Dear Parents/Carers

We Need You!

State Schools are Great Schools and at CTSHS we continue to strive for successful student outcomes. We have moved OP 1 – 15 outcomes from 60.6% in 2009 to 81.3% in 2013 and moved QCE attainment from 60.6% in 2009 to 91.9% in 2013.

Now it is time to review our School Strategic Plan and develop a new Plan for the next 4 years.

In order to develop this plan I invite members of staff, parents and the Charters Towers community to form a team, discuss regional expectations then determine a format and options for the review process. The review will look at:

- our current plan to determine what has/has not been achieved and what needs to be carried forward;
- teaching and learning/discipline audit profiles;
- school performance profile;
- School Opinion Surveys;
- OneSchool Dashboard Data.

If you are willing to become a team member please call the school on 4754 6555 and leave your name, contact number and the time which best suits you to meet. For those of you unable to join the team I invite you to “Have your say” by recording your comments at the Have Your Say Booth during the school’s upcoming Community Fair on Friday 29 August from 4.30pm – 7.30pm on the school oval.

I look forward to working with you and welcome productive feedback and comments that continue to build the profile of Charters Towers State High School in the community.

The challenge is yours to take up.

Yours in Education, 
Moya A Mohr, Principal

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Additional Instrumental Music Funding

Our school is one of 226 state schools with a secondary music program to benefit from an additional $1 million in instrumental music funding recently announced by Premier Campbell Newman and Education Minister John-Paul Langbroek.

With increased numbers of secondary students participating in instrumental music as a result of the transition of Year 7 into secondary school, the funding will be used to buy instruments and musical equipment. This is great news for our instrumental music program and our students.


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DATE CLAIMERS...

Tuesday 12th August
P&C Meeting, 6.30pm, Administration Block. All welcome.
Debating, Round 5 v BTC at State High

Thursday and Friday 14th and 15th August
Interschool Athletics Carnival hosted by CCC

Tuesday 19th August
Debating, Round 6 v CCC at ASSG

Monday 25th August
Motivational Media

Friday 29th August
Community Fair and Junior Secondary Exhibition, 4.30pm on the oval

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Parents and Citizens’ Association: Meeting
Tuesday 12th August - 6.30pm—Administration Block
ALL WELCOME!

Student learning is enhanced when parents and schools work together.
The Charters Towers Show is over for another year and once again our agricultural assistant, students and science operations officer did us proud, taking out the following prizes:

- Champion honey,
- Champion fruit and vegetables,
- First honey,
- First preserves and jams,
- First citrus—any large fruit,
- First citrus—3 of any kind,
- Second citrus—any large fruit,
- Second home grown tomatoes.

MATT DE BRENNI, TEACHER

Winners are grinners!

Craig Donaldson proudly displays awards from the local Show. Many thanks to Craig, Matt, Brenda and the students. Well done!
This term students are learning about graphics for the building and construction industry. The school has recently upgraded our Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) software to the latest version of Autodesk and students will be using the REVIT program to consolidate their skills in developing buildings with CAD. Students will complete an assessment task that involves them producing drawings of a granny flat.

LANCE MACKENZIE, TEACHER

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Tips to Encourage Teenagers to Read

1. **Set an example.** Let teenagers see you reading for pleasure.
2. **Give teens an opportunity to choose their own books.** When you and your teen are out together, browse in a bookstore or library. Go your separate ways and make your own selections. A bookstore gift certificate is a nice way of saying, "You choose."
3. **Build on your teen's interests.** Look for books and articles that feature their favourite sports teams, rock stars, hobbies, or television shows. Give a gift subscription to a special interest magazine.
4. **View pleasure reading as a value in itself.** Almost anything your youngsters read—including the Sunday comics—helps build reading skills.
5. **Read some books written for teens.** Young adult novels can give you valuable insights into the concerns and pressures felt by teenagers. You may find that these books provide a neutral ground on which to talk about sensitive subjects.
6. **Make reading aloud a natural part of family life.** Share an article you clipped from the paper, a poem, a letter, or a random page from an encyclopaedia—without turning it into a lesson.
7. **Acknowledge your teen's mature interests.** Look for ways to acknowledge the emerging adult in your teens by suggesting some adult reading you think they can handle.

MARA SAMOJENKO, TEACHER
The Visual Art students for Semester 2 have a lot to look forward to as we will be exploring a variety of mediums and techniques over the semester.

With the 2014 Eisteddfod this month, a selection of Semester 1 students will have an opportunity to see their work in a gallery environment. As well as this, the Semester 1 and 2 students will have a similar opportunity in an exhibition at the end of term.

Currently, the Year 11 and 12 Visual Art students are busy creating their final artworks centred on the concept of ‘Wordsworth’ or ‘Snapshot’. This assignment piece is due in one week, which will then provide an opportunity for the students to explore their next task on the environment. During this time, students will be experiencing the difference of drawing outside using mixed media techniques.

This term, there has been a new cohort of Year 10 students enter into the subject of Visual Art. These students are learning about altering books into artworks during Term 1. So far the students have been expanding their drawing, building, cutting, painting and gluing skills, ready to begin their final artwork in the next week.

Similarly to the Year 10s, the Year 9 students have also rotated to allow a new group of students to enter into this subject for Semester 2. They will be exploring a new unit called ‘Animal Print’ where the students will be using the technique of printmaking using lino. For this task students have already practiced drawing, researching and printmaking techniques and are ready to begin their designs in the next week. In a similar task, the Year 11 and 12 Certificate II students are also exploring lino printing using prints, patterns and features of animals in their unit ‘Animalia’.

Overall, a very exciting term with a very promising outlook for our Year 9 to 12 Artists!

MICHELLE KECK AND RAYLEA THOMAS, TEACHERS

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I'm Steve Perjanik, an experienced classroom teacher, who will be teaching English and Geography.

I've come to The Towers from the Sunshine Coast and I am hoping to be a part of the Charters Towers community for many years.

Legal Studies students (both year 11 and 12) are currently learning about Tort Law and Civil Wrongs. Included within this unit is learning about what negligence is and who owes a duty of care. We have been looking at many real cases and also discussing in depth hypothetical scenarios. The students have been very enthusiastic in understanding this concept because it affects everybody, every day.

This week students will also learn about the concept of defamation and that people have a right to protect their reputation through the court system, if they feel that someone made false comments about them in the public domain.

WES SMITH, TEACHER

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VISITING PROFESSIONAL ACTORS

Last week senior drama students had the privilege of meeting two professional actors. Both actors are starring in Managing Carmen which is a theatrical performance currently touring the Australian coastline. The actors gave students many fantastic and useful ideas which they can utilise in their upcoming assessment items. The actors also provided an insight into the life of a working actor.

We were then lucky enough to obtain free tickets to their performance last Friday night, through the generosity of the troupe. The performance was sensational and our students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to see a live theatre performance.

After these fantastic learning opportunities, the students are motivated more than ever and I cannot wait to see the standard of work they produce for their next assessment item.

KELCEY KIRKPATRICK, TEACHER
**HOUSE POSITIONS**

First: Mosman  
Second: Clarke  
Third: Friemann  
Fourth: Fraser

**AGE CHAMPIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhylie Thompson</td>
<td>13 years</td>
<td>Ruby Boundy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boden Moore-Reid and</td>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>Kyra Crombie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Carr</td>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>Becky Bowden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norman Butler</td>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Teagan Melville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Logan</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Jayde Asling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ezekiel Kukutu</td>
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</tbody>
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**WELL DONE!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blaine Briffa</td>
<td>13 years</td>
<td>Naomi Knuth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Baker</td>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>Alicia Polsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nash Lowis</td>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>Lara-Jane Kimber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jye Geary</td>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Maddy Stanton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaun Johnson</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Jessie Sciacca</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tuesday 12th August
6.30pm to 9.00pm
The World Theatre

MUSIC
DRAMA
ART

Gold Coin Donation
Community Fair and Junior Secondary Exhibition

Friday 29th August 4.30pm to 7.30pm

Twilight Tours
Q&A for Years 7 and 8 in 2015
Curriculum Displays

CISHS Band
Sideshow Alley
Market Stalls
Food & Drink

FREE:
Jumping Castle
Bungee Run
Gladiator

Any questions please contact the school on 4754 6555
The purpose of *The Challenge Games* is to provide two days of fun, friendship and participation in a range of sport and fun activities for school students who have a disability. These activities include running, jumping, throwing and team events plus many other fun/novelty activities. Students may participate in as many or few events as they wish, according to their own level of interest and ability. Whilst the aspect of fun and participation remains the focus of the *Games*, it also allows for the identification of students from all schools, state or private, who may be interested in competing at further school, regional or state level in formal Track and Field events.

On Wednesday 30th July, the annual *Challenge Games* was hosted at the Townsville Sports Reserve (The Red Track). Our Special Education Program, Health and Physical Education students, travelled there by courtesy of the YAC Shack bus. We were topped to maximum capacity with thirteen students attending.

The students, assisted by Ms Higgins, Mr Thomas and Ms Jodie, all participated in a variety of events and enjoyed good food from the sports reserve kiosk. It was amazing to see all the special education classes/schools across the region come together in unity for this event.

Many ribbons were awarded and collected by our students through participating in events like the:
- Beanbag throw
- Vortex
- Sprints
- Frisbee throw
- Soccer
- Long jump

It was also comforting to know that we teachers/aides, students and parents, are not alone in the challenges we face in this area of education.

**DAVID THOMAS AND THE STAFF OF THE SEP**

**Special Education Program** … In *Job Skills*, students have been creating a variety of items for sale at the Community Fair and Junior Secondary Exhibition to be held on Friday 29th August. Some of last terms items were displayed at the Show, such as bird houses, nappy cakes, wall hangings and wooden toys. This term the students are in the process of completing a portfolio of evidence for their assessment task, where they are creating recipe books, advertising, shopping lists and considering their packaging of sweets to be sold at the fair. Please come and support us at the fair.

We are also raising money and awareness for Red Cross through our Big Bake Day, where the students will be selling muffins for a dollar.

**KYLIE HIGGINS, TEACHER**

The Charters Towers *Japanese Speaking Contest* was held last Thursday with State High entering 3 students from Year 8: Ebony Reid, Paige Fielder and Romi Sato. All students performed extremely well competing against teams from other schools.

**Our school placed both First with Romi Sato and Fourth with Ebony Reid.**

**DEREK COPELIN, TEACHER**
**IMPACT** is our latest 3 screen show featuring the latest movies and music, as well as interviews with five young Australians. **Impact** will challenge and inspire its audience, bringing stories of incredible triumph along with stories of adversity. **Impact** asks "what difference are you going to make on the world".

We are always making an impact; good or bad! It's up to us to choose.

From the moment we take our first breath we are bombarded with sights, sounds, emotions and actions which will shape who we are to become. The impact of some events may leave us fearful and hurt. Others may challenge us and even empower us to do great things. We in turn can impact on the decisions and directions of those we come in contact with. Understanding the power of such impacts should make us consider carefully what actions we take.

**Impacts that nurture:** For a child to grow to maturity takes a nurturing and supportive environment. To reach our full potential we need to surround ourselves with people who encourage our dreams and help us to make decisions that will help us reach our potential. We also need to be the friend who encourages others and has the strength to keep them from going down destructive pathways.

**Impacts that weaken:** While at times we can overcome detrimental impacts, there are some which may have a very damaging effect on the way our life turns out. Drugs, alcohol and destructive friendships limit our ability to make the most of our lives, and in some instance can lead to tragic outcomes.

**Impacts that challenge:** No matter how good our intentions are, and no matter how well we plan our future, life sometimes throws up challenges that may seem so overwhelming that we feel powerless to overcome them. Meeting these challenges with determination and courage can, however, lead to outcomes that astound us.

**Impacts that empower:** Like a stone thrown into a pond, the ripple effect of our actions can reach well beyond our own community. Reaching out to help those in need can empower them to take control of their lives and give them hope for the future. It can also enrich our lives and give us a sense of purpose.

As we navigate the obstacles and seize the opportunities that are presented us, we need to be aware that how we respond to these events, the decisions we make and the pathways we choose will come to define who we are. We can become discouraged or inspired by what life hands out to us. We can also turn the despair that others feel into optimism by making our impact one of support and hope.

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**All students will attend this presentation on Monday 25th August in the School Community Hall**

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Year 11 and 12 Biology Students attended Paluma Environmental Education Centre from 28 to 30th July to collect data as a part of their assessment task. The assessment task for this term is ERT (Extended Response Task).

On the camp, students got to explore the ecosystem and collected data across a variety of environments – such as logged forest, unlogged forest and rain forest. Students completed booklets recording their observations and will be competing an assessment task based on the information. Students had the opportunity to use various insect trapping devices in an open area and also in the forest, and identified the insects. They explored the human impact on the environment and considered sustainable options for the future. During their night walk, students observed glowing fungi and glow worms.

Overall a great time was had and everyone enjoyed their time on the camp.

**Aman Bhullar, Teacher**

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**parentline**

1300 30 1300

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**Kids Helpline**

1800 55 1800
How can I get my teenager to go to school?

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Tip No. 1:

Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day; make that the expectation. Regular attendance at school sets up good behaviours for regular attendance at work.

Every day counts – Is your child at school today?
www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts
Valedictory Dinner 2014
Thursday
20th November
School Community Hall

Times and prices to be announced.

Each student is allowed 3 guests (ie 4 tickets)

Please be advised that all school fees must be paid prior to tickets being purchased.

Additionally, the invitation is open to family members only (no friends, etc).

RAYLEA THOMAS,
YEAR 12 COORDINATOR

Message to Parents
Let’s Keep Them ALIVE!

It is that time of year again where many students have acquired their driver's licence and the school values the lives of every student so . . .

It is a requirement that no student be a passenger in a vehicle driven by a student unless we have on record permission notes from the parents of both the driver and passenger.

Statistics show that most road accidents and fatalities occur with young men aged 17 to 25 and we don’t want any of our students being a statistic.

When inexperienced drivers get friends in the car the distractions multiply significantly which in turn puts themselves and the lives of other road users and pedestrians at risk.
2014 CHARTERS TOWERS COMMUNITY DAY @ Centenary Park

SUNDAY 31st August
8am – 2pm

Plants • Fresh Produce • Face Painting
Poker Run • Jumping Castle • Live Music
Community Info • Market Stalls
Craft • Children’s Activities

For more information or to book a stall, contact the Charters Towers Neighbourhood Centre on 4787 4797 or drop into 3 Powell Lane