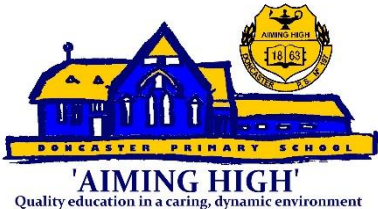


Doncaster Primary School



Jim Hill
Principal



History of Employment - As a teacher I taught in the North East of Victoria. In 2000 I became a Principal near Wangaratta. I then moved to Mildura for five years before Melbourne in 2008. I loved working in small rural schools and was a shared Physical Education specialist when I taught at nine small schools. One of my schools was Falls Creek which I visited once a fortnight. I have also taught in England twice and Germany at the International School of Hamburg. When teaching overseas it was as an International Teaching Fellow, part of the Victorian and Commonwealth Exchange Teachers program.

Skills and Achievements - Prior to studying teaching I went to the Centre for Performing Arts in Adelaide for two years, this was never going to be a career but I had an amazing time. I then completed an Arts Degree followed by a Diploma and Bachelor of Education. I have also completed a Graduate Diploma in Computers in Education and a Graduate Diploma in Health and Welfare issues in Education. I have also completed a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership and my final study was to gain accreditation as an accredited International Growth Coach which I achieved last year after two years of study. Obviously I enjoy learning and can say I am a life long learning.

Who was your favourite teacher at school and why? - I had many great teachers. My favourite teacher at school was Mr. Herr. He was my Physical Education teacher at high school. He was also my first basketball coach when I played in under 12's. I later played in the same team as him. When I go home to Adelaide I often catch up with him and love our conversations. **I have learned a lot from him about school, education, sport and life.**

When not at school I like to.....When not at school I enjoy travelling having been to many countries. I like challenges such as walking the Milford track in New Zealand, walking the Coast to Coast in England, riding a bike from Prague to Hamburg! I recently started planning the 800 kilometre Camino/Santiago walk in France/Spain. I have done part of the walk but need to do the entire distance! I also have a group of cycling buddies who I ride with regularly and I love live theatre!

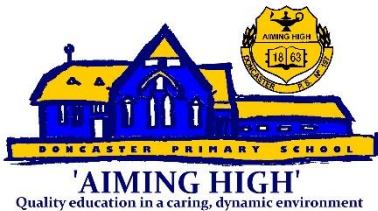
If I wasn't a teacher I would like to be...If I wasn't a teacher/principal my dream job would be to manage a horse agistment property. I learned to ride at a young age and grew up with horses and have continued riding for most of my life. There is nothing better than riding a horse through the bush on a cold rainy morning! That said, I really can't imagine a better job than teaching.

What makes Doncaster a great school to work at.....Do I really have to answer this question? Come and visit, you will understand!

Doncaster Primary School



Carly Epskamp
Assistant Principal



History of employment - Before I became a teacher I worked at a Video Store and a Kids Play Centre and both jobs were so much fun. I have been teaching for over 20 years and 6 of those have been at Doncaster Primary School.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - I love being part of the DPS community. All of the staff are very friendly, we work really well together, and we love to have a laugh together. The students at DPS are great. They are full of personality, yet well behaved, engaged and they love to learn. They are the best part of our job! The bonds I've created with families in the time I've been at DPS have been very special and I love checking in and seeing how families are going as time goes by, kids grow up and they move from Primary School to High School. Nothing beats seeing a student you taught years and years ago and now they're in High School achieving all the things you knew they would. It does make you feel old though! Proud, but old!

When not at school I like to..... spend time outside at the park with my French Bulldog Saint. In Summer, I love going to the beach and spending the day there. I love travelling and I also like going out for dinner with my family and spending time with my friends. I love shopping, going to the movies and going to the footy to watch St.Kilda.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be an interior designer or perhaps a photographer.

Doncaster Primary School

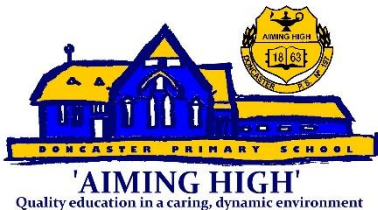


Natalie Pike
Business Manager

History of employment? - I have worked at a few schools, my first being Norwood Secondary College in the office doing accounts for 11 years, then to Croydon PS as Business Manager for 3 years. I moved to DPS in April 2021 and I love my job here and enjoy the challenge of a bigger school!

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at? - The people at DPS are so friendly, professional and work as a team which makes it easy to work here!

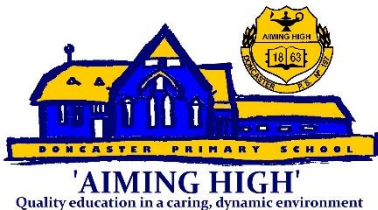
When not at school I like to....be with my family, bushwalking, boating, fishing and my hobbies are creating leadlight art and teaching myself to crochet for my new grandson who arrives in July.



Doncaster Primary School



Rebecca Rolfe
Office



History of Employment - I have worked in education for over 25 years. I started as an education support officer at Eltham and Warrandyte Kindergartens before starting at Doncaster Primary School. I worked at as an ES for about 15 years before moving into the office.

When not at school I like to spend time with my family. We enjoy going on long walks, visiting waterfalls, going to the beach and exploring country Victoria.

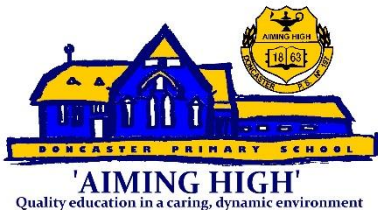
What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - DPS is an amazing school to work at. I have worked here for over 20 years and have seen many changes from the buildings and grounds, teachers, students and many families. Each year is different, but the same caring and supportive feel remains.

If I wasn't working at Doncaster Primary School..... I would like to be an artist. I enjoy being creative and designing. I would either like paint, draw, or even do some photography.

Doncaster Primary School



Diane Meilak
Prep Teacher



History of employment - I started teaching at Doncaster Primary School in 2009 as a graduate teacher. It holds a special place in my heart as my mum attended DPS.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - The staff are all really friendly and the students are a delight to teach! We have beautiful grounds and nice buildings. Our school also offers a range of engaging programs which makes it a fun place to teach.

What are your career highlights to date - Being a team leader to the Prep team this year and building on my leadership skills. Also, being a role model and mentor to other staff members. Seeing student growth and achievements is always a career highlight as you open doors for many students along the way.

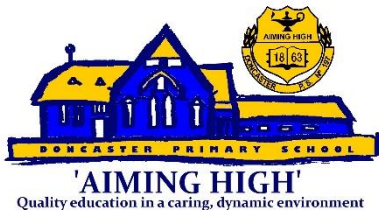
When not at school I like to....Travel with my family to different places in Australia and around the world. I love catching up with friends, watching movies and attending the gym. I love watching my own children play sports.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be an Events Manager. It would be really exciting organising big events and being a part of it!

Doncaster Primary School



Jessica White
Prep Teacher



History of employment - I have been at Doncaster Primary School since 2019. I started doing CRT work at the school for half a year, then was offered a position in 2020 for my own classroom in Level Three, I then taught in Level One for a few years and now I teach Prep.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - Doncaster is a great school to work at because of the people. Everyone is so lovely and genuinely care about each other and the students.

What are your career highlights to date - Not sure if this is a highlight, but Remote Learning was definitely something that will stand out to me for the rest of my career. It was a challenging time, but I think it brought the DPS community closer together.

Doncaster Primary School

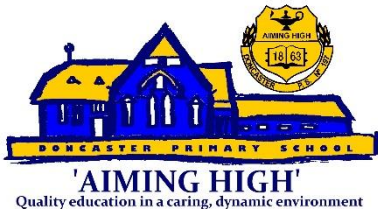


Lillie Powell
Prep Teacher

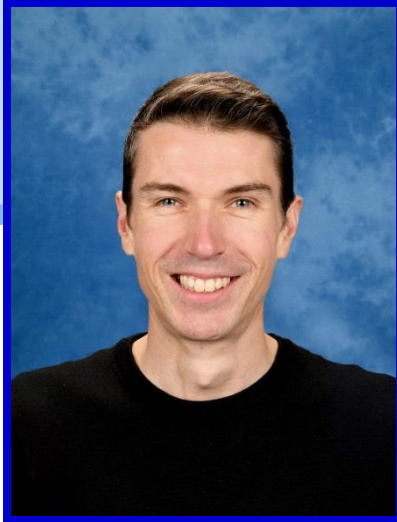
History of employment - This is my sixth year of teaching and my second-year teaching at DPS.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - I love working at DPS because the students, families and teachers are great. We are lucky to learn/work in such a beautiful school, in and out of the classrooms.

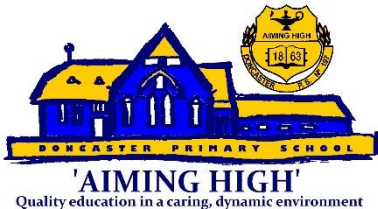
If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be a Pilates instructor or a florist!



Doncaster Primary School



Brent Granger
Grade 1 Teacher



What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at? -

The school has modern facilities, fantastic staff and dedicated students. The teachers work collaboratively to create and implement engaging learning programs that allow all students to achieve success. All staff share their knowledge and expertise and learn from and with one another.

What are your career highlights to date? -

I have coordinated different year levels and led teams across the school. I have mentored and supported many new staff at the beginning of their teaching career. I have undertaken a range of professional development and seen the positive impact that this has had on student outcomes. I am currently the Level One and Junior School Leader.

When not at school I like to - When not at school I like to spend time reading books by my favourite authors. I enjoy travelling and learning about different parts of the world. I also like to keep active by walking each day.

Doncaster Primary School

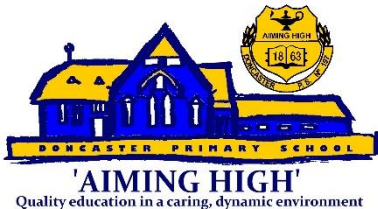


Alisha Spiteri
Grade 1 Teacher

History of employment - I have been at Doncaster Primary School since 2019. I have taught Prep for 4 years and this year I am teaching the lovely Level 1 students.

When not at school I like to.... Spend time with family and friends, go to the gym and for walks outdoors, cooking/baking and eating out at restaurants.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be - A Chef. I love cooking and baking in my spare time and practicing new skills and recipes at home. I enjoy sharing the food I make with my friends and family.



Doncaster Primary School

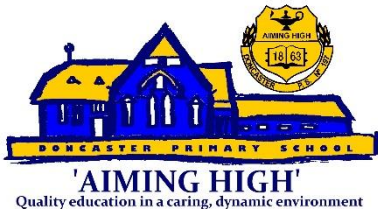


Courtney Larsen
Grade 1 Teacher

What are your career highlights to date - The best part about my career would be the connections I have made with all of my students. Each year the classes are so different, and I have loved every relationship I have had with all of them.

When not at school I like to.... You can usually find me with my family. I am very close with my 3 sisters and their own babies, so I like to be around them a lot!

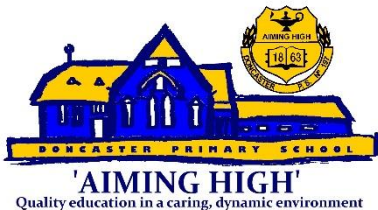
If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be - If I wasn't a teacher I would like to be a world traveller!



Doncaster Primary School



Marika Quinonero
Grade 2 Teacher



History of employment - Before I was a teacher, I had a few different occupations. I had my own business where I created Business and Marketing plans for small businesses and new Start up businesses. I was also a Marriage Celebrant for about 10 years. Although my favourite occupation is Teaching of course!

When not at school I like to..... Try different recipes and then cook them for my friends and family. I also enjoy listening to music and travelling around Australia in our caravan.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be nature photographer.

Doncaster Primary School

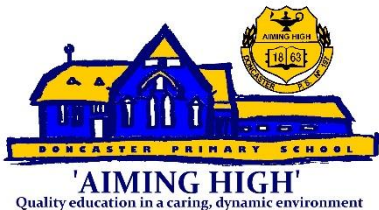


Lauren Majoor
Grade 2 Teacher

History of employment - I have worked at Melrose Primary School in Wodonga and now Doncaster Primary School

When not at school I like to..... play netball, go running, and spend time with my family.

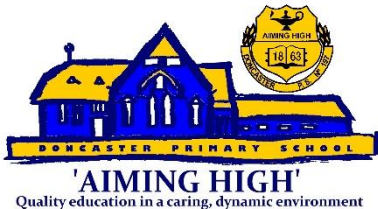
If I wasn't a teacher..... I would probably be a social worker! I love helping people grow and be their best!



Doncaster Primary School



Hannah Stagoll
Grade 2 Teacher



History of employment - I have been a primary school teacher for 10 years. Before I became a teacher, I had a career in the Banking and Finance sector.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - Doncaster Primary School is a wonderful place to work. The student, staff and parent community make this school a warm and welcoming environment that I look forward to coming to each day.

What are your career highlights to date - My career highlight is the day I decided to embrace a new career and become a primary school teacher.

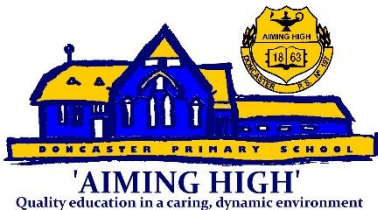
When not at school I like to.... When not at school I like to enjoy many outdoor activities including hiking different great walks around Australia and riding my horses. I also enjoy some quiet time with a good book.

If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to..... I would love to own and run a local boutique bookshop in a small country town.

Doncaster Primary School



Julia Bay
Grade 3 Teacher



What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - Doncaster Primary School is a great school to work at because the staff and students are wonderful. The students are polite, caring and eager to learn. The staff are friendly, collaborative and always supportive.

When not at school I like to.....When I am not at school I like to run, read, spend time in the garden, take my dog to the park and go hiking. I enjoy doing anything outside.

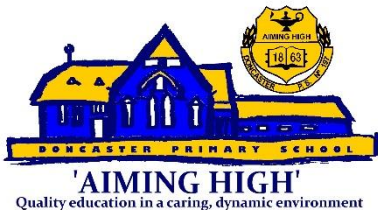
If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be - If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be a florist, gardener or maybe a park ranger. I love spending time in nature so I think these would be great jobs for me.

Doncaster Primary School



Priscilla Gale

Grade 3 Teacher



History of employment - My first job was working as a swimming instructor, but I have also worked in Foster Care, Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Community Aged Care.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - The fantastic friendly faces - the students, the staff and the families.

What are your career highlights to date - Adapting to a whole new way of teaching during Remote Learning.

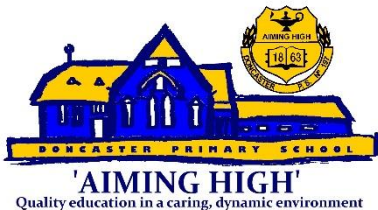
When not at school I like to.... go to the movies, op shop, walk and garden.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be a Children's librarian.

Doncaster Primary School



Sarah Quinn
Grade 3 Teacher



History of employment - Following graduation from my teaching studies I lived and worked in the Greater Shepparton area for 7 years. In Greater Shepparton I taught at schools with students who came from a range of different backgrounds. This equipped me with many additional skills to support learning for students from a range of backgrounds.

I then moved to the Melbourne area where I worked at a school in Balwyn North prior to successfully securing a teaching role at Doncaster Primary School (DPS) in 2019. Since being at DPS I have taught Prep for four years and am now teaching Level 3. Fun fact — I had previously taught 5 of my current Level 3 students in 2020 when they were in my Prep Q class at that time.

What do you like about Doncaster Primary - I love that all the teachers want to inspire children to go beyond their comfort zone and challenge them in a safe environment. I love to encourage each child to dream as dreaming leads to big ideas which leads to change and can help shape their future.

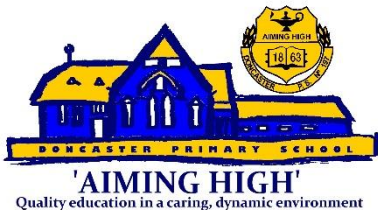
What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - The DPS community is wonderful, we are so lucky to have brilliant students, parents and staff making DPS a great school to be part of. I love how at DPS we encourage each and every child to be a lifelong learner.

Doncaster Primary School



Kelly Soccio

Grade 4 Teacher



History of employment - I've worked at DPS since 2006. In that 17 years I have spent some time away having my family (I have 3 children) and have taught part time in many different roles. Although I have taught in Level 4 for five years, this year is my first year of returning to full time work.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - All of the students, fellow staff and the community are what makes DPS such a great school. I absolutely love coming to work each day to spend time with my students and the other staff. It's the wonderful relationships we form, the fun we have and the things we learn and achieve together that make it so worthwhile.

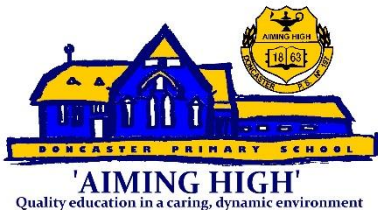
When not at school I like to.... Spend time with my family. We enjoy going for long walks or bike rides all together. I also love spending time with my friends, cooking and finding a nice quiet place to sit and read a good book.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be...An actress! Any student I've taught knows that I have a strong love of drama and can sometimes even be a bit dramatic in class. Before having children, I often performed in amateur theatre productions. I loved the freedom of pretending to be someone completely different to myself.

Doncaster Primary School



Angie Kotsiopoulos
Grade 4 Teacher



History of employment -Previously worked at St Thomas the Apostle Blackburn (teacher aide), CRT at Doncaster Gardens, Balwyn Primary and Eltham East Primary school

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at -The staff and leadership are so supportive. Students are very respectful and eager to learn.

What are your career highlights to date - I love that I have created great relationships with my students in my class and are able to have fun whilst we learn.

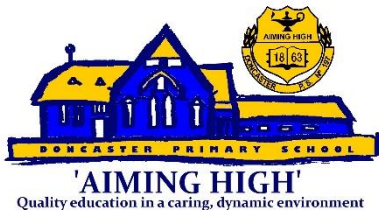
When not at school I like to....I enjoy have a fancy dinner with friends and family and hitting the gym after work

If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be..... a make-up artist for actors and actresses in preparation for their movie scenes

Doncaster Primary School



Tom Wood-Burgess
Grade 4 Teacher



History of Employment - After working at Doncaster Primary School last year as a CRT, this is my first year on staff full-time.

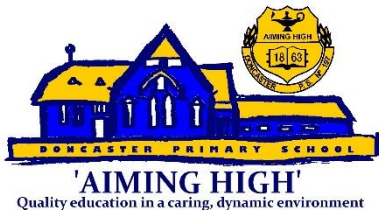
What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - I love working with all the fantastic staff, students, and parents at DPS. Doncaster PS has such a supportive community with a strong focus on the growth of all students in all areas of their lives, and I really enjoy that I get to be a part of it.

When not at school I like to..... When I'm not at school, I enjoy doing cross stitch, cooking, playing piano, singing, playing board and card games, playing the Switch, and spending quality time with my wonderful wife.

Doncaster Primary School



Vanessa Keen
Grade 5 Teacher



History of employment - I have worked at Doncaster Primary School since 2002 when I graduated from Deakin University. This is my 17th year of full time teaching.

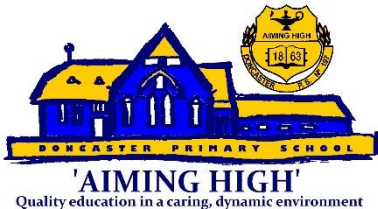
What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at
- DPS is a great place to work because of the staff, the students, the families and the community. The staff in particular make every day a pleasure because they support each other and work hard to make the school the best it can be for the students and families.

When not at school I like to..... read books, do jigsaw puzzles and sew my own clothes.

Doncaster Primary School



Kathey Coumaros
Grade 5 Teacher



History of Employment - I have worked at DPS for 6 years. I worked as a CRT, then EAL, then year 2 and now year 5 classroom teacher.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - I love working at DPS. I love the school, the students, the staff, the leadership team and the general culture of the school. I also love the schools' location. I love that I live within the school community and get to bump into parents and students outside the boundaries of the school.

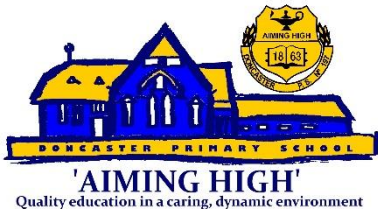
My career highlights at DPS - would be the choir and the Fathering Project program which I thoroughly enjoy bringing the community together and interacting with parents and students outside the perimeters of the school. Also, the relationships and rapport I have built and developed with the wider school community during my time at DPS.

Thank you DPS! May we continue to prosper and grow as a school!
Donny, Donny, Donny!!!

Doncaster Primary School



Rana El-Bay
Grade 5 Teacher



What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - Doncaster Primary School is such a wonderful school to work at because of the staff and students we have. The staff are all so passionate and supportive. I love that I can go to any member of DPS for guidance and they are always willing to lend a hand. The students here are amazing too, my favourite thing is that no matter what grade you teach, students of all ages know the staff and always greet us with big smiles.

When not at school I like to.... I love to spend time with my family. I am the youngest of 4 kids so my family are always getting together. I love taking my nieces and nephews out for fun activities. I also really love playing basketball and have been playing since I was 7!

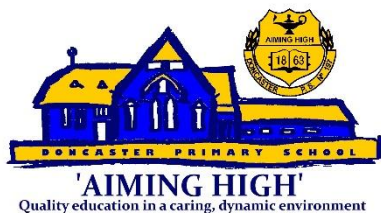
If I wasn't a teacher I would love to be..... a professional basketball player because that is my passion. I would even love to be a paramedic so that I can help others. I really enjoy watching all the ambulance shows on TV!

Doncaster Primary School



Niky Corfios

Grade 6 Teacher



My history of employment - My teaching career began in South Africa where I taught for 12 years at the primary school that I attended at as a student. I was honoured to teach alongside my favourite teacher of all times, my year 6 teacher. She was my hero as a student and the greatest mentor as a teacher. My next teaching journey was in Brisbane where I taught for 5 years. Finally, I landed in Melbourne where I have been fortunate to teach for 16 years and counting.

My Family and other Interest - Immigrating to Australia with my family; husband, daughter and son has been one of the best decisions and highlights of my life. We enjoy spending time together at home, walking around the beautiful parks in our area and love eating out at all our fine restaurants in Melbourne. To keep fit and improve my physical and mental wellbeing, I often do low impact Pilates workouts. A great way to reboot!! My husband and I also enjoy going to the movies, preferably gold class 🍿, and to the theatre. As a family, we also love travelling around the world and have visited many incredible countries, our favourites being Greece, France, Italy and South Africa.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be a world traveller. Firstly, visiting countries, exploring different parts of the world in their summer months so to never feel any cold breeze ever again! I would also love to live and experience new cultures and meet new people. Most importantly, eating new foods in different countries is a great way to experience cultures and expand my palate!

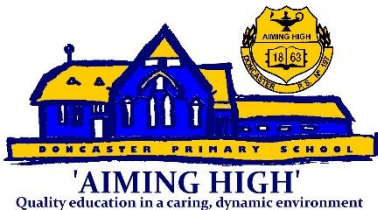
What I like about Doncaster Primary and why it is a great school to work at - After teaching for so many years I feel extremely privileged to be teaching at Doncaster Primary. The main reason I chose DPS is that it has an excellent reputation for the quality of its teachers and the high calibre of its students. The teachers have a repertoire of knowledge, skills and insights and this leads to our students being passionate and avid learners.

What I love most about DPS - is the strong inclusive and caring setting we foster for all our community; students, parents, carers. The staff are a committed team to help provide a supportive and learning environment so that every DPS student can achieve greatness, academically and emotionally.

Doncaster Primary School



Mary Scopas
Grade 6 Teacher



History of employment - Before becoming a teacher, I worked in administrative and training roles.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - Doncaster is a great place to work because of the friendly and supportive school community, teachers, staff, and students.

What are your career highlights to date - My career highlights include working for the Salvation Army and making a difference to peoples' lives.

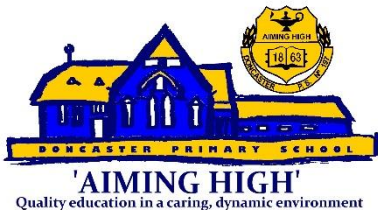
When not at school I like..... to spend time with my family and friends, go to the beach and travel overseas.

If I wasn't a teacher..... I would like to be a travel agent learning about different travel destinations while helping people to live out their travel dreams.

Doncaster Primary School



Andrew Johnson
Grade 6 Teacher



History of employment? - I have enjoyed working in several schools over the past 15 years which has helped me learn a variety of different skills and approaches towards teaching. At my previous school I was the Wellbeing Coordinator, taught PE and I was in the classroom too. I have been fortunate, over the years, to teach many year levels as a classroom teacher - Year 2, 4, 5 and 6.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - It is a privilege to be part of the DPS community. Our students are respectful, friendly and motivated to learn. I am grateful to work with such supportive and passionate staff. I enjoy coming to DPS each day.

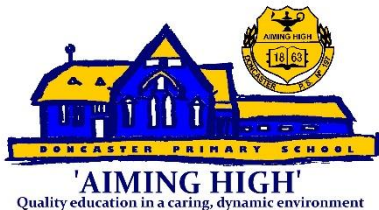
When not at school I like to..... exercise - running, tennis and swimming are my favourite sports. I also enjoy photography, reading and the challenge of supporting the Carlton Football Club. I enjoy the outdoors- whether that is hiking or running. I have been fortunate to travel to the USA and Tonga and look forward to expanding my knowledge of other countries in my future travels.

If I wasn't a teacher- I would love to be a sports agent for a professional AFL player or tennis player. I think it would be interesting working with them behind the scenes and helping support them. I would also like to be a film director. I enjoy cinematography and would love to write and direct a film one day.

Doncaster Primary School



Jeanette Milanese
Grade 6 Teacher



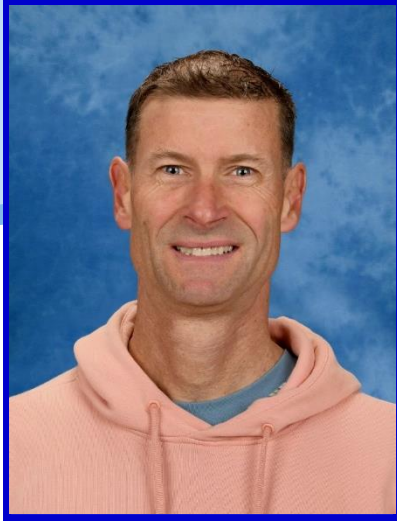
What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at -

Doncaster Primary is an excellent school with wonderful students, great teachers and a friendly community. The culture of our school is always welcoming and inclusive and the staff at our school take pride in being committed to our student's development and learning.

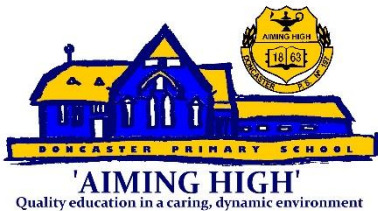
What are your career highlights to date - Canberra camp has been a highlight as I enjoy seeing students step out of their comfort zone and develop their independence. I have enjoyed coaching interschool sport teams and seeing our students work together to achieve success.

When not at school I like to.... I am passionate about photography and enjoy capturing moments. In my spare time, I like to attend and watch the Collingwood football club. My favourite activity to do on the weekend is playing with my three year old pug, Hugo.

Doncaster Primary School



Martin Spinks
Physical Education
Teacher



What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - The staff of Doncaster Primary School are professional and care deeply about their students. In turn, we have amazing students who want to learn and see school as a positive, enjoyable and fun place to be. The school grounds are spacious and we have amazing facilities to teach in. Staff are always supportive and reliable. There is always a friendly atmosphere within the school.

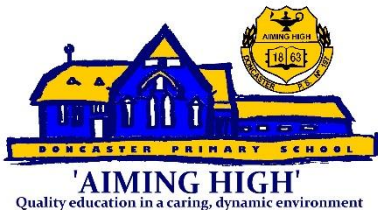
When not at school I like to.... I love to stay active by riding my road bike around the hills of Kinglake, Eltham and along the Kew Boulevard. I also play competition tennis on Tuesday nights which is as competitive as it is social. I enjoy watching movies with my wife and 3 daughters, when we can schedule a time for everyone to be home together. I am a passionate A.F.L. supporter and barrack for the Brisbane Lions. I like to spend time in my veggie patch growing organic vegetables, which are not only healthy but provide me with a time to chill out and be closer to nature and free from technology.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be an osteopath or physiotherapist. I am fascinated by the human body and would love to know more about how to maximise its capabilities and assist others affected by injuries or other ailments.

Doncaster Primary School



Adam O'Callaghan
Science Teacher



What makes Doncaster a great school to work at -

Doncaster is a great school because of how all the students and teachers get along with each other.

Anywhere you go in the school you will find someone who wants to talk and have fun. It is a great school culture that is just fun to be around and to be apart of.

When not at school I like to.....

If I am not at school, I really enjoy snorkelling in the ocean. I love free diving and seeing all the underwater marine life. I love swimming with sharks and stingrays and exploring new underwater terrain.

If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be.....

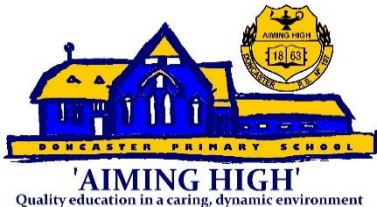
a biologist, learning more about animals, such as where they live and what they eat. I especially would like to be a marine biologist so I can spend my days swimming in the ocean and showing others the amazing world of the ocean!

Doncaster Primary School



Lisa Foster

Cultural Studies
& Library Teacher



History of employment - Started at Doncaster in 2009 after working at a number of schools around Melbourne and even on a Disney cruise ship!

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - The cultural diversity is amazing! Students are proud of their background and eager to learn about others. The delicious sights and smells of their lunches from different cultures make me very jealous!

What are your career highlights to date - Designing, writing and implementing the Cultural Studies Curriculum from scratch. The students love coming to the library to learn which makes me very proud!

When not at school I like to.... spend time with my two gorgeous children, watch the footy and play video games.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be a travel tour guide. I love to travel and have visited over 30 countries. I especially enjoy trying all the new foods!

Doncaster Primary School

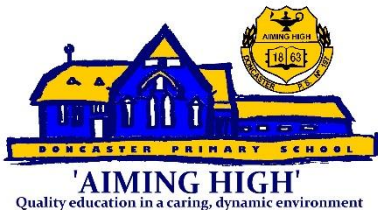


What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at? - I love how Doncaster Primary School is such a multicultural school and we have such lovely students, staffs and parents to work with.

When not at school I like togo for nature walks, star gazing and relaxing.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to work with animals and be a vet.

Christine Boskovska
Visual Arts Teacher



Doncaster Primary School

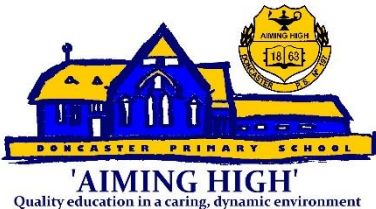


Jayne Hill
TLI Teacher

History of employment - I started working at DPS back in 2012 teaching Prep. Before teaching I used to work as a Nurse at the Royal Children's Hospital.

What are your career highlights to date - My career highlight to date has been running the Tutor Learning Initiative and helping students improve their reading and numeracy post covid. I find this very rewarding, and I love this role.

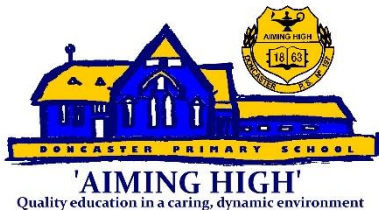
When not at school I like to.... In my spare time I like to go for bushwalks with my three daughters aged 3, 6 and 7. I also like to cheer on the Geelong Cats at the footy and enjoy a yummy jam donut.



Doncaster Primary School



Annie Fan
Mandarin Teacher



History of employment - I started working at DPS in 2011, teaching LOTE. I was an art teacher in Taiwan before I came to Australia in 1990. I changed my career to become a Mandarin Teacher. I have been teaching Mandarin for more than 20 years.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - Doncaster Primary School is a Multicultural Community school, where there are more than 27 different languages spoken by students in this school. As a language teacher, I can see many students are learning third languages in their education. I am very grateful to be their language teacher.

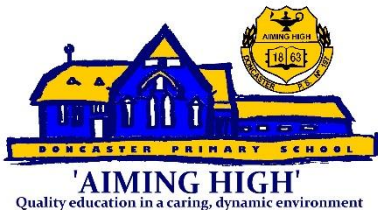
What are your career highlights to date - My career highlight to date has been running the LOTE Learning Initiative and helping students improve their language skills.

When not at school I like to.... In my spare time I like traveling and doing activities such as Tai Chi, Yoga or Zen Painting. I hope that I can become an artist in Australia one day.

Doncaster Primary School



Alex Xenitopoulos
EAL & French
Teacher



History of employment - I have been working in the education field for over 10 years, I now specialise in teaching English as an additional language but prior to this I taught French, Art and was also a mainstream classroom teacher. I often joke that I am a jack of all trades! But I must say, teaching English has become my passion!

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - Aside from the lovely students at DPS, I really love working alongside a positive and supportive staff. We can keep things in perspective, have a laugh, have honest communication, and have respect and understanding for each other. I feel very lucky to be part of such a lovely community here at Doncaster Primary School.

When not at school I like to.... It is very important to have a good work life balance, so I always try to do something with my twins every night whether it be going to the park, baking, playing a game or painting. I also enjoy going to the football on the weekends- a little less lately, as I am a Carlton supporter.

If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be - A real estate agent because I think my love of talking and meeting new people along with my love of property would be a good mix!

Doncaster Primary School



Wendy Fairley
Education Support

History of employment

I worked in a daycare centre for 6 years. Went on to do daycare from home. I now have worked for the Education Department for 18 plus years.

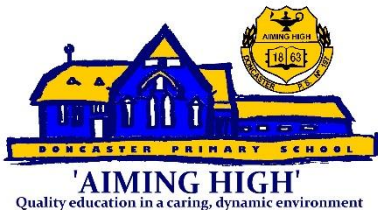
My Favourite Teacher

My grade 5 teacher Mrs Otto was my favourite teacher. She was sweet and took the time to connect with all her students.

When I'm not at school.....I enjoy being with family, going on long walks. Knitting and sewing.

My Family

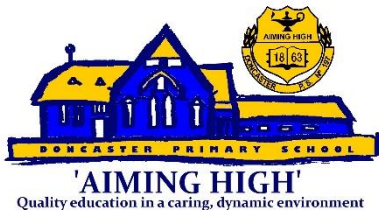
My family is my most treasured thing. I am one of 6 children. I have 4 children and 8 beautiful grandchildren. I am very blessed.



Doncaster Primary School



Joan Tan- Lawson
Education Support



What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - I love working alongside the wonderful staff at DPS and supporting the learning of our amazing students. I always look forward to greeting our school families at the gate in the morning, especially seeing the excited faces of the children as they walk, skip or scoot to school.

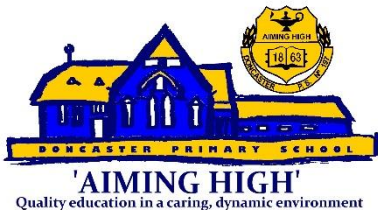
What are your career highlights to date? - I have loved going along to all the camps during my time at DPS. These experiences have provided me with opportunities to get to know the children outside of the school environment, seeing them enjoy new experiences and bonding with their peers and teachers.

When not at school - I like to spend time in my garden, hang out with my family (including two cats) or exploring new eateries, trying out new cuisines. I also like to travel and experience different cultures.

Doncaster Primary School



Asha Joseph
Education Support



History of employment – I have been working as an ES member at DPS for 9 months.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at - The staff are really friendly and welcoming.

What are your career highlights to date -This is a new career for me but I always feel encouraged when I see kids thriving and growing.

When not at school I like to.... enjoy good food with good friends.

If I wasn't a teacher - I would like to be a pediatric nurse!

Doncaster Primary School



Elsie Chan
Education Support

History of employment - My education career began in Hong Kong where I worked as a secondary school teacher for 8 years. After I arrived in Melbourne I work as an education support staff until now.

What makes Doncaster Primary a great school to work at? - DPS is a great school to work at because the school is student-centered. Full of kindness, full of love and caring. You can always see happy face around the campus, no matter the staffs, the parents or the students, that make me feel so good to be part of here.

If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be.... If I wasn't a teacher, I would like to be a flight attendant. As I can travel around the world while I am working!

When not at school I like to - When not at school I like to watch movies, travel around, singing, playing video games and board games, jogging, go shopping, hang out with family and friend and good book.

