THE CAVES STATE SCHOOL
P.O. Box 65
The Caves   Qld    4702
Telephone:  (07) 4912 6111
Fax:       (07) 4934 2937
Email: admin@thecavess.eq.edu.au
Principal: Miss Sandra Porter

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Thursday, 4 December - Subway orders due
- Collection of Book Packs from 2:45pm
- Friday, 5 December - Presentation Night
- Christmas Free Dress Day – gold coin donation
- Monday, 8 December - Graduation Day
- Tuesday, 9 December - Swimming Carnival
- Wednesday, 10 December - Pot of Gold Day
- Thursday, 11 December - Break Up Day
- Friday, 12 December - Clean Up Day

2015
- Wednesday, 21 January - Staff Professional Development Day
- Thursday, 22 January - Staff Professional Development Day
- Friday, 23 January - Staff Professional Development Day
- Monday, 26 January - Australia Day public holiday
- Tuesday, 27 January - School resumes

The staff and students of The Caves State School would like to wish our entire school family and community a safe & happy holiday and a prosperous & healthy 2015.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL
This week, we’re focussing on the value of Doing Your Best.

Education is a community effort. It takes equal commitment from the school, from the student and from the parent. How do we teach our children to do their best? We start not by telling them how to do this, but rather by modelling to them how to do this through our own behaviour. Perhaps, then, the best way to help our children learn to do their best without rewards and without competition or comparison is to first learn to do it ourselves.

If we learn to do our best, and model that behaviour to our children, our example provides them more than any conversation can about how to do our best. The skills that help us most in life are not the skills we learn from homework. Ambition, self-confidence, and goal-setting are better indicators of adult-life success than doing well in school. These are the skills that really make a difference in children’s future success or failure.

LOST PROPERTY
Please check lost property before the end of the school year. Anything remaining will be donated to a charity after Friday, 12 December.
The Caves State School invites Students, Parents, Family and Community Members to our 2014 Presentation Night on Friday, 5 December at The Caves State School - Under Cover Area at 6:30pm

PRESENTATION NIGHT
We will begin promptly at 6:30pm. The children need to wear their school uniforms.

In the event of storms or wet weather, we will reschedule to Monday night. Details will be posted on Facebook if this becomes necessary.

REMINDERS
This is the final reminder that notes for Swimming Carnival were due last Friday, 28 November. We are no longer able to assist with organising transportation if you have not returned the form.

Pot of Gold Day permission slips are due on Monday, 8 December. If these are not returned by 9:00am, children will not be permitted to attend.

KEEP A WATCH ON OUR SCHOOL THESE HOLIDAYS
Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on 13 17 88. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school. If you see something suspicious, please don’t intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

STUDENT RESOURCE SCHEME
At a P&C meeting earlier this term, it was agreed that in 2015, The Caves State School will once again be operating a Student Resource Scheme which enables a parent to enter into a written agreement with the school that, in return for payment of a participation fee of $40 annually ($20 in Terms 2 and 3), provides textbooks, resources, consumables and materials for the student’s use. Details and a Participation Agreement Form will be sent home at the start of the new school year.
STUDENT BANKING
This Thursday is the last banking opportunity for 2014. Please ensure your child’s banking book is placed in the locked wooden box outside the office by 9:00am on Thursday morning.

REPORT CARDS & BOOKS
Report Cards will be emailed to parents on Monday, 8 December. If we do not have your email address, a paper copy will be available for collection from the office from 3:00pm. If you are unable to collect your child’s report card from the office, they will be sent home in a sealed envelope with your child on Wednesday, 10 December. If you have any questions or concerns about your child’s report card, speak with your child’s teacher. If you are not satisfied with their response, please arrange a time to meet with our principal.

Bookpacks will be available for collection tomorrow afternoon from Miss Porter’s classroom from 2:45. If you have elected to purchase your child’s stationery requirements, the 2015 booklists have been loaded onto our school website www.thecavess.eq.edu.au.

Please make sure that everything is covered and named for the first day back in 2015.

THANK YOU
A very big thank you to Kelvin Merritt and Martin Hopkins who chopped down our dead Jacaranda tree and removed all rubbish on Saturday. Thank you also to Denell Hick who dug some holes and replaced trees that had died. It truly is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

WEBSITE
Please visit our revamped school website at www.thecavess.eq.edu.au for the most up-to-the date information about what is happening in our school, including our handbooks, newsletter and forms and documents. Also, like us on Facebook to keep up to date.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS
The students and community of The Caves State School is very proud of our school uniform and everyone works hard to uphold our Dress Code.

In the interests of Health and Safety issues, personal pride and presentation, potential discrimination and harassment issues between peers, our school has clear expectations regarding our Dress Code. The Caves State School Parent & Citizens’ Association supports a student dress code policy because it believes that a student dress code provides clothing that aims to contribute to a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment through:

• Ready identification of students and non-students at school
• Fostering a sense of belonging; and
• Developing mutual respect among students by minimising visible evidence of economic and social differences.
• Promotes an effective teaching and learning environment by eliminating the distraction of competition in dress and fashion at the school.

With the end of the school year approaching, and children preparing to leave for High School, many children elect to have their uniform signed. Our school expectations regarding this tradition is that it is a choice for parents to allow their child to graffiti their uniform, and as such, it is not to occur during the school day or using any school equipment. If parents choose to allow their child’s school shirt to be signed, it is only to occur on the last day of school, after the students have been dismissed for the day. For the student’s own personal safety and comfort, they should not be wearing their school shirt at the time.

LIBRARY STOCKTAKE
We have commenced our stocktake of all library and reading resources.

All library books and home readers must be returned immediately.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to the recipients of last week’s Nothing But The Best awards, who displayed Freedom: Isaac Snowdon, Ruqayya Nixon & Heidi Hohn.

As this is our final newsletter for 2014, I wish you all an enjoyable last week of school and summer holidays ahead. I hope everyone is able to take time to relax, rejuvenate and prepare for a prosperous 2015.

I am extremely proud of the very detailed and thorough reports that our parents receive. I would like to thank our teachers for the long hours and the effort they have put into preparing this semester’s reports.

Please remember that, instead of being the average, a “C” is indicates that a child has met the year level requirements and the child is doing what is required for their year level at school. Where there is an Australian Curriculum subject being studied (English, Mathematics, History, Geography and Science), a C is based on the year level achievement standard. For a description of these achievement standards, visit the Australian Curriculum website http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/.

When your child arrives at school on Tuesday, 27 January, class lists will be displayed on the notice board under the office (across from the tuckshop). In all schools at this time of year, rumours fly thick and fast about classes for next year. Let me put all rumours to rest by clearly stating that no decisions have been made about classes for 2015 and decisions will not be made until the Student Free Days in late January. I would dearly love to be able to tell you who your child’s teacher will be next year, but there are far too many uncertainties for any plans to be finalised. In fact, official staffing allocations do not occur until Day 8 of the new school year, when we are required to submit our enrolment returns to Central Office so classes are only temporary until then.

Much thought goes into the best way to group our students to meet their individual academic, emotional and social needs, and we will form classes that will achieve this goal. The benefits of having a multi-age philosophy in our school as opposed to purely multi-age classes ensures that the needs of every individual student is considered, so we avoid the stigma of children being grouped according to their ability only.

If you would like further information or wish to discuss staffing and classes, I encourage you to speak with me so that I can give you the most factual and up-to-date information.

Congratulations to our Under 8s Touch team who played in the finals last weekend and were presented with silver.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the continued generosity of The Caves’ and District Lions Club who provide an annual award and bursary to a graduating student. This year, a Year 6 and a Year 7 student will receive a Lions Citizenship Bursary. This award is presented to the child who shows initiative in the school community, offers to and performs duties above and beyond what is expected, is consistently well behaved and always displays respect to staff and students, participates in curricular, extra-curricular and sporting events, is a good role model to peers and interacts well with staff and students.

Yours in education,

Sandra Porter
Principal
### END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Grade(s)</th>
<th>Everyone!</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, 5 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christmas Free Dress Day</strong></td>
<td>Everyone!</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Student Council is holding a Christmas Free Dress Day. For a gold coin donation, wear your favourite sunsmart Christmas shirt, dress or even a Christmas costume! All funds raised will go to Student Council.</td>
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<td><strong>Presentation Night</strong></td>
<td><strong>Everyone!</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>We will begin promptly at 6:30pm. <em>The children need to wear their school uniforms.</em> A note has gone home with details of what the children need to bring for their class performance.</td>
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<td><strong>Monday, 8 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>School Leaders’ Graduation Day</strong></td>
<td>Year 6 &amp; 7</td>
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<td>Our Year 6 &amp; 7 students will be celebrating their primary school graduation with a trip to Capricorn Resort. Ms Dean, Lisa and the students are organising this event together.</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, 6 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Interhouse Swimming Carnival</strong></td>
<td>Everyone!</td>
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<td>The Caves State School will hold the annual Interhouse Swimming Carnival for all students at the Rockhampton Grammar School commencing at 9:00am and finishing by 3:00pm. Students need to be at the pool by 8:45 so that they are ready to swim by 9:00am. Please note that there will be no-one to supervise students at the school on this day. Thank you in advance to everyone who will be assisting on the day.</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, 10 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pot of Gold Day</strong></td>
<td>Everyone!</td>
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<td>We will be meeting at Victoria Park at 9:30am and will be returning to school by 12:00 for a movie and games. Many thanks to the P&amp;C for their contribution of $150 towards lunch. Please make sure Pot of Gold forms are returned by Monday, 8 December!</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, 11 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Break Up Day</strong></td>
<td>Everyone!</td>
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<td>Break Up Day will be held at the school on Thursday, 11 December. This will be Free Dress Day. Children need to wear appropriate, safe footwear and sun-smart clothing and must wear broad-rimmed hats. P&amp;C is providing food and drinks for Second Lunch. The classroom teachers will be arranging class parties and a note has been sent home from each teacher with all the details.</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, 13 December</strong></td>
<td><strong>Clean Up Day</strong></td>
<td>Everyone!</td>
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<td>Clean Up Day will be held at the school on Friday, 13 December. We understand that some children will not attend as families will leave early to travel. <em>If your child is not attending, please let us know in advance.</em> Children who do attend need to wear work clothes, including safe, closed-in shoes, as they will be helping to clean and move furniture. Children will need to bring their own morning tea and lunch as usual. Children should bring a set of clothes to change into, as they might get wet when cleaning furniture.</td>
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P&C NEWS

Our next P&C Meeting will be our AGM on Thursday, 5 February 2015.

BEST WISHES FOR A RELAXING & FUN FILLED BREAK!
On behalf of the P&C Association I would like to extend our warmest wishes for the festive season and hope that all in our school community will have the opportunity for a well-earned break – we have achieved much we can be proud of in 2014!!

A huge THANK YOU to the many who have assisted the P&C in so many ways throughout the year and we look forward to an even greater 2015!

SUBWAY LUNCH - SWIMMING CARNIVAL - ORDER FORM DUE THURSDAY, 4 DECEMBER
The order forms for a ‘subway’ lunch MUST be returned to the office by tomorrow. We will be collating orders tomorrow so that there is enough time to place the order prior to the swimming carnival. PLEASE DO NOT FORGET – ORDERS DUE TOMORROW!!

*Please note – the subway lunch order is open to both ADULTS & ALL CHILDREN attending the swimming carnival.* All we ask is that when you place your order you make sure each order has a name to it.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BOOKPACKS – TOMORROW FROM 2:45PM, PLEASE COLLECT!!
Bookpacks will be available for collection tomorrow afternoon from the Math classroom (the classroom on the left as you walk into the school from the carpark) from 2:45pm – if you ordered a bookpack for your child/ren please collect it tomorrow afternoon. If this time doesn’t suit please contact either Elizabeth or Jocelyn so that we may make alternative arrangements.

POST PRESENTATION NIGHT – SHARED SUPPER
We would like to invite all who would like to take the time to reflect on a great evening, and indeed year, of achievements for our school to join us in a “Shared Supper” following Presentation Night on Friday night. Our intent is that this will be an informal gathering with everyone bringing a plate to share and the P&C will have beer and wine available for purchase. So if you would like to relax and savour the evening please join us!

TUCKSHOP FRIDGE – FOR SALE BY EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: MAKE US AN OFFER!!
The P&C is replacing the tuckshop fridge and so the current fridge remains FOR SALE, AS IS WHERE IS (glass, double door fridge). If you are interested please text or email Jocelyn your offer (0418 559 919 / Jocelyn@peffcabinets.com.au). Fridge will be sold to the highest bidder!!

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE
Don’t forget to bring your non-perishable donated items to the school office for this year’s raffle by Thursday, 4 December.

The raffle will be drawn on Friday, 5 December at Presentation Night.

TUCKSHOP NEWS
This Thursday will be the last tuckshop for the year, which means stock has been run low. We still have plenty of food to feed all the children, but their preference may not be available. Please continue to order by the bag system on Wednesday as per usual and we will do our very best to accommodate everyone. If indeed we are not able to supply their order, we will work with the children to make sure they are still getting something they like on Thursday morning. Thank you for your understanding.

PUB RAFFLES
Pub raffles are attended by the school once a month and are a quick and easy way to raise money for our school P&C. We are in desperate need of someone to do these raffles on the 12th December. It only takes a few hours of your time and is a great fundraiser for our school. If you can help us out with the pub raffles on this date please contact Tamara on 0429 875 287. Thank you in advance!