



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 2 Week 6 May 2025

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: Anita La Franchi ♦ Rebecca Armistead ♦ Fiona Dobbins ♦ Amanda Weel ♦ Simone Hayes

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 – Principal

The past few weeks have been full of activity, connection and reflection at Cobden Technical School. Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue working together to make CTS a vibrant and welcoming learning community.



Welcome to New Families

A special welcome to the new students and families who have joined our school recently. We are so pleased to have you with us and look forward to seeing you thrive as part of our school community.

Student Voice & Feedback

All students have now completed the annual **Attitudes to School Survey**, which gives us important feedback on how they feel about their learning and school experience. This input directly informs our planning and improvement work moving forward.

In addition, students recently completed a **survey for each of their classroom teachers**, providing valuable insights into their learning experience. These responses are helping staff tailor their teaching to better meet the needs of individual classes - a key step in strengthening our learning environment.

Open Day Recap

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent **Open Day**. While visitor numbers were modest, it was a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase their school with pride. Morning tea was shared with staff and students, and we are grateful to **Vicki’s Coffee Van** for supplying delicious hot chocolates. Please keep next year’s Open Day in mind and invite friends, family and neighbours to come along and see what CTS has to offer.



Community Connections

We have had strong community involvement recently, including:

- The **U3A group** cooking in our kitchen space over the past three Fridays—an excellent partnership that brings life and learning into our shared spaces.
- A tour hosted for the **Cobden Community Group of Timboon Health** last Wednesday, allowing them to see firsthand the work and energy across our school.
- I was also pleased to speak at a recent **Rotary Club meeting**, where I shared school updates and thanked the group for their ongoing support, particularly their sponsorship of student awards and the upcoming Kokoda Trek.



Thank you to all who continue to contribute to making Cobden Technical School such a connected and caring place to learn.

Assistant Principal Report

Sarah Cook – Assistant Principal

What a wonderful celebration we had for **Education Week** this week. Our junior students prepared and cooked an array of delicious food including mini quiches, honey joys, hedgehog and sandwiches and we appreciated Mrs McLennan providing this opportunity for students to utilise their skills in real life scenario and supporting them to do so. A highlight was the coffee van and students ordering a hot chocolate and staff a coffee then mingling together at recess. Education Week allows us to reflect on what Education means to us and how every member of the CTS community – teaching staff, leadership staff, wellbeing staff, admin staff, classroom support staff, the families and most importantly the students contributing to our school. It is such a privilege we have to work in a school with the facilities and resources that we do and the connections across our whole CTS community that develop in a small school.



Again the variety of **extra curricular activities** and **learning opportunities** has been evident with staff recently attending professional learning, students engaging in curriculum activities outside school with the VCE VM Personal Development Camp, Great Outdoors rock climbing, sporting events and wellbeing education and focuses including Vaping workshops, Walk to School Day and IDAHOBIT. Thank you to the staff that make these extra things happen and parents for supporting the events.

Progress Reports will be visible for families to access at the end of this week to get a snapshot on students learning growth, effort and attitude, ability to stay on task and organisation. Please make sure you look at this and discuss with your child and if you want any further clarification please don't hesitate to reach out to their class teachers.

Junior Subschool Report

Jen McLennan – Junior Subschool leader



It's been fantastic to see so many students wearing their full school uniform with pride and keeping warm in our school jackets and beanies as the colder weather sets in.

We're getting ready for the upcoming Year 7/8 Camp – an exciting experience for all involved! A friendly reminder to please return the **medical forms**, as these are separate from the online consent process.

A big **well done to our Year 7 students** who catered for Education Week. The range of food they prepared was impressive, and both staff and students thoroughly enjoyed the delicious options on offer. Your efforts were truly appreciated!



HEARTS Values Focus – Honesty

Honesty means:

- Always telling the truth, never stealing or cheating
- Not hiding the truth about something; being sincere
- Being able to share honestly how you feel



Some behaviours that demonstrate honesty include:

- Owning up fairly and accepting responsibility
- Speaking the truth, even when it's difficult
- Showing sensitivity when sharing the truth
- Having the courage to be honest, even if you've been told to keep quiet
- Choosing not to cover up the truth
- Acting with integrity and being true to yourself
- Listening to and growing your own conscience
- Knowing how and when to speak the truth thoughtfully
- Being honest about your feelings
- Accepting constructive criticism with an open mind

We encourage all students to reflect on what honesty looks like in their daily actions and relationships, and to show courage and integrity in the choices they make.

Careers

Jason Beveridge – Careers Coordinator



Our Year 10's are all finalising preparations for their Work Experience placements for the last week of Term 2. Students need to ensure they return paperwork once their placement has been organised. Any student that needs help organising their Work Experience should contact Mr Beveridge as soon as possible.

This is a good time to reflect on the value of work experience for our students. The benefits of Work Experience include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Skill Development:** Work experience provides opportunities to develop practical skills, like communication, teamwork, problem-solving and time management, which are valuable in many workplaces.
- **Career Exploration:** It allows individuals to explore different industries, roles and job responsibilities, helping them identify their interests and strengths.
- **Real-World Insights:** Work Experience provides a firsthand look at the realities of the workplace, including the day-to-day tasks, work culture and what employers expect.
- **Personal Growth:** It can boost confidence, encourage self-reliance and foster maturity as individuals navigate new situations and learn from their experiences.
- **Networking:** Work Experience can provide opportunities to meet and connect with industry professionals, who can offer valuable advice and guidance.



Work Experience has long been an important component of education at Cobden Technical School and we encourage all students to take advantage of this enormous opportunity. We also remind students that Cobden Technical School has a strong reputation for developing great young people who have always represented themselves, their family and their schools in an appropriate manner when participating in the workplace. We look forward to our current students continuing this tradition.

We have a number of events coming up between now and the end of term. Girls in Years 9-12 will attend the Trade Fit Careers Expo, our indigenous students will attend a Careers Expo in Warrnambool, Year 10 students will participate in an Immersion Day at Deakin University, our Year 9 and 10 students will participate in the Try-A-Career Day at SWTAFE and our Year 11 Biology students will participate in day of science activities at Deakin Warrnambool. Please ensure all approvals are entered on Compass and we look forward to an exciting month of opportunities for our students.

Senior Subschool Report

Jason Beveridge – Senior Subschool leader



As we approach the halfway mark of the year it is apparent that some students are starting to find it tougher to remember the appropriate way to interact with their peers and there have been some reports of social angst amongst our senior cohorts. It is important to remember that, especially in a small school like ours, it is vitally important that we treat each other with dignity and respect at all times and that we aim to only have positive interactions with our peers.



It is a good time to reflect on the definition of bullying:

- Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.
- Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).
- Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.



There are 4 main types of bullying behaviour:

- **Physical** – examples include: hitting, pushing, shoving or intimidating or otherwise physically hurting another person, damaging or stealing their belongings. It includes threats of violence
- **Verbal/written** – examples include: name-calling or insulting someone about an attribute, quality or personal characteristic
- **Social** – examples include: deliberately excluding someone, spreading rumours, sharing information that will have a harmful effect on the other person and/or damaging a person's social reputation or social acceptance
- **Cyberbullying** – any form of bullying behaviour that occurs online or via a mobile device. It can be verbal or written, and can include threats of violence as well as images, videos and/or audio.

Behaviours that fall into any of these categories is not acceptable!

We encourage all students to reflect on their own behaviours and ensure that they are treating their peers in an appropriate manner. We also call on our senior students to ensure that they speak up and call out any such behaviour that they may witness. We remind any students who feel they are suffering from these behaviours to seek help by telling a teacher you trust.

2025 General Achievement Test (GAT) – Cobden Recreation Reserve

Tuesday 17 th June	GAT Section A – Literacy (reading and writing) and numeracy 9:00 am – 9:15 am Reading time 9:15 am – 11:15 am Writing time
	GAT Section B – General knowledge and skills 1:15 pm – 1:30 pm Reading time 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm Writing time

Who sits the GAT

Both Sections A and B

- Students enrolled in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3–4 sequence, including:
 - Students not planning to undertake scored assessment

Section A only

- Students enrolled in one or more VCE Vocational Major (VM) Unit 3–4 sequence but who are not enrolled in any VCE or scored VCE VET Unit 3–4 sequences

Students will have an information session at school and opportunities to work on some sample questions and previous papers to prepare.

VCE VM Camp Report

By Taysha S (VCE VM student)

On Monday the 19th the VCM VM class went on a bus over to Wannan Falls for a teamwork camp. The students spent 2 nights and 3 days at the Outside Inn with their camp guide Josh, and Cobden Technical School staff Bing, Anna and Simmo. The group completed a variety of activities such as orienteering, surrey bikes, frisbee golf, giant swing, tower games, lego challenge and cooking. The activities were designed to promote the group working as a team and their individual leadership skills.

This camp was an amazing experience and we learnt a lot about ourselves and it brought us all out of our shells and made us closer as a group. We would all like to thank Miss Anna Gore for giving us this amazing experience and wish her well at her new school.



Wellbeing

Kayla Horan (Wellbeing Coordinator)



Friday 9th May we recognised Do It for Dolly Day raising awareness of the implications of bullying after Dolly Everett, age 14, took her own life after an extended period of bullying and cyberbullying. We asked all students to wear a touch of blue along with their school uniform to show acknowledgement and support for this cause. Students also enjoyed decorating and eating blue cupcakes.

All students participated in our Walk to School Day on 15th May during their Mentor session. This event supports students to be active and live healthy lives and seeks to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.

IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia) Day was acknowledged on 21st May. This day promotes inclusion and diversity and acceptance amongst our school community.



FOOD HAMPERS – Coming from a farming community, our school recognises that in the current climate that financial pressure is at an all-time high, and this may make providing the essentials difficult for some families. We can provide food hampers to support our students and their families in these tough times. There are several dry hampers currently available, and we will be putting an order in for fresh food hampers later in the term. If you require a dry or fresh food hamper, please contact the office or wellbeing team as soon as possible to organise collection of dry hampers and put an order in for fresh food hampers.



The release of the critically acclaimed TV series Adolescence has highlighted some of the complex and often hidden challenges facing young people today. Online figures like Andrew Tate are exposing young audiences to distorted messages that glorify dominance, emotional suppression and aggression — while undermining empathy, vulnerability and kindness.

We encourage you to read this Special Report to help spark curiosity-driven conversations. Together, we can move towards a cultural shift — one that empowers young people not only to resist harmful influences, but to critically question and reject them in favour of a healthier, more respectful view of masculinity.

⇒ [Ctrl + Click here to read this special report](#)

SPECIAL REPORT



Shaping Healthy Masculinity

A SchoolTV topic supporting modern-day parenting



A FREE WEBINAR

Digital media literacy & safety

PART II

Supporting Primary & Secondary students

This webinar is **Part II of a series**.
In this session, topics include:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Misinformation & Algorithms
- Sexting & Sextortion
- Online Grooming



Online, Wednesday
18 June, 2025
7.30 – 8.30 pm



Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Renowned child and adolescent psychologist. Michael has years of experience working with young people and families and was Chair for the Cybersafety Committee.



Susan McLean

As Australia's foremost cybersafety expert and founder of Cyber Safety Solutions, Susan will offer proactive strategies to help keep young people safe.

Don't miss out.
FREE event.
Scan to register.





Upcoming Events – Term 2

Monday	June 2 nd	Warrnambool Sporting Schools-Clay Target Shoot (Laang)
Thursday	June 5 th	HSSSD Interschool Junior (Year 7 -9) Boys Football
Thursday	June 5 th	HSSSD Interschool Junior Year (7-8) Girls Netball
Tuesday	June 10 th	GWR Interschool Senior and Inter Badminton (Ballarat)
Wednesday	June 25 th	GWR Interschool Junior Badminton (Ballarat)

HSSSD Interschool Cross Country Monday 12th May

The HSSSD Interschool Cross Country was held in Camperdown under blue skies, a few hills but ideal running conditions. The junior boys and all girls ran a 3km course but the U 16 – 20 boys age group ran a 5km course. Congratulations to our Year 10 student Riley B finishing first in the U16 boys and winning the Age Champion Medallion. Also, some very good results with six students now qualifying to compete at the Greater Western Region:

U16 Boys

Riley B – 1st
Marcus Ovens B – 8th
Mason M – 11th

U15 Boys

Xander W – 5th
Cooper D – 12th
Ethan D – 16th

U13 Boys

Ryan B – 11th
Cooper B – 16th

U14 Boys

Damian M – 17th

U16 Girls

Olivia B – 8th

U18-20 Boys

Zac S – 4th

U18-20 Girls

Tabitha P – 5th



HSSSD Interschool Senior Boys Football (Terang) on Wednesday 14th May.

Nine of our CTS students ventured to Terang to join the Terang College P-12 Senior Boys football team. Only one game was played against Timboon P-12 school, and they proved to be a very classy, bigger, faster and more competitive team. Our students performed well on the day and all tried their best. Better players were Kayden D and Bradey F with Landyn kicking one of our only two majors scored by the combined team. Thank you to Ms. Radovic for her guidance and support to the team.

HSSSD Interschool Senior Girls Netball (Terang) on Wednesday 14th May.

Thank you to Terang College for allowing our five girls to merge with their Senior and Intermediate Girls' netball team. Although no wins on the board, the girls had a great day. Thank you to Kathryn Farmer for umpiring, scoring and helping the team out. Well done: - Maddi N, Zoe B, Taysha S, Olivia B and Chali R.



GWR Cross Country (at Warrnambool) on Monday May 26th

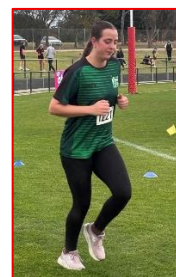
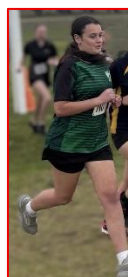
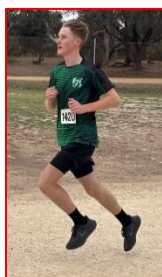
Congratulations are extended to our six runners who qualified and competed at the Greater Western Region Interschool Cross Country at Warrnambool. Challenging winds and hilly conditions greeted the students. Well done to Riley B who came 8th overall in the U16 boys 5km event and has now qualified to compete at the State School Victoria Cross Country Championships in Melbourne in July.

5km runners

Zac S (U17-20) 22.46
Riley B (U16) 19.12
Marcus OB (U16) 24.20

3km runners

Xander W (U15) 11:59
Olivia B (U16) 16.56
Tabitha P (U17-20) 18.48



TERM 2 2025

WEEK 7	DATE	EVENT
Monday	2 June	➤ Warrnambool Sporting Clay Shooting Competition (Laang)
Wednesday	4 June	➤ Year 9-12 Girls Trade & Tech Fit Career Expo (Melbourne)
Thursday	5 June	➤ HSSSD Junior Boys Football & Junior Girls Netball
WEEK 8	DATE	EVENT
Monday	9 June	➤ Public Holiday
Tuesday	10 June	➤ GWR Intermediate & Senior Badminton (Ballarat)
Tuesday	10 June	➤ Year 10 - Deakin Immersion Day (Warrnambool)
Wednesday	11 June	➤ Pupil Free Day (Staff PD Day)
WEEK 9	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Wed	16-18 June	➤ Year 7 & 8 DOXA Camp (Malmsbury)
Tuesday	17 June	➤ GAT
Friday	20 June	➤ Year 11 Deakin Science Day
WEEK 10	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	24 June	➤ Koorie Careers Day
Tuesday	24 June	➤ School Council Meeting @ 5:00pm
Wednesday	25 June	➤ GWR Junior Badminton (Ballarat)
WEEK 11	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Fri	30 Jun – 4 Jul	➤ Year 10 Work Experience
Friday	4 July	➤ Last day of term – 2:25pm finish

Proudly supporting our region's educators

collins booksellers

WARRNAMBOOL

Youth Training Program

Corangamite Shire Youth Services



Join us for this free course to get your First Aid and CPR certificates!

PROVIDE FIRST AID - INCLUDES CPR
 HLTAID011 / HLTAID009
 Tuesday 8 July, 9 am - 3 pm
 Killara Centre Camperdown
 Only 20 spots available

Delivered by ProMed/Allens Training (RTO ID: 90909)

Registrations essential, scan QR code or visit:
www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/Youth-Training
 For young people aged 15 - 25.





AMPLIFY






FREE Music Mentoring & Jam Session

For young people aged 12 to 25
 Friday 13 June, 6.30 - 9 pm
 Camperdown Theatre Royal
 BYO instruments



Learn more and register at corangamite.vic.gov.au/amplify or via the QR code

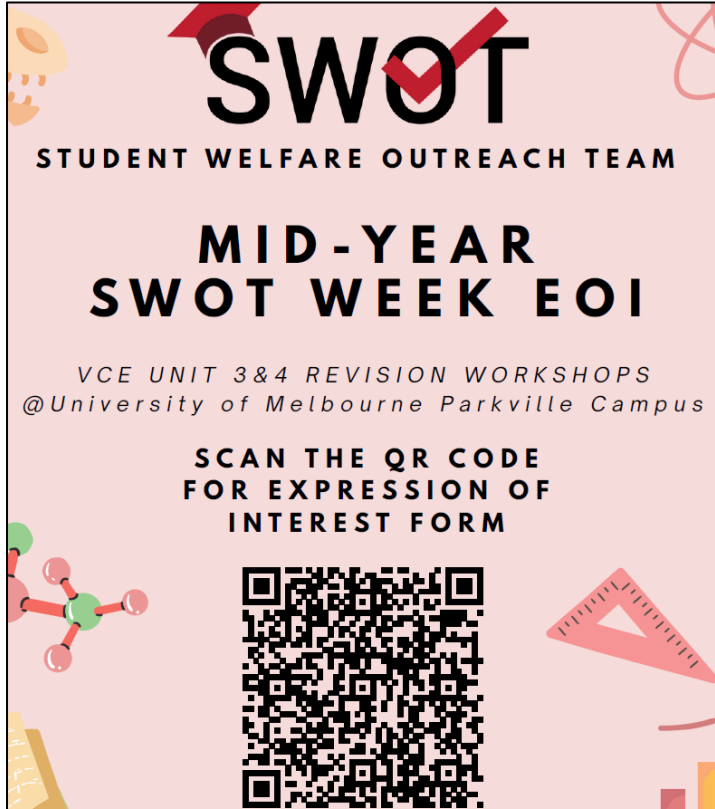

SWOT

STUDENT WELFARE OUTREACH TEAM

MID-YEAR SWOT WEEK EOI

VCE UNIT 3&4 REVISION WORKSHOPS
 @University of Melbourne Parkville Campus

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

Sexual and reproductive health survey

COMMUNITY & SERVICE PROVIDERS

Are you a woman or gender diverse person aged 18 years, and have accessed care for your sexual and reproductive health? Including, contraception, abortion care, child maternal healthcare and screening for sexually transmitted infections (STIs)

Do you work in sexual and reproductive healthcare?
 Clinicians including GPs, nurses and non-clinicians including educators and public health officers.

SURVEY OPEN 12 MAY - 6 JUNE

Scan the QR code or visit www.womenshealthbsw.org.au for information and to complete the survey for your chance to win a \$100 gift voucher. All responses are anonymous.



www.womenshealthbsw.org.au