



# 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](mailto:admin@chartowess.eq.edu.au)



# Central Chatters



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Swimming Continues

Thursday & Friday  
each week

### Playgroup

Held every  
Wednesday and  
Friday. Everyone is  
welcome to attend

### Parade

Held every Monday  
afternoon starting 2.40  
in the Hall

### Awards Night

Monday 9th December  
@ CTCSS Hall

### Year 7 Graduation

Wed 11th December  
@ Civic Club

### Break Up Day

Thursday 12th Dec

## *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 2013. 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 13th December however our school will be holding a break up day on Thursday 12th December, with students who have no suspensions and 2 or less detentions for the term invited to attend.

### **School Staffing 2014**

At the end of the year, many hours are dedicated to trying to get the best classroom structures possible. This obviously includes looking at how many teachers have been allocated to the school (on anticipated numbers) and the individual year level numbers. The needs of individual students and class groups, strengths and abilities of teachers, teacher requests for specific grades, teaching team arrangements and special needs of individual students are also considered. It is a complex process. At present, 2014 classes and staff are anticipated to be as follows:

- ◆ Prep—Miss Matthews
- ◆ Year 1—Miss Jensen (newly appointed teacher from Winton SS)
- ◆ Year 2—Miss Cran
- ◆ Year 3—Mr Moore
- ◆ Year 4—Miss Blanch (a newly appointed teacher from the Brisbane region)
- ◆ Year 5/6—Miss Boyle
- ◆ Year 6/7—Mr Crow

Final class groups will be determined in the last week of school however until the magical 8th day of school in 2014, whereby all staffing for QLD government schools is finalised, nothing can be assured or confirmed.

### **Swimming Carnival**

Charters Towers Central State School's annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 6th 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 6th 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.

**Remember our  
school's number:**

**4756 2333**

**Student Absentee  
Line:**

**4756 2366**

**Office Hours  
8am to 4pm  
Week Days**

**School Leaders 2014**

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 outlining why they are the best person for the role. Next year is a unique year for Queensland schools—it will be the final year of primary school for both our Year 6 and year 7 students as from 2015 Year 7 will be moving to the High School. To ensure fairness to our Year 6 and 7 students, both cohorts of children are able to nominate for both House Captain and School Captain positions in 2014. Usually the position of School Captain is reserved for Year 7 students. This week students and staff at Central have voted for their preferred leaders, with the results announced during the Awards Night in December.

**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.

**Awards Night**

The 2013 Awards Night will be held on Monday 9th 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 7 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday 11th December at the Civic Club, with Year 7 students and their families invited to attend. The cost of the meal for adults is \$22.00. Tickets must be pre-purchased from the Office by Monday 27th November. If you are planning to attend, ensure you RSVP through the school office by Wednesday 20th November at the latest.

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. Our final P&C meeting for 2013 will be held on Wednesday the 27th November, starting at 3.15pm. I hope to see you there.  
Nick Shirley—Principal Charters Towers Central SS



# Icy Cups



Icy Cups will be sold on Monday and Thursday  
afternoons for 50 cents

**[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.



# 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 2014, and Year 1 in 2015. 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.



## Prep—Miss Mathews

It is hard to believe that the year is almost over... Wow! As you know, we have had a wonderful time in prep this year and travelled so far with our learning and development. Thank you everyone for your continued help, support and motivation to keep going especially as we near the BUSY end of term.

We are still deciding on an end of year concert item. Once assessments are finalised and report cards finished, we will place a larger emphasis on this. But for now, we are still working hard and putting in 100% effort. Our school wide focus on reading has had a positive impact at prep with numerous teacher aides coming down each afternoon to support our learning.

In the near future, we will also start transition visits to Year 1. These will be short visits to our classroom to get to know where we will be next year and to feel safe and secure. Congratulations to Preston Arrowsmith for being our student of the week.

## Year 1—Miss Bowen

Our homework returns and Library borrowing were looking a lot better this week. Remember Library borrowing is every Tuesday and homework is due back Fridays. Well Done to Aaliyah, Kayesla, Felicity, Mika, Tara, Trevor and Steven for always returning these on time! We have just had a great (and very messy) day at Under 8s. The firemen were unable to attend but hopefully they will be back later in the Term to visit Year 1 again and show off their fire truck! I hope everyone continues to come every day so they don't miss out. Thank you to all the Year 1 parents and carers who are calling the absentee hotline when your children cannot attend school. I have hardly had to send home any attendance notes this term with almost all of us attending every single day. Well done Year 1! Swimming will be back to normal each Friday now, so please continue to remember everything needed on this day. If possible, it would be great if clothing items, towels, goggles, and sunscreen could be named as we had a few mix ups last week! We are almost at the end of the year! Please encourage your child to continue working as hard as they can. They are all doing a fantastic job!

## Year 3—Miss Boyle

Congratulations to all students who completed their poems for English this term. Students chose to write about the Burdekin River and described it in terms of what they see, feel and hear when they are there. All students wrote three stanzas and included language features such as alliteration, onomatopoeia and descriptive adjectives. Students were very proud of their work and enjoyed presenting it to the class. This week students will type them out and bring a home a copy.

A focus in our classroom at the moment is comprehension and reading. I would like to congratulate everyone for putting in their best effort and showing improvement every week.

## Year 2—Miss Cran

So many award winners over the last two weeks in year two! Last week Samara, Izaak and Ryan received class students of the week for an excellent effort in reading comprehension. Ryan also received the class student of the week this week for his imaginative story writing. We have had quite a few SWPBS ticket winners including Tyrin, who has settled in very nicely in his first few weeks at Central. We are busily completing lots of assessments at the moment and many students are nearly finished writing their stories and 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! Well done!

## Congratulations to our Students of the Week & SWPBS Winners



## Yr 4- Miss Williamson

As I write this newsletter article there are only 23 school days left for 2013.

Over the coming weeks, there are still many tasks that the students have to complete.

In SOSE, the students are learning about Antarctica. They have a PowerPoint presentation to complete, as well as their related Technology task. This project should have commenced for all students last week, however only a handful of students collected the materials they required from home. Due to the remaining school days becoming numbered, it is essential that students bring in the materials so the task can be constructed in order for it to be assessed. Failure to complete the task will be reflected in the Semester 2 report card.

In English, our focus has moved to the packaging of products and the persuasive techniques advertisers use. Students have been asked to collect any empty breakfast cereal packets and bring them into school.

Many students are starting to 'slacken' off on their homework. This week the entire class remained in at morning tea to either fix up mistakes or complete the previous nights work. Reading logs at present are not being consistently signed each night. As a result of this the students are spending some of their playtime reading to me. Some students have not read a single book at home for the entire term! This lack of commitment to improve their English skills is reflected daily in the tasks completed at school.

As the term draws to a close, please think about whether you would like your students belongings such as dictionary, paint shirt, USB, and spare books sent home or for them to be stored at school in their 2014 classroom.

## Learning Centre- Mrs Wood-Brown

With only 20 school days left in 2013, it is vital that your child attends each day. It is difficult to give a comprehensive view of your child's abilities, on report cards, when they are not attending school.

Reading and comprehension is extremely important for everyone. To assist your child with their reading please have them read at home and ask them questions about their reading to ensure they are understanding what is being read. It can be as simple as reading the back of a can, a recipe, instructions or anything with text. I have noticed improvements in most of my students with their reading, however I believe they can improve more.

We have a lot happening in the next few weeks of school and practice has begun towards our Awards night performance. Mr Moore's and my students are very enthusiastic about their performance. Mr Moore and I would appreciate if all of our classes were in attendance to let your child finish their year level with a bang.

## Year 5/6—Mr Moore

The end of Week 6 is upon us and again time is flying away. The students have completed their Persuasive speeches and have done a great job taking on different personas or remaining themselves to persuade the class as to why they should be a School Captain.

The student's art piece this term will require them to bring in a couple of objects from home. These will be required on Thursday's and will allow the students to complete their Art and Technology assessment pieces.

Also, our Year 5/6 camp is coming up very soon and we need to make sure all notes are in so that your child can participate. If you do not have a permission note then please see Miss Kaylene for another one. Students have been invited dependent upon their behaviour.

Finally, congratulations to all students from Year 5/6 who tried out for School or House Leaders on Parade this Monday. All speeches were well presented and displayed the effort and dedication the students have. Well done, Alexis, Crystal-Lee, Skye, Tara, Matthew, Seth, Jester and Shane.

## Year 6/7—Mr Crow

Our school is making a united and concerted effort to raise the standard of reading and reading comprehension of our students. The ability to read text fluently and make meaning from text is arguably 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.

### Two reminders-

1. The High School is holding an 'Open House' on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

The students are currently making coin launchers. This technology challenge asks the children to design a 'machine' which 'fires' a twenty cent coin along the floor. The students have to calibrate the launcher so the coin stops within a target at different distances. It has been interesting watching the students develop different ideas and construct their launchers. Most of the students appear to be having a great time. However, as often occurs, there are students who refuse to participate or those who lack the responsibility to bring along the materials they need. I have used this opportunity to relate their efforts or lack of effort to life outside of school. Unfortunately, many of our students fail to understand the concept of responsibility and reliability. How will they go when they enter the work force? How will their employer react? Do these attitudes develop over time?

## 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.

More information is available from [http://access.health.qld.gov.au/hid/InfectionsandParasites/ViralInfections/measles\\_fs.asp](http://access.health.qld.gov.au/hid/InfectionsandParasites/ViralInfections/measles_fs.asp)

## Millchester Scout Group open day



November 23<sup>rd</sup>  
10am to 2pm

### ALL CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ARE FREE

Sausage sizzle and cold drinks on sale

Mini market

Crafts, activities and games

Static displays

Car boot sale

Construction & camp cooking

Complete a compass course

Rock climbing wall

Come and see what scouts

Can do for your child.

Activities arranged for each section.

ages	Joey Scouts - 6 - 8yrs
for	Cub Scouts - 8 - 11yrs
each	Scouts - 11 - 14yrs
section	Venturers - 14 - 17yrs

Contacts: Jan Mitchell 4787 4635 / Jeff Lauder 4787 4695  
Email: [janlunt\\_64@hotmail.com](mailto:janlunt_64@hotmail.com)

Photos from around Central SS this week!

