



# CHARTERS TOWERS CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

# Newsletter

Produced for the Charters Towers Central State School Community



39—47 High Street

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# Central Chatters



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Playgroup

Held every  
Wednesday and  
Friday. Everyone is  
welcome to attend

### Parade

Held every Monday  
afternoon starting 2.40  
in the Hall

### Active After School

Tuesdays &  
Wednesdays.  
Must return permission  
form before students  
can participate

### P&C Meeting

Wednesday 19th  
3.15pm June

### Family Photo Day

Saturday 1st June  
Book your place now

**Remember our  
school's number:**

**4756 2333**

**Student Absentee  
Line:**

**4756 2366**

**Office Hours  
8am to 4pm  
Week Days**

## *From the Principal*

Hello everyone,

Winter has well and truly arrived in Charters Towers, with many children feeling the cold weather at the moment. With winter arriving, take a few moments to ensure all your children's school clothes, jumpers etc, have their names clearly labelled. Any unclaimed clothing is donated to charity at the end of the school year, however we'd like all items to be returned to their owners.

With only three weeks of Term 3 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. I congratulate our students 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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Student Absentee Line**

I would like to thank the parents/guardians who are using the School Absentee Line (4756 2366) to notify the school if their child is absent. The absentee line is answered by a computer allowing parents to quickly leave a message notifying of their child's absence. Administration staff will then notify classroom teachers accordingly. Ensure you clearly state your child's name and the reason for the absence.

### **NAPLAN Testing**

NAPLAN testing is now complete for 2013. The tests have now been posted to Brisbane for marking and the school anticipates the results to be returned to school around mid September. I would like to congratulate the Year 3, 5 and 7 students who sat this year's tests.

### Help your child learn to love reading

Young children have an enormous appetite for learning—every new word is a wonder and the entire world is a classroom. As a parent or guardian, you are your child's first "teacher" - you can help them develop a life-long love of reading. Some tips for parents and carers:

- Make time to read aloud to your child every day, even for a few minutes.
- Ensure reading is fun and exciting – read with excitement.
- Let your child hold the book and turn the pages.
- Allow your child to choose the book sometimes as this helps them connect with reading.
- Help your child to join in by reading books with repetition or rhyme, and let them finish the sentences.
- Try to make time to read to children individually.

Take your child to the local library and let them choose some books to borrow.

- Going shopping together? As well as the supermarket, go for a browse in a bookshop.
- Show the importance of reading in your daily life by reading aloud recipes, text messages, timetables or newspapers for example. Point out and read common words in the daily environment such as STOP, Toilets and Exit.

Visit [www.qld.gov.au](http://www.qld.gov.au) for more tips and information on helping your child to learn and for a list of age-appropriate books for children and young people.

### 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 30 unexplained student absences, which is very concerning. As I have mentioned earlier, the school now has a dedicated Student Absentee Line, allowing parents/guardians the option of leaving a recorded message advising that their child will be absent. Visit the Department of Education and Training website for more information: [www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts) Thank you to the many parents and guardians who notify the school when their child will be away from school.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

Nick Shirley—Principal Charters Towers Central SS

## Woolworths Earn and Learn

We're back - and it's now easier than ever to participate in Woolworths Earn & Learn.



Simply start collecting stickers at the checkout of your local Woolworths supermarket (self-service too) until August to place on your child's sticker card. There'll be one sticker for every \$10 spent, excluding purchases of liquor, smoking/tobacco products and gift cards. Once completed, simply drop the sticker card into a collection box, either at your school or at your local Woolworths. Last year our school received nearly \$10000 worth of resources, including books, games and sporting equipment, which has been very much appreciated.

## Random Acts of Kindness Project

We would like to introduce ourselves. We are the leaders of the Random Acts of Kindness Project group—Tedi-Annah Pehi, Lochlan Piper, Taye Kennedy and Jacob Bawden.

We would like to tell you about what we have been doing at our meetings. We have 11 members in our group. We get together and talk about ways that we can help the school and the community. Some of the things we have done already are-

- ◆ Helping lonely children
- ◆ Giving thank you cards to the staff for Thanksgiving week
- ◆ Arranged a fundraiser to raise money for a good cause
- ◆ Encouraged others
- ◆ Showed kindness to others

Thankyou ...Have a nice day!



## Year 1—Miss Bowen

There are only three weeks to go of Term Two and to the halfway mark of Year One! We have been very busy over the past few weeks. Students are currently investigating how to physically change materials in Science to make a floating boat, and we have been looking over our timelines in History to reflect on the important events in our past. We have also been busy making up a shape dance with our partners to show different kinds of movements, as well practicing our sentence writing, sight words, phonics and learning new mathematical concepts.

It's good to see most of us attending school every day. History, Science, Dance, Music, HPE and PMP are all only taught one day per week, so missing even one day of school (if not necessary) can cause your child fall behind in a subject area. Please continue to remember to return homework each week on a Friday; along with home readers, and try to send your child with a piece of fruit each day for our daily fruit break. The morning session is quite long and a break to recharge and get us thinking again is very important. Thanks to all those still remembering this break each day.

## Congratulations to our Students of the Week and SWPBS Winners



## Year 2—Miss Cran

There have been lots of wonderful things happening in year two over the last few weeks. Congratulations to Jodie for receiving an award on parade for trying his hardest with a difficult book, and to Harry for outstanding addition number fact results. It has been great to see that so many students are remembering to bring their sight words back for testing and shooting up to higher lists! Please make sure that homework is returned each Friday. I am becoming quite concerned with the number of students who haven't returned their homework at all this term. We have another science construction project coming up in the near future and it would be fantastic if we could start gathering the materials that we need for this project. If you could please send along any milk bottle lids, rectangular cardboard boxes (tissue boxes, shoe boxes, cereal boxes etc.), cardboard tubes, plastic containers and other recyclable materials it would be greatly appreciated.

## Year 3—Miss Boyle

This term for science we have been learning about the sun, the moon and the earth. Students were asked to design an investigation to determine how the movement of the earth affects the length and direction of shadows throughout the day. After waiting a whole week for a sunny day, we were finally able to get outside and start recording. Year 3 is now in the process of putting our data into a report. This report will be used for assessment on report cards.

Currently we are also working on improving our recall of times tables facts and developing our understanding of numbers between 1000 and 10 000. Students are showing improvement due to their hard work and regular attendance.

## Year 5/6—Mr Moore

It is getting toward the end of a long semester and I congratulate the students on maintaining their efforts toward behaviour and academic work. The last few weeks of Semester are always difficult to get through with this being the main assessment and reporting period. I hope all students will continue to work hard and maintain focus for these last four weeks before a well-deserved holiday.

We have finally come to the end of a few of our major assessment items and only have a few left to complete. There are a few students who have missed a lot of school and therefore this is creating an issue with students completing work to a high standard. I encourage all students to continue their work diligence and make sure they are at school every day, so that they can learn and achieve their best.

School equipment is also becoming an issue toward the end of the semester. Could you please make sure your student has enough pencils, a rubber and ruler to see out the end of the semester and into next semester? This is becoming a problem because people have to borrow equipment from myself and others to complete work each day.

## Learning Centre - Mrs Wood-Brown

It is coming up to the busy, tired, stressful time of term with testing and completion of all assessments. We have been working hard on our comics and making our chosen objects out of 3d shapes.

As per our school behaviour management policy if your child receives a detention a letter is sent home to notify you. This is to keep you informed on what is happening at school please ensure you sign and return the notes.

Also, a new policy for Education Queensland is that absences are registered to assist us with tracking this we are sending home absence notes. Please sign and return so we can update our system. I 'Thank you' in advance for returning the notes promptly.

## Year 6/7—Mr Crow

NAPLAN testing has come and gone. Our students found the writing task – a persuasive text on My Hero - a little difficult. This seems to be the consensus with most teachers I talked to who were involved in the testing. NAPLAN results should be available to schools at the beginning of Term 4.

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.

Next Tuesday is the first of five days of visits to the High School. You should have received a permission letter for this learning experience. These need to be returned by no later than Monday.

In English the students are investigating animated cartoons. Prior to the holidays all students will be developing their own comic strip.

Many of our Year 6 and 7 students are currently involved in trials for touch and softball. Good luck!

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.

## Instrumental Music—Mr Mossley

Instrumental Music is in full swing at Central SS this year. Our enthusiastic musicians have been working hard learning notes, fingering and small tunes over the last two terms. Assessment will take place next week, with Instrumental Music report cards being sent home before the end of term.

Three students, Jayme Oakley, Rhane Huxley and Vanessa Ritcher take a journey to Millchester SS every Wednesday to participate in their band rehearsal. The students are learning a great deal - which will be fantastic when in Term 3, Central SS will form their very own band. Comprised of our wonderful grade 5 students Ella, Alexis, Skye, Emma-Jane, Crystal-Lee and Nikita, along with our senior students, it will be a great move forward for Instrumental Music and Central SS to home their very own band.





# Student Council DISCO



**When: Friday 21 June**

**Time: 1:40pm – 3:00pm**

**Theme: Disney Movie Characters**

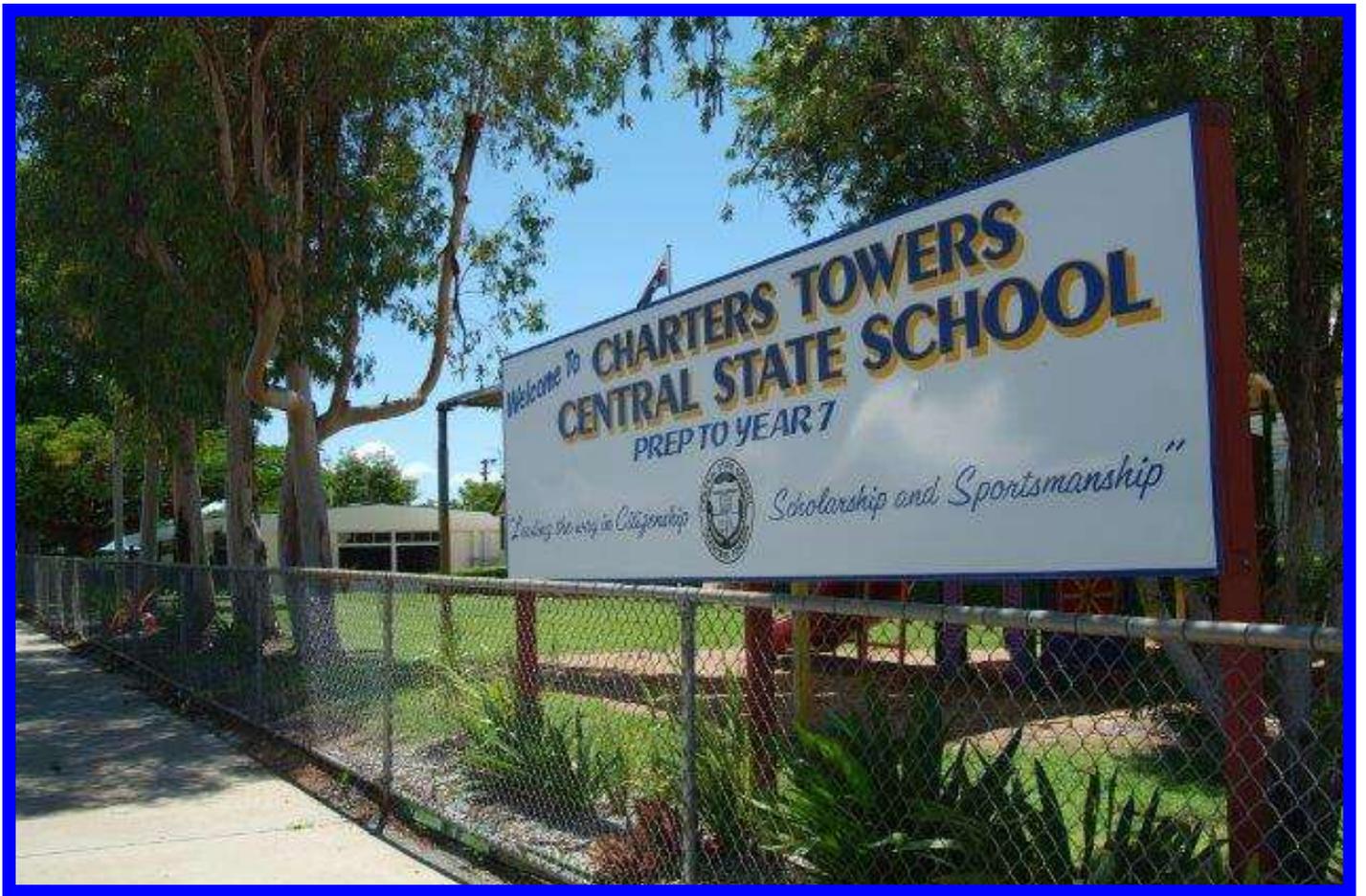


**Yummy treats will be on sale @ lunch time**

**Prizes for best dressed**

**Start thinking about your costume NOW!**

- |                |                     |             |                |                      |        |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|--------|
| Peter Pan      | Alice in Wonderland | Toy Story   | Hannah Montana | Wall E               | Popeye |
|                | High School Musical | Jungle Book | Cinderella     | Monsters Inc         |        |
| 101 Dalmatians | Tarzan              | Lion King   | Hercules       | Beauty and the Beast |        |
| Pocahontas     | The Mighty Ducks    |             | Cool Runnings  | The Little Mermaid   |        |



I am Safe

I am Respectful

I am a Learner

