From the Principal

I’d like to welcome each of our Central SS families back to school for Term 4. It’s great to see our school continuing to grow. It’s unbelievable how quickly 2014 has progressed. It won’t be long until the Melbourne Cup is over again for another year, Christmas decorations are in our shops and the count down to the school holidays begins. Parents please remember it is crucial that your child attends school every day. For children to continually improve their school results and achievement, attending school everyday, all day, is crucial. If your child is absent ensure that you contact the school so that we can inform your child’s teacher. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Prep Open Day
Charters Towers Central State School’s first Prep Open Day will be held on Tuesday 28th October, commencing at 9am. If your child is turning 5 by June 30 2015 they are eligible to commence Prep next year. The Open Day will be held in the Prep classroom on Boundary Street and prospective prep students are encouraged to stay with their parents for a “Prep for Prep day”. For more information contact the school office. We hope to see you at the Open Day.

Prep Enrolments 2015
Charters Towers Central SS is now taking Prep enrolments for 2015. If you would like to enrol your child at Central SS all you need to do is visit the office and complete an enrolment form. We will also require a copy of your child’s birth certificate. In Term 4 we will progressively offer prep transition days for those children that have enrolled. These days are vital for future prep children as it allows the child time to settle in at Central, experience the classroom, get to know their teacher and become familiar with other prep children who will join them in 2015. If you have any questions or require further information just contact the school office on 47562333.

School Swimming
Swimming commenced this week at Central SS with students travelling to the pool on Thursdays and Fridays. Swimming will continue until 9th December. The school has heavily subsidized swimming costs this term to assist families as we realise swimming is expensive. This term swimming will cost $40 per child which covers pool entry, instruction and also transport to and from the pool. Payment must be received before children can commence swimming. Part payments can be made if finances are difficult however this must be approved by the school administration beforehand. EFTPOS facilities are available at the Office if you prefer this method of payment. If you have any concerns please contact the Office and the ladies will be happy to assist.

Pupil Free Day
Next Monday the 20th October will be a Ministerial Pupil Free Day for all state schools, including Charters Towers Central SS. This will mean that school will be closed for all children with all school staff undertaking training at school on Monday. School will resume as normal on Tuesday.

2015 School Leaders
Shortly, Charters Towers Central SS will call for nominations for School Leader and House Leader positions for 2015. As Year 7 moves to High School next year our Year 6 students will be the senior students at Central in 2015, meaning students currently in Year 5 are eligible to nominate for School Leader and House Captain positions. A special Leaders Parade will be held on 11th November commencing at 2pm whereby prospective 2014 school leaders will present a speech to the school community outlining why they are best suited to the leadership position. Parents, guardians and community members are encouraged to attend.
**Make every day count in 2014 - newsletter**

Make 2014 the year when your child doesn’t miss a day of school. Research shows that students who have good patterns of attendance are more likely to achieve at school. If students aren’t at school or don’t stay the whole day, they are missing valuable lessons. Check out the new Every Day Counts videos live on DETE TV. [http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland](http://www.youtube.com/DETQueensland)

**Digital Newsletter**

Newsletters are Charters Towers Central SS are now published in digital form and can be accessed via our school’s website www.chartowess.eq.edu.au or our school’s Facebook page. We have found that our newsletters are more successful when they are published online via our website and Facebook site. For this reason, and to save costs associated with printing, we are now publishing the newsletter in digital form only. We are not printing the newsletters as we have previously done. We are aware that some families do not have access to the internet or still prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, and for these reasons we will still print copies of the newsletter for these families. If you would like a printed copy of the newsletter you just need to contact Kaylene in the office.

**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.

**Reading Every Night**

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. Your child should be taking home a Home Reader or a novel every night to read.

**Download our new School App**

All state schools in Queensland now have access to a new Education Queensland developed app called QSchools. The app is free to download from iTunes, Google Play and the Windows Store and allows parents/guardians to connect seamlessly to our school’s website using their mobile device. Importantly, you must search for our school and ‘favourite’ Central in order to receive urgent messages to your phone or mobile device. Further information can be found on the back page of today’s newsletter.

Nick Shirley
Principal—Charters Towers Central State School

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**Icy Cups**

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

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**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

Prep News
Welcome back everyone. I am really looking forward to Term 4 as it is such a busy term. To add to the excitement of things, I will be taking long service leave this term. I have negotiated to take every Friday as long service leave as this will cause the least disruption to our lessons. As you are aware, Friday will be our swimming day and both Nick and I thought that Friday would be the best option for my leave. Fortunately the school has booked Jacqui Green to replace me on Friday’s while I am on leave. Jacqui is a very familiar face to Central and will be a wonderful assess to our Prep classroom.

To compound matters, I will be having surgery in November to remove a small lump from my leg. Because of the nature of my surgery, I will be unable to walk for at least a week. This will be around week 6. Rest assured I will be providing a full curriculum program for our Preps to ensure they will continue to have their learning needs catered for while I am on medical leave.

Our term ahead
This term we will be focusing on a few different topics:
* In Science we will be investigating movement
* In English we will be reading and comprehending stories and writing letters
* In History we will be discussing and reflecting on family stories from the past
* In Mathematics we will be introducing and revising a variety of concepts
* In other areas, we will be learning through play to challenge ourselves to achieve personal goals and/or projects.

Finally, please remember to send in your child’s homework folder to prep each Friday. Please also note that our classroom will be closed each Thursday morning. Children will need to sit at the Tuckshop area or play on the oval. (Depending on their arrival time.)

Have a great weekend everyone.

Prep—Miss Stowe

I hope everyone had a fun and restful school holiday. The year has flown by with Term 4 upon us already. This term we have begun a new Science unit called ‘Move it, move it’. We will be looking at different movements like dancing and running.

For English, we have been looking at how to be the best readers we can be and how pictures can help tell us what the words are. We have also been looking at our sight words and how learning them makes our reading easier. In Maths this week, we have been making our very own playing cards. We did this to show how we can represent numbers in a variety of ways. It was fun playing snap and fish with our new cards.

It has been a busy two weeks so far but everyone is doing their best work. Also, a big Prep S welcome to our newest class member Jackson!!!

Year 1—Miss Jensen

Welcome to Term 4! We have dived straight into our learning this Term and have already taken the time jump into our new Units of work and we have refreshed ourselves of our goals for reading and sight words.

History this Term will focus on how the everyday lives of people have changed over time. Grade 1 will be visiting Zara Clark museum in Week 4 to see the amazing array of historical artefacts this local venue holds. Please keep an eye out for the permission letter which will be sent home over the next few days.

Please remember that Homework is due to be returned on Fridays. It is sent home on Monday. Students are required to only complete 3 - 4 small tasks per night. As per previous Terms, those students who return their homework 8 times throughout the Term will be invited to attend a very special Christmas-themed “Cupcakes and Milkshakes” morning tea in Week 9.
**Year 2—Miss Cran**

Welcome back to Term 4, I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday! We’ve started back straight into the swing of things and have our first assessment task this week for maths. Swimming also starts this week for us on Friday. I hope to see all students participating as swimming is part of the PE curriculum and will be lots of fun. Congratulations to Temia for reaching the 75 nights home reading goal, she received a lovely gold award on parade last week. Keep up with the home reading as there are lots of children who have almost reached a certificate level!

**Year 3—Mr Moore**

Welcome back to school for Term 4. As this is the last term of the year, there are a number of tasks that need to be completed in a short amount of time. This again will be a stressful time for the students as they will be completing their final assessment pieces and getting ready for their transition into year 4.

This term we will be doing morning talks. This is a small added task that the students will complete, on average once a fortnight. They will be switching between: chairperson, show and tell, recite a poem, tell a joke, sports report and a newspaper article. This is a great opportunity for the students to increase their confidence in front of an audience. This skill will be very beneficial as the students head toward their middle years of school.

Swimming begins this week and we will be going on Thursdays at 12 o’clock. The students need to bring their swimming towel, togs and goggles, if necessary to school in a separate bag. We will be changing at school and going to the pool, with only our swimming gear.

I look forward to another great term.

**Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch**

Welcome back to our last term of the year. Term 4 has certainly come around quickly and it’ll be holiday before we know it!

It’s been a great start to the term with high attendance ensuring students are quickly gaining the new concepts we are covering.

In English this term we are looking at persuasive advertisements with students analysing an ad from the past and present to compare how advertisements have changed over time. While in maths we are investigating how decimals and fractions relate then moving on to data collection. Science is a subject the students are particularly enjoying this term as we are playing games similar to Minute to Win It to investigate forces found in everyday life. While in history this term we are again looking at the first fleet but this time looking at the different perspectives people had to the settlement. It’s been great to see students referring back to material covered previously in the year when completing activities in this unit.

Just a few general reminders homework needs to be completed and handed in each week. Swimming is on Thursday so please remember your swimming gear for each week.

Thanks for a great start to the term.

**Year 5/6—Miss Boyle**

Welcome back to term 4! I hope you all had a safe and relaxing holiday. This term we are learning about the art of persuasive speeches and how to effectively deliver one to an audience. At the end of the term Year 5 students will have the opportunity to run for either a school or house captain position in 2015. Part of this requires students to deliver a speech to the school about why they would make a good leader. In class we will be spending time analysing famous speeches and learning about both written and spoken language features.

Swimming starts this week and our class is first up on Thursdays. Students can wear their bathers to school underneath their uniform. Applying sunscreen at home is also a good idea.

I would like to congratulate those students who have returned this term with a positive attitude and a desire to learn. Remaining positive and focused at this point in the year will help students to achieve their learning goals and finish 2014 with a feeling of accomplishment.
I know it seems a long way off yet but the end of the year is approaching fast! We will have many events crammed in over the next few weeks including disco’s, presentation nights, graduations, and swimming carnival just to name a few. In all of this madness it is easy to let the little things slip by you. So now, I think, is an important time to slow down and take a look at your child and see how far they have progressed over the year.

They may have matured and improved their behaviour, or be reading just that much better, or be able to count higher and add larger numbers than ever before, or they may be doing all of these things and more.

Take the time to give yourself, your child and your child’s teacher a pat on the back for all the hard work that we have all put in to expand your child’s future horizon’s.

Then take a deep breath and get ready for the ensuing madness of the end of the year!

L/C—Mr Barath

As we approach the end of the year there is a tendency for the students 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.

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.

An Expression of Interest to attend the Year 6 and 7 Graduation Dinner will be sent home soon. The Dinner is being held at the Golf Club on Wednesday, 10 December. It is hoped that all of our students and their families will be able to join with the staff in celebrating the conclusion of your son’s or daughter’s primary education. Please read the letter carefully and return the Expression of Interest as soon as possible. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school for clarification.

This term the students are undertaking a technology challenge. The students have to design and construct a coin launcher which can be calibrated to ‘fire’ the coin specific distances. This is a great activity which past students have really enjoyed. I look forward to seeing this year’s launchers.
Central Chatters

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

Charters Towers Central State School Prep Open Day
Tuesday 28th October
9:00am—10:30am

Congratulations to our Students of the Week
& SWPBS Winners

CASUAL POSITION AVAILABLE
SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR
Charters Towers Central State School

We are seeking interested persons for a casual position, approximately 1 & half hours per day, on a rotating roster, school days only.

Approved applicants will be required to undergo a medical assessment and pass a blue card application.

Pay rate starts at $28.11 per hour.
Please call 07 47188750 for an application package.
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.

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