



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 Rangī (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 (eastly), 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.



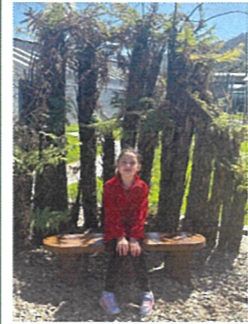
Native Plants and Trees

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 Horoeaka (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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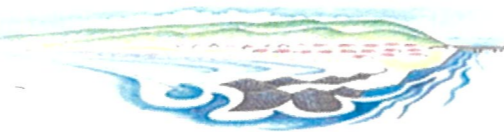
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COBDEN SCHOOL

Newsletter 28th February 2025



Kia ora,

As we wrap up Week 4 of the new term, plenty is happening at school! Mr Baillie is busy organising teams for the upcoming Rugby League tournament, with huge interest from both boys and girls—it's fantastic to see so much enthusiasm.

On Wednesday, we held our competitive swimming event, and it was wonderful to see so many whānau come along to support us. A huge thank you to Victoria Bruce for capturing some great moments with her photography. Congratulations to our fantastic team who have made it through to the Grey District Swimming event! We hope to continue swimming until the end of March, allowing students to build water confidence and skills across all year levels.

This week, we also welcomed the Duffy Theatre, which brought an engaging and inspiring performance for our children, reinforcing the joy of reading.

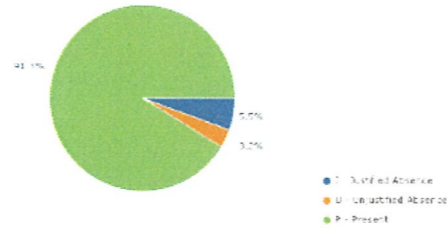
Additionally, we officially launched our Colour Run fundraiser, which is off to an incredible start! The fundraising has skyrocketed, and we are so grateful for the support from our community in backing our little school.

Ngā mihi
Noula Markham
Principal

Why do kids need to be at School?

So they can get a better education and can become a boss of a school or other jobs. Also so they are able to go for a driver's license as they can read and do maths.

Kyrah & Samantha Year 5



PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning

Caring, Co-operation, Communication

This term's focus:

“Korero Mai - Communication”
“Words Matter - Choose Kindness”

Values Card Winners:

Term 1 Week 3 Hunter, Merania & Ritjah
Week 4 Tyler, Emily P & Eleanor

Did you know kindness can make you up to 25% happier?
Helping others makes you feel good and can even inspire three more acts of kindness.
A little kindness really does go a long way!



Thank you Duffy Theatre who entertained the students with their show - “Duffy and Scruffy’s Pawesome Adventure” on Tuesday. It was enjoyed by all!



Congratulations to Emilie B, Daisha, Ruhi, Kaelyn, Tyler, Petra & Lyric who qualified to go through to the Grey District Swimming Event on the 12th March at the Westland Rec Centre.



Cobden School Year 7 & 8 at John Paul 2 doing Technology - Wood Work and Cooking this term.

Cobden School

Important Dates 2025 - Also on the Skool Loop Calendar tab

Term 1

Friday 28th February	Life Education - Harold arrives at school.
Tuesday 4th March	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Wednesday 5th March	Trevor Kilkelly Primary Rugby League Trophy - Wingham Park
Friday 7th March	Assembly 12pm in the Hall - Led by Kowhai 2
Tuesday 11th March	Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom
Wednesday 12th March	Grey District Swimming Sports - Westland Rec Centre
Thursday 13th March	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Tuesday 18th March	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Wednesday 19th March	Cans For Good Greymouth Food Bank - Bring a can and wear Mufti.
Friday 21st March	Assembly 12pm in the Hall - Led by Mokomoko 1
Wednesday 26th March	Cobden School Swimming Sports
Thursday 27th March	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Tuesday 1st April	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Tuesday 1st April	Duffy Role Model Assembly for Students
Wednesday 2nd April	Cobden School Athletics - Anzac Park
Wednesday 2nd April	2pm Cobden School Colour Run Fundraiser - Jellyman Park
Friday 4th April	Assembly 12pm in the Hall - Led by Mokomoko 2
Tuesday 8th April	Cobden School Board Meeting - 5.30pm Staffroom
Thursday 10th April	Kowhai 2 - Be at school by 8.40am for the Technology Bus
Friday 11th April	Last Day of Term 1
Monday 28th April	Term 2 Begins

Disclaimer: Dates and Times are correct at the time of printing but are subject to change. Please check our Skool Loop Calendar.



Our Colour Fun Run Fundraiser is off to an amazing start with 56 student profiles signed up. At the time of printing, we have raised just over \$5000 with 4 Teachers being slimed at the end of the day today! See pics on our Facebook page! Thank you for your support.