



# TERM 1 2025 NEWSLETTER

Monday, March 31st, 2025





## John Tonkin College Education Support Centre

*Celebrating 30 Years*

This year, JTCEC is celebrating 30 years. We have been known by many names, in multiple different sites across Mandurah, but our goals have remained consistent - to educate our students and empower them to reach their dreams.



Our school recognises the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to the Country on which we live, work, learn and grow. We pay respects to Elders past, present, and emerging. We acknowledge and respect the heritage and connections of the Bindjareb people of the Noongar Nation.



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 Department of Education  
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Shaping the future**

## Secondary Assistance Scheme

Years 7 to 12 you may be eligible for up to:

# \$535

towards school expenses

If you hold a:

- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card.

**Applications close 11 April 2025**

**Ask School Reception for more information.**



## Do you have a health care card? You could be eligible for Saver Plus.

For every dollar you save, you'll get a dollar from ANZ to spend on educational costs, up to \$500.

To join, you need to meet all of these requirements:

- ✓ Be 18 years or older
- ✓ Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- ✓ Have a child in school, starting school next year, or be studying yourself
- ✓ Get a regular income (can be you or your partner)
- ✓ Agree to join in free online financial education workshops

  
1300 610 355 [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)



# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A warm welcome to staff, students, parents and caregivers. We have had a busy start to the 2025 school year with nineteen Year 11s joining the Year 12s.

We have been lucky to add David Bennett, teacher and Design & Technology Specialist, Phil Crossley, Education Assistant (EA), who has experience with Cadets, as permanent additions to our staff and many new and familiar faces. During the course of the term, we said farewell to Charmaine Guest, who has retired after over 29 years with the Department of Education!

Students have been enjoying classroom activities as well as exciting excursions such as bowling, boules and volunteering at Amaze Miniature Village. The students visited Containers for Change as part of their ongoing program in Sustainability. As always, Cadets, Workshop, Art and our VET courses have been highlights.

We look forward to the addition of covered areas on the decking outside the kitchen, classroom and Sensory space, as well as a half basketball court and soft fall area with a basket swing and the students' choice of equipment.

Thank you to the students, staff and parents/carers for a wonderful start to the year.

*Kristin Lucas*

Principal



# SCHOOL BOARD



**Laura Tolomei**  
Chairperson



**Kristin Lucas**  
Principal



**Clare Munro**  
Staff



**Aaron Spice**  
Staff



**Penelope Madigan**  
Staff



**Shannon Wright**  
Community



**Chilambe Kawame**  
Community



**Nancy Hartnett**  
Community



**Jenny Green**  
Community

# STUDENT SERVICES

We've had an exciting start to the new school year. Welcome to our Year 12 students and greetings to our new Year 11s. Here are some updates to kick off the year:

## School Support Dogs Return

We are excited to announce the return of our school support dogs. Maple and Hanna have created a welcoming atmosphere and have been supporting our students' emotional well-being, contributing to a positive school community.

## New Addition to Student Services

A big welcome to Shelly Hodge, the newest member of our Student Services team. Shelly brings valuable experience, and we are excited to have her on board!

## Student Services Initiatives

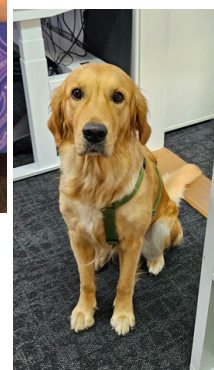
This term, Student Services has been actively engaging with students, addressing their individual needs and supporting the development of self-regulation toolboxes. We have also been working closely with teachers to assist with hygiene and self-care programs, providing personalised wash bags.

## New Student Services Hub

We have started the new year off with a trial of our new Student Services hub in T1. This hub provides an additional space for students to focus on self-regulation and calm time.

## New Referral Form System

To make it easier for students to request appointments, we rolled out a new Student Services appointment request form system. The forms are available in all classrooms, and the referral request box is located adjacent to the Student Services room at the administrative office.



*Julie Woodman*  
Student Services EA

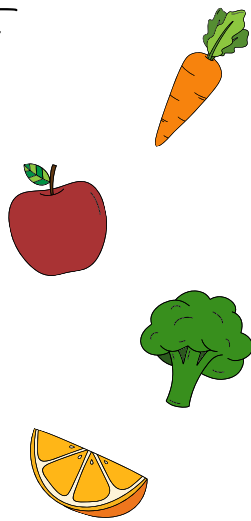
# BRUNCH CAFE

It has been a very rewarding start to the year in my new role coordinating the Brunch Cafe. It is such a pleasure to see the students embrace and try some 'new' food as well as see their social interactions.

The Brunch Cafe is more than just a place to grab a bite - it's a vibrant space dedicated to the well-being and growth of our students. Designed with a focus on inclusivity and support, The Brunch Cafe offers students not only a welcoming environment but also an opportunity to connect, learn, and unwind; it is where students can come together and feel comfortable while enjoying a snack and drink.

This gives our students the chance to build social skills, work on communication, and develop a sense of community within the school. It's not just about food - it's about fostering a space where students can thrive.

*Filomena Maranta*  
Brunch Cafe Coordinator



# TRANSITION

Transitioning from school to adulthood can be a challenging journey, but you don't have to navigate it alone. A Transition Support Officer (TSO) is here to assist you every step of the way, ensuring you have the support and resources you need to thrive.

## **Navigating DSP and NDIS**

Understanding and accessing the Disability Support Pension (DSP) and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) can be complex. A TSO can:

- Provide Information
- Assist with Applications
- Advocate on Your Behalf

## **Building Community Connections**

Staying connected with your community is vital for personal growth and well-being. A TSO can help you by:

- Identifying Opportunities
- Facilitating Introductions
- Encouraging Participation

## **Planning for the Future**

Life after school brings new opportunities and challenges. A TSO can assist with:

- Career Guidance
- Further Educational Support
- Life Skills Development

My role is to assist our students throughout their time at JTCESC, providing them with information and opportunities to facilitate a smooth transition into adulthood.

*Aaron Spice*  
Transition Support Officer



# WORKPLACE LEARNING

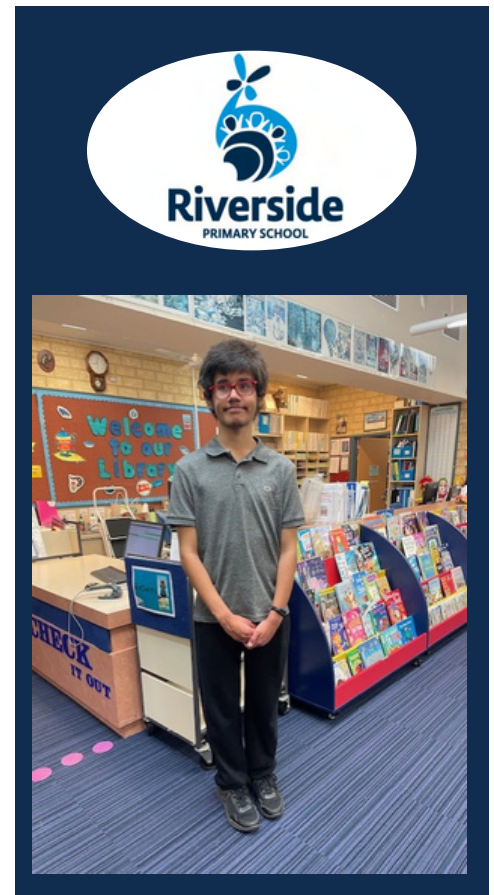
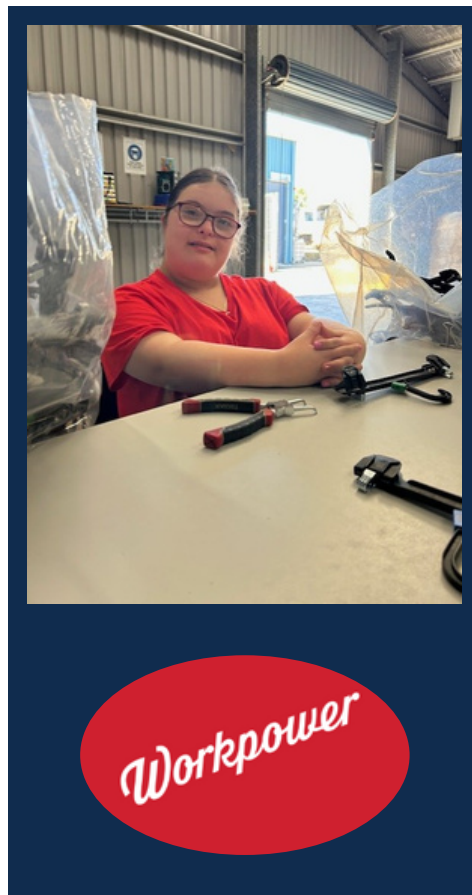
The first group of students started their work experience in Term 1. All students have been receiving favourable comments from their employers during workplace learning. It is great to see our students representing our school so well in the community.

Workplace Learning is a very important program. It gives students the opportunity to work in a real workplace and to obtain and develop genuine skills, as well as to get a written work reference from the employer or the school.

Thank you to all parents/carers and students for being organised for the workday.

*Marg Bowman*

*Workplace Learning Coordinator*



# MS LAMBERT'S CLASS

# T2

Term 1 has been filled with exciting activities and memorable experiences!

## Breakfast Club

Every Monday, T2 students kicked off the week by preparing delicious breakfast treats such as bacon and egg muffins, toasted cheese sandwiches, Weet-Bix slices, and sausage rolls. It was a fantastic way to bring everyone together, start the day on a positive note and demonstrate their cooking skills!

## Excursions & Activities

Students had a wonderful time exploring the community, enjoying activities like ten-pin bowling, swimming at Pinjarra Pools, and playing lawn bowls. These outings kept them active while also helping them develop important social skills and teamwork.

## Classroom Life

Our students have settled in beautifully, actively participating in various class activities and contributing to a warm and welcoming learning environment.

We are excited for more amazing moments ahead and look forward to the rest of the year!

*Tarryn Lambert*  
Teacher



# MS BROCKMAN'S CLASS FG03

FG03 Have had a busy start to the year!

We decided on our class expectations and developed our class reward system that will help us during the year to develop our understanding of money, budgeting, and banking.

In Maths, our focus has been on numbers and how to use their properties to count in easier ways or understand their value.

We have also focused on understanding ourselves and finding out about possible future careers and jobs we might enjoy, as well as developing our understanding of the language of the world of work.

*Lexie Brockman*  
Teacher



# MR BENNETT'S CLASS

# FG04

The first term at any school is always frantic with new students, new teachers, and new class groups. With this in mind, it's easy to forgive a rocky beginning to the year, but down in FG04, nothing could be further from the truth. All our students have hit the ground running and made the start of the 2025 academic year an absolute blinder!

We've been working on applied skills this term: how literacy and numeracy are useful to us in real life and practising those skills we all need as adults. Keeping track of money and time have all featured in our activities, as has work around modern communication like email.

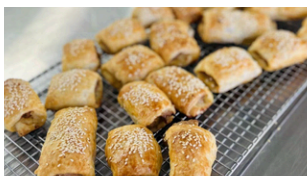
FG04 has also been cooking up a storm in the kitchen with brownies, sausage rolls and hamburgers. It's impressive to see young people demonstrate their ability to look after their own needs in this way. They choose what to cook, where to source ingredients and put everything together like culinary superstars.

And while we look forward to what's on the horizon for the rest of the year, check out some more of our memorable moments:



"This term I did a drawing for the Gallery of Awesomeness of Stitch money. I also created a symmetry picture. We learnt new skills in cooking like how to make good burgers and different types of brownies. Our teacher is funny and good at teaching us." – Tilda

"In term 1 we made origami cubes and then joined them together to make a tall tower." – Dan



"This term we learnt that sea monkeys are real, and we also learnt how to send emails" – Jayden

"I liked playing the dice games and rolling the dice. The games helped me with maths and chance." – Memphis



"I really enjoyed flipping the burger patties and making hamburgers. They were delicious and I would make them again someday" - Indi

*David Bennett*  
Teacher

# MS SMITH'S CLASS FG09

Term 1 has flown by and the students in FG09 have had an exciting and busy term! Students have settled in well at school and have become familiar with their routine and weekly classes. They've developed some excellent time management skills, socio-emotional strategies, and subject-specific knowledge.

Alongside our academic work, such as English and Maths, the students in FG09 have been volunteering on Mondays at the Amaze Mini Park. They engage in a range of hands-on tasks and develop independence, confidence, responsibility and employability skills here, as well as strengthening their social and communication skills. They walk away feeling proud of their efforts and contributions. We will continue this until Week 10 this term.

In cooking, each student has chosen a main meal and dessert which we have been making each week... some highlights include cheesy meat pasta, banana split, ice-cream sandwiches and butter chicken! Yum! Students have also been learning how to cook with dairy-free ingredients, as they have a peer who has this as a dietary requirement.

Well done to all our students for starting 2025 on such a positive note. Enjoy the Easter break and school holidays when they arrive!

*Megan Smith*  
Teacher



# ART

In the Arts, we have been working in the world of Art. Students have had the opportunity to express who they are in projects such as explosion books, all about them. They took a closer look at an artist, Jean Arp, who worked in the area of “art by chance,” and not only researched what it was like to be him, but also made pieces of art inspired by him. Students also learnt some lettering basics and used this to produce pop art pieces.

*Lexie Brockman*  
Teacher



# CADETS

In Emergency Services Cadet Corp (ESCC) this term, students have been focusing on what it means to be a Cadet. We have covered their Cadet Induction, ESCC Values, Code of Conduct, Uniform, Objectives and Responsibilities of the Services, Recruit Drills – Flags, Team Building, and an Overview of Volunteer Emergency Services in our area. It's been a very busy Term 1!

All students have signed their Code of Conduct which means they are officially welcomed into the service. The Year 11's are our Cadet Recruits and our Year 12's have graduated to Cadet Level 1.

Our Cadets have also been learning about the Phonetic alphabet and how to tie knots. The enthusiasm within the group has been remarkable. It's great to see everyone involved and giving it a go! On Cadet Day we are responsible for raising and lowering the 4 flags out the front of the school. The students all pitch in with respect and pride always remembering our flag protocols.

Cadets staff are busy planning for a whole school camp to be held on the 26th-28th of May at Mornington Camp in Harvey. More information will be provided as soon as we can confirm it. The camp will be free, meaning no extra cost to you.

This year, the ESCC team has a new look, with new staff member Mr Crossley joining Mr Barritt, Mrs Hegney and I in facilitating the Cadets program every Tuesday.

*Nat Harris*

ESCC Unit Leader



# WORKSHOP

Our school boasts one of the finest workshops installed in an Education Support Centre anywhere in the state. We're well set up and staffed to allow all our students to engage safely in workshop activities. Over the course of the term, students have built a wooden toy truck as an introduction (or for our Year 12s, a refresher!) to the industrial environment; tools and machinery; and new materials.

Students have used such machinery as drill press and linisher, having been assessed as competent (a requirement of the WA Workplace Health and Safety Act). Measuring, marking out, cutting, modifying, and assembling all featured in their woodworking repertoire as each student was supported to complete their own project. This has given us real insight into the kinds of projects students are capable of and may be interested in for term 2 and beyond.

Since we're all but finished our first project, we next move into computer-assisted design and 3D printing. Once again, the college is well set up in this regard with access to single and multi-coloured printing machines. Watch this space for the amazing things we produce!



*David Bennett*  
Teacher





# CONSTRUCTION

Students have had a good start to Construction with an emphasis on Teamwork and an introduction to Workplace Health and Safety requirements. Students have started to use basic materials and hand skills whilst practising their Brick Laying and Rendering skills in preparation for their basic construction project later in the course. They have been learning how to safely set up and use the Cement Mixer to mix mortar and to use hand tools such as a Bricks Trowel and Spirit Level.

*Mark Barritt*  
Trainer



# RETAIL

Term 1 has kicked off with an enthusiastic group in Retail, including the Rockingham Education Support students who bring a wonderful energy to our class.

This year, we are excited to expand our dog treat sales with "Bark Bites," experimenting with new recipes, while students also delve into workplace learning at Kingston's Kitchen, the school café. Our initial unit on workplace safety is nearing completion, highlighted by a recent visit to Bunnings Warehouse, where students gained insights into safety regulations and the diverse roles within the retail sector. We eagerly anticipate collaborating with Bunnings on various projects this year.

*Meagan Green*  
Trainer



# BEAUTY

The hair and beauty class has been a fantastic opportunity to develop essential skills. This course focuses on teaching students the fundamental skills required in the industry. From hair washing and styling, to manicures, pedicures, and facials, the class provides a well-rounded foundation for students to explore this exciting field. These hands-on experiences are designed not only to build technical skills but also to foster confidence and creativity.

The class also focuses on hygiene and safety practices, teaching students how to maintain a clean and safe work environment. Whether they're handling products for hair treatments, or using equipment like hair dryers or straighteners, students are learning the importance of sanitation and safety.

Beyond the technical skills, the hair and beauty class also provide invaluable lessons in workplace readiness. Students have learnt about fundamental skills such as time management, communication, and teamwork – all vital aspects of working in any work environment. The students are being encouraged to reflect on their own skills and how they can develop them further. The students have also reflected on setting S.M.A.R.T. goals which we will explore further.

By combining practical skills with important life lessons, the hair and beauty class is an empowering experience for the students, and it's clear that they are enjoying their Thursdays in Hair and Beauty.

*Filomena Maranta*  
Trainer



# ENTERPRISE

Enterprise has had a productive and rewarding time so far this Term!

We have partnered with WA Mom's Cottage, where we help by tearing rags and packaging them into 5kg bags for their organization to sell to the community.

For Harmony Day, we visited the Mandurah Filipino Community Centre, where we made delicious spring rolls, cookie noodles, and banana and chocolate spring rolls. Our students work exceptionally well as a team and truly enjoy giving back to the community.

We have more exciting excursions planned for next term and look forward to watching our students continue to engage with and contribute to the wonderful opportunities our community has to offer.

*Tarryn Lambert*  
Teacher



# ANIMAL STUDIES

Term 1 is off to a fantastic start in Animal Studies, with a large group of 10 students from JTCESC, Rockingham, Coodanup, Warnbro and MCC. We've had the pleasure of meeting our class stars—Bear, a friendly Border Collie who loves to play fetch, and Dallas, a lovable Golden Retriever who just can't get enough pats.

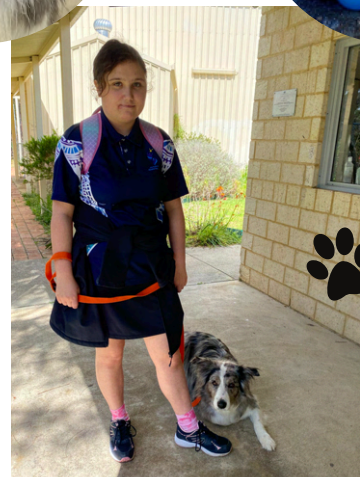
Students have begun their first assignments in Work Health and Safety and are learning how to work as part of a team in an animal care workplace. Students have been practising their daily workplace cleaning roster and practising skills such as sweeping, mopping and general cleaning tasks, for their hygiene unit.

Each week the workplace has a different Team Leader and WHS officer where students are learning about communication skills and have started practicing public speaking.

All students are learning how to handle the dogs safely; with multiple walks a day to and from the exercise yard! All students are enjoying bonding with the dogs and they are learning quickly that pats, treats and toys are the quickest way into their good books!

Everyone has thoroughly enjoyed playing ball with Bear giving Dallas plenty of pats. It's shaping up to be a fun and rewarding term!

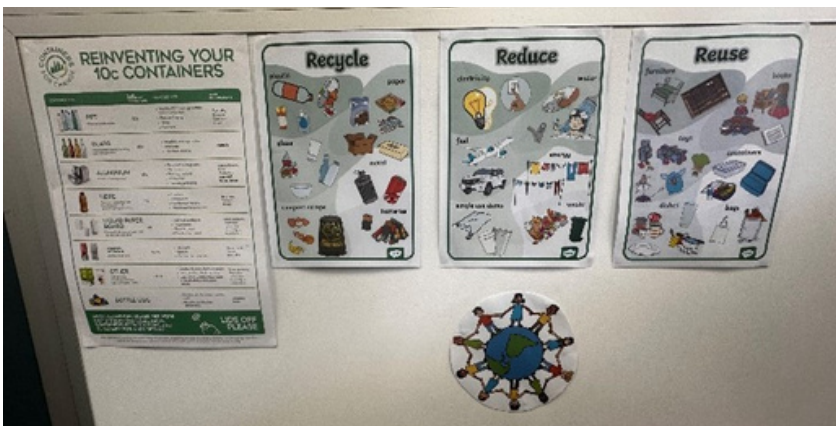
*Shea McCann*  
Trainer



# SUSTAINABILITY

It has been a wonderful first term in sustainability! The students have engaged in weekly nature clean-up walks and sustainability discussions, which involve collecting any 10c containers for our school Containers for Change program and any general rubbish in the area. We are proud to clean up our local environment and help keep our school looking healthy and beautiful! We have already collected around 10 bags full of containers, which will be recycled at a local depot soon. All the funds raised through this amazing program will be donated to a local charity/ organisation. Students have shown a keen interest in this program and enjoy our walks around the campus. Well done to all students, parents/carers and staff and thank you for your ongoing support!

*Megan Smith*  
Teacher



# HOSPITALITY

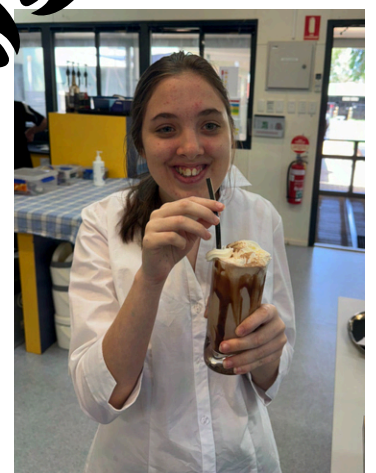
## A Journey into Hospitality!

This term, I've had the privilege of taking two of our wonderful students through their Certificate I in Hospitality. It's been such an exciting and rewarding experience! Together, we've been learning how to make coffees and cold drinks, as well as focusing on essential health and safety practices and hygiene in cafés.

The students have truly been outstanding in representing our school, not only by developing their skills, but also by navigating public transport with amazing independence. Their ability to travel to and from their sessions has been impressive, showing great responsibility and confidence.

I've been so impressed by their enthusiasm and dedication. Not only are they mastering practical skills, but they're also building confidence that will serve them well in the future. It's been amazing to see their progress, and I'm really looking forward to continuing this journey with them as they develop their skills in the hospitality industry.

*Gemma Sheehan*  
Supervisor



# OUTDOORS INDOORS

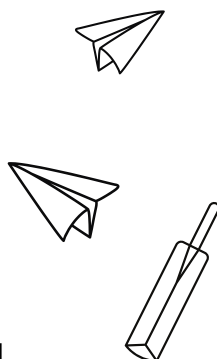
This year at school, students spend part of their Fridays with Mr Bennett in the Outdoors/Indoors program. This involves a combination of low-impact exercise; sports and traditional team games; and in-class collaborative projects. Our focus in term one has been batting/fielding games and different kinds of cricket (who knew there were so many!). Our sporting endeavours culminated in our first staff vs student challenge which ended in a very hard-fought draw.

In our indoor pursuits, we reached for the stars in tower-building challenges, stacked paper cups into some amazing (but super delicate) structures and experienced the ancient Japanese art of origami. Staying in Asia, we learned to play Ddakji, a casual game played by children in Korea for hundreds of years, and Con Lợn (Pig), a dice game from Vietnam where the most important skill is knowing when to stop.

The two main purposes of Outdoors/Indoors are firstly to improve physical health and development through adaptive sports; and secondly, to enhance collaborative and social skills through recreational play. Our students have taken to the program with great enthusiasm: check out the pictures for how much fun is being had by everyone.

PS. As the weather starts to cool, get ready for a move to winter sports, including the Kalability AFL football carnival in June.

*David Bennett*  
Teacher

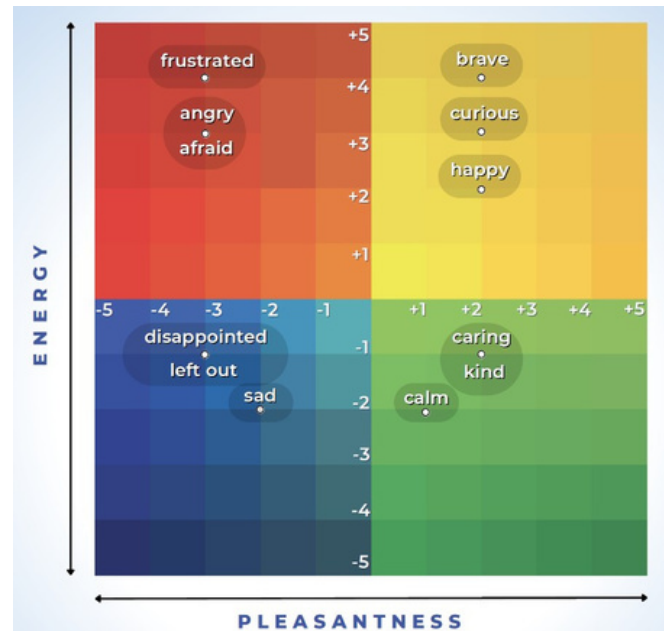




# WELLBEING & CODING

On Fridays, we have been developing our skills as emotion scientists, exploring ways to talk about our emotions in a way that recognises the value of all emotions. We have focused on the language of “pleasant” compared to “unpleasant,” and “high-energy” compared to “low-energy.”

We are working on classifying emotions as red, blue, yellow or green based on their level of energy and pleasantness.



We have also been participating in a range of activities that could help us move from one colour to another, such as Lego building, pickleball, totem tennis and painting. Students are exploring preferences for some activities over others:

- Pickleball is a great game to play if you're feeling yellow, and can also help you feel yellow if you want to feel pleasant and high-energy. Some students have demonstrated a real joy for pickleball.
- Many students have opted for painting when they are feeling a bit blue. Painting allows you to do something low-energy and hopefully move towards feeling more pleasant.
- Totem tennis is a great activity if you have a lot of energy. If you feel red, a high-energy activity like totem tennis could help you feel yellow.

Our focus in coding has been on following instructions and sequencing instructions using block coding for computer-based programming. We have used Osmos and a range of online programs to develop these skills. Following instructions to build various Lego creations also helps students develop the foundational skills used in coding.

*Kate Gelle*  
Teacher



# QUICK REFERENCES

Below are some quick links and references you might find helpful.

## Contact Us



[www.facebook.com/JTCESC](http://www.facebook.com/JTCESC)



[www.johntonkincollegeesc.wa.edu.au](http://www.johntonkincollegeesc.wa.edu.au)



[JohnTonkinCollege.ESC@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:JohnTonkinCollege.ESC@education.wa.edu.au)



08 9583 0571

## What's On in Mandurah?



[www.mandurah.wa.gov.au/explore/whats-on/](http://www.mandurah.wa.gov.au/explore/whats-on/)



[www.facebook.com/CityofMandurah](http://www.facebook.com/CityofMandurah)

## Education News



[www.education.wa.edu.au](http://www.education.wa.edu.au)



[www.facebook.com/PublicEducationWA](http://www.facebook.com/PublicEducationWA)

## Support Services



[www.foodbank.org.au](http://www.foodbank.org.au)



08 9581 9200



[www.anglicarewa.org.au](http://www.anglicarewa.org.au)



1800 910 211



[www.abilitywa.com.au](http://www.abilitywa.com.au)



1300 106 106



[www.activ.asn.au](http://www.activ.asn.au)



08 9387 0555



[www.actbelongcommit.org.au](http://www.actbelongcommit.org.au)

# MENTAL HEALTH

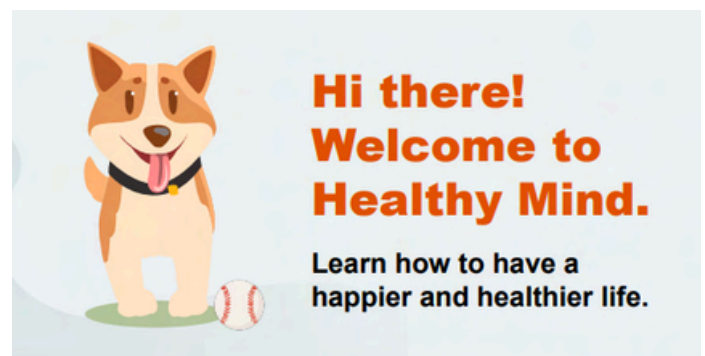
If you are concerned for your safety or the safety of others, seek immediate assistance by calling Triple Zero (000).

**Lifeline** | 13 11 14 | [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au) | Provides 24/7 Crisis Support.

**Beyond Blue** | 1300 22 46 36 | [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au) | Provides 24/7 Advice, Mental Health Referrals and Support.

**Kids Helpline** | 1800 55 1800 | [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au) | 24/7 Counselling Service for Young People (Aged 5-25).

**13 YARN** | 13 92 76 | [www.13yarn.org.au](http://www.13yarn.org.au) | Provides 24/7 Crisis Support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.



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**The 4 steps of an RUOK? conversation**

- 1 Ask R U OK?** How are you travelling?
- 2 Listen** I'm here to listen if you want to talk more.
- 3 Encourage action** Have you spoken to your doctor about this?
- 4 Check in** Just wanted to check in and see how you're doing?

Learn more at [ruok.org.au](http://ruok.org.au)

- Healthy Mind is an Easy Read website for building good mental health
- It can help you when you feel:
  - sad
  - angry
  - worried
- It is easy to use and has lots of videos and fun activities
- Try Healthy Mind with someone you trust

**Go to [healthymind.org.au](http://healthymind.org.au)**

Issue: July 2020 **Black Dog Institute** | **Healthy Mind**



**John Tonkin College**  
**Education Support Centre**

*Celebrating 30 Years*



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[JohnTonkinCollege.ESC@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:JohnTonkinCollege.ESC@education.wa.edu.au)



1 Education Drive, Mandurah WA 6210