



CHARTERS TOWERS

CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

Produced for the Charters Towers Central State School Community



39—47 High Street

PO Box 64

Charters Towers Qld 4820

Ph: (07) 4756 2333

Student Absence Line: (07) 4756 2366

Fax: (07) 4787 2481

Email: admin@chartowess.eq.edu.au



Central Chatters



From the Principal

I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to each of our families and community members, and trust that you had a relaxing and rewarding Easter holiday. I would also like to warmly welcome our new and returning families to Central. Term 2 is ten weeks in duration, and already the school calendar is filling up fast with activities. As always, it is very important that your child attends school every day, all day, as this is the best method of ensuring your child has a quality education. This term our school will be monitoring student attendance very closely, with a target of 90% of children attending school each day by the end of the semester. Last term our school's attendance improved very pleasingly, and this term we are on track to overtake or target of 90%. Remember, it's not acceptable to have a day off from school if your child does not feel like coming to school, there's no food at home, or you are going shopping. Children should only be staying home if they are genuinely unwell, or have special appointments. Attending school every day, all day, is not just an expectation of our school's—it is also the law in Queensland.

UPCOMING EVENTS

School Photos
Wednesday 7th June

Playgroup
Held Every Friday at
the Prep Room

Student Reading
Every morning from
8.30am in the Library

Parade
Now held every
Friday morning start-
ing 9.00 in the Hall

Active After School
Every Monday &
Tuesday (commences
next week)

Tuckshop
Open every Thursday.

District Cross
Country Trials

New Prep/1 Class

This term at Central we have created a new Prep/1 composite class, consisting of 6 prep students and 16 Year 1s. At the end of last term there were 29 prep students enrolled in Miss Matthew's class, which was 4 over the maximum size. As a result 6 prep students have joined our existing Year 1 class to create our new Prep/1 with Miss Jensen. Both Miss Matthew's and Miss Jensen's prep students will be learning the same concepts and covering the exact same curriculum as outlined in the Australian Prep Curriculum therefore no students will be disadvantaged by the move.

Country Music Festival

Tomorrow the annual Country Music Street Parade will be held. Central SS children are asked to meet our school's float near the park that is opposite the Fire Station at 5pm. Children are asked to wear country clothing to the procession—a checked shirt, jeans, hat and boots are ideal. The procession will commence at 5.30pm and will conclude around 6.30pm. Our Central SS float will stop at the park behind the World Theatre with parents/guardians requested to collect their children from this area around 6.30pm. Tomorrow (Friday) children are allowed to wear their best country outfits to school. The 'Best Dressed' judging will be held at Central SS at 10am tomorrow (Friday) in the school hall. Parents, guardians and family members are encouraged to attend. After the judging we will hold our regular school parade which will conclude in time for morning tea at 11am. Special thank you to Western Carrying Service for donating their truck.

Discipline at Central SS

Last week our school received a Discipline Audit by Education Queensland personal. By the end of the school year all state schools will have had a Discipline Audit completed. Charters Towers Central State School was the first school to receive a Discipline Audit and I am very pleased to report that our school was given a very positive audit result. The Discipline Audit is quite extensive and involves reviewing our school's behaviour management strategies, auditing our school's behaviour records (numbers of suspensions, students sent home etc), and also investigates how teachers deal with behaviours in classrooms. The intention of the audit was not to focus on 'school discipline' as such, but to determine how our school's classrooms and learning areas 'promote positive learning experiences' that in turn allow children to achieve their best without the disruption of misbehaving students. The audit assessed our school across five specific areas with four levels of achievement—Outstanding, High, Medium and Low. It is the expectation that Education Queensland schools will achieve a Medium to High rating across the five areas. I am very pleased to report that Central SS achieved an overall High rating in our Discipline Audit. This means our school's behaviour management practices and learning climate in our classroom is of a high standard and is on par with Queensland's leading and best schools. This is very pleasing news for our school and confirms that our school continues to be a leading provider of education in Queensland. When you consider that our school underwent a Curriculum Audit late in 2013 in which we received an overall High rating, to receive a High rating on our Discipline Audit confirms that our school is providing a quality learning experience that is on par with any high performing school in Queensland.

**Remember our
school's number:**

4756 2333

Student Absentee

Line:

4756 2366

ANZAC Day

I would like to congratulate the children who attended the ANZAC Day services that were held in Charters Towers last week. I would especially like to congratulate our School Captains Alexis and Chrystal-Lee, and also Clay, Skye and Brooke who attended the Dawn Service. Central State School had 65 students participating in the march this year, which was a real credit to our school community. Congratulations Central SS for showing your respect to the ANZAC's and for representing your school proudly.

NAPLAN

Parents are reminded that NAPLAN testing will be held from Tuesday 13th May through to Thursday 15th May, with Year 3, 5 and 7 students sitting the tests. Students in Prep, Year 1, 2, 4 & 6 will have normal school classes and will not be impacted by the NAPLAN testing. Our Year 3, 5 and 7 teachers have been working hard to ensure the students are well prepared and ready to do their best. Attendance, leading up to and on the day of the tests, continues to be of vital importance. High levels of absenteeism have a huge effect on student achievement and student engagement. Please help us by encouraging your child to attend school every day. Every Day Counts! If you have concerns about NAPLAN testing, and in particular, how your child will cope with the testing, I'd encourage you to visit the school office and discuss your concerns with either Troy or myself, or visit your child's teachers.

Dengue Fever Outbreak

You may be aware that over the school holidays a confirmed case of Dengue Fever was detected in the vicinity of our school. The Tropical Public Health Unit visited our school over the holidays and underwent an inspection of our grounds and facilities, and sprayed every classroom and work area. Pleasingly, no traces of the dengue mosquito were evident at our school. I am aware that there are still cases of Dengue Fever being reported in Charters Towers at present therefore as a precaution children are encouraged to apply mosquito repellent at home before coming to school each day.

Reading—Every Night Every Day

Reading—Every Night Every Day. It's a very simple philosophy yet will result in substantial benefits to all children. This year our main goal at Central is to improve the reading abilities of each child at our school and we are urging all parents to support our goal by reading to, or with, their children 'every night, every day'. It is a proven fact that by reading to or with your child 'every night, every day' your child's reading will improve and they will improve their results at school. All it takes is 10 to 15 minutes each night. Books can be borrowed from our school library or the Excelsior Library for free.

Numeracy – how families and schools can work together

To support your child's efforts at school you can continue the lessons they learn in the classroom by helping them to develop their numeracy skills at home. You may feel that the maths your children do at school is different to what you were taught, but you can help in many ways:

- Help your child to enjoy the maths they do at school by offering encouragement and asking about the work they bring home from school
- When travelling, play games such as counting the cars by colour or if you are travelling by bus or train ask your child to read the timetable to decide what time you'll get home
- Talk to your child about how numeracy is related to sports – to keep score, measure distance and indicate time
- Involve your child when preparing a meal and help them decide how much food to prepare for the whole family and whether there will be enough ingredients
- When shopping, use the catalogue specials to talk about discounts and whether it is cheaper to buy larger-sized products or a few smaller products

Talk with your child's teacher about numeracy at home and at school and raise any concerns with them.

Nick Shirley

Principal—Charters Towers Central State School

Prep—Miss Mathews

Hello everyone.

I trust you had a wonderful break over Easter and like me, are looking forward to the term ahead. We've had a few changes this term and are very sad to say good bye to five students who have joined Miss Jensen in Year One. From seeing their happy smiles each lunch time, I know they are having fun and enjoying the challenge of being up at the big school. Meliegha, Germaine, Haylie, Paxton and Dale, we wish you all the best for the year ahead.

We have an exciting Term planned because we will be introducing Geography into the prep curriculum. Lots of mapping ahead - A first for me and the preppies.

In science we have already started discussing our end of term assessment. This term we will be making a wind ornament that is able to be left outside. A note will go home soon asking for you and your child to collect suitable materials to build an ornament. We have lots of collage items at prep, but would like you to collect different items to add to the finished product. Metal spoons and forks or similar items would work well.

Please note that our homework folders will go home each Wednesday afternoon. Please return your child's folder on Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning. I will also put two or three books in each folder this term just in case your child wants to read a variety of stories.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Year 2—Miss Cran

Welcome back to Term 2, I hope that everyone had an excellent holiday! With a very short first week back we are definitely working very hard to make sure that we fit in all of our tasks. We have begun investigating stereotypes in English and the students are enjoying reading a variety of books that have some characters who are busting familiar stereotypes. Especially the ballet dancing dragon and a knight who likes to knit! We are commencing Geography this term and this will involve looking at and creating a variety of maps. This week we are creating a map of our classroom. Thanks to those students who joined us for the ANZAC Day march, I hope we get just as many students joining us for the Country Music Parade on Friday!

 Queensland Government



Look out!
There are children about

Encourage your child to walk to school by showing them the safest route:

- ✓ less traffic
- ✓ fewer roads to cross.

Connecting Queensland
www.tmr.qld.gov.au

 Queensland Government



Look out!
There are children about

Set a good example for children by always making sure everyone is buckled up.

Connecting Queensland
www.tmr.qld.gov.au

 Queensland Government



Look out!
There are children about

Parking around schools is limited. The success of 'drop-off and pick-up' zones requires co-operation from all parents.

- **DO** observe the timeframes and stay only as long as it takes to get children in or out of the car.
- **DON'T** double park or leave your vehicle to go into the school.

Connecting Queensland
www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Year 3—Mr Moore

Welcome back to school for Term 2. The students have settled back into the routine of school life with minimal issue. I would like to initially welcome two new students to our class. It is a welcome back to Esha-Lee and a welcome to Myhtia. The other students have been fantastic in making them feel welcome and helping them settle in.

There is a lot of work to be done this term and many concepts to cover. I hope some students have begun to collect items from home to create their boat for Technology. This boat will be built in week 7. The students will also be working very hard in English, Maths, Geography and Science. In week 4 the students will have a very tiring week, as they will be sitting three days of NAPLAN testing. During this week the students will not be receiving homework and they will need to concentrate that they are eating properly and getting enough sleep. The tests are quite tiring and the students will be quite nervous, as it is their first national standardised test. Homework has started again this week and I hope to see an improvement in the students' responsibility towards this side of their learning. Looking forward to a great term.

Year 1—Miss Jensen

Welcome to Term 2! We've had a big change in our classroom and want to welcome 7 new people to our class. We have a new Year 1 student and welcome Lachlan to our class. From this Term, we've also become a Prep/1 class. A big welcome to our new Preps: Karhys, Paxton, Meleigha, Haylie and Dale.

Throughout the Term, we will be learning about lots of different things, including character descriptions in English, materials in Science, Visual Arts in The Arts and we are very excited to be beginning to learn about Geography. It's going to be a big Term, but a great one!

ANZAC Day Commemorations



Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch

Welcome to Term 2. It's been great to see everyone back, refreshed and ready for another busy term. This term we are starting a new subject called Geography where students are learning how to read maps. They will also be exploring the countries of South America and Africa.

In Science this term we are exploring life cycles of plants and animals and looking at the impact humans have on these. So far we have made grass seed heads and the children are enjoying watching these grow.

During English we are examining traditional folktales from Asia allowing us to build up to writing our own traditional story. So far we have looked at the stories the Tiger, the rabbit and Chung Ho and discovered it had the moral to treat everyone with kindness.

In Maths we are continuing to build on our knowledge of times tables and division sums so if you have any spare time at home working on these would be a great idea.

Towards the end of last term we saw a few people slack off with homework. A reminder Ms Blanch's class have homework due on a Friday and Mrs Thomas class on a Thursday.

Our main focus this term again is reading. Last term we saw students have great improvement in their reading as a result of reading at home and school. So please read with your student every night and encourage them to read during any spare time they may have as it will greatly improve their results.

Year 5/6—Miss Boyle

Welcome back parents and students to another busy term in Grade 5/6. We are starting our term with a new English unit that requires students to read, analyse and compare a variety of comic books, strips and cartoons. At the end of the five weeks they will create and publish their own comic in a digital format. Students are also starting Geography for the first time this term and have already begun lessons this week. Students will be learning about other countries around the world in terms of location and relevant position to Australia. They will also look closely at towns within Australia that have vastly different environments and compare differences and similarities between lifestyles in these places. Finally assessment in Maths this term will focus on geometry and shape as well as chance and data. However students will be exposed to many more concepts including number and measurement.

Homework has resumed with students receiving homework on a Monday and returning it Wednesday. They will then get more homework on Wednesday that will need to be returned on a Friday. If students do not return their homework on Wednesday and Friday then they will complete it before school, during lunch or on a Friday afternoon.

Year 6/7—Mr Crow

Well done to all the students (especially the nine students from Year 6/7) who participated in the Anzac Day parade. Thank you to the parents who supported and encouraged their children to march. Anzac Day has arguably become the most important day on the Australian calendar. It is vital that the Anzac message is fostered with our youth and that those members who have made the ultimate sacrifice be remembered.

Both the Year 6 and Year 7 students have commenced studying Geography this term.

The students have also begun investigating how to transform mouse traps into long distance 'racers'. The students have to overcome the major problem of how to attach their wheels so that they run smoothly if they are to create the best racer possible. This will be an opportunity for the Year Sevens to improve on their efforts of last year!

Don't forget the Country Music Festival Parade this Friday. It is a great afternoon! Join in! When else can you dress up as cowboys and walk down the middle of Gill Street? I look forward to seeing as many Year 6/7 students as possible participating in this fun school event.

Congratulations to Stephanie Lowe who represented Charters Towers in netball in Bowen last Monday. I am sure Stephanie will have learnt new skills and will be a better player as a result of the experience. Best wishes to the students representing our school in soccer this Friday, and to Jayme Oakley who is representing Charters Towers in the North Queensland Rugby League trials.

Nationally Consistent Collection of data on Students With A Disability

In May 2013 all Education Ministers from Commonwealth, state and territory governments endorsed the implementation of a nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability in all Australian schools (government, independent and Catholic).

The nationally consistent approach to data collection will provide all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with a clear picture of the number of students with disability in schools and the adjustments they are provided to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students.

This national data collection is being phased in over a three year period, with the first data collection conducted in October 2013 and the second data collection to occur in the second half of 2014 ('the 2014 national data collection'). **Certain schools around Australia have been selected to participate in the 2014 national data collection.** Our school is one of those selected.

The 2014 national data collection will involve participating schools collecting the following information at the school level:

the number of students receiving adjustments to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students;

the level of adjustment provided (no adjustment at this time, supplementary, substantial or **extensive adjustment**); and **where known, the student's type of disability.**



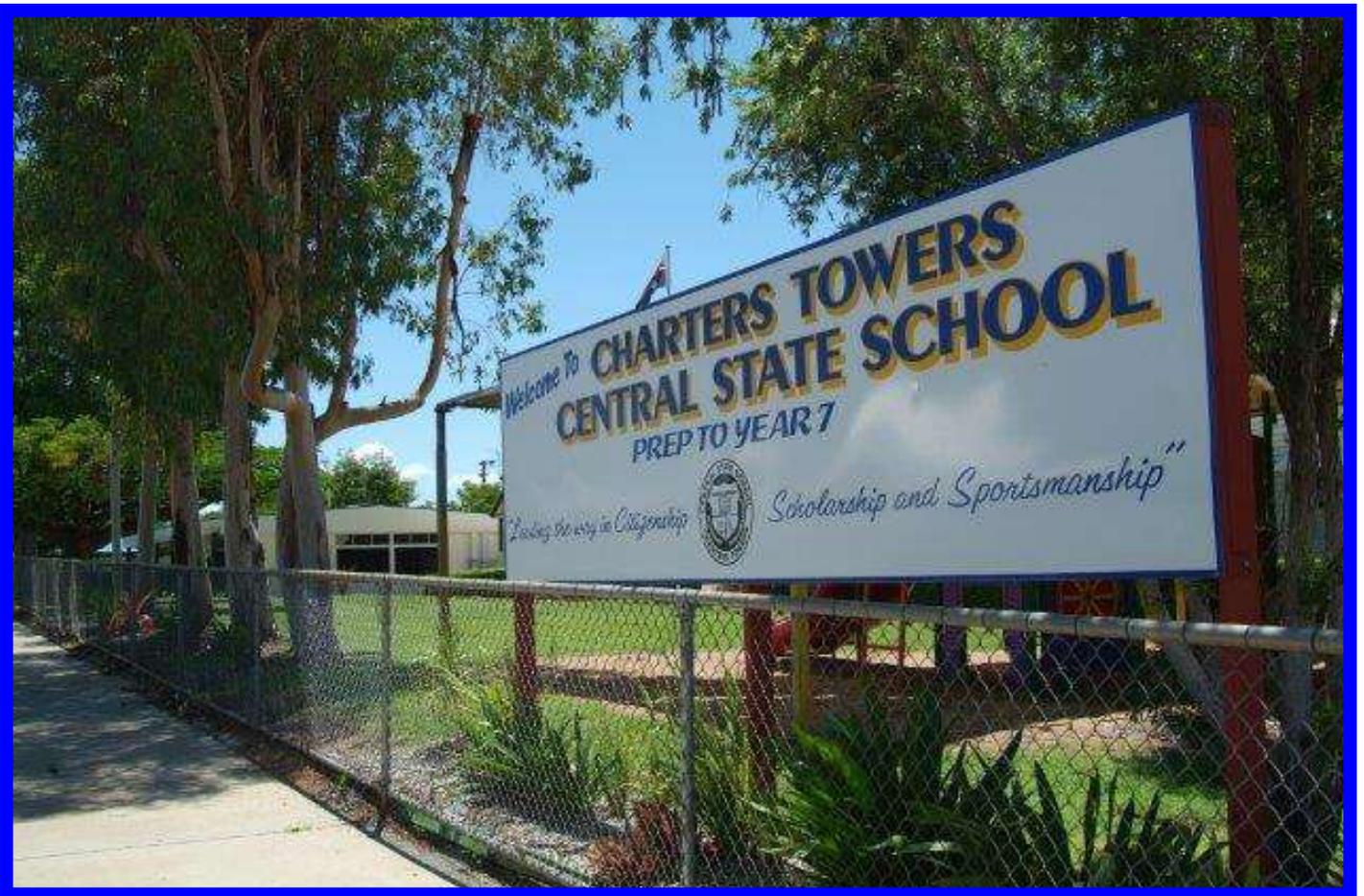
Domestic Violence –
make the call.

DVConnect Womensline 1800 811 811 Mensline 1800 600 636
www.qld.gov.au/makethecall

[Follow Central on Facebook!](#)



Charters Towers Central State School has a dedicated Facebook site allowing parents, community members and past students to stay connected and up to date with the events occurring at our school. Key messages, events and updates are posted regularly, as well as occasional photos where possible. Follow us on Facebook to ensure you're connected with the school events and activities.



I am Safe

I am Respectful

I am a Learner

