

A message from our Principal

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome families, supporters and our students to the 2025 school year!

It is hard to believe that we are moving into week 6 of the term already.

It has been a lovely start to the year with a mix of returning and new students and families to our Doxa community.

We are proud to promote our school expectations of our space being SAFE, KINDNESS matters and be CURIOUS about yourself, your opportunities and others around you!

Staffing:

We have welcomed

Teneille as our new Deputy Principal.

Charlotte in reception for term 1,

Hayley in Rm 1 as the Wellbeing Worker

John and Paul in Rm 3 as the teachers for term 1.

They have all joined us with a wide variety of experience and expertise.

Laura in Rm2 had her last day this week. We wish Laura all the best as she welcomes a new bub to her family. We are working to find a replacement wellbeing worker for Rm 2, Nick will be filling the gap until then.

Phone use:

This year we have implemented a different approach to phone use in our space and we have welcomed a charging station in each classroom.

During learning time, all students are expected to lock their phones in the charging box to assist everyone to be their best learners!!

We know this is a big change for many of you and change feels uncomfortable.

We encourage all students and families to keep working with staff to achieve the best learning and transition practice that we can.

Absence:

If your child is absent from school please contact the office on 5442 8140 or 0417 108 870

New Year, New Adventures in Class Room One Updates

We have been stoked to see returning faces and greet some newbies to the classroom (including Hayley, Doxa's newest wellbeing person!)

In the past few weeks, we have been busy getting comfortable in the new routine, learning about ourselves and others and ...cooking! We have already done quite a bit of cooking and baking; our class group knows their way around a kitchen!

In class, students have been working in location, exploring maps and directional language. We have visited the Tram Museum, where some students introduced us to new friends and visited the Botanical Gardens, Mulga Bill's and Lake Weeroona as part of Friday afternoon's curious program.

We have enjoyed seeing the connections and new friendships form and are looking forward to seeing what the rest of the term will bring!

Lets go, 2025- Emily and Hayley



Fresh Starts and Exciting Hearts

Room Two Update

Classroom 2 have had an amazing 6 weeks learning about each other and Doxa.

We have done some cooking for the morning tea, played some games, and explored some pretty cool places like Lake Weeroona, Spring Gully Reserve and the Tram Café.

We have loved getting to know both the new and returning students seeing everyone interact so nicely in our Doxa community.

Our class has done a great job embracing the new behaviour curriculum and have been making great achievements building on their knowledge of integers and square numbers.

Laura is finishing up on 12th March to start Maternity Leave. Although we are sad to see her go, we wish her all the best for her next adventure!

Thank you for being part of our Doxa Journey in 2025, Laura!



Popcorn and Pencils – It's Back to Class Time Room Three Update

It has been a busy first few weeks in classroom 3! We are enjoying getting to know all the new and returning students and learning more about their interests.

This term we have been out and about in the community trying different activities. Students have enjoyed visiting different parks, gardens and playgrounds across Bendigo. Some students also visited an Op Shop to learn more about sustainability, money handling and budgeting.

Our classroom teacher Josh is away this term enjoying a family holiday, we look forward to welcoming him back at the start of Term 2. In the meantime, John and Paul have been keeping the students busy with lots of fun challenges in the classroom!

Students have been working on an exciting game-based learning project, The Lost Scales of the Celestial Dragons. This interactive, location-based adventure combines mathematics, storytelling, and digital technology, allowing students to apply their skills in a fun and meaningful way. They have tackled math challenges involving division, square roots, and rational numbers, solving puzzles to progress through the game. This project has encouraged problem-solving, collaboration, and creativity, showing how learning can be hands-on and immersive. Next time you visit the school, feel free to experience the game first-hand and see the students' hard work in action!

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

John, Paul and Sarah



Classroom Chronicles: The Post-Summer Edition Room Four Updates



We are room 4 and it is staffed by Ruth as the teacher and Claire as wellbeing support.

Our class will also be supported by Kyleigh through careers sessions and Work-Related Skills activities and Amy our Learning Support Officer who will work independently with students throughout the year.

We have certainly hit the ground running and we have had most students on site participating in all areas of their learning.

Our class is made up of year 11 and 12 students that are working towards gaining their VPC Certificate and looking onto further education, training and potential employment opportunities.

All students are having a real go at completing work tasks relating to the areas of Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development Skills and our school wide Social and Emotional Literacy Tasks (SELTs). We encourage our students to continue to turn up and give it their best.

We look forward to working with all our families this year.

Ruth and Claire

Child Safety Information

A key aspect of work for all schools in Victoria is to meet guidelines to make sure we keep all of our students as safe as possible. These guidelines have been clearly defined by the Victorian Government through the 'Child Safe Standards'.

Doxa School Bendigo takes this obligation very seriously and we continue to spend lots of time reviewing our practices to make sure we provide the safest and most nurturing environment possible. This includes using the key child safe principles adapted from the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) publication 'Catholic Schools, Child Safe Schools' of:

1. Having as our primary concern the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. At all times, the ongoing safety and wellbeing of all children and young people will be the primary focus of care and decision-making.
2. Empowering families, children, young people and staff to raise concerns. Schools, in partnership with families, will ensure children and young people are active participants in making decisions, particularly for decisions that may have an impact on their safety.
3. Careful planning and effective practices. Schools will continually identify any risks to children's safety and aim to reduce/eliminate them wherever possible. Schools will also have open and well-understood policies, procedures and practices.

Throughout the year, we will continue to provide further information to students, parents/carers/families and the community about the ways we can all contribute to making our school the safest place it can be. These include through things like our school expectations of being safe, kind and curious at all times, or through our Positive Behaviour Support Policy. If you have questions about the Child Safe Standards, please feel free to get in touch with our Child Safe Officers - Vanessa Brown (Principal) or Nick Grainger (Wellbeing) - to discuss.

Further information is also available on the Doxa School Bendigo website, via the Catholic Education Authority website www.vcea.catholic.edu.au/child-safety/ The Victoria Department of Education website www.education.vic.edu.au



This year in Catholic Education Sandhurst an outstanding initiative was introduced 'Magnify Sandhurst'. Our school (DSB) can look and feel different to other schools you may be used to. We are committed to the learning, wellbeing and engagement of all.

Every Student, Every Teacher, Every School, Every Day.

What is Magnify Sandhurst?

Magnify Sandhurst combines evidence-based practices in teaching and learning to support each student's unique needs, strengths, and goals. The Magnify program focuses on strengthening core areas like literacy and numeracy, building supportive classroom environments, and integrating Catholic values in daily learning. We are committed to improving outcomes and providing a program where every student can flourish.

Some of the main features of Magnify Sandhurst are;

Structured and Evidence-based Learning: Using the latest neuroscience and a structured, knowledge-rich curriculum, we ensure students build deep understanding.

Magnifying Literacy and Numeracy: Providing targeted support and resources to improve reading, writing, and math skills at all levels. Special focus on Structured Literacy in F-2 and sequential programs from Years 3-10.

Instructional Coaching for Teachers: Each teacher receives a dedicated coach and program to learn and practice the best techniques to meet students' learning needs

Calm Classrooms and Positive Learning Environments: Promoting calm, supportive, and positive learning environments through common practices, expectations, and social norms, our work includes a new program for student social and behavioural learning.

Term One Family Morning Tea

On February 6th, the school had the pleasure of welcoming both new and returning families to our school community with a delightful morning tea. This event was a wonderful opportunity for families and staff to connect, share experiences, and build a stronger sense of community.

Our students played a special role in making the event a success, as they helped prepare food for the morning tea. This not only gave them the chance to learn valuable food skills but also allowed them to contribute meaningfully to the event, fostering a spirit of cooperation and teamwork.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the families who attended and made the event so enjoyable. Your participation is greatly appreciated, and it was fantastic to see so many familiar faces, as well as new ones, coming together to celebrate our school community.

We look forward to many more opportunities to connect with you throughout the year. Thank you once again for being a part of this special occasion!



Other News

The St Kilian's Parish Community Garden Opening

Doxa School was welcomed to the opening and blessing of the St Kilian's Parish community garden Wednesday 19th February. The garden was blessed by Bishop Shane Mackinlay. It was a great turn out under the beautiful sunshine. The parish garden group thanked Doxa School for all their help with the gardens.

Community members are welcome to go along each Wednesday morning to enjoy the fresh produce.

It was a proud day for all those involved, thank you to all at Doxa who contributed.



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

saverplus

1300 610 355 saverplus.org.au



The Brotherhood of St Laurence is offering a free education program that helps eligible families save for school expenses and rewards them by matching their savings dollar for dollar, up to \$500.

Families who join not only receive up to \$500 in matched savings, but they also gain practical money skills through free financial education workshops, helping them feel more in control of their finances.

Other Reminders and Updates

Clothing:

A gentle reminder to all that we do require students to wear clothing that is appropriate for all school activities.

Please ensure that your child is wearing closed in toe shoes and sun smart clothing.

School hoodies and beanies will be available later in the term.

Facebook:

Please join our school facebook page to be informed and updated on message, outings, all other fun thing the school get up to.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

The NCCD is a collection that counts:

- the number of school students receiving an adjustment or 'help' due to disability
- the level of adjustment they are receiving to access education on the same basis as other students.

Students are counted in the NCCD if they receive ongoing adjustments at school due to disability. This 'help' allows them to access education on the same basis as a child without disability. The NCCD uses the definition of disability in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992

More Information can be found at <https://www.nccd.edu.au/>



NCCD

NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA
ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY