From the Principal

With two weeks of term remaining it is certainly a busy time at Central State School. Teachers are presently completing end of term assessments with their classes and finalising individual student report cards. Report cards will be sent home on Monday in the last week of the school term. As teachers are completing report cards and end of term assessment items it is vital that students attend school every day unless they have a valid reason.

Athletics Carnival

The annual Charters Towers Central State School Athletics Carnival will be held on Thursday 17th July which is the first Thursday back after the school holidays. The carnival will be held at Central SS this year and will run identical to the 2013 carnival. Further information will be sent home regarding the Athletics Carnival prior to the holidays.

State of Origin – Wear your Footie Colours

This Wednesday the second State of Origin football match will be held. To get into the spirit of the game students and staff are encouraged to wear their team colours on Wednesday —this means students and staff can wear maroon or blue to support their favourite teams. You do not need to wear a jersey as such—a maroon or blue coloured shirt would suffice.

Electronic Newsletters

Effective from the commencement of Term 3 all school newsletters will be produced electronically and will no longer be printed. Printing and publishing the newsletter every fortnight is a considerable expense to the school and with modern communications most parents have access to the internet and a smartphone, producing the newsletter electronically is a cost effective and environmentally friendly means of communicating our school’s messages. The newsletter will be posted to our school’s website and Facebook site which will allow users to access the content anywhere anytime. We are still able to print the newsletter for those families that do not have the internet or access to a smartphone. If you would like a copy of the newsletter printed each fortnight simply let Kaylene or Colleen know in the office and this will be easily completed for you.

School Wide Positive Behaviour Incentive Day

Our annual School Wide Positive Behaviour Incentive Day celebration will be held on Thursday 26th June from 1.30 to 3pm onwards. This term we are having a ‘slumber party’ in the hall. Students will watch a G or PG rated movie in the afternoon and may even enjoy some pop corn. Students are allowed to bring a pillow or sleeping bag to make the movie more enjoyable. To be eligible to attend students need to have zero suspensions this term and no more than 2 detentions for the term. Special invitations will be sent out next week to students who are invited to attend. Pleasingly over 90% of our school will be attending the party which is wonderful news and demonstrates that the majority of our children can be Safe, Respectful Learners at Central.

Long Service

I will be taking two weeks Long Service Leave at the beginning of Term 3. This will mean that I will return to Central at the beginning of Week 3. At this stage my replacement principal has not been determined however as soon as this is finalised I will inform the Charters Towers Central State School Community.

Every Day Counts

As we reach the end of Term 2 parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school on every school day unless there is a reasonable excuse for the student to be away, such as illness. Research shows that students who have a good attendance record are more likely to achieve high results. Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late, being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school. Last week there were over 15 unexplained student absences which is very concerning. As I have mentioned earlier, the school has a dedicated Student Absentee Line allowing parents/guardians the option of leaving a recorded message advising that their child will be absent. Thank you to the many parents and guardians who notify the school when their child will be away from school. Visit the Department of Education and Training website for more information: www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts
Central Chatters

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.

Parent/Guardian Visits to School
Parents/guardians are reminded that they must visit the school office when collecting children, dropping off lunches or other items. While parents/guardians are more than welcome to visit classrooms, the school must know who is on the school grounds at all times for emergency purposes. If you are called to collect your child ensure you visit the school’s office first. Administration staff will then phone your child’s classroom and ask for them to come to the Office. All children must also be signed out from the Office if they are going home early. This is to ensure the school is aware of every student’s whereabouts at all times.

Classroom Materials
A gentle reminder to parents to check with your children to ensure that they have enough books, pencils and equipment in their classrooms. Usually around this time of the term student books and pencils start to fill up, wear out or become lost therefore it’s timely to check with your child to ensure they do not require any materials.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

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.
Hi everyone,

This week we began talking about two letters together making a new sound. In prep, we call these sounds diagraphs. So far we have talked about /ai/ and /oa/. On Tuesday morning we all made some lovely warm toast and later talked about /oa/ sound in words like toast, boat and coat. Please take special care with revising these sounds in homework next week.

This week we also completed our Geography assessment by building parts of our home town. This was the first time we worked on a project in small groups and everyone did a great job.

Top work Kelstin for being our student of the week. Keep up the great work.

Congratulations to Matthew, our award winner last week, for a great improvement in his classroom and playground behaviour. Christopher had a ticket drawn out in the SWPBS prize draw last week also, so well done to him. I have been really proud of the effort that most students have been putting into their school work over these last few, very busy weeks! It has been quite chilly in the mornings this week and warming up later on in the day. Please make sure all jumpers are named, in case they are misplaced. Last week we celebrated Queensland Day by having a free dress day and making some fabulous pineapple sunglasses. Check out our very fashionable class!
Year 3—Mr Moore

We are now in the final three weeks of Semester One and time has definitely flown by for all of us. We are currently in overdrive trying to complete all our assessment, catch up on assessment and monitor the student’s progress so far. The students are busily trying to build their moon buggy, develop a presentation on the Earth, Moon and Sun, create a space artwork and also create a character dialogue based on the story we are reading.

Behaviour seems settled at the moment and I continue to thank those students who are always doing the right thing. Last week we handed out 4 students of the week and they are rightful recipients. Well done!

As we come to the end of the semester could I ask parents to start enquiring with their child as to whether they need any more basics for the start of Semester Three. Stationery like; pencils, glue, rubbers, a ruler and books are the main objects that are used throughout our time at school.

Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch

Year Four have been as busy as bees, completing assessment tasks in most subject areas. In the Ready, Set, Grow science unit, children have launched into researching an endangered species. They are uncovering some incredible creature facts. While in Geography, we have continued to explore the continents of Africa and South America. The class have become familiar with the vegetation types of the world eg. Grasslands, Deserts, Rainforest, and more. Please continue to support your child at home with reading – it greatly benefits your child’s education.

Just a reminder, if your child should be absent from school, please inform the office.

Year 5/6—Miss Boyle

This term has gone by so quickly it is hard to believe there are only two weeks left until the June holidays. This is certainly a busy time of the term, with report cards due to go home in the last week. Students are finishing assessment pieces for every subject and this can be a stressful time for all. It is vital that students are attending school at this time so they have the opportunity to complete work and receive grades on their report card. On Wednesday in the final week of term, students will have the opportunity to go over to Milchester School and participate in the high ropes course. This is an exciting experience for many students and it will be a great reward for a term of hard work. Notes will go home shortly, so be sure to return them ASAP.

LET’S TALK NQ SPEECH PATHOLOGY

New private speech pathology practice opening in Charters Towers. Phone 0467 239 554 to enquire or make a booking.

BOOK FAIR

starts Monday 16th June
Year 6/7—Mr Crow

Congratulations to Alexis Nibbs and Stephanie Lowe who ‘won’ the Mouse Trap Racer Challenge!!!
Well done to the majority of the students who demonstrated great persistence attempting to get their ‘racers’ to work. For some, the task was quite frustrating as their engineering skills were well and truly tested. Unfortunately a number of students failed to complete their racers. These students need to realise all components of any assessable tasks must be completed by the set deadline. It is not acceptable to avoid, or not attempt work because you “didn’t want to” or “don’t care.”

Besides being a valuable educational task these activities also prepare students for life after school. I wonder how many employers will be interested in hearing an employee say, “I didn’t want to do it.” Unfortunately this attitude seems to be becoming more prevalent. For our students this attitude will result in lower achievement standards on student’s report cards.

On a positive note, in term four the students will have another challenge to overcome. The students are currently investigating comic strips for our last unit of English. In the next two week students will be creating their own strips based on a moral dilemma using the Bitstrips website. The students will need to work diligently to complete this task before the holidays.

SWPBS Update

Our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support program is continuing to help children understand how to be a safe and responsible school (and community) members. This week, students have been having discussions, and doing activities in class around the SWPBS topics of:

- Playing in designated play areas
- Keeping hands and feet to myself
- Attend school each day unless there is a valid reason.

It would be great if parents and carers could ask students about the weekly SWPBS topics at home, as this will reinforce them with students. You could also ask your student if they have received any tickets this week as there is a weekly draw on assembly. Also, as the end of the term is coming close, students who have been following the school rules consistently this term will be participating in the end of term reward day. A lot of students are looking forward to this celebration.

Hockey Sign Ons

There is the opportunity for students to be involved in a hockey clinic in Townsville in July. This program is fully inclusive of gender and abilities and sounds like an excellent chance to try a new, fun sport.

For $40 all players will receive the following pack plus a program of skills and games at Townsville Hockey Associations water based facilities with our fantastic, qualified Super-coaches!

- Hockey Pack includes a mouthguard, hockey stick, ball, singlet, shin guards and height chart.

Hookin2Hockey Beginners Day Camp:
- Dates: 4th or 11th July
- Age: 6 – 12 (Primary School)
- Time: 9am – 2pm
- What you need: Packed Lunch, Water Bottle, Sunscreen and a Hat

Hookin2Hockey Inclusive Camp For young people with disabilities
- Dates: 4th or 11th July
- Age: 6/7+
- Time: 2.30pm – 4.30pm
- What you need: A carer on site to assist, Water Bottle, Sunscreen and a Hat

BOOKINGS MUST BE 2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE

Contact Townsville Hockey on 4778 4810 if you wish to attend.

Stephanie Lowe
Instrumental Music—Mr Mossley

Instrumental Music students are ending Term 2 with a bang, when they perform alongside Brisbane based group TOPOLOGY. Topology are a contemporary ensemble featuring Saxophone, Violin, Viola, Double Bass and Piano. Speaking from firsthand knowledge, I have had the opportunity to play original works with the group, which blew me away. They are playing and composing some of the most modern music coming out of Australia and should be a concert not to miss. They are in town on their ‘Share House’ tour, visiting regional QLD to perform and conduct workshops with Music students. Come long and support our students and see some World class musicians on Sunday June 22 – at the World Theatre. Get your tickets early.

Random Acts of Kindness Project

BE KIND. BE THOUGHTFUL.

Visit to Police Station: Random Acts Of Kindness

In May we celebrate Thanks Giving week. We thought it would be nice to take a thank you cake to our local police station to say thank you to the police liaisons officers who visit our school and the rest of the police who do so much in our community. We also gave them some kindness cards to circulate around the community. They appreciated the cake very much.

Lochlan, Vanessa, and Jacob
RAOK Leaders

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: www.chartowess.eq.edu.au

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.
I am Safe
I am Respectful
I am a Learner