



# NEWSLETTER

Cobar High School

20th February, 2014

**2014**  
**Term 1**

**Respect Day**  
Thursday 27th February

**Mid Term Break**  
Friday 28th February  
Monday 3rd March

**School Photos**  
Monday 24th March

**Geography Competition**  
**Years 7-10**  
Tuesday 25th March

**Parent Teacher**  
**Interviews**  
Wednesday 2nd April  
5pm-7pm

**Moorambilla Workshop**  
Friday 4th April  
1:30-3:30pm

**Year 12**  
Half Yearly Exams  
Monday 7th April -  
Friday 11th April

**Positive**  
**Behaviour**  
**for Learning**

**Respect.**

**Excellence.**

**Safety**



***Where There's a Will There's a Way***



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## **Swimming Carnival**

Congratulations to the PE Department who organised a fantastic Swimming Carnival. Although the temperature was very high, students and staff entered in the carnival with an enthusiastic attitude. Students are to be congratulated on their participation and behaviour. Results and pictures of the carnival can be seen on pages 4 & 5.

## **Students Leaving School Grounds**

Students must not leave the school grounds without permission. If students have permission they must have the Departmental approved leave card with them which is issued from the Front Office. If students have a legitimate need to speak to their parents, they must come to the Front Office and ask to telephone them.

## **Mid Term Break**

Friday 28th February and Monday 1st March is our Mid Term Break. Students do not come to school. If you are going out of town, travel safely.

## **Student Representative Council**

Regular meetings for the year have commenced. Elections for Year 7 representatives will happen shortly. Students should speak with their representatives if they have issues they would like discussed.

## **Enrolment Numbers**

This year has seen an increase in the number of students at Cobar High School with

281 students which equates to 279.48 full time students. This is approximately 13 students more than 2013.

## **Positive Behaviour for Learning**

We have introduced a Focus for the Week to remind students of their responsibilities.

**Week 5**— Only be in canteen area if purchasing.

**Week 6**—Access only your own bag.

## **Year Advisers**

Year Advisers are listed below. If you have concerns regarding your student that are not subject specific, you should contact their Year Adviser. If you would like to speak to a teacher of a specific subject, please contact them directly.

## **External Competitions**

Students who have successfully applied to be in the student select classes must enter the external competitions listed on page 7. Other students are encouraged to participate in these competitions because it gives them a good idea how they compare to other students in the state. It also gives good diagnostic information on their skills in particular subjects.

### **Executive Staff:**

Principal: Sue Francisco  
Deputy Principal: Shane Carter  
Head Teacher English: Carolyn McMurtrie  
Head Teacher Mathematics/PDHPE: Amie Jacklin (Rlg)  
Head Teacher Science/TAS: Andrew Watts  
Head Teacher HSIE: John Carswell  
Head Teacher Teaching & Learning: Peter Luck  
School Admin Manager: Merryn McIntyre

### **Year Advisers 2014**

Year 6: Lena Dean  
Year 7: Doug Armstrong  
Year 8: Andrew Coffey  
Year 9: Cassandra Locke  
Year 10: Daniel Inkley  
Year 11: Amber Rook  
Year 12: Chris Marshall  
SRC Co-Ordinator: Chris Marshall  
Girls Adviser: Leanne Carswell

# Do students in English have to learn and use numeracy skills?

The answer to this is a resounding **YES!**

With the High Schools focus on Numeracy and Literacy all subjects ensure that these focus areas are regularly reinforced and that includes English needing to incorporate numeracy skills and knowledge.

So what does this look like for our students?

Year 7 have just completed personalised timelines where they must accurately plot the years and events of significant points in their lives.

Year 8 complete a sequencing activity of dates and events from a study of the Holocaust and texts which deal with this historical period.

Year 9 has just conducted a survey on travel across a number of classes at the school, they then collated the data, made conclusions based on that data and then graphed the results.

Year 10 will also complete sequencing activities based on the events that occur within their set novel.

## **READING REMINDER:**

Just a reminder that students who are in the self-select classes in Years 7 to 9, are required to take part in the Premier's Reading Challenge. While it does not officially open till the 3<sup>rd</sup> March students are able to start reading now for this event. Conditions for the challenge, lists of books that can be read and the numbers required to be read can be found at the website below:

<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

## **2014 Premier's Reading Challenge**

### **Welcome to the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge**

The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten-Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools.

**The 2014 Premier's Reading Challenge will open on 3 March.**



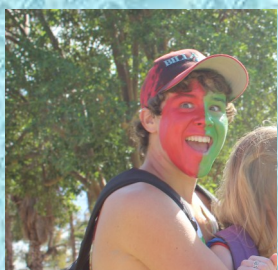
# 2014 Swimming Carnival

Cobar High Schools Annual Swimming Carnival was held on Tuesday February 11th at the Cobar Memorial Swimming Pool. The forecasted 41 degrees didn't deter too many students with a large roll up of competitors and supporters who were dressed up and wearing their house colours with pride.

Four records were broken on the day, all in the 200 Individual Medley Events. Year 7 student Liam Richardson broke Brock Prince's record from 2004 in the U/13 boys with a time of 3.37.42. Mikaila Gordon set a new record in the U/13 girls with a time of 3.27.14 and in the same event, class mate and training partner Thomas Jones broke the 2005 record with a time of 3.19.99. Toby Black was our oldest competitor to set a new record which was in the 17+ boys with a time of 3.48.64.

Fort Bourke started the carnival strongly and was initially in the lead before being outnumbered in the Salmon Races. Great Cobar and Chesney continually fought hard for the middle position but it was Occidental who steamed away to victory winning the carnival on a massive 1250 points. Great Cobar finished 2nd 100 points behind on 1149 followed by Chesney 986 and Fort Bourke 927.

Congratulations to all students who participated in our carnival and a massive thank you to the Staff at the Cobar Memorial Swimming Pool and all the CHS Staff for making it a terrific day.





# Cont 2014 Swimming Carnival

Special congratulations to the following Age Champions, who truly displayed Excellence on the Day.



## 12yr Boys

- 1st Hamish McLeod  
2nd Andrew Roberts

## 12yr Girls

- 1st Aishah Bastian



## 13yr Boys

- 1st Liam Richardson  
2nd Jacob Christie

## 13yr Girls

- 1st Lauren Urquhart  
2nd Abby Carswell



## 14yr Boys

- 1st Thomas Jones  
2nd Rourke Lennon

## 14yr Girls

- 1st Makaila Gordon  
2nd Julieanna Barrett



## 15yr Boys

- 1st Shaun Richardson  
2nd Andrew Rorke

## 15yr Girls

- 1st Taylah Good  
2nd Niamh Urquhart



## 16yr Boys

- 1st Bryan Mitchell  
2nd Blake Toomey

## 16yr Girls

- 1st Stephanie Bastian  
2nd Kaitlyn Byrne



## 17+yr Boys

- 1st Jacob Ryan  
2nd Toby Black

## 17+yr Girls

- 1st Bethany Harland  
2nd Brianna Gordon





## 2014 SOCCER SEASON STARTING SOON

Players must be turning at least  
5 years in 2014

**REGO AT WARD OVAL CANTEEN**

**THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 4-6PM**

**SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 9:30-11:00AM**

**MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 4-6PM**

**WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 4-6PM**

**SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 9:30-11:00AM**

*For any further information or for an emailed  
rego form to save time on rego days please*

*Email: [mandygrant@aapt.net.au](mailto:mandygrant@aapt.net.au)*

*or call Mandy on (02) 6836 2979*



An initiative of  
Cobar Business  
Association

Are you new to town? Want to know  
more about the activities and  
organisations in Cobar?

## Meet & Greet

**Cobar Bowling & Golf Club**

**Room 2/verandah**

**Tuesday February 25**

**from 5.30pm**

**Kids welcome**

**Free sausage sizzle**

*Meet representatives from a wide  
range of community organisations,  
sporting groups and schools. It's  
your short cut into Cobar to see  
what a great community we are  
and how you can get involved.*

**For more information contact Angela Shepherd 6836 5888**

## For Sale

**Cobar High School  
Annual Magazine**

# VERDIGRIS

**a collection of pages  
representing 2013**

**Where: Cobar High School Front Office**

**DVD: \$5.00 (available now)**

**Printed Copy: \$15.00 (orders can be  
placed for these)**

### Free Graduated Licensing

**Scheme Workshops for Learner  
Driver Parents in Cobar**



Young drivers are three times  
more likely to be involved in casualty crashes.  
That's why Roads and Maritime Services has  
introduced a new licensing scheme, with more  
supervised driving practice for learner drivers.

To help parents in supervising learner drivers,  
Roads and Maritime Services has set up a  
FREE 2 hour workshop for parents that offers  
practical advice on how to help learner drivers  
become a safer drivers.

**A FREE Roads and Maritime Services parents' workshop  
will be hosted by David Riches on Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
at the Cobar Bowling and Golf Club from 5.30 pm -  
7.30 pm.**

## 2014 House Captains and Vice-Captains

### Chesney Captains

Robert Good & Gemma Dillon

Vice-Captains

Joshua Bain-Smith & Atlanta Rorke

### Fort Bourke Captains

Mallick Grentell & Bree Keith

Vice-Captains

Jye Robinson & Brinley Obray

### Great Cobar Captains

Toby Black & Nikki Gilbert

Vice-Captains

Jake Ryan & Bethany Harland

### Occidental Captains

Natasha Ambrose & Quinton Place

Vice-Captains

Tahli Thomas & Kallum Harris



**digital world  
inside your head?**

**set it free**

**a.8: Wednesday lunchtime**

A welcome return in 2014 to the school's computer club. Affectionately known as the **Gamers' Educational Entertainment Knowledge Society**, these students gather around the warming glow of the computer screen not to **play** games, but to **make** them. In the 3 years we have been meeting, most members have gone from using online click and drag software to far more complex coding, with many now having the fundamentals of 'Python' or 'C++'. The group is developing a 2-D platform scrolling game that takes the player on a journey through time and space. Some students are responsible for character & story design, others the artwork, while the elite coders crunch the actual sigils which the hard drive converts into a thing of pixelated beauty. The 2014 Year 7 cohort has seen several keen and talented members joining the fun.

A particular thank you to **Robert Patten**, who has been introducing students to the basics of Kodu Game Lab. This is available as a free download and is one of the several excellent programs that can start gamers along the yellow brick road.....

***Be there, or be regular quadrilateral !***

<http://www.kodugamelab.com/>

<http://scratch.mit.edu/>

<https://www.scirra.com/construct2>

<http://www.sploder.com/>

<http://unity3d.com/>

<http://www.yoyogames.com/studio>

# EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS 2014

Each year our students are offered the opportunity to participate in external competitions run by the University of NSW, The Australian Geographical Society and the History Teachers Association of Australia. These competitions provide our students with valuable experience of testing procedures outside our school environment. Dates for 2014 entry fees and competition dates are:

Subject	Entries and Payment to CHS close	Test Date	Entry Fee
Australian Geography	Thur 13 February 2014 (Term 1)	Mon 24 March –Fri 4 April (Term 1)	\$3.00
Aust. History (Years 8 & 10 only)	Fri 28 March 2014 (Term 1)	Wed 28 May (Term 2)	\$6.00
Computer Skills	Thur 10 April 2014 (Term 1)	Tues 20 May (Term 2)	\$8.80
Science	Thur 10 April 2014 (Term 1)	Wed 4 June (Term 2)	\$8.80
Writing	Thur 8 May 2014 (Term 2)	Mon 16 June (Term 2)	\$18.70
Spelling (Year 7 only)	Thur 8 May 2014 (Term 2)	Tues 17 June (Term 2)	\$12.10
English	Thur 19 June 2014 (Term 2)	Tues 29 July (Term 3)	\$8.80
Mathematics	Thur 19 June 2014 (Term 2)	Tues 12 August (Term 3)	\$8.80

Payment must be received by the due dates, or if you prefer, several/all entries may be paid in advance. It would be appreciated if correct money (cash or cheque) could be brought to the Administration Office as we do not carry change.

All students are invited to participate in any/all of the competitions. If your student is not in a Select Class, information and return slips may be obtained from Year Advisers or the Front Office.

We wish your student well in the competitions and thank you for supporting your child's learning.

## RESPECT DAY

Thursday 20th February

Students are encouraged to wear something red.

Please note students are still required to wear their leather shoes and clothing must be suitable for school.

This is a SRC Fundraiser and a gold coin donation will be collected at Muster.

BBQ, snow cones will be available at Lunchtime in the middle quad.

## PBL

### Vision Statement

*"Cobar High School strives for excellence in a safe and respectful environment".*

## What's On - Week 5 & 6 Term 1 2014

Tuesday 25th February: Virtual English; Nyngan: C McMurtrie, C Locke, D Inkley

Wednesday 26th February;: Virtual English; Nyngan: C McMurtrie, C Locke, D Inkley  
15's Basketball; Nyngan C Marshall, B Jacobson

Friday 28th February: Mid Term Break

Monday 3rd March: Mid Term Break

Wednesday 5th March: Soccer; Condobolin: M Kloppe, B Jacobson

Thursday 6th March: Virtual Mathematics; Cobar: M Kloppe, B Ford  
SPC; Sydney: S Francisco

Friday 7th March: Virtual Mathematics; Cobar: M Kloppe, B Ford  
SPC; Sydney: S Francisco

**Cobar High School  
P & C Meeting**  
Tuesday 4th March  
School Library  
All Welcome