



COBDEN TECHNICAL SCHOOL

47 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 1 Week 10 April 2026

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

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.

Assistant Principal Report



Sarah Cook – Assistant Principal

It has been a fantastic and eventful term, filled with a wide range of opportunities for our students to participate, engage and excel in areas that interest them. From House Swimming and Athletics Carnivals to Clay Target Shooting, Bowls, Great Outdoors excursions and the exciting AFL Geelong Cats visit, students have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and pride. It has been wonderful to see our students demonstrating strong teamwork, valuing one another, and displaying excellent sportsmanship and community spirit throughout the term.



We have also enjoyed meaningful community connections through events such as the Seniors Citizens lunches, Neurodiversity Week and the recent **Presentation Ball**. These experiences have highlighted the strength of our school community and the importance of inclusion, respect and participation.

Congratulations to students for their efforts during **NAPLAN**. We are proud of the way you approached these assessments with determination and a positive mindset. We also commend all students for consistently displaying our school **HEART Values** of accountability—arriving on time, prepared and ready to learn—and excellence in representing our school and wearing the uniform with pride as well as displaying SunSmart behaviour wearing their hats outdoors.

Next term students are not required to wear their hats, but we still encourage SunSmart behaviour, you never know with the Southwest weather what we will get! Also a reminder that plain black coats and CTS beanies may be worn when outdoors and long sleeve black or white shirts with no logos may be worn underneath full uniform for extra warmth.

We were delighted to welcome local primary schools for our **“Come and Try”** day last week and look forward to strengthening these relationships as we continue to build on our transition program with more visits planned across the year. If you know of any students that attend other primary schools that would like to be included in these days please make contact with us.

We are excited for our upcoming **Open Night** in Week 2, on Tuesday 28th April. You will soon see the fantastic posters displayed around town and featured in the local newspaper, with more details available on our Facebook event page. We would appreciate if you help us to spread the word!

Next term we are also looking forward to the **ANZAC Community event**. This has been a significant event on our calendar the last few years with our VCE VM students helping to prepare the site at the cemetery and our students leading the event. A sincere thank you to Jen McLennan for her work in organising this important occasion.

In relation to **staffing updates**, Liv Williams will return from maternity leave next term, back two days a week as our wellbeing coordinator/student counsellor. As we welcome Liv back, we are pleased that Kayla will continue her work with us in this space and also provide some classroom and inclusion support on the Tuesdays and Wednesdays that Liv is on site.

Our **building works** are coming along well with a hive of activity happening recently, and we appreciate our staff, students and families for their understanding with the noise and disruptions during the day and when moving around the school grounds.

Thank you to the families that joined us for **Family Conferences** this week, what a fantastic turnout and we appreciate the commitment you all make to strengthening our relationships and working together to support better outcomes for our young people. If you were unable to attend or would like further follow up, please don't hesitate to reach out.

As the term comes to a close, we wish all families a safe and restful holiday break and we look forward to another exciting term ahead.



**ANZAC
COMMEMORATION
Service**

Wednesday 22nd April
11:00am

Cobden Technical School &
Cobden Cemetery Trust will be hosting our
annual ANZAC Commemoration Service and
we warmly welcome our CTS families and
Cobden community members to attend.



Lest we forget
Cobden Cemetery



**Gobden Technical School
OPEN NIGHT
2026**

**TUESDAY
APRIL 28TH**

4:30-7:00PM

- ✓ Guided tours
- ✓ Meet staff & students
- ✓ Subject & pathway information
- ✓ Explore learning spaces

Follow us on Facebook for more information or call 5595 1202

Learning Specialist Report



Gill Hampson – Learning Specialist

The teaching and learning focus over Term 1 has been around setting up classroom expectations and routines. Students are more settled with clear, consistent entry routines and expectations during our 'Do Now' part of the lesson. More recently, staff have undertaken some professional learning around what is happening during the 'Explicit teaching' time within the lesson and over a series of lessons. "Explicit teaching is when the teacher clearly explains and effectively demonstrates what students need to learn. It breaks down what students need to learn into small learning outcomes and models each step. It allows students to process new information more effectively," as defined by the Australian Education Research Organisation, AERO. Setting the work level at the right point for all students and maintaining student engagement during this time, are the challenges for teachers. Following a recent Professional Learning Day, with the network's research partner, Dr Ryan Dunn, I shared the learning with all staff around strategies to use during 'explicit instruction'. This work will continue into Term 2, with a focus on teachers observing each other's practice and coaching from Jack and I to support greater consistency across the school. It is an exciting opportunity for improvement as many schools in our network are focusing on the same idea. We are all learning and refining together.

NAPLAN and base line assessments have been completed, including PAT testing in English and Math. Next term, we will use this data more widely with staff to gain a deeper insight into the academic levels of our students. Already, we have targeted students in Numeracy and Literacy for intervention work, through the programs Quick Smart and Spelling Mastery, to help bridge the gap that presents for some students across Year 7-10. MYLNS is running for our recognised Year 10 students from the department, again to help build their skills before they embark on VCE-VM studies next year.

As part of our AIP goals, we will continue to look at our reporting systems and processes to ensure that there is greater transparency of student academic performance. I welcome any feedback throughout this process, so please feel free to email or contact the school to arrange a conversation.

On behalf of Jack and myself as the Learning Specialist team, please have a safe and enjoyable Easter break. Good to luck to all involved in local footy and netball over the break.

VCE VM News



Stacey Podger – VM VCE Coordinator

This week, Year 11 Personal Development Skills students swapped their pens for paint pens and got to work on something a little different — creating their own mini canvas artworks.

The session wasn't just a creative break. It was a hands-on exploration of personal identity, sitting right at the heart of Unit 1 Outcome 1, which asks students to reflect on who they are and how they understand themselves. With a small canvas and a set of paint pens, students made deliberate choices — colours, symbols, words, patterns — that said something about them without needing to write a single paragraph.



What emerged was a room full of individual stories. Some students surprised themselves with what they put down; others found the unstructured time quietly grounding. The activity gave space for the kind of self-reflection that can be hard to access through traditional tasks, and it sparked some genuinely thoughtful conversations about identity, values, and self-expression. A Sponge Bob series was a highlight for the group.

The activity was a reminder that personal development doesn't always look like a worksheet — sometimes it looks like a two-inch canvas covered in colour.



Upcoming Events – Term 2

Tuesday	April 21 st	CTS Cross Country (Session 2 only)
Tuesday	April 28 th	HSSSD Interschool Boys Netball
Tuesday	April 28 th	HSSSD Interschool Girls Football
Wednesday	April 29 th	Colac Clay Target Shoot
Wednesday	May 6 th	HSSSD Interschool Cross Country (need to qualify)
Monday	May 11 th	HSSSD Interschool Boys Football (Seniors)
Monday	May 11 th	HSSSD Interschool Girls Netball (Senior and Intermediate)

HSSSD Interschool Athletics (Track and Field) (at Camperdown) – Tuesday March 17th

Congratulations to all the students who qualified and participated at the HSSSD Interschool Athletics which was held on Tuesday 17th March at the Camperdown Little Athletic Centre. Schools participating was Mercy Regional College, Camperdown College, Timboon P12, Terang College and Cobden Technical School.

Felix N was crowned U17 Boys Age Champion, edging out Riley B by a slim margin. Also, to Ryan B for finishing second in the U14 boys. Well, done to all our students for showcasing their athletic prowess and fantastic sportsmanship.



We have 8 students qualified to compete at the Greater Western Region Athletics in Ballarat in October. Congratulations to Rhys S, Riley B, Felix N, Alanna W, Tabitha P, Harry R, Ryan B and Noah B.

GWR Lawn Bowls (at Ararat) – Thursday March 26^h

Thank you to Ingrid B for guiding our Junior Boy Lawn Bowls team at Ararat. Our Junior team, consisting of Ryan B, Oscar U and Charlie D fought in some tough weather conditions and lost their pool matches by 1 point and 2 points. However, we collated enough points during the day that secured us a spot into the quarter final. Winning our quarter final 8-0 we made it through to the semi finals. Our form continued into the semi having to go to a tie breaker, unfortunately going down to a very strong team by 1. A great day had by all students!



Our Senior (Yrs 10-12) team consisted of Chali R (Lead), Cooper D (2nd) and Ryan A (Skipper). After some good bowling in trying weather we had mixed results and did not qualify for finals. Games resulted in a draw with Ararat College, a loss to Phoenix College, a win against Camperdown and then a loss to Trinity College.

Well done to all bowlers, you represented yourself and the Cobden Technical School extremely well.

Kangarooobie Klassie by Tabitha P

The annual Kangarooobie Klassic held on Saturday was a great lot of fun and showcased *athleticus patheticus* at its finest. It saw hundreds of keen participants (including myself and Ruben) warming up from 7am to take on the task.

The Gellibrand Eel Triathlon involves a 200m swim in the murky Gellibrand River, 2km trail run through the famous obstacle course and 4km mountain bike ride.

Ruben P went in calm, collected and sporting some high performance, all terrain crocs in sports mode. He ripped through the course in no time, returning grinning and covered in mud.



The Klassic Adventure Race involved a 1km swim down the river, followed by a 13km mountain bike ride with a few short intermissions for reattaching of chain and the front wheel. A 6km paddle (featuring a capsized at the turn-around point) was the next leg of the race, finishing off with a hilly 7km trail run.

The event encourages fun and a get in their attitude. After all the 'formalities' there is food to refuel, music to dance to and plenty of kayaks and mountain bikes to haul back up to the hill. Hopefully we will see some other students participating next year.

Wellbeing

Kayla Horan (Wellbeing Coordinator)



Thanks to all our staff and students who engaged with our Neurodiversity Celebration Week. We had many games and resources available for students to engage with.

Over the school holidays we understand this time can present our students and their families with many challenges, here are some local supports available:

Headspace Warrnambool: 1300 276 749

Headspace Colac: 03 5232 5520

Southwest Healthcare Mental Health Services: 1800 808 284

Kids Helpline: 1800 551 800 Available 24/7

Beyond Blue: 1800 224 636 Available 24/7

1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732 Available 24/7

Corangamite Food Bank (Camperdown Community House): 5557 0900

Gunditjmara Aboriginal Cooperative Ltd: 5559 1234



SchoolTV

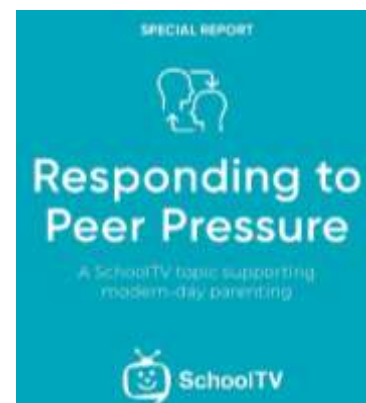


Responding to Peer Pressure

Peer pressure is a natural part of growing up. As children and adolescents place greater importance on friendships and belonging, the influence of peers can shape their choices, behaviour and sense of identity. While this influence can be positive, it can also create pressure to conform or take risks, particularly during adolescence.

In today's digitally connected world, peer pressure extends beyond face-to-face interactions. Social media and online communication expose young people to constant comparison and unspoken expectations about how they should look, act and perform. Understanding how peer pressure works, both on and offline, helps families support young people to build confidence, make healthy decisions and stay connected to their own values.

[Click here for this Special Report](#)



Understanding Consent & Respectful Relationships

As children and young people mature, their understanding of relationships, boundaries and respect continues to evolve. Learning about consent is not a single conversation, but an ongoing process shaped by everyday interactions, social influences and guidance from trusted adults. While these topics can sometimes feel challenging to navigate, they play an essential role in supporting young people to form safe, healthy and respectful relationships.

Consent extends beyond sexual activity and is closely linked to communication, empathy and mutual respect in all relationships. In today's social and digital world, young people can face complex situations that require clear understanding and confidence to navigate. Consistent, age-appropriate messages from both home and school help reinforce what respectful behaviour looks like in practice.

By engaging with this topic, families are encouraged to build confidence in having calm, open conversations at home. When schools and families work together to reinforce shared values and expectations, young people are better equipped to understand boundaries, respect others and make informed choices that support their wellbeing now and into the future.

[Click here for this Special Report](#)



TERM 1		
WEEK 10	DATE	EVENT
Thursday	2 April	➤ Senior Citizen's Lunch
Thursday	2 April	➤ Last Day of Term 1 (2:25pm finish)
TERM 2		
WEEK 1	DATE	EVENT
Monday	20 April	➤ Term 2 commences
Tuesday	21 April	➤ CTS Cross Country (Session 2)
Wednesday	22 April	➤ ANZAC Ceremony
WEEK 2	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	28 April	➤ Open Night – 4:30pm-7:00pm
Tuesday	28 April	➤ HSSSD Boys Netball (all year levels) ➤ HSSSD Senior/Intermediate Girls Football
Wednesday	29 April	➤ Colac Clay Target Shooting
Thursday	30 April	➤ NGV Art Excursion
WEEK 3	DATE	EVENT
Wednesday	6 May	➤ HSSSD Cross Country (Camperdown)
Thursday	7 May	➤ Senior Citizens Lunch
WEEK 4	DATE	EVENT
Monday	11 May	➤ HSSSD Senior Boys Football & Senior/Intermediate Girls Netball

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to all families who have paid their 2026 student contributions.

If you are yet to pay, please check Compass (Home/Payment Centre/ 2026 School Contributions) or contact the office on
☎ 5595 1202 and we will forward your statement to you.

Cobden Technical School
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- ✔ Guided tours
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 **Lest we forget**
 Cobden Cemetery

Camperdown Theatre Company Inc. presents


 by Michael Frayn

MAY 15, 16, 21, 22 & 23, 2026

THEATRE ROYAL CAMPERDOWN
 All at 7.00pm (also 1.00pm matinee on 23rd)


A LIVE LOCAL COMEDY! Join us for this hysterical comedic farce in 3 acts, featuring a local cast and crew
 Director: Warren Easley
 Producers: Jenny O'Neil & Sue Place

TICKETS \$25
 Available at Laffs, 163 Manifold St, Camperdown
 Phone 5593 1469 or online at: www.camperdowntheatrecompany.com.au

Cabaret seating • BYO Nibbles • Drinks available at bar prices




This production contains coarse language and sexual references. CTC advises parental discretion for those under 15 years. By Arrangement with ORBITTM Theatrical On behalf of Samuel French A Concord Theatricals Company

This is a Camperdown & District Community House Project supported by Gardiner Foundation and Carangante Skies


Plates & Paddocks

FREE Two-day short course for ages 15-25

Gain fantastic skills & experience!
 You will learn menu & event planning, food prep & service AND be involved in running a community meal supporting our primary producers

-  Safe food handling training and certification
-  Comprehensive culinary and event training
-  Professional references & experience

To express your interest please call 55931403 or email office@camperdownch.com.au



COBDEN NIGHT NETBALL
IS COMING BACK IN TERM 2!

COMMENCING **MONDAY 27 APRIL**

WE NEED YOUR HELP
FOR THE JUNIOR COMPETITION TO RUN!

♥ WE NEED A MINIMUM OF 2 PEOPLE PER AGE GROUP TO HELP THE GAMES RUN SMOOTHLY.

EASY JOBS | ANYONE CAN HELP | SUPPORT OUR KIDS!

<p>MONDAY</p> <p>MIXED SENIOR LADIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 WEEKS + 2 WEEKS FINALS COBDEN TECH STADIUM YR 10 UP INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM REGISTRATIONS TEAM MUST SUPPLY 2 UMPIRES FOR DUTY <p>\$75 + VNA (IF NOT ALREADY PAID)</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>JUNIOR MIXED NETBALL</p> <p>GRADE 4-6 & YEAR 7-9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 WEEKS + 2 WEEKS FINALS COBDEN TECH STADIUM <p>\$60 + VNA (IF NOT ALREADY PAID)</p>
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REGISTER YOUR INTEREST!

<p>GRADE 4-6 TEXT MEGAN 0426 848 541 BY 23 MARCH 2026</p>	<p>YEAR 7-9 TEXT ELLEN 0408 788 463 BY 23 MARCH 2026</p>
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UMPIRES WANTED!
TEXT GEORGIA
0488 707 265
BY 23 MARCH 2026



Community House
Camperdown

Join us for our annual Easter School Holiday

FAMILY FUN DAY

10AM-2PM
THURSDAY 16TH APRIL

APEX PARK Camperdown
293 Manifold Street
OUTDOOR GAMES * CRAFT ACTIVITIES * MUSIC * BBQ


For More Info
03 5593 1403
<https://camperdownch.com.au/>


Our Location
6 Gunner street, Camperdown VIC 3260


The Cobden Code – School Holiday Adventure!


Looking for something fun these holidays?


The Cobden Code is a bike, walk or scooter adventure around Cobden, where kids solve clues, crack codes and uncover a hidden story!

 Ride • Solve • Discover

 Location: Cobden

 Start anytime between 10am–12pm

 Children: \$16 + booking fee

 Parents/Guardians: By donation

Suitable for Ages 6 to 14 But all welcome

 Book now:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-cobden-code-family-adventure-hunt-crack-the-clues-reveal-the-story-tickets-1984465386391?aff=oddtcreator>

INFORMATION PACK

JOIN THE SWAS 3X3 BASKETBALL PROGRAM!
ARE YOU READY TO TAKE YOUR BASKETBALL GAME TO THE NEXT LEVEL? THE SOUTHWEST ACADEMY OF SPORT (SWAS) 3X3 BASKETBALL PROGRAM IS HERE TO HELP TALENTED ATHLETES LIKE YOU IMPROVE, COMPETE, AND EXPERIENCE THE EXCITEMENT OF 3X3 BASKETBALL.

WHY 3X3 BASKETBALL?
3X3 IS AN OLYMPIC SPORT
HIGH-PERFORMANCE SESSIONS
EDUCATION IN MINDSET AND RECOVERY
ACCESS TO ELITE PATHWAYS
PLAY ALONGSIDE MOTIVATED ATHLETES

WHAT YOU'LL GET WITH SWAS 3X3
TRAINING WITH HIGH PERFORMANCE COACHES
RESOURCES FOR RECOVERY, NUTRITION AND MORE
ACCESS TO TRAINING ENVIRONMENTS
GUIDANCE ON YOUR 3X3 BASKETBALL JOURNEY AND PATHWAYS

READY TO TRIAL?
WE'RE INVITING ATHLETES TO COME AND TRIAL!
FILL OUT THE FORM TO SECURE YOUR TRIAL SPOT.




[HTTPS://FORMS.CLOUD.MICROSOFT/R/YRPCRQF3RT](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/YRPCRQF3RT)

'The 4 Peaks Challenge' - 2026

Think you can rise to the challenge of 'summitting' Mt Leura, Mt Sugarloaf, Mt Elephant and Mt Noorat on the same day?

Then this Friends of Mt Leura Inc. activity, in partnership with Mt Leura & Mt Sugarloaf Management Committee, is a must do for you and your family or friends.



MTs LEURA AND SUGARLOAF	MT ELEPHANT	MT NOORAT
 Two of many scoria cones that nest inside an older maar volcano.	 A perfect snowcapped scoria cone that erupted some 180,000 years ago.	 A circular crater that is the deepest scoria enclosed crater in Victoria.

When: Sunday April 19th 2026 ... for a full day of activity.

Where: Meet/start @ Volcanic Education Centre (Mt Leura Road, Camperdown) at base of Mt Leura at 9.30am. Coffee van onsite.

BYO: Morning tea, lunch, snacks and plenty to drink; sunscreen, day pack plus camera and/or binoculars for the terrific views.

Wear: Sturdy footwear and clothing suitable for the weather.

Transport: BYO vehicle or share with friends.

All welcome, and bring the kids ... but please note that some steep and rough terrain will be encountered so a degree of physical fitness is required.

This is our 7th '4 Peaks Challenge' ... Keep the tradition going!

For more information contact FoML:
John Fallon on 0487 341 337



Supported by:

