

# doxa school bendigo

valuing the diversity, resilience and potential of young people

**December 2021**



## A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Sunday, the 28th Nov was the first Sunday of Advent, the period on our Church Calendar that marks our preparation for Christmas and celebrating the birth of Jesus. It is also the beginning of our last days of school for the year.

We have had another lockdown interrupted year and it has been tiring one. It is very recognisable that students, staff members and lots of our families that have visited the school recently are pretty worn out and I hope they are able to have a restful Christmas and New Year with an opportunity to catch up with family and friends.

I would like to congratulate those students who were able to maintain regular attendance at school throughout the year, it was a challenge for many. Thank you to all our families for your support over the past 12 months.

There were so many things we were unable to do again in 2021 such as camps and excursions, and it is my hope that 2022 will see our school activities return to a more normal sort of program.

Last night we celebrated our annual Doxa awards at the St Killians hall. It was great to see such a turn out. Congratulations to all of our students and a special mention to those who took out individual awards. The staff enjoy catching up with families each year and it's great to be able to farewell students that are moving on next year. Photos of the night are on our Facebook page

I expect that current Vaccination requirements will cross over into 2022. That means that all visitors to our school will need to show proof of being fully vaccinated, unless they have valid proof of an approved exemption. While it is not mandatory for students; however, in alignment with health advice, vaccinations are strongly encouraged as the best way to protect individuals, families and school communities from further outbreaks and the spread of COVID-19. Students 12 years of age and older are eligible to receive a vaccination.

Unfortunately, students who are not vaccinated will be limited in the activities, external to the school, that they can participate in. Many businesses and other organisations require proof of vaccination for all users prior to entry. This applies to Bendigo/Kangan TAFE, Jets Gym, other Gyms, the Zone, most cafés and eateries and many other venues we visit on a regular basis as part of our program.

Unvaccinated students would be unable to participate in many program activities including camps and excursions. Unvaccinated students unable to participate in off-site activities will be catered for with on-site activities.

In the light of this I would encourage all parents/carers to seek medical advice and seriously consider accessing COVID vaccinations for their student.

God Bless and stay safe over the upcoming holiday period.

Kind regards,  
John.



**Ways to contact the school on 54428140 or 0417 108 870 or message us on Facebook**  
**<https://www.facebook.com/DoxaSchoolBendigo/>**

# LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

On Friday 3rd December we were finally able to enjoy some time out as a whole community and celebrate the end of the year.

We all ventured to the ZONE and participated in some fun activities for the afternoon. Students and staff had some friendly competition on the go-carts and laser tag with some terrific results and some very friendly fire along the way.

Some staff may have got a bit more competitive than some students we would say but not naming names (cough, cough, Lillie and Claire)!!

It was great to see so many participating and having a go and we look forward to many more opportunities in 2022 to celebrate as a community.





# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS

## AMINDAS CLASS

Well it's almost the end of the year and the students in Aminda, Claire and Amy's classroom space have been ensuring that they are still working hard in everything they do.

This term, we have been out and about doing lots of fun things now that restrictions have been eased. Our class has been able to visit local parks, go fishing at Lake Eppalock, and try out our athleticism at Major League sports in Golden Square.

The focus of our learning has been to interpret and read tables and graphs, and to build on our knowledge of Pythagoras' theorem. We have been developing our spelling and writing a variety of different types of texts.

Although we have had a great time here at Doxa, I don't think any of us are complaining that the holiday break is starting next week.

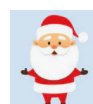
We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas, and for those of you returning next year, we look forward to seeing you in the new year!

Aminda, Claire & Amy



### **Important Dates to remember**

Christmas Day - Saturday 25th December 2021



School office opens - Monday 24th January 2022

First day of term 1 - Wednesday 2nd February 2022



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

## RUTH'S CLASS

Well, we cannot believe it has come to the end of the year.

It has certainly had its moments with lockdown after lockdown.

We have had a terrific year besides all of these with students setting goals and ticking them off along the way.

Students improved in their literacy and numeracy outcomes and should be very proud of the work they achieved throughout the year.

Tony, Amy and I would like to congratulate all our students on their resilience on attending school and doing their best in 2021.

We say goodbye to some students as they begin a new journey and students that will begin their final 2 years at Doxa beginning their VCAL studies and we wish them all the very best.

We wish you all a very safe and happy holiday period and cannot wait to welcome you all back at the beginning of 2022.

Ruth, Tony and Amy xxx



### *A Christmas Poem*

*Santa needs new reindeer. The first bunch has grown old.*

*Dasher has arthritis; Comet hates the cold.*

*Prancer's sick of staring at Dancer's big behind.*

*Cupid married Blitzen and Donner lost his mind.*

*Dancer's mad at Vixen for stepping on his toes.*

*Vixen's being thrown out - she laughed at Rudolph's nose.*

*If you are a reindeer we hope you will apply.*

*There is just one tricky part: You must know how to fly.*

*Timothy Tocher*

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

## KY'S CLASS

This term in the VCAL room we have been practicing our interpersonal and teamwork skills as well as finalising as many VCAL outcomes as we can.

This has meant that several of the students have been able to experience success, completing their VCAL certificates and/or beginning their post Doxa pathway into work.

Recently we put on our detective hats and went to 'Break Out Bendigo' where the students worked through the Murder Hotel escape room. We answered the clues and solved the crime, managing to escape the room and catch the killer H.H. Holmes.

Students enjoyed the opportunity to practice some of the interpersonal and employability skills including, problem solving, communication and teamwork.

Some of our students are leaving us this year, we wish them all success in their journeys. We hope that everyone has a safe and happy Christmas break.

Ky, Jac & Lillie



## JACKO'S CLASS

As we approach the end of a year that has gone so quickly, and at the same time felt like it has been going forever, it is time to look both back and forward.

It only seems like a couple of weeks ago we were catching trout at the trout farm as part of our orientation week. Since those first couple of weeks we have endured lockdowns and although our school stayed open, it greatly reduced the activities that we could enjoy in our community.

Our Monday safe lessons did allow a bit of time spent together as a class, outside of the classroom, and it was based around sitting and sharing food, BBQ's, Fish and Chips and of course HSP's. MMM HSP's!!

The class would like to thank me for all the hard work and educational opportunities that I have given them this year, I mean I would like to thank everyone in the class, staff, students and families for their contributions to a great year.

Our class has seen a couple of students move on to employment and several more are leaving Doxa at the end of the year to pursue other educational opportunities.

I would also like to thank Mick Turner for the amazing 3 terms that we had prior to him leaving for a break and Nick Grainger who stepped in and TRIED to fill the Mick shaped space that was left.

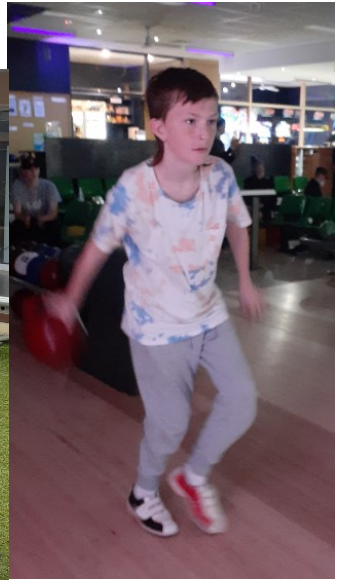
We wish everyone a safe and joyful break and I look forward to catching up with everyone in 2022.

Cheers Jacko, Mick, Nick & Lillie

2021 produced its fair share of disruptions and uncertainty but hopefully 2022 can give us a clear run to star



# PHOTO GALLERY



2021

