



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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## Rector's Message

As we move towards the end of this year, I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the progress of our Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee which, as a reminder to you, is a group of boys and staff which engages, under the Chairmanship of Mr Sibusiso Ncamani, Housemaster of East, with issues of importance on the above areas to boys and others in our school community. It advises the Executive of the school which, in turn, advises the Board of the views of the boys and staff present. The Senior Prefect and Second Prefect are on this Committee *ex officio* and there are four boys in A Block, 3 in B Block and 2 in C Block who are elected by the boys to represent their views. Participation at meetings which have now come to an end for this year, owing to exams being upon us, has been lively and constructive, and the boys have commented that they are pleased with the direction of discussions. Over our last two meetings, Karabo Che Makoape, our independent consultant, elicited views about what they believed the key features of a Transformation and Diversity policy for the school should be. The boys contributed to this discussion which encompassed all aspects of diversity and a draft policy will be considered by our Board in due course. Karabo has been called upon by other schools for his advice and has engaged effectively and with empathy with our staff (both collectively and in smaller groups), our Employment Equity Committee, our B Block boys, our Support Staff, those leading our curriculum development and, indeed, with all of our boys in different fora at different times to ensure that there is a constructive approach through dialogue to our process and that the outcomes are reflective of a broad range of opinion.

What was considered important was that the Transformation and Diversity Policy would be best if it came from the grassroots up, as it were, and so it has taken time to reach a draft format, and once it is formulated and accepted in the course of 2021, I will send it on to you.

Awareness, understanding, valuing and respecting others are the hallmarks of a society which functions in a harmonious fashion and it is not difficult to embrace these qualities if one's mindset is right. A sense of humour is also important in discussions in most things in life. The cartoon below comes from the *ISASA Guide to Effective School Transformation and Diversity*



*Management.* I am not suggesting it is hilariously funny, but it does serve to demonstrate the sort of issues with which we are engaging.



Apart from the matrices who have been taking examinations for the last three weeks, the B and C Blocks are now into the 'exam season' and both the D and E Block will shortly be taking their examinations too. However, it was wonderful to see a number of our boys out on the cricket fields over the last weekend and other boys purposefully engaged in musical activities and similar occupations.

## Parent Survey Return

Please could I ask parents to ensure that you return the surveys which have been sent to you by Nikki Veenstra. These help us to evaluate our areas for improvement as a school as well as our strengths, so it is important to us to have as close to 100% return as possible in order to get a full picture. Thank you very much.

## Congratulations and Individual Achievements

### *Waterpolo*

The boys played in a friendly league with the following results:

1<sup>st</sup> - Pete's Pistols

2<sup>nd</sup> - Nathan's Knights

3<sup>rd</sup> - Brad's Beasts



## *Cricket*

Michaelhouse held three friendly matches this weekend against some club teams and the results are as follows:

U16A beat the Notties Cricket Club, with **Tom McCall** scoring 120 and **Jem Foss** 53, whilst **Kamo Rathepa** took 5 wickets.

U15A beat the Crickets Cricket Club, with **Kyle Walker** scoring 39, **Tom Griffin** 34 and **Nathan Hoatson** 31.

U14A lost against a second Crickets Club team, with **Basti Hofmeyr** making an undefeated 53.

## *Cultural*

The Michaelhouse Orchestra Leaders for 2021 are Concert Master: **Sello Stone-Mboweni**, Deputy, **Maqhawe Hoohlo**, and Committee members **Alex Brits** and **Matthew Browse**.



(From L-R) : Matthew Browse, Maqhawe Hoohlo, Sello Stone-Mboweni and Alex Brits

The Chapel Choir Leaders are Co-Head Choristers **Alex Brits** and **Jesse Breytenbach**.



Jesse Breytenbach and Alex Brits



## “Soul2Sole” Project

Michaelhouse will, once again, support the Soul2Sole project, which collects, refurbishes and distributes school shoes to needy children. For each pair of shoes donated by Michaelhouse boys, a new pair of shoes will be provided for a child at our partner schools. At the end of each year collection boxes, into which boys can drop their old shoes, are placed in Houses.

We also encourage the departing matrics, as part of their first gesture of compassion as Old Boys, to leave their shoes at the gate at the end of their valedictory stroll down Warriors' Walk. On a similar note, at the end of each year unwanted sports kit and clothing is also collected for distribution in our local community. If your son has grown out of his shoes and sports gear, please allow him to donate these items to someone in need.

## 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 them home, then you may wish to contact Georgie Carter on 082 822 7202 or Thuli Khanyile on 072 623 9450. Georgie and Thuli have taken over Midlauder from Sue Rawlings who previously offered this service to Michaelhouse parents. Midlauder 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 their 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 Georgie and Thuli directly as this will be a private arrangement between Midlauder and you. For all arrangements please contact them directly on [sandgcarter@gmail.com](mailto:sandgcarter@gmail.com) or via whatsapp on 073 143 2259.

Please note the following important points:

- Boys' trunks will be collected from the school laundry on break-up day, Friday 27 November, between 08h30-12h00.
- Boys leaving earlier must ensure they leave their trunks at the school laundry before they leave.
- **Trunks that are not left at the school laundry will not be taken by Midlauder**
- Trunks of prefects returning earlier for the Prefects' Camp will be delivered to their House dayroom on Friday 15 January 2021.
- Trunks for all other boys will be delivered to their House dayroom on Monday 18 January 2021.

## End of Term Arrangements

It is important to remember that the Michaelhouse term ends on Friday 27 November at 10h00. In keeping with this, only exceptional allowances will be made for boys wishing to depart before this time. It is also important to note that there are no buses to Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, or



Durban on this day. The only School transport available is to take boys who are flying home to the airport, bearing in mind that all possessions must be removed from the school for the holiday period.

## Term Dates: 2021 & 2022

*Term Dates: 2021*

**LENT QUARTER** : Tuesday 19 January – Friday 26 March

(New Boys arrive on Sunday 17 January)

*Half-Term : Thursday 18 – Monday 22 February*

**PENTECOST QUARTER** : Monday 19 April – Friday 18 June

*Half-Term : Thursday 20 – Monday 24 May*

**MICHAELMAS QUARTER** : Monday 12 July – Friday 17 September

*Half-Term : Thursday 12 – Monday 16 August*

**CHRISTMAS QUARTER** : Monday 04 October - Wednesday 01 December

*Half-Term : Nil*

*Term Dates: 2022 (Provisional)*

**LENT QUARTER** : Tuesday 18 January – Friday 25 March

(New Boys arrive on Sunday 16 January)

*Half-Term : Thursday 17 – Monday 21 February*

**PENTECOST QUARTER** : Tuesday 19 April – Friday 18 June

*Half-Term : Thursday 19 – Monday 23 May*

**MICHAELMAS QUARTER** : Monday 18 July – Friday 16 September

*Half-Term : Thursday 18 – Monday 22 August*

**CHRISTMAS QUARTER** : Monday 04 October - Wednesday 01 December

*Half-Term : Nil*

The first date of each term reflected above is the day all boys are expected back for Evening Service.

Please note the following:

1. Should there be changes to dates of the State schools we may reassess our dates.
2. We await the dates of ISASA Three Term schools i.r.o. half-terms and sports festivals. This may also necessitate appropriate changes to the dates.





## Michaelhouse Community Partnership Trust

**Paul de Wet**, Director of Mathematics, has continued to support our partner schools' Maths teachers and learners through the provision of resources and revision sessions. To help prepare the Maths learners for their upcoming final exams, two Maths Core workshops were held over the past two Saturdays with six local schools.

We would like to extend our appreciation to all the Michaelhouse Maths Department staff, especially Paul de Wet, Karin Moffat, Thabani Hlabisa, Jason Blockley and Sibonelo Khanyile who were involved in this programme as well as the Midlands Community College for allowing us to use their facilities.



## Trade Inn (School Shop) Hours

Please note that the Trade Inn will be open for all parents and boys on Friday 27 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 19 January 2020 from 08h00 – 16h00. They will also be open for new, incoming pupils and their parents on New Boys' Day on Sunday 10 January 2020 from 08h00 – 13h00.



## End of Year Carol Service Invitation: Friday 27 November 2020 @ 09h00

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



Please RSVP to Mandy Rouillard on [manrou@michaelhouse.org](mailto:manrou@michaelhouse.org) as numbers will be limited due to Covid.

## Durban Old Boys Club

Old Boys and parents in the Durban area should see the attachment to this eNews about a drinks evening to be held next Tuesday, 17 November, at the Beachwood Country Club.

With my best wishes

**ANTONY CLARK**  
RECTOR