Term 2

Year 12 Work Placement
12th May - 16th May

NAPLAN Years 7 & 9
Tuesday 13th May
Thursday 15th May

Immunisation
Year 7 & Year 9 Boys
Monday 19th May
10am

Horse Sports
19th & 20th May

Science & Engineering Challenge
Tuesday 20th May

Mid Term Break
Friday 30th May
Monday 2nd June

HSC Enrichment Seminars
Dubbo
5th & 6th June

Queens Birthday Holiday
Monday 9th June

Athletics Carnival
Ward Oval
Friday 13th June
New Staff
Welcome to Mr Green who commenced on Monday 5th May. Mr Green is in English. He is currently teaching the following classes: 10EM, 8EI and 7ED.

Nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability – 2014
Cobar High School is participating in this program. All parents will shortly receive a letter detailing the program and what it involves. If you wish for your student/s not to be involved you must return the tear off section of the letter.

Senior Privileges
Students in Year 11 and 12 who meet the following criteria will be offered Senior Privileges in the next week.

- Students are responsible for signing in and out at the Front Office (each time they arrive at or leave the school) and being at their classes on time. Late arrival at class will see their privileges revoked.
- Students who have an early class timetabled need to sign in at the office before going to that class (current practice)
- Students do not have to attend Morning Muster if they do not have a class scheduled for Period 1
- Attendance rates will be monitored and students will need to maintain 90% or higher attendance at classes
- Students will have no outstanding letters regarding Board of Studies unsatisfactory completion of work
- Students will not be on any Monitor System as part of Cobar High School’s Welfare and Discipline Policy.
- Students must attend Year Meetings and PBL lessons.

Congratulations SRC
Congratulations to the SRC on their organisation of the Term 1 PBL Rewards Day. From all reports, students particularly enjoyed the Commando Activity. Even though I wasn’t in the school, I had emails from people visiting the school telling me how good it was. See pictures on page 6.

Cobar High School App
Just a reminder that we do have an App/. We are using it more and more to disseminate information. If you have a smart phone, please download it.

Sue Francisco
Principal

Executive Staff:
Principal: Sue Francisco
Deputy Principal: Shane Carter
Head Teacher English: Carolyn McMurtrie
Head Teacher Maths/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
Term two continues to be a busy term for the English/CAPA staff. It has been great to see the fantastic work that the students and staff have been producing and all the great activities that they are involved in.

**English**

Students are currently undertaking the following units of work in their English classes:

- **Year 7** – Visual Literacy and Public Performance – a study of picture books and the close study of a play.
- **Year 8** – Fairy tales, Myths and Legends – a study of texts which look at these areas.
- **Year 9** – Novel and Context Study – a detailed study of a novel and its context – *To Kill a Mockingbird, Hatchet or Going Off*.
- **Year 10** – Tim Burton text study – a close study of Tim Burton as an auteur.
- **Year 11** – Genre Study – Gothic and Horror - with a close look at the texts *Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde* and Hitchcock’s *Psycho*.
- **Year 12** – Close Study – with a detailed look at the Australian play ‘Cosi’.

**Visual Arts & PDM**

- **Year 7** Visual Arts students are currently busy completing their clay imaginary creatures. They have developed their skills, drawn interesting designs and are producing unique sculptures. Students have been attending lunch time classes to develop their skills further and produce work of a high standard.

- **Year 8** Visual Arts students are creating self-portraits in wax. They have had moulds made of their faces and are currently applying wax to their moulds and refining their casts in class. This artmaking task allows students to have a three-dimensional replicator of what they look like in Year 8.

- Selective classes of Visual Arts and Photography are combined classes. Students are currently engaged in creating an artist book on a student chosen theme. The themes include ‘A simple place’, ‘First Aid Kit’, ‘An atlas of…’, ‘Strange Neighbours’, ‘Accidents’, ‘Pictures and Descriptions’ and ‘Greetings from…’ plus many more. The themes allow students to interpret meaning and think creatively. Some students have brought in a variety of baked goods, letters, shells, shoes and costumes to be photographed under studio lighting or drawn depending on their chosen subject.

- **Year 12** students in Visual Arts and Photographic, Digital and Video Imaging are progressing with their Bodies of Work. Through a consultation process each student has developed a Body of Work focusing on their individual interests, strengths in artmaking and the areas that they would like to develop.

Carolyn McMurtrie
Head Teacher English/CAPA
On Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} April 2014, the Cobar High School Music Department held a lunch-time event called ‘Splendour in the Class’. Ensembles consisting of students from years 7 – 12 performed a range of contemporary repertoire, showcasing their studies in music so far this year.

**The MC Rockers**, consisting of Mason Moore, Eden Portelli, Taylor Hooker, Chloé Coleman and Taylah Blackall, rocked out with ‘Kids’ by MGMT, and ‘Anyone Else But You’ by The Mouldy Peaches.

**The 8e Bobbys**, consisting of Bradley Tidyman, Anthony Watson, Travis Harpley, Will Flood, Chris Chitambala, Chris Crotty and Shaun Simpson, wowed us all with their chilled grooves, performing ‘Drop the Game’ by Flume and Chet Faker.

**Jesse’s Girls**, consisting of Jesse Potter, Blake Toomey, Bryan Mitchell, Kaitlyn Raffaele, Tyler Whittaker-Goodwin, Bonnie-Ann Martin, Joana Awuku, Quinton Place, Stephanie Cartner, Sarah Dunne, Ashley Trudgett, Mark Botten, Laine Ellicott and Angela Shepherd, shushed the room with their dreamy interpretations of ‘Team’ by Lorde, and ‘Night Swim’ by Owl Eyes.

**The Super Guitario Brothers and Friend**, consisting of Kane Garbutt, Caleb Guise and Seth Negus, bopped their way through a playful rendition of the Super Mario Theme.

Cobar High School staff and students attended en masse, along with some parents, and the music room was packed with excited and supportive faces. It is encouraging to see so much positivity towards the creative arts at our school. Both performers and audience members alike should be very proud of their participation in, and subsequent success of, our first ‘Splendour in the Class’.

*Tobiah Elliott – Music Teacher*

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**Kids, social media and privacy**

Regardless of your child’s age, the world may already know a lot more about them than you suspect. According to recent research:

- 92\% of children under the age of 2 have a digital shadow (– it starts with proud parents posting newborn baby photos on Facebook or Instagram)
- a quarter of Australian children 8 – 12 years old use Facebook, but the minimum age for a user is 13 years.
- more than 20 per cent of tweens publish photos of themselves on Instagram
- young people 14 - 19 have an average of 453 fans, friends or followers on social media.

2014 Privacy Awareness Week, 4 - 10 May 2014, is a good time to review your family’s privacy settings and discuss online security. You’ll find lots of practical information and resources to share with your kids at [www.ipc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au).
**STATE SWIMMING**

On Saturday the 8th of March, four boys, Mason Pennell, Liam Richardson, Shaun Richardson and Thomas Jones left for Sydney to swim at state. The boys made up the 15 years 200 metre relay team. Competing against 29 other teams from all over New South Wales the Cobar boys came 23rd, with their time improving by 12 seconds. On the second day, Liam and Thomas swam the 100 metre butterfly. Although they did not bring back any medals, they all did well at the aquatic centre.

**NAPLAN 2014**

Students in Years 7 and 9 will sit the NAPLAN benchmark process in Term 2. While all students are encouraged to participate, it is not compulsory. The data generated through this assessment program provides students, families, and schools with a clear idea of the fundamental literacy and numeracy skills students possess. At Cobar High the school executive use the NAPLAN data to plan for whole school educational programs, and classroom teachers use it to tailor their teaching programs to best suit the learning needs of individual students.

This year the tests will be on the following dates:
- Language Conventions and Writing – 13th May
- Reading – 14th May
- Numeracy (calculator and non-calculator) – 15th May
- Catch-up tests for absent students - 16th May

In the lead-up to NAPLAN students will be completing normal class content that is presented in a manner to assist them to prepare for the tests. For example, their Science teacher may present information about Electricity in a worksheet that is the same format as the NAPLAN Reading test. Their PE teacher may ask them to complete numeracy tasks based on their ‘Beep-test results’ using a template of the NAPLAN Numeracy test.

If you have any questions concerning the NAPLAN process please contact the school.
English refresher from School A to Z on Homonyms
Homonyms (also known as homographs) are words that are identical in pronunciation and spelling but have different meanings. They can be nouns, adjectives or verbs. The context gives them their meaning.

Ask your child for an example, like this one:
I prefer a fine tip on my pen.
He gave me a tip for the Melbourne Cup.
Don’t tip the water on the floor.
You gave the waiter a generous tip.

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)

2014 FAR WEST ACADEMY FOOTBALL SQUAD TRIALS

Who is Eligible?
- Male and Female football players turning 10-14 years of age in 2014
- Footballers who reside in the Far West Region of New South Wales

When, Where, Time and Cost
- Saturday June 1
- Victoria Park, Udora Road, Warren
- 10:00am - 3:00pm
- Free

Nominations close: Friday May 30

Please see Ms Jacklin (PE/Maths Staffroom) for Registration Forms if interested

SCHOOL CALCULATORS & MATHEMATICS SETS

The School Front Office have a new shipment of school calculators and mathematics sets.
The price has increased, they now cost $25.00

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

The students in 7G are typical of our hard-working and enthusiastic pupils. They have quickly improved their understanding of different types of texts, and developed strategies to help de-code new words. Teachers in other subjects have noticed the new-found confidence when reading aloud, especially tackling unfamiliar words, and spelling technical words.

We are all proud of their success.

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Numeracy challenge.
Solve the puzzle below. First students to show Mr Luck their solutions win Ram Band rewards.

Years 7 & 8
You must cut a birthday cake into exactly eight pieces, but you're only allowed to make three straight cuts, and you can't move pieces of the cake as you cut. How can you do it?

Years 9 & 10
One block makes an up-and-down staircase, with one step up and one step down. Four blocks make an up-and-down staircase with 2 steps up and 2 steps down. How many blocks would be needed to build an up-and-down staircase with 5 steps up and 5 steps down?

Years 11 & 12
Chris and Jo decide to play a game. They put two red and four blue ribbons in a box. They each pick a ribbon from the box without looking (and without replacing them). Jo wins if the two ribbons are the same colour and Chris wins if the two ribbons are a different colour.

Is the game fair?
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:

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.
What’s On - Week 3 & 4, Term 2

Monday 12th May: Work Placement Year 12
Tuesday 13th May: Work Placement Year 12
      NAPLAN: Years 7 & 9
Wednesday 14th May: Work Placement Year 12
Thursday 15th May: Work Placement Year 12
      NAPLAN: Year 7 & 9
      Western NSW SPC Meeting; Condobolin: S Francisco
Friday 16th May: Work Placement Year 12
      Western NSW SPC Meeting; Condobolin: S Francisco

Tuesday 20th May: Computer Skills Competition
      Science & Engineering Challenge: A Watts, L Dean
Thursday 22nd May: Western Plains Principal Meeting: S Francisco
      Career Advisor Professional Learning; Sydney: M Nicholson
Friday 23rd May: Western Plains Principal Meeting: S Francisco
      Career Advisor Professional Learning; Sydney: M Nicholson

Assessment Schedules
Week 3

Year 7: NAPLAN
Year 8: Maths Test
Year 9: NAPLAN
Year 12: Work Placement

Assessment Schedules
Week 4

Year 7: Science
Year 8: Visual Arts
      Music
Year 9: PASS
      Science
      Information & Software Technology
Year 10: PASS
      Australian History
      Information & Software Technology
Year 11: Visual Arts/Photography

Essays due soon?
Learning how to plan, write and polish an essay is a skill that takes a long time for most people to learn. Different types of essays follow different rules of structure. If your teen is currently working on an essay, you’ll find this video (and the links to fact sheets on the right hand side of the page) really useful in explaining the “how to” of essay writing as it’s taught in NSW public schools: http://bit.ly/1lji1mZ

Cobar High School
P & C
Next Meeting
Tuesday 3rd June
7pm
School Library
All Welcome

AECG Meeting
Wednesday 4th June
1:00pm
Lands Council
All Welcome