From the Principal

What a fantastic start to 2016 – so many students and parents!

I wish to thank the outgoing P&C executive for all their efforts and achievements during 2015. Thank you to all our amazing helpers who assisted at the Bunnings BBQ!

I would also like to welcome and congratulate our new P&C executive for 2016;

President: Emily Green
Vice president: Louise Williamson
Secretary: Lisa Ferraris
Treasurer: Anna Bunston

Thank you to all our parents and carers who assisted with transport to the Cooma Pool last Friday - always appreciated.

We were very proud of our students on the day. Well done! A particular mention goes to Faith who was awarded the ‘Encouragement Award’ for determination and effort.

A number of our students will be participating in the Monaro District Carnival on Friday 19 February at the Cooma pool.

Please approach staff with queries or concerns as they arise. We welcome the opportunity to resolve issues and provide relevant information. Parent help is always encouraged, particularly with reading.

Permission notes and other attachments are often attached to newsletters and require your attention. Swimming permission notes require an individual note for each student and 2 sides of the note must be completed.

All activities need to be paid prior to any event. The school does not invoice parents for excursions or events

Cross Country Running

Anna has her running shoes on!

Anna takes the students running to the oval and back on Tuesday mornings.

Students who are keen to participate in this activity must be at the school by 8.30.

Thanks Anna for your enthusiasm. We welcome any parents join in and assist with the run.
Parent Information Workshop: Kinder – Year 6

The school is hosting an Information Workshop on **Wednesday 17 February**. Murray Walpole will be discussing the school’s Positive Behaviour for Learning model supporting the behaviour and learning expectations of the school.

The workshop provides general information about school programs, activities, WHS matters and an opportunity for parents to ask questions.

Kindergarten Best Start feedback forms will be handed out at this workshop and feel free to discuss your child’s results with Mrs Tillack.

We are looking forward to seeing you all!

YES! Bring a plate.

Mrs Green will provide supervision for the afternoon.

**School Choir**

Jo will be continuing choir practice on Monday afternoon’s.

We welcome Jo back for the year and thank her for her wonderful support of the students.

**Scripture:**

Scripture lessons will be held on Monday afternoon beginning in Week 3. If you have any queries, please contact the staff.

**A Special School Visitor**

We were very fortunate to have Mrs Marie Coleman, a former student at Michelago Public during the early 1940’s, visit and chat to our students.

Marie addressed the children and spoke of past times at the school which surprised and engaged our students. This included the digging of the bomb trenches in the school yard during the war. Students were provided with corks to bite on when the bombs dropped. The cork was supposed to stop them biting their tongues off.

**School Photo’s**

Theo from Schoo’s Studios will be taking school photos on Wednesday February 17. Forms will be sent home with this newsletter.
**Active After School Programs**
The Active After School Program has begun. All students who attend these programs are expected to participate in the activities.

**Homework Club** on Monday afternoons until 4:30.

**Wednesday afternoons – Staff Meetings**

**Sport/Games Club** on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons - activities until 4:30.

Thank you to Mr Lannutti for his assistance with these programs

*Students are expected to be collected by 4:30. Thank you!*

**Family Day Care Provider:**

Mrs Tollis is available for before and after school and is certified under Family Day Care. Please contact the office for her number.

Please contact staff about these arrangements and for further information if you are interested in the program.

**Bogong Art Workshop**

JD and Andrew from the Cooma local AECG visited the school to present a workshop at the school on Thursday 11 February. The follow up Bogong art activity and painting will be held on Thursday 3 March. A free BBQ lunch will be provided for the children.

**Assembly**

The first school assembly will be held on Friday 12 February.

We welcome all our parents and carers to celebrate and acknowledge their children’s efforts.

**P&C Meeting: Friday 4 March 3:15**

Welcome and congratulations to our new team.

The next meeting will be held on Friday 4 March.

Please bring along a plate and meet and greet.

There is a special P&C flyer attached. Families are asked to complete the form and return it to school - many thanks!

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*“Learning gives creativity, Creativity leads to thinking, Thinking provides knowledge, Knowledge makes you great.”*  
- Abdul Kalam
Lunch Orders

We encourage all families to place their lunch orders at the shop prior to the start of the school day. It is important to remember all orders including those made by phone have to be in by 9:30. This gives Sally plenty of time to have the orders completed by 11am. Late orders can disrupt the shop as well as impact on learning time.

Our school follows the ‘Healthy Schools’ Policy” and therefore junk food: chips lollies and fizzy drinks etc are not permitted.

Crunch & Sip Program

At 10:00 each morning students have crunch and sip in the classroom. This program benefits student health and wellbeing. Please supply your child each day with the following:

Crunch-fruit & vegetables only! Sip- water only!

Thank you!

School Sport

During term 1, sport will be held on Friday mornings in the cooler part of the day. Joggers are required.

Student Absence, Arrivals & Collection

Students who arrive after 9:00 in the morning and are collected before 3:00 in the afternoon are required to be signed in or out on the Register kept at the front office.

As part of DEC policy all student partial absences and full absences are recorded and monitored.

Parents and carers are required to inform the teacher of an absence through word of mouth, telephone, text, email or letter.

A call from the office or a Departmental letter will be sent home requesting information if the above is not completed.

Please note: 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.

School Uniform

Please ensure your child wears full school uniform to school. The students are very proud of their uniform and it is a visible display of school pride and respect.

School shoes are black and it has been recommended that socks are navy blue.

The school policy is ‘No hat, No play!’

Please label your children’s clothing clearly!

School Website

Our school website is updated every 2 weeks where you can check the calendar.

The school’s Facebook is up and running, many thanks to Trish for setting it up.
WH&S Volunteer & Transport Requirements

We strongly encourage all parents to apply for their Voluntary Working with Children number on the RTA website site. This action supports child protection requirements. Free to volunteers.

Mobile Library

The Mobile Library visits the school every alternate Monday.

If your child would like to borrow a registration form is required. Please ensure that your child’s books are returned. Books not returned will incur a FINE!

School Times

Students can be dropped off after 8:30 in the morning. Lessons begin at 9:00. Students are to be collected at 3:00 in the afternoon.

In case of a delay, please contact staff.

Allergies & Chronic Illness

If your child has a severe allergy or chronic illness/condition, the school must be informed and a Health Management Plan is to be completed by your child’s doctor and issued to the school. The school does not provide or administer over the counter medications, such as pain relief or skin cream.

Parents with a child suffering from asthma must provide a puffer to the teacher.

Parents with a child suffering from a severe allergy must provide an epi-pen to the teacher.

Voluntary Contributions

The Voluntary Contribution is separate to the Student Activity Book fee and is payable to Michelago Public School.

The Voluntary Contribution is $40. Per child and is widely accepted as a donation throughout the NSW Education system. These funds are used to assist with the purchase of resources and support excursion costs.

Payments should be made by the end of Term 1.
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.

Easter Raffle

The P&C are holding an Easter raffle which will be drawn on the Friday 24 March.

Yes! It is early, however we are taking donations for the Easter Hamper. Donations can be left in the hamper in the school kitchen. Raffle tickets will be sent out with the next newsletter.

Family Leave

Parents are required to complete an Exemption Form for student leave of a week or more.

Clean Up Australia Day: Schools Friday 4 March

Students are asked to bring suitable gloves for collecting rubbish for the Clean Up Australia Day campaign. Students will participate in a short walk along Main St and collect rubbish in the school grounds.

Little Athletics Thursday 10 March

We are very fortunate to have Little Athletics ACT visit the school. They will be running workshops for the 2 classes. Students are asked to wear their sports uniform for the day.

Entry into School Grounds

In accordance with DET & WHS guidelines, we remind families that school grounds are not accessible during out of school hours. School grounds are not a public place. If children use the tennis court, an exception, they must have parent supervision at all times. This is to ensure health & safety at all times as well as respect for property.

Dogs must always be on a leash and no dogs are allowed on the court or in the sandpit area.

Private Conveyancing Form

Don’t forget to fill in online.

School and Family Working Together
Our latest craze at Michelago Public School

Diablo’s

Our visit from Uncle JD and Andrew planning our Bogong Moth Painting which we will be starting with them on 3rd March