

# doxa school bendigo

valuing the diversity, resilience and potential of young people

**August 2023**



## **A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL**

### **ILP meetings:**

During term 3 we have a focus on beginning the discussions around transition into term 4 and 2024.

We encourage everyone to ensure that you have booked an ILP meeting over the next two weeks.

If you still need to book a meeting, please contact the office on 5442 8140.

### **Clothing expectations:**

A reminder that all students are required to wear appropriate footwear and clothing to school. This includes shoes that have covered in toes. Please do not wear slippers, thongs or slides. Our students participate in various activities that require protective footwear, this includes the kitchen, shed, art and travelling to parks etc.

We do not have a school uniform, however students are encouraged to wear neat casual dress. Please do not wear cropped or low cut tops, short shorts or offensive logos.

### **Staffing:**

Thank you to all of the staff for continuing to do the wonderful work that they do in my absence. I have now returned after a restful break.

Do all things with kindness.

Vanessa

## **Important Dates to remember**

Monday 14th August - Student free due to ILP meetings

Book Week run from the 19th to the 25th of August.



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

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS

## AMINDA'S CLASS

Aminda and Carla's class have hit the ground running this semester. We have begun to explore persuasive writing, including the use of persuasive devices. Did you know that using facts and data in personal writing can strengthen an argument by an additional 40%? That's amazing! Our class has also been learning about collecting, collating and representing data in different ways. Currently, we are looking at how much water we consume in the classroom on a weekly basis, and identifying the amount of water wastage we create as a class. We have also been exploring the likelihood of a range of events occurring, and how we can use this to inform decisions. Riveting stuff is happening in our space in Term 3!

We are building on our historical knowledge through our whole school Asia/Australia unit. We have been exploring the reasons that lead to British colonization of Australia, and the effects that this has had on the Indigenous Australians, as well as the generations of migrants arriving to make a new life for themselves. Our students are making efforts to work with Carla and Aminda preparation for camp in Term 4. It has been great to see that our class members are continuing to maintain a high level of attendance. We look forward to catching up with all of you in the ILP meetings to share some of the amazing things that have been happening in our space.

Aminda & Carla

## RUTH'S CLASS

Welcome to our Term 3 updates for Ruth and Jaq's class. It has been a busy start to the term with incursions and work experience placements for some of our students.

Students have participated in 'Party Ready' Incursion from St John of God where students learnt all about what it means to be safe when out with friends.

Students also enjoyed two days of a Writer's Festival provided by 100 Story Building workshops. These were terrific opportunities for our students to explore writing stories through images and shared group activities.

This week students will be involved with Victorian Legal Aid where students will gain information on sexual consent, sexting and the law.

We encourage all of our students to continue to take up opportunities to learn from the experts and build on their knowledge and skills in all areas of their schooling.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

## EMILY'S CLASS

We have been very busy already and we can't believe it's already Term 3! We have been lucky to partake in some different days with the whole school - the Mini Writers Festival and the 'Party Ready' sessions. We are also looking forward to the excursions later in the term and preparing for camps.

We have continued to prioritise the activities we enjoy as a class, such as cooking, now looking to make more complicated meals and linking our numeracy topic of measurement to this. We plan to make a huge batch of lasagna and have a go at making sushi. We also began the term discussing fake news, social media and online safety - a topic that all the students are experts in! We watched the documentary "The Social Dilemma" and discussed our opinions about this highly persuasive text. The remaining part of the term will involve engaging in the topic of sustainability and informative texts, linking this to real world strategies such as reducing our plastic water bottle consumption and composting (although it's hard to know if Emily is more excited about this than the students as a ex outdoor ed teacher - hence the gross and messy activities!)

Students are continuing to demonstrate their learning preferences and are directing their own learning more and more. Students have asked to contribute to our local community by cleaning up litter in local parks, something we will do towards the end of the term. It's wonderful to see students giving back to our community through their education. We are so proud of all of their efforts and achievements.

### Whole School Unit on Sustainability

This Term, classes have been learning about the topic of sustainability, specifically, the environmental impact of single use plastic water bottles. Similar to many schools, plastic water bottles were required during the COVID-19 pandemic, but during class discussions, students have felt that these are no longer needed. They have determined this through visually collecting their empty water bottles and any leftover water. Students have also calculated that we spend approximately \$3000 a year and use over 10,000 single use water bottles a year! Students passionately thought of alternative options such as reusable water bottles, collecting rainwater or a school water cooler drinking system. They also thought we could spend that money on some more exciting things like camps, excursions or new furniture!

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

## 100 Story Building Workshops

Students have had a terrific opportunity to undertake learning through writing and exploring what writing means in our community to build the literacy skills, confidence and sense of belonging that are fundamental to future success.

Opportunities were created for children and young people to expand their imaginations, amplify their voices and become the hero of their own stories.

Students completed workshops in Comic Boom, Poetry and  
Choose Your Own Adventure.

Students worked in teams and with 1:1 support from staff to build  
and develop some amazing stories.

Staff then completed our own professional development to build on our skills on helping students build confidence and take creative risks, and helps teachers promote student agency and wellbeing.

Some students have given permission to share some Poetry from their day.

## Poetry

The cold glam table like me - Kaleb

A birch tree waiting for spring

what do those tinted windows hide?

Dark and tinted windows hiding watche

Kaleb, Len, Jayden, Jac.

3 bins both old and new

Flammable liquid sign on shed outside

brown black grey handle button like

OLD NEW FLAT PEAR

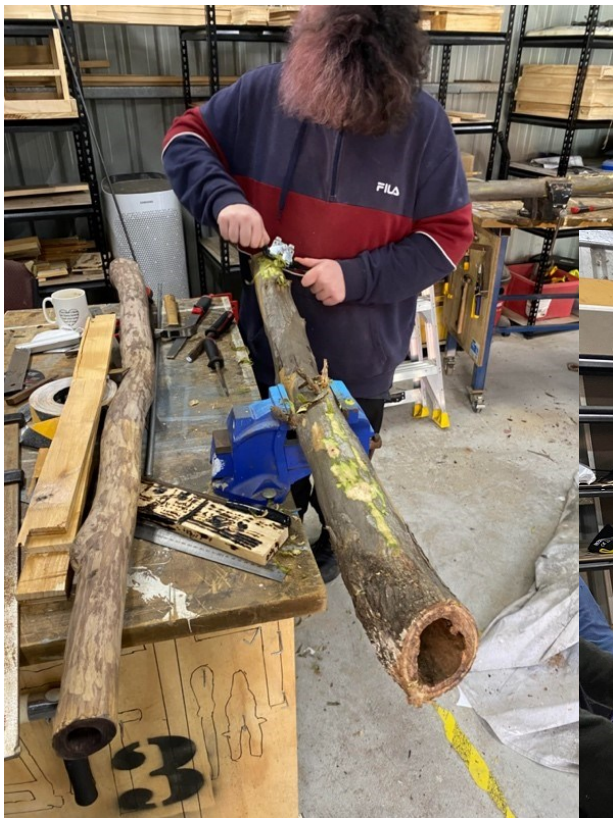
TEXTURE  
~~TEXTURE~~  
BUILDING

Keira, Addi, Nevayah, Olavie.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

*Some of our Doxa School students have recently started a project making their own Didgeridoos. The groups are being lead by Jason Kerr, who is a local expert in the creation, playing and history of Didgeridoos. So far students have begun to hollow their wood and strip the bark, hear about the history and significance of Didgeridoos, and learn what influences the tone and sounds that a Didgeridoo can make. Next steps will see the students smooth the outside, shape the mouth-piece and then decorate and finish the outside as they'd like to. Then it's onto the playing - we can't wait to hear the sounds they make and the skills they've developed!!!*



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.



### MCG and the Australian Sports Museum

On the 12th of July Nick and Jacinta had the pleasure of taking some of our students to one of our iconic stadiums, the MCG. We had a fantastic tour guide who took us around the grounds and the complex. The students got to experience the atmosphere and learn about the history of the Cricket Ground. We were able to sit in the seats reserved for the cricketers, and walk on the ground itself! The tour included the prestigious Long Room, the change rooms as well as all the art works and sculptures representing famous sporting champions.

After the MCG we moved onto the Australian Sports Museum where the students tried their hand at various sports in the "Game On" rooms. Football in the nets, simulated horse racing and surfing, a climbing wall and catching balls in the practice net on camera. The museum was very interesting showing the history of so many sports and how they developed in Australia. Students (and Nick) were very interested in the holographic documentary of Shane Warne where he comes to life and tells his cricketing story. This seemed to be the highlight of the museum.

The whole day was fantastic and students were so engaged .



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

