



# CHARTERS TOWERS

## CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

# Newsletter

Produced for the Charters Towers Central State School Community



# Central Chatters



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FRIDAY SPORTS

Continues next week.

Active After School  
Tuesday and Wednesday  
afternoons

Bookweek Parade  
Friday 29th August @  
9am in the Hall.  
Children are  
encouraged to dress  
up as their favorite  
book character.

Arts Council  
Returns to CTCSS next  
Friday 29th August @  
2pm to perform the  
show 'From Halfway  
Around the World'.  
Everyone is welcome  
to attend—there is no  
charge for the  
performance.

Playgroup  
Held every  
Friday at the Prep  
Room. Everyone is  
welcome to attend

**Remember our  
school's number:**

**4756 2333**

**Student Absentee  
Line:**

**4756 2366**

## *From the Principal*

Well the school term is literally flying past with the teachers already planning their end of term assessment items. Last week was the halfway point of the school term, and with just over 4 weeks of school remaining, it is essential that your child continues to attend school all day, every day. Children who regularly miss days of school continually fall behind their class members and struggle with their school work. Central SS would like to thank parents/guardians who notify the school when their child is away, whether this is due to sickness or other family matters. The school has a dedicated student absence line—4756 2366— which parents can leave a recorded message 24hrs a day.

### **Improved NAPLAN Results for Central**

This week the nationwide NAPLAN results were released to all schools and I am very pleased with our school's results. Charters Towers Central State School was one of the most improved schools in the North Queensland region with our Year 3, 5 and 7 students performing at or better than the national average. In many cases, especially in the areas of Reading and Writing, a number of our students scored the highest possible banding result, which is extremely pleasing. Individual student NAPLAN reports are in the mail and should arrive at Central shortly. These will then be sent home with your child accordingly. I would like to congratulate the students in Years 3, 5 and 7 on their very pleasing NAPLAN results this year. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts and dedication of all our teachers at Central. The great improvements do not just occur in 6 months—it takes a solid two year's work in the classroom to embed the learning in every child.

### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

All classroom teachers will shortly be offering Parent Teacher Interviews. Your child's teacher will be sending home an interview booking request form. If you wish to have an interview with your child's teacher simply fill in the form and return it to your teacher as soon as possible. Interviews are generally held on Tuesdays to Thursdays both before and after school.

### **Prep Enrolments 2015**

Charters Towers Central SS is now taking Prep enrolments for 2015. If your child is turning 5 by June 30 2015 they are eligible to commence Prep next year. 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 into 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.

### **Digital Newsletter**

Newsletters at Charters Towers Central SS are now published in digital form and can be accessed via our school's website [www.chartowess.eq.edu.au](http://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.

**Charters Towers Eisteddfod**

The Charters Towers Eisteddfod has commenced and many students from our school will be participating in numerous events. The Central SS Choir will be performing this Monday night at 6pm at the World Theatre and all parents/guardians are encouraged to attend the World Theatre from 6pm to cheer on our wonderful choir. Thank you to Miss Jensen and Rob Sellers for their support of our choir this year. The choir will be presenting a special performance at tomorrow's (Friday's) parade. We wish our Central SS students who are performing the very best of luck.

**Book Week**

Central SS will be celebrating Book Week and Literacy and Numeracy Week next week. The Library will host many exciting competitions, events and challenges to encourage children to become immersed in the joy of reading. On Friday 29th August, a special Book Week parade will be held. Children are encouraged to come along dressed as their favourite book character and join the parade. There will also be special activities planned all throughout next week to celebrate Book Week and National Literacy and Numeracy Week.

**School Swimming—Term 4**

Central SS will commence swimming lessons next term. While the final swimming program is still being determined it is anticipated that swimming will be offered in Weeks 2 through to 8 in Term 4, and the swimming carnival will be held in Week 9 next term. As per previous years children will be bussed to and from the pool, and parents/guardians are encouraged to visit the pool and assist with the swimming lessons. Shortly permission notes and invoices will be sent home from the Office. This year we cannot accept payment for swimming on the morning of your child's swimming lesson. You are still able to make instalments towards your child's swimming lessons however we do request that payments are made prior to your child's allocated swimming day. We appreciate 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.

**Come Visit!**

Finally parents/guardians, please feel free to visit the school and discuss your child's education with teachers or the administration team at any time. The school is fortunate to have such a fantastic staff working at the school and together, we're all keen to achieve the best results we can for your children. If there's anyway we can help support or assist you and your family please do not hesitate to visit or phone the school.

Nick Shirley

Principal—Charters Towers Central State School

**[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

I love Term 3. It's my favourite time of the year and I always get really proud of the children's learning. This week alone I have noticed a dramatic increase in their reading confidence and abilities. Most children are thinking about what reading strategies to use and are having-a-go at decoding difficult words. I have sent home a small book mark that shows the strategies we use in class for you to use at home too. All children are familiar with these characters. (Located in your child's reading folder.)

In Mathematics, we have been investigating separating objects into equal or non-equal parts. We have also been talking about number problems and take away.

In other news, a letter went home on Monday regarding Term 3 Parent/Teacher interviews. Please let me know if you would like an interview this term by filling in the letter and returning it to prep.

Finally, I would like to extend a special congratulations to Isabella Dello Iaco, Aubrey Grimshaw, Danielle Ryder and Rayne Andrew for fabulous work this week. Well done.

## Prep—Miss Stowe

This week in Prep S we have been looking at the two sounds, 'th' and 'qu'. We have been thinking about how many words that we know that have these two sound in them (lots of sight words). We have also been looking at friendships in books and learning how to write our opinions about the books we read. This means that we have also been working hard on creating sentences so that our opinions make sense.

In Maths this week we have been practising our addition and learning lots of different ways to help us add two numbers together. Most students have been practising really hard on ordering numbers and recognising the names for our numbers.

In Science we have been looking at the shelters that we use to protect us from the weather and how clothing can help protect us from the weather. We all had a turn at dressing our people in the right clothes, depending on the weather. We have also been spending lots of time looking at Geography this week. We have all chosen our own special place and have begun writing all about what makes is special and how we can care for these places.

Congratulations to Chameria for being our student of the week. Chameria has been working really hard on learning her alphabet and her phonics.

## Year 2—Miss Cran

We are now past the half-way point of the term and the next few weeks will be some of our busiest yet. We are looking at information texts in English and are wrapping up our work on lifecycles for science. This week we've done some hands on measurement activities that the students have really enjoyed. Next Friday, our book week parade will be held. This is always a fun time when students get to dress up as their favourite character from a book. I hope that everyone in year two will get involved! Lastly, congratulations to Temia for winning class student of the week last week!



# 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.



## Year 1—Miss Jensen

Another fortnight has passed with Grade 1 again being very busy. This past 2 weeks, we have been investigating Capacity in Maths. The students have had a great time playing in the sand and water to use informal measurements (using ways to measure other than litres or millimetres) to find the capacity of different containers. We learnt about full and not full and also how to make sure our measurements are the same every time we measure. We have also been practicing our estimating skills before attempting our measuring.

Grade 1 are now also visiting the computer lab once a week to practice our ICT skills. If your child did not bring in a pair of headphones in the beginning of the year, could you please organise a pair so that your child can fully experience the typing and mouse skills pages we are using? Please note, the ear buds are not suitable for little people as they don't stay in their ears.

Finally, a letter was sent home with students earlier in the week inviting parents to parent-teacher interviews. I want to encourage you to book a time to speak with me regarding your child's progress in Grade 1 so far this year.



## Year 3—Mr Moore

We are now at Week 6 of the school term and that means a new unit of study in a number of areas of the curriculum. We are trying to complete our prior unit assessment pieces and display them in a manner which we can be proud. Most students are up to date and complete, however some students continue to refuse to apply themselves diligently. I encourage those students to try their best and be proud of their achievements.

I have sent home two notes this week. The first note was about Parent/Teacher interviews. Could all parents please return these notes with their students, whether they would like an interview or not. I do ask parents to attend an interview as it is an opportune time for us to continue or begin dialogue on their child's progress. I am proud of the achievements that all students have made.

The second note is about our excursion next week. This excursion is connected to our Geography unit and will assist the students with their assessment. The price is \$3, which will cover the bus needed. All information is contained in the letter and I would love to see some parent helpers come along as it would be great if we could split into small groups to gain a deeper understanding and insight into the significant place (Centenary Park). Behaviour of students will impact their attendance at the excursion.

Homework is due on Fridays and we do our weekly borrowing of Library books and readers on Tuesday. If we could all continue to remember that please.

Thank you for the continued support.

## Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch

We are already halfway through this term isn't it crazy how fast the weeks are going. It's really pleasing to see students continuing to attend every day and apply themselves 100% to their work.

We would like to congratulate all students on excellent drama performances they completed this week. They had to take on a persona of someone from the time of the first fleet and reflect their views of the arrival.

This week we also completed our packaging challenge where students had to make a package to put a raw egg in so that when dropped from a height it would not break. Students were highly motivated to complete this task which resulted in some interesting packages being made. We only had one casualty during this experiment with the group realising they probably didn't choose the best materials to make their package out of.

During English we are continuing to read Rowan of Rin by Emily Rodda. We are nearly half way through and students are very interested in this adventure story. So please talk to your students about this book as you may find it is a conversation topic they are interested in.

Thankyou parents for your continued support during this term. Parent teacher interview forms will come out sometime next week and we urge all parents to make some time to come in and speak to your child's teacher about their progress.



## Year 5/6—Miss Boyle

This week we have begun our new English unit titled 'Appreciating Poetry'. Students will be learning about how text structures and language features of poetry affect an audience and also help to create meaning. By the end of the term students will publish a poetry analysis for three types of poems, including an ode, a lyric and an anthem. Kenn Nesbitt's poetry for kids website in an excellent resource for students to interact with poetry at home. It is free and contains a great number of humorous poems that are a hit with students ([poetry4kids.com](http://poetry4kids.com)).

Archery is on tomorrow—please remember to return your permission slip if you haven't already. It will be an enjoyable experience and also somewhat challenging for students in terms of concentration and accuracy. The reminder about archery leads very nicely into my next reminder about the book fair parade next Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> August (I will be coming as a character who is well known for her exceptional skill with a bow and arrow - can you guess who it is?). It is that time of year again to come dressed as your favourite character from a book. It is a lot of fun and a great chance for students to engage in discussions about favourite authors and story characters. I hope to see all students get involved and remember to bring a copy of the book if you can.

## Yr 6/7—Mr Crow

Last week the Year 7 students attended their first transition Day. From reports a good day was had by all. The Year 6 students have their first Transition Day today—Thursday 21st August. A reminder that if your child is attending the High School next year that the Enrolment Forms need to be returned as soon as possible to the High School.

The Year 7 students will commence working on discovering why the seasons occur in Science next week. In Geography the students are learning about what makes a city liveable. Whilst in Art the students are creating designs for screen printing. Please note that students do not need to buy a new shirt to print on. A light coloured shirt, pillow case or piece of material would provide the best results.

The students have an English assessment piece due this Friday. Failure to hand in a piece of assessment results in an automatic E rating. It is very difficult to lift this rating to an overall satisfactory level for the semester once this occurs. You can help your child help themselves by asking them what they are currently working on, what tasks they have due and how they are going in terms of completing these tasks. This also sends a positive message about the value of gaining a good education and the importance of your child achieving to the best of their ability.

Best wishes to Stephanie Lowe is who attending Queensland trials in both Touch Football and Basketball in the ten days. It is a wonderful achievement to make it to this level and her selection is a testament to Stephanie’s commitment and dedication to sporting excellence. I’m positive Stephanie will do her best and represent both her school and Charters Towers proudly. Good luck and safe travelling.

**National Literacy & Numeracy Week + Book Week**  
*"Let's Celebrate"*  
 Monday 25 August—Friday 29 August

**Book Week Parade**  
 Friday 29th August Time: 9:00am Where: Hall  
 Dress as your favourite character and win some fabulous prizes!

**Create a 'Book' Animal**  
 Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th & Wednesday 27th August  
 Time: 1:10pm (2nd lunch, playtime)  
 Where: Resource Centre/Library  
 Thanks to Angela, one of our Year 7 students, anyone interested will be guided into making an animal from an old book... very clever, creative and easy to make... plus they look amazing!

**"Stop, Drop and Read - Simultaneous Storytime"**  
 Friday 29th August  
 Time: 10:48am  
 Where: Classrooms  
 Listen to the story "Sunday Chutney" by Aaron Blabey, at the same time as other students across the school.

Colouring in Competition (for all year levels)

Design and Draw the Craziest Race car (for year levels 2—7)

**CHARTERS TOWERS STATE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Friday 29th August 4.30pm to 7.30pm**

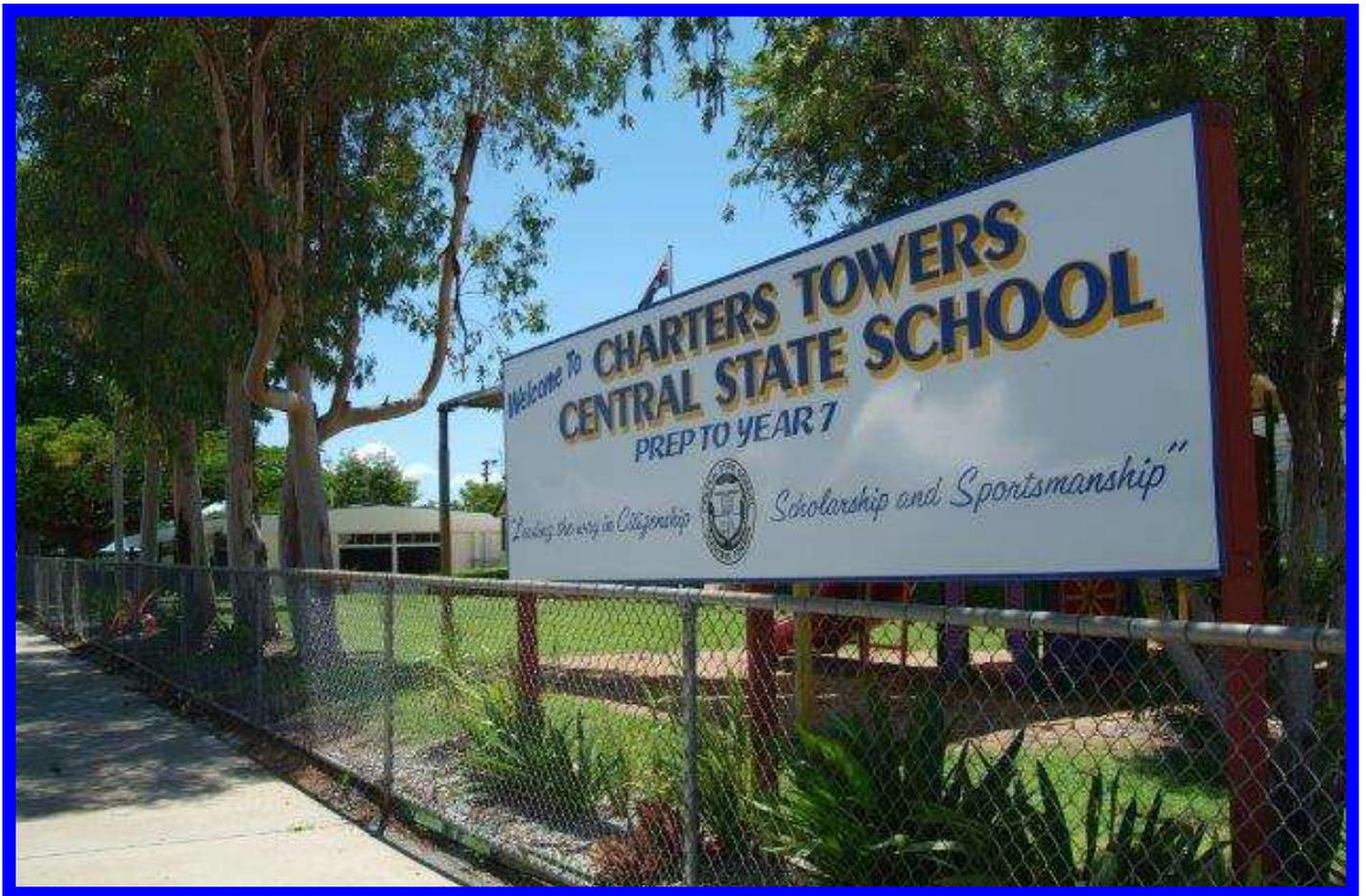
**Community Fair and Junior Secondary Exhibition**

Twilight Tours  
 Q&A for Years 7 and 8 in 2015  
 Curriculum Displays

CISIS Band  
 Sideshow Alley  
 Market Stalls  
 Food & Drink

**FREE: Jumping Castle Bungee Run Gladiator**

Any questions please contact the school on 4754 6555



I am Safe

I am Respectful

I am a Learner

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)

Website: <http://chartowess.eq.edu.au/wcms/>

