't like to come to the mat to join us and join in our learning. We have lots of learning still to come this term!

Sharon Arthur



## ROOM 19

Hello families and carers,

Welcome back to Term 3 in Room 19. Our students have settled back into our regular classroom routines and are well underway in experiencing and developing their knowledge and understanding of the concepts being taught this semester. Swimming began in week 3, and while lessons were cut short due to storm damage at Mandurah Aquatic and Recreation Centre (MARC), the students thoroughly enjoyed attending and participating, making us proud with their exceptional behaviour over the three days.

In week 6 this term we together with Room 11 will be performing in the whole school assembly. The students have been practicing our item regularly and are excited to be performing in front of staff, students, and parents.

This term we are focusing on oral hygiene and grooming in our health lessons. Along with formal lessons and activities, the students have the opportunity to practice the skills we have viewed and discussed using products donated by Colgate and engage enthusiastically in each lesson.

We look forward to seeing parents and caregivers at assembly in week 6.



Michelle Anderson

## LIBRARY NEWS: Book Week is Next Week



The Book Week dress up day will be on Friday the 25th of August. Your child is welcome to attend school on this day wearing a costume that depicts a book character. If they do not have a costume, they can attend in school uniform but wearing a special hat. There will be fun competitions and activities in the Library. This includes a Hat Matching competition where students match a hat to a staff member.

Last week the Library held a very successful Book Fair. Thank you to everyone who supported this. Our school will be able to purchase new resources as a result of all your purchases.

Michelle Flanigan, School Librarian



## ROOM 36

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

The students have settled in well to semester 2 and have been working hard on different activities for their new IEP goals. Thank you to all the parents that have been a part of their child's IEP meetings and have spent time discussing their child's progress and the next steps they are working towards.

Starting from week 6 there will be a new teacher in Room 36, Miss Terry (pictured above), as Miss Carvell is leaving at the end of week 5. Miss Terry previously taught the students for HASS lessons throughout the year and has been in our classroom since the start of Term 3 so she is a very familiar face to all the students.



On the 1st of August, we celebrated Riley's 10th birthday with a little class party with balloons and had a yummy jam and cream sponge cake, which was enjoyed by all. On Friday of week 4 we had our class assembly with Rooms 33 and Room 37 as well. We sang and signed the song 'Count on Me' by Bruno Mars. Everyone did excellent singing and signing. All teachers involved were very proud of the

students' effort in their performance and learning the signs since last term.

In Maths, we have started this term by learning about money. The students have enjoying using the plastic coins to order them in value and calculate sums of money and work out how much change you should receive when you pay for an item.



We look forward to keeping you updated on Room 36's activities as the year progresses.

Miss Carvell and Miss Terry

### Images from our Library's Book Week – a BIG THANK YOU to our School Librarians



## ROOM 37

Dear families and carers of Room 37,

This term has begun well with students settling into new routines enthusiastically. It has been a busy start in Room 37 with students enjoying a wide variety of activities in our class.

We have begun our Talk for Writing Story for this term, a narrative called 'The King's Cake'. Students have enjoyed learning the story actions and have incorporated some key signing into the retell of the story. As a hook for the story, the students were very excited to make their own delicious King's Cupcakes and decorate them.

In Mathematics, the students have been learning about numbers and place value. This semester the students will be focusing on reading, writing and making numbers. This term the students will be counting in sequence, forward and backwards, and skip counting. The students have enjoyed a variety of hands-on activities and games while they have learnt about recognising and ordering numbers.

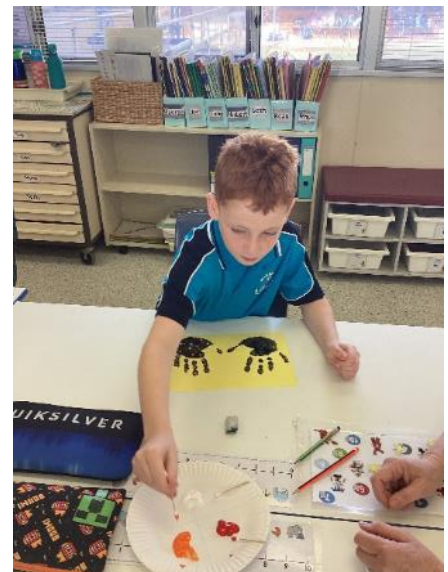
In Statistics and probability, the students have been learning about the chances of events happening and we have had some great discussions and some fun games with dice and bingo games to assist the students learn about the concept of chance events.

During NADIOC week the students of Room 37 listened to some Aboriginal Dreamtime stories and then created a beautiful piece of artwork by using their handprint and painting it.

For the last few weeks students have been busy preparing for our upcoming assembly with Room 33 and 36. We can't wait to see our students perform their item.

Congratulations to Rhys Williams, who represented our school at the Interschool cross country at the PSSA Cross Country in Meadow Springs. Even though it rained and was very muddy, the students participated well with Riverside Primary School coming fourth overall.

We have some wonderful events at school this term, including the Faction Sports Carnival in week 7. Students have been eagerly practising each week their events.



Mrs Stewart



# ROOM 33

Hello to our families, guardians and carers,



I would like to introduce myself; my name is Kerry Sadler. I am the new Room 33 teacher. I am an experienced teacher who has been teaching in the Peel Region for many years. I have three daughters and we all ride horses on weekends. Please feel free to contact me through the school about your child or with any questions you have about Room 33.

This Semester in Room 33 the class is learning about Sloths. They have read the books 'The Sloth Who Came to Stay' and 'The Speedy Sloth' and have been reading facts about real sloths. The room is looking fantastic with beautiful work. At drop off or pick up if you would like to come for a visit, it would be great for you to see some of the wonderful things Room 33 are doing.



In Mathematics, the focus is on understanding the value of numbers and using our mathematical knowledge in practical situations. The class is continuing to improve mental mathematics so the students will have the skills to work through problems faster.

A huge thanks to the parents and families who came and watched our Assembly Item. The students in Room 33, 36 and 37 did a fantastic job of singing and signing 'Count on Me.'



In Week 7 this term, it is the Riverside Schools Faction carnival, so in sport lessons the students are training in factions for this. I have been very proud watching Room 33 students participating in these training sessions and really trying their hardest. The carnival, planned for Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September, will be a great day!

Kerry Sadler, Sue Brown and Lauren Hanney

## ROOM 4

Hello everyone. What an exciting term Room 4 have had so far. John Tonkin College have invited the students to take part in an Arts & Crafts and Woodwork course as part of their transition experience to high school. The students have been making their own tote bags using a rubber stamp they have designed and created themselves.



Here we have Jacob thoroughly enjoying the woodwork lesson. The students were excited to see inside a real workshop and were able to use the power tools with some guidance. The students have been painting and gluing pieces of wood together and using the drill to secure them. Watch this space to see their final product of a chair come to life!

The students have been enjoying visiting the library the past two weeks with the theme of 'Hats off to Reading'. The library has been filled with exciting props for the students to engage and play with sparking their love of reading. Here we have Jeriley and Espen enjoying a spot of tea and casting spells.



Thank you to all of our parents and carers for your ongoing support.



We truly value the amazing work that all of our parents and carers do outside of school hours advocating for children with disabilities in the community.

One of our past families has even set up their own charity to support children and families dealing with XYY Syndrome. The XYY Syndrome Association of Australia Inc is now an official registered charity, thanks to Chairperson, Amber Gilkes. You can visit their website [www.xyyaustralia.org](http://www.xyyaustralia.org) for more information about the syndrome and how you can get involved with the charity.

For the launch of the charity, Perth was lit up with green and yellow. Bridges, towers and streets could be seen sporting the colours to show their support. Below, you can see Mandurah bridge lit up in the background.

On behalf of Riverside Education Support Centre, we would like to extend a huge congratulations to Amber for bringing her dreams of helping other families of boys and men with XYY Syndrome to life.

Mrs Gibson, Mrs Carey, Mrs Shepherd.





## SCIENCE and ART

Greetings, parents and guardians, I hope this newsletter finds you well.

**Our school science program is in full swing.** The new semester brings a whole new learning area called 'physical science', and I am proud to share some of the fantastic learning happening across the year levels.

Students have been working on their physical science skills and understanding through various investigations and experiments. The junior school have been exploring how different objects



*Hunter and Isabella from R31 investigate objects that float and sink.*

move; the middle years have been comparing and contrasting the effect of friction

on different surfaces, while our senior years have been exploring the features of electrical devices and building their own electrical circuits with the school's STEM resources.

In week 5, our school will participate in National Science Week, and this year's theme is Innovation. Riverside ESC will celebrate our little innovators through whole-school activities. We cannot wait to see what students will create and innovate! Stay tuned for an exciting update on our National Science Week activities.

**I am excited to share with you some of the highlights of our arts program.** The new semester brings a new learning area, dance. All students have been developing their awareness of their bodies and learning about the body bases, parts and zones used safely in dance. All classes have been exploring the elements of dance through creative improvisation and basic dance phrases.



*Chevie from R11 with his dance record sheet.*

*R11 have been using the visual chart to learn, remember and perform short dance phrases to music.*

Our junior years have been exploring dance genres such as hip hop and tap, learning some fun and energetic routines. Middle years have been exploring the wide variety of traditional dances in Australia and globally. Our senior years are looking at dance across the decades, from the 1950s to the present day, and how dance reflects the social and cultural changes of each era.

I am proud of the progress and enthusiasm that our students have shown in dance this term, and I look forward to seeing their continued progress. Keep up the fantastic work superstars!

Mrs Lewis



*Sarah from R4 follows the procedure checklist to build an electrical circuit.*

## ROOM 10

Dear parents and guardians,

Welcome to our classroom news. In the literacy sessions, the students have been following the adventures of Sunny in Meerkat Mail by author and illustrator Emily Gravett, as he travels to explore and meet his extended family. The students have enjoyed learning how to write postcards and send them to their buddies in Room 4.

In the numeracy sessions, the students have been working hard to improve their understanding on number concepts, such as lattice multiplication.

Fun fact! Lattice multiplication was first used in the 10th century in India and later adopted by Fibonacci in the 14th century Lattice Method Multiplication. You can see more on YouTube at [Lattice Method Multiplication - YouTube](#).

We have been invited to attend the John Tonkin College specialised workshop and Art programs every Tuesday for Term 3. Students have the opportunity to develop new skills by completing a small woodworking project in their education support centre's fully equipped workshop. They have loved the experience so far!

We are looking forward to the rest of the term and hope to see you at the forthcoming Faction Carnival in Week 7 and our Learning Journey afternoon in Week 10.

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



## A Community Charity Event

Our school chaplain, Jacky Creelman, invites all families to participate in a Big Box Drop. Bring in a big box of UNOPENED cereal by the end of Week 9.



All donations will be collected by Riverside ESC classrooms and office, for Jackie to collect and pass on to Mandurah community support programs run by Foodbank and Bridge Builders. Your response will be very much welcomed by families who are currently doing it tough.

On Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup>, Jackie will also be organising a "Huge Domino Run". More details will be available soon.