PRINCIPAL’S REPORT...
Where are the weeks going? Week 4 already finished and assessment looming.

Teaching and Learning Audit and Discipline Audit in Week 3:
It was heartening to hear the positive feedback from staff, students and parents about the good job I am perceived to be doing for Charters Towers State High School. The reports on the following two pages will be on the school website shortly, along with the Explicit Domain Profiles. It is heartening to see that since 2012 the Commendations and Affirmations are more than the Recommendations as we continue on our School Improvement Agenda.

School Assets Maintenance:
This week we had our annual maintenance audit which will determine the coming year’s maintenance budget. In a school with buildings over 100 years old, it is a challenge to keep them well maintained. In the coming weeks A Block will get an external paint.

Parents and Citizens’ Association:
On Tuesday night the P&C pledged $20k towards a cold water drinks facility in the Junior Secondary Precinct, seating and more tables and chairs. They also approved $10k to purchase a new commercial oven to cater for the expected 515 students to attend in 2015.

A reminder that the P&C is the parent voice in school decisions and the funds they raise go directly to the benefit of all students. Please become an active member and support your child/children’s educational outcomes. With 390 students and 8 parents doing the work it is a less than commendable effort from other families who reap the rewards. Please contact one of the following to offer your services to help man the food stall at the Burnout Comp on Saturday 7th June. All you have to do is give an hour to sell food (no preparation). Your time would be greatly appreciated.

President, Maya Wood 4787 1786; Vice-President, Natasha Stanton 4787 3164; Secretary, Kym Gough 4787 7373; Treasurer, Tania Husband 4787 7935.

Junior Secondary Peer Review:
Last week local primary principals and the Principal and Deputy Principal of Northern Beaches State High School (a Pilot Year 7 school) reviewed our Junior Secondary preparations for 2015. They were supportive and commended our readiness. We invite the community to attend our open information sessions later in the year and view our facilities. There will also be more information in future newsletters.

Fanfare:
It is with considerable pride that we are able to recognise the outstanding talents of our young musicians who performed so well at the recent Fanfare. High praise for Haddon Mossley, our Music Director, who gives so much extra to our Instrumental Music Program. The letter of praise from Mr and Mrs Roche on page 5 of this newsletter is indeed testament to all who took part. Well done!

Yours in Education, Moya A Mohr, Principal

DATE CLAIMERS...

Debating
Round 2 v BTC at CCC—Tuesday 20th May
Round 3 v CCC at ASSG—Tuesday 3rd June

Interschool Sport
Netball and Rugby League 13, 14 and 2nds—Wednesdays
Netball and Rugby League 15s and 1sts—Thursdays
DISCIPLINE AUDIT
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - CHARTERS TOWERS SHS
DATE OF AUDIT: 30 APRIL - 1 MAY 2014

Background:
Charters Towers SHS is one of the oldest secondary schools in Queensland celebrating its centenary in 2012. The school has 385 students enrolled from Year 8 to Year 12. The Principal, Ms Moya Mohr, has been at the school since the beginning of 2012.

Commendations:
- The school’s values; I am Safe, I am a Learner, I am Respectful, are visible throughout the school and readily identified by students. These expectations form the basis for student behaviour conversations.
- The school has a student population whose diversity is highly valued and celebrated.
- School leaders and teachers are committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment.
- A strong community engagement has been developed by the school, resulting in solid support for school programs, including the schools positive reward system.
- The school has a well embedded support network that has well established procedures in place to identify and support students at risk of disengagement.

Affirmations:
- A whole school attendance target has been set and the school is implementing actions to meet this target.
- The school has provided opportunities for the formation of distinct form classes for Junior Secondary students with a view to ensuring a sense of belonging and a more personalised learning environment within the Junior Secondary Precinct.
- The implementation of Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) processes have resulted in improving classroom behaviour and increased effective teaching and learning time.
- The school has implemented a strong induction program for new staff members, both teaching and non-teaching. The program includes aspects of SWPBS and micro-skilling.
- The Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) is very supportive of the school and the policies and procedures the school has in place.

Recommendations:
- Develop consistency around the implementation of explicit school rules and ensure that they are explicitly taught in all classes, by all teachers, all of the time.
- Continue to develop a common understanding of what constitutes high standards and clear expectations for behaviour, effort and attendance. Ensure that the behaviour and effort standards are consistently and rigorously applied and reported upon by all staff members.
- Continue to include regular training in behaviour management skills for all staff members as part of the whole school professional development plan to help ensure that behaviour practices are consistently applied by all staff members.
- Continue to focus on attendance as an essential key to improving student outcomes.
- Continue to promote the use of OneSchool to record incidents of positive behaviour and parent contacts.
- Continue the practice of sending Positive Postcards to reward positive behaviour.
TEACHING AND LEARNING AUDIT
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - CHARTERS TOWERS SHS
DATE OF AUDIT: 30 APRIL - 1 MAY 2014

Background:
Charters Towers SHS is one of the oldest secondary schools in Queensland celebrating it centenary in 2012. The school has 385 students enrolled from Year 8 to Year 12. The Principal, Ms Moya Mohr, has been at the school since the beginning of 2012.

Commendations:
- Improvements have been made since the previous Teaching and Learning Audit in 2012 in the domains; An Expert Teaching Team and Analysis and Discussion of Data
- Parents, students and staff members identify that there has been a noticeable improvement in student behaviour and attribute this improvement to the leadership of the Principal.
- The school has reviewed its curriculum and have determined that the expansion of Vocational Education Pathways will serve the needs of students enrolled at the school. This is reflected in the Curriculum Plan and subject offerings to senior students.
- Beginning teachers are well supported by the Preparatory Teacher Induction Program, by systematic observation coaching and feedback programs.
- School wide teaching behaviours expected in every classroom, Lesson Objectives, Common Curriculum Elements and Curriculum Literacies, are being used in all classrooms.
- The explicit teaching lesson design process I do, We do, You do, is evident in teacher planning and classroom practice across the school.
- Reward strategies are being implemented, in conjunction with quality support staff to engage Indigenous students in improved school attendance and learning.

Affirmations:
- Efforts to engage teaching staff in the presentation and analysis of student achievement, attendance and behaviour data have resulted in greater focus on individual and group of student’s success at school.
- The school is working to develop a collegial culture to develop effective teaching and a school wide pedagogy.
- The school has implemented strategies that have raised the attainment of Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) from 50 per cent to 81 per cent.
- The trialling of Junior Secondary pedagogy this year has resulted in excellent models of a highly engaging, highly positive and demanding learning environment.
- The community partnership which developed the Dalrymple Trade Training Centre, has provided students with access to a wonderful learning facility developing excellent vocational education skills for students.

Recommendations:
- Ensure ancillary staff members undertake a Developing Performance Framework (DPF) process.
- Fully develop a school wide pedagogy based on evidenced based practices which develop consistent standards of teacher practice implemented by every teacher, every day in every class.
- Investigate school wide planning processes which ensure teachers plan to differentiate for the individual learning needs of students in each class.
- Continue to engage all staff members in skill development for supporting students with low levels of literacy and numeracy skills in Junior Secondary classrooms.
- Ensure the school identifies a set of strategies for extending and developing skills for the more able students.
The theme for this year’s Country Music Festival was “Play Something Country”. Students chose the song “I’m an Australian Boy” by Lee Kernaghan. Lee sings in his song “I’ve got a girl back in Emerald, waiting for me.”

Students straight away thought of an Emerald girl that we all know and that is our own Ms Mohr. Our float therefore had a ‘replica’ of our Emerald girl and a miner for her beau.

To coincide with the country music we had a competition for best dressed male and female student. Runners Up were Jason Kyle and Jasmin Gillard and the winners were Karl Sampson and Karrina Oswin.

As always, we would like to sincerely thank Robert Titley for the use of his truck, Ray and Jill Wilkinson for their hard work and dedication each year and Dave Thomas for arranging for our float to have sound.

CAROL KING, COORDINATOR

YEAR 12 AUTHORITY ENGLISH
The Year 12 English class is studying the Shakespearean tragedy Macbeth this term. Through reading this text students will develop an understanding of the human condition and will have to recreate the play in a modern context for young audiences. The students have been drawing of their flair for the dramatic in performing and writing adaptations of the classic and will present their final pieces in week 7.

Favourites so far have been taking on the roles of the witches challenging the idea of fate versus free will and the paranoid ramblings of Lady Macbeth after killing the King.

UVETTE HUGHES, TEACHER

Staff enjoyed the opportunity for Free Dress for Country Music

MISS HIGGINS AND MRS HUGHES
Charters Towers State High School Instrumental Music students have been working extremely hard over the last 10 weeks preparing for the 2014 FANFARE competition in Townsville. FANFARE is a Queensland State Education band competition running every two years and only open to state schools. There is no first, second or third, however participation, bronze, silver and gold awards are based on a set of criteria on which the adjudicator assesses.

On Tuesday 6th May, thirty students and Mr Daley took a bus to meet me in Townsville where they represented State High in two divisions of the competition; Division 3 – Big Band, and Division 2 – Wind Symphony.

There was a hectic change over from the primary school to secondary school section but students changed quickly, warmed up and hit the stage with the Big Band set first. They played four charts: "Moves like Jagger", "Autumn Leaves", "After Sunset" featuring a wonderful alto saxophone solo by Nikita Oliver, and "Fiesta del Tigre". Their timing, articulation and dynamics were amazing.

**The State High Big Band received a SILVER Award.** In 2010 and 2012 the band was only a bronze level, thus this was a great achievement to start the competition.

The Wind Symphony was up next, performing three works: "Snake Charmer", "Dreamsong" featuring Sophie Baron as the piano soloist and "Counterbalance". What an amazing sound they made. I was speechless with the quality of work they had achieved. The other bands in the section were also extremely good and our end results were in the hands of the adjudicator. In 2010 and 2012 the band only received a participation award. **This year the State High Wind Symphony received a GOLD Award. WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT!** The band then got the entire theatre, students, parents and even the adjudicator singing Happy Birthday to Lara-Jane Kimber. The day really was a spectacular milestone for Charters Towers.

Earlier in the day, the Charters Towers Combined Band, featuring Year 6 and 7 students from Richmond Hill SS, Milchester SS and Central SS attended their first FANFARE and also received a GOLD Award and took out the NQ Regional Award for Best Primary School Band 2014.

I truly am grateful for the students’ hard work and their commitment to me.

I truly am grateful to the parents and caregivers who have supported me, their child and the education of music. It couldn’t happen without them.

**HADDON MOSSLEY, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**
The students of the Dalrymple Trade Training Centre (DTTC) hosted their first function last Friday as they treated local mothers and guests who turned out to help support them during their first food service assessment in the brand new DTTC training restaurant.

Guests were greeted with a personalised Mother’s Day card as students treated them to a selection of sweet and savoury menu items as well as espresso coffee and a selection of international teas.

The day was a great success with over 75 guests filling the restaurant to maximum capacity.

The students of DTTC received an amazing sense of confidence from the day and look forward to holding many more functions in the future.

MICHAEL KECK, CENTRE MANAGER

The debating season started strong on Tuesday 6th May with the Charters Towers State High School Senior Debaters arguing against ASSG on the topic “that countries which abuse human rights should be able to host the Winter Olympics”. Our school was proudly represented by Maddy Stanton as first speaker, Takani Everett as second speaker and Ashley Husband as third. Despite putting up a fierce argument that we should not allow these countries to host the games, the State High team was narrowly defeated by only a few points.

All three of our students deserve recognition for representing their school with pride and dignity; a special mention is deserved for Takani and Ashley who had never debated before.

The next debate will be held on Tuesday 20th May at CCC where the senior team will argue “that honesty is better than sympathy” and the junior team will contend “that Ned Kelly is a true national hero”.

SCOTT PARKER, TEACHER
Interschool netball and rugby league games commence this week with 13s to Open teams participating.

State High participated in the Interschool Cross Country meet with 17 representatives.

Ruby Boundy was selected in the 13 girls Northern Region District Cross Country Team to be held in Townsville. Great work Ruby!

Students are keen to train before carnivals in the future. Are there any athletic coaches available in our school community? If you are able to help, please contact me at the school.

CHRISTOPHER HERDEN, SPORTS COORDINATOR

Insurance cover for students

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised the Department of Education, Training and Employment does not have accident insurance cover for students.

If your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver. Some incidental medical costs may be covered by Medicare. If you have private health insurance, some costs may also be covered by your provider. Any other costs must be covered by parents. Student accident insurance pays some benefits in certain circumstances should your child have an accident.

It is up to all parents to decide what types and what level of private insurance they wish to arrange to cover their child. Please contact your insurer or an approved Australian insurance broker if you wish to take out student personal accident insurance cover for your child.
Junior Secondary

Developing the Individual in a Caring Environment

Junior Secondary Captains

Junior Secondary Curriculum Structure

Junior Secondary curriculum at Charters Towers State High School focuses on the core skills of education derived from the Australian Curriculum supported by C2C. Core subjects include Mathematics, English, Science and Humanities (History, Civics, Economics and Geography). Students’ educational pathways are extended through elective curriculum including LOTE, Arts, Technology, Health and Physical Education providing students with an understanding of ‘specialist’ subjects in a secondary school environment.

Junior Secondary processes in place which assist the transition of students from primary to secondary education include:

♦ Year Level Co-Ordinator appointed to oversee student well-being programs and communicate with parents and the wider community from enrolment to graduation (e.g. Yrs 7-12).
♦ Roll class teachers move from Years 7-9 with students and are the first point of contact for parents.
♦ The roll class teacher will also teach across two curriculum areas (i.e. English/Humanities, Mathematics/Science) and Life Choices.
♦ Assigned core teachers results in more detailed understanding of a student’s individual capabilities and needs in an effort to increase academic outcomes and engagement.
♦ Junior Secondary electives and taster days will provide students with an understanding of the pathways available to them in senior secondary studies.
♦ The network of support staff including Youth Support Co-ordinator, School Based Police Officer, Guidance Officer, School Based Youth Health Nurse, Indigenous Co-ordinator, Community Education Counsellor and School Chaplains will provide specialist services in monitoring student welfare with a focus on students who are at risk of disengagement and provide intervention strategies in partnership with teachers.

School Expectations:

I am Safe    I am a Learner    I am Respectful

Junior Secondary Philosophy

Charters Towers State High School is highly committed to providing a quality futures oriented education that enables students to reach their full potential. Our Junior Secondary School is grounded in the belief that all young people can experience success. We achieve this by establishing high expectations, promoting learning whilst providing a safe and supportive environment. Our programs are specifically designed to develop the social, cultural, emotional and academic capacity of all learners throughout their Junior Secondary experience. This belief is centred on the development of high performing teachers, whose core business is to excite, inspire and engage all Junior Secondary Students in the facilitation of learning through cognitive skills and moral development allowing students to become independent learners and problem solvers.

For more information about our Junior Secondary School visit our website www.chartstows.qld.edu.au or call 07 4754 6555

Junior Secondary Leadership Team

Principal
Moya Mohr
Email: mmohhr4@boe.edu.au

Deputy Principal
Deb Browson
Email: dbrow112@boe.edu.au

Junior Secondary HOD
Aarne Willis
Email: awill1711@boe.edu.au

Junior Secondary HOD
Derek Coplin
Email: dcopli4@boe.edu.au
We are signed up for our own Skoolbag Mobile Communications App to help us communicate more effectively with our parent/student community. To download the Apple version, look for our school name “Charters Towers State High School” in the Apple App Store and install it on your iPhone. The Android version can be downloaded from the Google Play Store. Both are free and provide you with instant access to important information provided by the school.
Presenters will be at the school Thursday 22nd May 11.30am to 1.00pm ALL WELCOME. Please sign in at the office on arrival.

Tips for Parents

How can My Future: My Life assist my teenager?
My Future: My Life is designed to help young people with a disability pursue the goals they have set for themselves for when they complete school, whether that is to join the workforce, study further or pursue other options. My Future: My Life can do this by providing assistance to purchase the resources your teenager may need to achieve their goals.

How can my teenager apply?
Before you download an application form we suggest you read through all the information available on the website www.myfuturemylife.com.au and read through the Guide to Eligibility and Access.

If after doing this you still have questions about the application process please give us a call on 1300 697 526 or email us at info.mfml@bne.centacare.net.au

To apply for support through the My Future: My Life initiative:
1. Download and complete the Application Form and Resource Request Form from the website
2. Attach a copy of proof of Australian citizenship or residency
3. Attach a copy of proof of Queensland residency
4. Attach evidence of your diagnosed disability
5. Attach a copy of your teenagers SET (Senior Education and Training) plan or equivalent plan which clearly captures their goals for their life after school. Your teenagers SET plan or equivalent plan must be stamped with their school stamp, and signed and dated by their school representative, your teenager and/or you the parent/guardian
6. Obtain a quote from the provider identified in the Resource Request component of the application. This quote needs to identify the applicant (your teenager) by name, the providers trading name, their address, contact details, ABN number, GST and freight if applicable, a detailed description of what the resource is including quantity and if the resource is a service specific details of when and where the service will be delivered.
7. Check the boxes in the ‘Check List’ section
8. Submit your application via email to info.mfml@bne.centacare.net.au. Please ensure all documents submitted via email are scanned and emailed in the following categories:
   a. Eligibility Documents – citizenship, residency, disability diagnosis
   b. Planning Documents – SET Plan or Equivalent and supporting documents
   c. Application and Resource Request Forms – application form, resource forms and valid quote(s)
OR Submit your application via post to PO Box 179, Stones Corner, QLD 4120
Please do not send original documents for items 2-4

What if the resource request is for support worker hours?
If the resource is a ‘service’ such as support worker hours; you will need to ensure that the quote specifically details the type of support that will be provided. This is particularly important for our Assessors to determine the suitability of the resource requested.

We will need to see that support worker hours are reflected in your teenager’s SET plan or equivalent planning document ensuring there is a clear and specific link from the resource requested to the goals outlined in their SET plan or equivalent planning document. For example: Mary has been offered a work experience placement at the local cinemas. In order to participate in this placement Mary requires the assistance of a support worker for X amount of hours on Monday’s and Tuesday’s of each week for the next 5 weeks commencing XXX/XX.

When submitting the quote our Assessors will need to see how many support hours are requested, when the support is expected to commence, the frequency, hourly rate and total amount including GST, the applicants name, the providers name, address and ABN details.

For more information or assistance with My Future: My Life please visit our website at www.myfuturemylife.com.au or contact us at info.mfml@bne.centacare.net.au or phone us on 1300 697 526.

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