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 2013 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.

NAPLAN

Year 3, 5 and NAPLAN results were sent home in the last week and you should have now received these. Simply contact the school office if you did not receive your child’s NAPLAN report. Overall the school is pleased with this year’s NAPLAN results however there are always areas to improve upon. Central State School performed on par, and in some areas, better than other state and private schools in Charters Towers, indicating that the curriculum that is provided at Central is allowing your child to succeed. Many of our children actually achieved some of the nations top results which is very pleasing. The school has made solid improvements in most areas across Year 3, 5 and 7 which is very pleasing. It is really interesting to note that children who attend school all day, every day, have achieved greater success on their NAPLAN results. This directly indicates how important it is for children to attend each day. I’d like to also congratulate our fantastic teaching team and also our wonderful teacher aides. These remarkable people have worked extremely hard over the last 12 months to improve the performance and achievement of each student at the school.

Prep Open Day

Charters Towers Central State School’s first Prep Open Day will be held on Tuesday 29th October, commencing at 9am. If your child is turning 5 by June 30 2014, they are eligible to commence Prep next year. The Open Day will be held in the Prep classroom 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 next week.

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 $44 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

This coming Monday, 21st October, will be 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. Our regular Monday afternoon parade will be held on Tuesday next week.
New Parent Handbook
Attached with today’s newsletter is the new 2014 CTCSS Parent Handbook. The document contains all relevant policies and procedure for our school and is a handy reference for families.

2014 School Leaders
Shortly, Charters Towers Central SS will call for nominations for School Leader and House Leader positions for 2014. Next year will be the final year of primary school for our Year 6 and 7 students as both grades will join the High School in 2015 when Year 7 commences at all state high schools in Queensland. As next year will be the last at Central for our Year 6 and 7 students, both grades will be eligible to nominate for both School Leader and House Leader positions. Previously only Year 7s could nominate for School Leader 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 outlying why they are best suited to the leadership position. Parents, guardians and community members are encouraged to attend.

Brisbane Trip 2014
As 2014 will be the last year of primary school for the 2014 cohort of Year 6 and 7 children, both grades are eligible to attend the annual Brisbane Trip. Year 6 and 7 students should have already brought home information regarding the 2014 Brisbane Trip. The first 55 places on the Brisbane Trip are now full and a waiting list has commenced. Those children who have returned their notes and paid the $200 have successfully secured a place on the trip. If you would like to be added to the waiting list simply return the expression of interest forms that were sent home earlier in the week. A camp meeting will be held at the CTCSS Hall on 7th November commencing at 6pm.

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.

Have a great week.

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.
Prep—Miss Mathews

Welcome back everyone. I am really looking forward to Term 4 as it is such a busy term. As you are aware, swimming started this week. As our swimming lesson is over morning tea we have decided to eat a snack at 10.00am and again when we return from the pool. Please be mindful that your child might need MORE food than usual. Generally, we seem to get very hungry after being down at the pool.

This week we talked about number and began our Term 4 mathematics assessment task. Everyone worked very well. Next week in mathematics we will create pathways. Each child will be responsible for giving directions and moving through a set path. This will be a fun unit, with lots of group play and designing. Our vocabulary consisted of directional terminology such as forward, back, turn, start, finish, through and from. Finally, please remember to send in your child’s homework folder to prep each Friday.

Have a great weekend everyone. Kind regards, Miss Mathews.

PS Thank you to those parents who have sent in a large glue stick for Term 4. If you haven’t done so there is still time.

Year 1—Miss Bowen

The last term of Year One is here and is sure to go fast. Please check with your children if they were sent home with a note requiring more supplies for the last term. Swimming will commence this term also with Year One heading to the town pool at 9.45 and returning to school at 10.45 each Friday. Swimming lessons can be lifesaving and I encourage those who have not yet paid to do so ASAP. Please make sure you send along a sun shirt and everything else your child needs for their lesson. This term in Science we will be examining lights and sounds, and in SOSE we will be studying how people are involved in producing goods, namely through farming foods. We will be making a multi-media presentation on the computers in English regarding a procedure which the students will each learn how to write. Our final Term in Maths will see us looking at two-digit numbers, 2D and 3D shapes, addition and subtraction, number patterns, data collection and representation, and describing the chance of events occurring. It’s going to be very busy and it’s so great to see almost everyone in our class here at school every day so far this term. Please continue to help your child with reading and sight words in their homework each week. I can certainly see many of us improving.

Year 2—Miss Cran

Congratulations to Nikita and Nathan for receiving our class student of the week awards on parade this week. Nikita was helpful in the playground and Nathan was helpful during the science lesson last week. John and Isabelle won SWPBS prizes this week, they were chosen for being safe and a learner, well done! Our swimming lessons start this Friday and because we have the first time slot of the day, students will need to come to school dressed in their swimming gear ready to get on the bus and leave at 9am. Also a reminder that homework is due back to school each Friday, only six students returned their homework last Friday.
Year 3 – Miss Boyle

Year three has had an excellent start to the term with all students displaying a positive attitude towards school and learning. We welcome Miss Blanche to the school as she completes her final prac placement with year 3. This term students are learning how to write and present their own poem, which provides a great opportunity for creativity. Students will learn how to use language features such as alliteration, onomatopoeia and adjectives to create interesting poems.

Year 4 – Miss Williamson

Welcome back to the last term for the 2013 schooling year. During the first half of this term, students are learning about advertisements and the techniques that are used to persuade buyers.

In maths, we are learning about fractions, decimals and chance and data. The continent of Antarctica will be explored in SOSE. Students will be designing an igloo or sled as part of a technology design challenge. They have been asked to start thinking about what materials they will be using and commence collecting these.

In science, students will use games to investigate and demonstrate how forces affect objects through contact and non-contact forces.

I would like to congratulate all students for their effort in completing homework and reading nightly during the week of the term.

Just a reminder, if your child is absent, could you please notify the school either via phone or send in a note with your child upon their return to school. If I do not receive any notification, I will be sending home absence notes and request they be returned to school the following day.

Congratulations to our Students of the Week & SWPBS Winners

I am Safe
I am Respectful
I am a Learner
Year 5/6—Mr Moore

Welcome back to Term 4 and our final term for the year. It is great to see the students come back to school with an enthusiastic and prepared frame of mind. The students have commenced their learning and have already shown some promising signs toward their final assessment for the year.

The first 5 weeks we will focus on completing a Persuasive or Motivational speech in English, multiple assessment pieces for Mathematics, a sculpture in Art, design a new toy in Technology, producing their own information brochure or protest/rally poster in SOSE, swimming in HPE and finally the Year 5’s and 6’s we will continuing to complete a number of experiments and activities in Science. As you can see they have a very busy term ahead.

Swimming begins this week and it is vital that the students remember the correct clothing. Year 5/6 will be swimming on Thursday mornings. We will need to be on the bus at 9am and therefore the students will need to be in their togs ready to go before 9am on Thursdays. Could I please ask that all students are at school between 8:30 and 8:45am so that we are not late to begin our lessons.

Finally, some students do need more stationery, in particular a glue stick, rubber and pencils. Could we please make sure that all students have enough equipment to last the rest of the school year.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to ask.

It was great to see all of my students back on Tuesday after the break. With the hot weather please send a water bottle with your child and ensure they have a wide brimmed hat.

Swimming is a life saving skill. If your child is not attending swimming then they will be completing a booklet about swimming in a buddy class. If they are attending swimming a swim shirt, thongs, sunscreen, thongs and a spare shirt will be required. If your child does not have a swim shirt then they will not be able to swim.

Christmas Around the World is the unit we are completing for SOSE. We learnt about Italy and how they say Merry Christmas plus some of their traditions last week. We are now going to cook an Italian Christmas dessert. This week we will be learning about Christmas in Mexico.

Procedures are the focus genre for English with students learning to follow and write a procedure. We are looking at following directions, recipes and science experiments.

Please check with your child that they have all their stationary needs.

Year 6/7—Mr Crow

The Year 6/7 students once again enjoyed a fantastic day at the High School on Tuesday. The students participated in four different lessons: History, Mathematics, ICT and Food Studies (Hospitality).

There are two more transition days this term - Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th of December. Only the Year 7 students will attend these days as the students will be placed into their class groups for 2014.

A reminder to the parents of Year 7 students there is an ‘Open House’ evening on Thursday, 21 November. The evening commences at 5.30pm in the Resource Centre at the High School. I urge you to take the opportunity to view the wonderful facilities at the High School, meet the staff members teaching your child next year, and to learn about the curriculum your child will be studying at High School.

Year 6 students were given notes about the Brisbane Camp for 2014 on Monday. This trip is being offered to both Year 6 and 7 students in 2014 because of the move of Year 7 students to High School in 2015. Therefore I urge you to return your Expression of Interest quickly as there are only 55 places available.

Year 7 were given Graduation Farewell Dinner notes on Monday. The Year Seven Graduation Dinner is planned for Wednesday, 11 December at the Civic Club. The Expression of Interest needs to be returned by 20 November at the latest.
BOOK FAIR
starts Monday 11th Nov

Bucket Hats are now available for purchase from the school office.
Price—$12.00 (Cash sales only)
Reversible, house colour one side, blue with school logo other side.
Sizes 54cm & 56cm available now, smaller sizes at a later date.

Swimming Term 4

Beginning Thursday 17 October, all Central students will participate in swimming lessons as part of the HPE curriculum. The swimming program will run for 8 weeks and lessons will focus on skills such as water familiarisation, water safety, water survival and basic stroke development.

The cost of swimming per child for 2013 will be $44.00. Charters Towers Central State School has subsidized the costs of swimming to reduce the overall charge for parents. Payment must be received in full before students can swim. Information letters and invoices have been sent home with students. If you require any further Information please call Admin.

Set a good example for children by always making sure everyone is buckled up.

Connecting Queensland
www.tmr.qld.gov.au
FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER

Day for Daniel is not a memorial day – it is a learning day for our Children, which focuses on Child Safety Awareness.

Please support this initiative by coming to school dressed in RED.

Gold coin donation

Proceeds will be donated to the Daniel Morcombe Foundation.