



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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Rector's Message

There are many heads bowed over books at this stage as all of our Blocks are engaged in examinations. The A Block have naturally been busiest for the longest period and the D and E Block have just started. Examinations are an important way of assessing how an individual is progressing in a particular subject in comparison with his peers. As well as assessing knowledge, examinations also teach important aspects of time management and the capacity to get to the nub of issues within a limited timeframe. Practice in examinations helps students to overcome a fear which may be associated with them where gaps in knowledge are exposed and pupils develop the capacity to deal with situations under pressure. In many respects, this is not unlike the pressure under which many people operate in the work place. For example, an advocate will have to respond, under pressure, in presenting the best possible case for his client; one can think of other similar situations where there is pressure to complete a variety of tasks and, indeed, it is important that boys learn to cope with a situation of pressure. Examinations can also give confidence to pupils who recognise that they have the capacity to move on to the next stage; in other words examinations can act as a platform for further development.

A number of people, particularly those who are "not good examination candidates", will criticize examinations on the basis that they have nothing to do with education. Implicit in the term, education, is a broadening of horizons and the creation of experiences which lead to the capacity to think, to reason, to create and to implement. An education enables people to develop themselves further by providing them with the skills and qualities which allow for the generation of knowledge, thought and ideas.

The assumption is often that examinations are in juxtaposition to education – in other words, that the two are diametrically opposed to each other. I do not think that this is true. One can write examinations, learn the techniques of doing so and absorb the pressure of being able to operate in a limited timeframe on the one hand and, on the other, through reading and exploration, gather a plethora of ideas, thought-processes or information on a variety of topics well beyond the examination system. An education and an ability to write examinations should go hand in hand. Educated people will certainly seek to broaden their horizons well beyond the narrow confines of what is expected in the examination system, but examinations also provide the focus for academic growth and development as individuals have to apply their minds to the task at hand.



I am pleased to say that examinations here at Michaelhouse are taken as seriously as in any school with which I have been associated and, indeed, more seriously than in some and your support for the boys through your engagement with your sons over this period will be a significant factor to them.

Congratulations & Individual Achievements

Academic News

South African Mathematics Olympiad

Following his participation in the Third Round of the South African Mathematics Olympiad, **Tapiwa Chikwanda** has been invited to attend the South African Mathematics Foundation's Annual Mathematical Camp, to be held at the University of Stellenbosch from 9-13 December 2019. Invitations are sent to a specially selected group of learners from all over South Africa who, through their participation in the 2019 South African Mathematics Olympiad, have demonstrated a special interest and ability in Mathematics. We congratulate Tapiwa on his selection and wish him well when he attends the camp.

Awards

Congratulations to these pupils who received awards this term:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Award</i>	<i>For</i>
<i>Cultural Awards:</i>		
Reuben Baldry	Half Colours	Debating
Frederick Waller	Half Colours	Debating
Dakalo Nonge	Half Colours	Debating
Tomas Szudrawski	Half Colours	Debating
Xihluke Marhule	Half Colours	Debating
Maye Nene	Half Colours	Debating
David Nienaber	Half Colours	Debating
Neil du Toit	Half Colours	Art
Mark Dixie	Half Colours	Art
Barend Bierman	Half Colours	Art
Niel Bierman	Half Colours	Art
Tristan Baker	Half Colours	Music
Junior Chalumbira	Half Colours	Music
Max Chapman	Half Colours	Music
Benjamin Frost	Half Colours	Music
Tristan Hoyle	Half Colours	Music
George Scott	Half Colours	Music
Joshua Hadley-Grave	Half Colours	Music
Matthew de Villiers	Half Colours	Music
Tomas Szudrawski	Half Colours	Music
Mvelo Guma	Half Colours	Music
Adrian Hill	Half Colours	Music

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Gabriel Baynes	Half Colours	Music
Letlotlo Sekatle	Half Colours	Music
Michael Dagleish	Half Colours	Music
Xihluke Marhule	Half Colours	Music
Ntando Khumalo	Half Colours	Music
Maye Nene	Half Colours	Music
Reuben Baldry	Half Colours	Music
David Nienaber	Half Colours	Music
Dakalo Nonge	Half Colours	Music
Peter Woodland	Half Colours	Music
Benjamin Turner	Half Colours	Music
Oliver Cheales	Half Colours	Music
Kwande Dhlomo	Colours	Debating
Ross Keep	Colours	Debating
Jason Makhele	Colours	Debating
Mmofa Matjele	Colours	Music
Sello Stone-Mboweni	Colours	Music
Ashley Vere	Colours	Music
Jordan Dobson	Colours	Performance Arts
James Dawson	Colours	Art
Richard Taylor	Colours	Art
Jesse Paynter	Colours	Art
Aidan Logan	Colours	Art
Tom Harper	Honours	Art
Jadin Jordaan	Honours	Debating
Alexander Brits	Honours	Music
Maqhawe Hoohlo	Honours	Music
Mmofa Matjele	Honours	Music
<i>Sport Awards:</i>		
Tristan Vermeulen	Half Colours	Rugby
Luke Farndell	Half Colours	Cross Country
Kyle McCoy	Half Colours	Cross Country
Matthew Gibson	Colours	Cross Country
Murray Behn	Colours	Canoeing
Ben Rebeck	Colours	Cricket
Kameran Jinnah	Colours	Squash
Richard Upfold	Colours	Squash
Jack Edmonds	Honours	Canoeing
Chase Leisegang	Honours	Canoeing
Matthew Millward	Honours	Canoeing
Pierre van der Westhuyzen	Honours	Canoeing



<u>Service Awards:</u>		
Tomi Femi-Kayode	Half Colours	Service
Keegan O'Brien	Half Colours	Service
Nicholas Kuhn	Half Colours	Service
Connor MacCallum	Half Colours	Service
Xihluke Marhule	Half Colours	Service
Jonathan Segar	Half Colours	Service
<u>Presidents' Award Programme:</u>		
Hugo Ayo	Silver	
Liam Telford	Bronze	
Peter Woodland	Bronze	
Frederick Waller	Bronze	
Lawrie Hawke	Bronze	

Cultural News

Masters Chess Club

The Michaelhouse Masters Chess Club started this year in the Fourth Quarter and has already attracted a large quota of skilled and competitive players. The club meets every Friday in the Media Centre and, after an initial round-robin to determine the pecking order, members began challenging one another for positions on the school ladder. This club is bursting at the seams with ambitious and talented young players. In their hands, the future of Chess at Michaelhouse looks promising indeed. At the end of 2019 the Top 3 ladder standings are: 1-**Tristan Hoyle**; 2-**Theo Apteker**; 3-**Takwana Shava**.

Sport News

This time of year is always difficult from a sporting perspective as we have boys focusing on their exams and it is also "storm season". For the past 10 days KZN has been blessed with some much needed rain, for which everyone was truly grateful; however, it did play havoc with both the last week of sports practices and the last round of matches. With some intermittent periods of sunshine we were able to prepare 5 cricket pitches, get into the pool between the thunderstorms and move the desks out of the Indoor Centre where the exams are currently being written.

Our final set of fixtures for 2019 were against Westville Boys' High who had also been hampered by some torrential rains. Their fields were unplayable so all the cricket was held at Michaelhouse, along with the water polo, while the basketball was played at Westville.

Basketball vs Westville Boys' High

The spoils were shared on the basketball courts with both schools winning 4 matches each; however, we did manage to win all the A team games as well as the 2nd Team game. The U14A Team (32-22), 2nd Team (55-19) and First Team (69-59) all enjoyed comfortable wins over their Westville counterparts, while the U15A Team managed a last second basket to edge out Westville Boys in a nail-biting 21-20 victory.



Cricket vs Westville Boys' High

With all matches being played at Michaelhouse, only 6 teams were able to fulfil the fixture. Once again the spoils were shared as both schools won 3 matches. The U14A Team had a low scoring but very exciting game on a wicket that was totally unpredictable. The game went down to the wire with both teams making costly mistakes under pressure. In the end Michaelhouse fell 4 runs short. Over the road on Meadows, the U15A Team also had a low scoring affair but unlike the U14s, this was due to good bowling. The Michaelhouse bowlers bowled disciplined spells and never allowed Westville batsmen to settle. **Feroz Amod** was the most successful taking **3/32**. Chasing 103, our batsmen also struggled and if it wasn't for a solid knock of **40 not out** from **Greg McGlashan**, 103 could have been enough. The boys hung in there though and managed a 3 wicket win with Westville experiencing their first loss of the year. The U14B Team and 3rd Team also managed good wins with **Thomas Griffin 76**, **Ben Keep 3/25** and **Edwin Miller 3/21** all contributing to the U14 Team. In the First XI game, Westville dominated with the bat and ball and pulled off a comfortable 93 run win with **Jared Meiring (60)** our best batsman and **Roeland van den Berg** the best bowler with **3/40**.

Cricket Annual Awards 2019

Congratulations to these pupils who were awarded Trophies for 2019 at the Annual Cricket Dinner:

The Craig Sugden Players' Player of the Year, voted for by the players: **Oliver Morgan**

The Ravenor Nicholson Bowler of the Year for the most wickets: shared by **Harry Nel** and **Roeland van den Berg**

The Henry Fotheringham Trophy for Batsman of the Year for the most runs scored: **Jared Meiring**

The Dale Benkenstein Trophy for the Player of the Year: **Jared Meiring**



Oliver Morgan comes in to bowl for the First XI



The First XI Cricket Leavers and their coaches at the end of year Cricket Dinner

Water Polo vs Westville Boys' High

In the pool, wins were once again shared with both schools winning 4 games each. The U14 spoils went to Westville with them winning both the A and B team games 4 – 2; whilst in the U15 age group Michaelhouse won both games convincingly, 6-0 and 12-1. In the senior age group, Michaelhouse won the 2nd and 3rd Team games while Westville won the 1st and 4th Team games.

Individual/Team Performance of the Week

There were, again, a number of good wins this past weekend and the following teams deserve a special mention: after losing heavily last weekend the 2nd basketball team bounced back as indicated above and the U15A cricket team beat a Westville team that was previously unbeaten. However, the team of the week which really put in a quality performance and recorded a substantial win was the **U15A Water Polo Team** for their 12-1 victory. Well done to them all.

Please visit the Michaelhouse Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/pg/michaelhouse.org/posts/ to see more information and photographs on events at the school and achievements by our pupils.

A Block Leavers' Ceremony : Thursday 28 November 2019

Next Thursday, 28 November 2019, will be the last day at school for all but a couple of the Matric Class. Parents of the A Block boys are invited to a very brief ceremony with the boys at which they will receive a Bible and their Old Boys' Tie before signing the Leavers' Book and walking down



Warrior's Walk, as is the tradition, and out of the school. The ceremony will be held at 13h00 in the Memorial Hall.

"Soul2Sole" Shoe Campaign with Community Partnership

The Michaelhouse Community Partnership Trust is delighted to once again be partnering with The Lion Match Company, Aramex and Blue Sky Society Trust for their "Soul2Sole" initiative. "Soul2Sole" works to connect individuals and groups with under-privileged schools to provide footwear, funds or other resources needed by the school and its community. We are asking that your boys donate their old school shoes on their departure from school on break-up day. There will be stations set up with representatives manning each station. As the pupils leave school, they can drop their shoes into a box which will be marked clearly with their shoe size. We will also be accepting sports shoes. In return "Soul2Sole" donates brand new school shoes, polish and a pair of socks to the Community Partnership. We then deliver these to our various partner schools in the area.

End of Year 2019 & Start of Year 2020 : Bus Transport

We would like to remind parents that there is *no bus service* provided by the school to Johannesburg and Durban on the following days:

- The last day of term in the 4th Quarter each year (break-up day).
- The first day of term in the 1st Quarter each year.
- However, transport is organised by the school, to and from Oribi and King Shaka Airports, for boys catching flights.

Trade Inn (School Shop) Hours

Please note that the Trade Inn will be open for all parents and boys on Friday 29 November, break-up day, from 08h00 - 16h00. Following this the Trade Inn will be closed for the holiday period and will re-open on Tuesday 14 January 2020 from 08h00 – 16h00. They will also be open for new, incoming pupils and their parents on New Boys' Day on Sunday 12 January 2020 from 08h00 – 13h00.

Licensing of Michaelhouse Lay Ministers

Congratulations to the following staff members who were officially licensed as Lay Ministers this morning; we now have 18 Lay Ministers in the school. We thank them for taking on this role in the spiritual life of Michaelhouse: **Carl Bezuidenhout, Mark Blew, Jenny Clinton-Parker, Carika de Swardt, Win de Wet, Righardt Kotze, Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Linda Shezi, William Silk and Herman Visagie.**



End of Year Carol Service Invitation : Friday 29 November 2019 at 09h00

We warmly invite parents and members of the Michaelhouse Community to join us for our annual Christmas Carol Service.



Storage of Boys' School Trunks during the holidays

Should you be an out of country parent, or even an out of province one, and would like to store your son's trunk and school clothes in Nottingham Road during the holidays rather than take it home, then you may wish to contact Sue Rawlings who offers the service of collecting your son's trunk from Michaelhouse, washing, ironing and mending the clothes in it (loose buttons etc.), storing the trunk at her premises during the holidays and returning the trunk to your son's House at school at the beginning of the school year. All dealings in this regard must please be with Sue directly as this will be a private arrangement between you and her, should you wish to make use of her service. For all payments, collection and delivery arrangements please contact Sue directly by email at: rawlings@telkomsa.net or call her on cell: 072 757 3019 or Tel: (033) 266 6606 (W).

Please note the following important points:

- Boys' trunks will be collected from the school laundry on break-up day, Friday 29 November, between 08h30-12h00.
- Boys leaving earlier must ensure they leave their trunks at the school laundry before they leave.

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- Trunks that are not left at the school laundry will not be taken by Sue.
- Trunks of prefects returning earlier for the prefects' camp will be delivered to their House dayroom on Friday 10 January 2020.
- Trunks for all other boys will be delivered to their House dayroom on Monday 13 January 2020.

With my best wishes

Antony Clark

Rector