



# 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 9 June 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.*

### Principal’s Desk



Narelle Holliday – Principal

As we move towards the end of another busy term, there are many positive things happening across CTS. It was great to see so many visitors for our open day tours and morning tea. It was a pleasure to escort parents, grandparents, school friends and former staff around the building during the tours. Shared morning tea in the gym was also a hit with the students and our visitors.

Our Year 6 Come and Try Day on 12 June was a great success. It was wonderful to welcome local primary school students to experience life at Cobden Technical School and participate in a range of learning activities. A sincere thank you to Ms McLennan and Ms Stoddart for hosting students in their classes and helping make the day both enjoyable and informative.

We are pleased to advise that enrolments for all year levels in 2027 are now open. Families considering Cobden Technical School for next year are encouraged to contact the office to arrange a tour or discuss enrolment options.



Our Year 10 students have been enjoying the opportunity to participate in VDSS TAFE Taster programs in Colac on Fridays. These experiences provide valuable insight into future training and career pathways and allow students to explore areas of interest before making senior pathway decisions. Week 10 of this term is Work Experience for Year 10 and I would like to take the opportunity to thank the employers for hosting the students for the week.

A big thank you also goes to the students who continue to volunteer their time to support our monthly Senior Citizens Lunches. These events are highly valued by our community. This month students prepared and served a delicious meal of meatloaf and vegetables followed by sticky date pudding, receiving many compliments from their guests.

School Council has recently approved planning for a Central Australia Camp in August 2027. Initially, this exciting opportunity will be available to students currently in Years 9–11. To make the camp financially viable, we will require approximately 35 students to participate. Further information will be sent home to eligible families in the coming weeks.



As winter settles in and our building project continues, we remind students and families that the redevelopment has reduced some of our usual undercover areas. We encourage students to come prepared for the colder weather with warm clothing and a waterproof coat so they can remain comfortable throughout the day.

Finally, a reminder that the last day of term will be a pupil-free day, with staff remaining on site to participate in professional learning and planning activities to support continued improvement across the school.

## Assistant Principal Report

Sarah Cook – Assistant Principal



### Student Wellbeing and Engagement Initiatives

As a key component of my role consists of overseeing the wellbeing team I would like to share with you how we at Cobden Technical School, remain committed to supporting the wellbeing, engagement and personal growth of all students. Through a range of targeted and whole-school programs, we are working to ensure every student has the opportunity to develop the skills, confidence and values needed to thrive both at school and beyond.

This term, we have continued to implement several **intervention and support programs** designed to strengthen student wellbeing, social connectedness and executive functioning skills. One significant program recently held at CTS is the **Man Cave** program, which focuses on supporting boys to develop positive and healthy identities. Research consistently shows that helping young men build self-awareness, resilience, respectful relationships and a strong sense of purpose not only improves their mental health outcomes but also contributes positively to the wellbeing of the broader community. On the same day female students attended the **Big Sister** program. Programs such as these play an important role in supporting students as they navigate adolescence and develop into respectful, responsible young adults.

We have also been fortunate to have **Tania Rowan** working with small groups of students through the Flex and Focus program. This targeted intervention supports students to strengthen executive functioning skills, including planning, organisation, time management, self-regulation and positive social interactions. These skills are critical for success both in the classroom and in everyday life. Thanks to Sharon for coordinating this program and supporting the students as part of her role as the Disability Inclusion Coordinator.



In addition, **One Day Studio** continues to work with small groups of students, providing opportunities for hands-on creativity, teamwork and positive peer interactions. These sessions allow students to build confidence, strengthen relationships and engage in meaningful learning experiences outside the traditional classroom setting. For some students this has had an important impact on attendance at school.



It is equally important to recognise the **leadership and initiative** being demonstrated by our students. We have seen outstanding examples of students making positive contributions to our school and wider community. Zoe B recently led activities supporting May 50 and raising awareness of Multiple Sclerosis. Junior students Sophie and Oscar have organised lunchtime games and are helping coordinate a basketball tournament to promote inclusion and participation with the first round hotly contested, thanks Liv for getting this up and running. Tabitha P is preparing for the next community Kokoda Trek, demonstrating resilience and leadership, while Ruben P has taken on the Push-Up Challenge, promoting both physical and mental wellbeing.

These examples highlight the positive values being demonstrated by our students and the importance of continuing to create opportunities for student voice, leadership and community contribution. We are working to improve aspects of student wellbeing identified in our student data and as a school, we remain focused on supporting students to develop our core values of Honesty, Excellence, Accountability, Respect and Teamwork. By combining targeted wellbeing interventions with opportunities for leadership and positive engagement, we are helping our students develop the skills, character and confidence needed for future success.

Importantly, while some wellbeing initiatives are delivered across the whole school, others are targeted interventions identified through student data, Compass records, teacher observations and wellbeing referrals. This ensures that support is responsive to student needs and enables us to provide appropriate assistance to those who may benefit most. If at any time you feel that your student may benefit from or need other supports, or you would just like some further information please reach out to myself or the school wellbeing team. You may also access further resources, wellbeing and engagement policies and information on the CTS website.

## Senior Subschool & Careers Report



Jason Beveridge – Senior Subschool leader

As we move towards the completion of Term 2, the Careers and Senior School Spaces start to become incredibly busy. All students studying a VCE Unit 3 & 4 subject have just undertaken the General Achievement Test. The test, sat simultaneously by all Victorian students doing a VCE Unit 3 & 4 subject, is designed to assess the literacy, numeracy and general knowledge of students. The tests are used to moderate any outliers in VCE results and to generate certificates to demonstrate students have attained basic literacy and numeracy levels.

Our senior students will also be aware that they are fast approaching the finish line and should be starting to put steps in place to ensure a smooth transition to the work place. Students who are considering Tertiary education should consider attending University/TAFE open days and preparing to complete their initial applications for 2027 placements. Students who plan to move into employment in 2027 should be starting to make overtures to potential employers in order to seek potential employment opportunities.

Girls in Years 9, 10, 11 & 12 recently attended that Fits for Trades Expo. The day, co-ordinated by the Neil Porter Legacy, saw the students get the bus to Melbourne before spending a few hours interacting with stall holders at the Expo and learning about the range of careers opportunities available to young women. Students then visited Nu Energy and participated in a presentation and Q and A session that allowed them to develop a deeper focus on the opportunities that exist.

Similarly, all Year 9 & 10 students recently attended the Try-a-Career day hosted by South West TAFE. Students were able to gain a hands on experience of the tasks that might be undertaken in a range of industries including information technology, child care, health, building, automotive, plumbing, engineering, hospitality, hair and beauty or the arts. This has been a long running event and every year our students acknowledge the value in actually getting to see what different jobs entail.

Our Year 9's have also participated in the Morrisby Profile testing process. Students complete a profiling assessment that is then utilised to identify the types of employment opportunities that might meet with the students interests and be compatible with the students' skill set. Most students have completed the testing, those who haven't will do so over the next week. During Term 3 qualified experts will visit the school and help each student unpack what the Morrisby Profile says about them.





Cobden Technical School VCE VM students have had a busy end to term, participating in a number of excursions, activities and incursions. Students recently took part in an incursion funded through the Victorian State Government's Be Ahead of the Game initiative.

Year 11 Personal Development Skills (PDS) students completed the Know the Score workshop, while Year 12 Literacy students participated in Your Money Matters: Financial Literacy — an engaging session exploring practical money management skills relevant to life beyond school.



Students across both year levels were attentive and enthusiastic, asking thoughtful questions throughout. Be Ahead of the Game is a Victorian State Government initiative designed to equip young Victorians with the financial literacy and life skills they need to make informed decisions as they move into adulthood. A big thank you to presenter Courtney for delivering both workshops to our students.

The bird boxes handcrafted by our Year 11 VCE VM PDS students have been delivered - and they are already making their mark across the Cobden community. Five of the six completed boxes were distributed to local organisations recently.

Cobdenhealth received two, which will be installed in the Heytesbury Lodge and Anzac courtyards for residents to enjoy. Cobden Kindergarten received one, where it will support the service's nature-based philosophy and give children the opportunity to learn about birds, habitats, and the natural world on their doorstep. Progressing Cobden also received two boxes, which will be installed around Lake Cobden — complementing bird boxes donated by a previous group of Cobden Technical School students already in place at the site. The sixth box has found a permanent home right here at Cobden Technical School, where it will be enjoyed by current and future students for years to come.



The response from recipient organisations has been overwhelmingly positive, with each group expressing genuine appreciation for the students' efforts and craftsmanship. It is a wonderful reminder of what our young people are capable of when given the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the community around them. Congratulations to all students involved — you should be very proud.

This week, Year 11 PDS students paid a visit to Lactalis Mainland Dairy in Cobden. The group of students heard about a variety of job opportunities available in the dairy manufacturing industry and enjoyed a fascinating site tour. It was fantastic to see our students engaging with local industry and getting a real sense of the career pathways on their doorstep. A big thank you to the team at Lactalis Mainland Dairy for having us!



## Sports Report

Belinda Savage – Sports Co-ordinator



### Upcoming Events

Thursday	June 25 <sup>th</sup>	GWR Junior Badminton (in Ballarat)
Wednesday	July 22 <sup>nd</sup>	HSSSD Basketball – Senior and Intermediate Boys and Girls
Thursday	August 27 <sup>th</sup>	Noorat Clay Target Shoot
Wednesday	September 9 <sup>th</sup>	HSSSD Basketball – Junior Boys and Girls

### HSSSD Interschool Junior Girls Netball (Year 7 and 8) – Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup> at Terang

Super effort by our Year 7 girls combining with the Terang Year 7 girls to have a good win against Camperdown College, a loss by one goal to Timboon P-12 and lost to Mercy Regional College Team 1 and Team 2.

Well done, Sienna, Taja and Cheyenne-Rose you played in multiple positions and continuously tried hard all day.

A big thank you to Sienna M, Taja D and Cheyenne-Rose W for not only playing in the Year 7 combined team, but for filling in with the Terang College Year 8 girls team along with our Year 8 Olivia B. It was great to watch you play in various positions and to mix with the Terang students playing so well in a combined team effort. Thank you also to Ms Radovic for filling in and helping on the day.



### HSSSD Interschool Junior Boys Football (Year 7–9) – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at Camperdown

Our junior boys again combined with Terang P-12 College to play in the HSSSD Interschool Junior boys comp played in Camperdown. They played three games against Mercy Regional College, Timboon P-12 and Camperdown College. No wins but some great goals by Harry, Axle, Charlie and lots of great team effort.

Well done, Harry R, Axle M, Ryan B, Charlie D, Jett D, Mitchell F, Angus M, Lenny M, Oscar U and Damian M. Thanks also to Ms Podger, superb goal umpiring and assisting the team.



### FORMULA 500

Congratulations to Zac S on his recent award in the 2025/2026 Formula 500 wing racing season. Zac was awarded the “Most improved for the season”. During the season Zac had 4 top 10 finishes and finished 11<sup>th</sup> at the Australian Title.

Zac also recently attended the National 600 micro title at Lake Liddell non wing racing. In Heat one Zac started 10<sup>th</sup> finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, then in Heat two started 1<sup>st</sup> and finished 1<sup>st</sup>. This then enabled Zac to qualify equal first on points and started out of 1<sup>st</sup> in preliminary two. Finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> which put him straight into the title and in the top 6 dash on night two. In the dash Zac qualified and finished second quickest. That put him off 2 in the title race. The title race consisted of 50 laps and Zac had an awesome race and came home with 7<sup>th</sup> overall.



## Wellbeing Team

Liv Williams & Kayla Horan (Wellbeing Coordinators)



As we head towards the upcoming school holidays, we want to remind our school community that support is available for families who may need it.

The Wellbeing Team is pleased to offer **dry and fresh food hampers** to families who could use a little extra help over the break. Please note that orders for **fresh food hampers must be placed by Monday 22nd at 12:00pm** to ensure we can get everything sorted in time. Dry food hampers can also be arranged — just get in touch with us.

If your family needs any additional support leading into the holidays, we encourage you to reach out to the Wellbeing Team. We're here to help connect you with the right resources. To arrange a hamper or have a confidential conversation about how we can support you, please contact us at the school office.

Wishing all of our families a safe and restful holiday break.

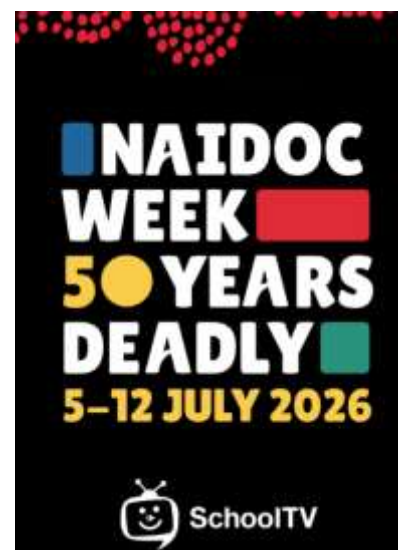
## Celebrating NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC Week is a time for all Australians to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples while recognising the importance of connection, respect and reconciliation.

This year's theme, 50 Years of Deadly, marks 50 years of NAIDOC Week as a national week-long celebration, recognising five decades of strength, resilience, culture and community leadership. While NAIDOC's origins date back much further to the Aboriginal rights movement, this milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on progress while continuing to learn from the world's oldest living cultures.

Families play an important role in helping children and young people build understanding, appreciation and respect for First Nations peoples and perspectives. This Special Report offers practical ideas and resources to help families celebrate NAIDOC Week together and continue meaningful conversations at home.

[Ctrl + click here to read more](#)



## Now available on SchoolTV - Drinking & Alcohol

Alcohol is one of the most commonly used substances among young people, making it an important topic for families to address early and often. From the primary years onwards, children are exposed to messages about alcohol through social situations, media and online content. Starting age-appropriate conversations early can help build healthy attitudes, strengthen trust and make later discussions during adolescence easier and more effective.

As children grow older, curiosity, peer influence and increasing independence can increase the likelihood of experimentation. Research shows that strong family communication, clear expectations and positive role modelling are key protective factors in helping young people make safer and healthier choices.

This edition of SchoolTV explores the impact of alcohol on children and adolescents and offers practical strategies to help families navigate this important topic with confidence and care.

[Ctrl + click here to read more](#)

TERM 2		
WEEK 10	DATE	EVENT
Mon-Wed	22-24 June	➤ Dental Van (must book by 15 June)
Mon-Fri	22-26 June	➤ Year 10 Work Experience
Thursday	25 June	➤ GWR Junior Badminton (Ballarat)
Thursday	25 June	➤ Last Day of Term for Students ( <u>except</u> VET classes)
Friday	26 June	➤ <b>Pupil Free Day</b> (Staff Professional Development Day)
TERM 3		
WEEK 1	DATE	EVENT
Monday	13 July	➤ Term 3 Commences
Tuesday	14 July	➤ Year 12 English Excursion – 7am to 7pm
WEEK 2	DATE	EVENT
Wednesday	22 July	➤ HSSSD Basketball (Boys & Girls Senior & Intermediate)
WEEK 4	DATE	EVENT
Thursday	6 August	➤ Senior Citizens Luncheon
WEEK 5	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	11 August	➤ School Council @ 5:00pm
WEEK 6	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	18 August	➤ Maths & Science at Work Day – Year 7 & 8 - Neil Porter Legacy
WEEK 7	DATE	EVENT
Thursday	24 August	➤ Noorat Gun Club Championship Shoot
WEEK 8	DATE	EVENT
Wed-Fri	2-4 September	➤ Year 9 DOXA Melbourne Camp
Thursday	3 September	➤ Senior Citizens Luncheon



**GAMES DAY**  
AT THE **POOL & GYM!**  
FUN FOR ALL AGES!

A VARIETY OF GAMES & ACTIVITIES

ALL AGES WELCOME!

TEA & COFFEE PROVIDED

ENTRY BY DONATION TO SUPPORT KEEPING OUR POOL OPEN

**SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**  
2:00PM - 4:00PM

**RODNEY GROVE AQUATIC CENTRE - COBDEN HEALTH POOL & GYM**

A VARIETY OF GAMES & ACTIVITIES  
FUN FOR ALL AGES!

ACTIVE SOCIAL ENGAGING FUN COMMUNITY

**NO WATER. ALL FUN.**

**ENQUIRIES:** Lesley 0409 535 914  
or email [lesleybrown25@bigpond.com](mailto:lesleybrown25@bigpond.com)  
for further details

POOL YOUR KNOWLEDGE & SUPPORT THE  
**Rodney Grove Heated Pool Fundraiser**

Raffles

BYO Nibbles. Drinks @ bar prices

**FUN TRIVIA AFTERNOON**

\$10 pp  
Includes prizes and afternoon tea.

Bookings Essential:  
Text or call:  
0409535914

**SINK OR SWIM!**  
**SUN 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
**2PM - 4PM**  
@ COBDEN BOWLS CLUB  
RIX AVE.