2013

Term 1

Mid Term Break
Friday 1st March
Monday 4th March

School Photos
Monday 18th March

Parent Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 19th March

MPC
5pm-7pm

Easter Friday
29th March, 2013

Easter Monday
1st April, 2013

Avondale College
Concert Band & Choir
Friday 12th April, 2013

Where There’s a Will There’s a Way
Xsel Western Region Virtual Selective High School

Congratulations to our continuing xsel students Bryan Mitchell Year 9, and Stephanie Mitchell Year 8. This year we have two more students successfully apply to xsel—Summer-Rose Stingemore Year 7 and Blake Toomey Year 9.

Students who wish to apply for placement in Year 7 must apply to sit the test in Year 5.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the PE Department (Todd Fugar, Chris Marshall, Bianka Jacobson and Amie Jacklin) on a successful swimming carnival. Also thank you to all staff for their efforts on the day. Details are on pages 4 and 5.

P & C Meeting

The first P & C meeting will be on Tuesday 5th March at 7:30pm in the Library. I encourage all parents to attend.

Student Representative Council

The SRC has started their regular meetings and have already come up with some ideas they wish to implement. Students are also attending meetings such as the Positive Behaviour for Learning leadership group. Year 7 elections will take place shortly. Please encourage your students to consider standing for election. It is an important part of student development and absolutely essential for the continued development of community leaders.

Enrolment Numbers

This year has seen an increase in the number of students at Cobar High School with the total number of students being 269 which equates to 266.139 full time students. This is approximately 30 students more than 2012.

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 1st March and Monday 4th March is our Mid Term Break. Students do not come to school. If you are going out of town, travel safely.

Sue Francisco

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Year Advisers 2013

Year 6: Doug Armstrong
Year 7: Amie Jacklin
Year 8: Cassandra Locke
Year 9: Doug Armstrong (Term 1 rlg for Benn Wright)
Year 10: Todd Fugar
Year 11: Chris Marshall
Year 12: Bianka Jacobson
SRC Co-Ordinator: Chris Marshall
Girls Adviser: Leanne Carswell

Executive Staff:
Principal: Sue Francisco
Deputy Principal: Shane Carter
Head Teacher English: Carolyn McMurtrie
Head Teacher Mathematics/PDHPE: Megan Hamblin
Rlg Head Teacher Science/TAS: Benn Wright
Head Teacher HSIE: John Carswell
Head Teacher Mentor: Peter Luck
School Admin Manager: Merryn McIntyre
Last week students and staff of Cobar High School were treated to two presentations by the highly sought-after keynote speaker Maggie Dent. Maggie presented her message, which was based on evidence-based research, in a real, compassionate and at times humorous and inspirational way. Although conditions were hot in the Multi-purpose Centre on the first day, the students appeared to engage with Maggie’s presentation which focused on helping them better understand the transition everyone goes through from being a child to becoming an adult.

The second day saw Maggie get the students up and moving a bit, whilst participating in resilience building exercises, designed to help manage their stressful “bugger up” moments. Focus was also placed on dealing with things such as parties, alcohol, keeping safe in the cyber world and turning school stress into success.

80 people attended the parent’s seminar on Monday evening which was a great turn out, showing the commitment of parents to support their teens through this difficult time. Many thanks go out to Cobar High School Co-sponsors: Cobar Public School, NSW Ministry of Health, CSA Mines, Cobar Rotary and Western NSW Local Health for their kind investments in the future of our Students. Thanks also to the Cobar Mental Health Professional’s Network and Mrs Carswell, Cobar High, for all the hard work involved behind the scenes that makes days like these a possibility.

Students wishing to access the free toolkit Maggie spoke of can see Mrs Carswell or myself to get a copy. Due to technical issues it will not be available on the school website at this time.

April Motton
District School Counsellor
Cobar High School

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**RAM BANDS**

Cobar High School SRC together with Cobar High School PBL Team are asking parents/caregivers to join them in encouraging students to exchange their Blue RAM Bands.

If bands aren’t returned regularly for exchange it results in a shortage in RAM Bands for staff to reward positive behaviour.
Cobar High School held its Annual School Swimming Carnival last Tuesday 19th February at the Cobar Memorial Pool. Participants were congratulated on their contribution to the day. A number of students got into the spirit dressing up for the occasion in their house colours which added to the day. We would like to thank everyone that was able to attend the carnival. Your encouragement of our students efforts also helped in making it a successful day.

This year’s result would be the closest we have seen for many years, with healthy competition between the houses Chesney was in the end the Champion House this year followed by Great Cobar, Occidental and Fort Bourke.

House Points
Chesney 445  Great Cobar 415  Occidental 413  Fort Bourke 391

This year we only saw 1 record being recorded. We would like to congratulate Sawyer Nicholson on creating a 2013 record in the u/12 Boys 200m Individual Medley.
Age Champions

12yrs 1st Sawyer Nicholson 2nd James Martin 3rd Rourke Lennon
13yrs 1st Nicholas Buckman 2nd Thomas Jones 3rd Connor McLeod
14yrs 1st Andrew Rorke 2nd Shaun Richardson 3rd Robert Good
15yrs 1st Max Hillier 2nd Bryan Mitchell 3rd Quinton Place
16yrs 1st Toby Black 2nd Callum Sinclair 3rd Brayden Pennell
17yrs 1st Jacob Ryan 2nd Luke Hillier 3rd Taylah Blackall

Congratulations to all Age Champions and everyone who competed on the day.
House Captains 2013

**Chesney**
Captains: Bronte Lee, Max Hillier
Vice: Mykaila Flemming, Hayden Clarke

**Great Cobar**
Captains: Brooke Semmler, Toby Black
Vice: Natalie Watt, Caleb Guise

**Occidental**
Captains: Michela Cartner, Callum Sinclair
Vice: Taylah Blackall, Quinton Place

**Fort Bourke**
Captains: Taylor Gilbert, Bryan Mudugem
Vice: Tahlia McLeod, Ethan Brookman
**Students visit Charles Sturt and Wollongong University**

On Wednesday the 6th of February, 15 Year 12 students attended a three day excursion to Charles Sturt University and the University of Wollongong. This excursion gave students the opportunity to investigate post-secondary educational and career options. At Charles Sturt University students were given a campus tour, in which they got to visit on-campus accommodation, exercise science laboratories and their new Clinical Simulation Centre. On Thursday, students attended the University Of Wollongong’s Open Day, where they selected sessions on topics of interests to them to attend throughout the day. This allowed them to experience what a day at university would be like. Students were also accommodated at the International House, which is an on-campus facility of the University of Wollongong. All students enjoyed this excursion and found it very beneficial and informative, especially being able to see two very different universities and the courses that they offer.

**EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS 2013**

Each year our students are offered the opportunity to participate in external competitions run by the University of NSW, The Australian Geographical Society and for 2013 an Australian History competition is available from the History Teachers Association of Australia. These competitions provide our students with valuable experience of testing procedures outside our school environment. Dates for 2013 entry fees and competition dates are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Entry Fee</th>
<th>Entry Fee due by:</th>
<th>Competition Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Geography</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>Still payable for students who have been invoiced with their school fees.</td>
<td>25 March – 5 April, 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian History (Years 8 &amp; 10 only)</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
<td>4 April 2013</td>
<td>29 May 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>4 April 2013</td>
<td>21 May 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS Science</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>4 April 2013</td>
<td>5 June 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS Spelling (Year 7 only)</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>4 April 2013</td>
<td>18 June 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS Writing</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>4 April 2013</td>
<td>17 June 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICAS English</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>20 June 2013</td>
<td>31 July 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAS Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>20 June 2013</td>
<td>13 August 2013</td>
</tr>
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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 Selective 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.
Hello,

My name is Daniel Inkley and I am the new English teacher at Cobar High School and I am absolutely loving the experience so far. I feel that I bring a lot of qualities to teaching and especially English that will benefit the students of Cobar. I bring a commitment to teaching leaning that has been instilled in me since I was in school and I constantly improve the way I teach in order to achieve the best results from my students. I am committed to expanding the horizons of young people and I encourage them to think deeply about the concepts we study and the world in which they live. They will always be encouraged to question the status quo and think about how they will be able to participate in society. I have always practiced my teaching expecting the highest possible standards from my students and will do all that I can to create an environment for them to excel. If you have students in my classes they will most likely be coping with homework from me and will be complaining about it. Hopefully this does not become too annoying for you and if it does I apologise in advance.

Thanks
Daniel Inkley

PBL Vision Statement
“Cobar High School strives for excellence in a safe and respectful environment”.

Maths questions
Are you in search of an educational game to sharpen your child's maths skills and recall? Maths Monkey's Quest features maths questions on topics ranging from addition and subtraction to ratios and percentages. It’s aimed at children from Years 3 to 8.

Jargon buster
Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA's? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school.

What’s On - Week 5 & 6  Term 1

Thursday 28th February:  Principals Meeting; Sydney:  S Francisco
Friday 1st March:  Mid Term Break

Monday 4th March:  Mid Term Break
Tuesday 5th March:  P & C Meeting; School Library:  7:30pm
                      Soccer; Cobar:  B Jacobson, N Matthews
Thursday 7th March:  DP Meeting; Dubbo:  S Carter
Friday 8th March:  DP Meeting; Dubbo:  S Carter
                      Boys/Girls Touch; Cobar:  A Jacklin

P & C MEETING
Tuesday 5th March
School Library
7:30pm
ALL WELCOME