



NEWSLETTER

Michelago Public School

28 October 2022 | Term 4 Week 3

From the principal

Dear parents, carers and community,

It's been a very busy start to the term and it doesn't look like slowing down. There's so much going on at our little school and our students are super-duper engaged with their learning.

It filled me with pride to see our students receive their awards at last week's assembly and also to be an audience to our amazing new recorder band. Led by Cheryl Greentree, our students wowed the crowd with some recorder and rock classics. I will be busing them 'on tour' this term down to Bredbo PS and two local nursing homes in Cooma. You won't miss out as they are performing at our school's presentation day on December 9.

The P&C met this week to discuss the final fundraising event for this year. There will be a school and P&C coordinated 'Colour Run' on Friday in week 8 of this term. If you would like to volunteer for this event please let our P&C know through their Facebook page or register your interest with Jan in the office. Bredbo PS will be joining us for the event. It will be a great day, which we know the students will love!

With so many events and key dates this term, please read this newsletter carefully and note down important dates in your diary. Alternatively, keep your eye on the Sentral Calendar. It has everything you need to know about what's coming up for you and our students at our wonderful school.

Geoff Smith



Planning for 2023

To assist with our planning for staff and classes for 2023 we would appreciate it if you can advise us if will **not** be returning to MPS next year.

You can email the school at - **michelago-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au** to let us know

KEY DATES

November 3	Kindy Orientation
November 4	Questacon
November 7 to 18	School Swimming
November 11	Remembrance Day Assembly
December 2	P&C Colour Run
December 9	Presentation Day
December 14	School Performance Evening & Supper



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Mrs Tillack's K—1 Class

K/1 have been very busy since the start of the term.

Last Thursday we welcomed our orientation students for Kindergarten 2023. The kindergarten and year 1 students were great role models for the new students, and we had lots of fun and activities to do.

Play dough was a big hit with birthday cakes, dinosaurs and beach balls being made. All enjoyed putting puzzles together and story time was a great way to relax. 'Rainbow Fish' was our theme for the day and we made artworks of fish and all things under the sea.

The new students all made friends with the rest of the class and I know that we are looking forward to their next orientation day.





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School Improvement Plan

Did you know our School has a School Improvement Plan? In 2020-2021 our school staff and parent group developed a plan for improvement at Michelago Public School. This plan can be found on our website. We will be updating this plan next year with new goals. If you would like to be part of this process please come along to our next P&C meeting, which is scheduled for later this term.

One of our goals in this plan is to improve our use of data in our teaching and learning programs. I'm proud to say that we are well on track to meeting our success criteria with this goal. Since 2021, our school has implemented a robust assessment schedule, which provides accurate triangulated data to inform our teachers of every students learning progression. It supports decisions around allocating resources for student interventions and support. It also provides our teachers with information for providing extension work for students working beyond expectations.

We are very proud of these improvements as it has allowed us to provide a more individualised and tailored approach to our students learning. This has had a positive impact on our students' academic results but more importantly, has had a positive impact on our students' wellbeing.

We are in the process of improving our explicit teaching through the use of Quality Teaching Rounds. This encourages teachers in our school and from neighbouring schools to visit, observe lessons and provide constructive feedback to each of our teachers.

If you would like to know more about what's happening in our school and it's pedagogies (teaching strategies), please come have a chat to Mr Smith, he loves talking teaching!

School Communication

In 2023, we will no longer be using Skoolloop as a method of communication. Sentral will be the primary communication platform between home and school.

On Sentral you can explain absences, retrieve past student reports, look at your child's attendance percentage and in 2023 we are moving to a digital permission system for excursions/ incursions.

If you require support downloading the Sentral app or connecting to our school platform please come into our office for support. We are more than happy to help you come onboard.



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Bushfire Plan

Did you know that our school has been re-categorised as a **Category 1** bushfire school?

To ensure the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, the Department has determined that on days when NSW Rural Fire Service declares a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating for our area, our school will temporarily cease operations for the following day.

In addition, schools may be made non-operational due to changing higher risk conditions and advice from Emergency Services and the State Emergency Operations Centre.

The Fire Danger Rating does not mean there will be a bushfire, but rather weather conditions that could pose a high risk for a bushfire event. The measure is proactive to ensure staff, students and the community remain safe.

To ensure that we continue to support student learning on these days, your child will be able to attend another school if it is inline with your family's own bushfire plan. A list of schools will be provided at a later date.

Our school will inform our school community after 4pm if there is a change to the operational status of the school for the following day. In the event of a change to operation, parents will be notified on the Sentral Parent App, Skoolloop (until the end of 2022), our school's website and our school's Facebook page.

To assist the school in contacting all families please ensure that you have provided us with up-to-date contact details.

Tell Them From Me Survey

We are always looking for ways to improve our school and our community engagement. As part of school improvement process we need your help!

The Partners in Learning parent survey is part of the Tell Them From Me suite of surveys on student engagement and wellbeing. The parent survey helps to clarify and strengthen the important relationship between parent and school. Participation in the parent survey is optional and completely anonymous.

This week our school's survey window will be open for feedback. Please complete by COB Friday 4 November to have your voice heard.

Please enter this link <http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/michelagopublicschool> to access our unique school survey.



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Learning Support News

Hello everyone,

My name is Clare Whittaker-Allan, and I've been supporting teachers to meet the learning needs of our students this year as Michelago Public School's Learning and Support (LaST) teacher (Monday-Tuesday).

"School and Family - Working together": our school motto is the best one I've seen yet. Why? Because when home and school **are** working together it is the best recipe for the best academic, social and sporting outcomes for our children.

In this space in the newsletter I aim to provide you, our families, with information, activities and the occasional relevant resource to empower you to make evidence-informed decisions to support your child's learning and wellbeing.

The topics featured in this space will be timely and highly relevant: the MPS teaching team have identified them as significant specifically to our children at Michelago. And, keeping in mind our school motto, I extend a warm, enthusiastic invitation to you: **join us** by sending in suggestions of topics or questions that have been niggling away, and these may feature as well.

The best way to do this is by emailing (michelago-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) with "LaST suggestion/request" in the subject line. Then sit back, relax and keep an eye out for your topic featured in one of the following newsletters.

Our first article features tips for developing your child's vocabulary and can be found directly below, enjoy!

Clare Whittaker-Allan

LaST Michelago Public School

Vocabulary – Did you know the number of words students know well impacts their ability to read and understand increasingly demanding levels of texts? Vocabulary is one of the five integral skills needed to develop the ability to read.

How it works—Your child's vocabulary starts developing long before they enter school. A personalised dictionary (lexicon) is growing every time your child is listening to and using words. It is fostered on the laps of readers as they share fun and engaging texts, in rich conversations with experts on topics of interest, on holidays and outings to new and exciting places as children question what they are seeing. This internal dictionary assists your child when they come across a word they have not previously read.

Note that what is interesting to your kindergarten student will be different to what your year six student finds fascinating. For example, a kindergarten child might be intrigued by the apostrophe in the contraction "can't" that appears in a story book, whereas your year six student might be stumped by the word "cantankerous" in the non-fiction text about politics. In either case, we can grow your child's vocabulary by following their interest: pausing at the interesting word, exploring its meaning and uses, linking it to some prior knowledge and using the word again in speech and writing.



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Learning Support News

Tips for growing vocabulary at home

Foster a growth mindset for new words:

From aardvark to zyzzyva, there are so many words in the English language it would be impossible for a child to know them all. Yet, when students come to an unknown word in reading, they often feel embarrassed and reluctant to explore the word, hampering growth of their vocabulary. When you come across an unknown word celebrate it! Tell your child it is a great thing they do not know the weird word...yet...because it means they have the opportunity to learn something new!

Notice, collect and use interesting words:

In the homework pack, your student's blue bookmark book (for most students this is the library book they've chosen) is a rich text that uses a wide range of interesting words students can use to increase their vocabulary. For our 3-6 kids their non-fiction research text (e.g. encyclopedia) provides another golden opportunity.

Read with or listen to your child reading interesting texts.

During shared reading:

Pause at any interesting or unknown words.

Assist your child to say the word by breaking it into syllables or sounds. Say it slowly. Play with the sounds of the word.

For example, "Gee, that word looks tricky, let's work together to figure out how to say it."

Demonstrate excitement and wonder.

For example: "Oh! That's an interesting word! I wonder what it could mean?". Start by thinking of possible meanings.

Link it to prior knowledge

For example: "What other words do we know that look or sound the same?", "What words mean something similar or something opposite?"

Look it up online or in a dictionary

There are many free dictionaries available online, for example: <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/abracadabra>

Write the word together and display it prominently

Use the word again in speech and writing.

For example, make it a challenge to try to include the word as often as possible as you go about your daily routine, eg as you make dinner.

Have fun, and let us know how it goes!



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Award Winners

Congratulations to all the students who won awards at our Week 2 Assembly.



Assembly Update—Assemblies will now be held at 9.10am on Friday morning every fortnight.

Assemblies will continue to be zoomed for those who would like to dial in. Our assembly zoom link can be clicked via the Sentral Parent Portal.

LITTLE WOMBATS MICHELAGO PLAYGROUP



Term 4 - 2022

PLAYGROUP EVERY
THURSDAY

Romps Visits

OCTOBER 20TH

NOVEMBER 3RD AND 17TH

DECEMBER 1ST AND 15TH

Thursdays @ 10:00am

 **Michelago Public School**



**monaro family
support service**

For more information contact:
ROMPS Coordinator Tracy on
t.crompton@mfss.org.au or 0499 618
691

Available Wednesday to Friday



**Country
Children's**
EARLY LEARNING

COUNTRY KIDS CLUB At Michelago Public School

COUNTRY KIDS CLUB provides your child/ren with **fun,**
play-based learning experiences before and after school
and nutritious meals and snacks.

SERVICE FEES

Program	Time	Full Fee	Casual Fee
BEFORE SCHOOL CARE	7:00am - 9:00am	\$22.50	\$25.50
AFTER SCHOOL CARE	3:00pm - 6:00pm	\$33.50	\$35.50

Child Care Subsidy can provide up to 85% off your child care fees.

ENROLMENTS

Enrolling is simple, to receive a link for your online enrolment, simply call or email us!

STAFF

Jessica Kalthofen plans and runs our daily programs with help from our other educator Cheryl Greentree, with Julia Morphet as our Service Coordinator.

COME AND WORK FOR US

We are seeking additional staff who enjoy working with children, to work at Before and After School Care Program at Michelago Public School. We have Permanent Part-Time and Casual Roles to offer. Find out more on our website or get in contact with us!

 02 6236 8305

 enrolments@ccel.com.au

 www.ccel.com.au

We're here to help out!

*Come and see us in-service, email or give us a call.
We look forward to welcoming you and your child/ren soon!*

World Teachers' Day



28 October 2022

**Happy World Teachers' day to the
fantastic staff at MPS.**

