

Cobden Crusaders for the Win!

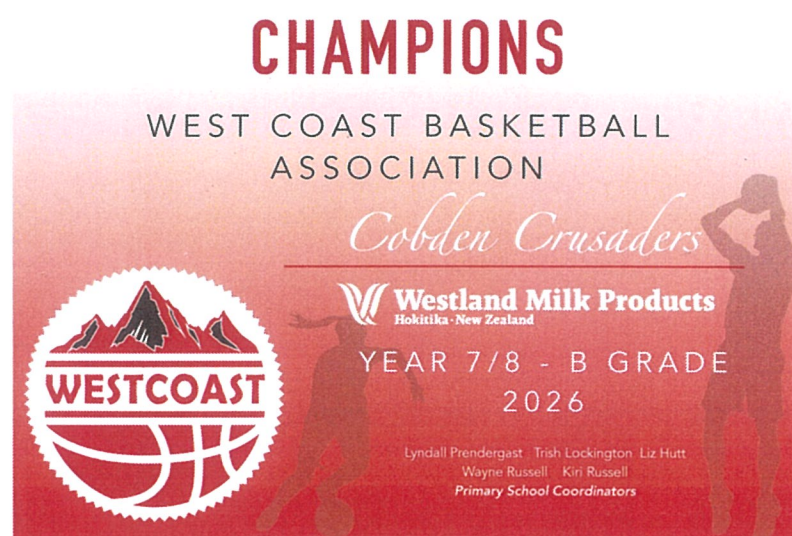
On Monday 10 August, the Cobden Crusaders took home the gold in the Year 7/8 B Grade finals after a fantastic game against St Patrick's School!

It was a tough start, with the two teams neck and neck at the end of the first quarter. By half-time, the Crusaders had edged ahead, but not by much. After the break, our team really hit their stride, building a strong lead and giving their coaches and supporters a chance to relax and enjoy the rest of the game!

The final score was an impressive 42–14.

A huge congratulations to our Cobden Crusaders: Lyric Fisher, Ruby Kelly, Daisha Swafford, Jax Palenski, Flynn Hunter-O'Donnell, Braxton Todd, Hunter Kennett, and Zarleah Heslip (not pictured).

Ka mau te wehi, team! We are incredibly proud of your teamwork, persistence and Cobden pride. What a fantastic achievement!



COBDEN SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

14th August 2026

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



A community of learners where wellbeing, relationships, and joyful learning empower ākonga to be confident, engaged, creative, and caring critical thinkers.

TE KURA O COBDEN
COBDEN SCHOOL

03 768 7465
53 Fox Street, Cobden, Greymouth 7802
reception@cobden.school.nz
www.cobden.school.nz



A word from the Principal...

Kia ora whānau,
It is great to see such a positive improvement in our attendance so far this term. Our Term 3 data shows that 61% of our students are currently attending more than 90% of the time, compared with 40% at the same point last year. This is a significant increase and something we should celebrate. We have also seen a big reduction in the number of students sitting in the 70–80% attendance range, from 21% last year to just 5% this year. Overall, 84% of our students are currently attending school at least 80% of the time, compared with 71% last year.



We also know there are some nasty bugs going around at the moment, and sometimes keeping tamariki home is absolutely the right thing to do. If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please remember to submit an absence through Skool Loop so we know they are safe and accounted for. Thank you to our whānau for continuing to support regular attendance. Every day at school matters, and these improvements make a real difference to learning, friendships and connection to school.

School Hall Update

We know our school hall is an important hub for our school and wider community. We are currently working closely with our insurance assessors to determine the full extent of the damage and the work required. Unfortunately, the damage is quite extensive. However, we are optimistic that repairs will be completed in time for the beginning of Term 1, 2027. We will keep our community updated as this work progresses. In the meantime, we are looking at alternative options for our end-of-year celebrations. While we may not have access to our hall, we are determined to make sure our tamariki still have the opportunity to come together and celebrate their achievements.

We Want to Hear From Our Whānau

As we were unable to hold our Matariki celebration this year, we would really value hearing about the aspirations our whānau have for our tamariki and our school. Next Monday, a Matariki Whānau Survey will be sent home. We would love as many families as possible to complete and return it. Your ideas and aspirations are important to us and will help shape our future planning and celebrations. And there is a little extra encouragement for our tamariki — students who return their whānau survey will go into the draw for a spot prize!

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of our school and our tamariki.

Ngā mihi nui,
Noula Markham
Principal



Important Dates 2026 - Also on the Skool Loop Calendar tab

Tuesday 18th August	Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom
Wednesday 19th August	Mokomoko 1 & 2 and Kowhai 1 Shantytown Trip.
Thursday 20th August	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Thursday 20th August	Cobden School Cross Country 12pm to walk to the Cobden Lagoon
Friday 21st August	Teacher Only Day - School is Closed.
Thursday 27th August	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Friday 28th August	Daffodil Day - Gold Coin Mufti Day - Greymouth Cancer Society
Friday 28th August	12pm Mokomoko Only Assembly in Room 8. Junior Whanau only may attend.
Thursday 3rd September	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Friday 4th September	12pm Kowhai Only Assembly in the Library. Senior Whanau only may attend.
Tuesday 8th September	Cobden School Photos
Thursday 10th September	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Tuesday 15th September	Rotary Speech Competition - Union Hotel
Wednesday 16th September	Wig Wednesday - Gold Coin Mufti Day - Wacky Hair Day
Wednesday 16th September	Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom
Thursday 17th September	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Friday 18th September	Kapa Haka Festival - Westport
Thursday 24th September	Kowhai 3 - Year 7&8 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus.
Friday 25th September	Last Day - End of Term 3

Term 4

Monday 12th October	First Day of Term 4
Wednesday 21st October	Nationwide Shakeout - Earthquake Drill
Friday 23rd October	SPCA Gold Coin Mufti Day - Dress as your favourite animal

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:

"Manaakitanga - Being an upstander"

Values Card Winners:

Term 3 2026	Week 3	Tylin, Kyrah, Reign & Erika
	Week 4	Dean & Harper



Our students are showing what it means to be upstanders while representing our school at recent events at the new Library and Shantytown. By showing respect, making positive choices, supporting others, and taking pride in our school, they are demonstrating **Manaakitanga in action**.



Book Week at Cobden School

Thank you to the members of our community who came in and read a book to the students throughout the Week, including the Mayor and Harold's Mother, Kelly.

Thank you to our parent helpers who helped with Transport and supervision at the new town library visits.

On Friday we had Book Character Day and, although the outside parade was rained off, we still managed to get it done in our wee library.

Greymouth Library

8 Boundary Street,
Greymouth
03 768 5597
library@greymouth.govt.nz
www.greymouth.govt.nz/libraries

To Join the Greymouth Library

- Scan the QR Code or go to <https://onlinereg.kotui.org.nz/forms/9>
- Fill in the form
- Bring to the Library your proof of ID and address, and temporary membership number

Scan me



Book Character Day!

