



Waka –Ngā Hauora Tamariki

At Te Kura o Cobden, we are all in the same waka (canoe).

The rauawa around the sides of the waka, are decorated with manaia, to symbolise everyone working together. The taurapa (stern) steers and stabilises the waka, featuring a takarangi design that represents the balance between Papatūānuku (the earth) and Rangi (sky).

The spirals in the design show movement, with the centre representing the solid space of Papatūānuku.

At Cobden School, we experience Ngā Hau e Whā (the four winds): Te Hau Rāwhiti (easterly), Te Hau ā-uru (westerly), Te Hau Tonga (southerly), and Te Hau Raki (northerly). Which is blowing today?

In our māra and on our waka, brings awareness to each of these winds and their effects. It is just as well we have a strong taurapa (stern) and tau ihu (bow) to guide us. You can see the blue of Te Tai o Poutini as the waka carries our ākonga forward on their journey.



Pou Tiaki

Pou Tiaki is at the back of the waka, watching over the school and its whānau. Pou Tiaki stands guard and protects the māra, reminding us to respect its environment.

Te Tipunga o te Tamaiti

Te Tipunga o te Tamaiti is a pou to the west of the garden. The piko symbolises the growth of our children and all living things in our māra.

Rongomātane, the atua of peace and cultivated foods is in this pou and nurtures our space.



Te Taiao o Te Kura o Cobden - Our Environment

Whakapapa of Harakeke

The three harakeke at the stern of the waka were donated by Barrytown School, who has been nurturing them for six years. These harakeke come from the Rene Orchiston Collection at Lincoln.

The harakeke at the bow of the waka is from the late Nana Hariata Murphy's collection on Bright Street. She brought these special weaving harakeke from her papakāinga at Wairoa. Many thanks to her son Phil for donating them to Cobden School.



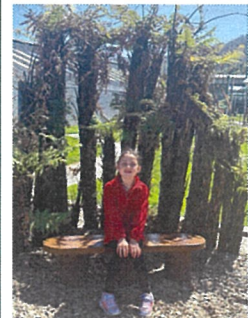
Native Plants and Trees

We are grateful for the living koha from rangatahi at Papa Taiao, Trees for Change. They provided and helped us plant 80 native plants which they had raised from seedlings. These include Horoeka (Lancewood); Tarata (Pittosporum); Kahikatea; Kawakawa; Harakeke (Flax); and Tī Kōuka (Cabbage Tree).



Reflection Bench

The wooden bench at Cobden School is shaped into a three-dimensional oval complemented by additional pieces carved into a prism-like circle. It is anchored in concrete with pounamu touch stones, adding a meaningful element to its design. Surrounded by Ponga, it feels like it's in the ngahere (forest). Students can relax there during breaks, enjoying the nearby field and greenery, feeling the breeze and warmth of the sun.



Why Does Cobden School Have Two Flags?

Cobden School proudly displays two flags to celebrate our unity and heritage. This tradition began with Te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi), an important 1840 agreement between Māori and the United Kingdom.

The flag of New Zealand, Aotearoa is represented by blue for the Pacific Ocean and sky, stars for the Southern Cross, and the Union Jack, recognising New Zealand's place in the Commonwealth. More recently, Linda Munn designed the Tino Rangatiratanga flag in 1989. It has black for Ranginui (sky father) and red for Papatūānuku (earth mother).

At Cobden School, these flags are positioned at the stern and bow of our waka in the hauora garden, symbolising our shared journey and values. They remind us of the pride and strong sense of belonging we feel as a community. Though New Zealand may be small, it is truly amazing!

COBDEN SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Caring, Co operation, Communication
Manaakitanga, Mahi Ngatahi, Korero Mai



A community of learners where wellbeing and relationships encourage ākonga to be confident, engaged and caring critical thinkers.

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COBDEN SCHOOL

Newsletter 9th May 2025



Kia ora, Cobden whānau,

Welcome back to Term 2! It's fantastic to see everyone settling in and embracing the activities and opportunities this term brings.

Our winter sports teams are now in full swing, participating in league, hockey, and soccer tournaments this term. It's wonderful to see our tamariki displaying such enthusiasm and teamwork on the field.

Kowhai 2 recently had their much-anticipated rafting trip, an exciting opportunity to build confidence and strengthen teamwork.

We're also excited to share that we now have a dedicated Matariki organising group, who are busily preparing for our upcoming Matariki event on **Thursday, 19th June**. It promises to be a special occasion to bring our whānau together and honour this significant time. Stay tuned for more details!

Last week, we held a special ANZAC assembly, a moving tribute to those who served. The ceremony was beautifully complemented by a piper and drummer, creating a memorable experience for our tamariki, staff, and whānau in attendance.

Thank you all for your continued support. Let's keep up the momentum as we journey through Term 2 together, embracing all the opportunities ahead.

Ngā mihi nui
Noula Markham
Principal

Cobden School

Important Dates 2025 - Also on the Skool Loop Calendar tab

Term 2

Tuesday 13th May
Friday 16th May
Friday 16th May
Tuesday 20th May
Tuesday 20th May
Thursday 22nd May
Tuesday 27th May
Tuesday 27th May
Friday 30th May
Friday 30th May
Monday 2nd June
Thursday 5th June
Tuesday 10th June
Friday 13th June
Friday 13th June
Thursday 19th June
Thursday 19th June
Friday 20th June
Monday 23rd June
Tuesday 24th June
Tuesday 24th June
Friday 27th June
Friday 27th June
Friday 27th June
Monday 14th July

Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
"Wear Pink" for Anti Bullying Pink Shirt Day - Gold Coin Mufti Day for MHF
Assembly 12pm in the Hall - Led by Kowhai 2 - Whanau can stay for lunch
Scholastic Book Club Issue 3 - Orders Close
West Coast Cross Country - Kumara
Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
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Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom
Assembly 12pm in the Hall - Led by Mokomoko 2 - Whanau can stay for lunch
"Wear Green" for Sunflower Day - Gold Coin Mufti Day for Neurodiversity
Public Holiday - Kings Birthday - School Closed.
Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
"Wear Yellow" for Harold - Gold Coin Mufti Day for Life Education
Assembly 12pm in the Hall - Led by Mokomoko 1 - Whanau can stay for lunch
Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Matariki Disco 5pm to 6.30pm - Please bring a plate of food for shared Kai
Public Holiday - Matariki - School Closed.
Teacher Only Day - School Closed.
Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom
"Fluro Friday" for St John Appeal - Gold Coin Mufti Day
Assembly 12pm in the Hall - Led by Kowhai 1 - Whanau can stay for lunch
Last Day of Term 2
Term 3 Begins.



Disclaimer: Dates and Times are correct at the time of printing but are subject to change.

PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning

Caring, Co-operation, Communication

This terms focus:

"Mahi Ngatahi - Co-operation"

"Play Fair, Stay Cool, Include All"

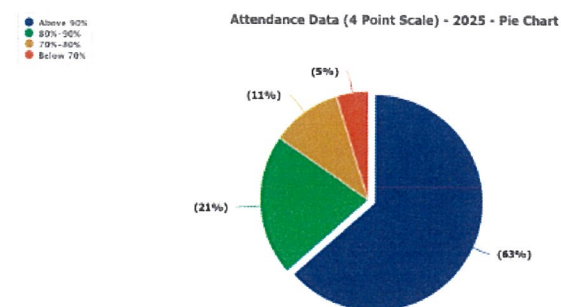
Values Card Winners:

Term 2 Week 1 Kyras, Izaac & Ayda
 Week 2 Kora & Blake



This terms focus is Mahi Ngatahi - Co-operation: play fair, stay cool, include all. This means treating everyone with honesty and kindness, following rules, and showing good sportsmanship. It's about staying calm during challenges and making sure no one is left out, helping every child feel welcome and valued. Together, we build a safe, friendly place for everyone to learn and grow.

63% of our students maintain strong attendance, but 16% are below 80%. Let's work together – school isn't the same without our tamariki.



WELCOME
TO
COBDEN
SCHOOL

Harley
Alliana
Rehua
Brianna

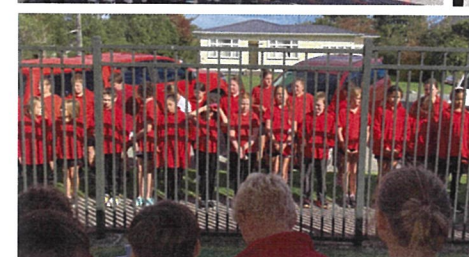


Well done to our Hockey team coming 4th at the **West Coast School Hockey Festival**: Sydney, Oscar, Amiyah, Ruhi, Kaelyn, Lyric, Kenzie, Jax, Tyler & Zarleah. Thanks to Michelle G.



Anzac Day

Thank you to all who came to our Anzac Service.
Special Thanks to Henie and Toni for their bagpipe and drum support during the service.
"Lest we Forget"



Thank you for your support!
Our "Wear Blue" for Asthma Mufti Day raised \$99.20 for the West Coast Asthma Foundation.



Our Colour Fun Run Fundraiser is finished! - Together we raised a total of \$6216.00 for Cobden School Education Outside the Classroom Events.

Prizes have been ordered and should arrive before the end of this term.