FROM THE PRINCIPAL

State High – a great school with great spirit!

It gives me great pleasure as I write my first newsletter to the Charters Towers State High School community. It has been very exciting for me and I deeply appreciate the warm welcome that I have received. In the last two weeks I have had the opportunity to meet with staff, parents and students. I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm, energy, passion and pride that every person has. It is so obvious how proud we all are to be part of this great school.

As I walk around the school and through the classrooms, I can certainly see our vision in action: ‘Quality Teaching for Quality Learning’. I can also feel the high quality of care and that every child’s wellbeing is a priority for our staff members.

My focus is to ensure we maximise outcomes for every student in the school and that they behave appropriately, present themselves with pride and that they work to the best of their ability every lesson, every day. I look forward to working with our incredible teachers and support staff to ensure that this happens. I also look forward to meeting with parents at the many future events at State High. I am honoured to be here.

2 February 2018

Quality Teaching for Quality Learning

Our enrolments for 2018 at the moment are 454 students as follows:

Year 7 – 89
Year 8 – 87
Year 9 – 87
Year 10 – 76
Year 11 – 53
Year 12 – 62

Congratulations to our Year 12 Class of 2017

The fantastic achievements of our 2017 Year 12s are inspiring for us all, with their hard work and dedication during the year reaping outstanding results. They are a great example of how the high expectations we set enable our students to succeed. The following is a summary of their results:

- 100% students received Year 12 Certification (QCE or QCIA)
- 6 students received an OP 1 - 15
- 85.71% of eligible students received an OP1-15

Staffing 2018

We welcome the following staff to the State High School community:

Returning: Lorena Goll.
New: Kelly KuHz Head of Department - Senior Secondary (HPE / History); Sharni Bansgrove (English / Humanities); Jonathan Ferguson (Science / Physical Education); Therese Hethorn (Art); Frank Holland (Science / Maths); Bradley Hutchinson (English / Humanities); Emily Murphy (Maths / Science); Tony Shanks (Manual Arts) and Sam Wilson (HPE / Science / Maths).
Year Level Co-ordinators and Administration

The following table sets out our Year Level Co-ordinators and Administration for 2018 who have responsibilities for engagement and well-being of our students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Administrator and Head of Department</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Matthew De Brenni</td>
<td>Derek Copelin and Aaron Willis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Matthew De Brenni</td>
<td>Derek Copelin and Scott Casey</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Georgina Thomas</td>
<td>Derek Copelin and Jennifer Barkley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Georgina Thomas</td>
<td>Shirley Holcombe and Sharon Hackman</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Nathan Morris</td>
<td>Shirley Holcombe and Kelly Kuhz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nathan Morris</td>
<td>Shirley Holcombe and Sharon Hackman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you to Matt De Brenni, Acting Head of Department and Bridgette Foot, Acting Year 7 and 8 Level Coordinator, who have taken on these positions for the first three weeks of this term.

P&C Meeting

All Parents and Citizens of our School Community are invited to attend our first meeting as follows:

Date: Tuesday 13 February
Time: 6.30pm
Venue: Administration Building

School drop off and pick up

Please DO NOT DRIVE INTO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS OR SCHOOL DRIVEWAYS at any time. There are many safe areas along Towers Street and Aland Street for drop-off and pick-up. It would be appreciated if you would arrange to collect your student from a designated meeting place away from the bus zone on School Street. Please do not set down, collect or park in any of the restricted zones near the entrances of the school, particularly the Towers Street Entrance near the Administration Carpark. Please note that there are ‘NO STANDING’ zones outside the school that are patrolled by the police.

Thank you for your co-operation to make our school environment safer. It is so important!

Bus Safety

To keep passengers and bus drivers safe and comfortable, all school students are required to comply with the Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses. Supporting the Code of Conduct is the Safe Travel of School Students Guiding Principles. The Code outlines expected standards of primary, middle and secondary school student behaviour while travelling on buses so that bus travel can be safe and enjoyable for everyone. I encourage parents/carers to read the fact sheets below and discuss these with your child/children.

Thank you for your understanding in these matters.

I hope you all have a wonderful week with your family.

Mrs Kaye Corcoran, Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY

Let’s stand together against bullying and violence

Our school is proud to say ‘Bullying. No Way!’ with schools across Australia on Friday 16 March to mark the 2018 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence.

Our school will be highlighting our stand at assembly on Tuesday 13th March.

By standing united we can all help deliver a powerful message that bullying and violence are never okay. We strongly encourage parents and carers to have open and honest conversations with their children about bullying in all forms.

Every day counts at school

The importance of a team effort in achieving school attendance is the main theme in The adventures of Jimmy and Sam the Dog animation and comic book series, developed by the Department of Education. NRL star Sam Thaiday plays Sam the Dog, with a cameo appearance by Johnathan Thurston, plus former Queensland Firebirds netballer Beryl Friday.

Research shows that school attendance leads to positive student outcomes and can help children to build social and emotional skills.

Does your child require medication during school hours?

If your child requires medication while at school, please visit the school's office to obtain relevant authorisation forms. You will also need to provide prescription-labelled medication in the original packaging with clear directions for its use.

Get Started Vouchers — funding to help your child participate in sport

Joining a sport or active recreation club can be great for your child but sometimes the costs can get in the way.

For families genuinely needing some help with club fees, Get Started Vouchers are available each year in Term 1 and Term 3. You can apply for a voucher if you have a Centrelink Health...
For the last three years I have taught at the Charters Towers School of Distance Education. Before that I taught at Isis District State High School in Childers, Kawana Waters College, Beerwah State High School and Meridan College on the Sunshine Coast. I love playing netball and have played on an indoor team for the last three years. I am a Wing and Centre court player so I am very social and work well with others. Currently, I am teaching Year 9 Science, Year 10 Maths, Year 11 Maths B and Year 12 Maths A. If you or your students have any questions or if they need assistance with their class work, please contact me at the school or leave a message.

I’m Jonathan Ferguson and I am a new teacher to your school. For most of my life I have called Brisbane home but when one chapter finishes another begins and I couldn’t have been more excited to pack my bags to reside here in your wonderful town. Between October and November in 2017 I spent six weeks at Charters Towers State High School to complete my final practicum. During this time not only did I learn and involve myself within the culture and ethics implemented within this school, but also those that stand within the Charters Towers community. A true sense of comradery, friendship and ultimately happiness is what led me back to this amazing town. I hope to contribute, inspire and give back to the city that welcomed me, where I can now call home.

**Jonathan Ferguson, Teacher**

Hi, my name is Terri Hethorn and I have been teaching for three years but my time at Charters Towers will be my first full time teaching role. I teach Visual Arts and Media Studies in Years 7, 11 and 12. I am from Brisbane and while this is quite a different environment for me, I am enjoying the experiences gained in Charters Towers. My leisure time is generally spent creating, reading and enjoying the beach. Thank you to everyone in the community who have made me feel so welcome.

I am teaching Year 9 English and Humanities this year. I have moved to Charters Towers from Logan but I have lived all over Queensland, from Blackwater to the Sunshine Coast. I enjoy surfing, playing and coaching netball and watching the NRL. I have found a great sense of community here at Charters Towers State High School and the greater Charters Towers region. I look forward to getting involved in the many things the town has to offer.

**Sharni Bansgrove, Teacher**

I grew up on the south side of Brisbane where I completed my schooling and then completed an apprenticeship as a Shipwright/Boat Builder. I have worked in Cairns as a Boat Builder and served 6 years in the Army as a Driver/Crew Commander of armoured personnel carriers in Townsville. I also lived in Canada for 6 years, using my trade. For the last 20 years I have worked for TAFE Queensland, teaching in the trade...
areas. I teach all year level manual arts. My hobbies are touring on my motorbike and camping. I look forward to getting to know the students and their parents this year at State High.

Tony Shanks, Teacher

My name is Katie Dunlop and I have been appointed as the School Chaplain. My role will be to provide pastoral care, a listening ear, referrals and general support to all members of the school community. This will include supporting the Welfare Team and facilitating the Breakfast Program from Monday to Thursdays; this should be up and running shortly. As a past student and past teacher aide, I am excited to re-join the State High team and look forward to getting to know the students, parents and school staff.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

Our library is a popular place for students in their free time.

The year has gotten off to a great start with Year 12 students coming in before class each morning to read their set novel for the term. Our regular Wii players are back in force, along with lots of newbies. The Wii is played before school, at Lunch 1 and Lunch 2 each day except on Friday when we have a “Wii-free day”. The library is used by many of our students to do their assignments and homework. Other resources on offer are quiet reading, the playing of Cool Maths games on our computers and a safe, quiet, cool place in which to study. Students are welcome to use the library facilities after school until 4pm but must notify Mrs Crane on their arrival and departure. I am only too happy to help and look forward to seeing all the students in the library.

Carol King

SEP CORNER

Welcome back everyone. We hope all our students, parents and teachers had an exceptional holiday break. I am returning this year from Maternity Leave and am looking forward to another great year with our students. This year in the Special Education Program we have our returning teachers: Dave Thomas, Fauzia Ijaz and Renee Benson. We also have our fantastic teacher aides: Sandra Thorpe, Narelle Franks, Jodie Henderson and Chlo Pitt. Thank you to Brianna Kleem for joining our team for the first few weeks this term. We in the Special Education Program are always here to help so if you have any questions please contact us at the school. Let’s make 2018 an amazing year.

Lorena Goll, Head of Special Education Services

SPORT

Welcome back to a new year full of sporting opportunities. A warm welcome to our new parents and our new Year 7s.

We have some exciting news to kick off Sports this year!

It is with great pleasure that I would like to announce that L&F Transfers have kindly agreed to donate their services by transporting our students to all games for interschool sports this year. This is a huge deal to our school and it ensures that our students can compete with the private schools and not have to try to source transportation to games.

Thanks so much to the team at L&F for this very generous donation!

Encouraging your child to participate in sport and undertake exercise can help to improve their energy levels and ability to focus during lessons. Sport and exercise are great for helping kids manage anxiety and stress which can, in turn, help them concentrate and function more effectively at school. Playing sports teaches valuable social skills, helps with discipline issues and teaches children about team work. It can also help children make friends, boost their confidence and also boost their self-esteem, which can have positive benefits across other areas of their lives. Sport can help reduce bad behaviour by giving children a healthy outlet for aggression and anger. This can lead to a more positive social environment as a whole and a reduction in behavioural issues.

Thank you to our team coaches and volunteers who do not get paid to take on these extra-curricular activities. Without their efforts, school sport cannot survive.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the Students of the Week for 29th January 2018.

Year 7: Samara Pehi (no photo available)
Year 8: Georgia Brier
Year 9: Kaylee Homer and Makayla Scott
Year 10: Teneal Baker and Kenneth Shepherdson
Year 11: Serenity Flanagan and Charlotte Sheldon
Year 12: Clayton Astill and Maddison Mason

Katie Dunlop, School Chaplain

Warm welcome to our new parents and our new Year 7s.

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Netball Trials
The Charters Towers Netball Trials will be held at the town courts in coming weeks. (Students please read notices for dates and times).

Rugby League Trials
The Charters Towers 15s and Open Rugby League Trials will be held at CCC on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th February from 3:15 pm to 5:30 pm.

Tennis
Free Professional Tennis Coaching will continue in 2018 from Monday 29th January and is open to all State High students regardless of age or gender. We have again secured a professional tennis coach to train our students on our school courts between 7:00am and 8:30am every Monday morning for Term 1 and continuing in Term 2-4 of 2018, if uptake is high. If students are interested, please turn up to the State High courts on Monday mornings. Please contact Mr de Brenni if you require any further information. This would be a great opportunity to begin training for the 2018 interschool sport year.

Please note that all interschool sporting events (times, dates, etc) are listed on the QSchools App and I encourage parents and guardians to check this regularly as occasionally there are venue changes and things happen that are out of our control. Every effort is made to notify students of any changes and Student Notices are read out every morning.

Interhouse Swimming Carnival
Friday 9th February 2018
8.50am - Assemble at Pool; Roll marking
9.00am - Warm Up
9.10am - 1st Event
3.00pm - Students Dismissed

THIS IS A COMPULSORY SCHOOL DAY.
All students are expected to attend whether participating or supporting. Absences must be explained. Unexplained absences will be recorded and referred to when planning Rewards Programs. ALL school rules apply as this is a school event.

BUS STUDENTS will be dropped off/picked up at the pool.
NO PASS OUTS.
CANTEEN AVAILABLE.

Please also remember to bring a hat, sunscreen, water bottle, protective clothing, shoes NOT thongs and team spirit! Wear your house colours with pride!

IF IT IS RAINING, the event will be postponed/cancelled and students should attend school for normal lessons.

Matt de Brenni, Sports Coordinator, and the Team

SENIOR SCHOOL
Head of Department
Welcome back to another exciting year at State High. During the first weeks it has been amazing to see the enthusiasm with which our Senior School students have returned and for teachers and students and we know this will continue throughout the year.

We are welcoming a new Head of Department in the Senior School, Mrs Kelly Kuhz, and are excited to be working with her throughout the coming year; welcome Mrs Kuhz and, if you have any questions regarding Year 11, students please do not hesitate to contact her for support.

We are still led in the Senior School by the awesome Miss Shirley Holcombe and I will continue to provide support for our Year 12 students, so please contact me, Sharon Hackman, if you need any questions answered or want to have a discussion regarding Year 12. You may also contact us regarding Year 10 students to provide support for them throughout the coming year.

In the last 3 years here at State High we have moved forward in leaps and bounds in our outcomes, expectations and attendance and this year we hope to continue to move upwards. 3 years of 100% QCE attainment, terrific OP outcomes and highly improved Certificate outcomes for our VET students has meant that we are ahead of the game within our region and across the state. This has occurred with your help. We have built a culture of success and we mean to continue that this year with the help of parents, our students and our amazing staff.

Our challenge to our students is to think big and aim high; they can achieve whatever they set their minds to with all of our support.

So, finally, if you require any information for your student in the Senior School or if you just need to have a conversation around how you can best support your child please contact us and we can all work together to have every one of our students succeeding!

Sharon Hackman, Head of Department, Senior School/RTO Manager

Year Level Coordinator
We are back into the swing of things and have hit the ground running. It has been great to see all the kids back in the classroom and working hard from day one. I just wanted to quickly introduce myself to all parents of our wonderful senior students; my name is Nathan Morris and I am the Year 11 and 12 Year Level Coordinator for this year.
Year 8 – This year the students will be learning how to discuss influences on self-identity, create bilingual texts about self-identity and reflect on the influence of intercultural interactions.

Wendy Sherman-Bryson, Teacher

Year 8 Mathematics and Science

Year 8 Maths students will be investigating probability. Students will determine the probabilities of complementary events and calculate the sum of probabilities. Specifically, they will be gathering data about themselves as a group and using this to extrapolate the probability of various events.

Year 8 Science students are introduced to the particle model of matter and use it to explain properties. They investigate the physical and chemical properties of materials and identify signs of chemical change. Students relate the properties of materials to their use in everyday applications and evaluate the effectiveness of the material for its identified purpose. They examine traditional uses of natural material by Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Students plan and conduct investigations of the properties of materials identifying risk and applying safety guidelines. They use data to identify relationships, draw conclusions, evaluate the quality of data collected and suggest improvements to experimental methods.

Leigh Middleton, Teacher

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Rugby Union

SIGN ON 2018 - Saturday 3rd February; Charters Towers Bulls Clubhouse from 10am - 2pm.

Like most other clubs, this year the CT Bulls will be transitioning to Online Registration. Please follow the link below to register. You will need to pay via credit card when registering.

COST - $170 (includes insurance, affiliation to Bulls, Player Polo, Shorts, Socks and Jersey).

If you can’t pay the full amount at once, or will have difficulty doing it online, please contact Cathy West or your Manager before you register so we can work out a payment plan for you.

All Players MUST be registered to play.

Games will commence on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd March.

WANTED: Any interested coaches or managers, please contact Cathy sooner rather than later, 0422 123 451 cnc.west@bigpond.com.