DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Monday, 20 October - Student Free Day – all state schools
- Wednesday, 22 October - The Caves’ Educators’ Day
- Thursday, 23 October - P&C Meeting 6:30pm – all welcome
- Friday, 24 October - Bookclub order and payment due
- Monday, 3 November - Showcase Parade 2:30pm – all welcome

Monday, 20 October is a Student Free Day.
Please do not send your child to school on Monday!

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

One student from each class who has displayed the whole school Value of the Week (from Values for Australian Schooling) in conjunction with the school motto of Nothing But The Best are awarded a Nothing But the Best Award each week. This week our teaching team is looking for the students who best exemplify Honesty and Trustworthiness.

By being honest, sincere and seeking the truth in ourselves and others, we build positive relationships based on trust.

Being trustworthy to our children starts by making sure we keep our word to our children, although life throws us curve balls and there are many times we make a promise and are unable (by no fault of our own) to keep that promise. Talk to your children about these circumstances, before these issues present themselves and how they affect the things we hope to be able to do or the promises we make.

For younger children, a great way to start out talking about trustworthiness is to read books or tell stories about trustworthiness, such as The Boy Who Cried Wolf, and emphasise the following qualities that are displayed in a trustworthy person:

- Being honest
- Following rules
- Always keeping a promise
- Never being mean
- Never taking things that don’t belong to us

Talk to them about how they feel if someone is mean to them, or is not honest with them. Ask them how they feel when someone does this to them or how they feel about that person.

Emphasise to older children that when we give our trust to someone we are confident in their ability to not hurt us, to be honest with us and we ultimately rely on them to be trustworthy. Trust is an essential aspect of any good relationship. When we receive trust we are giving others the confidence that we are trustworthy, that we will be reliable, be honest, be a good friend and be caring to that person.

REMINDERS
If you haven’t yet paid in full your $30 Student Resource Scheme payment, please make sure you do so by Friday, 17 October at the latest. If you aren’t sure, please contact the office on 4912 6111 or admin@eq.edu.au.
NEWS FROM THE OFFICE
Many of you are aware that Mrs Farrell has been away for the last few days, and it looks like she will be away for the remainder of the week as a member of her family is currently unwell.

We are all keeping the Farrell family in our thoughts at this time, and we hope that everything is sorted quickly so that Mrs Farrell is able to return to us soon.

Many thanks to all of you for your patience and understanding during Mrs Farrell's absence from the office.

RAINBOW AWARDS

**GREEN**
Rhett Weatherall

**INDIGO**
Lachlan Sutton
Crystal Robson

**VIOLET**
Tom Geddes
Mia Broszat
Amity Merritt
Sophie Summerfeld
Aeryon Schuh

**OVER THE RAINBOW**
Jake Lucas

HELP NEEDED!
The gutters on the library and sheds are starting to look like gardens and need to be cleared. We have a ladder that is able to reach the gutters – we just need someone who can spare a few minutes to remove the leaf litter. If you are able to help with either of these jobs, please contact the school office. Thank you!

SWIMMING
Thank you to all of our volunteers who assisted with swimming lessons last week. The time that you are able to donate means that we can continue to deliver our top-quality swimming program to all of our students and give them more personalised and individualised attention.

Australians are a water-loving people but our love of the water is not without risk and unfortunately not without tragedy. There were 284 drowning deaths in Australian waterways in 2011-12 and in 291 people drowned in Australia in 2012-13. We know that being in and around the water is an important part of our way of life and the Australian culture and we want our students' family and community to be able to enjoy water activities in a safe environment.

If you are able to volunteer on Friday afternoons, even just once this term, please let your child’s teacher know.

NAB AFL AUSKICK
**Time:** 11:00am-11:40am (every Monday for 8 weeks)
**Venue:** The Caves School Oval
**Registrations:** This Centre is limited to the first 25 participants that register. To avoid disappointment please register online.
**Cost:** $25

For more information contact: Scott at AFL Qld Capricornia office on 4927 3432 or 0404 986 543 or visit www.aflauskick.com.au

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAYS SMOOTH THE WAY
It’s an exciting time for both our Year 6 and Year 7 students who will move to high school in 2015.

No matter where your child will attend high school, taking part in open events, information evenings and orientation or taster days is an important step toward a smooth transition between primary and secondary education.

Term 4 is normally the time that high schools open their classrooms to incoming students, so be sure to check with your chosen high school about upcoming opportunities for you and your child to tour the facilities and meet the teachers.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to the recipients of last week’s **Nothing But The Best** awards, who displayed Care and Compassion: **Callum Stidiford, Tyler White** and **Phoebe Sutton**.

As you would be aware, our Discipline Audit was conducted last Thursday. A Discipline Audit is a process where an independent, experienced school principal (Discipline Auditor) visits the school to collect a range of data and information about school wide behaviour programs, practices and procedures.

In 2013, the Queensland Government introduced *Great Teachers = Great Results* and a Statement of Expectations for a disciplined school environment. This led to the development of the Discipline Audit Instrument. The Statement of Expectations and the Discipline Audit Instrument are evidence based and grounded in research.

Education Queensland believes that clear and consistent school discipline is an essential component of a high performing education system.

The Discipline Audit Instrument has five domains:

- Principal Leadership
- Parent and Community Engagement
- Data Informed Decision-Making
- Clear Consistent Expectations For Behaviour (this includes consequences)
- Explicit Teaching Of Appropriate Behaviour To All Students.

During the audit, interviews were conducted with the staff, students and our P&C president to establish a correlation between school strategies, practices and the Discipline Audit Instrument. Discussions were also held with some parents who were at the school during the audit, and a random sampling of parents were contacted by phone.

The Executive Summary will provide feedback in terms of commendations, affirmations and recommendations across all 5 domains. The commendations and affirmations will provide us with a focus for celebrating the success of our school team’s hard work. The recommendations are key factors for further consideration, prioritisation and action planning in the next stage of our school improvement process with respect to ensuring a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment. The auditor has 15 days to complete the audit report and provide it to the principal.

On Monday, I received the Discipline Audit Profile for The Caves State School. The 5 page Profile has highlighted descriptors in each domain which best describes where your school is at on its school improvement journey (Outstanding, High, Medium and Low). This represents verification of the evidence gathered against the descriptors in the Discipline Audit Instrument.

I am delighted to report that in all 5 domains, we received Outstandings and Highs. The auditor commented that, in the 147 audits he has conducted, he has only ever awarded 4 or 5 Outstandings, as they represent Best Practice across the world – the top 3% of all schools world-wide! He commended our staff, students and families on the **strong and optimistic commitment to our school-wide approach to managing student behaviour** and the **development of a culture that enhances learning**. He commented repeatedly on the **consistency in the implementation of our Responsible Behaviour Plan** and remarked on the **high expectations and high standards of behaviour demonstrated by our staff and students**.

In the ten weeks following the audit I will post the Executive Summary, 5 page Profile, Parents and Carers’ Factsheet and modified School Plan on the school’s web page and work with my supervisor, the school staff and our school community to embed the recommendations in our school’s planning documents.

I will be presenting the Executive Summary and Profile at our P&C Meeting next week, and will be seeking advice from our P&C in regards to the next stage of our school improvement process.

Yours in education,

Sandra Porter  
Principal
COMMUNITY NOTICES

PARENTING PROGRAM – ‘ON BECOMING CHILDSWIE’
A 6 week parenting program is being held in Emu Park commencing Monday 20 October 2014. Facilitated by Seasons Family Counselling, this internationally recognised program ‘On Becoming Childwise’ is suitable for any parent or carer of toddlers to pre-teens. Topics include: How to raise a responsible child; Keep first things first; Touch points of love; The trustworthy Father; How to raise a moral child; How to raise a virtuous child; The five laws of correction; and The place of choice. Enrol at www.seasonsfamilycounselling.com.au or for further information call Kim on 0434 889 946.

CHATTER MATTERS – NEW SPEAK APP
The SPEAK (Speaking Promotes Education And Knowledge) oral language app has been developed by the department as a joint initiative with Queensland Health and Redland City Council to help develop children’s speaking and listening ability. The SPEAK app is available for free download from the iTunes store and Google Play.

GET READY WEEK
If disaster strikes, are you ready? RACQ Get Ready Week is on from 13–19 October. Find out how to prepare for weather emergencies and create your own ‘what if’ plan: http://www.qld.gov.au/getready

P&C NEWS

Our next P&C Meeting will be Thursday, 23 October at 6:30pm in the Maths Room in B Block

BOOK LIST PROCUREMENT SCHEME OPENING SOON!
As foreshadowed earlier in the year, the P&C will offer a “book list procurement” service for the 2015 academic year. This is not intended as a major fundraiser, rather another service offered for the convenience of our school community, much like the tuckshop & uniform shop – costs will be covered, with a small profit margin to warrant the time and effort it involves. Our aim is to have our pricing comparable to that of retail stores in town, but with the added convenience of having the book packs sorted and available for collection from the school.

We intend to have all orders processed and book packs distributed before the close of Term 4.

A book list order form will be sent home soon and we would encourage all families to consider this service – our aim is to offer an alternative to the bedlam of “back to school” shopping!

FAIR IN THE SQUARE, 28 NOVEMBER – VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST IN FOOD VAN
It is that time of year again and preparations are underway for the annual Fair in the Square. This is a wonderful community event that our local Lions Club put countless hours into. In the spirit of community participation I am asking for volunteers from within our school community to assist the Lions Club with manning the food stall – the food stall is labour intensive and even an hour of your time would be greatly appreciated.

If you think you may be able to help please let me know (Jocelyn – 0418 559 919 / jocelyn@peffcabinets.com.au).

The P&C will also be selling raffle tickets in the Webber BBQ kindly donated by Mr Bruce Young, Member for Keppel, so we would also ask that you consider giving of your time to sell raffle tickets.

This request for volunteers will continue to appear in the newsletter between now & the Fair in the Square, so please feel free to contact me over the coming weeks & I look forward to being able to assist The Caves Lions Club in their service to our community.