Due to the most welcome rain we are currently receiving, the INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY, scheduled for today, has been postponed.

Principal’s Report

Staff Professional Development and School Improvement

As we near the end of Term I am happy to report that, as a staff, we have undertaken intensive professional development in Quality Teaching and Learning aimed at skilling our teachers to enhance student outcomes. QT&L engages students and teachers in co-constructing what they individually know and are able to do after teachers have co-planned what students need to be able to do to be successful at assessment time.

Teachers deconstruct the assessment criteria with students and provide exemplars of “A” and “C” standards so that students link their work to the success criteria to achieve their individual goal.

This work will continue throughout the year as the major piece of work for our school’s improvement agenda up until 2018 where we expect to see NAPLAN results improve significantly due to the direct correlation evidenced between classroom A-E results and NAPLAN. With an expectation of 85% receiving a “C” or above, we are close to achieving this goal across the school before aiming even higher.

New Staff

As a result of exceeding 450 students enrolled on Day 8, we are eligible for an additional Head of Department and I am happy to welcome Mr Iljaz Memedovski as Acting HOD to the Junior Secondary team for Term 2. Mr Willis will move from JS HOD to HOD of QT&L (Quality Teaching and Learning).

Bullying – NO WAY!

This week we joined the National Day Against bullying with powerful anti-bullying messages delivered at assembly, followed at Morning Tea by a sausage sizzle, photo booth with anti-bullying messages and a teachers versus students Touch footy game. Of course, the teachers were victorious.

Yours in Education, Moya A Mohr, Principal

Bullying – NO WAY!

On Tuesday 15th March, Charters Towers State High School took a stand together saying “No Way to Bullying” by
supporting the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. This annual day is Australia’s key anti-bullying event for schools and students to ‘take a stand together’ against bullying and violence in schools, the classroom and beyond.

Charters Towers State High School was able to bring awareness to bullying. Our whole school assembly was engaging, with the help of and a thank you to our guest speakers, Shane Harris and Snr Cons Patricia Machin for delivering important messages to our students and our staff. Our library looks spectacular and has been decorated with the ‘No Way Bullying Day’ message, thanks to Mrs King. Students participated in the photo booth, by writing anti-bullying messages, and the photos will be created into a slideshow for all of the school to see and to help continue spreading the message. A game of touch footy between the teachers and students was a success, and a great game it was with the teachers winning. Many spectators were on the sidelines cheering for their preferred team. The students had satisfied bellies after receiving a refreshing Zooper Dooper and sausage from the sausage sizzle stand. Thank you to everyone who helped deliver the message that bullying and violence is never okay and who made this very important day a success.

Faith Barnes, Louise Halfpenny, Kelcey Kirkpatrick - Teachers;
Belinda Peacock - School Based Police Officer; Kylie Webber – Youth Support Coordinator.

Who else can parents and students contact for help?

Who else can I talk to?

- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 or www.kidshelp.com.au
- Parents Helplines (each state has a helpline)

Where can I report online bullying (cyberbullying)?

- Children’s eSafety Commissioner – Online help and reporting www.esafety.gov.au

Where can I get more support and information online?

- Reach Out www.reachout.com.au
- Beyondblue www.beyondblue.org.au
- Headspace www.headspace.org.au
- Australian Psychological Society www.psychology.org.au
- Australian Guidance and Counselling Association www.agca.com.au

World’s Greatest Shave

Our Music Director, Haddon Mossley, raised $4,200 dollars by having his hair and beard shaved for “Shave for a Cure”. We are very proud of you Haddon. Well done. (You look better without the hair!)

Congratulations Haddon on raising $4,200!

International Women’s Day

On Tuesday 8th March the library celebrated International Women’s Day with the theme “Pledge for Parity”. Mrs King spoke to the students about how much the gender pay gap has improved over the years. She reminded students that, unlike in years gone by, behind every successful man there is a woman who is getting ahead of him! Ribbons of Purple (Dignity and Self-Respect), Green (Hope and New Life) and White (Purity) were handed out to staff and students. A small morning tea was held but unfortunately our guest speaker was unable to attend.

Carol King

Music, Music, Music

The 2016 State Honours Ensemble Program (SHEP) at Cairns was yet another huge success for State High. Under the baton of Dr Peter Morris, students were put to the test like never seen before. Learning four pieces that were suitable for university
ensembles, the students had just 12 hours to learn, polish and perform the difficult repertoire. State High was well represented with our students being in the top of each section. Special mention to Vanessa Richter, Principal Euphonium in the Flute section, Sophie Baron 1.2 and Abi-Gail 1.4, Rhys Pankhurst held 1.2 chair in the Trombone section and Jordan Dietrich 1.3 of the Alto Saxophone. Parker Warren and Emily Pankhurst also had their work cut out for them in their section.

Dr Morris was an inspiration to the students, as well as myself, taking the time to talk about rehearsal techniques and conducting tips. SHEP was another great weekend for students of State High. They represented our school with pride and their performance was a credit to them. Nominations for SHEP Middle School in Townsville have now been submitted and are due to be released in the coming weeks.

SHEP was extremely challenging but I learnt to be more confident with my playing and to continue even if I made a mistake. I really enjoyed hearing the pieces come together and sounding really nice by the concert. Vanessa Richter, Student, Principal Euphonium

SHEP had a great selection of repertoire which we learnt during the weekend. It was great to work with a large ensemble and with 8 other Trombones. We became united as one. Some areas were very difficult but we learnt how to just keep going and pretend like you were doing the correct thing. The weekend was a good mix of work and play. Rhys Pankhurst, Student, Trombone 1.2

SHEP was a great experience to learn new pieces, although they were quite difficult. I managed to play more notes each rehearsal which really made me feel satisfied that I was heading in the right direction. I would recommend it for anyone and hope to go again next year. Parker Warren, Student, Clarinet 2.4

Haddon MOSSLEY, Director of Music

On Saturday 12th March our senior drama students set off on their first drama excursion for the year. We took 20 eager students to the Townsville Civic Centre. When the students arrived we were greeted by Andrea Moor, the director of the Quartet performance. Andrea introduced our students to the actors of Quartet and allowed students to ask the actors some questions. Andrea then led a realism workshop with the students. This workshop focused on the given circumstance in a script and each character’s objective. Students loved the workshop and were eager to apply their new knowledge to their monologue assessment task. After a well-deserved dinner break the students were then led into the theatre where we watched the performance, Quartet. The students thoroughly enjoyed the performance and especially liked the comedic aspect of the performance. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn from professionals in the entertainment industry.

Kelcey Kirkpatrick, Teacher

Students of the Week

Junior Secondary

Term 1 has been a fantastic start to the year for all our new Year 7 students as well as the continuing Year 8 and 9 students. Congratulations to the following students who have been stellar examples of our school rules and ethos.

Year 7

Will Patching: always participates eagerly in classroom discussions, constructs intricate isometric drawings in Maths, consistently arrives to class on time. Nominated by Mr Gee

Brock Youngberry: Brock is always polite and well mannered. Mrs King can always count on Brock to make sure the library is back in order after each lunch time. Nominated by Mrs King.

Year 8

Ash-Lee Rafferty: Demonstrates I am a learner by completing work to a high standard and participating in class discussions, always on time and prepared for class; I am safe by following all the school rules in classroom, science lab and out of class;
and I am respectful by always using manners and being polite to teachers and students. Nominated by Mr Brough

Joseph Reid: Japanese - consistent effort for the entire 7 weeks, pride in book work, respectful and always follows teacher’s instructions. Nominated by Ms Sherman-Bryson

Year 9

Stephanie Lowe: Fantastic application in HPE, consistently displaying the schools rules of Learner and Respectful. Stephanie is a credit to the class and an all-round pleasure to teach. Nominated by Mr Goldenberg

Bailey Duffin: Bailey consistently applies himself in Maths to a high level and needs to be congratulated on his application and commitment to the subject. He is a legend!

Well done to all of these students for their outstanding efforts.

Mr Willis, Head of Department

Senior School

Year 10

Christian Carney for consistent effort in English
Paige Fielder for consistent effort in Health and Physical Education

Year 11

Crystal Garner for consistent effort and great behaviour in Chemistry
Amelia Richards for consistent effort and great behaviour in Chemistry
Daniel Ridolfi for outstanding attendance and being a good all-rounder
Rhys Pankhurst for outstanding attendance and being a good all-rounder

Year 12

Harmony Barath for spectacular efforts in Chemistry
Nash Lowis for outstanding results for English Communication assessment task

Senior Schooling

Term one has gone by so quickly that our senior school is well into the assessment and reporting phase. Reports will be sent out next week to parents and guardians. If you have questions or concerns about your son or daughter’s report please contact the school and speak to the relevant teacher or head of department.

Looking forward to Term 2, which is an 11 week term, students will be focussing on attendance, behaviour and their level of achievement in each subject. It is essential that senior students are attending at least 95% of the time, on time to every class and on task in every lesson. This will ensure a successful outcome at the end of semester one, when we will be having our end of semester reward event. To be eligible to attend the reward event, students must have at least 95% attendance, no more than 2 major behaviours recorded and attain a “C” standard or better in English, Maths and Science for Year 10 and English and Maths for Years 11 and 12, as well as all competencies up to date in VET subjects.

As a new Head of Department to Charters Towers State High School this year, I would like to thank the staff and students for being supportive and welcoming. I have enjoyed working here thus far and am looking forward to a successful year ahead.

If you have any questions about senior schooling please contact Tracey Hill or Sharon Hackman at the school. Happy Easter and safe travels.

Tracey Hill, Head of Department – Senior Schooling

Special Education Program

I am currently teaching Year 9 and 10 in Mathematics, Science, History and English. The students have been extremely busy looking at poetry analysis in English, past and present objects in History, Algebra in Mathematics and purposes of materials in Science. The students love the science this term where we do an experiment once a week! The students have the opportunity to choose what experiment we do and away we go! Check out the photos from one of our science experiments where we were trying to separate the water colours from each other!

The Individual Curriculum Plans for each student in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been endorsed so we are under way with completing our assessments in each class. If you find that your child is struggling with stress over the next few weeks, please let us know. The special education teachers try to ensure the students that assessments will not be completed in the one lesson.

At the moment, Individual Support Plans are being written for the Year 7-12 students after the meeting was a success! These will be coming home for you to view and sign. Each student will be spoken to regarding their goals this year. If you have any concerns, please call your child’s case manager and we will be happy to assist you: Dave Thomas Y7, Lorena Goll Y8, Renee Benson Y9/10, Fauzia Ijaz Y11/12.

Renee Benson, Teacher

Chemistry

TERM 1 - CHEMISTRY UNIT- Chemical Structure

This term students have completed a basic unit of Chemistry. Students had 7 weeks of work where they learnt about the structure of an atom and different trends of the periodic table. Students looked at the properties of elements and why they behave as they do. They were also introduced to the mole concept as a means of quantifying matter in chemical reactions. Students also investigated hydrocarbon compound as an
example of how structure, bonding, properties and the use of materials are interrelated.

TERM 2 - CHEMISTRY UNIT 2- Earth Elements

In Term 2, Students will be studying a unit on Earth Elements where they will have the opportunity to learn the mining industry is vital for development of buildings, machines, jewellery and even electronics.

They will be able to research information around the mining of metals where a lot of money is involved; an industry which Charters Towers is built on. In this unit they will be able to look at the processes used to extract the metal ore from the ground and transforming the ore to the finished product. We will also investigates the properties of metals and how they react explaining, chemically, why this is so.

Student will be completing two assessment tasks: an ERT (Extended Response Task) and a supervised assessment task.

Students have tutoring options available outside class time on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8:15am till 8:55am to provide extra assistance.

Aman Bhullar, Teacher

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

The Japanese 7A group have been learning the Japanese hiragana and katakana writing. To help students to remember the characters, students used their bodies to copy the shape of the characters in class. Unfortunately, there were several students away on the day that we did this activity. Can any students guess the Japanese characters that the students were creating?

Wendy Sherman-Bryson, Teacher