CHARTERS TOWERS CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

Newsletter

Produced for the Charters Towers Central State School Community

Great state. Great opportunity.
From the Principal

The year is simply flying past at such a fast pace and we now only have 4 weeks of school remaining for 2014. Parents remember it is important that your child attends school every day, all day, as even the last few weeks of the term are important for your child’s educational development. Remember if your child is away please let the office know as soon as possible as we can then record the reason for your child’s absence on our school’s system. The next 20 school days will be crucial learning opportunities for your child. All classes are presently completing their end of year assessment items and writing report cards therefore even missing one school day can have an impact on student learning and achievement. Our school’s official last day of the year is Friday 12th December however our school will be holding a break up day on Thursday 11th December, with students who have no suspensions and 2 or less detentions for the term invited to attend.

Swimming Carnival
Charters Towers Central State School’s annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 5th December. The carnival will be held from 9am to 12noon at the town pool and all students will be involved in the events. Students are asked to arrive at the pool between 8.30 and 9, ready to swim. Parents are asked to either drop their children off directly at the pool on Friday, or organise for your children to walk/ride to the pool themselves. Transport from Central SS to the pool can be organised by request if needed—simply contact the school office and advise the ladies if you need this option. As Friday 5th December will be a regular school day, all children are expected to attend the swimming carnival. School will technically be closed from 9 to 12 on Friday as all children are expected at the town pool. At the conclusion of the carnival students will be returning to school and resume normal school activities. Children will be transported back to Central by bus at the conclusion of the carnival. There is no entry cost for those families who have already paid in full for swimming this year—your entry fee has been included in this year’s swimming levy. There is a pool entry charge of $2 that families who have not attended swimming this year will be required to pay. Further information will be sent home shortly by Mrs Miller.

Prep Open Day
Our next Prep Open Day will be held on Tuesday 25th November commencing at 9am. Prospective students commencing Prep in 2015 are encouraged to attend and experience the wonderful Prep program that is on offer at Central. For more information contact the school office on 4756 2333.

Bus Students
Parents whose children travel home from school on the bus are reminded that if circumstances change and your child will not be using the bus in the afternoon that they must notify Central SS. There have been a number of cases lately whereby the school has not been notified that children are not catching the bus in the afternoon due to changes in circumstances. In cases where the school is not notified of changes it becomes very difficult for staff on duty at the bus stop to determine exactly where children are required to go home in the afternoon.Legally the school is required to place a child on the bus unless the school is advised otherwise by the child’s guardian. The school understands that circumstances change and there are times when your child might not need to catch the bus. We do however ask that when these occasions occur the school Administration is notified. We will then inform staff on duty at the bus stop and also the bus company.
Good Luck Stephanie

Stephanie Lowe, who is Year 6, is presently Queensland at the national softball trials in Toowoomba. I am very pleased to inform the community that Stephanie was named Captain of one of the QLD teams, which is a huge honour for Stephanie. Stephanie will be competing in Toowoomba over the weekend and will return to school late next week. Central SS would to congratulate Stephanie on her achievements and wish her well in Toowoomba.

School Leaders 2015

I would like to congratulate the students who presented Leadership speeches on parade this week. Students who have nominated for the positions of House Leader and School Captain presented speeches to our school community outlying why they are the best person for the role. With Year 7’s officially commencing High School next year our present Year 5’s will become the senior class at Central in 2015. Next week the school will vote for their preferred House Leaders and School Captains with the results announced at the Awards Night.

Awards Night

The 2014 Awards Night will be held on Monday 8th December, at the Central SS Hall, commencing at 6pm. Very shortly notes will be coming home outlining the time your child needs to be at Central SS for the Awards Night and what clothing they are required to wear (some children will need to be dressed in their formal uniforms). Each class will be performing a presentation on the night, therefore it is essential that every child attends the Awards Night. All parents, guardians and community members are invited to attend the Awards Night.

Year 7 Graduation Ceremony

The Year 6 and 7 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday 10th December at the Golf Club, with Year 6 and 7 students and their families invited to attend. If you are planning to attend, ensure you RSVP through the school office by Wednesday 19th November at the latest.

Reading at Home

Improving student’s reading abilities is one of our school’s top priorities for the remainder of the school term. Our teachers and teacher aides work extremely hard with your child to help them to improve their reading however it is vital that children are reading at home each night, and returning their readers to school the following day. Every child should be reading at home at night for at least 15 minutes. Parents, with Christmas approaching, books and novels are a wonderful Christmas gift that you can give to your child. The gift of reading is a skill that all children will utilise when they are older.

Absence from School

From next Tuesday I will be taking sick leave for 5 days to have some surgery on my sinuses. I will be returning to Central on Tuesday next week however I will be keeping in contact with the school on a regular basis. Mr Stephen Crow will be the Acting Principal while I am on leave.

The next four weeks of school are the busiest of the school year, and students will soon begin to feel tired and perhaps even moody. It is important that children continue to attend school every day, right up until the end of the school year, as there is still a great deal of new concepts to be taught and assessments to be made.

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.
Central Chatters

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

Prep—Miss Stowe

The end of the year is fast approaching and our classroom has been a hive of activity. We have been finishing our assessment and readying for the end of the year. In English we have been practising our reading and understanding of stories. This week we also wrote a letter to a friend that has moved far away. It was interesting to read some of the great letters that had been written.

In maths we have been demonstrating our learning by making a cubby house for our toy. We measured our toy and worked out how big our beds needed to be and what furniture would fit in our house. In history, we learnt about sequencing events we celebrate in Australia in order. We also got to talk about a special event that we celebrate with our family.

In science we have been learning about what objects bounces, rolls, slides and spins. We have also been learning about properties of different objects and what helps them move.

Congratulations to Rhys Cowan for students of the week!!!!

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Year 1—Miss Jensen

As we draw near to the end of the year, we continue to finish up our final assessment pieces and bring our Units to a close.

Just a reminder that our “Cupcakes and Milkshakes” morning tea is drawing closer and those students who have returned their homework 7 times across the Term will be invited to celebrate at this special event.

Next week, we will be inviting our Grandparents to visit to our classroom to ask them questions about their childhoods. A letter will be sent out with all the details.

Year 2—Miss Cran

Congratulations to Thomas for receiving student of the week last week. Temia was also lucky enough to have a ticket selected in the SWPBS draw on parade last Friday and our class won the ‘Golden Boot’ PE award for the week as well!

Most students are nearly finished writing their stories and are heading towards the publishing stage. They will be typing their stories and using the computer to create illustrations to go with their writing.

Finally, it was wonderful to see so many beautifully dressed students last Tuesday for the Melbourne Cup. Everyone looked fabulous, but a special mention to Kayesla and Mikaela who the judges selected as ‘best dressed’ from our class.
Year 3—Mr Moore

We are coming toward the end of the Fourth Term and continuing our push to complete all assessment tasks. The students are working very hard and are pushing to stay at school, even when slightly ill. In particular, the poetry that we are working on shows fantastic progress and some students are displaying mature writing skills.

Our attendance rate is continuing to increase, which is great to see. Attending school every day is very important as every minute in the classroom is a chance for the students to revise or learn new or old concepts. Swimming continues and is a great part of the week. It is great to see so many kids involved in swimming each week. It is also great to see the improvement and the growth of confidence the students are displaying.

Keep up the good work!

Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch

Hasn’t this year flown by! We only have 4 short weeks left of school and many of us are counting down already. This is a busy time in year 4 with many assessments being completed so report cards can be written. Therefore it is very important that students are attending each day.

In science students are creating a game with forces that can be completed in 60 seconds. So don’t be surprised if they are asking for your ideas or random objects from the house for these games. Rehearsals have also started for our end of year performance for awards night. This year the students chose the song they will perform.

We are also wanting to decorate a shirt that the students will wear for this performance, so if you could please send in a plan coloured t-shirt preferably white by the 28th of November this would be greatly appreciated. Thanks again for all your support this year. We are looking forward to the last few weeks of grade 4.

From the Sportshed—Mrs Miller

The students have been working hard in HPE classes, with all students showing great determination and enthusiasm in the pool. Well done to those students who have consistently attended swimming lessons over the course of the last 5 weeks. The unit we run at Central is based around survival techniques and water confidence, which is essential for all children in this day and age. We have 2 more weeks in the pool and we will spend it getting ready for our Interhouse Swimming Carnival in week 9. Don’t forget our Friday swim classes will have their make-up lessons in week 9. This will be on the Thursday (4th Dec) at the same times, as our swimming carnival is to be held on the Friday 5th December.

On Friday the 7th of November, some students from our school competed in the Interschool Swimming Carnival held at the town pool. The students conducted themselves well and displayed wonderful sportsmanship throughout the day. Well done to these students: Stephanie Lowe, Lochlan Piper, Jayme Oakely and Keiley Hermann.

In week 9, (Friday 5th December) we will be running our Interhouse swimming carnival which will be for the whole school. It would be terrific to see everyone getting in the pool, whether it is for the 50m races, 25m races, pool noodle races or novelty races to help earn points for their house. The carnival will commence at 11:30am. Some more information will come out next week to explain the day in more detail. Parents are welcome to come and support their children on the day.

Stephanie Lowe has currently been in Toowoomba with the QLD Softball team, competing against all the other states. It was great to hear that she was selected as the Captain of the White QLD team. What an honour that is for Steph. All her hard work has certainly paid off. It will be great to hear how she went when she returns next week.
Year 5/6—Miss Boyle

As the years draws closer to the end, year 5/6 are working hard to finish all of their assessment tasks as well as taking the opportunity to revise important concepts. Today students from year 5 and 4 are presenting their speeches for the position of school and house captain in 2015. It was wonderful to see parents and guardians support the students as they get up on parade and deliver their speeches. The students are very excited and have spent the last 5 weeks writing and presenting their speeches.

There are a number of important dates coming up for grade 5/6 students over the next few weeks. Year 5 has a transition afternoon over at State High on Thursday the 27th starting at 1:30pm. Students will come back to Central before 3:00pm. On the 1st and 2nd of December year 6 students are attending two all day transitions at State High. Year 6 students will need to be dropped off and picked up from State High on both days. Our annual swimming carnival is on Friday the 5th of December. Awards night is on Monday the 8th of December and finally our year 6 and 7 graduation dinner is on Wednesday the 10th of December.

Yr 6/7—Mr Crow

While I was absent from school on Monday and Tuesday several of the students chose to demonstrate totally inappropriate, highly unacceptable behaviours with the replacement teacher. This was extremely disappointing considering the amount of time and effort put into discussing with the students the need to make ‘good choices’. Having made these poor choices some of these students then failed to acknowledge their role in these behaviours. All year one of the messages that the students have received is: if you are not prepared to accept the consequences of your actions, make another (better) choice. This type of behaviour raises questions about whether all of our senior students are mature and responsible enough for the move to high school. If not, then it is time to ‘step up’!

Two reminders-
1. Expression of Interest in the Year 7 Graduation Dinner must be returned by 19 November at the latest. No late requests will be accepted.
2. The Transition Days for both Year 6 and Year 7 are Monday, 1 December and Tuesday, 2 December. The students will be placed in their learning groups (classes) for next year. This will be an opportunity to interact with the students they will experience year seven and eight with respectively.

The ability to read text fluently and make meaning from text is arguable the greatest skill we can empower any child with. As a parent you can help by simply listening to your child read each night and asking them a few questions about what they have read, or having your child recount or summarise what they have read to you. The world is a busy place and we are all tired after a long hard day …but I’m sure every parent wants to give their child the best chance at succeeding in life. Reading is the key to success.

Enrol for Prep in 2015

If your child was born between 1st July 2009 and 30th June 2010, they are eligible to start Prep in 2015, and Year 1 in 2016. 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.
State Schools Update

Our Year 6 students are ready for Year 7

Did you know that next year more than half the students in Year 7 will be turning 13 and in their eighth year of school? Educators agree that young teenagers are ready for the greater independence and depth of learning that high school provides. If you have any questions about your child starting Year 7 in high school next year, talk to us or visit A Flying Start. www.flyingstart.qld.gov.au

Congratulations to our Students of the Week & SWPBS Winners
Charters Towers Central State School now has a free App to help families stay up to date with events that are occurring at Central. Charters Towers Central State School can now send text messages through the QSchools app allowing families to instantly receive key messages and updates. The QSchools app is free to download from the Apple, Google and Windows stores. Importantly, you must ‘favourite’ our school in the QSchools app to receive messages via your mobile device. It’s very easy to do—simply follow the steps outlined below.

**STEP 1** – Download the QSchools App - it’s free from iTunes, Google Play and the Windows Store

**STEP 2** – Click on the “School Search” button

**STEP 3** – Search for Charters Towers Central State School

**STEP 4**—Tick the star to favourite CTCSS. This ensures you’ll receive messages to your mobile device.

**REMEMBER**
If you are having difficulty downloading the App, or are unsure what to do, you can simply visit the school Administration and we will be very happy to assist you. It normally takes less than 3 minutes to download and set up the App.