



# COBDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL

*Committed to Students, Committed to Success*

McKenzie Street, Cobden, 3266  
www.cobdentechschoo.org  
cobden.ts@education.vic.gov.au  
Ph: 5595 1202

Website for our school.  
<https://www.cobtech.vic.edu.au/>  
What would you like included?

**Term 2 Week 3**  
**May, 2022**

*We are committed to find, and celebrate, successful outcomes for students, whether that is in the pursuit of high-level academic achievement, or the development of specific vocational skills.*

*The values we strive to develop and promote through our interactions with students, parents and other members of our community are Honesty, Excellence, Accountability, Respect and Trust - HEART*

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**School Council Parent/Student Representatives:** Jemma Couch Michelle De Bie  
Anita La Franchi Rebecca Perriss Mardi Foster Willoughby Perriss Grace Ritchie Lachlan Herschell

## Principal Report

Rohan Keert

**COVID-19 Update** – Returning to routines and providing consistency is proving to be a major challenge across all schools in our network as we commence Term 2. All schools are reporting that COVID-19 is still having a significant impact on staffing availability and student attendance. We are not the only school or business being impacted by regular notifications of positive COVID cases in our community. While transmission of the current COVID variant appears to be a bit hit and miss, the following COVID safe advice still applies especially as we enter the flu season.

**Malcolm Ward Retirement** – Please refer to the feature article in this newsletter regarding the retirement of our longstanding school chaplain Malcolm Ward. Chaplaincy support will continue at our school with the appointment of Rachel Walz. Rachel will expand her current role as Student Wellbeing Coordinator to include chaplaincy, and Hands On Learning support with Mr Bouman.



## Vaccination

- staff required to be vaccinated
- more than 90% of children age 12 and over are now vaccinated
- roll-out of vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 through state vaccination hubs, pop-up school vaccination sites and in-reach grants



## Ventilation

- The roll-out of 110, 000 air purifiers to schools will continue with the additional winter allocation of units to be delivered by 1 June 2022.



## Vital COVIDSafe steps

- physical distancing
- regular hand hygiene
- twice-weekly voluntary rapid antigen testing (RAT) at home
  - primary school students and staff
  - secondary school students and staff
- five-times-weekly voluntary rapid antigen testing (RAT) at home
  - specialist school students and staff

**Central Australia Camp** – Along with Ms Camp and Mr Matthews I was privileged to accompany our students on a camping tour of Central Australia with staff and students from Timboon P-12 School in the last week of Term 1. It looks like it will be the first of many. We are already starting to plan our next one in 2024. I would like to thank Mrs McLennan for her organisation over the past two and a half years. The camp was delayed and rescheduled more than once as a result of COVID restrictions and lockdowns. For most of the participants it was the adventure of a lifetime and a welcome break from the early autumn cool weather in Cobden. We experienced blue skies and temperatures in the mid-30's every day. For some of us, we ticked things off the bucket list and others formed new friendships through the shared experience. Business owners and staff at attractions along the way complimented our group on the polite and respectful way our students conducted themselves.

The express bus drive to and from Central Australia was a long haul, but the experiences in between were amazing! We camped in an underground rock cave in Coober Pedy before setting up camp in Alice Springs. This gave us a base to explore Standley Chasm, Simpsons Gap, and Alice Springs Desert Park, which included an incredible Nature Theatre show. On our final night in Alice Springs, we experienced a show by the Reptile Centre, which included a massive python slithering around the necks and shoulders of some very nervous students and staff.

The tour then proceeded to Kings Canyon where we all completed the challenging and breathtakingly spectacular 6km rim walk. The BBQ dinner at Kings Canyon Station that night was so good that the local dingoes decided to join us! On the final few days of our safari, we pitched our tents at Ayers Rock Campground as our base to explore the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park while the blue skies, warm days, and incredibly beautiful sunrises and sunsets continued.



**New staff and new roles** – We welcome Noel McKay (English & VCAL) and Adam Beveridge (classroom teacher) to our staff for the next six months. The promotion of Narelle Holliday to Acting Assistant Principal has created an opportunity for Andrea Stoddart to step into the role of Acting Leading Teacher for the next two terms. Naomi De-La-Warr (Learning Specialist and English teacher) will commence family leave towards the end of Term 2. We wish her all the best for the upcoming birth of her first child. We will be announcing additional staffing appointments in the next few weeks.

**CTS School Council** – We welcome all returning parent representatives to our school council in 2022, and I would like to acknowledge our newest parent member Jedda Couch. At our next meeting at 5:00pm on Monday 16 May, we will be appointing the council executive roles of President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

## CTS Parents Committee

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We would like to thank all the families for supporting the Easter Raffle.

The amount of donations allowed us to have numerous prizes and the response in selling tickets was amazing.

The lucky winners on the day were as follows; Taliyah Bishop, The Wason Family, Seth Meade, Fiona Russell, Aleisha Tickner, Lexie Schmidt, Natalie De Bie, Ryan Simmonds, Joy Hill and Austin De Bie.

I'm sure they all enjoyed the chocolate over the Easter break.

In Term 2 we are running a Pie Drive through the Cobden Bakery. Order forms will go out in the coming weeks and delivery will be the week before July School Holidays. Ask friends, families and neighbours to place an order. Always good to have a family pie in the freezer for those cold wintery nights ahead.

The current School Parents Committee would also like to put a call out to all parents who would be interested in joining the Parents Committee. We are aware of how busy everyone is with their families, work, etc. The committee meet once or twice a term to discuss how we can support our students and the school. If you would like more information, please contact the school.

Thanks for always supporting the CTS Parents Committee.



# Farewell Malcolm

## Farewell to our school Chaplain, Malcolm Ward

Malcolm began his role with Cobden Tech in 2008 in conjunction with the Cobden Uniting Church who contributed to his funding from the National Chaplaincy Scheme to allow him to be at the school two days a week, this agreement was also kindly supported by Naringal Baptist Church where he pastors four days a week. The church agreed to his work at the school being part of his pastoral role at Naringal. In his 14 years of chaplaincy Malcolm has supported hundreds of students in their life journey, listening, encouraging and being an exemplary role model to them. His commitment to our Hands On Learning program has meant that students were well supported every Friday to eat meals together, develop their interpersonal skills, serve the community and work on fun projects together.



Malcolm retired last week and the students who he saw regularly are very sad to see him go, one student said, "He's not leaving!" when asked is that what you want in the newsletter he said "yep, he can't leave because he's too awesome. He was a good listener, when I was having trouble, he really understood and helped me a lot". Another student said, "I've been seeing Malcolm every week since I started school here, four years now, he's just a nice guy who's easy to talk to, a really good listener." Mason, a Year Twelve student said "It was good to hang out with him if I was having a rough time, I would talk about the things I was struggling with and he didn't judge me he just listened. He also gave me Kit-Kats and played table tennis; his ping pong skills are exceptional!". One parent commented "If my son was having trouble with something he could go and hang out with Malcolm and he always came home much happier. There's things that kids might not want to talk about at home so it was great to know he had someone else he could go to".

Our Principal Rohan Keert said "It's a sad day seeing Malcolm finish, he's been such an integral part of our school community for so long he's influenced a whole generation of students. His quiet gentle manner in mentoring and supporting our students has been an invaluable part of our wellbeing supports. Not only that Malcolm regularly attended school camps, running Drum Beat for them, was part of our Interschool Dirt Bike Team and ran sessions for our BRICKS program. Malcolm is truly a case of what you see is what you get, an exceptional role model for kindness, generosity and care in our community".

At his farewell morning tea one of our teachers Reinier Bouman said this of Malcolm and his time at CTS: *"He has woven his unique thread into the tapestry that makes up our school. Fourteen years of wisdom, 14 years of guidance for countless students, 14 years of 'the time of day' for students who needed someone to talk to, 14 years of rock-solid reliability, 14 years of never failing, one-eyed Geelong support. 14 years of time for staff, professionally or around the lunchtime table. 14 years of never a cross word, unbecoming behaviour or nastiness. Malcolm is a personification of what people might term 'a good guy'. I have known Malcolm as a colleague and friend for all this time and he has been the kind of friend anyone could hope to wish for. Thank you for your friendship, wise words and workplace actions. You will be missed. Your competitiveness at the table tennis will not be missed. Your work as a counsellor is a lasting legacy into the lives of many students. You are proof that the 'intangibles' in our lives are equally important as the things we can hold."*

# Sub-School Report

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Sarah Cook & Jennifer McLennan – Sub School Leaders

A warm welcome back for Term 2.

I'd like to start off by congratulating the Year 7 and 9 students who participated in the NAPLAN testing recently. NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time. Reports will come out at a later date. With all students striving to do their best on the tests, it is important to remember that this is just one aspect of your child's education- it does not measure engagement, enjoyment, or creativity. It does not measure your child's kindness or wit.

With the onset of Term 2, also comes the cold weather. While I'm sure we'd all love to be at school wearing our oodles and uggs, students should be wearing the school uniform at all times- black pants (NOT leggings or track pants), white shirt and the school jumper/ jacket. If students are cold, they could wear stockings/ leggings/skins under their pants, a long-sleeved white top under their white shirts, or a school approved jacket and beanie. Thermal underwear is also a good option for those really cold days. It is important that the uniform is still worn correctly during winter. If you need any uniform assistance, please contact the front office and chat to one of our friendly staff.

This term we will be continuing the uniform raffle to reward students who are wearing the correct uniform. This time, it will be a weekly rather than daily ticket being given out, but still the same raffle draw. Students have the opportunity to win stationary, games, fiddle toys, books and voucher for hot chips, pancake recess or 10 minutes free time.

This week, Year 9 students sat the Morrisby Career Questionnaires. As a parent of a Year 9 student who has completed this questionnaire, I can speak very highly of the depth of understanding and insight the results can give to a student's future career paths. Students will sit down with a representative from the organisation and go through their results and be given a detailed report on the students' strengths and areas of interest. I suggest that when you receive this report you take time to go over it with your child. These results can give clarity to those who are unsure of future pathways, and help students pick classes that will assist them reach their career goals.

The Year 9 students will be heading off in the last week of term to Melbourne for a four-day camp. We will be experiencing tours of the MCG, laneways, museums, the Zoo, the Queen Victoria Market and more. All thanks to Positive Start initiative from the Education Department, this camp has been fully subsidised. Please ensure that you have given your permission and paid the deposit which secures your child's place (this amount will then go to an activity on the way home from camp).

Year 8 students- keep an eye out in third term for more information on the Summit Camp to be held in September.

Finally, during the first two weeks of term, nominations and interviews were held for the Year 7 student leaders. It was a difficult decision, as all candidates were impressive in their interviews and brought a variety of attributes to the position. I would like to congratulate Marli Phillips and Seth Meade who were the successful candidates. Marli and Seth will be joining Tabitha Perriss, Bradey Fratantaro, Hayden Chamberlain and Zac Stevens as leaders for Junior School.

## UNIFORM

It is wonderful to see many of our students wearing our school uniform correctly. However, recently it has been noted that items that are not permitted in the uniform policy are being worn. Here is a reminder of our permitted items of uniform.

**Trousers:** Black tailored trousers

**Dress:** Traditional style in designated school fabric

**Shorts:** Tailored, black, knee length no logo

**Skirt:** Green, black and white checked pleated skirt

**Shirt:** White polo shirt

**Socks:** Plain white or black socks

**Jumper:** Green V neck jumper, green polar fleece top, or green jacket, with the CTS logo.

**Hat:** Cobden Technical School bucket hat

**PE** – students are required to wear the Cobden Technical School green sport shirt and black shorts or black pants without pockets (due to safety)

**NOTE: Students must not wear their PE uniform to and from school. They must bring a change of PE clothes to put on and change out of**

### Winter outer garments to be worn outdoors only

**Beanie-** Black beanie with school logo.

**Coat/Jacket-** Plain black with no logo. All students will wear enclosed black leather footwear

**\*\*\*\*Tracksuit pants, jeans and leggings are not permitted uniform attire even with a note...**

### **Parents can support the students by:**

- Ensuring students have access to all required uniform items including enclosed black leather shoes.
- Making sure students leave home each morning in full school uniform.
- Providing students with a note should an item of uniform be unavailable for a short period of time explaining why and making sure students' dress in appropriate alternative clothes on this occasion.
- Communicating with the school should they require financial assistance with the uniform.

### **Students are encouraged to comply by:**

- Engaging in supporting conversations around uniform in mentor time and their classes.
- Providing an explanatory note from parent/carer when out of uniform.
- Being prepared to cooperate with necessary consequences for uniform infringements.

This includes removing any extra items of clothing or inappropriate pieces and collecting them from the office at the end of the day. Being provided with appropriate pieces, where possible, to replace the out of uniform item.

- Understanding that they will not be able to attend excursions, including sports days, when not in uniform (unless it is explicitly stated that casual clothes may be worn)

## School staff will support the students by:

- Ensuring students are in full school uniform when they arrive to Mentor session and subject classes.
- Requesting notes from students who are out of uniform.
- Ensuring students are in full school uniform for excursions and activities
- Managing students who are out of uniform by arranging for student to change into uniform items where appropriate.
- Documenting uniform concerns on compass and further communicating with parents and carers around uniform issues as needed, this may be requesting parents bring in appropriate uniform items or collect students who will not comply with the uniform policy.

Reichas is our uniform supplier, they are open the following days and times.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 11- 4.

If you are unable to attend during opening times, please contact Reicha's or the school and alternative arrangements can be made.

The Leadership and Wellbeing team appreciate your continued support. If you require any support with uniform, please call the school 5595 1202



# Central Australia Camp

## Amanda Camp

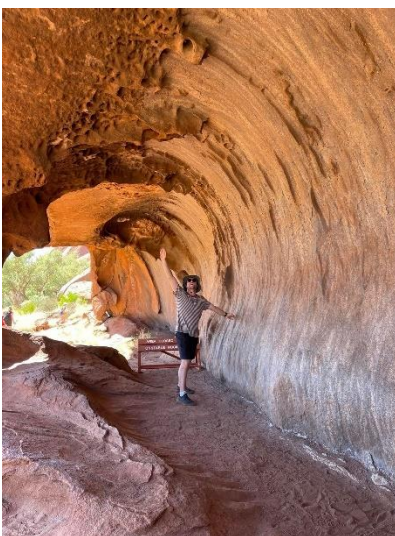
That big, beautiful rock.

Looking back through the photos on my phone, it feels like our visit to Central Australia was much longer than 5 weeks ago. It's easy to feel that way when Easter came and went in a flurry of chocolate, bunnies and buns and we are now well into the swing of Term 2. But yesterday, I felt the sun on my skin and in that moment was transported back to that warm land of red dirt, of deep sunsets, of cloudless blue skies and starry nights and of that big, beautiful rock.



Although the bus rides were at times long and the scenery a never-ending expanse of the landscape, our Central Australia trip was revitalising and fun. Rohan, Spike and I were so impressed with the behaviour of our students, they represented our school community as happy, well-mannered and open-minded young people.

Some highlights for me were the long rambling chats I had with students while we traversed the rocky terrain of Kings Canyon, the stories told to us by our park Ranger guide as we tracked to multiple viewing points of the Valley of the Winds at Kata Tjuta on the Saturday morning of our trip. Meaning "many heads" in Pitjantjatjara, the rock formation is composed of three dozen, steep-sided domes which we stood immersed in while gazing at the wonder of the surrounding desert. I couldn't help but compare that moment to my normal Saturday morning ritual (sleep in, drink coffee, take the dog for a walk, etc). Thousands of kilometres away from home and my normal routine felt invigorating.



And then there was the big, beautiful rock. Uluru. After a busted bus tyre, flat phone batteries and the consumption of way too many sweet biscuits we descended upon Uluru at dusk. After taking our many selfies and group photos, I noticed a subtle shift in energy come over the group. I felt a collective sense of wonder and softness as we watched the colours on the undulating formations of Uluru change from bronze, to deep red, to soft orange and yellow into purple and dusty soft pinks. I think that we all came away from our adventure a little taller, a little more grounded and a little happier than we were simply by experiencing it together. Palya.

'Palya' - is a word belonging to the Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara language, this word can have multiple meanings such as a greeting or as 'I'm feeling good'.

# Calendar 2022

<b>WEEK 4</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Thursday	May 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor Rock climbing – Great Outdoors</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 5</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Tuesday	May 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSSSD Senior Boys Football</li> <li>HSSSD Senior &amp; Intermediate Girls Netball</li> </ul>
Friday	May 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bush Tucker Tower Hill excursion</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 6</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Monday	May 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GWR Cross Country</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 7</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Monday	June 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Morrisby Interviews</li> </ul>
Tuesday	June 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Morrisby Interviews</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 8</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Wednesday	June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Pupil Free Day</b></li> </ul>
Thursday	June 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HSSSD Junior Boys Football</li> <li>HSSSD Junior Girls Netball</li> </ul>
<b>WEEK 9</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Monday	June 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 10 Work Experience</li> </ul>
Tuesday	June 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 9 DOXA City Camp Departs</li> </ul>
Friday	June 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 9 DOXA City Camp Returns</li> <li>Last Day Term 2 – 2:25pm Finish</li> </ul>
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS WEEK 1</b>		
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS WEEK 2</b>		

**REMINDER - THE CANTEEN IS ONLY OPEN ON TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS**

# Sports Report

Belinda Savage – Sports Coordinator

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup> May	Senior Boys Football and Girls Netball
Monday	30 <sup>th</sup> May	GWR Cross Country in Warrnambool
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup> June	Junior Boys Football & Junior Girls Netball

## GWR Lawn Bowls at Ararat on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April

Thank you to Mr. Nixon for his knowledge and coaching of the Junior Lawn Bowls Team (Alan Warden, Zac Stevens and Ryan Armistead). The boys won their first game, lost their second game and after leading all game got pipped on the last end of the third game. Well done on a great day.

Games		Shots		
			:	
Bayview 1	Bayview 3	6	:	4
Camperdown 2	Cobden 1	3	:	4
Bayview 1	Camperdown 2	6	:	11
Cobden 1	Bayview 3	3	:	8
Bayview 1	Cobden 1	5	:	4
Bayview 3	Camperdown 2	5	:	5



## Equestrian

Congratulations to Indee Smith who recently competed at the Australian Arabian National Championships held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre. Indee for the second year in a row, won the Australian National Champion rider. This year Indee rode a horse called "Shah Gold Reflection".



Congratulations to both Holly Roberts and Jacoba Henderson for competing at the EA State Interschool Championships at Werribee Park in the school holidays.

Holly had qualified two horses to compete at the championships, the first one being Holmlea Wizard in the 75 cm Senior Show jumping event, the Senior Preliminary dressage event and having to complete two dressage tests and the 80 cm combined training.



Holly also rode Audacious Grace and competed in the Senior Preliminary Dressage completing two dressage tests. Holly finished midfield with both horses and said it was a great experience and learnt a lot from the State Championships.

Jacobia also competed at the championships which were held over three days, performing in the 90 cm show jumping riding Midnight Madness and finishing an incredible 16<sup>th</sup> overall out of a class of seventy-four riders. Well done Jacoba and Holly.



## **GWR Athletics**

The following students have now qualified to attend at the Greater Western Region Interschool Athletics to be held at Ballarat on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October: -

Noah Sinnott	Jayden Gass	Bradey Fratantaro
Nash Coverdale	Brodie Foster	Kayden Daffy
Noah Bignell	Abbey Benson	Lachlan Herschell
Angus Molan	Jack Cowan	

Please speak to Mr. Simmonds to organize practice session times.

## **Football**

Congratulations to Brodie Foster for his selection and competing in the U16 Football V-Line Cup representing the Greater Western Victoria Rebels Team. Brodie spent time in the holidays competing at Shepparton and this team was coached by our staff member, Brett Taylor. The Rebels team had two great wins: -

Rebels 10-11-71 defeated Gippsland 8-7-53

Rebels 7-7-49 defeated Barwon 6-11-47

Well done Brodie and Brett on a very successful team effort.



## **Colac Gun Club Shoot on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

A very small group attended at the Colac Gun Club Shoot with Heath Jeffery attending his first competition and shooting an 8/20. Also, well done to Brodie Eddy 6/20 and Taysha Scott 2/20. The Noorat Gun Club Championship Shoot is to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> August. If any student would like more information or interested in obtaining a Junior Shooters Licence, please speak to Belinda Savage.



## **Badminton**

A big thank you to Jo from the Victorian Badminton Association to take coaching sessions with our students. The students gained skills and attempted a sport that they had never participated in before.



## CTS Cross Country on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Well done to everybody who participated in the cross-country event. Congratulations to Brodie Foster, Jack Cowan and Felix Nguena Nguena being the first three male runners' home, and to Abbey Benson, Abbey Robbins and Tabitha Perriss being the first three female runners' home.

A super team effort saw Glenfyne Gold overall house winners, followed by Tandarook Red in second and Shenfield Blue in Third.

### Cross Country Aged Champions

U13 Female	Taliyah Bishop	Shenfield Blue
U13 Male	Felix Nguena Nguena	Glenfyne Gold
U14 Female	Summer Mitchell	Tandarook Red
U14 Male	Zac Stevens	Glenfyne Gold
U15 Female	Tabitha Perriss	Tandarook Red
U15 Male	Kayden Daffy	Shenfield Blue
U16 Girls	Jacoba Henderson	Glenfyne Gold
U16 Boys	Brodie Foster	Tandarook Red
U17 Girls	Abbey Robbins	Shenfield Blue
U17 Boys	Jack Cowan	Shenfield Blue
U18-20 Girls	Abbey Benson	Glenfyne Gold
U18-20 Male	Willoughby Perriss	Tandarook Red



## HSSSD Interschool Cross Country on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May at Camperdown

Well done to the following students who attended at the HSSSD Interschool Cross Country held in Camperdown.

Abbey Benson	1 <sup>st</sup> U18-20 Female	<b>(HSSSD Aged Champion)</b>	
Abbey Robbins	6 <sup>th</sup> U17 Female	Tara Watts	14 <sup>th</sup> U17 Female
Tabitha Perriss	9 <sup>th</sup> U15 Female		
Felix Nguena Nguena	3 <sup>rd</sup> U13 Male		
Zac Stevens	13 <sup>th</sup> U14 Male	Noah Bignell	15 <sup>th</sup> U14 Male
Adam Jopling	17 <sup>th</sup> U14 Male	Bailey Clarke	18 U14 Male
Kayden Daffy	7 <sup>th</sup> U15 Male	Bradey Fratantaro	8 <sup>th</sup> U15 Male
Zach Roberts	15 <sup>th</sup> U15 Male	Tom Hutton	(5 KM) 15th U16 Male
Jack Cowan (5KM)	2 <sup>nd</sup> U17 Male		



The following students have now qualified for the Greater Western Region Cross Country event to be held at Deakin University, Warrnambool on Monday May 30<sup>th</sup>: -

Abbey Benson	Abbey Robbins	Tara Watts
Tabitha Perriss	Felix Nguena Nguena	Zac Stevens
Noah Bignell	Kayden Daffy	Bradey Fratantaro
Zach Roberts	Tom Hutton	Jack Cowan



# Great Outdoors

Neal Simmonds

On Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April, the Year 9 and 10 Great Outdoors class attended the “The Rock - Indoor Rock Climbing” facility at Geelong. This was a great, fun day out and gave students the opportunity to develop rock climbing skills in preparation for the upcoming outdoor rock-climbing session at the You Yangs. The facility offers both indoor bouldering and indoor rock climbing. The walls are of various heights and difficulty levels, giving students the opportunity to develop and test their abilities. It was great to see everybody supporting one another in a positive manner and to get out of their comfort zones in what is a challenging activity. All students attempted a range of different walls.



# Cows Create Careers

Narelle Holliday

## FURRY FRIENDS FOSTER STUDENT DAIRY CAREERS

The Cows Create Careers Program is in full swing. For three-weeks the VCAL classes are learning all about the dairy industry with the help of projects provided by the Gardiner Foundation sponsored program.

Local Farmer and School parents Jared and Lauren Meade provided the calves that are being monitored at school. Seth Meade in Year Seven looked after the calves at home until it was time for them to come to school. At school, the calves are fed each day by the students and a checklist is completed to ensure the calves remain well. The VCAL students also weigh and measure the calves weekly to monitor their growth.

An industry advocate, Andrea Roberts also visited the school to speak about her career pathway in the dairy industry.

Throughout the project students form teams to complete assessments based on the dairy industry. “Cows Create Careers allows students learn about the wide range of skills, educational pathways and careers in Australia’s dairy industry.”

Cows Create Careers Program was established in 2004 with dairy farmers in the Strzelecki Lions Club in Victoria and nine Gippsland schools. It has now grown to 230 schools across Australia, with 14,000 students completing the project in 2020.

During 2022 the project is locally funded by: Gardiner Foundation, WestVic Dairy and receives additional support across the state from local companies Maxum Animal Nutrition, Reid Stockfeeds Dasco, Daviesway, Skellerup and Peach Teats who have continued to support the project in the Southwest VIC region.



# Immersion Day – Grade 5 & 6

Narelle Holliday

As a follow up to World Children’s Book Day, Cobden Tech’s Food Department invited the Year 5 and 6 students from Cobden Primary and Simpson Primary to the CTS Food rooms to read a book and prepare a meal from the text.

The book, Lunch at 10 Pomegranate Street, is a new picture story book that tells of a neighbourhood shared luncheon. The people in an apartment complex cook favourite dishes from their homelands and share them picnic style with other residents.

The students worked in groups of 6 or 7 to prepare 7 recipes from the story. Their menu included Guacamole, Baba Ghanoush, pita bread chips, Salmorejo, Sesame soy broccoli, Spaghetti al Pomodoro, Oyako Don – Chicken and egg rice finishing their meal with peanut butter and choc chip cookies.

This was a great celebration of preparing and sharing food, two of the values of our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. The students certainly enjoyed trying the new recipes.



## Wellbeing Team

Jennifer Finnerty – Mental Health Practitioner

The Wellbeing Team has had a busy start to the term with two presentations already at the school.

The first was a presentation by the BE WISE – End the Coward Punch foundation, which was set up by the parents of Pat Cronin, a young fit and healthy 19-year-old who went out one night with mates and never came home after being the victim of a coward punch. The aim of the End the Coward Punch foundation is to empower young Australians to handle conflict, look after your mates and make wise decisions.

The second presentation was by the Let’s Talk Program, which is about raising awareness around the need to break mental health stigma. This was delivered by a person with lived experience of mental illness and her story.

Both presentations were well received by the students and are a good opportunity to talk with your children about mental illness and how to handle conflict and make wise decisions in life.



# School Nurse

Melissa Benson

On Tuesday, 17th May 2022 Cobden Technical School will be celebrating the United Nations International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Interphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT). This day is recognised by schools all over Australia who stand against discrimination in support of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer (LGBTIQ) students and families. It is an opportunity for all schools to raise awareness of the rights of same sex attracted and gender diverse people.



At Cobden, the students will be participating in a range of activities to raise awareness and to recognise the importance of all our students and staff to feel included and safe. It is an important message that bullying is never OK, and to support our students and staff who are LGBTQI.

Anyone who has questions about IDAHOBIT Day can contact a member of the Wellbeing team for further information.

In the second half of the term CTS will be coming together to celebrate and recognise Reconciliation Week, Mabo Day and NAIDOC week. I have provided information to explain the importance and why we will be recognising each of these dates.

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

Australia celebrates Mabo Day on June 03, 2022, which is so far an official holiday in Torres Shire. Mabo Day commemorates a historic decision by the High Court of Australia in 1992 by which the assumption that Australia had been a Terra Nullius at the time when the European settlers came, was overturned. It was that assumption, a legal fiction that allowed the settlers to take away the land from the Aborigines because a Terra Nullius is land that does not belong to anyone. Mabo Day got its name from Eddie Koiki Mabo, a man from Torres Strait Island who arose a campaign for Indigenous land rights. It is due to him and his campaign that Australian landmark law got changed to the benefit of Australian Indigenous people.

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920's which sought to increase awareness in the wider community of the status and treatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

National NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia in the first week of July each year (Sunday to Sunday), to celebrate and recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



# Open Night

A team effort from all staff and the SES volunteers, ensured Open Night was an outstanding success. Prospective students enthusiastically engaged in the newly introduced, 'Student Passport' system, involving 16 activities throughout the tour. Any students unable to make it to Open Night are welcome to make an appointment with the Assistant Principal to tour the school.



# ANZAC Commemoration Service

Andrea Stoddart

The Anzac Commemoration Joint Community Project on Friday 8th April with Cobden Cemetery Trust, Cobden Technical School and Cobden Primary School was an outstanding success.

Seventy Australian flags flew high at the Cobden Cemetery in recognition of veterans buried at the cemetery this year.

Jo Beard- Secretary of the Cobden Cemetery Trust summed it up in the following email to both the Cobden Primary and Technical School.

*Hi all*

*Rohan and Peter..... you should be so super proud of your students today!*

*The kids were absolutely amazing, especially the Preppies. They showed such respect and attention during such a special time.*

*On behalf of the Cemetery Trust, I can't thank Andrea and Nathan enough for pulling everything together today, it was just incredible. The sun was shining, blue sky, flags flying and the feeling of gratitude was felt amongst the community that turned out.*

*We are just so rapt with the outcome today and so relieved it seems all went off without any hiccups.*

*Thanks to everyone on staff for their involvement also.*

*Such a special event that we are so appreciative for being part of with both schools.*

*Thanks again*

*Regards Jo Beard,*

*Secretary, Cobden Cemetery Trust*



# Free Parent Webinar: Gaming & Young People

Did you know? Adolescents have an average spend of **\$50 a month on in-game purchases.** (RockLoff et al. 2020)

**Bethany Community Support** invites all Great South Coast and Barwon parents to attend this **FREE** online information session.

This session by will cover:

- Understanding gaming
- The connection between gaming and gambling
- In game purchasing
- Setting boundaries with your child
- Top tips for parents
- Access to free resources



**Date: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**Time: 12:30pm – 1:15pm**

**Link to register or QR code:**

<https://bit.ly/3vrz7Lu>



**Great South Coast:**

Lily Bourke

e. [lbourke@bethany.org.au](mailto:lbourke@bethany.org.au)

m. 0418 667 612

**Barwon:**

Hannah Martin

e. [hmartin@bethany.org.au](mailto:hmartin@bethany.org.au)

m. 0456 111 534

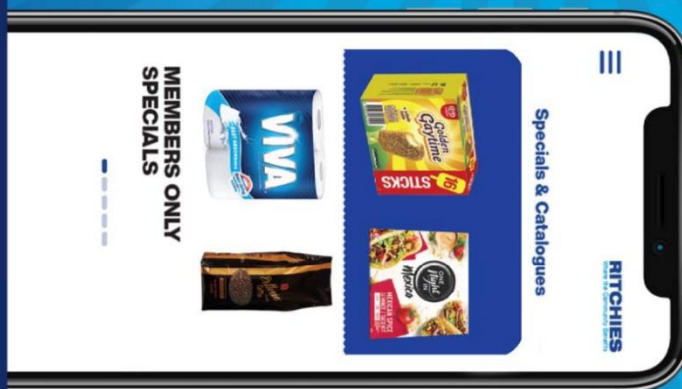
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