

doxa school bendigo

valuing the diversity, resilience and potential of young people

February 2021



A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Hello and welcome to 2021 to all our students and families new and old. I hope that you all had a safe and happy Christmas and New Year season. Our year has started pretty smoothly with students settling in well. It has been great to welcome all our students over the past couple of weeks and although it can be an anxious time, particularly for new students, there is certainly a positive vibe in the community at this point. It has been promising that most students are attending often and the Class Groups are working well together.

With the restrictions lifted, classes are back on at TAFE for VETiS students studying Allied Health, Animal Studies, Automotive and Building & Construction. This year our Hospitality students along with Business students will be studying on site at Doxa.

Hopefully, next term will see us opening up our Doxa Café, where we will welcome the return of some familiar faces along with new customers to support our Café and Hospitality team.

Many students participated in our Orientation excursions in the past weeks, with some students visiting a variety of fun activities in our region. These outings provide a great opportunity for staff and both old and new students to spend some time getting to know each other outside of the classroom. Today, our whole school will be travelling to Funfields Waterpark in Whittlesea. It looks as though the weather will be good for us.

Colleen will be in touch with families next week to schedule student ILP meetings. These meetings are important in planning with you, how best we can support your child to achieve the best for themselves this year. It is important for them to know that parents and guardians are in partnership with the school in supporting them. The times will be organised to suit families and their busy schedules.

Apart from the little break we had last week due to restrictions, we hope that the rest of the year will run as per the onsite timetables. If there are changes due to Covid-19, updates will be sent to you by text and email, along with updates on our Doxa School Bendigo Facebook page.

Thanks, in anticipation of your support this year and remember to give the office a call on 5442 8140 at any time, if you need help with anything.

IMPORTANT DATES

MONDAY 8TH March - Labour Day public holiday

THURSDAY 18th March - Whole school ILP meetings - student free day

THURSDAY 1st April - Holy Thursday - last day of term 1

MONDAY 19th April - Students return for first 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

BRAD'S CLASS

Brad, Claire and Amy would like to extend a warm welcome to all the boys and their supporters for 2021. Term one has had a huge focus on learning about each other and developing healthy learning routines.

The boys have enjoyed activities outside the school such as; Marong pool and Crooks St Park visits. Inside the school, the boys have settled into the new space, taking full advantage of the outreach room relocating next door to us.

Well done to all on such a strong start to 2021.

Please do not hesitate to contact Brad or Claire on 0468 710 144.



KY'S CLASS

The year has started off well in Ky and Jac's classroom, with everyone settling into the new routine. Students have done most of their initial testing and we are well into our first units of work on Leadership and Inspirational Australians. VETiS classes have started both at Tafe and Onsite with students enjoying the challenge of working towards a VET certificate. From a wellbeing perspective, students have met with their wellbeing support and have begun working on their goals for 2021.

Our recent day trip to the wildlife park gave us all an opportunity to get to know each other (and some beautiful kangaroos) away from the hustle and bustle of the classroom. The kangaroos were obviously a favourite but the penguins and crocodiles came in a close second.

We look forward to meeting all parents and/or guardians at the upcoming ILP meetings.

Kind Regards

Ky, Jac, Aminda and Lillie

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

RUTH'S CLASS

Welcome to the start of the 2021 year. It is so great to see all the students settling well into routines and developing positive friendships.

We have completed our yearly testing and have started to participate in whole class excursion, participation programs and electives. Tony and I are planning some more whole class excursions and will keep you all posted around these.

We have changed classrooms to a bigger space and this is working well for our students, giving them room to interact with others and to move more freely within the space.

About us. Firstly, I would like to welcome Amy Templeton into our classroom this year, she is student support and will be working within the classroom over 2 days. Amy's time within the classroom will be dedicated to working with individuals and small groups to improve their literacy and numeracy skill. Each student will have the opportunity to work with Amy as needed.

Another member of our group this year is Aminda. Aminda will be the classroom teacher on a Friday as I undertake my position as the VET Hospitality trainer at Doxa. Aminda comes with a richness of experience and knowledge and has worked at Doxa as a CRT previously and is well known with our students.

Tony is our wellbeing support this year. Tony has been at Doxa since the beginning and with that has extensive experience working with our students. Tony has a wealth of knowledge and understanding that is so vital for our youth. He has so much to teach our students in a fun and safe environment around the wholistic approach of their time at Doxa and working towards the social and emotional learning. We are all looking forward to our sessions with Tony. If you need to contact Tony for student support, transport or wellbeing please contact him on our classroom phone. Mobile: 0468710119

I will be working with your students Monday – Thursday. This will be my third year at Doxa and I am excited to be working with each and every one of your children. We will be focussing on Literacy and Numeracy and our topics will change as the terms progress. If you need support for your student around their educational needs please feel free to contact me via the classroom phone. Mobile: 0468710119

We are looking forward to meeting you all at our coming ILP meetings in week 6 and 7.

Ruth, Tony, Aminda and Amy.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

JACKO'S CLASS

The start of 2021 has been an interesting one, mainly due to the fact that I missed the first 8 days due to taking some long service leave.

Whilst I was away 4 students new to Doga and another 7 returning students started orientation without me. I need to thank Nick and Mick and all the students for helping with the start of the year and especially Vanessa with all her work with introducing routines and the beginning of testing.

I did however get back in time to go fishing, below are a couple of student accounts of that day.

On Friday 12th of February 4, my class went fishing

The was fun because we caught a fish every 5 minutes.

Everyone was supposed to catch 3 or so fish but we went a bit overboard. After that we took the bucket of fish inside to be gutted and bagged, then we chose the 2 fish we wanted to take home.

All of us got dropped home at the end of the day, we all had awesome fun and I hope we go again.

Baylee F

On Friday our class went fishing, when we got there we were greeted by the cutest dogs ever. We got our fishing rods and nets and went up to the top two ponds. We set up our bait and started fishing, the first person to catch one was Blake. After that I caught my first one. I brought it over to the bucket we had and took the hook out of its mouth. After that we started catching so many fish, one every 2 or 3 minutes or so, I then caught my second, there was a struggle but luckily the hook was in its mouth and not its stomach, it was very easy to get out. Lilly and I then spotted a very small black trout on the edge of the pond, I reached for it with my net and I caught it, we realised it was too small to eat so we put it back. Our fishing went really well and we ended up catching 23 fish. A bit over our limit but oh well. I then picked two fish to take home and all was well.

Henry W

I look forward to getting to meet all the families of my class in the coming weeks.

All the best, Jacko, Mick, Nick & Lillie

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE TRAPS cont.

WELLBEING TEAM

Child Safe Standards

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 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



more photos available on our Doxa School Facebook page

