Principal's Report:

P&C: Gentle reminder that Tuesday next week, 11th March, is the AGM followed by a general meeting. Look forward to seeing many new parents attending.

Healthy Choices: It has become very obvious that several students are not following the Healthy Choices Policy as they come to school with lots of sherbet sticks or soft drinks, chips and gravy. Please be aware that these foods are banned at school.

I would like to commend the actions of the new owner of the Mexican Corner Shop who has decided not to serve students between 9am and 3pm. I encourage all parents of the school community to be just as supportive in ensuring that your children are eating healthy brain foods on school days.

Junior Secondary Leaders: Congratulations to all students who were inducted into their various roles on assembly last week. I also congratulate all the parents who were able to attend and support their child’s success.

Sporting Success: At both the Interhouse and Interschool Swimming Carnivals we had several successful competitors and I congratulate those athletes and the parents who attended to support them.

School Attendance: I take this opportunity to remind parents that interschool events are outside our school’s core curriculum and, therefore, not mandated for whole school attendance. The P&C has ratified that in future only those students competing will attend interschool events. This decision has been taken because these events are days of significant non-attendance. The school’s attendance target is 95% for each student and, in 2013, the school’s attendance fell well below this target and can be directly linked to these sporting events.

Parents are reminded that you are required to notify the school with an acceptable reason for non-attendance in a timely manner—an immediate phone call (24 hour Student Absentee Line 4754 6560) or a dated note on return to the school which is presented to the Roll Class Teacher or to the school office. Year Level Coordinators are sending home letters outlining absence dates with a space for comment. Please ensure you complete and return immediately so that your child’s record is accurate. Absent days are recorded on your child’s School Report which is something a prospective employer is likely to ask for. Therefore, significant unexplained absences are not desirable on the Report.

School Improvement Agenda:

There are four (4) goals that the school has as its focus this year:

- Implement Reading and Writing Improvement Action Plan to align with GRG for improved student outcomes.
- Continue Junior Secondary Transition focusing on Community Engagement.
- Develop teacher capability aligned with National Professional Standards for Teachers.
- Extend peer coaching/observation program with classroom walkthroughs by Leadership to provide formalised feedback.

To this end, the school has implemented classroom Data Walls which identify individual achievement goals, progressive performance in reading, spelling, curriculum A-E and attendance.

Positive Rewards: “Student of the Week” is awarded to a student in each year level who has improved attendance and behaviour. The Roll Class with the best attendance each term will receive a significant group reward.

Audit News: The school will engage in a Teaching and Learning/Behaviour Audit on 30 April/1 May to assess our journey forward since 2012. The journey for the school has been significant and we look forward to the feedback.

Yours in Education, Moya A Mohr, Principal
JUNIOR SECONDARY LEADERS IN 2014

Junior Secondary School Captains:

Sophie Baron
Ruby Boundy
Liam Geary
Taliesin Pankhurst

Junior Secondary Student Representative Council:

James Copelin
Morgan Hermann
Nadyne Isaacs
Blade Isabeth
Finlay Niemi
Tedi-annah Pehi
Amelia Richards
Shaylee Thomasson

Junior Secondary House Captains:

Clarke
Paige Fielder
Karrina Oswin

Fraser
Cadeem Morganson
Samuel Shadbolt

Friemann
Kyra Crombie
Zepplin Healey

Mosman
Grace Glenwright
James Lowe

CONGRATULATIONS!

Cybersafety help button

Online safety is just a click away with the Cybersafety help button now installed on all school computers throughout the state. The floating icon will be visible on computer desktops and is also available for parents to download to their home computer. It provides students with an easy means of reporting cyberbullying and online concerns. The button is a federal government initiative providing an online hub with 24 hour access to cybersafety help, reporting options, resources and information.

On 21st February, Charters Towers State High School students Kadeja Royee, Ella Morgan, Jemima Wehrman and Teagan Melville travelled to Townsville to participate in the Nth QLD Indigenous Constitutional Convention. Around 80 Indigenous senior students from high schools in Mackay, Bowen, Home Hill, Ayr, Charters Towers, Ingham and Townsville participated. They covered Constitutional issues such as: “Should we have a Bill of Rights in Australia?” Kadeja Royee along with delegates from other Nth QLD schools presented a speech on this topic. The students found this a great learning experience and Kadeja Royee was awarded with a Mini IPAD for her efforts.

LEIGH MIDDLETON, COORDINATOR

Anti-Discrimination Commission of Queensland resources

Students working or looking for their first job can learn more about their workplace rights and responsibilities on the Anti-Discrimination Commission of Queensland website. Online resources cover how the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 protects people from unfair treatment at work, school or university.

An eight page student booklet is available which provides a quick guide to the law, questions an employer can ask in a job interview and other questions that can be used to discriminate against someone, workplace harassment and what to do if someone feels they have been treated unfairly.

Sporting Roundup

Interhouse Swimming Carnival

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th>AGE CHAMPION</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ruby Boundy</td>
<td>13y</td>
<td>Rhylie Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophie Baron</td>
<td>14y</td>
<td>Zeppelin Healey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madison McColl</td>
<td>15y</td>
<td>Jordan Rafter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nikita Oliver</td>
<td>16y</td>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abenie Cowan</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Robbie Treier</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GIRLS</th>
<th>RUNNERS UP</th>
<th>BOYS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paskal Smith</td>
<td>13y</td>
<td>Blaine Briffa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karrina Oswin</td>
<td>14y</td>
<td>Samuel Shadbolt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kassidy Rose McMahon and Taarea Briffa</td>
<td>15y</td>
<td>Anthony Chilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teagan Melville</td>
<td>16y</td>
<td>Isaiah Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessie Sciocco</td>
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Interschool Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all students who performed extremely well. Outstanding results were:
- Ruby Boundy 1st 50m breaststroke, 1st 50m backstroke, 2nd 50m freestyle and 2nd 50m butterfly. Ruby also was the 13 girls Interschool Age Champion.
- Our 13 girls relay teams won both the 4 x 50m Medley and Freestyle events which is outstanding.
- Hannah Smith 2nd 50m backstroke
- Paskal Smith 2nd 50m breaststroke, 3rd 50m freestyle, 3rd 50m butterfly
- Sophie Baron 3rd 50m breaststroke and 3rd 50m backstroke
- Madison McColl 3rd 100m freestyle

Ruby Boundy
13 Years Girls
Interschool Swimming Age Champion

Congratulations
Cody Jones, Travis Bell, Will Exarhos, Shaun Johnston
Charters Towers
Open Rugby League Team
Jessie Sciacca accepts the Aggregate Trophy for CLARKE House

Taylor Graham and Rozy Calderbank accept the Cheer Trophy for FRASER House

Age Champions and Runner Up Champions display their certificates
**CSIRO Visit - Rocks to Rockets**

The CSIRO will be visiting Charters Towers State High School on 20th March to conduct an interactive geography session with all Year 8 students. ‘Rocks to Rockets’ is an exciting program covering everything from the cycle of a mine, space craft and meteorites!

**Assessment Assistance**

During this time of term, assessment has either already been or becoming due; please be vigilant with the process and ensure that tasks are worked on at home and completed on time. Any students needing assistance with assessment are invited to attend tutoring with their subject teachers. Please see the tutoring timetable in the previous newsletter.  

AARON WILLIS, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

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Christine Barnes, the GUIDANCE OFFICER, is available for interviews and is able to assist with personal, educational and career concerns. Please contact the school office to find when she is available, as her days vary.

Toni McLean, the COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNSELLOR, is available to support Indigenous students as well as staff. Toni can assist teachers with student background, learning styles and cultural identity. **Toni is available Monday to Friday.**

Helen Milton and Sharon Beveridge, the SCHOOL CHAPLAINS, work with students and staff to cater for their spiritual, social and emotional development. Helen is available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and Sharon on Wednesdays. Our chaplains:

- provide practical care and support for students, their families and school staff;
- encourage and motivate young people;
- participate in school activities and programs.

Lisa Hardy, the SCHOOL BASED YOUTH HEALTH NURSE, has a role to provide primary (preventative) health care for students. **Lisa is available on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays** and can provide health and wellbeing information on healthy eating and physical activity, feeling unhappy or stressed, relationships, healthy skin, personal and family problems, sexual health, smoking, alcohol and other drugs, and growth and development.

Elizabeth Hammond, the YOUTH SUPPORT COORDINATOR, is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Her role at the school is to work with young people to:

- support young people at risk of leaving school early;
- increase the capacity of families, schools and the community to support young people to stay connected to learning.

Senior Constable Belinda Peacock, the SCHOOL BASED POLICE OFFICER, has a role to contribute to the understanding of the law, promote positive relationships between the community and police, and attend to police-related matters. **Officer Belinda is available Monday to Friday,** unless attending to other duties.

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Kids Helpline
1800 55 1800

**parentline**
1300 30 1300

Please note that only service and delivery vehicles are permitted to enter the school grounds.

**24 Hour Student Absentee Line**
4754 6560
The Queensland Government is conducting its annual statewide survey of all students who completed Year 12 in 2013. The Next Step survey is a brief, confidential survey that gains a comprehensive picture of the employment, study and life choices made by Queensland school completers in the year after they finish Year 12.

Between March and June, all our students who completed Year 12 last year can expect to receive instructions to complete a web-based survey or a telephone call from the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office to complete the survey. We encourage them to take part. Thank you for your support of the Next Step survey in 2014.

For more information visit www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep/ or telephone toll free on 1800 068 587.

Our school has registered to be part of the 2014 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, being held nationwide on Friday 21 March.

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (National Day of Action) is Australia’s key anti-bullying event for schools. It’s a day where school communities across Australia ‘take a stand together’ against bullying and violence.

Charters Towers State High School is dedicated to creating supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence. By working together we are sending a clear message to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside of school, are not okay at any time.

Over the next five weeks Year 9s will be participating in a wide range of activities surrounding the stamping out of bullying at this school, how to support each other when someone is being bullied and also how not to be a bystander when someone is being bullied.

WES SMITH, YEAR 9 COORDINATOR

Students, parents and community members participated in a Carers Event today aimed to help reduce the barrier to further study or employment for students with disabilities. Gary Travers, the National Disability Coordination Officer for the North Qld Region, did an amazing job in networking with a range of local employment, training and community organisations to support this initiative.

I hope all who participated found this to be a very rewarding and informative session.

I sincerely thank all who attended for taking the time out of your busy schedule to support students and other community members with disabilities.

KYLIE HIGGINS, TEACHER
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 2-17 years
- 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 children’s better dental health.

GENTLE DENTAL

4787 1269

If you’re in the last few years of high school, have a disability, and a vision, goals and plan for life after school, Centacare – My Future: My Life might be able to help you get there.

My Future: My Life is an opportunity for anyone in years 11 and 12 at a Queensland Secondary School who has a disability to apply for some financial assistance to help them while they are still at school, achieve the goals they have set for themselves for life after school. For more information visit us at www.myfuturemylife.com.au email us at info.mfml@bne.centacare.net.au or give us call from wherever you are in Queensland on 1300 697 526.

The My Future: My Life initiative is administered across Queensland by Centacare Brisbane for the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services.
Centacare My Future: My Life has three Fully Funded Sponsorships available for eligible students and their nominated carer to attend the Julia Farr Youth Conference in Adelaide on 14 and 15 April 2014.

My Future: My Life is seeking Expressions of Interest from students in years 11 and 12 with a disability currently attending a Queensland Secondary School. To be considered for one of the 3 sponsored places you must meet the My Future: My Life eligibility criteria.

A fully funded sponsorship includes:
- Air travel from your nearest major airport to and from Adelaide for the successful students and their nominated carers;
- Conference registration fees for the successful students and their nominated carers;
- Up to three night’s twin share accommodation in Adelaide for the successful students and their nominated carers.

To express your interest in being considered for one of the 3 sponsored trips to the Julia Farr Youth Conference please:
- download and complete the My Future: My Life Sponsorship Application Form from our website www.myfuturemylife.com.au including the section explaining how attending this conference would benefit you; and
- scan your completed application including disability diagnoses, residency and citizenship evidence and email to info.mfml@bne.centacare.net.au with the subject line heading Youth Conference Sponsorship Application

Alternatively you can post your Application Form and supporting documents to:

Youth Conference Sponsorship Application
Centacare - My Future: My Life
PO Box 179, Stones Corner, QLD 4120

Applications close 4.00pm Tuesday 18 March 2014.
Applications received after this date cannot be considered.

For further information or assistance please contact Laurell on 1300 697 526 or by email at info.mfml@bne.centacare.net.au or visit our website www.myfuturemylife.com.au
This Friday!!!

Gates open 6:45 pm finishes 9:30pm  Grade 8—12 cost $5

YAC Shack
Community Recreational Centre

www.yacshack.com