CHARTERS TOWERS CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

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Produced for the Charters Towers Central State School Community
From the Principal

With more than three quarters of the 2013 school year now behind us, the weeks are quickly passing us by. Term 4 is always a very busy period in schools with many upcoming events planned that are listed on the front page of our newsletter. Our school’s Awards Evening will be held on Monday 9th December at the new Central SS Hall. The night will commence with drinks and nibbles at 5.30pm and the ceremony commencing at 6pm. The Year 7 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday 11th December at the Charters Towers Civic Club. More information regarding both ceremonies will be sent home shortly.

While the school is making plans for our end of year celebrations, there are still six weeks of school remaining, totalling 30 school days. The next six weeks of school are the most important of the school year. All classes still have new content to introduce and teach to students. This is also the period whereby teachers consolidate the concepts taught throughout 2013; commence assessments to determine student comprehension and understanding; and ensure each child has the required skills for the following school year. Regular school attendance is vital throughout the remaining six weeks of school also.

Melbourne Cup Day
This Tuesday is Melbourne Cup Day and to celebrate children are encouraged to come to school dressed in their best ‘Race Day Outfits’. In previous years we’ve witnessed some wonderful ‘fashions on the field’ and it’s hoped 2013 can follow past traditions. We will have a brief Fashion Parade at 9am to start the day with prizes for best dressed students and parents/guardians are encouraged to visit and share the fun.

World Teachers Day
World Teacher’s Day was held last Friday. I would like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful teaching team. Our school is fortunate to enjoy wonderfully talented and dedicated teachers. Thank you for your care and support of our great students. Our teachers at Central are often found at school very early in the mornings, late in the evenings and often on weekend planning, preparing and marking materials to ensure your child is supported in the best possible manner.

School Staffing
2013 teacher transfers have been released with the following movements at Charters Towers Central SS effective from 2014:

Relocating: Miss Rebecca Williamson—to Richmond Hill SS
Mrs Trina Wood-Brown—to Alice Springs Northern Territory

Taking Leave in 2014: Miss Micaela Smith (travelling to the UK)
Miss Lesley Bowen (travelling abroad)

Incoming Staff: Miss Hannah Blanch (currently final year prac teacher)
Miss Debbie Jenson (from Winton SS)
Two further staff members have yet to be allocated by Education Queensland

Official classes for 2014 are still being determined but it is anticipated that they will remain similar to 2013. Our 2014 Prep students will determine whether our school is eligible for an additional teacher after “Day 8” in early February. We are aiming to have a Prep class of around 20 children. If you are aware of students who are prep age and ready to start Prep in 2013, encourage their families to visit Central SS and discuss educational options with our wonderful early years teaching team.
Central Chatters

Reading at Home
This week I have set a challenge for all students. Those in Prep to Year 3 are challenged to read a different home reader each night and return the book to school for changing. Those in Year 4 to 7 are challenged to read a chapter book throughout the week. Reading is the foundation of all learning. Research has proven that children who read at home every night become fluent readers and succeed at school. Children will need support at home when reading—younger children will need to be read to or read a book together with an adult. Staff at school are always available to assist parents who have questions regarding home reading. Remember all children should be reading at home for at least 15 minutes each night.

Leadership Parade
A special School Leaders Parade will be held on Monday 11th November, whereby our prospective 2014 school leaders will present a speech to our school community, outlining why they are the most suited to be our 2014 school leaders. The special parade will commence at 2.15pm and will conclude just before 3pm. All parents, community members and friends of the school are invited to attend this special occasion. The 2014 school leaders will be announced at the school’s Awards Night.

School Books and Materials
As we commence the school term it is important to check with your child to ensure that they have all the required materials at school to assist their learning. At this time of the year many students start to run out of pencils, books, rubbers, glue etc, which means the children often cannot complete activities or need to borrow items from other students. Please take a few moments to check with your child to ensure that they have enough materials to support their learning over the remaining weeks of the school year, and purchase any required resources. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Staff Training
Last Monday all Charters Towers Central SS staff were involved in various training activities throughout the day. The picture opposite highlights our wonderful aides, and a few teachers, completing an online course. As you can see by the levels on concentration the day was quite challenging yet very rewarding, and has helped set our 2014

Finally I would like to welcome two new students to our school this week—Lachlan and Willow. Welcome students.
Have a great week Nick Shirley Principal—Charters Towers Central SS

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.
Prep—Miss Mathews

This week we really need to congratulate the children on a fantastic Tuesday morning. As you know, Tuesday was our Open Day for next year’s preps and our class spent the morning with Mrs Bojack, Miss West and Miss Blanch. From everyone’s happy smiles I can tell they had a fabulous time. We will continue to do lots of similar activities over the next few weeks as part of our transition program and in readiness for Year One.

This week in prep we have been busy writing letters and cards to Santa, each other and a book character called Tari. Writing to Tari is our final English assessment task for this year. We have also talked about the ‘ar’ sound in words, such as star, card or park.

In mathematics we are still finishing off a unit about place value and moving into a mini-unit all about measurement. This is a revising unit to complement concepts already discussed this year.

Finally, please be on the look-out for a small owl, which is coming home with one special student each night. We call him Oscar the Owl and he is a little toy bird that complements our Prep Reading Program. He will take a few weeks to make it to everyone. Happy weekend everyone.

Year 1—Miss Bowen

Week 4 already! We have surely been getting into the swing of things quickly this Term. Thank you to everybody in Year 1 for ensuring payment has been made for your child to attend swimming. Its fantastic to be able to see all Year 1s attend and learn these valuable skills. I just wanted to remind parents that our Library borrowing day is every Tuesday and Homework is still due back Fridays (or earlier if it is already completed). This term there has only been 3 regular Library borrowers! Please help your child to remember their library bag on this day so they can take home a new book each week to practice reading. We have only had about half the class remember their homework also. Homework can make a huge difference in consolidating what a child has learnt at school over the week. We still have our fruit break at 10 am each day also, so a small fruit snack is very appreciative at this time.

Thank you for supporting your child with these requests as they really help children to move forward at school.

We will soon have our Under 8s day festivities so keep your eye out for more details in the coming weeks.

Year 3—Miss Boyle

Over the next few weeks students will be completing assessment tasks that will contribute to their overall grade for each subject. Attending school at this time of year is crucial for your child’s success. Well done to those students completing their homework and taking home books to read during the week. Keep up the good work!

Each term the school organises a fun event for students who have had less than two detentions and I am pleased to announce at this point that all children in year three will be attending. It has been great to see an improvement in behaviour within our class and I would like to thank all the students in Year Three for making Central a wonderful place to be.
Year 2—Miss Cran

Well done to all students that are participating in swimming each Friday. We have had two lessons so far and all of the students have been very organised and ready to go as soon as the bell goes in the morning. As always we are keeping very busy in Year Two and have lots of assessment coming up in the next few weeks therefore daily attendance is very important! Last Friday we had our Day for Daniel. It was wonderful to have so many children dressing in red and bringing in a gold coin donation to help support this very important cause.

Congratulations to our Students of the Week & SWPBS Winners
Yr 4—Miss Williamson

This week students will start planning their designs for technology. They will require the materials to commence constructing their models next week. Some students have already started bringing equipment to school in a labelled plastic bag.

The students have really enjoyed learning about advertisements. We have studied the visual, language and audio features of advertisements and viewed a variety of ‘old’ and new. Many discussions were occurring in the classroom before school about the different ads that the children have seen!

Through the use of a variety of games, students are learning more about forces and understanding the science concept greater.

Just a reminder, swimming is on each Thursday. The students eat morning tea before we leave for the pool at 11 am. Towels have being the missing component from swimming bags during the last two weeks! Please place the responsibility on your child to organise their own swimming gear the night before.

Year 5/6—Mr Moore

Four weeks are complete and the students are continuing to develop their assessment ideas. I have been particularly impressed with the focus and dedication displayed over the last two weeks and congratulate the students on this.

Year 5/6 camp will be occurring on the 6th, 7th and 8th of December and the notes have been given to the students. If we could have these back as soon as possible it will help us determine the correct amount of food.

The camp is a great opportunity for our older cohort to develop a strong unity before leading the school in 2014. A reminder that our swimming is on Thursdays and the bus leaves at 9:00am for us to get to the pool and have the most time in the water. Please make sure all students are here on time and ready to go, as the bus cannot wait.

As we are coming to the end of the year please make sure you are aware of the students rest and recovery, as this can become a problem if not noticed. All students might display some signs of stress as well with the majority of summative assessment completed this term. If you have any queries or concerns please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Year 6/7—Mr Crow

As we approach the end of the year there is a tendency for the students (especially the Year 7’s) to develop a carefree attitude towards their school work and to attempt to take liberties with behaviour expectations.

Every school day is an opportunity to learn. New work will continue to be introduced up until the last week of the year. Homework will be set each night and is required to be handed in completed before school each morning. Every student is also expected to read each night. Students who fail to fulfil their responsibilities will be asked to complete them at first break. Students who behave inappropriately run the risk of being excluded from end of year activities.

Two reminders-

1. The High School is holding an ‘Open House’ on Thursday, 21st November. The evening commences at 5.30pm in the Resource Centre.

2. Expression of Interest in the Year 7 graduation Dinner must be returned by 20 November at the latest. No late requests will be accepted.

Places for the 2014 Brisbane trip have been filled. There is a waiting list so if you have not returned your form there appears to be little or no chance of gaining a position on this trip.

It is wonderful to see a majority of the Year 6/7 students participating in swimming lessons. Swimming is an essential life skill. It also opens up a host of water based recreational activities in later life. It is not too late for your child to participate in this educational activity.
BOOK FAIR
starts Monday 11th Nov

$75 was raised last Friday on Day for Daniel
and donated to the
Daniel Morcombe Foundation.
Thank-you

Measles health alert

Queensland Health is concerned about the number of measles outbreaks in Queensland this year. Measles is a highly infectious disease that begins with symptoms such as fever, tiredness, cough, runny nose and/or red inflamed eyes. Measles can lead to complications such as middle ear infections, pneumonia (lung infection) and encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

Measles can spread very easily. Vaccination is the only way to prevent measles. Queensland Health encourages anyone who has not had two measles-containing vaccinations, or who is not sure about their vaccination status, to get vaccinated as soon as possible. The measles vaccine is free from your local doctor for anyone born from 1966 onwards.

If parents think their child might have measles, they are advised to keep them away from school and make an appointment with a doctor or phone 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) to organise medical assessment.
