

Dear parents,

As we approach the halfway mark for the year, I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for your ongoing support.

It has been a busy year already with many of our students completing their annual swimming lessons. It certainly was an engaging fortnight for students who had an opportunity to put their protective behaviours lessons and transport training into practice while engaging in some fun water activities! I had the opportunity to visit the swimming on two occasions and was delighted to see not only the student engagement, but also the enormous smiles on the faces of many of our students!

We have NAIDOC week being celebrated during the upcoming school holidays. Students will have had an opportunity in class this term to learn about the significance of this event and the rich history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's history, culture and achievements. The theme for 2024 is *Keep the fire burning: Blak, Loud and Proud*. I am hopeful that some of our students will participate in local and state celebrations during the school holidays with their families.

Once again, I encourage any of our parent community who have an interest in the school and how we are governed to reach out and

discuss with me the ways in which you can be involved in enriching our school and your child's education. There are positions currently available on the school board and we are seeking active, passionate parents with this interest. Please make an appointment to see me and discuss how you can be involved!

Student reports are fundamental to the sharing of student progress and achievement. You will receive an electronic copy of your child's report via email by the end of this week. If you would like to discuss any aspects of the school report, please see your child's classroom teacher to make an appointment. Every family will be offered the opportunity to meet with teachers in the first three weeks of Term 3 to collaborate on the Semester Two Individual Education Plan (IEP). Please spend some time considering the needs of your child and how the school can work with you to achieve the best outcomes!

I wish you all a safe and restful holiday when it arrives and look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Tuesday 16th July.

Tamarra Rekman,
Principal



Introduction: Liesel – School Board Parent Representative

I am excited to join the Riverside Education Support Centre School Board as a parent member. I've been grateful to be a part of the RESC community for the past couple of years, as two of my children attend the school and have benefited greatly. Outside of being a parent, I have experience across various industries and hold a Bachelor of Science. Passionate about children, inclusivity, and community contribution, I'm currently involved with The Foster Share Shed, a local charity.

I look forward to collaborating with school board colleagues to continually improve our growing school and prioritise the needs of students, parents, and staff, for positive student outcomes.



Sport and Health with Mr. Williams



Hello parents, guardians and caregivers, I am delighted to be starting at Riverside as the health and physical education teacher this year.

In sport, we commenced the year with the junior classes learning about moving their bodies in space. This will not only develop their proprioceptive skills needed for more complex sports but is great at teaching the skills needed to reduce injuries. For instance, learning to jump and roll properly instructs students not to put their arms locked out in front of them when they fall, which is a major cause of injury to the wrist and collar bone.

In the senior classes we are developing skills in soccer. In addition to the benefit of developing co-ordination and kicking skills, there will be a focus on teamwork. One of the most valuable skills students will learn at school is how to get along with their peers.

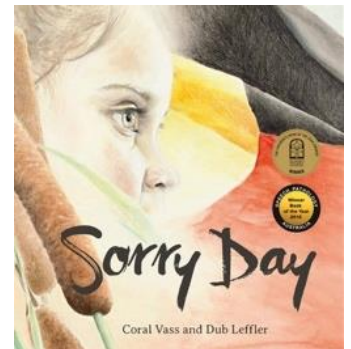
In senior health classes there is a focus on the macronutrients in a healthy diet, which includes protein, complex carbohydrates and good quality fats.

It has already been a great start to the year, and I look forward to a fun, active and enjoyable rest of the semester with the wonderful students at Riverside!



Sorry Day – May 26

Riverside ESC recently commemorated Sorry Day as a whole school, taking the time to reflect on its significance and engage in a meaningful hand-on activity. Sorry Day is an important occasion for our students to learn about as it fosters a greater understanding and empathy for the experiences of the Stolen Generations and their families. It also allows our school community to unite in the spirit of reconciliation and to honour the resilience and strength of Indigenous cultures. Learning about Sorry Day is an important step in promoting empathy, respect, and understanding of Australia's diverse history and in working towards a more inclusive and united future.



The native hibiscus has been chosen as the official symbol for Sorry Day by the National Stolen Generations Alliance. It was selected because it is commonly found across Australia and can withstand the country's harsh climate. Our activities this year revolved around the powerful narrative of "Sorry Day" by Coral Vass and Dub Leffler, which provided a poignant opportunity to engage in open discussions about the themes and historical significance.

Following this discussion, we delved into a creative session, where each participant had the opportunity to craft their own unique Hibiscus flowers, symbolising hope, resilience, and unity.



Mrs Lewis

Reconciliation week – 27th May to 3rd June

Students have also participated in reconciliation activities, putting their creative skills to the test. They engaged in meaningful discussions about the significance of reconciliation and the positive impact it can have on our society.

This year's theme "Now More Than Ever" reminds us to work together, be kind, and show respect to everyone. It tells us that right now, at this moment, it's especially important to show respect and care for one another, including the First Nations peoples of Australia.



This theme encourages us to come together, acknowledge our shared history, and work towards creating a more inclusive and harmonious future. By fostering an environment of mutual respect and understanding, we are laying the foundation for a better tomorrow. Everyone in the school was encouraged to consider how they can contribute to making things better and fair for everyone through creative statements and drawings. Their commitments are showcased in a mini-installation in the ESC office/administration.

Mrs Lewis

Acknowledgement of Country



Thank you to the Bindjareb people of the Noongar Nation
for letting us share your land to learn and play on.
We promise to look after it, the animals, people and oceans too.

Together we touch the ground of the land. (TOUCH GROUND)
We reach for the sky that covers the land. (RAISE HANDS)
And we touch our hearts in care of the land. (TOUCH CHEST OVER HEART).

ROOM 30

As we approach the end of another term and finalise reports it has been a great way to reflect on the success of our students this semester. Each student should feel very proud of their results. They have all worked hard and are showing good progress.

We finished our fairy tale stories and turned our attention to nursery rhymes to finish the term with. It is great to see students engage in the songs and activities from some very familiar nursery rhymes. We have also been able to cross-link the songs into other learning areas such as English (alphabet recognition), Math (number recognition), Health (Protective Behaviours – Concept Circles) and LOTE (signing the songs).

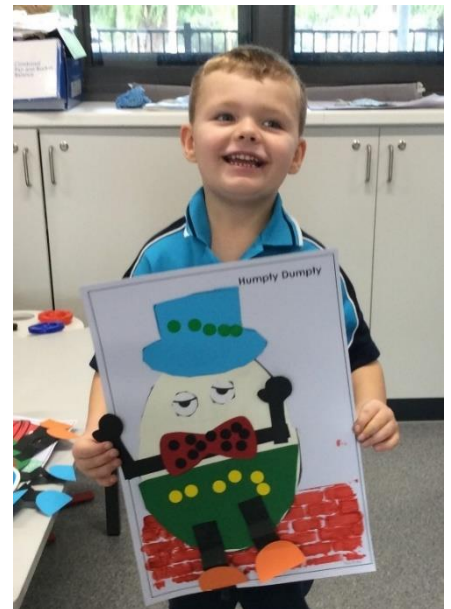
It certainly has been a great way to really learn the songs as we complete lots of fun activities to do with the rhyme.

In our Protective Behaviour Lessons, students have been learning all about Concept Circles. We have been learning about the different colours of each circle, the name of each circle and who would go in each circle. Students got to make Jack and Jill's buckets in the different colours and their knowledge of circles names was tested.

In Maths we are finishing up the unit on Measurement and some of our Number and Algebra Units. We have started to do some preliminary testing and activities in preparation for Semester 2. It is great to see the students already engaging so well with the new activities.

We wish everyone a safe holiday. Enjoy the time with your children and we look forward to seeing everyone for the start of another term.

Bev Mattin



Hunter with Humpty Dumpty



Tripp with Jack and the Beanstalk

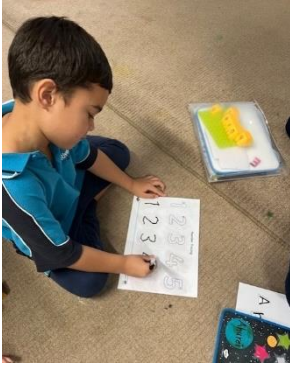


Dominic with his Jack and Jill concept circles buckets

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES

Jun 28	Final Day of Term 2
Jul 16	Students return for Term 3 (Tuesday)
Sep 20	Final Day of Term 3

ROOM 31



In the second half of this term the students have all been practicing and refining their emerging and developing skills and making wonderful progress!

Using scissors and cutting skills are very important for fine motor development such as hand-eye coordination and strength, bilateral coordination, concentration and manual dexterity. All these are pre-cursors to life skills such as using mealtime instruments and cooking prep such as cutting with a knife. Additionally, promotes grasping patterns which are helpful for holding pencils and pens for writing.

As part of our Mathematics curriculum, we have been focusing on learning the days of the week. We do this through reading and recognising the written word daily, discussions about what happened yesterday, what's happening today and what will happen tomorrow and name the days. Some of the children are also learning how to order the days correctly! We are also learning number recognition and connecting numbers, names, numerals up to 10. Many of the students in the class are very excited about counting so we provide many experiences to encourage this skill.

This term, National Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week and the upcoming NAIDOC week are all important Indigenous days / weeks that we respect and observe. Besides these, we have made a commitment in our class to begin embedding Indigenous perspectives in our classroom. We began this journey with a class walk to our Aboriginal garden and created our own Acknowledgment of Country poster and simultaneously began saying the Acknowledgment of Country daily. We use props such as an Aboriginal doll and clapping sticks. We plan to make our own clapping sticks next term. Additionally, Indigenous puzzles, stories and felt board manipulatives have been some of our experiences.

Regular music and movement times are thoroughly enjoyed by everyone in our classroom. We even made our own 'music boomers' from pool noodles as fun props to enhance the students' experience of learning to reproduce movements and dance steps. These movement times support physical literacy, develop pattern awareness and offer fun brain breaks!

It's been a fantastic term and we are so proud of the progress and achievements all the students have made.

Eve Hannah

ROOM 32



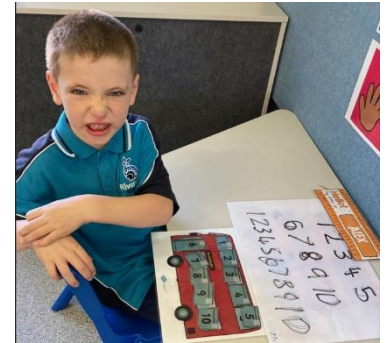
What a busy and action-packed term we have had in Room 32!

Swimming lessons at the Murray Aquatic and Leisure Centre during weeks 6 and 7 were a challenging and exciting time for all of our students. Some students were experiencing formal swimming lessons for the first time and showed great courage and determination in getting into the water and, at times, fully submerging underwater. Cooper (shown in the image at left), loved independently exploring the water playground.



Creative expression and play are important features of the early years of schooling. After reading, "We're Going on a Bear Hunt", students were encouraged to act out part of the story using movement and props. Adam (pictured left) chose to act out part of a shared story during outdoor play time.

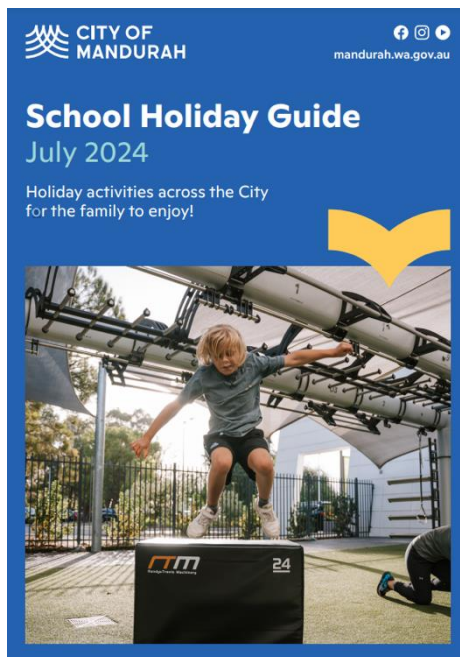
As the term draws to an end, students have been able to demonstrate their progress in a variety of curriculum areas. Alex (pictured right) has enjoyed counting and ordering numbers.



As we prepare for the end of term, all staff would like to wish our families a safe and relaxing holiday.

Tanya Wardle

Holiday Activities in Mandurah



Keep your children busy these school holidays with heaps of fun and exciting programs on offer across a number of City of Mandurah locations.

With a combination of free and low-cost things to do, there's plenty to keep kids active and entertained.

Try new things, learn new skills, get crafty, and build friendships. Your children can do it all. Click here to view and download the [City of Mandurah School Holiday Guide](#).

You can also find out what's on across the City through the Events Calendar to find specific events. Visit www.mandurah.wa.gov.au/explore/whats-on for more info.

To avoid disappointment, bookings are required for most activities so make sure you book early. Also, booking requirements change for different activities so make sure you visit our website and find the event for booking details.

(Source: City of Mandurah website)

ROOM 35

We would like to express our gratitude for your support during your child's swimming lessons. Thanks to your help, our students had everything they needed, from towels and goggles to warm clothing. The students thoroughly enjoyed their swimming lessons, including the bus rides to and from the pool. We are extremely proud of the behaviour displayed by our Room 35 students, and they have made us all very proud.

In health, students have been actively developing their understanding of public and private concepts as part of their protective behaviour unit. This seamlessly integrated into our swimming lessons, and it has been wonderful to see them apply their understanding to real-life situations such as swimming.

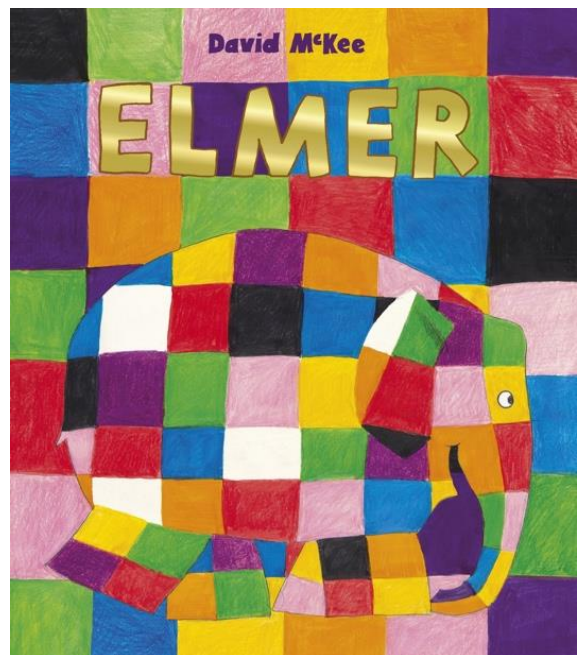
In literacy, we have just completed our "Talk for Writing" unit on Elmer, the Patchwork Elephant which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the students. Students immersed themselves in the story of Elmer through a diverse range of activities, including participating in group discussions, engaging in shared reading sessions, undertaking oral language exercises, participating in hands-on role-play, completing writing tasks, and exploring arts and crafts projects.

Our students have been actively participating in both formal and informal math lessons. During formal lessons, students have been diligently working towards individualised number, algebra, measurement, and geometry IEP goals through tailored learning and activities.

Additionally, our informal math sessions this term have focused on mathematical games to promote student engagement, reinforce mathematical concepts, encourage collaboration, and develop problem-solving, social, and emotional skills.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude for all your support during this term in facilitating your child's learning. As the end of the term rapidly approaches, we take pride in the accomplishments of all our students. We eagerly anticipate witnessing their achievements in the upcoming term 3.

Mrs Lewis



ROOM 11

We are coming to the end of another wonderful semester. During weeks 6 and 7, we began our swimming lessons, and all the students participated with great enthusiasm! They have become increasingly independent in organizing their swimming gear and have demonstrated significant responsibility when walking to and from the bus and using seatbelts. A big thank you to Mrs. Vincent, Miss Raabe, Mrs Somerton, and Miss Hart for their dedicated support during the swimming lessons.

In Talk for Writing we have continued to learn the actions for our story Possum Magic and the students are excited to start innovating the story. The students will use our Talk 4 Writing scheme to rewrite their own version of Possum Magic. They have been using Key Word Sign to retell the story to the rest of the class. We have focused on using adjectives in sentences during our short burst writing and the students have come up with some fantastic adjectives in their sentences.

During Maths we have commenced a unit on Australian Money. The students have enjoying using the plastic coins to order them by value, calculate sums of money, and work out how much change you should receive when you pay for an item. To reinforce this learning, we have been playing shops and interactive games on the smartboard.

As we complete our assessments for the Semester 1 school reports, it is wonderful to witness the achievements of our students and their dedication to reaching their goals. Learning new things can be challenging, and I am very proud of the effort each student puts into their work.



Mrs Stewart

ROOM 19

Here we are at week 10, and what a busy and productive Term 2 it has been in Room 19. Weeks 6 and 7 saw us participate in whole school swimming lessons, with all of the students from Room 19 taking part, making us proud with their enthusiasm, positive attitude and exemplary behaviour during what is a big change of routine for them. I want to acknowledge our parents for their support of what is a vitally important and potentially lifesaving program.

The students of Room 19 have worked hard over the first half of the school year and with a whole class focus on regulation, have amazed us with their capacity and motivation to undertake learning tasks. This has resulted in all students achieving a high percentage of the learning outcomes set at the beginning of the year. Congratulations to you all.

I wish to thank my amazing Education Assistants for their support and unwavering dedication to our students over this semester.

To parents, your continued support of our class programs is much appreciated. Enjoy the upcoming holidays.



Michelle Anderson

Noongyar Season: Makaru

Makaru sees the coldest and wettest time of the year come into full swing. Traditionally, this was a good time of the year to move back inland from the coast as the winds turned to the west and south bringing the cold weather, rains and occasionally snow on the peaks of the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges.



There are many websites to inform about the characteristics of Makaru and the five other seasons, including [Edith Cowan University](#). City of Mandurah offers the [Six Seasons Journal Educator's Pack](#).

ROOM 36

Term 2 has been very busy with many special events happening at school. In weeks 6 and 7 our school had our annual swimming lessons. This year, we were lucky enough to go to the Murray Aquatic and Recreation Centre for these lessons. Over the two weeks, all students tried their very best and had fun learning and playing games in the water. Congratulations to all the students who participated in swimming and thank you to the students who were very responsible staying back at school.



In English, students have continued to practice their spelling skills and have been impressing the teachers with their weekly test results. They have been practicing predicting skills by predicting what they think a book will be about after being shown only the front cover. They made some pretty good predictions, with some of them even being correct!

In protective behaviours, the students have been learning about community helpers and trust networks. We held a class discussion on who we thought should be in trust networks and then wrote the names of each person on a hand template so they could be remembered.

In Mathematics, we have been learning about time, including how to read the time to the hour, half-hour and to the minute. We also covered how to convert the time on a digital clock to an analogue clock and convert 12-hour time to 24-hour time.

We look forward to bringing you updates of our students and our classroom next term! We hope everyone has a fun and safe school holidays.

Miss Terry



Thank you!

The staff of Riverside ESC express their gratitude to the staff and instructors of MALC for helping to make our 2024 swimming program such a success.

Thanks again from all of us.

ROOM 37

What a busy term we have had! Room 37 students have excelled in their progress this term, achieving well in their literacy and numeracy goals. It has been great to see all students engaging with our lessons and improving in their individual tasks. Every week begins with a featured Story of the Week and the class participates in activities relating to this text throughout the week. Our story for week 9 was Wombat Stew which saw the students collect natural materials from around the school and create their own Wombat Stews from these. Students were so engaged the fun continued with student led creation of a collaborative stew using ingredients leftover after collages were produced.



Students collaborate to make their Wombat Stew.



Swimming was a big success with most students in Room 37 attending each day and improving in their swimming abilities and confidence. I was so proud with how our students dealt with the change in routine and the maturity they showed in transitioning between school, the bus and pool during these two weeks.

Our garden is thriving, and the students are enjoying visiting and observing the growth, especially since the rain has started. It won't be long until we can enjoy the fruits of our labour and sample the yummy, healthy produce we have grown.

As always, cooking is still a highlight of our week. The students enjoy participating in all aspects of the cooking process and tasting the outcome. We always discuss the healthiness of our weekly cooking product as well as the difficulty and how it relates to our overall idea of making our own food. For instance, this term we made our own pasta

from scratch. We discussed the simplicity of making it, and how long it takes to make in comparison to the convenience of using store bought pasta. However, all the students enjoyed eating the pasta and even asked for seconds. We made so much that students made up bowls of leftovers and shared them with another classroom and Mr Douglas. This really made their day!

It is not long now until we can all have a well-deserved holiday and come back refreshed for another great term in Term 3. Thank you for being awesome, and we are all so proud of how far you have all come in Room 37!

Mrs Arthur

ROOM 10

Swimming Lessons were held during Week 5 and 6. The boys in Room 10 were amazing during these two weeks. Their behaviour was amazing at the pool, listening to their teachers and behaving safely. It was great to watch their swimming skills improve, also to watch them have so much fun catching the bus every day and learning to swim. As their teacher, I was so proud of all Room 10 students throughout the two weeks of swimming!



With the rain finally arriving, Room 10 have been trying to make them most of the fine days to enjoy our outside areas. The students have been using the oval in sport, had the chance to ride the new bikes and scooters at the bike track and they really enjoy time in the Aboriginal Garden for imaginative play time.



For T&E this term Room 10 has been learning about foods from different cultures. The boys have looked forward each week to these lessons, although eating the foods has definitely been their most favourite part of each lesson!



National Simultaneous Story Time was held on Wednesday 22nd May. On this day, children all over Australia listened to the story *Bowerbird Blues* by Aura Parker, including students from Room 10. In the library, Mrs Flannagan also made a wonderful display for this story.

We hope everyone has safe and fun holidays! Thank you for supporting us with your children's education.

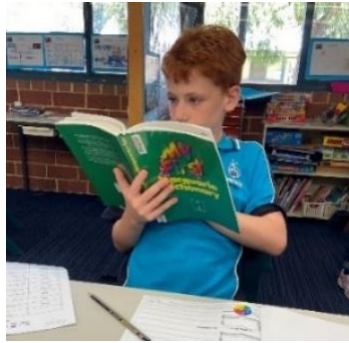
Kerry Sadler

ROOM 4

The students of Room 4 have been extremely busy with curriculum activities, swimming lessons and cooking. Swimming lessons were a tremendous success, with the students really enjoying the indoor pools at MALC. As one of the senior classes, the students were able to support and encourage their younger friends.



In the literacy sessions, the students have been working hard to use a dictionary to assist them with alphabetical order, spelling, and the meaning of words.



The students have been discovering the beauty of acceptance and friendship through the book *Two Mates* by Melanie Prewett. This true story explores the special mateship between two boys who have grown up together in Broome in Australia's northwest. Jack is Indigenous and Raf is a non-Indigenous boy who has spina bifida. (See image below.)



This term, during health and technology sessions, the students have explored the origins of wheat and pizza. They loved designing pizza toppings, making and eating a pizza. They were delicious! Plus, the students practiced laying a table, and used a knife and fork to eat on several occasions.

We are looking forward to a well-deserved holiday,

Mrs Blockley

Whatever Raf and I do, we always have fun.
I'm glad we're mates.

