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Newsletter
Produced for the Charters Towers Central State School Community

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Hi everyone,
I hope that you’ve had a great start to the week. It’s hard to believe that we’re almost at the halfway point for our term. Next week will mark the halfway point of the school term. Parents and guardians I’d like to thank you for ensuring your child attends school every day and for notifying the office or your child’s teacher if your child is absent. The phone number to call if your child is absent is 47562366. Regular school attendance has become an concern lately, with on average 18% of children away from school each day. Most absences are for sickness however we have a number of children who are away from school each day without a valid reason. Attending school ‘every’ day really does count and make a difference. When children are absent from school, they are missing crucial learning time, and quickly fall behind their peers. It is therefore vital that your child develops a regular school routine, and attends each day. It is the law that all primary school children attend school ‘every’ day. Once again, I’d like to thank parents/guardians who ensure their children attend school each day. You are making a real difference to your child! Remember, children learn best when they go to school, all day, every day!

Athletics Carnival
Tomorrow, the annual CTCSS Interhouse Athletics Carnival will be held. This year, the carnival will be held on the Central SS grounds, not at Freimann Oval as in previous years. The day will commence at 9am with the morning’s announcements, followed by the 800m races. Children will then break into year groups and rotate through various events on the day. All parents, guardians and family members are encouraged to attend on Friday, or even just visit throughout the day, and cheer on the students. The P&C will be operating the tuckshop on the day as well, with tea/coffee available. I’d like to thank Mrs Miller for all the behind the scenes preparation for this year’s carnival, and also our wonderful groundsman Steve for his expertise with the line marking machine and for ensuring our school looks fabulous for the carnival. As Friday is a regular school day, children are expected to attend and participate in the carnival. Children will receive points for their house for simply having a go at each event, and in previous years, it has been the participation points that have decided the winning sports house. Children are required to wear their sports house shirts, running shoes on their feet throughout the day, wear a broad brimmed hat, and sunscreen. The school will have sunscreen available throughout the day also.

Homework and Home Readers
Each week children are given homework by their class teachers, which is to be completed at home and returned to school for marking. Homework is a vital revision tool for students as it allows children to revise new concepts that have been taught in class that week. Students are encouraged to talk to their teachers if they are having difficulty with their homework. Homework should be returned to school either the next day, or by the end of the week for marking. All children at Central should also be taking home a Home Reader, which must be read and returned to school accordingly. Younger children should be taking home a reader each night, and returning the next day for changing; older students should be taking home a novel and reading the book over a period of a week or longer if required. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to contact their child’s teacher if there are concerns or questions regarding homework/readers.
Central SS Upgrades
You may have noticed that a number of maintenance and upgrade work has occurred at Central over the last few weeks. This has included a new terrace, painting of B Block, and the installation of a new shed and soft fall edging around the Prep sandpit. Shortly, new soft fall edging will be install around the three play areas near Admin, and a new shed structure will be installed over the Prep/1 playground. The upgrades and new editions to our school have been very welcome and have brightened up a number of tired areas within the school. Funding for the projects has come directly from the State Government’s School Renewal Program and the school’s maintenance budget. The school’s next priority will be painting of C Block and installation of a concrete pathway from the student amenities block to the start of the terrace area. This will most likely occur over the Christmas holiday period.

Central SS NAIDOC Day Celebrations
Charters Towers Central State School will be hosting the annual NAIDOC Day celebrations on Thursday August 15th. The celebrations will begin at 11.30 with each class preparing special activities for the day, and will conclude around 1pm. Parents/Guardians/families are encouraged to visit Central on August 15th and participate in the NAIDOC Day celebrations. Uncle Kenny is presently organising a Kup-Murri for our school to enjoy on the day also.

Playgroup
I would like to congratulate Mrs Deb Waddling, and the Mums and Dads for the outstanding Central SS Playgroup. Central has a playgroup that operates each Wednesday and Friday morning from 9 to 10.30 in the PMP room near the tuckshop. All children under Prep age are invited to attend as long as a parent/guardian stays with the child at all times. Playgroup is a brilliant way to assist your child to learn socialisation skills, improve their fine and gross motor development and prepare them for Prep.

Prep Enrolments 2014
Parents/Guardians are reminded that Central SS is now taking Prep enrolments for 2013. If your child is turning 5 by June 30 next year, or has not started school as yet, they are eligible to attend Prep next year. It is important that your child is enrolled as soon as possible, so that the best programs and support can be prepared for your child.

Come Visit!
Finally parents-guardians, please feel free to visit the school and discuss your child’s education with teachers or the administration team at any time. The school is fortunate to have such a fantastic staff working at the school and together, we’re all keen to achieve the best results we can for your children. If there’s anyway we can help support or assist you and your family please do not hesitate to visit or phone the school.

Have a wonderful week everyone.
Nick Shirley—Principal Charters Towers Central SS
Year 1—Miss Bowen

Wow! It’s almost halfway through Term 3 already! It will be time for year 2 before we know it! Please continue to enforce and encourage your child to be respectful, safe and a learner at home as well as at school to ensure a consistent approach to their learning. As the year moves on students can sometimes get comfortable with the routine and forget our basic rules. Homework is still due in each Friday and will reinforce spelling and maths concepts learnt during the week. It is also very important to continue practicing reading with the home readers and checking which sight words are known to your child at least once a week. Some children seem to have forgotten some sight words they knew months ago and repetition can often reinforce their recognition of these words. We have begun assessment in English and Maths to conclude our first five week unit and will soon commence the second units for these subjects in this Term. Remember attendance tickets are given out each Friday for those who attend 5 days a week, for a chance at a prize at the end of Term. Thanks to those of you who have sent in new equipment, it is greatly appreciated. If you haven’t done so already please check with your child if I have sent a note home with them to request additional materials.

Year 2—Miss Cran

Congratulations to our class award winners this week, Nikita and Beau for being very honest when some money was found. Also to Mystique for being drawn out in this week’s SWPBS draw for being a learner. We have set some personal learning and behaviour goals this week and it is wonderful to see so many students striving to meet these goals! I can’t wait to see everyone in their house colours, trying their hardest tomorrow at the athletics carnival.

Year 3—Miss Boyle

This week marks the end of our first English and Maths unit for the term. This week students will be presenting their retells based on the Dr Seuss story ‘The Lorax’. Students have been learning about the structure of retells and how to write one based on a chosen characters point of view. They have all put in a lot of hard work and it will be great to see the final result this week.

Last week some students had differentiated learning support plans sent home. These are designed to help students who are having some difficulty with the standard of work in Year 3. They need to be signed and returned so that we can make adjustments and provide extra support. If you have any questions please come and see me or send a note.

We are all very excited about sports day this Friday. Please make sure your child has a hat and proper footwear that they can run in.

Thank you to those who have ensured all monies raised has been returned. Unfortunately, due to a lot of outstanding forms I have not been able to lodge the necessary paperwork. Therefore, prizes are not on their way.

Training is Tuesday and Thursday morning 8:00 to 8:30.

Trina Wood-Brown
Jump Rope for Heart Co-Ordinator
Year 4—Miss Williamson

Some students have lost/misplaced or forget to bring their homework book to school. On the occasion that a homework book is forgotten, the students are able to write on a piece of scrap paper. However, for some this is becoming a regular occurrence. If your child does not have a homework book could you have them look around the home for it or provide another one.

Reading has become a concern lately. Each morning when I mark the homework there are a majority of students who have not had their reading log signed over consecutive days. Can you please ensure the reading log is signed if your child has read. Thank-you to those parents who regularly sign to indicate reading has occurred.

School supplies are now beginning to run low. Those students with spare books and stationary from the beginning of the year are using what is left, however many students over the next few weeks will require additional exercise books or stationary such as glue, pencils, erasers, scissors etc. It would be greatly appreciated if these could be supplied when requested as this will allow minimal disruptions to your child’s learning.

In English, Year 4 has been busy analysing and constructing historical recounts from a child on board the First Fleet. Students are revising fraction and place value concepts in Maths and in Science they are learning about properties of different materials. Our 3D masks are beginning to take shape. They will be art masterpieces when complete!

Good luck to all students competing in events in the athletic carnival tomorrow. Remember to have fun!

Learning Centre—Mrs Wood-Brown

We are half way through the term and still have a lot to complete! I am really impressed with how well the class has taken to learning about Egypt, our classroom is turning into a mini Egypt with our art work. Cartouche, Mummies and Hieroglyphics are a couple of the projects we have completed. We have watched a short documentary on how Pharaohs were turned into Mummies. Please ask your child what they have learnt.

Alex has shown a great understanding of how to gather data and put the information into a table. His favourite is the pie graph. Well done, Alex.

On Tuesday we were meant to go on an excursion, however an event has meant that we now have to postpone this to the next week.

Charters Towers NAIDOC March

The annual Charters Towers community NAIDOC Day March will now be held on Friday 16th August, commencing at 10am. Charters Towers Central State School students will be participating in the march, which will commence at 10am. CTCSS will leave Central SS at 9.30 and will walk to the Jupiter Mossman building in Gill Street. Recently Charters Towers Central SS sent home consent forms to allow children to participate in the march. Those children with signed consent will participate in the March. Those who do not have consent will remain at school and participate in regular school lessons.
Year 6/7—Mr Crow

Recently there has been some inappropriate behaviour exhibited by some members of our class. This reflects poorly, not only on these individuals personally, but on the class and the school, especially when these incidents occur outside the school. As the Year Seven students move towards the end of their primary schooling it is important they continue to exhibit acceptable behaviour. There are still a number of extra-curricular events which they can be involved in, but this will depend on their behaviour. Inappropriate behaviour will result in their ‘invitation’ to participate in events being withdrawn. The Year Seven students are our school leaders. They need to be role models for our younger students. It is essential that our students step up, stand on their own two feet and make responsible, sensible decisions. It takes years to develop a good reputation but only moments for this to be destroyed.

A number of students are presenting work on pieces of paper. Please check with your child that they have all the resources they need to participate effectively in all educational activities. There is still a long time to go until the end of the school year. Resources which are purchased at this stage will be utilised fully.

The number of students leaving homework until they arrive at school is increasing. While the positive aspect is that they are completing their homework, the negative aspect is the pattern they are developing. The time will come when there is insufficient time to complete the tasks they are given before school. This then has a major impact on their success at school. Developing a good study pattern is essential for High School. As adults we need to guide our child towards positive, responsible practices in all aspects of life, this includes study practices. Left to their own devises most children will take the easy option. This is not always the best option.
Central Chatters

I am Safe, I am Respectful, I am a Learner

Book Week Celebrations

This year's theme is—“Read Across the Universe”

The Library / Resource Centre will be abuzz with Book Week activities, stretching across 2 weeks from Monday 19th of August to Wednesday 28th of August.

Activities include—‘Colouring-In’ and ‘Design a Poster’ Competitions, Space Trivia, Making Space Vehicles, Space Craft activities, Making Space mobiles, Treasure Hunt of Books (A to Z of titles), Space videos and Space stories.

The Dress Up Competition will be held during the Monday Parade on the 26th of August. Students are asked to dress up in costumes about anything to do with our Universe—For example – planets, stars, comets, asteroids, spaceships, rockets, aliens, the Sun, moons, telescopes, or Rings (that are found around planets)

Winners of the ‘Colouring-In’ and “Design a Poster” Competitions will also be announced at the Parade.

We look forward to seeing many students participate in these fun events.

Enrol for Prep in 2014

If your child was born between 1st July 2008 and 30th June 2009, they are eligible to start Prep in 2013, and Year 1 in 2014. Please contact the school office for an enrolment form and further information. Remember it is important that we receive your enrolment forms this year, so that we can start preparing our wonderful programs for your child.

Senior’s Shirts are now available for purchase from the school office. Price—$27.00

Look out! There are children about

Regular bicycle maintenance is important for your child’s safety.

If in doubt visit your local bike shop.

Queensland Government

Connecting Queensland

www.tmr.qld.gov.au
New CTCSS Website & App

Charters Towers Central State School now has a brand new school website. The site contains most day to day information for parents and prospective students as well as updated news events, newsletters, forms etc. The new site can be found at the same address as our current website: [http://chartowess.eq.edu.au/wcms/](http://chartowess.eq.edu.au/wcms/)

The new CTCSS website will also stream live to the new Education Queensland Qschools app. The new Qschools app is a convenient way to receive up to the minute information from our school. The app allows users to see when news, events and newsletters are posted in live time. The school community can also receive emergency announcements such as natural disasters and school closures through the app. The app is available to download for both Apple and Android devices, and is free. Once downloaded, simply search for Charters Towers Central State School.