



COBDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL

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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 7

November 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

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School Council Parent/Student Representatives: Jemma 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



Since our last newsletter, the Year 12 class has completed all of their exams. Their final day on-site was a testament to their spirit. They arrived at school for breakfast, prepared by Mrs Cook, Ms Gore, and I, and spent the morning chatting with students and staff. The final assembly was an emotional moment, reminding us all of their journey from Year 7 through the pictures shared. Lillyanna and Brodie delivered a heartfelt speech reflecting on the class and their year together.

Following morning tea with their parents, students participated in an activity-filled afternoon with Mrs Cook and Mr Beveridge, cherishing their time as a group and exemplifying their role as ambassadors for our school. Thank you, Year 12, for the respect and dedication shown to the school and your teachers and classmates these last few weeks and best of luck for the future.



We look forward to moving into the new art space next week. Ms Camp has returned to lead Art and Media classes, and it will be wonderful to see these sessions flourish in the updated environment. The collaborative work with Hampden School to ensure minimal disruption during their Middle Years rebuild has been invaluable.

Many of you may have seen on social media that Mr. Simmonds was honoured for his dedication to helping students excel in PE and Sport. I also wish to extend gratitude to Belinda Savage for her exceptional efforts this semester, ensuring students benefit from her expertise in their PE classes. Her work has provided diverse opportunities for students, allowing each one to shine.

Today, during assembly, we bid farewell to Kenzo, who has been a valued member of our Year 10 class this year. Always cheerful and making new friends, he will be missed. Our appreciation goes out to Marie, Darren and Adam Jopling, along with any other Year 10 families, who warmly welcomed Kenzo into their homes. Safe travels, Kenzo, and please keep in touch!



Lastly, the wellbeing team and I have been addressing the significant issue of mobile phone misuse among students this week. Excessive gaming and social media use pose genuine risks to young people's health. I encourage you to visit <https://cobtech.vic.schooltv.me/> for resources to support your teens in responsible phone usage. There are also some interesting articles about sleep.

Assistant Principal Report

Sarah Cook – Assistant Principal



This week it has been wonderful to see the current Year 10/11 students get stuck into their course work for 2025. They have been enthusiastic and committed to setting up a successful start. Thanks to the staff that have ensured the program was well organised. Students should have a list of tasks to complete over the holidays ready for next year. The week finished off with a wonderful day to celebrate Kenzo, our exchange student, with the whole school invited to dress in their best Aussie gear. The Year 10/11 students enjoyed an excursion to Warrnambool.



Year 10 and 11 students will next week have Careers Week which will see them prepare job applications and resumes, undertake a mock job interview in front of a panel, visit some local industries and finally a trip to Melbourne to familiarise themselves with the city before next year having the opportunity to complete Work Experience there. Thanks to Jason Beveridge for his work with these programs.

Our assembly this week also celebrated some wonderful student achievements including Year 8 and 10 students completing their Teen Mental Health First Aid certificates. We are very appreciative that Mel Benson, our School Nurse, has been able to provide this important education to students. Students also received certificates for their participation at the Corangamite Youth Leadership Conference and it was wonderful to see students at assembly speak about this experience and other opportunities they have had for extra curricular activities recently.



Congratulations to our Year 12 Graduates of 2024. With the final exam completed this week, it was wonderful to see them all dressed up and celebrating their achievements with their peers and staff at our Valedictory Dinner on Thursday evening at the Bistro on Neylon. Thanks to the parents and families that will finish up their time with CTS community we thank you for entrusting us with the care of your children and thank you for supporting our school.



Finally there are only a few weeks left of this year however, there is still a lot of learning occurring and I encourage all students to ensure they continue to display the CTS Heart Values. It is important that students continue to attend each day, and parents make contact if there is a reason that they cannot attend or simply update on Compass. School participation is important as it maximises life opportunities for children and young people by providing them with education and support networks. School helps people to develop important skills, knowledge and values which set them up for further learning and participation in their community.

Senior Subschool Report

Jason Beveridge – Senior Subschool leader



It is now officially over! Year 12 classes are over, we have revelled in final day celebrations, the final exam has been completed, and the Valedictory Dinner has been enjoyed. All that remains now is the final presentation afternoon on Wednesday 18th December and we will once and for all set this year's Year 12 cohort free upon the world. We would like to congratulate all students and their families who have successfully navigated their way through 13 years of study and we wish all our students the very best for the future. We thank students for their efforts in ensuring this year has been mostly smooth sailing and hope that they remember their time at Cobden Technical School fondly. We remind students to continue to access the school for support as they seek employment or further education.

Whilst we take some time to reflect on the achievements of our Year 12's, we can't look back for too long as in the school environment we are always moving forward. Next year's 11 and 12 students (and a handful of next year's Year 10's who want to try a Year 11 subject) have engaged in an Upgrade program this. This program we designed to give students a taste of what they can expect from their studies in 2025, allows students to start to tackle the work requirements of 2025 and ensures that students can be assigned meaningful preparation work so that they can hit the ground running in 2025. This is an important part of any successful VCE program and we thank those students who have treated this program with the proper respect and hope they recognise that a positive attitude during the upgrade program bodes well for their success in 2025.

Next year's Year 10 and 11 students will participate in a Careers Week starting 25 November. Students will spend time developing a resume, writing cover letters, participating in mock job interviews, visiting local employers and participating in a Melbourne familiarisation excursion. This is an important part of the school year and allows us to provide a wide range of careers guidance and support to students whilst minimising disruption to classes. We look forward to seeing our students embrace this opportunity to help make themselves more job ready. Careers Week will be followed by a week of Work Experience (compulsory Year 10, voluntary Year 11) that will further allow students to explore and consider their career options.



On a sadder note, Kenzo our French exchange student in Year 10 has finished up at Cobden Technical School and will return to France. Kenzo has made quite the impact upon our school and his numerous friends will miss him a great deal. The Year 10 and 11 students celebrated Kenzo's time here with a trip to Warrnambool and special activities. We all wish Kenzo all the best for the future and we hope he enjoyed his time here at Cobden Technical School.

We wish our Class of 2024, Kenzo, and any other students moving from school into employment the best of luck for the future.

Careers

Jason Beveridge – Careers Coordinator



We are about to embark upon Career's Week, the biggest week in the Career's calendar at Cobden Technical School. Our Year 10 and Year 11 students will participate in a week-long program that is designed to help prepare them for life beyond Cobden Technical School. Students will spend time with a guest speaker from the Head Start program developing a useful and informative resume and developing a standard cover letter. These are important resources for our students, ideally students can update these documents regularly and they can be used in applying for part-time work or for future employment beyond secondary schooling. Students will use this resume and cover letter to apply for Mock Jobs and then participate in Mock Job Interviews. A range of people from outside organisations have volunteered their time to come and act as interviewers to support this program. It is a great opportunity for students to practice and develop their interview skills.

As part of Career's Week, students will visit the Corangamite Shire who will provide our students with a range of information about employment within their organisation. Students will visit a handful of sites operated by the Corangamite Shire Council, meet with staff and see the breadth of employment opportunities available within one of the region's largest employers. Students will also participate in a Melbourne familiarisation excursion, exposing students to the Melbourne Public Transport system and preparing students for the Melbourne Work Experience Camp in 2025.

Our Year 10's should be organised for their second week of Work Experience (although there are a few stragglers). Students will need to find and organise a placement for the week starting 2nd December 2024. Students who need another form, or help in finding a placement, should see Mr Beveridge ASAP.

We are meeting with the Neil Porter Foundation to plan an exciting event for the school in the middle of December. We are still finalising what the day will look like, but it is hoped the event will provide teaching staff a greater understanding of local employment opportunities. It is important that we ensure that teachers remain aware of what is happening in the community around them as this allows them to tailor their programs to ensure the needs of students are best met in preparing them for their futures. It is also anticipated that there will be some special activities for students in conjunction with this event.

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 in developing career pathways for 2025 and beyond.



FIRST AID FOR ASTHMA

AGES 12+

USE BLUE/GREY PUFFER (E.G. ASMOL, VENTOLIN, ZEMPREON)

Use person's own reliever inhaler, if possible. If not, use blue/grey puffer from first aid kit or borrow one.

- 1** Sit the person comfortably upright. Stay calm and reassure them.
- 2** Give 4 puffs of blue/grey puffer
How to do this:
Add 1 puff into spacer – person takes 4 breaths in and out of spacer.
Repeat until 4 puffs have been given.
See instructions below: [How to use a blue/grey puffer with spacer](#)
- 3** Wait 4 minutes. Stay with person – watch carefully and reassure them. Call 000 for an ambulance **at any time** if you need to. Say that someone is having an asthma attack.
- 4** After 4 minutes.

<p>Worse or no better? If getting worse or severe breathing problem, call 000 for ambulance NOW. Keep giving 4 puffs every 4 minutes until ambulance arrives. (Give 4 separate puffs, 4 breaths with each puff.)</p>	<p>Still hard to breathe? If the person still cannot breathe normally, give 4 more puffs. If still cannot breathe normally within a few minutes, call 000. Keep giving 4 puffs every 4 minutes until ambulance arrives. (Give 4 separate puffs, 4 breaths with each puff.)</p>	<p>Breathing normally? If the person feels better and is breathing normally, get them to a doctor for a check-up.</p>
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Signs that someone is having an asthma attack (any of these): Sudden shortness of breath, can't talk normally, cough, chest tightness or wheezing.

Not sure it's asthma?
If a person stays conscious and their main problem seems to be breathing, use blue/grey reliever puffer and call ambulance on 000. This medicine is unlikely to harm them even if they do not have asthma.

Severe allergic reactions/anaphylaxis If someone is allergic to foods, insect stings or medicines **AND** they have sudden breathing problems (e.g. cough, wheeze, hoarse voice):

Give adrenaline first. Use their own autoinjector (e.g. EpiPen, Anapen) if available. Do this even if there are no other signs of an allergic reaction – see below. **Then** give asthma reliever puffer by following the 4 steps shown here.

CALL AMBULANCE (000)

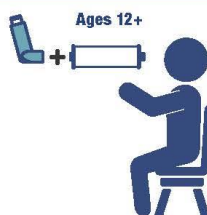
If someone is unconscious, start life support. Scan code for ANZCOR Basic Life Support Flowchart



If you need an interpreter, call 131 450

HOW TO USE A BLUE/GREY PUFFER WITH SPACER

- Remove puffer cap and shake puffer.
- Insert puffer upright into spacer.
- Put mouthpiece of spacer between person's teeth and seal lips around it.
- Press once firmly on puffer to release one puff into spacer.
- Get them to take 4 breaths in and out of spacer.
- Repeat, 1 puff at a time, until 4 puffs taken.
- Replace cap on puffer.



! No spacer?
Use a plastic drink bottle or rolled-up paper
Go to nationalasthma.org.au or scan code



! No blue/grey asthma puffer is available and the person's own asthma reliever inhaler is not blue/grey?
Go to nationalasthma.org.au or scan code

Allergic Reactions

SIGNS OF ALLERGIC REACTION: Can include swelling of lips/face/eyes, tingling mouth, hives/welts, (abdominal pain/vomiting if insect allergy)

WATCH FOR ANY OF THESE SIGNS OF ANAPHYLAXIS (severe reaction): Difficult/noisy breathing, swelling of tongue, swelling or tightness in throat, wheeze, persistent cough, difficulty talking, hoarse voice, persistent dizziness or collapse, pale and floppy (young children)

ALWAYS GIVE ADRENALINE INJECTOR FIRST, and then asthma reliever puffer if someone with known asthma and allergy to food/insects or medication has **SUDDEN BREATHING DIFFICULTY** (including wheeze, persistent cough or hoarse voice), even if there are no skin symptoms.

When to call 000 for an ambulance

- Person is drowsy
- Person looks blue around lips.
- Person with breathing problem has allergies to foods, insect stings, or medicines
- Breathing problem is severe
- Person is not getting better
- You are not sure what to do

This chart is a general guide only which is not intended to be a substitute for individual medical advice/treatment. The National Asthma Council Australia expressly disclaims all responsibility (including for negligence) for any loss, damage or personal injury resulting from reliance on the information contained. ©National Asthma Council Australia 2022. More information: www.nationalasthma.org.au

Sports Report

Belinda Savage – Sports Co-ordinator



Upcoming Events

Monday 2nd December Summer Sports Day – (Year 7 – 9)

South West Clay Target Shoot (Lake Gilllear) (Yr 7 – 10)

On Monday 28th October we had 12 students venture down to Lake Gilllear, near Allansford to compete in the South West Clay Target Shoot. This event is for only Year 7 – 10 students and is open to “novice” and “experienced” shooters. There were 196 students in attendance from 17 different schools over the South West area, and we were so lucky with great weather, students’ participation was brilliant and some incredible results.

Special mention to

- Lenny Dobbins shooting two perfect rounds of 10/10 only to fall one short in the shoot off to finish the day on 29/30. Lenny just missed the high gun award but finished First Experienced Male Shooter.
- Korie had two rounds of 8/10 =16/20
- Sophie Mahoney (Year 7) at her first ever clay target shoot finished equal fourth in the Novice Girls’ section with a score of 8/20.

Well done to all our students who showed great skills, marksmanship and dedication to rules, respect, and etiquette of the sport.

EXPERIENCED BOYS:

1 ST : Lenny Dobbins	Cobden	29/30
2 ND : Bailey Brown	Emmanuel	19/20 (countback)
3 RD : Harrison Glennen	MRC	19/20

PERFECT ROUNDS:

Lenny Dobbins Cobden x2 Harley Pickford Mortlake x2

NOVICE GIRLS:

1 st	Hayley Barake	MRC	13/20 (countback)
2 nd	Brylee Clancy	Monivale	13/20
3 rd	Erin McNabb	Ballarat Grammar	9/20
4 th	Sophie Mahoney	CTS	8/20



School Sport Victoria State Table Tennis (Melbourne) - Friday 29th November

Unfortunately, our Intermediate Boys Table Tennis team (Kenzo Castano, Adam Jopling, Felix Nguena Nguena and Alan Warden) are not able to attend at the School Sport Victoria State Table Tennis Championships in Melbourne on Friday 29th November. Kenzo will be well and truly on his way home, and we wish Kenzo all the best on his return home and our memories of his table tennis heroics will certainly be remembered.

Victorian Clay Target Association State Trap Carnival

Well done to our Year 9 student Lenny Dobbins who recently competed at the VCTA State Trap Carnival in Echuca on November 7 – 9th. Lenny had a very successful weekend winning the Victorian State Title in C Grade for Double Barrell with a score 47/50 which saw him tied with two other competitors. Lenny then had to have a shoot off and showed great skills winning the shoot off with a score of 15/15 to win overall.

Lenny also came 4th overall in the State Handicap Championships with a score of 49/50. Well done, Lenny.



Basketball – Warrnambool Seahawks

We were so fortunate to be able to have the new import for the Warrnambool Seahawks Arcaim Lallemand attend at our school for two sessions of basketball coaching with our junior years students. His sessions were highly enjoyable, engaging and accommodating for all skill levels. Also, very thankful for the additional coaching session he provided for our senior students in a smaller group environment.





The end of the term has come around very quickly, and what a busy and productive time it has been! As we prepare for the final weeks of the year, we're excited to share some important updates and reminders.

Food Hampers for the End of Year Assembly

Mel and I have been hard at work organising food hampers for our end-of-year assembly. Every family will receive a hamper, continuing the tradition over the last few years. These hampers are a way to ease into the holiday season with a little extra support. If you'd like something additional included to better meet your family's needs, please don't hesitate to give us a call. All requests are private and confidential—we're here to make your summer holidays as enjoyable and stress-free as possible.



Summer Sports and Staying SunSmart

With summer sports week just around the corner, it's shaping up to be an exciting and action-packed time for students and staff alike. While we enjoy the activities, it's crucial to stay SunSmart and hydrated. The weather forecast shows rising temperatures, so please ensure your child has their school hat and plenty of water throughout the day. Regular snacking will also help keep energy levels up during these busy days.

As a proud SunSmart school, we encourage everyone to wear hats whenever they're outside, both at school and during sports events (compulsory outside for Term 1 and 4). Let's all work together to keep safe under the sun while enjoying everything summer has to offer!

End-of-Year Support and Wellbeing

The last few weeks of the school year can bring a mix of emotions—excitement, nerves, and sometimes a little stress. Please remember that as a school community, we're here to help. Whether it's academic, social, or emotional support, don't hesitate to reach out. No matter how big or small the concern, our team is here to provide a listening ear and practical assistance.

Let's finish this term strong and look forward to a joyful holiday season ahead. Thank you for your ongoing support, and we can't wait to celebrate another wonderful year together!

The infographic is divided into two columns for Camperdown and Cobden Swimming Pools. Each column lists opening hours for weekends/public holidays/school holidays and school term. Below the term hours, there are red boxes for morning lap swimming times. At the bottom, it states the pools are open from Saturday 23 November 2024 to Sunday 16 March 2025.

Pool	Weekends, Public Holidays, School Holidays	School Term	Morning Lap Swimming (Full Season)
CAMPERDOWN SWIMMING POOL	11 AM - 7 PM	2.30 - 6.30 PM	6-7.30 am Monday, Wednesday & Friday
COBDEN SWIMMING POOL	11 AM - 7 PM	3 - 7 PM	6 - 8 am Tuesday

Open Saturday 23 November 2024
Close Monday 10 March 2025

Awards & Achievements

Neal Simmonds

Member for Wannon, Mr Dan Tehan, recently hosted the Wannon Sports Awards for 2024 with special guest, Olympian and Bronze Medalist, Penny Smith.

The awards celebrated athletes, coaches and sporting clubs for their outstanding commitment or achievements in sport.

Neal Simmonds was a recipient of the Sports Award for his exceptional dedication to promoting physical health and mental wellbeing among students at Cobden Tech.

Neal plays a crucial role in organising activities, sports programs, and wellness initiatives that encourage lifelong healthy habits.

His commitment to teamwork creates a supportive environment where students learn sportsmanship and build confidence through group activities.

Through the Active Schools Program, Neal fosters inclusivity, motivating all students to participate, regardless of ability. He also dedicates his lunch times to coach students in athletics, preparing them for competitions and helping them develop their skills.

Neal's unwavering commitment ensures students excel in sports and gain confidence in themselves. Congratulations Neal! 🎉



Alan Warden

Alan attended a recent Rotary Club of Cobden meeting and gave a very impressive presentation following his recent attendance at the 2024 Defying the Drift program at Longerenong Agricultural College. Alan's passion for everything agricultural was evident during the presentation. And he spoke of his desire to work in the agronomy field; something he had not considered prior to attending the Defying the Drift program.

Great to see our students participating in amazing programs and speaking at local clubs. Well done Alan.



Bailey Foster

Congratulations to Bailey Foster who was awarded Apprentice of the Year CMV Group Australia.

Bailey is completing a Diesel Mechanic- Heavy Vehicle Technician Apprenticeship.

Bailey has demonstrated that resilience and commitment to achieving your goals can lead to success. To obtain the initial apprenticeship required, Bailey had to meet a specific grade on an entrance exam. Bailey studied hard and never gave up on his goal to work at this company in this role and we are very proud that he is now being rewarded.

Parent & Carer School Saving Bonus update...


The Victorian Government is delivering the School Saving Bonus – a one-off \$400 support for government school students from Prep to Year 12 in 2025.

From Tuesday 26 November 2024, you will receive an email from the Department of Education with your unique \$400 School Saving Bonus code.

The School Saving Bonus will help families cover the cost of uniforms, textbooks, excursions, activities and more. If you have multiple children enrolled in Victorian government schools for 2025, you will receive one School Saving Bonus code email per child. These emails might arrive on different days. Please make sure to check your spam/junk email folder.

Parents and carers can use the School Saving Bonus code in store at school-nominated suppliers. Parents and carers can also choose to access the School Saving Bonus online system, where they can allocate part or all the \$400 bonus to use at school nominated-online suppliers or for school activities. To learn more about the School Saving Bonus, visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus. A step-by-step user guide will be available on the webpage on 26 November.

If you have not received your School Saving Bonus code via email by Friday 29 November, please contact the Department of Education by emailing school.saving.bonus@education.vic.gov.au



USING YOUR SCHOOL SAVING BONUS WITH CAMPION

Online ordering with SSB

1. Head to www.campion.com.au and tap 'Parents order here'
2. Log in and follow the prompts to select the year level for your student. Select the resources you need
3. Complete your details, check the summary, and you will see the amount owing. You can pay using SSB, your credit or debit card or a mix of both
4. To use your SSB, refer to the Vic government email with SSB portal details:
 - Open a new browser window. Login to SSB portal and choose 'Online purchase'
 - Choose 'Textbook' then 'Campion Education'
 - Draw down a voucher for the amount of SSB you want to use (\$50, \$100, \$200, \$300, \$400)
 - Request your online code - it will appear on screen and be sent by email
 - Once you have your online code, head back to Campion ordering!
5. At the Campion payment screen, tap the blue SSB button. Follow the prompts to pay, confirm the order and you're done!




In-store shopping with SSB

1. To use your SSB, refer to the Vic government email with SSB portal details and your unique code
 - Login to SSB portal
 - Choose 'In-store purchase'
 - A Bonus code will appear in written and/or QR formats
2. Head to your local Campion store (details below) and let staff know you will be using SSB
3. You can pay using SSB, your credit or debit card, cash or a mix.

Need help?

Vic Government SSB information: vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus
Campion SSB FAQs: campion.com.au/ssb
Campion trading hours and locations: campion.com.au/stores

Hot tip:
SSB online codes also work in-store at Campion!



campion.com.au



COBDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Dear families,

We want to let you know about our school's emergency management plan. Our school plans for a range of hazards, such as bushfire, severe weather, medical emergencies, building fires and intruders. We develop specific response procedures to address these risks.

We also conduct drills regularly, ensuring that our core procedures of on-site and off-site evacuation, sheltering-in-place, and lockdown/lockouts are well-rehearsed and understood by staff and students.

Our school is considered at risk of bushfire or grassfire. We are Category 4 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register/Category 4 List. This means that we will **close** when the fire danger rating is **Catastrophic** in our local government area (LGA), South West Region.

The Country Fire Authority also has more information for schools at risk of fire:
<https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/schools>.

If we enact our emergency management plan, we will notify you by Compass notification with updates on our actions. Please do not come to the school unless directed to do so, as you may put yourself and others in danger. If there is anything we need you to do, we will let you know.

In the event of an emergency that impacts telecommunications, we will endeavour to update you by community & school notice boards, posters & word of mouth.

During an emergency, the school will work closely with emergency services to get specific advice to keep our community safe. Additionally, the Department of Education has dedicated emergency management staff to help monitor the situation and provide additional support to schools during emergencies.

If you have any questions about our school's emergency management plan, please contact us at Cobden Technical School 55951202. Please be assured our top priority is the safety of our students and school community.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Narelle Holliday

Acting Principal

COBDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Danger period for Corangamite Shire will officially begin on 25th November 2024.

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 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**.

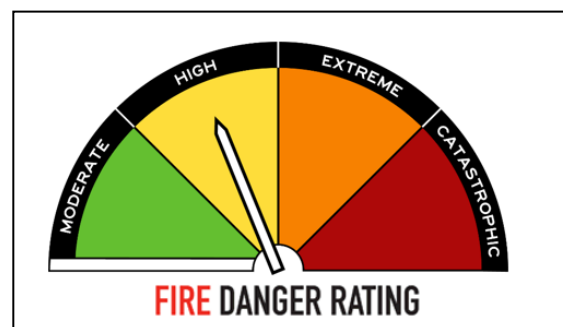
What is the department's policy?

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



and

and

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

TERM 4 2024

WEEK 8	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Thur	25-28 November	➤ Year 10 & 11 Careers week
Wednesday	27 November	➤ Year 8 Parent Class Lunch
Thursday	28 November	➤ Year 10 & 11 Melbourne Orientation Excursion
Friday	29 November	➤ Staff Professional Development Day – STUDENT FREE DAY
WEEK 9	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Fri	2-6 December	➤ Year 10 Work Experience
Monday	2 December	➤ HSSSD Interschool Summer Sports Day
Tuesday	3 December	➤ 2025 Year 7 Information Evening @ 5:00pm
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

TERM 1 2025

WEEK 1	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	28 January	➤ All staff commence Term 1
Wednesday	29 January	➤ Mentor Interviews (please book via Compass – we will advise when bookings are open)
Thursday	30 January	➤ Classes resume for Years 7-10
Friday	31 January	➤ Classes resume for VCE students
WEEK 2	DATE	EVENT
Monday	3 February	➤ Classes resume for VCE VM students
WEEK 3	DATE	EVENT
Wednesday	12 February	➤ CTS Swimming Carnival
WEEK 5	DATE	EVENT
Friday	28 February	➤ Year 7 Activity Day
WEEK 6	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	4 March	➤ CTS Athletics

DOGS BEHAVING (VERY) BADLY AUSTRALIA

APPLY NOW!
10play.com.au/casting



10 play

COBDEN SWIMMING CLUB

Cobden Swimming Club will be up and running Monday to Thursday nights between 5:00pm-6:00pm from Monday 25th November. Feel free to come every night or just once a week. Matthew Coverdale and Will Elliot are our experienced teachers who volunteer their time to guide our children and adults.

We aim to provide a fun learning environment with games also featuring highly in training (water polo, volleyball etc.). Diving from the blocks is a huge highlight for the kids leading into school sports. Please note that we are a stroke development club and it is preferred that swimmers be able to swim one length of the 33m pool.

We will have a break over the Christmas and New Year period.

We only charge the base fee set by Swim Victoria to cover insurance with Swimming Australia and Swim Vic membership. For the first time ever they have a new Membership for Summer Swimmers!

- Summer Swimmer - \$98
- Dry member (parents) - \$15.60 (One parent must be signed up per family)



Please note normal pool entry fees also apply!

Any questions contact Matthew Coverdale 0417 650 026 or Wendy Bailey 0439 694185.

See you in the water!

Cobden Rotary Club PRESENTS:

Tim Mason

MAGIC Show 11am-12noon

CHILDREN'S MAGIC Workshop 1pm-2pm

COBDEN CIVIC HALL

For bookings: TryBooking
 Queries: 0439079098



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
- 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



Welcome new and returning riders to our summer racing series.

Each Thursday night
Start times: Junior race
Registrations from 5:00pm,
race time 5.30pm.
Senior race 6.00pm.

Camperdown Cycling Club

All new riders are welcome to contact the Camperdown Cycling Club on Facebook or by contacting 0407335546.

Junior age 8+
New members welcome to register with a 4 week FREE trial with AusCycling.



All riders are required to ride with a red taillight, helmet and a registration with AusCycling.
Junior entry \$3.00, Senior \$5.00 per race.



ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

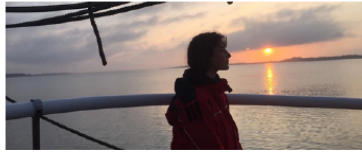
FOR STUDENTS IN YEAR 9, 10 OR 11 IN 2025



WHAT IS ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE?

Rotary Youth Exchange Australia provides the opportunity of a lifetime for Australian high school students to live & study abroad. Students spend approximately 12 months living in their host country where they attend school and stay with local host families. In your host country, you will experience different foods, study different subjects, enjoy a new culture and most likely learn a new language.

Rotary Youth Exchange is recognised as the best student exchange program by schools, parents, and students around the world for safety, cost and benefit.



WHO CAN APPLY?

To be eligible to depart in 2026 students must:

- Be in year 9, 10 or 11 in 2025.
- Be born between 01/07/2008 and 31/12/2010.
- Be outgoing, self-confident, friendly, adaptable, adventurous, willing to learn a foreign language and have above-average school grades.



SELECTION AND PREPARATION

The selection and preparation process for Rotary Youth Exchange is comprehensive to ensure all participants are suitable and adequately prepared.

Interested students should contact their local Rotary Club or submit an Expression of Interest on the Rotary Youth Exchange Australia Website: <https://ryea.org.au/apply-today/>

Rotary Clubs will interview prospective candidates and nominate suitable students to the District 9780 Rotary Youth Exchange committee.

All nominated students from across the district will attend a selection weekend and a formal interview. Students will find out after the interview whether or not they have been offered a place in the program.

Successful students will attend one preparation day and a preparation weekend before their departure.



Key dates for 2025 are:

- April 25th** - Applications due. Club interviews to follow
- May 31st - June 1st** - Selection weekend in Halls Gap
- June 21st or 22nd** - Formal Interview in Ballarat
- July 20th** - Briefing session in Horsham
- November 8th - 9th** - Briefing Session in Swan Hill
- Mid Jan 2026** - Departure from Melbourne

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

GRAZE THE DAY

THE

DAY

SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER
11 AM TO 5 PM
TIMBOON AMPHITHEATRE

TICKETS
\$20 | U18 FREE
GRAZETHEDAY.COM.AU