



NEWSLETTER

Michelago Public School

February 19, 2021 | Week 4 Term 1 | Issue 2

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear families and community members

First of all, sorry for the length of this letter, but there's been a lot on!

What a wonderful whirlwind couple of weeks it's been at MPS. Our kindies are off to a flying start, working with numbers, improving their reading skills and writing with more confidence each day! Mrs Tillack's class have been super busy! They have been conducting maths investigations studying two dimensional shapes and writing amazing descriptions! In the 3-6 class our students have been consolidating their understanding of place value and writing expressive journal entries. 3-6 have already finished one novel study under their belt, wow! What a cracking start to 2021!

In other news, we have successfully completed our first fire drill for 2021, it was so smooth and steady that we were even able to fit in a snake awareness lesson in during our evacuation! That very day we also learnt about how to keep ourselves safe when using the internet. We all learned some very important safety tips.

Our Governor General's visit was heralded as a big success. The GG himself expressed that he was thrilled to meet our kids and was astonished by how they upheld our school values on the day! Hopefully all of that positive energy will ensure that our new Canadian maple tree grows up to provide us with shade and happy memories of this special event.

Speaking of great successful events at school, our 'Welcome Barbecue' was great fun and there were very happy students and parents. Thank you again for attending and we very much look forward to hosting another event shortly. Stay tuned!

With COVID-19 advice changing, we are happy to announce the re-commencement of our playgroup. Playgroup will be coming to Michelago Public School on the 25 March from 9.30 to 11.30am. If you intend on bringing a little to school for some playgroup fun, make sure you bring a hat and morning tea! How fun!

The Drumbeat program kicked off in 3-6 this week to a rousing reception. This program is aimed at developing a child's self-regulation skills while having fun. These skills are important when collaborating with peers, creating and maintaining friendships and overcoming personal challenges. If you have any feedback about the program please let the school know.

On the 17 February, the P&C held their AGM. We are delighted to announce that we have a new president and vice president. Sarah McKay will be taking on the role of president this year and Hope Barnes will be taking on the vice presidents role. The ideas were flowing at the meeting and we can't wait to see some exciting new initiatives coming from the P&C.

We have a few new editions to Michelago Public School this week. The kids were delighted to see the sand pit open for business equipped with new toy trucks, excavators and equipment. This new machinery will turn the landscape into an imagination manifestation in no time! The kids are loving playing with the new equipment and sharing with their peers. Also, you may have seen a new sign on the front door of our administration building. This sign was made by a dear friend and colleague of mine and I was happy to donate this to the school as a thank you for my warm welcome.

You may have noticed a new home time procedure. At 2.55pm both classes will be coming out from their classrooms to share the day's learning and successes. We are then able to walk the students out safely and ensure they enter vehicles and walk home safely. The kids are busting to share their great news each day with one another.



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We have a new teacher, Miss Robbie! Miss Robbie has joined our staff on a 12 month contract. She will be providing learning support in both classes and well as taking the role of fill-in teacher if one of us is away. She brings an electric energy to our school and has a deep passion for teaching. She is feeling very welcome and looking forward to meeting with you all this year.

As part of our Aboriginal education program we have some exciting opportunities to learn more about Aboriginal history and culture right here at school. On the 10 and 17 March at 3.30pm we are hosting two afternoon sessions of connection and learning with Matt Fullerton, Matt Alterator and Alfie Walker. Raising our cultural awareness, building knowledge and creating a culturally inclusive learning environment is important to us at MPS. We are opening our doors to the community and hoping that you will come with us on this journey. We will be providing light refreshments for our attendees.

Assemblies for the year have kicked off! Assemblies start at 9.15am on every third Friday of term. This term has been a bit of a mess around and will only have two. The next assembly will be held on the 12 March. Assemblies will be live streamed over Zoom to parents and community. Notes will go home before assembly to notify you if your child will be receiving an award. Please RSVP if you would like to attend the assembly in person.

Our Student Representative Council has been organised and our elections have taken place. We have 7 new student leaders in our school. We have three students from K-2 and 4 from 3-6. This representative body will take up the task of school improvement. They will be the voice of the student body and will organise fundraising events, prepare reports for the community and provide feedback on classroom teaching and learning. Our students are overjoyed to be given the responsibility to lead our school in 2021.

This year myself and Susie are undertaking an opportunity to be part of a research project which will improve our classroom teaching practice. In conjunction with Captain's Flat PS and Newcastle University, Susie and I will be part of 'Quality Teaching Rounds'. Our lessons will be recorded and we will be given explicit feedback on our practice by our colleagues. We are hoping to get your permission for our students to take part in the project and consent to them being filmed as part of the research project. More information and the consent form can be found at the back of this newsletter.

Country Kids Club kids are having a ball! Our before and after school care are providing our kids with amazing activities to keep the kids engaged and learning even before and after the bell! If you would like some more information and are keen on utilising this amazing service, please contact the school or Country Kids Club.

Just a reminder that swimming starts next week and that we still have some payments pending. If you would like to arrange an alternative payment date or would like a payment plan in place, please contact the school. We are more than happy to assist.

School attendance is compulsory and every minute, every hour, every day adds up. School attendance is essential in giving your child the best start in their education career. If your child is absent from school please ensure that you have provided the school with a written or verbal explanation for their absence.

I have had such a wonderful start to 2021 and I must thank you all again for the warm welcome. If you would like to arrange a personal meeting with myself or Susie in regards to your child's education, please feel free to call the school to arrange a meeting.

Warm regards,

Geoffrey Smith

Principal



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Meet Kayla

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Just a little note to introduce myself.

My name is Kayla Robbie and I am a new teacher at Michelago Public School. I have completed a Bachelor of Arts through the University of Wollongong at the Bega campus and completed my Master of Teaching for Primary education in 2020 in Wollongong. I look forward to learning about the students and teaching them the tools and skills to help them navigate their way through life. I will be working together with the wonderful staff at Michelago Public School to help facilitate meaningful learning for all students and provide opportunities for students to be creative and innovative in their ways of thinking.

Kind regards,

Kayla Robbie



VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Voluntary Contributions

The voluntary contribution for Michelago Public School is \$45 per student. These funds are used to assist with the purchase of resources and support excursion costs.

Student Activity Books

The school assists families by ordering student activity books for the beginning of the year.

The cost of the books is subsidised. The Student Activity Book fee is \$100 per student.

Early payment is greatly appreciated.

Payments

Payments can be made at the front office or online through the school website using the Make a Payment Tab. Eftpos at the school or online is the preferable method of payment.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask Nicole or Trish in the office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



SKOOL LOOP

We have started increasing the frequency of our posts on Skool loop. Please download the app from the Apple Store or Google Play. The app is free.

Term 1 Swimming Lessons K-6

A reminder to return your swimming notes with payment asap please.

The cost is \$40 per student and we will be travelling by bus to the pool.

We have received a grant which has made it possible to heavily subsidise the cost for our students.



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School Uniform

School Uniform & Hats

We are all very proud of our school uniform. And it is our expectation that full school uniform is worn every day.

Uniform positively promotes the school. Faded & worn out items of uniform require replacement. Hats are a necessity! School shoes are black and it has been recommended that socks are navy blue.

[Your WorkWear in Cooma](#) or [Workin' Gear Schools in Fyshwick](#) will assist you with all your uniform needs.

PLEASE clearly label all items of clothing.

Absences

If a student is absent please advise either the teacher or the office with an explanation either via Skoolloop App, in writing, by telephone or text. Word of mouth from a student regarding absence is NOT LEGALLY ACCEPTABLE.

If a student is being collected by someone other than their parent and there is a change to routine, please inform the teacher prior to the collection.

Library

Library will commence next week and will now be on a Thursday. All students require a Library bag in order to borrow books.

Homework

Homework for all students will commence week 3 and more information will be provided in writing and at the welcome BBQ !

Before and After School Care

A reminder that Before and After School Care is available at Michelago Public School and is provided by Country Kids Club. Their contact details are telephone 6236 8305 or email admin@ccel.com.au.

Please remember that documentation needs to be completed before you can access this wonderful service.



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ASSEMBLY



KEY DATES

Wednesday 24 February - 31 March

Wednesday 10 & 17 March

Friday 12 March

Tuesday 9 March

Swimming

Aboriginal Cultural Learning sessions

Assembly

School Photos