



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



Central Chatters



From the Principal

With only four weeks of Term 2 remaining, classrooms are very busy. Report Cards will be issued to all students before the holidays and teachers are busy ensuring students complete their end of term assessment items and preparing student reports. It is therefore vital that all children attend school all day, every day to ensure they do not miss any lessons or assessment items. Students should be congratulated for their continued efforts to learn to the best of their ability everyday. Our resourceful teachers and teacher aides are dedicated to ensuring each child at Central is able to learn and improve each day. Students at Central SS are making very pleasing progress at school however it's important that parents/guardians continue to keep in regular contact with their child's teacher. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to visit their child's teacher before or after school to discuss any concerns, issues or suggestions that they may have. Classrooms are generally open from 8.30am each morning.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Playgroup

Held Every Friday at
the Prep Room

Student Reading

Every morning from
8.30am in the Library

Parade

Now held every
Friday morning start-
ing 9.00 in the Hall

Active After School

Every Monday &
Tuesday (commences
next week)

**Remember our
school's number:**

4756 2333

Student Absentee

Line:

4756 2366

New Families at Central

I would like to warmly welcome the new families that have arrived at Central in the last two weeks. Central SS has grown considerably this year. We commenced the school year with 155 enrolments, and as of today, we have 181 children enrolled at Central. It is pleasing to see our school growing in size and prospering. I am conscious that there are a number of classes that have become quite large this year, especially in the lower grades. At present we do not have the required numbers of enrolled children to request an additional teacher however we are very close.

Charters Towers Schools win Fanfare

Recently the combined state schools of Millchester, Richmond Hill and Central SS participated in the regional Fanfare Celebrations and competed against the best school bands in the Townsville region. Alexis Nibbs, Vanessa Richter and Emma-Jane Poustie represented Charters Towers Central SS. Fanfare is the biennial statewide festival of bands and orchestras from Queensland state schools. It showcases the exciting music making that occurs in school-based ensembles across the state. The emphasis for Fanfare is on improving the quality of ensembles, promoting the highest possible standard of performance, striving for excellence and encouraging participation. The Charters Towers Combined Band won Gold and were awarded the best primary school band. Congratulations to Mr Mossley, the Director of Music of State Schools in Charters Towers, and to all students from all Millchester, Richmond Hill and Central SSs who participated.



Student Behaviour

It is very pleasing to note that student behaviour at Central continues to improve, with over 90% of children trying very hard to comply with the school's expectations at all times. There are still a number of students who require additional support at school to comply with the school's rules, however these students are improving each day, which is very pleasing. I would like to congratulate those students who are continually abiding by our school's rules and expectations.

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

Parent/Guardian Visits to School

Parents/guardians are reminded that they must visit the school office when collecting children, dropping of 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.

Reading—Every Day Every Night

Charters Towers Central State School's number one improvement agenda in 2014 is reading, and already our school is witnessing some very pleasing improvements across the school. At Central we have a motto - Read Every Day Every Night. Children are expected to be reading at home every day every night, for at least 20 minutes. Charters Towers Central State School has also developed a research based reading intervention program that operates each day using qualified school personal which is proving very successful. The program has only been in operation at Central for 10 weeks yet has witnessed students improving their reading levels at rates well above their chronological age equivalent with many students who previously were reluctant readers now fluently reading on par or above their grade levels. The key driver of student reading success however involves parental support at home, and we thank the parents and guardians who are reading with their children 'every day every night'.

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.

Prep—Miss Mathews

Hi everyone,

I can't believe how quickly the term is flying by. Where did the past 6 weeks go?

Thank you again for your continued support with homework each week. We are all really happy with the children's progress this term and homework has been a big part of this success. A second big thank you goes out to Jennifer and Rosena for being our parents on roster each week. If you would like to come along and help out next week you are most welcome. I would really love to make a fifth group as our current reading groups are getting a little large.

This week we welcome Sharni Major to our class. Sharni and her family have joined us from Western Australia.

Have a happy and safe weekend everyone. See you next Wednesday after I return from Long Service Leave. Kind regards, Miss Mathews.

Year 1—Miss Jensen



It's been a busy time here in P/1. This Term in Science, we are learning about materials and how they are made into different products. We recently discussed how we use particular materials to make products. We talked about how it would be crazy to make shoes out of cement and walls made out of paper. With this in mind, we designed and created a chair made entirely out of newspaper and sticky tape. While the students all worked very hard at creating items that looked like chairs, we quickly found that paper isn't always the best choice of material to make the final product of a chair.

Students are reminded that homework is to be returned on Fridays. Like last Term, those students who return their completed homework 6 times

throughout the Term will be rewarded with a "Milkshakes and Cupcakes" morning tea.

We are also in need of items such as shells, hard and soft plastic pieces, lids with holes, alfoil, straws, natural items, fabric, wood, cork, different types of paper, pasta tubes, cardboard, and hanging materials (e.g. coat hanger, short smooth sticks) for an assessment piece. If you have any of these things lying around at home, we can put them to very good use!

We would love to have some parent helpers in our classrooms throughout the week, particularly in the mornings. If you can regularly spare even half an hour, please let me know. Have a great week!



Year 2—Miss Cran

Congratulations to Joshua and Aaliyah for being the class award winners over the last few weeks. Corbyn received his 25 night reading award on parade last week and Felicity earned her 50 night award also! The next few weeks will be the busiest of our year so far. We have lots of assessment items coming up and last week we focused on writing a non-stereotypical character description. Our Geography assessment will commence this week also. Finally, I am a little concerned that some students have been doing less home reading this term compared to the first term. All students have a selection of home readers in the classroom ready to be taken home. I have provided a few students with new home reading record sheets as they have lost their previous ones. I am happy to print out another sheet for anyone else who has lost theirs, if they let me know.

Year 3—Mr Moore

The Term is going very quickly and I am very proud of the dedication that most of the students are showing towards their learning.

NAPLAN is finished for 2014 and the students tried their hardest across all three tests. These were a big deal for the students and they should all be commended in finishing their first National standardised testing period in a mature manner.

There is a lot to be completed over the next 4 weeks, before the mid-year break occurs and the students will need to continue to take responsibility for their reading every day and completing their homework every week. It is still quite disappointing to see that several students are not finishing their homework each week. I would urge students and parents to make this a priority during the week, as it is important revision time.

Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch

First of all we would like to welcome Latisha Santo to Year 4 we hope you settle in well. These past 2 weeks in Year 4 have been a busy time. Students have been completing their English assessments where they had to write a traditional Asian story. We would like to congratulate all children for producing fantastic stories.

We have started a new unit of work in English where we are looking at dreamtime stories. Students will be required to make a power point presentation at the end of term analysing one of the stories covered in class.

As it is coming to the middle of Term 2 we have noticed that some students are running low on stationary supplies. Please consult your individual child on what they need but common items that need replacing are pencils, rubbers, 3/4 lined writing books and glue. It is important that students are coming to school with their own supplies.

The Library recently sent out a list of students that have overdue books. Students were told of the books that are outstanding so please have a look around at home for any school books that were borrowed from the library.

Lastly we would like to congratulate everyone for an improved effort in bringing in their homework. It's great to see parents becoming involved in students learning particularly reading with them every night. We would also like to congratulate everyone for an improved attendance this term it's great to see everyone at school every day and if you are away don't forget to inform the office. Thanks for supporting your students this term.



Showing our
origin colours!!!

Tuckshop will be closed Thursday 5 June 2014.

Year 6/7—Mr Crow

Mouse Trap racers are consuming the children's spare time at the moment as they 'race' to get the best performance from their racer before they are assessed. Construction of the racers has proved to be quite challenging, especially connecting the wheels.

The students are finalising their memoirs. It has been interesting to read about their experiences. It has been extremely challenging for some students as they have revisited 'sad' memories which have rekindle emotions they have not dealt with since that time. It is these emotions that we are attempting to 'put down on paper'.

Many of our Year 6 and 7 students have been involved in touch football trials since the last newsletter. Congratulations to Stephanie Lowe and Crystal-Lee Walsh who have been selected to attend the NQ Touch trials. Well done also to the boys' touch team. The boys grew in confidence and learnt from each game they played. Their final game was their best performance and there is nothing like ending the season on a win!

Stephanie Lowe, Crystal-Lee Walsh and Ella Piper also represented Charters Towers in the NQ Soccer trials. Well done girls. They must be exhausted...just like their parents' bank accounts.

Finally, the number of students completing homework at school each morning is growing rapidly. I am happy to supervise and assist students with their work but many students are not finishing work prior to the start of school resulting in them having to give up morning break time to complete tasks. Of more concern is the habit that is being established. The time will come (at High School) when they are not able finish tasks if it is always left to the last minute. This will impact on their academic achievement.

Congratulations to our Students of the Week and SWPBS winners



Queensland
Government

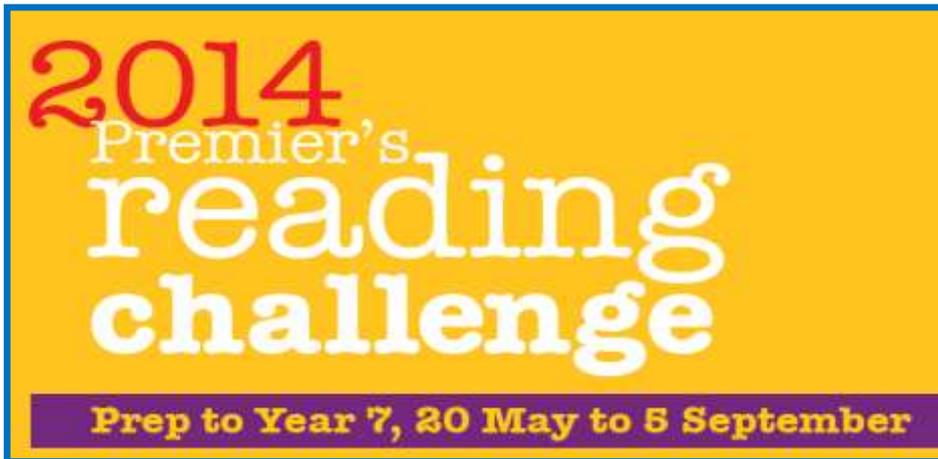


Look out!
There are children about

Encourage your child to walk to school by showing them the safest route:

- ✓ less traffic
- ✓ fewer roads to cross.

Connecting Queensland
www.tmr.qld.gov.au



The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual statewide event for students from Prep to Year 7 in state, Catholic and independent schools as well as home-educated students. Charters Towers Central SS has entered the challenge this year. Since 2006 the Premier's Reading Challenge has aimed to improve literacy and encourage children to engage in reading for learning and pleasure. The Premier's Reading Challenge is not a competition but a way to encourage students to develop a love of reading for life. Through the challenge students are given an opportunity to further develop their appreciation of the English language and are encouraged to explore and enjoy a wide range of literary texts. This year we have entered our whole school into the challenge and we are hoping to have every student complete it. For a student to successfully complete the Premier's Reading Challenge they must read or experience the number of books indicated in the table below.

Year level	Number of books
Prep to Year 2	Read or experience* 20 books
Years 3 and 4	20 books
Years 5 to 7	15 books

*Experiencing a book can include classroom or at-home activities such as shared reading, listening and reading along with a text, or being read to.

The requirement for Year 5 through to Year 7 students to read 15 books rather than 20 books acknowledges that older students are likely to select longer, more complex books that may take them longer to read. Students are encouraged to select a range of fiction and non-fiction books suited to their reading ability.

The reading period is between 20 May and 5 September.

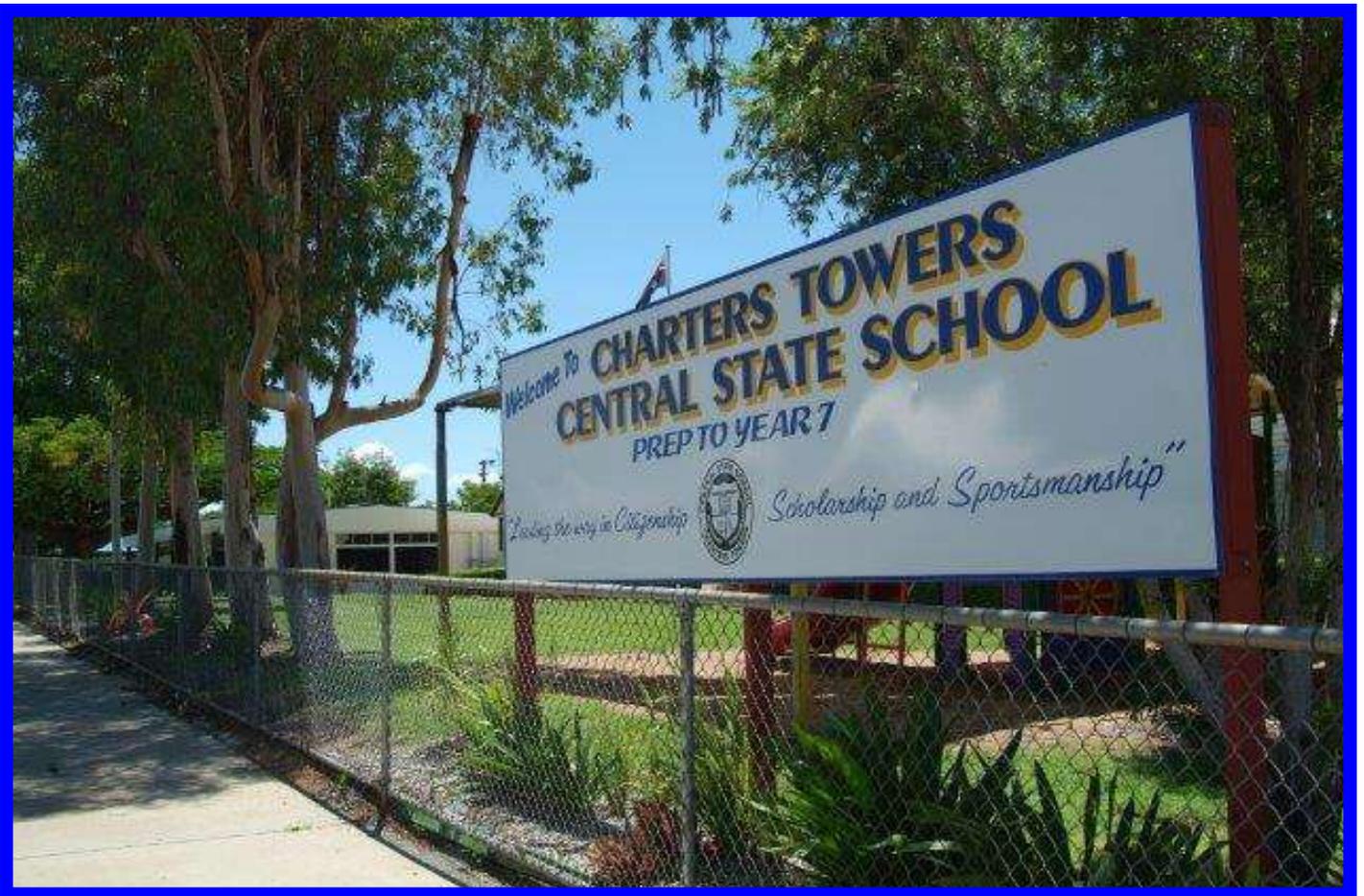
15 to 20 books may seem like an onerous task but with reading each night and students, teachers and parents selecting texts that are appropriate in length and level the reading list will be filled before you know it. Students who complete the challenge

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

