



Hello parents and carers. Greetings to you all as we progress through this term. Here are a few items for your attention.

May I extend a warm welcome to new teachers Eve Hannah, our kindergarten teacher in Room 31, and Vaughan McDonald, who joins us to teach HASS (Humanities and Social Science).

Safety of staff and students is always at the foreground of our thinking. A recent inspection of playground equipment under a programmed maintenance scheme has seen some equipment be retired, sand pits cleaned, and various items treated to prolong their life. We are currently researching new playground items and will let you know when they are installed.

On this same subject, thank you to all of you who take extra care when conveying your child

to and from school. Pick up and drop off times are extremely busy and not everyone follows best practice.

Swimming lessons for the whole school commence Week 6 (20/5) through to Week 7 (31/5). Forms & payment can be submitted to your child's teacher or at our front office.

Your child's **school report** will be available in the last week of this term. I am looking forward, as you will be, to reading the many supporting comments and tracking their progress in what has been a busy Semester.

The **School Board** is the perfect vehicle for understanding more about and contributing to aspects of school operations. Discussions are always interesting and there is much to be gained by participating. If anyone is keen to find out more about joining our Board as a parent representative, please contact me.

Finally, welcome also to Jodie Richards, our new **canteen manager** and operator. If you haven't already noticed, a new app is required to place orders. [QKR](#) accepts MasterCard and Visa credit cards along with Visa and MasterCard debit cards.

Best regards, Jim Douglas, Principal

Introduction: Councillor Daniel Wilkins - Chairperson of the School Board

Hello everyone. I have been a resident of Mandurah for over 35 years, after my parents moved our family down from Perth to set up a small business.

I started my press photography career in Mandurah at the age of 17, I currently work for 7West Media in Osborne Park. Educated locally, I now raise my young family in Dudley Park. My focus on community issues increased once we had our first child and after we moved into our home in Dudley Park.

As a way of becoming more involved, I ran for the City of Mandurah council in 2019 unsuccessfully and then was elected in 2021 as representative of the East Ward.

With the students as the ultimate focus, my interest for joining the Riverside ESC Board comes from a desire to see all kids have the opportunity to excel and through strong collaboration, create a successful and thriving school.



Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)

Hello Riverside ESC parents and carers,



My name is Vaughan McDonald, or 'Mr. Mac' to the students. I have just started here at Riverside this term as the new HASS and Key Word Sign teacher.

I recently moved from Bunbury, where I taught at Newton Moore ESC for the last 17 years. I've taught in the Education Support space for 32 years, (this year is number 33), but don't be fooled, because I still have so much to learn. I am quickly learning all the names of the student body. (Admittedly, I am a little slower learning all the staff names but I'll get there).

If any of the students mention a ukulele being played in class, that would be me. I spent the last 4 years teaching music and drama and learnt to play several instruments, the ukulele being one. So I like to incorporate musical elements and drama ideas where ever possible to reinforce learning. For example, the year 5/6's role played voting in secret ballots while learning about Democracy in Australia, and the year 2/3's are learning how to play musical chairs, accompanied by ukulele, while learning about rules and consequences as part of the Civics and Citizenship component in History.

I look forward to providing you all with updates on our progress, as the year progresses.

Mr. Mac

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Riverside ESC Acknowledgement to Country

Yanga Binjareb Bibbulmun noonoo-kadiny.
 Thankyou Binjareb nation you all,
 Baranginy Boodja kaaditjiny wabbiny.
 Sharing land, knowledge, play.
 Ngalak djerpin djinaniny nglangka baarna,
 noonakoort, wardan.
 We happy looking after animals, everyone,
 ocean.

Dandjoo Ngalak Baliny Boodja
 Together we touching it, land.
 Ngalak Yira Maara Worl
 We up hands sky.
 Dandjoo bal koort kwobidak boodja
 Together touch heart, beautiful land.



This acknowledgement has been prepared by Riverside Schools AIEO, Jemma Hilzinger.

ROOM 30

Hello to our families and carers, and welcome to Term 2. This term is moving along very quickly, and we are getting ready for swimming lessons in Weeks 6 and 7.

In English we have been continuing our Fairy Tale Theme and have read the stories Red Riding Hood and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Students are really enjoying the stories but particularly the craft activities that show characters or scenes from each story. It is wonderful to see the big progression of cutting skills that they are demonstrating. Every student should be very proud of the amount of care and attention to detail they are maintaining and enjoy presenting their finished work to their peers and teachers.

In Maths we have been focusing on subitising and playing lots of games to see if we can recognise the numbers without counting the dots. What a great way to spend a math session – playing games and learning at the same time.

In Health our focus these last couple of weeks has been on early warning signs and we have read the story Jasmine's Butterflies to help with understanding what happens to our body when we feel scared. When completing our activities, it is great to hear the students identifying and correctly labelling the early warning signs.



Our cooking lessons have continued and this term we are making Pinwheels. This week it has been great to see the students being so confident in understanding the steps of the recipe and becoming independent in making our recipe. We have made vegemite and cheese (the favourite) tomato paste and cheese. Our dough base keeps getting better each week! They smell delicious and taste even better.

As we start our assessments and begin thinking about reports it is a good time for the teaching staff to see just how much progress our students are making. I look forward reflecting on the semester and the goals that have been set. Parent meetings will commence following the issuing of reports.

We hope every mother had a lovely Mother's Day, celebrating your children.

Bev Mattin

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES

Jun 28	End of Term 2
May 20	Swimming Lessons commence for years P to 6 (2 weeks)
Jun 03	Western Australia Day (public holiday)
Jun 28	Final Day of Term 2
Jul 16	Students return for Term 3 (Tuesday)
Sep 20	Final Day of Term 3

ROOM 31

Hello families! My name is Eve (Miss Hannah). It is a delight to join the Riverside Education Support team as Room 31 teacher from the start of this term. The last few weeks have been a period of settling in and developing trusting, harmonious relationships with students and staff. It's so important in the early years that students feel safe and supported at school.



An inclusive, welcoming and safe environment fosters healthy emotional & social development, which in turn helps children to learn better. Creating inviting, defined spaces in the physical environment such as our new calming, cosy, quiet/book area. This is a soft space where students can regulate, relax and read a book if they choose. I personally have a passion for reading, books, poems, rhymes or any kind of literacy activities.

A large focus in our curriculum is on functional/life skills development in tandem with core curriculum skills such as literacy. This term we have begun to integrate these by visiting the school library. We have started by taking one student at a time. Our goal is to eventually visit the library as a whole class. All the students were engaged and seemed in awe of the library environment with the large selection of books.



There are many learnings from these visits such as safe walking skills, listening & following directions, appropriate voice levels, book-handling skills, pre-reading & literacy skills and of course pure enjoyment and developing a love for books, school & learning. This also links in with the value of respect that we include in our positive behaviour and implicit curriculum. Students are learning to respect their own and others' bodies and belongings. In the library, they are learning to respect communal items such as books and puppets.

during our story times.

This term, one of our focus stories is called 'The very cranky bear'. Through this book students are learning to identify feelings and are exposed to values such as kindness. A big life skill to learn is turn taking and sharing. We use books, modelling and hands-on activities to teach these skills.



Eve Hannah

Building a national picture of child health

From May 2024, our school, along with thousands of others across the country, will participate in the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC is a teacher-completed census (similar to a questionnaire) which provides a comprehensive picture of how children have developed by the time they start their first year of full-time school.

The AEDC is an Australian Government Initiative and is completed nationally every three years.

Children don't miss any class time while the AEDC is completed, and parents/carers don't need to supply schools with any new information.

The data collected through the AEDC is used by schools, communities and governments to better understand children and families' needs, and identify the services, resources and support they need.

AEDC data is reported at a school, community, state/territory and national level.

AEDC results for individual children are not reported and the AEDC is not used as an individual diagnostic tool.

Some teachers have found that completing the AEDC made them more aware of the needs of individual children and their class, and that the data was useful for planning for transitions to Year 1 and developing programs.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary, however the AEDC relies on all schools with children in their first year of full-time school participating in the collection. Parents/carers don't need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census.

To find out more about the AEDC and how it is being used to help children and families visit: www.aedc.gov.au.

If you have any questions, you can contact Principal Jim Douglas on 9583 2428.



ROOM 32

Greetings to you all.

Term 2 has started fantastically for students in Room 32!

Exploring our new interactive board has provided our students with an alternative means of communicating and demonstrating their understanding of different concepts and written skills. To the right is Cayden, showing the class his understanding of the initial sound of a variety of colours as he experiments with digital media.



We have found other ways to incorporate digital technology into our daily schedule, with students participating in guided reading sessions using the new interactive whiteboard. Students are able to have some fun identifying key words they have been reading without having to speak or write. This provides our non-verbal students an avenue to demonstrate understanding in a variety of different ways.

As we look forward to and prepare for our upcoming swimming lessons at the MARC, students have been practising walking to various parts of the school. It is encouraging to observe all of the skills required for safe transport from one area to another. Practising walking in a line, staying with the group and listening to teachers is an important life skill that will be required throughout our students' school life.



Stay tuned for more exciting news from Room 32!

Tanya Wardle

ROOM 35

Dear parents/carers/guardians,

It has been a busy start back to the term for our students as they work hard toward achieving their IEP goals. We are proud to share that all students have shown great improvement across their morning reading, spelling and letter recognition tasks. It is wonderful to see them gain confidence and pride in their abilities.

In Literacy, students have completed their fairy-tale theme with their final story, Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have been impressed with their retell, particularly when it comes to time to roleplay.



Chevie enjoys a break in the school's sensory room.



As part of his morning routine, Noah is learning how to butter his own toast.

throughout the day where students can demonstrate safe hands.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing more updates with you soon.

In Maths, students have been developing their skip counting skills. This is an essential skill for them to learn as it helps them understand the early concepts of multiplication and division. It also helps them count quickly and efficiently, which is essential for solving math problems.

Students have been enjoying our measurement unit as they compare and order several shapes and objects based on length, area, volume and capacity using different uniform and informal units. The 'capacity' concept was a favourite among the students as it involved a lot of water play.

A continued and big behavioural focus for this term is safe hands and feet, and we are working hard to ensure that all students keep their hands and feet to themselves. We have a catchy song that we sing multiple times



Xavier reads his sight words with Mrs Hattin.

Room 35 Staff – Mrs Lewis, Mrs Hattin, Mrs Brown, Mrs D and Miss Hart 😊

ROOM 11

Hello families and carers.

This term in English we are continuing to focus on narratives with a special emphasis on "Possum Magic" by Mem Fox, a delightful Australian tale following the journey of Hush, a young possum. Students have enjoyed retelling the story orally and developing an awareness of the use of punctuation to assist with reading with expression. Additionally, throughout the term, students will embark on a creative diorama project showcasing Australian animals, seamlessly integrating with our literacy sessions.

This term, we're fortunate to welcome Miss Michelle Webster, a final year student from Murdoch University to our classroom for her six-week placement. The students are thoroughly enjoying the engaging and entertaining activities Miss Webster has planned for them.

In Maths, students have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. They have been discussing the properties of them and comparing their shapes. 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 them with understanding the language of measurement. In Maths we are continuing to focus on understanding the value of numbers and using mathematical knowledge in practical situations. The class is continuing to improve mental mathematics so the students will develop the skills to work through problems faster.

In our Design and Technology class, students will be introduced to basic coding techniques using iPads. The students will be able to create their own interactive stories.

We are looking forward to the rest of the term with swimming lessons in week 6 and week 7.



Mrs Stewart

ROOM 19

Greetings to our parents and carers of Room 19 students.

We in Room 19 are off to a flying start and it's unbelievable that we are already nearly halfway through Term 2. The students have settled back into school well after the holidays and are working hard toward accomplishing their IEP goals for Semester 1.

Over the current semester, we have been exploring Fairy Tales within the Literature component of English. The students enjoy recreating each tale using stick puppets and a scene from the story built onto our sensory table using resources from around the classroom.



We continue to build number sense in Maths, working on exploring and creating BIG numbers. This term in Measurement, we are exploring length, capacity, size and weight.

A focus for Room 19 is to develop reciprocal and cooperative relationships within the classroom. This ties in with our protective Behaviours topic of personal space and the school rule of 'keeping our hands and feet to ourselves'. It has been wonderful to see relationships

within the classroom develop with the students increasingly playing and working cooperatively.

We are currently preparing for swimming lessons in weeks 6 and 7 and while it will be a busy two weeks, the students are very excited.

Thank you to our parents for your ongoing support.

Room 19 staff

PAID YOUR 2024 VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION YET?



Each year, families and carers are invited to pay a voluntary contribution that assists our school acquire additional classroom resources.

Your contribution is important: the higher the number of contributions received the more effectively can the acquisition program benefit all ESC students.

EFT is available by speaking to Tara or Janet in our school office.

ROOM 36

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

This term has been moving very fast and we cannot believe we are in Week 4 already. The students have settled back into school well this term and are very excited for their upcoming swimming lessons.



In Mathematics, our class has been learning about shapes. Students have been learning about how to identify the differences between 2D and 3D shapes, sorting shapes into groups, identifying the nets of different 3D shapes, and identifying the separate 2D shapes that make up 3D shapes (e.g., a cube is made up of 6 squares). Some students have also been learning how to measure the perimeter and area of different shapes. They have also enjoyed making shape puzzles as free time when they finished their activities early.

In Protective Behaviours, we have been talking about about early warning signs. Students are learning that early warning signs are signs our body gives us when we might be feeling scared, nervous, sad, or like something is not right. They have also been learning about public and private places at home, school and in the community.

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In Design and Technology, we have continued lessons about different materials and how to describe their properties. Students also learned about how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people discovered the different properties and uses of materials to make items such as shelters and hunting tools. Learning about different materials has helped them with the planning and construction of their own huts! We began by discussing what materials could be collected to make shelters, then set about collecting these materials from around the school. In the next lesson the students set about building their huts. But this was not just simple construction; the students were challenged to design a hut or shelter that would be able to stay standing when the wind blows. We are excited to see next week which shelters pass the wind test!

We look forward to bringing you updates of our students and our classroom as the term continues.

Miss Terry, Mrs. Scott, Miss A and Mrs. Vincent

ROOM 37

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

Room 37 have enjoyed a busy but fun start to Term 2. Our class has taken on the responsibility of creating and maintaining the worm farm and the school vegetable garden this year. We received supplies for both in week 2 and students thoroughly enjoyed creating a comfy and warm bed for our box full of worms. Since then, we have journeyed to the worm farm every other day to make sure our worms are safe, well-watered and thriving.

We have also prepared the garden beds for vegetable seedlings. Students planted seedlings this week with Miss Cassy and will be attending the garden regularly to observe the progress of their growth.



Room 37 are becoming little chefs with our Friday cooking sessions. This term we have cooked pancakes, ANZAC biscuits and pizza. Students created their own pizzas and almost everyone ate their pizza while at school! It was wonderful to see the excitement and diligence each student displayed while making, cooking and eating their own pizza creations.

Each of the students are showing great improvement in curriculum areas such as English and Maths. We enjoy a story of the week which we use to base learning around. In addition, students are gaining skills



during our literacy rotations and seeing great progress from this within their spelling tests and daily reading.

Sharon Arthur



ROOM 10

Welcome Parents and Carers.

With the colder weather coming, Room 10 are learning about personal hygiene during health lesson. They are practicing dropping their used tissues into a bin and washing their hands after blowing their noses, coughing or sneezing. The students have learned about why it is important to wash their hands with soap and to spend 20 seconds cleaning their hands.



During the school holidays a special package was delivered to school for the students of Room 10 from Transperth. The people at Transperth had heard how interested Room 10 are in the Transperth buses and trains, so they sent a letter and some exciting promotional products

for the students to take home.

For ANZAC Day the students read stories, and completed activities about ANZAC Day and they attended the school ANZAC Day Ceremony. The students' behaviour at the ceremony was outstanding, demonstrating their understanding of how important this special day is for Australia.



The students have spent time preparing for Mother's Day, practicing their cooking skills and discussing why this day is so important to celebrate. Room 10 hope all the special mothers, grandmothers and carers have an amazing day on Sunday!

Room 10 have also been practicing eating out at a restaurant. The students enjoy ordering a meal from a menu and eating with their very best manners.

Thank you.

Kerry Sadler, Fiona Punch, Maxine Kew and Linda Tilbee

ROOM 4

Welcome parents, guardians and carers!

Term 4 is off to an exciting start. Mandurah Baptist College hosted a fun and interesting Leadership conference for many of the primary schools in the local area. Riverside Education Support Centre was proudly represented by our school leaders, Lainee Ridgwell and Riley Matthews. The conference was a great opportunity for all students to hear some positive and encouraging talks by some wonderful guest speakers such as Mr. Andrew Hastie and others. The Day focused on resilience, making and maintaining friendships and many other positive practices, which the students can then carry through to their transition to high school and their future lives. Lainee embraced the opportunity to join some of the leaders on stage and share her personal thoughts on some of the topics covered.



Both Riley and Lainee were excellent representatives which their Riverside family can be super proud of.



In the literacy sessions, the students have been discovering "the power of persuasive texts. We have studied the book "Do not open this book" with our Preservice teacher Mrs. Shanahan. They have also chosen a subject which they feel strongly about and are now writing their own persuasive text on this subject.

In the numeracy sessions, the students have been focusing on money, budgets and location, using

maps. We have looked at the map of our school and incorporated compass directions. They have talked about how they could give directions from one area to another. They have included features such as scale, key, symbols and directions to enhance their map reading skills.

We are looking forward to the rest of the term.

Mrs Blockley, Mrs Medlam, Mrs Shanahan



ROOM 33

Due to Mrs Gibson's absence, there is no newsletter item for Room 33 this issue.

Miss Cassy Chats About Science and The Arts

Hello families,

In science classes this term we continue to focus on chemical sciences. In the senior primary years this has involved learning about different states of matter and types of changes. The students have been exploring physical and chemical changes and properties of different materials through investigations. They are also learning about making predictions and conducting experiments.



In the junior primary years, the students have focused on using their senses and describing materials properties while using the PODD. The students have explored various materials and investigated where some of them come from and are used for. They have also used their knowledge of materials to sort recycling and have started collecting and identifying recycling in their classrooms. Some classes have been working hard on creating their own recycled robot sculptures!



In visual arts the students have been creating some abstract art to explore the art elements and principles. They have been focusing on the elements of line, colour, shape and the principles of pattern and contrast when creating and discussing artwork. The students have researched and explored different artists and art styles to inspire their work. The mediums most explored this term have been felt-tip markers, paint, watercolors, oil pastels and digital art.

Miss Cassy

