

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

I have just returned from Long Service Leave and am feeling the cold after being in warm sunny Darwin. Thanks to Lisa Oliver for taking on the acting Principal role while I was away. She did an amazing job running the school.

Lisa, Robyn and I form the Student Improvement Team and Leadership team. We are currently working with staff developing unit plans. This is a large bulk of work however when finished we will have plans to refer to each year.

Next week staff will be involved in Mid-cycle reviews. Each staff member has a performance plan, which has set goals to help improve their teaching and learning.

Leah Willis
Principal



Principals Award Winners Term 2-these students enjoyed sharing lunch with Leah at Hungie Fangs, Cobram – Gary Gill, Hollee Clarke, Caleb Griffin, Noah Ferguson, Benton Lucas and Shakaya Graham

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

14 th & 21 st August	Dance Academy @ school
16 th August	Fundraising Sub Committee meeting 1.30pm at school
18 th August	Parent Opinion Survey closes
4 th September	Mooroopna Football & Netball Carnival-Mitchell, Sturt & VCAL
6 th September	Athletics @ Barooga Football ground-Whole School
20 th September	NO SCHOOL-Regional Special Schools Conference

Office News



We have only had 5 families complete the Parent Opinion Survey, this is your opportunity to provide us with some feedback. Please take the time to take advantage of the extended closing date of 18th August, 2019. It would be great if we could get at least half of our families to complete the survey.

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent from school please let the teacher or bus know why so we can put an appropriate reason on Compass. It would be even better if we could get more families to input absences directly onto Compass.

Student Awards

22nd July	
Respect	Archie Shannon & Caleb Griffin
Safety	Chris Harbrow
Try Your Best	Liam Jeffress , Xavier North, Ebony Lowrie, Matt Nieuwenhout, Charles Tomlin & Shanelle Wellington
Milkshake Uniform Award	Cassius-Clay Gordon & Laurie Norgate
29th July	
Respect	Ayjah Nathan & Tearnna Allcroft
Safety	Jake Hoggard & Jeffrey Tomlin
Try Your Best	Blake Fitzpatrick & Nick Harbrow
Milkshake Uniform Award	Rivvah Dean & Xavier North
5th August	
Respect	Peter Fitzpatrick & Gus Ryan
Safety	Hollie Clark & Keely Thorpe
Try Your Best	Paul Murray & Seth Mumford

Fundraising Sub Committee



We have a sub committee meeting on Friday 16th August at 1.30pm here at the school. It would be great to see some more faces to assist with fundraising.

Hovell Room



Each Tuesday we start to get excited about our upcoming swimming lesson on Wednesday. Already, staff can see their confidence growing, as they show how brave they are by trusting staff and are prepared to take their feet off the bottom of the pool. Many of us are also putting our heads under the water and blowing bubbles.



In literacy sessions, we are joining letters together to make three letter words and are currently looking at the letter 'd'. This will be followed by the letters 'g', 'l' and 'v'.

Another subject that the students love is biology. This is where we are learning about plants, animals and ourselves. We are also talking about our needs for food, water and air.

Hume Room



Students in the Hume room have settled in after the holidays and are very busy in their programs. Our Writers Workshop sessions are extremely productive, as we gain more knowledge and confidence with our writing topics. We have written about our holidays, Circus Quirkus and the recent police visit and will re-visit these, over the term, to help develop and strengthen various writing concepts.

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

This term, our Inquiry theme investigates biological and earth science topics about living things and how the weather impacts their growth. We have started the theme by searching for items and sorting them into living and non-living things. We will be studying mealworms and conduct observations whilst learning all about their lifecycle.



On Monday, Matt Dillon, came to the school and ran an extra Blueearth session. We had fun playing some games that helped us practise fundamental motor skills like hopping, skipping and running. At the end of the session, Matt ran us through some breathing techniques which help with self-regulation.



Gwynne Room

The Gwynne room students have settled in extremely well to Term 3. They are all ready to learn and make the most of the opportunities presented.

Swimming has been a highlight. We go swimming each Tuesday at Barooga indoor pool. The students are all trying their best in the pool and learning new skills. Some are learning to do freestyle, others are learning to float on their backs.

The students have also been working with Joe each Thursday. This term they have been doing woodwork. They have made the first initial of their name out of wood. The last two weeks they have made a planter out of a tree branch: they look amazing.

During Maths sessions, the students have been learning about time and shapes.

They enjoy sport each Friday with Hume and Mitchell rooms. They have played cricket and soccer and learnt the skills of hitting, bowling and fielding.

We were fortunate enough to travel to Shepparton to watch Circus Quirkus. The students had a great day out and really enjoyed the performance. After the circus we had lunch at the park in Shepparton.



Mitchell Room



This term the Science based inquiry is 'What do living things need to change'. The Mitchell Room students are very excited by the new members of our class – mealworms 😊 Each student has given their small pets names and have loved writing about them and inspecting them. Some have already shed a layer of skin and everyone is just waiting for them to

turn into larvae before blossoming into the final stage of their life. The mealworms live in oat bran and feed off of raw potato. They are extremely fast and it is fascinating seeing their small legs move around their home.





Sturt Room News

I like the garden because we are growing carrots. We have started a new plot to grow tomatoes, we will use them to make a sauce. We have put worms in our garden, to help the plants grow.

By Stephen Martin

I like cooking because it is fun and I have learnt to cook new things like chicken burgers, spaghetti and pumpkin soup.

Sometimes it is challenging because we have to cut pumpkin and it can be hard.

We count money to learn new skills and go shopping to get food for lunch orders.

By Hayley



I like to read every morning, well not every morning because some days I don't get a chance to read because Joe gets to talk about what's happening in the day. I like to read comics, novels, and animals. I like to read because I want to know more letters that I don't know.

By Chris J. Harbrow

At school I like hanging out with friends, they allow me to be me and accept me for who I am. We talk about gaming and have a joke. We have lots in common. We like hanging out on the monkey bars.

By Blake

This year there are four students doing metalwork which are Hayley, Chris, Joel and myself. I like doing metal at the high school on a Tuesday afternoon. Metalwork involves welding, pedestal drills and filing. What I want to make is an iPad holder, a drink bottle holder and a torch holder for a bike. I have made a ring, we made it out of Perspex. We had to measure our finger and then we had to drill a hole in the ring. We made the shape of the ring which is going to be a circle.

By Benton

We had a visit from Sasha the school dog from the primary school for our new SPEC module on animals.



By Caitlyn
















I like doing maths at school, we are learning about time. You use maths everyday, like when you go shopping, maths can be hard at times.

















By Laurie



We have been working hard on our literacy program to learn new words.

By Angus

 of   =   ride  three  times  a  week ,  so  far  I  have  ridden 907km, and the 

 most  I  have  done  in  a  day =  is 25km. Bike riding =  is  my  favourite  thing  to  do  at  school .



By Peter

VCAL

Better Buddies Assembly



On Monday the 22nd of July VCAL room presented our junior buddies from the Hovell room to the rest of the school. Every Monday afternoon, we have been going over to the Hovell room and joining in on some activities that the junior buddies like doing. We love helping them with these activities. We do things like, duck duck goose, follow the



leader, colouring activities, ball games, climbing and lots of fine motor activities. At the Assembly on Monday, we gave our buddies a laminated slide of what they like to do in the Better Buddies program with a photo of us and the Hovell room.

Mitchell Viney Work Experience

Every Wednesday, I do work placement on a farm in Katamatite. I help my boss with fencing, sowing, spreading fertilizer, spraying, mowing, hay raking, bailing and harvesting the crops. I work with livestock too, but my favourite job to do is fencing. We have to put wire in the fence post, strain the fence up tight and then put insulators in the fence post I start work at 8:30am and I finish at 5:30pm my mum takes me to work.

Planet Ark

Every day at school, the Planet Ark team carry out our bin system duties. We clean up rubbish to keep the school nice and clean so no-one gets sick. We have 4 different bin systems, they are recycle, green bins, general waste and the red bins.

The red bins contain scrunchable plastics.

The purple bags are for food products that are then recycled to make compost and they go into the green bins.

The recycling bins are for articles that can be recycled into new stuff like water bottles, boxes and milk cartons.

The general waste is for articles that we cannot do anything with and is sent to landfill.

The red bins are for plastics that are mainly used for making benches and chairs for schools.

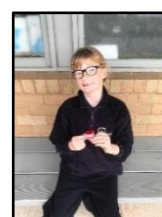
Some other things that are made from recycling are squishy balls and spare parts.

By doing this program here at school, we hope that it makes everybody aware of the importance of recycling.

PBS

Everyday in our school the teachers on duty are looking out for people making good choices and showing our school values They give out tickets if they see us making good choices. At the end of recess and lunch, we go to the meeting room where the VCAL PBS team process our tickets. When we get up to 3, 5, or 10 tickets, we can cash in for some prizes. Some of the prizes we can choose are frozen coke, zooper dooper and some toys. Once we pick a prize we start all over again making good choices.

VCAL PBS Team



Jeans for Genes



On Friday the 2nd of August 2019 all the students and staff were invited to join in the national fundraising day of Jeans for Genes. The support of the day was awesome, we raised \$92.00 on the day. At next Monday's assembly we showed an iMovie of the people who come to school in denim.

Everyone enjoyed the day and thanks for donating to this worthy cause.

Matt N and Scott



Community News



COBRAM AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION 2019 Spring REGISTRATION



Registrations for the Spring 2019 season are now open.

The season is planned to start the week of the Monday 19th August. Registrations are online at the Cobram Basketball Association website. Payment of fees will be via credit card at time of registration.


Registrations will close on Wednesday 14th August 2019 to allow time for teams and draws to be arranged.


If you have any difficulties with registration please contact Luke Almond via email at cobrambasketball@outlook.com or phone 0438 004 402

AUSSIEHOOPS

The Cobram Basketball Association will run an Aussie Hoops program for 5-10 year olds to learn the game, coached by senior players starting Tuesday 27th August. Refer to the Aussie Hoops tab on the website for details and registration.







Looking for work?

Do you have a diagnosed medical, intellectual or mental health condition?

The Personnel Group can help you with your next step towards employment or further education.

Please call Tracey on 0412 987 769 to make an appointment.

The Personnel Group
Available at:

Beechworth
Cobram
Corowa
Mulwala
Rutherglen
Wodonga
Yarrawonga

personnelgroup.com.au



'Grandparents Doing It Tough'

A Monthly Support Group for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren & Grandparents Seeking Access to Grandchildren as a result of:

- Family Law Court Decisions
- Separation / Divorce
- Drug or Alcohol Addiction
- Illness / Disability
- Death / Suicide
- Mental Health

Meetings held 3rd Friday of each month 10:00am - 12:00pm
Barooga Library, 4 Golf Course Road, Barooga

Grandparents face many challenges when confronted with the unexpected responsibility of caring for young children or teenagers

Including:

- Loss of independence, and retirement plans
- Emotional and psychological issues
- Behavioural problems / lack of behavioural strategies
- Challenges with setting boundaries or establishing routines
- Social isolation
- Dealing with courts and the legal system
- Increased stress & financial hardship
- Decreased energy
- Child development issues
- Grief and loss
- Dealing with schools and advocating for children
- Holiday care activities / respite care
- Accessing community resources, especially for young people with disabilities

The Grandparents Group offers you:

- Understanding
- Friendship
- Shared experiences & knowledge
- Social activities
- Parenting strategies
- Support & advocacy
- Education
- Guest speakers

'Grandparents Doing It Tough' is proudly supported by
Centacare SW NSW



For further information please contact: Tammy on 0429 129 613
Email: cas@centacare-sw.nsw.gov.au