



# COBAINS NEWS

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7th 2024

Website: [cobains.ps.vic.edu.au](http://cobains.ps.vic.edu.au) Phone: 03 5149 8274 Mobile: 0490 181 065  
Acting Principal: Alexandra Slee School Council President: Belinda Sargent

## SCHOOL VALUES: *To Accept, Respect, and Try Our Best!*

The Cobains Primary School Community embraces the values of Respect, Accept and Try Your Best. We aim to provide a safe, caring & engaging learning environment that equips children with the necessary skills & knowledge to become positive & active contributors to the local & global community. Our school emphasises the development of Literacy and Numeracy with the integration of Information Technology throughout the curriculum. Cobains Primary School is committed to child safety and upholding the Child Safe Standards.

*At Cobains Primary School, we have a zero tolerance to child abuse.*

### FEBRUARY

Thursday 15th	Swimming Trials Years 3-6
Thursday 22nd	Rural School Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 27th	Parent Information Evening



**FEBRUARY**  
6th Madison H  
9th Kade B  
18 Nellie G

### NEW STAFF MEMBERS

We would like to welcome Ms Laura Beckett, Ms Felicity Paterson and Ms Hannah Gray to Cobains Primary School. Ms Beckett is our new 2/3/4 teacher, Ms Paterson is teaching in the foundation/ Grade 1 classroom with Mrs Lumley and Ms Gray will be working each Wednesday, running our Science and STEAM programs.

### DATES TO NOTE DOWN:

Foundation students rest days: **February 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and , 28<sup>th</sup>** . These days will be used for assessment and students will be timetabled to come in to school for this. These times and dates were sent out with the Foundation information letter at the end of 2023. If you are unsure what time your child's assessment date and time is at, please contact the school.

### SCHOOL CONTACT METHODS

There are a number of ways you can get in contact with the school, as well as a number of ways we can communicate messages to you.

### CONTACTING US

If you need to notify us of an absence you can either text the school phone or use the Compass App. If you don't have access to the Compass App, please contact the school on a Tuesday so that John can talk you through how to do this. Families who are new to the school this year will receive a letter with instructions on how to access Compass.

If you need to provide a large amount of information or send through paperwork, you can use the [cobains.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:cobains.ps@education.vic.gov.au) email.

If you would like to organise a meeting with a staff member, you can either call, text or email.

### SENDING INFORMATION TO YOU.

We send out broad information relevant to the whole school or large cohorts using mainly the newsletter, which is sent out fortnightly on even weeks. Your child will have a hard copy of the newsletter and you will also receive it via email. It is also posted on our school website and can be accessed this way.

Email is another way we get information out to families, particularly if it is a large amount of information and/or it needs to be sent to a large group of parents. Email is also used if we have attachments to be sent.

We use the Compass App to send out reminders and messages that we need to get to all parents quickly. This is the most common messaging system we use so if you don't have access to this, please let us know.

The school mobile phone is mostly used when we need to contact individual or small groups of families.

## **SWIMMING TRIALS AND SPORTS**

We have our school swimming trials for grades 3-6 on 15th February 2024 at the Maffra outdoor pool. Students will be bused to and from this event and will be collected from school as normal. A permission slip is attached to this newsletter.

The swimming sports day will be on 22nd February 2024 at the Sale Outdoor pool. A note for this event will be sent home shortly.

## **PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

Parent Information evening will be on 27th February from 5 until 7. This evening includes a presentation from the staff about the programs we run at the school, a chance to visit your child's classroom and have a look around and a sausage sizzle, where you can get to know the other parents and staff at the school. During the staff presentation, children will be supervised in the Art room space. Further information about this evening will be sent out shortly.

## **PARENTS CLUB NEWS**

Parents club is a chance for parents to get together during school hours to meet others, as well as supporting the school through organising and helping out with hot school lunches, fundraisers and other activities.

The time and day are yet to be determined for this year and we generally set this based on the best times for our members. Younger siblings are welcome to come along with parents.

If you are interested in being part of the Cobains Parents Club, please fill in and return the attached slip.

This can be placed in the black notes box next to the office door, or handed to a staff member at the school.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

This year we have 4 parent vacancies on our School Council. School Council plays an important role in providing a parent voice in decisions related to the running of the school. Meetings are generally held on Tuesday evening twice per term, however this is negotiated based on the needs of our members.

Nominations for School Council will be called for over the next couple of weeks and further information will be provided before this takes place.

## **CHILDSAFE AND SCHOOL POLICIES**

Cobains Primary School policies and procedures can be found on our school website, or a hard copy can be viewed at school, where they are stored in the office. All policies are reviewed according to the Education Department guidelines and updated as needed.

## **VOLUNTARY SCHOOL FEES**

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of our Voluntary School Contribution, which in 2024 is set at \$140.

All Voluntary Contributions paid to the school are used for the purchase of resources for students and all students receive equal access to resources regardless of payment of this contribution.

## **ICYPOLES**

During terms one and four our Grade 6 students sell icypoles at lunchtime on days where the forecast temperature is 23 degrees and over. The icypoles cost 50c each and students can bring 50c on the day or send along a small amount of money that can be recorded as credit and used each time the temperature reaches the nominated temperature. If you are sending money for icypole credit, it can be handed to one of our staff members, preferably in a named envelope, and we will add it to our credit list.

If you have any questions about icypole money, please feel free to text, call or ask a staff member.

## **NO SMOKING ZONE**

We are required by law to provide a no smoking zone at our school drop off and pickup area. While the distance is set at 4m, we would appreciate it if parents could refrain from smoking in areas where they are visible to students or in the zone where students and families are moving to their cars.

## **BUS ZONE**

When parking for drop off and pick-up, please take notice of the Bus Zones and ensure you are not parking in these spaces from 3.30pm in the afternoon or before 8.25 in the morning. The bus zone on the school side of the road is used in the afternoons and in the morning buses pull up on the far side of the road.

Please also be aware that on days where we travel by bus to an excursion, buses will use the bus zone on the school side, so if you need to come out to school during the day, please park on the right side of the bus zone sign.

## **ASSEMBLY**

Our school Assembly is held each Friday afternoon at 3pm. Parents are welcome to attend. It is usually held on the deck area at the end of the orange room.

## Annual privacy reminder to our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or when permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy on our website describes how we collect and use photographs, videos and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We also ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365](#) Workspace for Education Safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages:



## 2023 BOOKFAIR

These are the books we received from last years Scholastic Bookfair for the use by the students at our school.

Regards

Sarah J

## PARENTS CLUB—EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

- I am interested in participating in the Parents Club at Cobains PS
- I am not interested in participating in the Parents Club At Cobains PS

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_



# COBAINS PRIMARY SCHOOL

3 CROFTS ROAD COBAINS VIC 3851

[cobains.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:cobains.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

Phone: 03 5149 8274

Principal: Sandra Platt

21<sup>st</sup> February 2024

Dear parents and guardians,

Cobains Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Cobains Primary School's voluntary financial contributions for 2024.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that's through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide each student with individual access to a school owned digital device, update technology to support learning in the classroom and ensure each classroom is well stocked with manipulatives and materials to support authentic learning experiences in the key curriculum areas of numeracy and literacy.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

*Sandra Platt*

**Principal**

**Cobains Primary School**

*Belinda Sargent*

**School Council President**

**Cobains Primary School**



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Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
<b>Classroom stationery &amp; equipment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items include but are not limited to scrapbooks, exercise books, glue sticks, pencils and textas, reader folders and/or diaries, ruler, grey leads, scissors and student workbooks.</li> </ul>	\$ 60.00
<b>Classroom consumables &amp; materials:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items include but are not limited to coloured paper, graph paper, paper clips, string, blue tac, cover paper, tape and pastels.</li> <li>Art program consumables.</li> <li>Handwriting Conventions text.</li> </ul>	\$ 20.00
<b>Online Subscriptions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading Eggs</li> <li>Essential Assessment Literacy and Numeracy</li> <li></li> </ul>	\$ 40.00
MARC Van – mobile library services	\$ 20.00
Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria membership	\$
Student wellbeing programs	\$
First aid equipment	\$
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$
<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>\$ 140.00</b>

## Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Cobains Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides in order to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis and costs will be advised throughout the school year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
Year 3/4 School Camp (approximately \$250)	TBA
Year 5/6 School Camp (approximately \$250)	TBA
<b>Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities</b>	<b>\$ TBA</b>



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## Total

Category	
Curriculum Contributions	\$ 140.00
Other Contributions	\$ 0.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$ TBA
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 140.00</b>

## Payment methods

- Cash
- Direct Deposit – bank account details are as follows:

**BSB 083 001**

**A/C 133 017 383**

**Reference: Family Name**

## Financial Support for Families

Cobains Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief
- Payment Plan Option

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Principal, Sandra Platt or Business Manager, Mary Jones

Ph.: 03 5149 8274

Email: [cobains.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:cobains.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payment Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy and any other relevant information.



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## PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

### ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



#### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



#### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

##### Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

##### Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

##### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



#### FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



#### SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.