

Commitment to Child Safety

Cobram and District Specialist School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all students at the school.

We are entrusted with the education of the child, in partnership with parents, guardians and caregivers who are the primary educators of their children.

Cobram and District Specialist School implement the Child Safe Standards to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students at the school and promote an organisational culture that manages the risk of child abuse and neglect.

Principal's Report

Term four is flying along. We only have five more weeks of school with students finishing on Thursday 20th December. Friday 21st staff will be cleaning and setting up their rooms for 2019.

Our Awards afternoon is at 1.30pm Friday 14th December.

As the School Improvement Team, Robyn, Lisa and I will be meeting on Monday 26th November to evaluate our 2018 Annual Implementation Plan and develop the 2019 plan. Data from this year's Staff opinion, Student opinion (Attitudes to School Survey) and Parent Opinion Surveys will be used to direct our focus and goals for next year.

Our paved area is finished, thanks to James Sim from Sun Country Landscaping. Thank you to the families and local community who supported our fundraiser by buying an engraved paver.

On 25th and 26th October, Di, Tarra, Julie and Kristy travelled to Shepparton for two days PBS training. We have a new regional PBS coach who is working with a revamped team to revisit the Positive Behaviour Support framework in our school.

Friday 2nd November Lou and Jayanna attended a professional learning day hosted by Tony Attwood, a psychologist notable for his work on Autism. They learnt many valuable skills applicable to their work at our school.

On Thursday 22nd November, we will hold our athletics in Barooga. We look forward to seeing a great crowd turn up to cheer the students on.

Staff are currently assessing and reporting on each student's progress for the year. We will advise you later in the term as to when you can access the report on Compass. We would appreciate you taking time to read the report and celebrating your child's achievements with them.

Keep safe

Leah Willis Principal

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES	
22 nd November	Athletics
3 rd December	International Disability Day
14 th December	Awards Presentations 1.30pm
20 th December	Students – last day



Student Awards

15th October	
<i>Respect</i>	<i>Peter Fitzpatrick</i>
<i>Safety</i>	<i>Ned Quinane, Jeffrey Tomlin & Hayley Hendrie</i>
<i>Try Your Best</i>	<i>Paul Murray</i>
<i>Milkshake Uniform Award</i>	<i>Clancy Kennedy & Rivvah Dean</i>
22nd October	
<i>Safety</i>	<i>Cooper Scott</i>
<i>Respect</i>	<i>Bella Brown-Singh</i>
<i>Try Your Best</i>	<i>Liam Jeffress & Anikia Welch</i>
<i>Milkshake Uniform Award</i>	<i>Midas Gopalan & Laurie Norgate</i>
29th October	
<i>Respect</i>	<i>Jack Jenvey-Burke</i>
<i>Safety</i>	<i>Boston Haimona</i>
<i>Try Your Best</i>	<i>Scott Johnson & Anika Welch, All Students Gwynne Room</i>
<i>Milkshake Uniform Award</i>	<i>Chris Harbrow & Matthew Nieuwenhout</i>
12th November	
<i>Respect</i>	<i>Cody Connelly & Ebony Lowrie</i>
<i>Safety</i>	<i>Caitlyn Koopman</i>
<i>Try Your Best</i>	<i>Bella Brown-Singh</i>
<i>Milkshake Uniform Award</i>	<i>James Carey & Zoe Kaine</i>

Office News

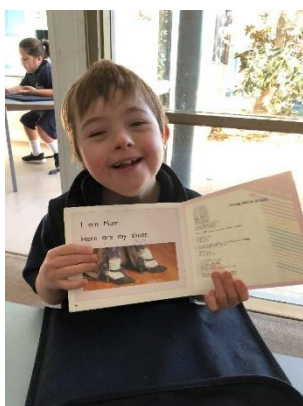
School Photos

We have organised for school photos to be taken early in 2019. This enables us to have up to date photos of all students, including new enrolments, for our school administration systems.

Hovell Room

Each morning in the 'Hovell Room' we read our readers to start our day. The students are enthusiastic about reading with staff and are very proud of their efforts when they complete the book. We use picture cues, the pattern of language and sounding out to help us work out words.

In maths, we have been looking at time and talking about what we do in the morning and afternoon. The students relate afternoon to being after lunch and enjoy singing our good afternoon song.



Cobram & District Specialist School values are Respect, Safety & Try Your Best



Hume Room

On Friday 2nd November, we celebrated Outdoor Classroom Day, which is a global campaign to celebrate and inspire outdoor learning and play. On the day, thousands of schools around the world take lessons outdoors and prioritise playtime. We made our way to Thompson's Beach to go on the Paddle Boat Cobba. We were met by Vanessa (the skipper) and Jodi who looked after us for the hour cruise up and down the Murray River. After having a yummy morning tea on the top deck, we were able to look for wildlife and were very excited when we pulled up right near a mother koala and her baby in a tree. During the journey, each student was able to drive the boat which was thoroughly enjoyed by all, with Seth given the job of bringing the boat back to the jetty. We made our way to the bbq area to have our lunch and then spent time with ropes and tarps to work together as a team to make shelters. We also played cricket and had fun on the playground before packing up and driving to Barooga to walk across the swing bridge. A big thank you to our Fundraising sub-committee for their donation to fund this excursion, Mick Hyde for the equipment and to Vanessa and Jodi for their hospitality on the boat.



Vic Premiers Reading Challenge



Certificates were presented to students in the Hovell, Hume and Gwynne Rooms for their participation in the Victorian Premiers Reading Challenge. Students had to read a minimum of 15 books, with 10 coming from the challenge booklist. Congratulations to those students who met the requirements to receive their certificates.



Mitchell Room



Maths



Literacy



Digital Technologies



Duke of Edinburgh



In Mitchell Room this term, we have been sharing all the many things we do with our new classmate Jack.

Cooking



Athletics training



Senior Rooms



Sturt Room

Our garden is flourishing because of the rain and sunshine. We have tomatoes zucchini and strawberries almost ready to eat.

The Sturt room had lunch with the Gwynne room and the Lions District Governor on Tuesday. We had sandwiches and talked together. The Governor gave us her town's banner.

The Sturt room have a fantastic business making dog tags and are there are cat tags coming soon. Thank to everyone who has ordered for your support.

By Tori, Scott and Cody

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Gwynne Room

Gwynne Room Duke of Ed / Compass Adventurous Journey!

The morning of the 22nd of October, some of us met in Cobram and helped load the bus before driving to Yarrawonga to get the rest of the class. We headed to Myrtleford where we had morning tea stop and stretched our legs. Next stop was the snow on top of Mount Hotham. This was awesome, but we couldn't stay long as we needed to get to Omeo for lunch. The drive over the mountain was spectacular and we all chewed gum to help our ears pop. The trip down to Metung was a long one (thanks Matt) but we slept, laughed, played music and chatted along the way.

We arrived at the yachts in Metung very excited and we unloaded all our stuff using wheelbarrows and waved goodbye to Leah for a few days. Everyone was excited to get on board, even if it took a little while to work out how to step across the water onto the back of the yacht. We cooked tea, tidied up, went for a walk along the boardwalk and a drive around the little town before showers on land and bed for our first night on the water. The waves lapping at the boat were noisy at first but we forgot about them after a while.

Next morning Mitchell cooked the bacon on one yacht, Matthew cooked the eggs on the other, and we met in the middle for breakfast before having our training session for operating our yachts.

Our instructor was great, a funny guy and he let Mitchell drive us up a little river for steering and mooring practice. He also showed Mitchell how to park at a jetty. We were too nervous to have a go.

Then we headed off to calm waters to have a drive and put the anchor up and down for a practice. We hoped never to have to do that task again in our lives! Everyone tried steering, using the radio and basic operations on board. We moored on the jetty at Metung, went to the shop, and cooked lunch on the yachts before we had a quick fish, checked in for a safe spot for the night with Riviera staff and then we were off.

The wind blew in and the sky turned grey, but none of the sailors did luckily. The water was choppy and thanks to Matt N aboard the CD and Nick on the Sir James, we ended up at our destination cold, damp and on time. As the afternoon passed we moored the yachts together on the edge of Raymond Island, made tea, shared the adventurous tales of an afternoon on the "high seas", and laughed as one crew realised they had left the bathroom window open and their toilet rolls were now damp!

An evening of cards, hot chocolates and sitting on deck in the evening lights of Paynesville was enjoyed by all. The beautiful sunrise the following day was met by breakfast on the Sir James, coffees with the swans and some serious study of the maps of the lakes to work out where we would go today.

Thanks to the crews we untied the yachts and safely and sailed into Paynesville harbour. Jesse worked his yacht past the Car Ferry after realising big vessels will take right of way! Dean sailed the Sir James along Raymond Island and assisted Robyn to park at the jetty with expertise. We met Leah after a quick restock of loo rolls at the supermarket and we caught the ferry to Raymond Island where we saw koalas,



parrotsechidnas and more swans on our walk. Lunch was had in the pub and then we took Leah aboard the CD and headed off for a tour of the local waterways.

Ebony took over the Sir James when we sailed past the end of Raymond Island and performed a simple 360 before straightening up and guiding the yacht carefully past Whales Head Point back to Paynesville. Again, we waved Leah off from the jetty and both crews took on the challenge of following the channel markers to guide us safely to Steamers Landing along the back of a stretch of Ninety Mile Beach.

Perhaps this leg of the trip will be the most memorable for us because the words “stay between the channels markers” were very important as Matt N learnt as we sailed past a Pelican breeding island and saw the CD crew looking overboard at the shallows as the guided their yacht back into the deep water between the markers!

Ninety Mile Beach was amazing, the water was cold and the Sea Eagle that flew above us was beautiful. We got to splash around in the shallows and we had fun in the sand. Some people picked up shells and cuttlefish as souvenirs. We could hear the waves crashing all night.

Back on the jetty we fished, chatted as the sunset and tea was cooked and the people who had been in the ocean had to rinse their clothes in a bucket and wring them out before hanging them on the yachts to dry.

Robyn took a group photo as the full moon rose over the sand dunes and a fisherman moored next to our yacht on the jetty for the night. He was trying to catch a gummy shark at night in the moonlight but only caught a big salmon for his Nan.

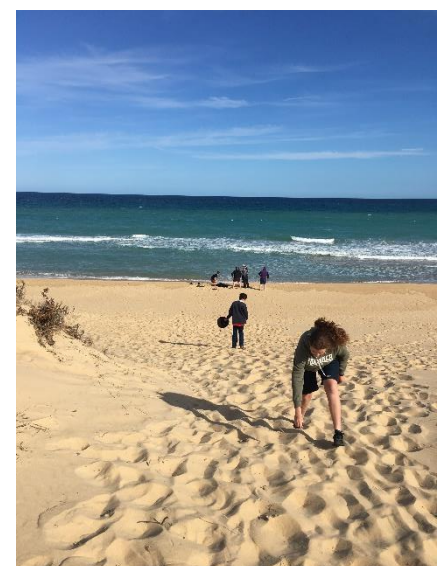
We all had good sleeps with the yacht tied up at the jetty overnight and headed off early for Metung. Shakaya, Charles, Jesse and Dean did most of the Captaining as we sailed back along the Rigby Channel. The wind was calm and we even put up our sails for a try.

Metung welcomed us back with a sunny day and plenty of wild life around us as we waited to moor and hand back our yachts after 3 nights on the sea.

We collected Leah along the way back to Omeo and crossed over through Hotham Village again and by 6.30pm, we were back on our side of the mountains for an overnight in Harrietville at Feathertop Chalet. We had tea and a swim in the indoor pool and watched TV before lights out.

On the last morning, we all pitched in to clean up our dorm and the bus before a nice breakfast and heading off to Wangaratta for morning tea. In Yarrawonga, we dropped off some of the group and headed back to Cobram for an early home time.

Thanks you Matthew for all the driving, on the ocean and in the bus. Thanks Robyn for planning the camp and to Leah for coming with us and taking us over to Raymond Island. Camp was definitely an “adventurous journey!”



Relay For Life 2018

This year's event was held in Cobram at the Showgrounds on 10th and 11th of November. We had 5 registered students and two staff involved this year. During semester two we have fundraised to a total of \$44.70 with our mosaic guitar still to be raffled. Thank you to Ebony who walked on the day and Shakaya, Charles, Nick and Mitchell who organised our Leo Clubs involvement.

Thanks also to Oasis Movers and Shakers for allowing us to join their club again this year. We appreciate all donations and support from the community that our team received.

Robyn Hicks & Joseph Nieuwenhout



On Tuesday the 30th of October Shakaya, Ebony, Charles and Matt Hicks went to Cactus Country for the Youth Council end of year celebration. We did some team building activities in the first part of the day, such as stacking five shoes on top of each other to make a tower and answer some questions. Then we had to make something with clay and we had wraps and soft drink of lunch and we got certificates for youth council and bag of goodies



Around the School

Verney Road Athletics Report

A great day was had by all who attended the Verney Road School Senior and Middle Years Athletics day. Students competed in 10 events against Verney Road and Echuca Special School in their age group to score aggregate points.

At the end of the day, presentations were made for age group 1st, 2nd and 3rd placegetters.

Cobram was very successful with everyone showing great school values, trying their best, being respectful and being safe.

The following students performed very well in their age group.

10 – 13 girls = Anikia 2nd
12 – 13 boys – Xavier 1st, Sam 2nd
14 – 15 boys – Benton & Chris, the whole group were very even and unable to be separated.
15 – 16 boys - Cody 1st
14 – 15 girls – Hayley 2nd, Zoe 3rd
17 – 18 boys – Nathan 2nd, Gus 3rd
Nathan, Benton, Gus and Cody came 2nd in the relay.

Well done to all students.



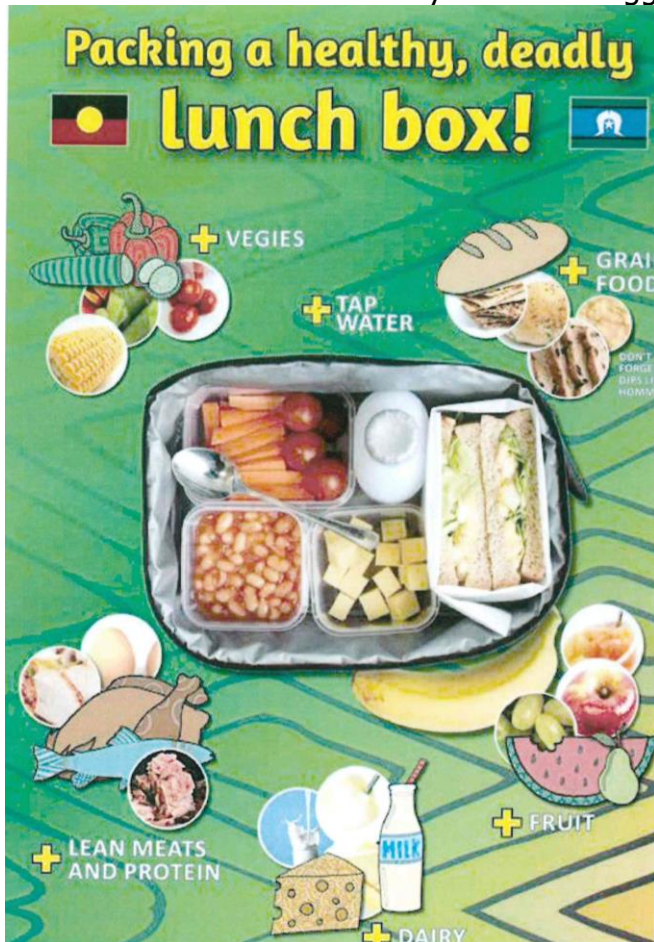
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Healthy Eating

Please see below some healthy lunchbox suggestions for school.



Healthy packaged snacks

These healthy snacks don't take a lot of time to prepare. When you're short on time, these are healthier choices than some other packaged snacks*.



*Some schools who have a litter policy may ask you to put packaged foods into tupperware containers.

