



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

We are now officially past the halfway point of Term 1. Shortly students will be commencing their end of term assessment items and submitting any required assignments. It is a very busy and productive time at Central at the moment. It is vital that your child attends school every day, all day, and arrives on time. The new Australian Curriculum is very fast paced and includes many new concepts that must be taught in classrooms. Every day, new concepts are introduced in our classrooms. For this reason it is even more critical that your child attends school every day, all day. Just by missing one day means your child is already behind as they have missed the new concepts that were taught. Pleasingly Central SS's attendance is improving each week with nearly 90% of our students attending all day, every day, and I thank our wider school community for ensuring your children attend school regularly.

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 starting 9.00
in the Hall

Active After School

Every Monday &
Tuesday

Tuckshop

Open every Thursday.

Cross Country

Thursday 3rd April

Reading at Home

Improving each child's reading ability is our number one focus at Charters Towers Central State School. This does not mean we are not addressing other important curriculum areas such as mathematics and writing—we are still focusing heavily on these areas. What we are doing at Central is placing an even greater emphasis on improving each child's reading levels at school. We are doing this by providing the following:

- Dedicated reading instruction time in each classroom each day, supported by additional teacher aide support
- Children are reading to teachers each morning in the Library from 8.30am
- A research proven intervention program has been developed for children requiring further support
- We have purchased additional teacher aide time to assist students
- We have also purchased additional Guidance Officer time to assist students who require detailed intervention and support
- Mrs Bojack will now support Prep to Year 4 teachers with reading and literacy, and provide coaching and targeted programs to address individual learning needs.

We are committed to improving each child's reading abilities however we require your help. Research proves that children who read at home each day experience greater success academically at school. Every child at Central is now bringing home a book to read each night. Younger grades are taking home daily readers; senior grades are taking home a book to read each week. We ask parents to read with their child each night for 15–20 mins. Readers must then be returned to school the next day for changing. 15–20mins each night will greatly assist your child to improve their reading abilities. I'd like to thank the families who read with their children each night and assist them with their learning each day. This really does make a difference.

Interhouse Cross Country

Charters Towers Central SS's Interhouse Cross Country will be held on Thursday 3rd April, starting just after 9am. Family members are encouraged to visit the school and cheer on the students as they complete the course. Students will need to wear suitable footwear while competing in the cross country. More information will be sent home shortly.

Student Details Forms

Recently Central SS has sent home a yellow Student Details Form for families to complete. Throughout the year families change their addresses and phone details and often the school's contact information becomes incorrect. It is vital that the school is notified if you change your address or phone numbers, as if your child is involved in an emergency situation at the school, the school needs to be able to contact you immediately. Your assistance in completing the yellow Student Details forms and returning them to the school as soon as possible is appreciated. This ensures our school's records are accurate and up to date.

**Remember our
school's number:**

4756 2333

Student Absentee

Line:

4756 2366

Religion

Religious Instruction is offered to all Year 1 to 7 classes at Central. RE lessons are taught by dedicated Religious Instruction teachers at Central, with lessons generally occurring in the afternoons. **If you do not want your child to participate in Religious Instruction, please send along a note to the school, or return the yellow Student Details Form, as this record needs to be updated annually.** For those students not participating in the Religious Instruction lessons, the classroom teacher remains present with these children and provides revision style activities. Contact Admin if you require further information.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be offered at Central from Monday 17th March through until Friday 28th March. Teachers will shortly be sending home a Parent Teacher booking request form for you to complete if you require an interview. In some cases, teachers will request an interview with parents. It is important that you attend an interview with your child's teacher if the teacher has requested this. I would like to encourage all parents to request an interview with their child's teacher regardless of your child's achievement at school. Research proves that a productive partnership between a the child's parents and the classroom teacher is one of the most beneficial factors in achieving a quality education.

Homework

Homework is a vital component of learning. At Central SS, homework is set for all students, regardless of their age or ability. Some classes set weekly homework while other classes set daily homework. This is at the discretion of the classroom teacher. *Homework does not teach new concepts to children.* Homework is simply revision of concepts that have been taught in the classroom that week. Homework allows your child time to complete the revision activities independently and provides teachers with early feedback of your child's understanding of the concepts, which then allows for further support or intervention if needed. The Excelsior Library also offer after school tutoring programs. Students must be a member of the Library to access the program.

P&C AGM

The Charters Towers Central State School P&C AGM will be held this Tuesday 11th March, commencing at 3.15pm in the Staffroom. All families, friends and community members are welcome, and encouraged, to attend. Please join the P&C in working productively to achieve even greater successes at Central. The tuckshop is also seeking some volunteers to assist each week. If you are able to donate any time, please see Kaylene at the front office. Thanks to Melissa Griffiths for operating the tuckshop each week also.

Remember, parents, guardians and family are always welcome to visit the school at any time. Teachers are always willing to discuss your child's progress and are generally available in their classrooms before school from 8.30 each morning. The school also has a sensational breakfast program that operates each morning from 8am, and is held at the school tuckshop.

Nick Shirley

Principal—Charters Towers Central State School



Be cool with
Icy Cups



Icy Cups will be sold outside Year 6/7's classroom on Tuesday 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

We have had a lovely week in prep and hope that you have had a good week too. We have been learning lots and are really settled at school now. Some children have even been playing on the oval before school with the children in other year levels.

In class, our reading groups have been a terrific success story with most children sitting down and having fun learning their letters, sounds, words and beginning reading strategies. Congratulations to Haylie and Bailey for terrific work this week. A second congratulations needs to be sent out to Clancy for excellent work, tuning into sounds.

In mathematics we have been learning about number 5 and have just completed our first assessment task on sorting. The children did really well mums and dads.

Have a terrific weekend everyone.

PS. Please remember to send along a family photograph for your child to complete their history project this term.

Year 1—Miss Jensen

I am very happy to be able to start this newsletter entry with good news. As I mentioned in our previous newsletter, last week was the middle of Term 1 which meant it was the week to revisit the student's levels in reading and sight words. The majority of our Year 1 students experienced a marked improvement in their reading abilities and sight word knowledge. I want to send home a very big thank you as these achievements would not be possible without the support of our parents and families at home who constantly complete homework. THANK YOU!

In Maths this week, we are learning how to collect data and then display it on a graph. We have been having lots of fun working together as a group to complete graphs on interesting topics such as how we travel to school, if we like playing with doll houses and if we like peas.

In Science, we went on a walk around our school to investigate places around the school that animals could use as a habitat. We also practiced being Scientists and used our 5 senses to investigate what happens when we mix water and cooking oil together.

Finally, could I please give another friendly reminder to supply your students with scissors, glue, rubbers and art shirts if they have not been brought in already?



Year 2—Miss Cran

Congratulations to Temia and Ashley for receiving class student of the week awards. Ashley has been trying very hard with his reading and Temia has been putting in 100% effort. Almost every student has told me that they have started collecting their recyclable materials at home. Just a reminder that we will be designing and making a lunchbox at school using these materials and it would be great if you could continue to collect any clean plastic bottles, cardboard, aluminium foil, fabric, wool or string. We will be making the lunchboxes in class during Week 9 (24th – 28th March), so students can start to bring in their materials from Monday 17th March (I will remind them in class during that week). This year we will have a final year student teacher joining our class during Term 3. Her name is Kimberley Pascoe and she will be coming in for two days each week over the next few weeks to get to know the children and how our classroom works. She is very excited to be working with Year 2!

Year 3—Mr Moore

Week 6 has come around very quickly and we are through our first round of assessment for the year. Most of the students have shown great focus and they have also retained some quality information to complete the tasks given. Every student in the class has shown progression in their own way and it is pleasing to see.

Could we please make sure that all students are bringing their readers back to school on Tuesday so that we can change them for new readers? Also, homework is due every Friday and some students are not returning their books, so that I can give them new homework. Homework is a very important aspect of school for children as it enables them to revise concepts taught at school that week or from previous weeks. Students should be spending 10 minutes per afternoon either reading or completing homework.

We all need to continue to be firm with the student's behaviour and make sure they understand that we have high expectations of them in all aspects of school (academic, behaviour and sport).

Congratulations to our Students of the Week



Year 4—Mrs Thomas & Miss Blanch

These past 2 weeks in year 4 have been a busy time with students finishing their English assessment where they created a new chapter for the book *The Twits*. All students showed their mischievous side creating clever tricks that Mr and Mrs Twit played on each other. This week we started our new topic in English where we are analysing humorous poems to discover the poetic language and structural features they have. So far we have looked at 'The Quangle Wangle's Hat' where we discovered a lot of nonsense words.

A big congratulations goes to all the students in Miss Blanch's maths class who improved dramatically in their multiplication! Well done to all students!

General reminders:

Please ensure homework is returned on Friday for Miss Blanch's class and Thursday for Mrs Thomas's class. We need to see all students completing homework each week.

Every student needs to read for a minimum of 15 minutes every night.

We have a number of students with outstanding library books. Library is on Tuesday so please make sure these books are returned ASAP.

We are halfway through term one and it's great to see students attending every day. We hope this continues for the rest of the term as it's making a huge difference in student achievements.



Year 5/6—Miss Boyle

Well done to all those students who are completing their homework twice a week. It is a great routine to develop and will help your child to take responsibility for their own learning. If students forget their homework books they can always take the sheets and glue them into their books at home.

Students have now started work on our persuasive writing unit for Term 1. We will be analysing newspaper and magazine articles to identify persuasive features and at the end of the term students will write their own article about a current new issue. You can assist your child at home by reading appropriate newspaper articles and discussing what they are persuading people to do or think, this can also apply to ads on TV. Simple discussion about how effective an ad or article is can help students to learn about the techniques of persuasion.

SEP News- Mr Barath

Our class is hard at work deciding whether zombies are scarier than werewolves or the other way around. When the decision has been made we will be doing a piece of persuasive writing to educate everyone on which is the deadliest monster and the reasons why you would rather be chased by one than the other!

We are also working hard to develop our multiplication skills now that most students have solidified their skills in addition and subtraction. Multiplication charts have been placed in homework folders for students to revise each night.

Mr Barath's Reading Rampage

I still have books to give away! So now I am offering them to Preps, Grade 1's, 2's and 3's. If you bring in a photo of yourself reading with someone in your family to go on our Family Reading Poster then you can choose a brand new book to keep forever.

Have you tried Reading Eggs at home yet? If not get on an Ipad or a computer with your child and log in for some fun learning that you can do together or your child can complete independently. I would also recommend a trip to starfall.com for some free fun reading with a heavy phonics focus.

Keep on reading!

Year 6/7—Mr Crow

There are several students who still do not have all the materials they need for school. This includes rulers, dictionaries and calculators. We are currently preparing for NAPLAN testing by practising solving daily mathematic problems using calculators. Your child is disadvantaged if they do not have one. An inexpensive calculator will perform all the functions the children require at this time.

There are a number of students who are not completing homework. As adults we must provide our children with positive role models. This signals what we deem is important and necessary in not only in life but in regards to their education. If as parents we don't value education then this is the message that our children 'pick up' on. Please try to find the time to talk to your child about their homework, ask them to spell some of their words, listen to them read.

On a more positive note the students have finished their first English unit on Persuasion in Advertising. Several students created fantastic Power Points identifying the visual and language features used to persuade viewers to the advertiser's point of view. Well done. Keep up the great work. Unfortunately we also had several students who did not complete the task or did not hand their work in. With High School 'just around the corner' the students must learn to manager their work so as to meet task deadlines.

This week some year 6 and 7 student elected to take home a note regarding the 2014 Brisbane excursion. While meeting the financial commitment is a major factor determining participation in this camp, parents need to be aware that students who exhibit inappropriate behaviours between now and September may have their invitation withdrawn.

Student Council

The Student Council meet for the first time last week. This year Ms Cran will be assisting me with facilitating the Student Council.

It was pleasing to see several of last year's Councillors return for another year as representatives for their class. We also welcomed some new members and hope their experience on the Council is a positive and rewarding one. Stephanie Lowe has been elected as Chairperson of our Council. Stephanie has been a member of the Council for a number of years. This experience, her confidence and her ability to mix with all age groups will stand her in good stead for the role she has to perform. Good luck Stephanie.

The Council wasted no time in organising for icy cups to be for sale after school on Tuesday and Thursday, starting next week. The Council also decided to participate in Crazy Hair Day again this year after the success of last year's event. Crazy Hair Day is Thursday, 13 March (YES, NEXT WEEK). Please see the ad in the Newsletter for details regarding the cost of participating. Finally the Council will be holding an Easter Raffle. Tickets will come on sale soon. Council representatives will visit classes to promote the raffle when the tickets are available.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

MEDICARE HAS INTRODUCED A CHILD DENTAL BENEFITS SCHEME.

WHAT THIS MEANS TO FAMILIES IS MEDICARE WILL PAY FOR YOUR CHILD/REN TO SEE A PRIVATE DENTIST FOR ANY DENTAL TREATMENT THEY MAY REQUIRE.

THEY WILL RECEIVE \$1000 PER CHILD OVER A 2 YEAR PERIOD.

AVAILABLE FOR AGES 2-17YRS

NO MORE DENTAL VANS/VOUCHERS

NO WAITING PERIOD FOR APPOINTMENTS

INFORMATIVE AND EDUCATIONAL FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

GENTLE DENTAL WILL BULK BILL ALL SERVICES UNDER THIS FANTASTIC SCHEME FOR YOUR CHILDRENS BETTER DENTAL HEALTH 47871269



From the sports shed- Mrs Miller

Our walk around Australia challenge is working well and it has been great to see lots of different students, parents and teachers coming down to join us on Thursday and Friday mornings. So far, the Central community has walked about 500kms in total, which would take us all the way up to Cairns. Keep encouraging your children to come along as well as any adults in your family. A big thank you must go to our wonderful house and school captains who are running these mornings.

Our interschool cross country is not too far away, so these mornings are a great training session for those keen to do well. Cross country will be held in week 10, Thursday 3rd April. Over the next few weeks, I will be walking/running the course with your children during their PE lesson. Age and distances are as follows:

5 boys/girls (2009)	500m
6 boys/girls (2008)	500m
7 boys/girls (2007)	1000m
8 boys/girls (2006)	1000m
9 boys/girls (2005)	2000m
10 boys/girls (2004)	2000m
11 boys/girls (2003)	3000m
12/13 boys/girls(02,01)	3000m

The Central netball and rugby league teams have been training hard this week. Mr Moore has been working hard with the boys and getting them ready for their first match which is not until Friday 14th March. Miss Blanch and I have been working hard with the girls netball team and they will play their first match at the Central SS court this

FUNKY HAIR

THURSDAY

in support of the Leukaemia Foundation

THURSDAY 13, MARCH

Gold coin donation if you come to school with FUNKY hair





**Coloured hair spray: \$1 for 2 stencils or
\$2 for all hair sprayed**

8:15am-8.50am Near the Tuckshop