

# doxaschoolbendigo

valuing the diversity, resilience and potential of young people



**May 2019.**

## A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to the start of term 2, with another busy term ahead.

Well, winter is nearly upon us again. Most of the staff and students have dragged their winter woollies out, to fend off the dreaded flu season. Already we have had a number of staff and students away and most of us are struggling to find the motivation to get up on these fresh mornings. Could I remind parents to keep their children home if they are unwell, as sending them to school spreads the illness amongst the rest of the community?

This term we welcome Amy and Lillie, who have joined us in the role of classroom support. Having the girls on board will give our wellbeing team more time to provide more one on one opportunities to support the students they care for. Amy and Lillie are settling in well and will be able to support students and teachers in the classroom.

ILP meetings will be taking place from Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> through to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June. As usual, we will be in touch with you all, closer to the date, to organise a suitable time for all.

This week sees some of our young girls take part in a camp at Yanac. Doxa School has received funding from Landcare to enable our students to take part in a small project around environmental sustainability and indigenous culture. There will be three camp groups going to Mali Dunes near Yanac with the girls' group this week being the second camp. There will be another group going later in the year. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn about protecting our environment, whilst supporting the Mali Dunes project.

Doxa School will be again working with the Bendigo City Council Immunisation team during term 3 for a vaccination 'catch up' day. If you have any questions about this program, please call the school to speak to one of our staff.

Term 2 is always a busy term and there is a lot of learning and enjoyment that happens around our community. I hope we all stay well and make the best of our opportunities for the term.

John Russell

## IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Student free day due to report writing

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> - ILP meetings

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Last day of term 2



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

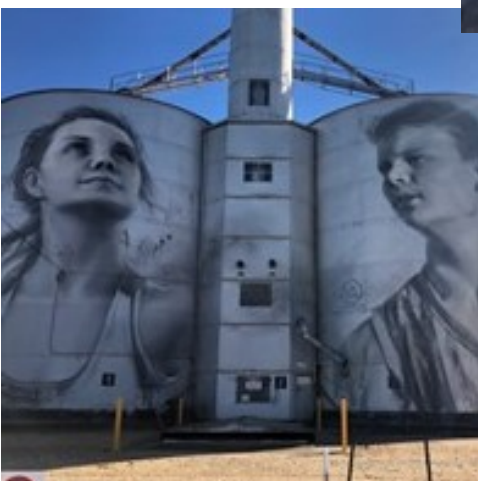
# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS

## Girls visit the Mallee Dunes at Yanac for a 2 day nature camp

Lou, Heidi, Keisha, Rheanna, Tara and Taya took the opportunity to enjoy some 'girl time' in the Mallee Dunes at Yanac; monitoring Mallee Fowl populations, installing and repairing bird boxes, repairing fences and enjoying nature.

The camp was part of a Landcare grant the school received to be involved in and care for the environment. They stopped along the way to check out the art on the silos at Rupanyup and Pink Lake. There was no glamping to be seen on this trip; we set up our own tents, slept on thin camp mats, cooked on the fire and were lucky enough to have a drop toilet (at least we didn't have to dig a hole!). The girls should be very proud of the way they got in and had a go at caring for our environment and contributed to conservation efforts in the area.

Thanks to Brett and Karen Wheaton for showing us around their farming property and thanks also to Sue and Carina from the 'Friends of Mallee Dunes' for having us and making our time with you really enjoyable.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

## Ruth's class

Welcome back to term 2 it's wonderful to see the students returning to class and attending sessions both at school and at TAFE while they complete their VET studies.

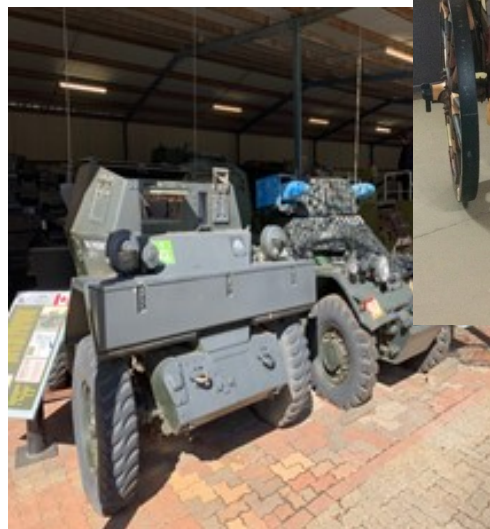
During our sessions in class we have followed on from Anzac Day and are now working on Australian History. We visited the Army Base in Puckapunyal and the students had a wonderful time there looking into our history in the Wars. We visited the Chinese burial grounds in White Hills and we will head off to the Bendigo Gold mines as we research history a little closer to home.

Students will be working on their own family history and may come home asking questions to help with a little family tree project. It's a great opportunity to have some wonderful conversations about grandparents and what their lives were like, work they did, what they did at school, When did they get a colour TV? These are just a few ideas to chat about.

We also welcome Lilli to our classroom in an education support role.

Looking forward to a wonderful term,

Ruth, Nick, Carla and Lilli



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

## 'PoPPI(ng) Along With Our School Expectations'

The PoPPI (Pillars of Positive Practice Implementation) team are continuing to develop ways to embed our expectations into our school community. One of the approaches we are taking is to build an understanding of the importance of each of our expectations in order to build a shared knowledge. Please take some time to have some conversations with your child about the significance of each of these.

**SAFE** - our intention is to create Doxa as a physically, emotionally and spiritually safe space. We talk to students and visitors about the importance of safety as a key building block for learning, where our brains are able to focus effectively when we feel comfort in the environment. But even before this, safety is a basic human right, and we consider it the most important of principles for our school community.

**KIND** - research tells us that those who take time to care for others in some way experience positive emotions for doing so. We also know that those who display kindness draw on empathy to do so, and it is the building of empathic people that helps us build a more tolerate and understanding society. We also know that those who are kind receive kindness from others and display gratitude as a result.

**CURIOUS** - it was Albert Einstein who said 'I have no special talent; I am only passionately curious'. While underselling his ability, Einstein was partly right - those who ask questions seek to learn. But it is so much more than simply about learning. Curiosity opens the mind to wonderings, which reduces the role that assumption plays in clouding our view of the world. By taking this curious approach to what we see in life, which promotes a non-judgmental outlook - we are able to connect more easily with others.

Don't forget to ask us more about how we intend to keep building these expectations across our school community.

The 'PoPPI' Team

**AT DOXA, WE ARE  
SAFE, KIND,  
& CURIOUS**