**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- Friday, 30 January - All yellow forms due back to the office
- Saturday, 31 January - Election Day Cake Stall, Sausage Sizzle & Working Bee
- Monday, 2 February - Showcase Parade 2:30pm
- Thursday, 5 February - P&C AGM 6:30pm
- Tuesday, 10 February - Meet The Teachers – Parent/Teacher session 2:00 – 3:00
- Friday, 13 February - P&C Meet & Greet 5:00pm
- Thursday, 19 February - Grip Leadership Conference – Yr 6
- 26 & 27 February - State Principals’ Conference

**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* is awarded a Nothing But the Best Award each week.

This week our teaching team is looking for the students who best exemplify *Care and Compassion*. This value focuses on caring for ourselves and others.

Right from birth, kids take their cues from parents - so make sure they see your best side. Show them that acts of caring are part of everyday life. When they're old enough to understand (and even before), explain why you're calling to check in on an old friend, running an errand for a neighbour, or making extra soup to bring to an elderly relative.

A study of children watching a violent cartoon showed that those kids who were asked to consider the victim's feelings found the cartoon less funny and scored lower on measures of post-viewing aggression. Labelling and discussing emotions is the first step to unlocking your child's innate empathy - encourage them from a young age to name their own feelings and relate to the feelings of others.

Be on the lookout for ways to go out of your way for someone in need, and your child will take notice. In the same way, if your habit is to "walk on by", then your child will, too. Encouraging children to help others by showing off their talents and doing what they love to do is one of the easiest ways to develop care and compassion in children.
WHOOOO CAN HELP?
Keep an eye out for the Whooo Tree, which will be making a re-emergence in a few weeks.

The P&C are holding a cake stall, sausage sizzle and working bee on Saturday, to coincide with the Election. Baked goods and volunteers are needed.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL
A very warm welcome to the start of a new year at The Caves State School. We are delighted to welcome our 15 Preps to our school family – this is our biggest intake in quite a few years!

Remember to visit our school website located at www.thecavess.eq.edu.au. It contains lots of important information, including archived newsletters and our school handbook. We will be adding to it and updating it as frequently as possible.

Please mark our Meet The Teachers – Parent/Teacher session in your diary for Tuesday, 10 February from 2:00 – 3:00. More information to come.

Our first parade for the year will be on Monday, 2 February commencing at 2:30pm. Parents and friends are welcome to join us on the first Monday of each month. I hope to see you there!

Please continue to support and promote our lovely school to your friends and neighbours. Great things happen every day at our school – come and see for yourself!

Yours in education,

Sandra Porter
Principal

EVERY DAY COUNTS
Our official school times are 8:55am to 3:00pm. It is expected that all children arrive at school between 8:30 and 8:50 so that they have time to prepare for the day and greet their friends and teachers before instruction begins at 8:55.

Even missing 5 minutes each day soon adds up. If a child misses 5 minutes every day for an entire year, they have missed over 3 days of school!

Children who arrive at school before 8:30am must go directly to the veranda outside the office, with their schoolbags. While there are staff members at school at this time, no-one is officially on duty until 8:55 and our staff are busy preparing for the day, having meetings or performing administrative duties.

From 8:30am, all children must report to their classrooms. The teachers will have activities available to the children to encourage their social interactions and the children will also have chores to do to ready themselves for the busy day of learning ahead.
LIBRARY LESSONS
Library lessons will commence next week and the children will be able to borrow. Please make sure they have a named library bag that comes to school every week.

By the end of Year 6, a child who has read for 20 minutes each day will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. A child who has read for 5 minutes each day will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

Which child would you expect to have a better vocabulary?

Which child would you expect to be more successful in school … and in life? (Nagy & Herman, 1987)

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE
Yellow forms
If something is sent home on yellow paper, it means that we need you to return it to us as soon as possible. If a yellow form is not returned, we will assume that you do not wish to participate. Reminders will not be sent home. Please check your child’s port and remind them to give you any notes on the day they receive them.

The General Permission Note, Family Email Address, Student Resource Scheme, Student Card and Rainbow Award Contract were all sent home today on yellow paper. Please ensure all forms are returned to the school office by Friday, 30 January. They can be placed in the wooden box on the desk just outside the office door.

Payment options
We do not have credit card or eftpos facilities.

Payments can be made via:
- **Cash** – by placing the money into an envelope, marking it with your child’s name and reason for the payment, and putting it into the locked wooden box on the table outside the office door. Please note that we do not keep a float, therefore, correct money is greatly appreciated
- **Cheque** – by placing the cheque into an envelope, marking it with your child’s name and reason for the payment, and putting it into the locked wooden box on the table outside the office door
- **Bpay** – only invoices over $10 are able to paid by using bpay. You will find these details on the bottom of your invoice. Please note, each child has a different reference code

You will note that on the bottom of the invoices we send home there is the provision for you to enter your credit card details. Due to the accounting system that all state schools use, we are not able to remove this section.

**Go Maths**
Each student from Year Prep-6 will be given a Go Maths Textbook and/or Journal, if you have not already purchased one with your items from the booklists. The cost for these will be $20 for Prep, and $32 for Year 1-6. An invoice has been sent home today. The payment is due by Friday, 27 February 2015.
**Student Resource Scheme**

In 2015, The Caves State School will 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 $20 in Term 2 and Term 3 or $40 annually, provides textbooks, resources, consumables and materials for the student’s use.

Parents have the option of paying annually or in Terms 2 and 3. The agreement form including terms and conditions and other relevant information has been sent home today along with the invoice. Payments can be made in cash by writing your ‘Child’s Name’ and ‘Resource Scheme’ on an envelope and placing it into the locked wooden box just outside the Admin door.

**Rainbow Awards**

Students are awarded Rainbow Awards throughout the school year as they demonstrate desired behaviours. A progression is made through the rainbow (Red, Orange, Yellow, etc) to Over the Rainbow and Pot of Gold. Students awarded the Pot of Gold Award are invited to participate in our celebration day activity. Rainbow Awards are a short and long term incentive for positive behaviour in the classroom.

A Rainbow Awards Contract is required to be signed by each student and their parent/s. The contract, as well as information regarding Rainbow Awards has been sent home today.

**Headphones**

Headphones are available from the school office at a cost of $8 each. If your child does not already have a pair, we will invoice you. The office will check with your child’s teacher and if your child does not have them, an invoice will be produced next week. If you do not want to be invoiced for headphones, please contact the school office before Friday, 30 January.

**Dictionaries**

You probably noticed that dictionaries were missing from your child’s 2015 booklist. This year, we have purchased class sets of dictionaries to ensure that all students have the required resource necessary to support their learning for the entire year. There is no charge for the use of dictionaries; however students and parents will enter into a Dictionary Loan Agreement to ensure that the class sets of dictionaries are able to be used in future years. Please sign the Dictionary Loan Agreement which has been sent home today and return to the school office by Friday 30 January.

**Student Card**

Your child’s student card has been printed on yellow paper and sent home for you to update any necessary details to ensure we have the most recent information. Please mark any changes, or if there are no changes to be made, please just sign it and return it to the school office by placing it in the wooden box just outside the office door.

With limited administration hours and increased demands in the office, we are no longer able to chase up forms and payment. If we have not received forms and payment by the due date, we will assume that you do not wish your child to participate.

We are saddened that this might mean that a child misses out on an activity however we simply do not have the resources available to make phone calls and send additional forms and reminders home after the due date.

If you would prefer forms and letters to be emailed to you rather than sent home with your child, please inform the office.
STUDENT BANKING
Student Banking is on Thursdays. School Banking accounts can be opened at any Commonwealth Bank. Take in identification for you and your child (such as driver’s license and birth certificate) and you will receive your Dollarmites wallet on the spot – it is that easy!

If you are a Commonwealth Bank customer with Netbank you have the option to open the account on line as well!

When children make their 10th deposit they will be rewarded with a prize of your choice. Thank you for supporting our school and teaching your child good savings skills. An information pack will be sent home to new students or you can collect a pack from the school office.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

THE CAVES PLAYGROUP
The Caves Playgroup is on every Tuesday morning from 9am to 11am. We are located next to the playground at the school. Playgroup is a fun filled educational time to enjoy with the children (and other parents) through craft, reading books and learning letters and numbers. Cost is $1/week to cover craft costs. Everyone is welcome so come and join us next Tuesday for a cuppa! If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on 0429 875 287. Tamara Jones

TOUCH FOOTBALL JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT DAY
The Annual Development Day for juniors interested in learning more about Touch footy is open to every child from the ages 9 to 16 no matter what experience or skill level they are. Sunday 8 Feb 2015, 9am to 12.30pm (8.30am arrival for registration please). Bring a hat, water bottle and wear shoes and sunscreen. Morning tea is provided at no cost. Anyone interested should email Denise at admin@rockytouch.com for more details or to register to attend (for catering purposes and to ensure sufficient coaches and support staff are in attendance).

Rockhampton Touch is also holding a junior competition in the first half of the year for Under 10’s, Under 12’s and Under 14’s Boys and Girls Teams, no mixed on Friday night commencing Friday 6 March 2015. Nominations are being called for teams from schools, clubs and individuals to participate in this competition and close on 27 Feb. For more information please call Denise on 0409 631 633.

FRENCHVILLE SCORPIONS SOFTBALL CLUB
Looking for players for the 2015 season, Hockey / Cricket / Baseball / Tennis players - come along and bring your friends!! We are looking for players from t-ball or Open Women's and Men's divisions. Come along and give it a try—what have you got to lose. We are a family friendly club with quality accredited coaches. Supported by the Frenchville Sports Club with other discounted junior registration fees available. For more information please call Selena Lennon 0458 169 003, Kylie Crouch 0437 060 212 or email frenchville.softball@gmail.com. Sign-on Sunday 1 February 2015 9am-1pm at the Frenchville Sports Club

RELATIONSHIPS AUSTRALIA
We are offering group programs for young people whose parents are separated. Our Pop Stars group runs for 6 weeks for 10-12 year olds and aims to support young people in their experience of parental separation, conflict and change in their family situation. Activities include – making treasure boxes, making friends, art and craft, sharing afternoon tea, sharing good ideas, learning new stuff and having fun. Starts 12 Feb 2015 to 26 March 2015 starting at 3.30pm at Relationships Australia, 119 High St, Nth Rpton Cost is $50 (6 sessions) 1st child and $10 (for each extra child attending at the same time) Phone 1300 364 277 There is also a Poppers group for 6-9 year olds with the same intentions and activities, but starts on 10 Feb to 17 March. Please call 1300 364 277 for more information.

FRENCHVILLE NETBALL CLUB SIGN ON
Sunday 1 Feb from 9-1 and Wed 4 Feb from 3:30-7pm, Frenchville Sports Club function room
New and old players welcome, Minis start from 8 years old to Seniors, Very affordable fees.
For more information please contact Trudy on 0419331392

FRENCHVILLE ROVERS HOCKEY CLUB SIGN-ON
Is on the 1st February, open to all ages, from under 5’s to over 70! Come and join the fun a team sport can bring. Sign-on is held at Frenchville Sports Club, Clifton Street from 9am to 12 noon. Bring the kids, bring the neighbours! Hockey is .... friends, family, fitness and fun.... Contact Julie Bawden on 0421389048 or email roversfrenchvillehockey@gmail.com for more information
Welcome to Your P&C Association

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new & returning families for 2015 to The Caves State School P&C Association and encourage you to complete the attached P&C Membership form to ensure your voting rights on important issues that may come before the P&C. Please be assured that membership does NOT compel you to attend P&C meetings, it simply means that should an issue arise throughout the year and the P&C seeks to pass a motion to act upon something then you have the right to vote on such a motion. The stronger our membership numbers are the greater our impact – a strong P&C is a vital representative of the parent/carer voice within our school community. So we ask that you complete the membership form and return to the School Office NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY.

We do have a facebook page for The Caves State School P&C Association and would encourage you to “like” us, as this is a useful tool for us to communicate with our community and keep you up to date with all the happenings of the P&C! We have a number of date claimers for term 1 and would ask that you peruse the attached calendar and mark these dates in your diary. The P&C Calendar is utilised to assist with forward planning and to endeavour to give our community adequate notice of events etc happening throughout the year. Date claimers for Term 1 include:

- **Saturday, 31st January from 8am** – our Election Day Cake Stall & Sausage sizzle, which we hope to also combine with a “working bee”. A working bee early in the school year helps to ameliorate the effects of our summer wet weather and the 6 week absence from the school grounds. While our Election Day Cake Stall is a significant fundraiser and a tortuous way to kick off our 2015 fundraising efforts . Children of all ages are of course welcome!

- **Thursday, 5 February at 6:30pm** – our P&C Annual General Meeting, where we elect a new executive (President, Vice-President, Treasurer & Secretary) & hopefully fulfill the convenor positions (tuckshop, uniform & grounds). This year our AGM will be followed by a General Meeting so that we may “hit the ground running”! ALL WELCOME!!

- **Friday, 13 February from 5pm** – our annual “Meet & Greet”, a chance to meet our new families and catch up with old friends and perhaps discuss any ideas you may have for our school and P&C activities for the coming year. This is not a fundraiser, just a social get together, so please bring a plate of nibbles to share – children are of course welcome!!

Please know that your P&C is committed to working with all in our school community to improve and progress the opportunities available to our children. We endeavour to keep our meetings relaxed and hope to be an approachable and open executive. We encourage anyone within our school community to raises ideas, issues or concerns through your P&C so that we may work with staff, students and Education Queensland to improve our school.

We are looking forward to working with all in our school community to make 2015 a rewarding and successful year.

Kind regards

Jocelyn

Jocelyn Becker-Peff

The Caves State School P&C Assoc.

President

TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop will be on Wednesday each week this year and once the tuckshop menu has been updated, a copy will be sent home for you to order from. We hope to have everything organised to start next week, but depending on delivery of the fridge, as to whether that will be possible or not. Watch this space for more information! Thanks.

Angela McCartney

Tuckshop Co-ordinator

UNIFORM SHOP

This year the uniform shop will be open from 8:45am until 9:00am every Tuesday morning for all your uniform needs. I can appreciate this time may not suit everyone so to arrange an alternative time please do not hesitate to contact me on 0429 875 287. Remember to wear your uniform proudly and be proud of our school!

Tamara Jones

Uniform Co-ordinator