

doxaschoolbendigo

valuing the diversity, resilience and potential of young people



February 2018.

A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Welcome to all of our families, old and new. We hope you are enjoying your time with us at Doxa School and settling in with us nicely.

It's been a busy start to the year with students and staff involved in our Orientation program. Every year, new students get the opportunity to find out a bit more about our school, the staff and the other students during this time. By all accounts, everyone involved in the orientation excursions to Torquay, Geelong Water Park and Hanging Rock enjoyed the day out. There was some star surfers at Torquay and a certain staff member who tried to "hang ten" with an apparent disregard for everyone's safety including his own. Some fantastic photos are included in the newsletter and more on our Doxa School Bendigo Facebook page.

The VET program has started with eligible students being involved in Hospitality, Engineering and Hair & Beauty. We welcome a new TAFE hospitality teacher, Amy, who has taken over the reins from Jill who is having a break. VET classes are on a Wednesday and all VET students who are enrolled in the program are required to attend.

ILP meetings will be happening over the next couple of weeks. These meetings are an important tool to assist with planning and goal setting for our students for the coming term/s. It is also a great opportunity to speak freely with the class teachers and wellbeing staff. You will be contacted by Colleen this week to arrange a suitable time.

Thank you to all the parents and carers whom we have worked with since the start of the year. Your continued support is appreciated as we work together to help our students be the best that they can be.

If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to pop in for a quick chat, or call the office on 5442 8140 to make an appointment.

John Russell

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 12th March - Labour day public holiday

Tuesday 20th & Thursday 22nd March - Photographer on site for student ID photos

Thursday 29th March—Last day of school for term 1

Monday 16th April - Start of term 2 (students dismissed at 1pm due to staff training)

WHAT'S GOING ON AT DOXA SCHOOL

Carina, Tony & Lou Group A - AKA 'The A team'

Welcome 'A Team' and families to a new school year. An opportunity for 10 young people to engage in change and self-discovery. We offer a safe and supportive school environment and it is wonderful to hear the classroom 'humming' with conversation and laughter. Not to mention music!

Attendance has been high and our all boy class are doing their very best to settle in and get back into a school routine. As we move into the remainder of the term, the boys have all been given individual timetables, the purpose of these are to help the boys settle into a manageable routine. They will be reviewed regularly throughout the term but if you have any questions please just give us a call.

We have enjoyed many group activities, completed literacy testing and will continue with numeracy testing. This is crucial, as it allows for staff to plan and target key areas of each individual students' needs. Students are starting to 'play' with the Mood Meter. This is an important tool to assist in developing social and emotional learning and understanding of our emotions.

Plenty of fun was had at the Ironbark Big Bendi slide, getting milkshakes and surfing at Torquay. Well done to all the boys for having a go and sharing some time together.

Check out our Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/DoxaSchoolBendigo/> page for photos

We encourage us all during Lent to open our hearts and to be more loving as Easter is approaching. Our prayers at this time are of reflection, with humble and grateful hearts.

Remember, our doors are always open, and your concerns are our concerns also. Fortnightly we call families and carers with a positive, so do answer your phone and keep your contact details current. All students have their individual timetables, any questions please contact us.

STAR STUDENTS:

Everyone in the 'A Team'!!

Carina, Tony and Lou



WHAT'S GOING ON AT DOXA SCHOOL cont'

Group B & B+ Ky, Jacko, Mick and Nick

It has been a busy start to the year in the back room, with B and B+ spending the time to get to know each other and begin adjusting to the new environment.

We have been working with the students to develop suitable timetables and conducting our testing program so that we can work with the students moving forward.

Many of us enjoyed the whole school excursions and we are beginning discussions around what group trip we may enjoy in term 2 and what learning will be attached.

The VET program has well and truly started for those students that are involved in VET and student feedback is that they are enjoying their VET subjects.

As a staff we have loved getting to know your students and look forward to a busy, exciting and successful year.

With ILP's next week we are looking forward to the opportunity to chat with you about your child's goals and the outcomes that we are working with them to achieve.

As always if you have any concerns please feel free to touch base with any of the B group staff.

Ky, Jacko, Mick & Nick



WHAT'S GOING ON AT DOXA SCHOOL cont'

C Group – Paul and Jac

It has been a very busy and eventful term one so far! As you are all aware this is our first year of running the four separate class groups. This is so that we can offer more support to each student with their personal goals. So far this new way of doing things seems to be working well.

The VCAL or C Group has been very busy with not only our own class but also in making time to be with the other students within the school, this has been lots of fun. A highlight was the excursions day. Our VCAL students were spread across the three activities; Adventure Park in Geelong, Surfing at Torquay and Hanging Rock. Everyone that participated had a great time and there were a number of ten out of ten scores being given for the day.

We have also started our VET subjects; Hospitality; Engineering and Hair and Beauty, these have been lots of fun as students are working through their safety and project planning in each area of study.

Our Intermediate VCAL students have already started to run the Doxa School Coffee Shop each Tuesday and they are working extremely well as a team to become fully independent as the year progresses.

Electives have started and students have chosen which activities they want to be in for the first round. These include shed, art, sport, cooking, and movement.

Everyone seems to have started to settle into the new routine and class groups. Great work team and we look forward to seeing you in the upcoming ILPs.

Paul & Jac



WELLBEING TEAM

Child Safe Standards

In December 2015, the Victorian Government released a document focusing on the responsibility of schools to keep their students safe. As part of this commitment, the government outlined a number of 'Child Safe Standards' that all schools must implement.

Doxa School Bendigo takes very seriously the Victorian Government's emphasis on the responsibility of schools to keep their students safe. We continue to spend considerable time reviewing our practices and working closely with the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) to ensure we provide the safest and most nurturing environment possible. This includes using principles adapted from the 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.

It is our intention to keep in regular communication with students and families to ensure we all understand the Child Safe Standards and keep our school the safest place it can be. 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. If you have questions about the Child Safe Standards, please feel free to get in touch with John (Principal) or Nick (Wellbeing) to discuss.

Further information is also available on the Doxa School Bendigo website, via the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria website www.cecv.catholic.edu.au/Our-Schools/Child-Safety or The Victoria Department of Education website www.education.vic.edu.au

Together
we make a
Family



DOXA CAFÉ

118 Hargreaves St, Bendigo
IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

TUESDAY'S FROM 9.30AM TO 11.30AM
DURING SCHOOL TERMS

COME IN AND GRAB A COFFEE OR HOT
CHOCOLATE FOR \$3.50

ALL PROFITS GO TOWARDS CARITAS
AND TO DOXA WHOLE SCHOOL
PROJECT

PHONE 5442 8140 TO PRE ORDER

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK @

<https://www.facebook.com/DoxaSchoolBendigo/>