From the Principal

World Teachers Day
Today is World Teachers Day. I would like to acknowledge and thank our wonderful teaching team and everyone who assists with teaching children at our great school. Our school is fortunate to enjoy wonderfully talented and dedicated teachers. Thank you for your care and support of our great students. Our teachers at Central are often found at school very early in the mornings, late in the evenings and often on weekend planning, preparing and marking materials to ensure your child is supported in the best possible manner.

With more than three quarters of the 2014 school year now behind us, the weeks are quickly passing us by. Term 4 is always a very busy period in schools with many upcoming events planned that are listed on the front page of our newsletter. Our school’s Awards Evening will be held on Monday 8th December in the Central SS Hall. The night will commence with drinks and nibbles at 5.30pm and the ceremony commencing at 6pm. The Year 6&7 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday 10th December at the Charters Towers Golf Club. More information regarding both ceremonies will be sent home shortly.

While the school is making plans for our end of year celebrations, there are still six weeks of school remaining, totalling 30 school days. The next six weeks of school are the most important of the school year. All classes still have new content to introduce and teach to students. This is also the period whereby teachers consolidate the concepts taught throughout 2014; commence assessments to determine student comprehension and understanding; and ensure each child has the required skills for the following school year. Regular school attendance is vital throughout the remaining six weeks of school.

Melbourne Cup Day
This Tuesday is Melbourne Cup Day and to celebrate children are encouraged to come to school dressed in their best ‘Race Day Outfits’. In previous years we’ve witnessed some wonderful ‘fashions on the field’ and it’s hoped 2014 can follow past traditions.

School Staffing
2014 teacher staffing is almost finalised. I can confirm the following at this stage:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Miss Libby Matthews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Miss Debbie Jensen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Miss Alaryce Cran</td>
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<td>Year 3</td>
<td>To Be Advised by Education Queensland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Miss Hannah Blanch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Mr James Moore</td>
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<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Mr Stephen Crow</td>
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Learning Centre classes will not see significant changes with Miss Amber, Mrs Thomas and Mr Barath all returning in 2015.

Official classes for 2015 are still being determined but it is anticipated that they will remain similar to 2014. Our 2015 Prep students will determine whether our school is eligible for an additional teacher after “Day 8” in early February. We are aiming to have a Prep class of around 20 children. If you are aware of students who are prep age and ready to start Prep in 2015, encourage their families to visit Central SS and discuss educational options with our wonderful early years teaching team.
**Central Chatters**

**Holiday Time for Mr Barath**
Commencing this afternoon Mr Barath will be taking 5 weeks well deserved Long Service Leave. Troy and his family will be travelling to Europe for a well earned family holiday. Troy will be returning for the last week of the school term. Ashleigh Ham will be joining Central to replace Troy while he is on leave. Ashleigh is a new teacher to Charters Towers and has been in region for just a few weeks. Ashleigh visited Troy's class earlier in the week and is quite excited to join our Central team for 5 weeks. Central SS wishes the Troy and Tracey Barath a great holiday and we also warmly welcome Ashleigh to our school team.

**Reading at Home**
This week I have set a challenge for all students. Those in Prep to Year 3 are challenged to read a different home reader each night and return the book to school for changing. Those in Year 4 to 7 are challenged to read a chapter book throughout the week. Reading is the foundation of all learning. Research has proven that children who read at home every night become fluent readers and succeed at school. Children will need support at home when reading— younger children will need to be read to or read a book together with an adult. Staff at school are always available to assist parents who have questions regarding home reading. Remember all children should be reading at home for at least 15 minutes each night.

**Leadership Parade**
A special School Leaders Parade will be held Friday 14th November, whereby our prospective 2015 school leaders will present a speech to our school community, outlining why they are the most suited to be our 2015 school leaders. The special parade will commence at 9.10am with our regular parade occurring straight afterwards. All parents, community members and friends of the school are invited to attend this special occasion. The 2015 school leaders will be announced at the school’s Awards Night.

**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.

**Arts Council**
Arts Council will be returning to Central SS on Monday 3rd November with all parents and community members welcome to attend. The show is titled “Get Set to Read” and will commence at 2pm in the Central SS Hall. The show is of no cost to children.

I will unfortunately be away from Central on Monday to Wednesday next week. I have been asked by Education Queensland to visit a school in Gympie to conduct an audit of a school’s curriculum practices and offer recommendations for further improvement. Stephen Crow will be in charge while I am away however I will have my school mobile with me at all times while I am away.

Have a lovely weekend everyone—Nick Shirley Principal, Charters Towers Central SS

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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

This week we really need to congratulate the children on a fantastic Tuesday morning. As you know, Tuesday was our open day for next year’s preps and our class spent the morning with Miss Stowe. From everyone’s happy smiles I can tell they all had a fabulous time. We will continue to do lots of similar activities, including visits with Miss Jensen over the next few weeks as part of our transition program and in readiness for Year One.

This week in prep we have been busy writing letters to a fictional character called Sam. This is in preparation for our final English assessment task, where we write a letter to a book character who moved to the other side of the world. We have also been revising letters and sounds and paying particular attention to long vowel sounds and initial blends in words.

In mathematics we are just finishing off a mini-unit all about measurement. This is a revising unit to complement concepts discussed earlier this year.

And finally, I would like to extend a very big thank you to Miss Elise who completes her Professional Experience Placement with us this week.

Happy weekend everyone.
Kind regards, Miss Mathews.

Prep—Miss Stowe

It has been a different week for us here in Prep S. In history we have been learning about celebrations and events that we celebrate with our family. We have also been looking at those events that are not common or that are celebrated overseas. In English, we have been continuing to be the best readers that we can and practising our concepts of print with a variety of books. We have also been practising our writing and handwriting skills. For Maths this week we have been looking at comparing length and height as well as practising our numbers.

Tuesday was our Prep Open Day and we were lucky to have Prep M and Prep S together for the morning session. Together we were pirate crew searching for treasure and sailing the seven seas. Everyone had fun creating their own pirate maps, flags, ships and writing why we love being pirates. It was great to have all the preps working together and using our imaginations.

Congratulations to Tyrelle, who was our Student of the Week last week. Also, a big welcome to Aliyah, the newest addition to our class.

Year 1—Miss Jensen

This Term in English, we are learning how to write a procedure. Last Friday, the class wrote the procedure of how to make fairy bread. After we wrote the procedure, we got to make our very own fairy bread! It was YUMMO!

A friendly reminder that our very, very special Christmas “Cupcakes and Milkshakes” morning tea will be held in week 9 for those students who have returned their completed homework 8 times during the term.

Sight word testing has commenced this week. Those students who achieve their sight word goals will receive a prize from the prize box. Sight word lists will be updated in homework folders from next week.
Year 2—Miss Cran

The next few weeks will be our busiest of the term. This week we are starting our technology task, in which students have designed a 3D face that they will make using paper mache. This links in with our visual art unit that has been exploring portraits. Our English assessment also started this week and will have students writing a new adventure for some characters that we have read about in a story called ‘The Spirit of Hope’. Once students have written their stories, they will create an image on the computer to add to their typed story. It is essential that students attend school each day unless they have a valid reason. We have lots of ongoing projects and tasks to complete and extended absences will make it difficult for students to keep up with these.

These are some examples of the portraits we have been working on in class.

Year 3—Mr Moore

It is the end of Week 4, in the student’s final term of Year Three and many of the students are showing independence and responsibility at all times. I am very pleased with the continued effort from these students and the added responsibility they are taking on within the classroom.

Year Three will continue to be very busy for the rest of this term, as we complete assessment and get ready for our awards night presentation. One particular piece of assessment the students need to start preparing now is their Technology assessment. In this task the students will be ask to design a desk organiser that will be able to specifically hold a number of items. They will need to consider the size and shape of the organiser and the material that it is made out of. All materials will need to be able to be manipulated at school, so unfortunately that means no wood, plastic or metal. I look forward to seeing their designs.

Swimming will continue on Thursdays, so please make sure students come to school with the required articles of clothing. In particular could we make sure all students come with a spare pair of underwear and a towel.

I look forward to the rest of the term.

Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch

What’s happening in the Year 4 classroom?

By the time you read this newsletter, we will have had a fantastic but spooooooky Halloween disco. I am sure fun was had by all who attended.

Units are well under way in all subject areas and assessment pieces are looming. With this in mind, attendance is critical over the next couple of weeks!

Summer and its soaring temperatures are here! Just a reminder, water bottles can be bought to school and into the classroom as well.

A Tip to encourage reading

Not all reading takes place between the covers of a book. What about menus, road signs, food labels, and sheet music? Take advantage of countless spur-of-the-moment opportunities for reading during the course of your family’s busy day.
Central Chatters

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

Year 5/6—Miss Boyle

Another busy term is upon us and students in Year 5/6 are working really hard to complete their final assessment tasks for the year. This is the last opportunity students have to improve their overall report card grades from Semester One. Many of the students have this written down as one of their goals for the end of Term Four and at this point it seems there are a few that will achieve this.

I would like to congratulate Year 5/6 on their attendance rate so far this term. It is excellent to see students turning up every day and working to their full potential. Keep up the good work 5/6!!

Yr 6/7—Mr Crow

Firstly, a reminder….
Expression of Interest in the Year 7 graduation Dinner must be returned by Wednesday, 19 November at the latest. No late requests will be accepted.
This term the students have been ‘reading’ two Jackie French stories – Grandma’s Shipwreck and Somewhere Around the Corner. The students have commenced their assessment task which involves analysing how Jackie French has represented characters, ideas and events through characterisation, theme, text structure, plot development, tone, vocabulary, sense of voice and narrative point of view.

The students are also working on constructing a coin ‘launcher’. The students have only three more weeks to build and calibrate their launchers. This means they will need to finalise their construction at home as only a few students brought materials to school on Friday.

The students have been advised they must meet deadlines for assessment tasks as I have commenced writing report cards. Failure to ‘hand’ in their work will result in a grading of ‘E’.
On behalf of Stephanie Lowe’s classmates I would like to wish Steph every success at the National Softball Championships. It will be a wonderful experience which she will remember for the rest of her life. Good luck!! Have fun and enjoy the experience.

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.

I am Safe  I am Respectful  I am a Learner
Student Council

Through the generous support of our parents and students the Student Council has raised $320 from the sale of icy cups, the Sausage Sizzle and Free Dress Day to support Stephanie in attending the National Softball Championships in Toowoomba.

On behalf of the Student Council and students of Central School I would like to take this opportunity to wish Stephanie every success at the championships. We know you will represent not only our school but our town proudly. Good luck.

The Council is planning to ‘run’ a Day for Daniel in the near future. Due to our fund-raising activities and the P and C Disco this Thursday our Day for Daniel will not be held on its usual date of Friday, 31 October. Instead Central will support the Daniel Morecomb Foundation by holding Day for Daniel on Friday on Friday, 14 November.

This is not a fund raising activity. All students are asked to wear something red on the day even if it is only a ribbon in your hair or a bow on your chest.

Alexis Nibbs (Year 7 Council Rep)
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.