



# NEWSLETTER

## Michelago Public School

Term 4 Week 5 - 14 November 2025

### Principal's Message - Presentation Day

We warmly invite all parents, carers, families and friends to join us for our Presentation Day Ceremony on **Wednesday 17 December 2025 at the Michelago Hall from 9.30 - 10.30am.**

This special occasion is an opportunity for us all to come together as a community to celebrate our students' achievements in learning, leadership, citizenship and sport throughout the year.

Awards will be presented to recognise effort, improvement and excellence across the school, and we will reflect on the many highlights of 2025 at MPS.

We would love to see as many families as possible joining us to support and celebrate our wonderful students. Further details about the time and arrangements for the day will be shared closer to the date.



### Selective High School for 2027

Applications are now open for entry in 2027 into a selective public high school. If your child is currently in Year 5, learn more and apply today.

Go to - <https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/choosing-a-school-setting/selective-high-schools>

for more information and the online application form. If you require any assistance in accessing this site please contact us at school.





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## Award Winners

The award winners at last Friday's Assembly were:

Reegan, London, Jessie, Bailey, Samantha and Kaedence.

Well done everyone!



## Hats and Water Bottles

As the warmer months are here, we want to remind all parents and carers about the importance of sending your child to school with a school hat and a water bottle every day.

Wearing a broad brimmed hat helps protect our students from harmful UV rays during outdoor activities and recess. It is an essential part of our sun safety policy to keep our kids safe while they enjoy their time outside.

Staying hydrated is just as important, especially as the weather gets warmer. Providing your child with a refillable water bottle ensures they have easy access to water throughout the day, helping them stay refreshed and focused in class.

Please make sure your child's hat is clearly named and their water bottle is regularly cleaned and filled each morning. Together, we can help create a safe and healthy learning environment for all our students.

**School hats are still available from the school office for \$17.00.**





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## Michelago Public School

### Check out our 3-6 Remembrance Day Poetry!

No Man's Land  
By Charlotte

Bodies fall like hailstones,  
Bullets whistle by,  
A soldier dreams of going home,  
And eating hot cherry pie.  
A hot bowl of watery soup  
Resting in his hand,  
As many rats as people  
On No Man's Land.

Pigeons, horses, terriers, donkeys  
All faithful friends  
Didn't know we needed them  
Till we lost them in the end.  
Saddles, collars  
Stirrups and bands  
Cages and confinement  
On No Man's Land.

Gunshot wounds  
Lead to hospital rooms  
Free from feeling the pain.  
Away where the sky is still blue  
Nurses and angels the same.  
Soft beds and solitude  
A no longer dirty hand,  
Quiet rooms and better food  
Away from No Man's Land.

Soldiers got sick and perished  
Wives were left behind  
Memories of home to be cherished  
Quiet in the back of their minds  
Stealing supplies was considered a sin  
Rationed food was always canned.  
Praying that your side will win  
Out on No Man's Land.

So remember a war long ago,  
Where soldiers were forced to fight  
Through desert, forest and snow  
Though many a day and night.  
Lay a wreath made of poppies  
On a place where blood was clotted with sand  
Where soldiers fought and died  
Shivered and cried  
Across No Man's Land.

### Lest We Forget

By Mila

*The soldier lay down his head  
The memories in his mind  
He remembered his wife back home  
Tears in her eyes.*

*The bullets rained overhead  
The cry of one's last breath  
He tried to help his comrades  
However, all were dead.*

*The soldier knew his time had come  
So he stood up proud and tall.  
He picked up one last hand grenade  
And thought of before the war.*

*Leaping to his feet, running above the fighting  
He scrambled into the enemy's trench  
Forcing the bomb on the ground  
The soldiers' souls the bomb did clench.*

*Soon the letter arrived home  
The family unable to think.  
The pride and sadness swirled around  
With anger on their brink.*

### We Remember Them

A poem by Ash

Loud, flashing gunshots were piercing the air  
The smell of blood was always there  
Screaming, yelling, wincing with pain  
That was the war's terrible game.  
November eleventh, the fighting stopped  
From the ground, blood-red poppies popped  
Blood stains the soldiers' clothes  
The rattling of guns, dead bodies froze.

The smoke of bombs  
Rising in the air  
Carrying souls to heaven's lair.  
The wounded cry in screams of despair.  
The sky was ominous and grey,  
Cold trenches, where the soldiers stay  
Medics rush to those in need  
Bodies carried as they bleed.

Pigeons fly through the air  
Carrying notes here and there  
Horses whinny as they dash  
Galloping through the smoke  
Carrying wounded soldiers  
Some soldiers never awoke  
Men scream, men die  
Most were under twenty-nine.

For many days, war brings sorrow  
Soldiers whisper, "There's hope for to  
Suddenly guns dropped to the floor  
The fighting was not so torn.  
Hand shook, soldiers swore  
"This war must last no more."  
Each soldier played their part  
They continued to fight, lots lost their hearts.

We remember them, those who fought for us  
They were special, they didn't fuss  
We honour them, we think about them  
We say "Lest we forget."





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## What's Spelling Mastery all about?

We have continued to see significant growth in spelling results across K to 6 through our whole school implementation of Spelling Mastery.

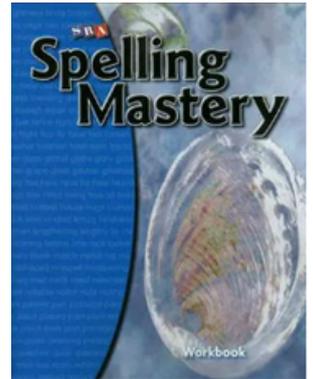
This program provides explicit and systematic instruction with daily practice and the data clearly reflects its impact.

In both our internal Check In assessments and our NAPLAN results we are seeing steady upward trend lines in spelling accuracy and confidence across year groups.

This is not luck. This is the result of consistent high quality teaching and a shared commitment to the routine of daily explicit literacy.

We are incredibly proud of our students for the effort they put in each day and deeply appreciative of our staff who deliver this program consistently and with energy.

Our whole school community should feel proud of this achievement.



Check out this video for more information about the program.

## Next Week! - University of Canberra Visit!



On Thursday 20 November, all students from K-6 will be attending the UC Aspire Small Schools Visit Day at the University of Canberra. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to take part in hands-on, interactive and engaging activities across a range of study areas — science, health, arts, technology and more. It is always a fun, inspiring day where students get to explore new ideas, work with university staff, and experience a little taste of campus life... and yes, they even feed us!



Permission notes are going home today. Please return them as soon as possible.

We can't wait for another great day of learning and adventure for our K-6 students!



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## Michelago Public School

### Student Success

Earlier this year students at Michelago PS were invited to do a drawing of what they thought they would be working as in the future.

We were advised this week that several of our students were successful and will have their artwork featured in an exhibition at the Raglan Gallery in Cooma.

The exhibition celebrates the creativity and imagination of primary students from across the Snowy Monaro, exploring how children picture their "whole wide world" - from future jobs and families to animals, adventures, and new ideas. The following students are featured:

The students from Michelago that will be featured are:- Kayden, Toby, Annabelle, Harriet, Archie and Sophia S.

for more information about the opening night please go to <https://events.humanitix.com/drawing-the-future>

In addition to this exhibition the Aspire UC team have also produced a book - "My Whole Wide World".

This book will feature artworks from - Harriet, Charlotte, Kayden, Fergus, Dixie, Isla, Darcie, Abby, London, Alisha, Sophia, Bailey, Archie and Olivia

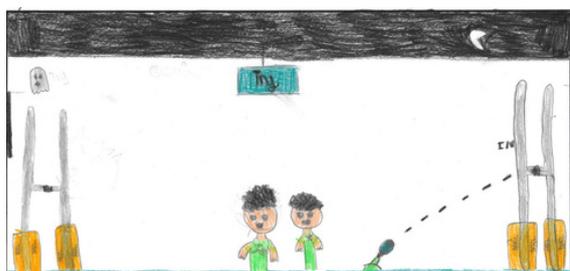
Congratulations to all of these students.



### DRAWING THE FUTURE

EXHIBITION  
OPENING,  
RAGLAN  
GALLERY COOMA

FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup>  
NOVEMBER  
**5.30 - 7.00PM**  
ARTIST PANEL  
CANAPES  
DRINKS





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## Results from recent water testing

### Michelago Public School Works notification | 12 November 2025

Dear staff, parents, and carers,

Drinking water quality testing was recently conducted at Michelago Public School as part of our routine water testing program.

This biannual routine testing was carried out on Thursday 30 October 2025. The results, received on Monday 10 November 2025, identified contamination in the tank water supply used at the school.

Testing confirmed the presence of lead in the following locations:

- kitchen sink in admin building A
- bee room sink in building G.

As a precautionary safety measure, access to the affected sink outlets have been restricted. Signage is in place to remind students and staff not to use the sinks. Bottled water and hand sanitiser is being supplied to staff and students as needed.

We are working with an independent hygienist to undertake any necessary remediation work. All remediation works will be carried out by qualified contractors, and additional testing will be conducted following this work to ensure the water is safe for use.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of our school community remain our highest priority.

For more information on water quality and safety measures, please visit Australian Drinking Water website: [Australian Drinking Water Guidelines](#).

If you have any questions about this process, please contact the NSW Department of Education using the details below.

Thank you for your cooperation during this important work.

## Results from recent Water testing

Please be assured that no students use these sinks or taps for drinking or any other purpose. These areas are staff-only and have been secured as an added precaution. The safety and wellbeing of our students remains our highest priority.



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## 2025 School Swimming Program

On **Thursday November 27** and **Friday November 28** our students will be participating in our school swimming program at Lakeside Leisure Centre in Tuggeranong.

This year our program will run for two full days of swimming instruction. The first day will focus on explicit teaching of water safety and survival techniques and the second day will focus on stroke development.

When the permission note is sent home we ask that you please indicate your child's swimming ability as accurately as possible. It is always better to underestimate ability rather than over estimate.

The first session on day one will be an assessment of student swimming skills so that we can group students appropriately and ensure instruction is delivered at each student's point of need.

**More details and permission notes will be sent home next week.**



## Check out our 3-6 Remembrance Day Poetry

### The Reality of War

*By Samantha and Olivia*

Thousands of men off to play a game,  
What they thought to be adventurous fun,  
A journey awaits them,  
A chance to explore,  
A journey of friendship,  
Or so they thought...

The enemy's presence,  
Their distinct essence,  
As they wait their battle cries,  
They thought this was the end,  
The pain will never mend,  
But then again...

Watching the horizon,  
In deep despair,  
Their hearts crossed over,  
With a fog that would never lift,  
The visions of war repeating themselves,  
When all this is over,  
The memories will never leave...

Buried in soil,  
We remember you,  
Your souls can finally rest,  
The game has now ended,  
Families submerged in sorrow,  
But there will be hope, just wait until tomorrow...

Pick up a poppy,  
A minute of your time,  
Let the lost hearts combine,  
When all hope is lost,  
You played your part,  
So lest we forget you,  
Let your unforgotten legacy start...

### We Remember...

*By Jordy, Jessie, Alisha*

What is Remembrance Day?

We remember the soldiers  
That fought on the battlefields.

We remember the soldiers that fight the enemy.

We remember the loud shooting guns and flying airplanes:

We remember the enemy dropping bombs every day,  
The soldiers were there to save the day.

We remember Simpson and his donkey  
They roamed through the battlefields.

We remember soldiers eating tinned foods and sleeping in mud.

Sandbags sit along the top of trenches,  
Soldiers get trench foot as they stand  
Thinking of loved ones

We remember pigeons flying a long way  
Passing military messages to get help for soldiers.

The soldiers watched the horrible war  
Horses gallop through the mud  
They get stuck in the sludge as they charge into battle

We will remember them.  
Lest we forget.



### The War

*By Mitch, Bailey, Beau*

Soldiers determined to shoot,  
Breathtaking shots,  
Bombs flying through the air.  
Soldiers lying unconscious in blood  
Wounds that nurses can't heal,  
Pigeons falling, losing their lives,  
Horses stepping in deep mud.

So take a minute out of your lives to remember those soldiers who fought for our country.





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## Oz Tag Gala Day

Yesterday, Thursday 13 November, the Canberra Raiders brought the excitement of OzTag to the Monaro and what a day it was! Nijong fields came alive with colour, energy, and community spirit as students from across the region threw themselves into a full day of sport and teamwork.

The OzTag Day was a huge success, giving children and young people the chance to get active, build skills, and experience the fast-paced thrill of this non-contact version of rugby league. Whether they were seasoned players or giving OzTag a go for the very first time, every student found something to enjoy. The atmosphere was buzzing, with fun activities, great sportsmanship, and loads of opportunities to learn and grow.

Local schools from Cooma, Adaminaby, Bombala and Michelago all took part, making it a true community event filled with healthy competition and plenty of smiles.

Michelago Public School proudly sent our biggest team ever, with 23 enthusiastic students from Year 1 through to Year 6 and they represented our school brilliantly. Their teamwork, effort, and positive attitude made us incredibly proud.

### Key Dates for Term 4

- 14 Nov - Gymnastics with Gecko Sports
- 20 Nov - ASPIRE Day - UC Canberra
- 27 Nov - School Swimming Program
- 28 Nov - School Swimming Program
- 17 Dec - Presentation Day





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## Remembrance Day @ the railway station - Thanks for the invite MRCA

On Tuesday, our students and staff walked down to the Michelago Railway Station to take part in the community Remembrance Day service, hosted by the wonderful volunteers of the MRCA. It was a thoughtful and respectful ceremony, and we were very proud of the way our students represented our school.

A special congratulations to Braxton, who was invited to recite In Flanders Fields. He did a truly outstanding job.

Thank you to our student leaders for laying our school wreath, and to our teachers who prepared the students beforehand, providing important historical context and helping them understand why we commemorate this day. It was a meaningful experience for all involved.



## Upcoming Wellbeing and Personal Development Lessons

Between now and the end of term, students across the school will be participating in a series of important wellbeing and personal development lessons. These will include:

**E-safety:** learning how to stay safe online, make responsible choices, and understand digital behaviours.

**Child Protection:** understanding personal safety, safe and unsafe situations, and how to seek help.

**Growing and Changing:** age-appropriate lessons for each stage, including topics related to puberty, personal development, and how our bodies change as we grow.

These lessons are part of our regular PDHPE curriculum and are delivered in a supportive, respectful and developmentally appropriate way. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school.