



Kia ora e te whānau,

Recent Government decisions have removed the requirement for school boards to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

At Cobden School, our commitment to Te Tiriti remains unwavering. As a Crown entity, we recognise both a legal and moral responsibility to honour the principles of Te Tiriti — partnership, participation, and protection. These principles shape the way we teach, lead, and care for our learners and community.

Removing this expectation nationally does not change who we are or what we stand for. We believe that true education is inclusive, equitable, and grounded in respect. Embedding the principles of Te Tiriti strengthens belonging, engagement, and achievement for all tamariki — especially Māori — and builds a stronger, more united community.

Our values of caring, cooperating, and communicating sit at the heart of everything we do. Upholding Te Tiriti reflects these values — caring for one another, working together in partnership, and communicating with honesty and respect. It is also an expression of our integrity, our commitment to equity, and our belief in the potential of every learner.

We will continue to honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all aspects of school life — not because it is required by law, but because it is the right thing to do.

Our commitment to Te Tiriti remains strong, our integrity guides our actions, and our focus stays on the wellbeing and success of every learner.

Ngā mihi nui,
Te Kura o Cobden staff & Board



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 14th November 2025



Kia ora koutou,

With only four weeks left of the term, the time is certainly flying by! Our students are busily preparing for the upcoming gala, and there's a great sense of teamwork and excitement as they help bring everything together.

Teachers are also in the midst of drafting end-of-year reports for parents and whānau. I've had a sneak preview of some of these, and I'm really pleased to see that many of our students have made strong, steady progress in English and Maths. It's wonderful to see their efforts and growth reflected so clearly.

There are a few bugs going around at the moment, so please remember to phone in or use the Skool Loop app to report absences. It's important that we record the reason for each absence accurately.

We are now finalising our Strategic Plan for next year, which focuses on three key goals: Partnerships, Teaching and Learning, and Attendance and Engagement. We are excited to share this with you soon, as it reflects the collective aspirations of our school community. As always, we remain committed to honouring the intent of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all that we do — ensuring equity, partnership, and participation are at the heart of our school's direction.

Ngā mihi nui,
Noula Markham
Principal



Cobden School Gala Thursday 4th December 4.30pm to 6.30pm

- ♦ Raffle Prize Donations - Please advise at the office if you have a prize.
- ♦ Ticket Cards will be printed on Tuesday 18th November. *\$2 per Ticket - Multiple Prize draws*
- ♦ If you would like to sell a card of raffle tickets for our Gala Raffle please let us know at the office.

Cobden School

Important Dates 2025 - Also on the Skool Loop Calendar tab

Tuesday 18th November	Lucky Book Club issue 8 orders close.
Tuesday 18th November	Gala Raffle Ticket Cards available to sell from the office.
Wednesday 19th November	West Coast Women's Refuge—Gold Coin Mufti Day.
Thursday 20th November	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Friday 21st November	Assembly 12pm Led by Kowhai 1 Rm 2. Whanau can bring their lunch.
Tuesday 25th November	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Monday 1st December	Westland Anniversary Day—Public Holiday—School Closed.
Tuesday 2nd December	Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom.
Wednesday 3rd December	Gala Raffle Ticket Cards need to be returned to the office today.
Thursday 4th December	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Thursday 4th December	Cobden School Gala 4.30pm to 6.30pm.
Friday 5th December	Assembly 12pm Led by Kowhai 2. Whanau can bring their lunch.
Saturday 6th December	Greymouth Christmas Parade - Theme "West Coast Christmas"
Tuesday 9th December	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Wednesday 10th December	Year 8 Leavers Dinner
Monday 15th December	2pm Cobden School Prizegiving in the Hall—School uniform please.
Tuesday 16th December	Last Day of Term 4
Wed 17th to Mon 22nd Dec	Greymouth Community Christmas Tree Festival - Vote for our Tree!
<u>2026 Term 1</u>	
Monday 2nd February	First Day of Term 1 2026

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"

"Keep Calm and Carry On"

Values Card Winners:

Term 4	Week 5	Oscar, Karson & Allie
	Week 6	Alexis, Vada & Sadie

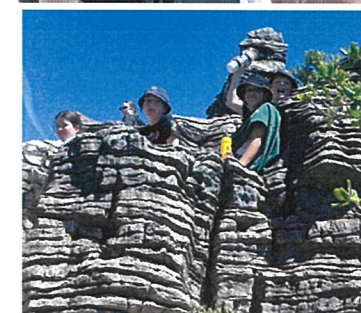


It's been wonderful to hear students using our focus phrase — **"stay calm and carry on"** — to encourage one another in tricky or frustrating moments. This shows great self-awareness and teamwork as they find positive ways to manage challenges. It's also been inspiring to see our senior students modelling this so well for our junior tamariki, showing what it means to be kind, encouraging leaders in our school.



Kowhai Punakaiki Trip

A fantastic sunny day out enjoyed by all.
Thank you to our parent helpers!



Right: Madison & Baxter won the Conservation week prizes from the Department of Conservation.



Mokomoko

Grandparent Day
Thank you to all
the Grandparents
who came to visit!



Mokomoko also had a surprise
visit from Mr Willy Wonka
and his Ompa Loompas!

