

doxaschoolbendigo

valuing the diversity, resilience and potential of young people

March 2021



A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Hello everyone and thank you for your support throughout term 1. We have had a busy term, and in many ways a very challenging one.

It is interesting to note that only 7 of our current student group were with us prior to 2020 and the disruptions caused by COVID-19. This means that the vast majority of our young people have only experienced life at Doxa School as very disrupted. After a challenging 2020 we have integrated 23 new students into our program and we have experienced a number of students struggling with the transition into the Doxa community. As a staff and student group we are looking at strategies to create a safer and kinder environment, and I am looking forward positively to a more settled and successful term 2 for all students and staff members.

While term 1 has been challenging, we did see some great growth amongst our kids with many of them showing increased attendance and engagement in their learning and development of numeracy and literacy skills since the beginning of the year. Participation in many of our activities such as excursions, electives and our Friday afternoon program has been positive and I hope we get greater participation as the year continues.

As we enter the school break it is good to keep in mind the Easter season and the wonderful message of hope that this season gives us. I wish you a safe and happy Easter season and a pleasant school holiday and I look forward to seeing our kids and their families back with us in term 2 safe and happy after a good rest.

Thanks, and God bless
John

Dates to remember

- **Tues 20th April** - Students return for first day of term 2
- Wed 28th April - Immunisation day at Doxa School
- Mon 24th May - report writing day - Student Free



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

BRAD'S CLASS

What an adventure our first term has been! The majority of our group are new to Doxa, so we've been spending our time getting to know the way things are done at Doxa and building new connections in a new school.

We have been fishing at Tuki trout farm, adventured at Funfields water park and have spent Monday afternoons together, building a sense of safety among our group. As the term has progressed, we have spent time building a learning routine and getting to know ourselves as learners again.

We have really enjoyed the opportunity to get out of the classroom and learn through exploration; this happens during Friday Afternoon Program activities. Throughout the term, we have visited the Golden Dragon Museum, The Pink Cliffs in Heathcote and Vaughan Springs.

We are all looking forward to continuing to build on our great progress as we move into Term 2. We wish all of our students a safe and happy Easter holiday break and see you back here on Tuesday 20th April for the first day of term 2.

Brad, Claire & Amy



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

JACKO'S CLASS

It has been a busy finish to term 1 with students continuing to build routine and engage at Doxa. Students have had their first ILP meetings for the year setting goals for them to target over the next couple of months and also have had the chance to attend some electives on Mondays and Wednesdays. With Participation Program Friday's students have been able to travel to Heathcote, go to the Golden dragon museum and visit Vaughan Springs which tie into our Asia-Australia whole school unit.

As part of our literacy lessons in our class, students have been developing content for the newsletter. The following is an interview with Mick Turner, the class wellbeing support. The introduction, development of the questions and the interview were all written by students in class.

Interview with Mick

In this month's newsletter some students interviewed Mick Turner, a doxa teacher/wellbeing worker. These students asked Mick a series of questions in this interview. These questions varied from where he went to school to why he became a teacher/wellbeing worker. In future interviews we will interview different teachers, wellbeing and staff. Now enjoy learning about Mick, an awesome Doxa teacher.

1. Where did you go to school?

St Teresa's and St Mary's Primary Catholic School then Kyneton High School. Mick enjoyed school and is still technically at school.

2. Who do you follow in AFL?

St Kilda

3. What was your first job?

At 14 years old delivered accounts for a servo on his bike, got paid 5c for every letter because stamps cost 10c. When he was 15 years old he worked in his Dads factory.

4. When did you become a youth worker and why?

After high school I went to Uni and studied Science then worked in a factory for 2 years and was doing volunteer work as well. Family and friends talked to me and I went back to study to give young people a chance and make the world a better place.

1980-41 years ago, went back to college and studied Youth Work. Started working in 1983 doing street work, lots of other jobs, AoD, Justice, Homelessness and Policy development.

5. When did you start at Doxa?

2015 after working at TAFE for about 6 years.

Continued over

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

JACKO'S CLASS CON'T

6. You have old cars, tell us about it?

I have 3 old cars and an old motor bike 1904, my 1909 car I saw in a shed and wanted to buy it when I was 12 but I got it at 30. I also have a Twombly 1914 tandem Merlin 1913, which has a wicker body. My first trip overseas for a car rally travelled from London to Brighton in a 1904 car.

7. If you had 1 piece of advice what would it be?

I wished I had taken more risks, do things when you are young and be kind to yourself.

Interview by Ally, Blake and Link

We hope everyone has a Safe, Kind and Curious break and see you all on Tuesday 20th April for the start of term 2.

Mick, Nick and Jacko & Lillie.

KY'S CLASS

Term 1 always seem to fly by and this year is no different. We have had a massive start to the year with students working on their leadership and team work skills with units of work in these areas. We have loved seeing the students engage in group tasks and practice their own communication and leadership skills. Students have also started investigating Inspirational Australians as a Literacy unit. We have discussed what makes someone inspirational and the traits that we all look for in leaders and people that we admire.

This term we have also had the opportunity to participate in Thoroughbred Hero's Equine Therapy. Students have enjoyed working with the horses and learning how to regulate their emotions so that the horses remain calm and happy to be around them. We will continue our equine journey into term 2.

Jacinta, Ky & Lillie wish you all a happy and safe Easter Break. See you all on Tuesday 20th April for the start of term 2.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

OUTREACH

Howdy there! It's Carla and Lou from the Outreach Crew.

Across Term 1, we have really enjoyed getting to know our new students and their families, as well as keeping up with our returning students and families.

This term, we have adventured far and wide, including the Bendigo Pottery, Bendigo Tech School, checking out Street Art exhibitions, exploring different parks and gardens around town, swimming at Gurri Wanyarra Wellness Centre and sampling A LOT of baked goods and juice in local cafes!

An exciting update is that this year, we have moved spaces! Our room is now set up out the back, next to Brad and Claire's class. If you're popping into Doxa, please feel free to wander through the backyard and check out what we've set up!

Take care over the Easter holidays and see you all when school resumes on Tuesday 20th April.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

