



# COBDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL

McKenzie Street, Cobden Vic 3266  
P ♦ 5595 1202  
E ♦ cobden.ts@education.vic.gov.au

*Committed to Students, Committed to Success*

Be sure to check out the website for our school  
<https://www.cobtech.vic.edu.au/>

**Term 4 Week 3**

**October 2024**

*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 Teamwork - HEART**

## Inside this Issue

Principal’s Desk.....	1
Assistant Principal Report .....	3
Senior Subschoo Report .....	3
Junior Subschoo Report.....	4
Sports Report.....	5
Central Australia Trip.....	7
Wellbeing Report.....	9
<b>Calendar .....</b>	<b>11</b>
School preparation for bushfire season .....	12

**School Council Parent/Student Representatives:**    *Jedda Couch (President) Mardi Foster (Vice President)*  
*Anita La Franchi    Rebecca Armistead    Fiona Dobbins    Amanda Weel    Lillyanna Mahoney*

*In the spirit of reconciliation, Cobden Technical School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this country the Djargurd Wurrung and Kirrae Whurrung peoples of the Eastern Maar nation. We pay our deepest respects to the Elders past, present and emerging, for they hold the memories, the tradition, the culture and identity of the Indigenous peoples of Australia.*

## Principal’s Desk

Narelle Holliday – Acting Principal



Welcome back to our Year 9 and 10 students and Mrs Cook and Mr Wallace who have just returned from their incredible Central Australia Camp! We hope you all enjoyed the experience and made memories that will last a lifetime. Thanks to Terang College for allowing us to share the journey and to Christian’s Bus Company in Terang who so professionally and caringly looked after the campers and returned them safely home last Friday.

Our Year 12 students will celebrate their last official day of school on Friday. We wish them all the best in the coming weeks as they prepare for exams or take steps toward employment. Your future is bright, and we are here to support you every step of the way. Although classes have finished, the teachers are available to the students up until the exam for additional tuition. Also, Mr Beveridge our careers practitioner is available to assist with transition from school to your chosen path. Please use these resources as they are here for you.!

Some exciting news, for those of us thinking about relocation of the administration department for the rebuild; we are sending **268 boxes of old student records** to the archives department to ensure these valuable documents remain part of the state’s history. This will also free up storage space as we prepare for our upcoming building works.

A huge thank you also to our parents, students, and staff for your valuable contributions to the review self-evaluation prior to the formal process of reviewing our school. Your feedback is crucial as we move forward, and we are excited to announce that the formal review process will begin next Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October.

A quick reminder to all parents: as the warmer weather arrives, students should be wearing their hats to stay SunSmart. If anyone needs assistance with their summer uniform, please do not hesitate to reach out – we are here to help.

Exciting News – School TV is Now Available! We're thrilled to announce that we've secured funding to provide access to School TV, an incredible resource offering valuable information for both parents and students as they navigate the challenges of teens, growing up and complex social issues. It has many resources that parents and students can access that help us to understand these issues. School TV covers a wide range of topics, including respectful relationships, bullying, managing screen time, building resilience, dealing with trauma, and diet and nutrition. New videos and content are regularly added, so be sure to check out the latest updates! You can access School TV by visiting our school website under the "Parents" tab, or directly at: [Cobden Technical School TV](http://Cobden Technical School TV)



**SchoolTV**

Empower confidence.



## Because parenting doesn't come with instructions

Modern-day parenting can be challenging. Like never before, parents are seeking clear, fact-based solutions. SchoolTV delivers credible and current information from wellbeing experts via a unique digital platform. Browse through the resource library and find practical strategies on a variety of topics that address the challenges of raising happy, resilient young people in our ever-changing world.

### A resource to support modern-day parenting

- A unique digital platform designed to support parents, caregivers and educators
- Watch video interviews with leading AU, NZ and international wellbeing specialists
- Browse the library of resources. Each topic is accompanied by factsheets, podcasts, books, articles, apps and videos
- Access to a series of mental health topics such as cybersafety, anxiety, screen time, positive parenting and many more
- Discover new topics every month and access an archive of past topics 24/7

Explore SchoolTV today!  
[cobtech.vic.schooltv.me](http://cobtech.vic.schooltv.me)



CREDIBLE INFORMATION • PRACTICAL STRATEGIES • TRUSTED SOURCES

## Assistant Principal Report

Sarah Cook – Assistant Principal



**Wow, what an adventure I have been on to start off this term.** I feel very grateful to have been able to join our Year 9/10 students alongside Terang College staff and students on the Central Australia Camp. The trip provided students with an amazing opportunity to see some of our most famous landmarks Uluru and Kings Canyon. There was incredible personal growth as students each faced challenges along the way, physical and emotional and many new friendships were made. Experiences like these are only possible with the dedication of staff from organising the excursion with extensive documentation, providing materials such as first aid supplies, communication with families, staff giving up their time to go on camp, staff at school taking classes and yard duty as well as providing support in absences such as mine for wellbeing and behaviour. Thanks to everyone that played a role to ensure this invaluable experience.

If you don't already follow our school **Facebook** page, now is a reminder that this is where you can see all of the wonderful things our students are doing and we love sharing this with the community. Further in the newsletter you can read some student comments about the camp and see some of the best pictures capturing our journey.

This week we see the formal end of schooling for our Year 12 students. For me personally this was my first year 7 cohort so it's with a sense of pride and sadness that we farewell them and wish them all the best for their upcoming exams and life beyond the walls of CTS. For all other year levels, there are many upcoming events to enrich their education and prepare them for the future. Please keep an eye on Compass and remember that attendance is required at school everyday and we appreciate your support in ensuring that students come to school each day prepared and ready to learn. If at any time you need to discuss this with the school, please give the office a call and staff will point you to the right person to provide any support needed.

Finally, as the weather warms up it is important that we are prepared by dressing appropriately, wearing our hat outdoors and drinking water. Students have all been provided with a CTS drink bottle and we encourage students to bring water to each class to stay hydrated. Huge thanks to Mr Simmonds for his work in securing funding for the new shirts and drink bottles to ensure our students are able to be active, healthy and look good!

## Senior Subschool Report

Jason Beveridge – Senior Subschool leader



Our Year 12's have done it!!! Yes, they made it!!!! They have survived a grueling year of study and now only the final exams remain of their VCE studies. Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October will mark the end of classes for all Year 12 students. As per tradition, we will farewell our Year 12's with a final assembly, followed by a morning tea for staff, students and parents. Students will then enjoy a final outing together to celebrate their achievements. This year, our Year 12's have decided to visit the Escape Room in Warrnambool and they will face one final challenge together.

We wish all our students sitting VCE exams the best of luck and hope that they are able to prepare well and perform to the best of their ability. This can be a stressful time for students and families, please let us know if you need extra support during this time. Despite formal classes being finished, students are encouraged to return to the school during the exam period to seek support from their teachers and peers. Students are also encouraged to seek support from Mr Beveridge as they plan their course of action post-secondary education.



As one year comes to an end, preparations for the next are already well under way. Year 10 and 11 students have made subject selections for next year and orders for next year's Year 12 jumper are already being taken. Our upgrade program will be delivered in the week starting 18<sup>th</sup> November and staff and students will begin to tackle tasks relevant to their 2025 studies. More details will be released soon about this program. We will also need to determine new school leaders in the coming weeks, so I encourage all senior students to begin to consider what leadership roles they might apply for. I hope all of our Year 10 and 11 students are excited about next year and that they are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that the new year will present.

I would like to thank our Year 12 students, their families and all of our staff for ensuring that we have enjoyed a successful and rewarding year in our Year 12 classes in 2024. We wish all our finishing students the best of luck for their futures.

## Careers

Jason Beveridge – Careers Coordinator



Our Year 9's have been busy engaging in the "Future Me" program delivered by Deakin University. The program is designed to educate students about generic employability skills that are required to be successful in the workplace, and to assist students in developing some of the skills, in particular, in developing their communication skills. Representatives of the University visited our school twice to deliver workshops to our students; and our students visited Deakin for a day to participate in the program alongside Timboon P-12, Mortlake P-12 and Terang College. The program supported students to come out of their comfort zone, to engage in an adult conversation with someone they didn't know and to develop and practice their conversational skills. Students were also able to utilise these conversations to explore the world of work, gaining exposure to a wide variety of careers, and perhaps more importantly, to a wide variety of career paths. Most students gained awareness of the different ways that a career can proceed and left the program feeling more confident in talking to adults.



Our Year 10's are madly organising themselves for their second week of Work Experience. Students will need to find and organise a placement for the week starting 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024. Students who need another form, or help in finding a placement, should see Mr Beveridge ASAP in order to ensure they are fully prepared and are not leaving this preparation until the last minute.

Most students have completed their Career Action Plans. Students are encouraged to consider this a live document that they can revisit often. They should make changes when; they have had a change of mind, they have learnt additional information or they have gained new skills or qualifications. They should refer to this document when making decisions relating to their career or their studies. This document should be used to help students navigate a pathway to their future selves.

Students who are finishing school, or hoping to finish school, are reminded to keep in regular contact with Mr Beveridge regarding possible job opportunities and to seek regular support from Mr Beveridge in developing career pathways for 2025 and beyond.

## Junior Subschool

Jen McLennan – Junior Subschool leader



### Welcome to Term 4!

We hope everyone had a restful break and is ready for the busy and exciting term ahead. A big congratulations to our Year 7, 8, and 9 students who represented our school in the Greater Western Region Interschool Athletics. Special mention goes to Rhys Sargood, who went on to represent us at the School Sport Victoria State Track and Field Championship—an amazing achievement!

This term is packed with events, and we're looking forward to the lead-up to the end of the year. Progress reports will be available soon, and we encourage parents to take time to review them with your child, celebrate their successes, and set new goals. Let's all aim to finish the year off strong, focusing on continued growth and improvement.

As the warmer weather approaches, a reminder about sun safety—hats are essential for Term 4. Let's all stay SunSmart!

### Cubby House For Sale

**Made by our Building & Construction Class**

**We have one Cubby house left for sale**

**It is 2.7m long, 1.4m wide and 2m high. Cost is \$1,200**

**Contact the General Office for any enquires (5595 1202)**





### Upcoming Events

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October South West Clay Target Shoot (Lake Gilllear) (Yr 7 – 10)  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December Summer Sports Day – (Year 7 – 9)

### Greater Western Region Athletics (Ballarat) Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October

Congratulations to the following students who competed at the Region Athletics in Ballarat: -

- Rhys Sargood (U14 Male) – 100m (1<sup>st</sup> place), 200m (1<sup>st</sup> place), High Jump (1<sup>st</sup> place), Triple Jump (3<sup>rd</sup> place) and Javelin (7<sup>th</sup> place)
- Harry Roberts (U13 Male) – 100m (6<sup>th</sup> place), 200m (5<sup>th</sup> place), Long Jump (4<sup>th</sup> place), Triple Jump (6<sup>th</sup> place) and Discus (2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- Xander Weel (U14 Male) – 1500m (7<sup>th</sup> place)
- Korie Hester-Emery (U16 Male) – Discus (2<sup>nd</sup> place)
- Riley Beames (U15 Male) – 800m (4<sup>th</sup> place) and 1500m (9<sup>th</sup> place)



Conditions on the day were perfect with a slight tail wind for the 100m runners and javelin but then a slight head wind for the high jumpers and discus. All students performed remarkably well and showed great determination in their events. Congratulations to Rhys Sargood who qualified for the School Sport Victoria State Athletic championships in Melbourne on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

Rhys Sargood also broke two of his existing U14 boys' records setting a new record in the High Jump with an amazing jump of 1.70m and a new 200m time of 25.29 sec. Rhys already holds the U14 boys CTS records for Triple Jump and Long Jump.

Congratulations also to Riley Beames who is the new CTS record holder for U15 boys 800m breaking Kurt McDonald's (2:26.29) record held since 2013 with a fantastic time of 2:18.38.

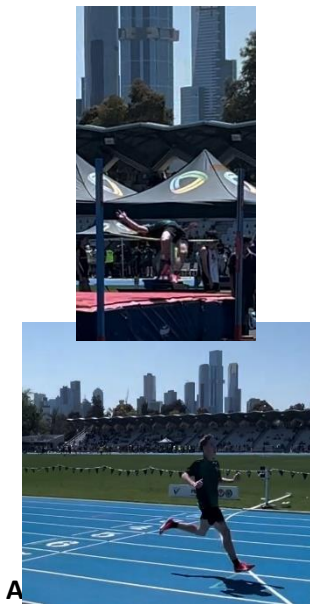




### School Sport Victoria State Athletics Championships

On Monday 21st October, Rhys Sargood competed in three events at Lakeside Stadium Albert Park Melbourne. Well, done Rhys on a great day with fantastic results: -

- 100m - 7<sup>th</sup> - New PB of 12.34
- 200m - 7<sup>th</sup> - New PB and rebroke existing CTS record 25:14
- High Jump - 6<sup>th</sup> - 1.65 m (already holds the CTS record with a jump of 1.70m)



### Junior Football – V/Line Country Football Cup

Well, done Felix Nguena Nguena on your selection and playing in the V/Line Country Cup over the school holidays at Ballarat. The V/Line Cup is Victoria's premier under 15s championship football competition for country boys and girls. For many Victorian country footballers, the V/Line Cup provides a pathway to higher level talent programs. Felix played in the Greater Western Victoria Rebels team.



Prior to the school holidays our students and staff were given the opportunity to select who was going to with the AFL grand final from the final four teams and by what margin. Our winner was Lachlan La Franchi who not only selected Brisbane Lions for the win, was only 9 points off the correct winning margin of 60 points. Well, done Lachlan, and thank you to all that made a selection – which proved that we also have a lot of Geelong Cats supporters but unfortunately, they didn't make the finals, so their selection was eliminated in the first semi-final.



## Central Australia Camp Update



Coober Pedy, Alice Springs, Kings Canyon, Yulara, Adelaide, Marla, Erihdunda and probably more!

Opal mines, camel rides, RFDS, Desert Park Wildlife Reptile show, hot weather, cold showers, long walks, blood noses, long bus rides, setting up and packing up tents, roadhouse stops, sugar hits, souvenir shopping, music trivia, California Girls sung out loud, students snoring, trying to sleep, delicious food, new friendships, lots of photos and a million memories!

What an experience. Staff and students are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to attend with Terang College and want to send a special shout out to Miss Couch for organising the entertainment and making the long bus rides so enjoyable. Huge thanks to Christian's Bus Company – John our driver “Good on ya John!” and Billy the cook “What’s cooking good looking!” for their organisation, getting us safe to our destinations on time, keeping our bellies full, helping us to set up and pack up our tents as well as ensuring our water was icy cold, even if just for a few minutes each day!

Whilst we could tell a million stories we wanted to share a few snippets from each of us. What were our student highlights, least favourite bits and most important their favourite food on camp? How will we each be remembered after spending so much time with others on this experience of a lifetime? Read on to find out.

### Marcus

Highlight – visiting the NT

Least favourite – not allowed to wear a jumper and pants in 40 deg

Best food – all the different types of potatoes

Remembered for – not wanting to take off his hat then being cold in 30 deg weather

### Kayley

Highlight – Kings Canyon, the views

Least Favorite – mattresses we had to sleep on in the tent

Best food – chicken snitz

Remembered for – getting such a red face in the heat and secretly wanting to be interviewed in the hot seat on the bus

### Olivia

Highlight – Kings Canyon, the walk was fun

Least favourite – dealing with annoying people

Best food – jam donuts

Remembered for – being a fussy eater and refusing to try food such as apple crumble!

### Marli

Highlight – riding camels and seeing all animals at Desert Park

Least favourite – sleeping was hard

Best food – chicken snitz

Remembered for – acting skills in the dreamtime story reenactment to “walk like a man”

### Seth

Highlight - riding the camels

Least favourite – Kings Canyon was so difficult

Best food – the party lunch (sausage rolls, nuggets, mini dim sims and little hotdogs!)

Remembered for – always being helpful and getting involved and mixing with students from the other school

### Taliyah

Highlight – Uluru

Least favourite – sleeping all night on the bus

Best food- spaghetti on the last night

Remembered for - Powerade being the magic medicine to get through each day

### Noah

Highlight – camel ride

Least favourite – drive home

Best food - chicken snitz

Remembered for – his bromance with Adam



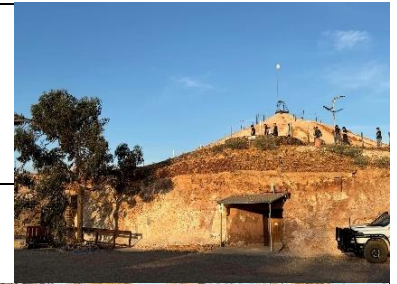
**Adam**

Highlight – Uluru

Least favourite – packing up tents

Favourite food – chicken snitz

Remembered for – bromance with Noah and rocking some pretty cool plaits

**Felix**

Highlight – Kings Canyon

Least favourite – first night in the bus

Best food – the party food lunch closely followed by pizza made from wraps

Remembered for – being terrified of the snake and lizard and giving us the best photos as well as being Mrs Cook's photographer

**Kenzo**

Highlight – too hard to choose between Kings Canyon and the road trip home

Least favourite – sleeping with Felix

Best Food – pineapple – on everything!

Remembered for – winning the best director award for his group performance and winning the overall superstar award for the whole camp!

**Angus**

Highlight – going on the camel ride with Pat

Least favourite – almost having to go on the camel with Mrs Cook

Favourite food – Billy's pizza made with wraps

Remembered for – saying I can do that or I'll be ok

**Lenny**

Highlight – Desert Park – the Australian Bustard was the coolest animal

Least favourite – heat in the tents

Best food – snitz

Remembered for – avoiding kitchen duty and being a great emu

**Pat**

Highlight – Ayres Rock

Least favourite – sleeping on the bus

Best food – steak night for staff whilst the kids had sausages and burgers!

Remembered for being the best to help with setting up and packing up the tents and equipment

**Mrs Cook**

Highlight – Simpsons Gap and supporting all the students from both schools to overcome challenges and experience the best camp ever

Least favourite – very little sleep – too hot, too noisy, too uncomfortable! Students waking to go the toilet.

Best food – for a fussy eater the food was very good! Hollandaise sauce was a winner

Remembered for – being prepared and looking after everyone from lots of blood noses to kids getting locked out at night, a therapist and the camp mum.





### Corangamite Youth Leadership Camp: A Day of Learning and Connection

Last Thursday, a group of Year 9 and 10 students who didn't attend the Central Australia Camp, along with a few selected Year 8 students, participated in the Corangamite Youth Leadership Camp Day in Camperdown. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to step outside their comfort zones, meet peers from other local schools, and engage in discussions about issues affecting their communities.

Both of our student groups raised concerns about the condition of local roads, recognising the direct impact this has on many in our school. It was particularly encouraging to have local councillors in attendance, listening to the students' views and discussing the work they've been doing to address these concerns. Our students truly excelled in expressing what matters to them, and it's clear their voices are being heard!



### Healthy Habits Reminder: Breakfast and Hydration Are Key!

While we offer Breakfast Club on Monday at lunchtime, and Wednesday and Thursday mornings, it's important for students to take responsibility for preparing their own lunches and having breakfast before school. The Breakfast Club is designed to fill a gap for those who struggle to have enough food at the start of the day, but we've noticed a significant increase in students requesting multiple toasties each day.

We also want to remind families/students to pack healthy, nutritious and tasty food for school, as proper nourishment supports learning. With the weather warming up, hydration is also crucial. Every student has been provided with a drink bottle—thanks to Simmo! Please remind students to stay hydrated throughout the day.

### Music Therapy with Liam Barling

Our Music Therapy sessions with Liam Barling have been a great success. Selected students have been enjoying these sessions and gaining valuable skills in confidence, resilience and emotional awareness that they can carry into their everyday lives. We're thrilled to announce that we've secured Liam's services for next year, and we look forward to continuing this amazing program.

### Uniforms Available: We're Here to Help

We have a range of **brand-new** white polos, shorts, socks, and even black HIP Pocket Steel Capped Boots available at the front office. If your child needs any uniform items, even temporarily, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're more than happy to assist.

### Looking After Ourselves and Each Other


Term 4 is often a busy and sometimes stressful time for staff, students, and parents or caregivers. Remember to check in with those around you—and with yourself. As we approach the end of the term, I will be organising food hampers once again. If you would like a little extra in your hamper, please let the front office know—all requests are handled with complete confidentiality.

Enjoy the warmer weather as it becomes more frequent!

## 2024 Corangamite Youth Leadership Summit – A Thank You From Corangamite Shire


Thank you to all student participants from across the Corangamite Shire who attended our first Youth Leadership Summit at Theatre Royal Camperdown Thursday 17 October. Facilitated by Youth Leadership Academy Australia's team of Bonnie, Matthew and Amy our young leaders were treated to a day of fun interactive and informed activities along with learning practical skills in self-leadership and approaching problem solving with new eyes. The day was a celebration of our young people and aspiration of a new generation of leadership coming through our regional ranks.

Thanks to Cobden Technical School, Timboon P-12, Camperdown Secondary College, Mercy College and Noorat Scouts who worked alongside each other and made new friendships, and memories. Who can forget the Camperdown Secondary team inspired Nutbush City Limits dance that had everyone moving in sync ready for the afternoon session.

Wellbeing for School Communities

### 2025 Youth Mental Health Roadshow for Parents and Carers

Featuring Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg



Save the date!


We're thrilled to invite you to a special Youth Mental Health Roadshow featuring one of Australia's leading psychologists, Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg.

As a trusted expert in child and adolescent mental health, Dr. Carr-Gregg will bring his wealth of experience to this exclusive event designed for parents and caregivers who are eager to support their children through the complex challenges of today's world.

Dr. Carr-Gregg will cover a range of critical issues facing young people today, empowering you with the knowledge and tools to help navigate the challenges of parenting. Dr. Carr-Gregg's presentations are known for being highly engaging, practical, and full of actionable advice that can be implemented immediately to support your child's mental health.

Whether you're concerned about your child's wellbeing, psychological development or simply want to stay informed, this event is an invaluable opportunity to gain expert insights and strategies from one of the most respected voices in youth mental health.

**Suitable for:** Parents, grandparents and adult carers of Primary and Secondary students  
**Duration:** 45 minutes followed by 15 minutes of question time  
**Time:** 7 pm - 8 pm  
**Venue:** To be confirmed  
**Cost:** FREE






Mark your calendars and stay tuned  
Registrations open in Term 1 2025!

5 May - Warrnambool  
6 May - Portland  
7 May - Camperdown

28 July - Hamilton  
29 July - Kaniva  
30 July - Horsham

Proudly sponsored by:



Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is one of Australia's highest profile psychologists, author, broadcaster and specialist in parenting, children, adolescents and mental health. He wrote his PhD at the University of NSW on adolescents with cancer and in 1985 founded the world's first national teenage cancer patients support group, Canteen. He has been part of SchoolTV since its launch in 2016 and also works in private practice in Melbourne.

TERM 4 2024		
WEEK 4	DATE	EVENT
Monday	28 October	➤ South West Clay Target Shoot
Monday	28 October	➤ Year 11 Provico Site Experience
Tuesday	29 October	➤ VCE Exams start
WEEK 5	DATE	EVENT
Monday	4 November	➤ Staff Professional Development Day – <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
Tuesday	5 November	➤ Melbourne Cup Public Holiday – <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
Friday	8 November	➤ VCE VM end of year lunch
WEEK 6	DATE	EVENT
Friday	15 November	➤ Last day of classes for Year 10 & 11
WEEK 7	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Fri	18-22 November	➤ Year 10 & 11 Upgrade Week
Wednesday	20 November	➤ School Council Meeting @ 5:00pm
Thursday	21 November	➤ Year 12 Valedictory Dinner @ 6:30pm
WEEK 8	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Thur	25-28 November	➤ Year 10 & 11 Careers week
Thursday	28 November	➤ Year 10 Melbourne Orientation Excursion
Friday	29 November	➤ Staff Professional Development Day – <b>STUDENT FREE DAY</b>
WEEK 9	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Fri	2-6 December	➤ Year 10 Work Experience
Monday	2 December	➤ Year 7-9 Summer Sports Day
WEEK 10	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	10 December	➤ Year 7 Statewide Orientation Day
WEEK 11	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Wed	15-18 December	➤ End of Year Program
Wednesday	18 December	➤ Presentation Afternoon



# COBDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL

## School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).

All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the **South West fire district**.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and conducted regular maintenance of vegetation around our site.

### *What does this mean for our school?*

**Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 4 school.**

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in the **South West fire district**.

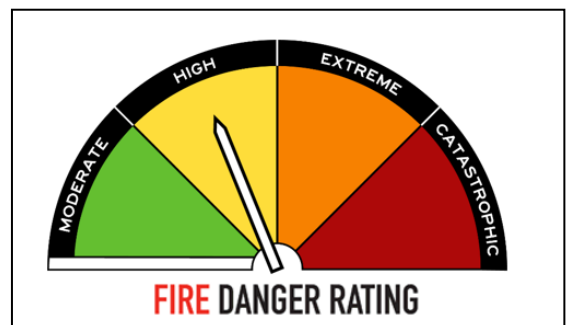
### *What is the department's policy?*

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

### *When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?*

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in the **South West fire district**.

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by Compass, SMS, CTS website and a letter sent home with students.



**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

#### ***What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?***

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by checking COMPASS or checking our website.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Come Join Us For  
**WARRNAMBOOL SHOW 2024**  
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH

Pyro Show  
 Dinosaur  
 Circus Play

**Kids Go Free**

Buy tickets @  
[www.warrnamboolshow.com.au](http://www.warrnamboolshow.com.au)  
 or [humanitix.com.au](http://humanitix.com.au)

TICKET PRICES  
 Adult \$25  
 Concession \$20  
 Under 17 FREE

SEAWAY | TOWORLD | wilsons | THE STANDARD | WARRNAMBOOL | dale coves  
 BARTONS WASTE COLLECTION | FITZMEDIA | THE MIDFIELD | SINCLAIR Wilson | WARRNAMBOOL | ORANGE RABBIT  
 DIRT FERT | Thank you to our many sponsors

headspace Warrnambool

headspace Warrnambool, now have:  
**online self-referral forms!**

NOT FEELING QUITE LIKE YOURSELF LATELY?  
 WANT SOME SUPPORT?  
 HEAD TO OUR HEADSPACE WEBSITE TO SELF REFER TODAY

NO PHONE CALL NEEDED

<https://1stcobdenscoutgroup.mystrikingly.com/>

Ready to try something new?  
**Join Scouts**

Every week, nearly half a million young people dive into exciting adventures, make lifelong friendships, and explore the great outdoors with Scouting!

Try Scouts today and enjoy **3 weeks FREE** to see why the fun never stops. Whether it's camping, hiking, or tackling STEM challenges, there's always something thrilling happening.

Don't miss out, unlock your adventure today!

For more information or to join visit,  
[scoutsvictoria.com.au](http://scoutsvictoria.com.au) | 1800 SCOUTS

Scouts VICTORIA

**COBDEN MINI GOLF**

**NEED A VENUE FOR A PARTY OR BREAKUP?**

Any day.  
 Any time.  
 (We have night lights)  
 Group rates available.  
 Cost includes game of minigolf.  
 You can BYO food and drink.

Enquiries:  
**0439079098**

COBDEN MINI GOLF  
 GRAYLAND ST  
 COBDEN

# DO YOU QUALIFY FOR FREE HOME INTERNET?



If there is a school age student at your home and you don't have an nbn connection, you could qualify for free home internet until the end of 2025.



School Student Broadband Initiative  
An Australian Government Initiative  
Powered by nbn

## FREE HOME INTERNET FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

This is an Australian Government program that offers free home internet to families and carers who look after school age children and are struggling to pay the bills.

To apply, follow the four steps below:

- 1 Contact the National Referral Centre on **1800 954 610** Monday - Friday, 10am - 6pm (AEDT) or visit [anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet](https://anglicarevic.org.au/student-internet)
- 2 They'll ask you some questions to see if this offer is right for you.
- 3 If you qualify, you'll get a voucher.
- 4 Use the voucher to connect through your chosen participating internet provider before 31 December 2024.



LEARN MORE

Scan QR Code to learn more.

### THE BEST PART IS



Free home internet until 31 December 2025



The Wi-Fi router is free and you can keep it



There is no lock-in contract



Assistance provided by the National Referral Centre



Callback, webchat and interpreting are available



An Australian Government Initiative



# COBDEN SCOUTS HALLOWEEN TRAIL

JOIN US FOR A HAUNTINGLY GOOD TIME ON

## THUR 31ST OCT 2024 4.30PM-7.30PM

A FREE EVENT ORGANISED BY  
1ST COBDEN SCOUTS, 1 PETER ST, COBDEN

Phone: 0427 814 171;  
Email: [halloween@cobden.org.au](mailto:halloween@cobden.org.au)  
Web: [cobden.org.au/halloween](http://cobden.org.au/halloween);  
Facebook: Cobden Halloween Trail

Free registration at:  
[cobdenhalloweentail.eventbrite.com.au](http://cobdenhalloweentail.eventbrite.com.au)

CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE



# PERFORM AT SKIPTON *spring* FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER

We're looking for young singers and musicians to perform on our FFreeZA Stage at Skipton Spring Festival.

This is a paid opportunity with 30 minute sets on offer.

Performance times between 11 am and 3 pm on Saturday 9 November 2024.

Submit your interest via the QR or visit [www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/YouthStage](http://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/YouthStage)




This is a fully-supervised event and is drug, alcohol and smoking free.  
This is a Victorian Government initiative.










# NARACOORTE WORLD HERITAGE FESTIVAL



NARACOORTE CAVES NATIONAL PARK  
SATURDAY 02·NOV·2024

**30 YEARS OF WORLD HERITAGE STATUS**

CAVE RUN · LIVE MUSIC · FOOD TRUCKS  
MARKET STALLS · ENTERTAINMENT · LOCAL WINES


Cobden Tennis Juniors start Saturday morning 2<sup>nd</sup> November and run only in school terms with the season finishing mid March.

We are looking for more competition players so if your child is thinking of having a go we would love to hear from you.

If they can't commit to tennis every Saturday morning we always need fill ins.

Please contact Michelle 0408 175 662 or Sharyn 0409 253 727 to put name down by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October.

## We're opening up!

Brophy and headspace are here for you! Drop in to 210 Timor Street, Warrnambool on Tuesday, October 29 between 10am and 3pm to find out more about our programs, meet our staff, play games, get creative or simply take it easy and soak up the vibe!

Schools, organisations and the wider community are welcome to come along and say g'day.

FREE refreshments and snacks available on the day.

RSVP to [admin@brophy.org.au](mailto:admin@brophy.org.au) or via 5561 8888.

**COME IN and CHILL OUT**



