



CHARTERS TOWERS
STATE HIGH SCHOOL

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14 October 2016

DEPUTY'S REPORT

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander "Health Check"

On Wednesday 5 October our school engaged in an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander "Health Check" conducted by **SchoolLead**. The purpose of the "health check" was to conduct an evaluation of the School's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education focus with a view to identifying the strengths and opportunities, as well as offer any ideas, where appropriate, for the ongoing focus. The Leadership Team and an array of parents, students and staff engaged in face-to-face conversations with the facilitator to evaluate the school's current environment and educational position for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Below is a sample of commendations to come from the report:

"There appear to be positive perceptions of the School amongst the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents."

"The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students generally see the School as a 'good place to be' and they report harmonious relationships, particularly amongst students."

Quality Teaching and Learning (QT&L) Update

On Thursday last week State High hosted 15 leaders from Pimlico, Townsville and Bowen State High Schools to discuss our QT&L processes which have been regionally recognised as best practice. Today a video of our students and staff discussing the benefits of QT&L will open the Principals' Learning Fair in Townsville. Further to this, our Assistant Regional Director has asked permission to invite the Charters Towers Cluster of Primary Principals to our next meeting to discuss our practices to have all State Schools on the same page. This is to ensure students experience a smooth transition from primary to secondary school with a consistent approach to pedagogical practice. As a school, we are extremely proud of the efforts all have contributed to make our school a standout in the North Queensland Region.

Staffing Update

Term 4: Dave Thomas is on leave for the term and we welcome Ms Shalini Mahendran who is standing in for Dave.

2017: Transfers to date:

- Haddon Mossley
- Selena Komodinska
- Michelle Stewart
- Kelcey Kirkpatrick
- Aman Bhullar
- Louise Halfpenny

We thank the above teachers for the wonderful service they have given our school community during their time with us.

We welcome the following teachers to our school community in 2017:

- Elaine Hueber – Instrumental Music
- Bridgette Foot – Legal Studies
- Jade Russell – English/Humanities
- Joe Erwin – Maths/Science
- Zoey Neill – HPE/Science
- Amanda-Shae Hume – English/Humanities

2017 Student Leaders

Over the past two weeks the student body has had the opportunity to hear speeches from prospective school captains in both the Junior and Senior school. Students have cast their votes and all Student Leaders for School Captains, Student Representative Council and House Captains will be announced at our Annual Awards Night to be held in the Community Hall on Wednesday 9 November 2016.

Reminders

- **No Hat No Play** – no student is permitted to participate in outdoor activities without a hat which also includes lunch breaks on the oval.
- **School Uniform** – full uniform is expected every day; this does *not* include 'board shorts'. Students will be given lunch detentions should they not have a note to excuse their incorrect uniform.
- **Water Bottles** – as we approach the summer months and temperatures rise, we encourage students to bring a water bottle to school which is permitted in classrooms. No student is permitted to leave class for a drink as this takes away from valuable curriculum time.
- **Student Resources Scheme** – parents are encouraged to begin paying deposits for the 2017 school year to take advantage of the Student Resources Scheme which allows students access to resources such as the Internet.

DATE CLAIMERS:

Friday 14 October – Rugby Tenz Carnival at Rugby Union Grounds
Monday 17 October – Student-Free Day
Tuesday and Wednesday 18th and 19th October – Vaccination days
Thursday 20th October – meeting for Year 6 parents whose child will access the SEP in 2017
Friday 21st October – State High Arts Showcase
Friday 28th October – International Teachers' Day (Aust)
Wednesday 9 November – Annual Awards Night
Thursday 17 November – Year 12 Valedictory

Dinner

Friday 18 November – Year 12 Last Day

Friday 25 November – Years 10 and 11 Last Day

Tuesday 6 December – Year 9 Junior Secondary Graduation

Friday 9 December – Years 7, 8 and 9 Last Day



Shirley Holcombe, Deputy Principal

PRE-SERVICE TEACHER

My name is Zoey Neill and I am a pre-service student from the University of the Sunshine Coast. I am currently completing my final six-week placement at Charters Towers State High School. During this placement I am teaching HPE and Science, as well as helping coach interschool softball.

I have university qualifications in Nutrition and Health Promotion, and will be earning my education qualification at the end of this year. Teaching and working with children are strong passions of mine, so I am pleased to be working at a great community-based school such as Charters Towers State High School. I am looking forward to the remainder of my time this year in Charters Towers and becoming an active member of the local community.



We look forward to working with Zoey

Zoey Neill, Pre-service Teacher

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following Students of the Week:

Year 7: Analyse Hamilton and Kathleen Polsen

Year 8: Jed Smith and Troy Miller

Year 9: Danae Bahr and Rhys Rafter



YEAR 8 SCIENCE

At the end of last term the Year 8 students designed and tested their own water powered rockets. This wasn't for fun but to introduce them to the physics unit they will be working on this term. Students will be looking at a variety of types of energy and how they are transferred and transformed. Using this knowledge they will analyse the energies involved in their own Rube Goldberg machine (complicated, deliberately over-engineered contraptions that perform a very simple task). This is an exciting unit that Mr Brough and Mr Cosenza are more excited about than the students.

Carl Brough and Anthony Cosenza, Teachers

SENIOR SCHOOL

I hope you all had a relaxing holiday and everyone is ready to hit the ground running for the next 8 weeks. This term will past us by quickly, therefore, I would like to remind you of some important dates to consider and add to your calendars.

At the time of writing, our Year 12 cohort has 5 weeks left of their high school journey. The final day for Year 12 students is the 18th November. Students, please keep an eye out for notices and information regarding these events.

The expectation is that Year 12 students complete all assessment including VET courses and attend school every day until their final day. Our Year 11 and 10 students will have their final day on the 25th November and the same expectations apply. If you have any questions or concerns regarding assessment please contact the school and speak with the relevant teacher or Head of Department. The assessment schedule has been included for your reference.

We are looking forward to celebrating the success of our Year 12 students with parents, family and community members at the Valedictory Dinner on Thursday 17th November.

Have a fantastic Term 4.

Tracey Hill, Head of Department Senior School

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Parent Information Meeting for Special Education

On Thursday 20th October at 4pm the parents of Year 6 students who access the Special Education Program in primary schools in Charters Towers are invited to attend an information meeting (roughly 30 minutes in length). This will be held at Charters Towers State High School. The students are welcome to attend with their parents. Please meet outside the administration block to be met by a member of the Special Education team and led to the meeting place. We look forward to meeting you there.

Lorena Goll, Head of Special Education Services

IMMUNISATIONS

Round 3 – 2016.

School Immunisations will be conducted at the school next week on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th October 2016 for Year 7 and Year 8 students.

Note: Any student who is currently in Year 9 or Year 11 who missed their school vaccinations in 2015 should take this opportunity to catch up on their Tetanus /Diphtheria/ Whooping Cough immunisation **while still eligible for free vaccination.** Year 9 students are also eligible for the Chicken Pox vaccination.

Consent forms will be available at the school office and must be returned completed by **9am Tuesday 18th October 2016.**

Any queries should be directed to Alison Stoneman, Charters Towers Community Health Service, on **4787 0361.**

CHEMISTRY

In Term 4 Chemistry, Years 11 and 12 are learning about the gas laws in the context of scuba diving. The unit investigates the factors that scuba divers must be aware of before a dive in relation to the gas laws and phase changes. This unit is called 'Under Pressure'. Students will be completing a 'Supervised Assessment' for this unit. The criteria they will be assessed on are KCU (knowledge and conceptual understanding), IP (investigative processes) and EC (evaluating and concluding). Year 12s will complete this exam in week 5 whereas Year 11s will be sitting for the test in week 7. Students are excited about this unit as they get to explore different scenarios of scuba divers and sky divers whilst linking the concept to different gas laws. This unit involves mathematical concepts where students will be calculating the volume and partial pressure of different gases. Students will be learning in depth about Charles' law, Dalton's law, Gay Lussac's law and Boyle's law.

Aman Bhullar, Teacher

ENGLISH COMMUNICATION

This term the Year 11 students have two assessment pieces: 1. Heroes and Role Models Autobiographical Writing and 2. Pictures of You Multimodal Presentation. The first of these will be an exam held over two days (October 25 and 26) where students write an autobiographical reflection about a time in their lives that resulted in significant change or growth in their lives.

Year 12s finish school in only five short weeks. They are already into their final English piece, which is a valedictorian style written script. This final piece is a reflection on a student's five years of high school. This task is an exam over two lessons with minimum notes allowed. Please refer to the task sheets for more details.

Students, enjoy your last few weeks at school, but remember to stay focused and keep up your good work.

Please contact the school with any concerns or issues.

Tara Goldenberg, Tracey Hill and Steve Perjanik, English Communication Team

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This term is a busy one for Year 10 HPE. The goal of the first unit is to improve their and others' fitness. Students will plan, deliver and evaluate a workout that targets cardiovascular fitness. They must have an understanding of how the body is affected by exercise and how to focus a training session. Students will use heart rate monitors to investigate how different physical activities affect different people. The second half of the term Year 10 students will examine the role physical activities has within the community of Charters Towers in defining culture and cultural identity. The practical element will be volleyball where students will be assessed on their ability to collaborate purposefully with members of their team in a highly constructive manner.

Louise Halfpenny and Leon Goldenberg, Teachers

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

We are excited this year to be a launch school for the new Digital Technologies Curriculum; one of the newest additions to the Australian curriculum. This curriculum is designed to move students from just being consumers of technology to designers and creators of their own digital worlds.

The first unit is called "There's an app for that!" and requires students to design an interactive website including relevant and interactive data. Students are designing a mock prototype website for the Charters Towers Information Centre that includes information about Charters Towers, weather data, an interactive Google map and a unique design that represents the surrounding area. To complete this task students need to learn HTML (the basic language of the Internet), CSS and javascript. Students in the class also will be getting out and about to take photos of historical buildings in Charters Towers to include in their websites.

This unit is both challenging and rewarding for students as they develop essential skills in identifying and analysing problems, plotting steps towards a solution, implementing and modifying steps and evaluating the outcome. It is satisfying to see the great sense of pride that students have in their work as they excel even their own expectations of what they can achieve.

Simon Pankhurst, Teacher

RECREATION

This term the recreation students will engage in novelty games such as 2 ball soccer, Danish Rounders and 4 way cricket. The focus will be on team work and developing positive team dynamics. This will be a fun term for students as work is primarily based on performance and application of skills rather than theory based concepts. Topics investigated are goal setting, motivation, team formation and team cohesion.

To achieve a satisfactory result, some of the skills students will require are: demonstrate physical responses and interpersonal strategies in individual and group situations in sporting

activities; manage individual and group sporting activities; evaluate individual and group physical responses; and interpersonal strategies to improve outcomes in sporting activities.

A physical and fun way to end the year with some friendly competition.

Leon Goldenberg, Teacher

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY STUDIES

In SACS we are exploring Food and Nutrition. This topic is one that will impact the students in a positive and rewarding way and allow them to practically apply their knowledge throughout their lives. The topics explored include: the nutritional needs of people, Government initiatives for better health choices, and the impact of the media on food choices. I look forward to giving you an update later in the term.

Michelle Stewart, Teacher

JAPANESE

Year 7D and Year 8D will do the intensive Japanese studies this term. They will have 3 language lessons per week and 1 culture lesson. Year 7 D will study introductions, classroom instructions and continue to learn hiragana and katakana writing. Year 8 D will study food and verbs relating to eating and drinking and continue to learn hiragana and katakana writing.

Year 7A and Year 7C will learn to say where they come from and where they live and also continue to learn hiragana and katakana writing. These students will be given weekly homework to assist them with learning the Japanese writing.

Year 8A and Year 8C will be producing a postcard, written in Japanese, and they will learn to use past tense verbs and adjectives, give opinions and learn about three different places in Japan.

Year 7B and Year 8B will also be studying Japanese culture this term.

Wendy Sherman-Bryson, Teacher

MATHS ESSENTIALS

The Year 7 and Year 8 Maths Essentials students came back from holidays rested, focused and ready to learn. Their first unit of work is comprised of several geometry elements. Students will be investigating different types of angles in real life situations, as well as discussing various methods of measuring the mass, capacity and length of objects while using appropriate metric units. The students are very motivated and as such we are moving through the unit at a great pace. I am looking forward to see how the students progress this term.

Mara Samojenko, Teacher