



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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## Rector's Message

At our Assembly on Monday, **Kamohelo Rathepe** and **Nsika Nxumalo**, two of our B Block historians, spoke powerfully about **Freedom Day** which was celebrated across the nation yesterday. Their PowerPoint presentation was interesting and informative and I have included below some of the visual stimuli they used when addressing the school; these are essentially self-explanatory and relate to the inception of the day in 1994 and the impact of it for so many people throughout South Africa. Congratulations and thank you to both boys.



*Freedom Day is an annual celebration of South Africa's first non-racial democratic elections of 1994. Peace, unity, the preservation and the restoration of human dignity hallmarks Freedom Day celebrations on the 27th of April of each year.*

<https://scmc.ukm.ac.za/doc/soc-cult/holidays/freedomday.htm>





There is a very real sense that the **boys are enjoying their return to the winter sports season**, even though it may be frustrating for parents not to be able directly to watch their sons in action. It has been necessary to agree with other Heads of schools against whom we play on a set of ground rules. You will see this attached as a Memorandum of Understanding (approved on 26 April 2021). In essence, it sets out to focus on the fact that the participation and competition amongst the boys is “the prize”. To achieve this and to limit the prospect of boys or teams or schools having to self-isolate and to lose much of the winter season, there are basic protocols which are considered necessary to enact. Please find this Memorandum of Understanding attached as Appendix I. In relation to streaming or videoing of matches, we are largely dependent upon the host school to give effect to this and to share their material with our parents. Michaelhouse is currently considering three options in this regard, but our first home match is not until the day before half-term, so we will communicate further with you once a decision has been made. In the meantime, on a weekly basis we will send out the arrangements for videoing/streaming from our Sports Department; Ryan Strudwick, our Director of Sport, can be contacted on email [RyanS@michaelhouse.org](mailto:RyanS@michaelhouse.org) and 033 234 1262.

Last Friday, Michaelhouse was delighted to bestow on one of our most illustrious Old Boys, Dr Adi Enthoven, the **St Michael Award**. Adi Enthoven, an Oxford graduate, played a significant role in politics in the 1980s, notably in preparatory meetings for the breakthrough Dakar conference with the ANC in 1987. He subsequently entered the family business which owns insurance operations worldwide and the Nando's restaurant chain. The Enthoven group currently employs around 40 000 people and operates mainly in the UK, Australia and South Africa. The group has always been socially conscious. Each business strives to make a social impact through partnerships or as an integral part of the business. For example, Nando's supports 1200 small scale farmers growing chillies and showcases 22 000 works of art by developing South African artists in its restaurants. Spier Wine Farms practises ecological farming techniques, zero waste policies and raises the living and working conditions of their workers and those in their supply chain. And Beyond, the company which operates luxury safari lodges in Africa and South America, uses the economics of tourism to support local communities and to protect the biodiversity of 12 million acres of pristine wilderness.

Under Adi's leadership, over the past 10 years there has been an emphasis on youth employment: the Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator has assisted 750 000 young work-seekers and placed 170 000 young people into jobs or work experience assignments. Similarly, a focus on Early Childhood Development has impacted upon 1million four and five year old children, whilst over 1million toolkits have been delivered to support teachers and school staff in over 7000 schools around the country, mainly in Kwa Zulu-Natal. There has also been a focus on an initiative to improve the daily feeding of 4.5million learners throughout the country. These figures are indicative of his *huge* impact nationally.

Perhaps the role for which Adi is best known is his work as Vice-Chairman of the Solidarity Fund. This fund was set up to assist with the fight against Covid by providing an effective and rapid response to the crisis, entirely independently of the Government. It has quickly been built into a huge operation which, at its peak, had over 200 professionals in 15 companies working entirely *pro bono*.



The fund has incurred no expenses and all the funds raised, over R3.1 billion, have been spent fighting Covid.

There is little doubt that Adi Enthoven has played a major role in the upliftment of South Africa and its people and there can be few more deserving of the St Michael Award than him.



From L-R: Adi Enthoven, Rector Antony Clark and Chairman Anthony Hewat

## Affective and Social (AS) Tracking: Mr Tim Jarvis

As mentioned previously, this year we are partnering with an organisation called STEER to introduce **Affective and Social (AS) Tracking** for all boys. Essentially this is a pastoral assessment and tracking tool and involves an on-line assessment, completed by the boys, twice in each academic year. We are hoping that this will provide an additional and important part of the pastoral jigsaw as it enables us to track each pupil's social-emotional development and, proactively, to give boys the right pastoral support at the right time and in the right way.

In other words, AS tracking should enable us to identify boys who need a little more pastoral signposting earlier than has been the case. The questions for the online assessment are non-invasive, neutral and accessible since AS tracking is not seeking to measure explicit risks such as anxiety or self-harm, but rather biases in the thinking of pupils; AS tracking calls these *steering biases* and these can be early indicators of future risks even though they may not be visible in our day to day observations of boys. The assessment does not profile or box pupils, but rather tells us where each boy



is at so that we can be proactive and precise in our pastoral sign-posting. This signposting has proved very successful in a number of UK schools.

The boys will complete their first assessment next week. We will send out a letter shortly to all parents with further details for those who would like more information. In the meantime, there are 5 key messages we would like you to understand as parents about this initiative.

- *Your Son's Voice*  
AS Tracking is not an observation or judgement made by teachers at our school, but a safe, non-invasive way of hearing your son's voice. Hearing your son's voice gives us an insight into how they are thinking and feeling, rather than assuming we already know, or expecting that all our pupils will show us or tell us.
- *An Additional Piece Of The Jigsaw*  
AS Tracking doesn't replace our professional judgment, your insights or what our pupils tell us directly, but makes visible what may not be visible in our observations or conversations.
- *Your Son's Data Is Stored Safely*  
All the data related to this assessment is safely stored by external providers. Only Housemasters and the Senior Pastoral staff will have direct access to this information.
- *Tracking, Not Profiling*  
AS Tracking tells us where your son is, not who they are - so we can give the right pupil the right support or challenge, at the right time, in the right way. It brings precision to our pastoral care.
- *Informing School – Parent Dialogue*  
Whilst data is not ordinarily shared with parents, Housemasters and relevant pastoral staff will use the insights gained from AS Tracking to inform our conversations so that, together, we can work as a team to provide pastoral signposting for your son - both in and out of school.

Please check your inbox for further correspondence. An e-mail will be sent out in this regard within the next few days.

## Academic Success – International Benchmark Tests

A number of Michaelhouse boys completed tests at the end of last year which have led to their being **benchmarked against their peers internationally**. It is rewarding to see how well the boys have done in the core subjects of English and Mathematics.



Our warmest congratulations go to the following whose results are right at the top of the ladder worldwide:

Certificate of Distinction:

Mathematics: E Block: **Lucien Baldry, Nicholas Fearnhead, Patrick Lambert, Stuart Neilson, Rory Steyn, Johannes Zietsman**, and in D Block: **Sebastian Bailes, Jordan Baxter, Harrison Field, Nathan Hoatson, Joshua Perkins, Michael Thornton, Johnroy Watt-Pringle** and in C Block: **Noah Bedingham, Oliver Cheales, Michael Dalglish, Diego Fernandes, Colm Geraghty, Tristan Hoyle, Jack Martin, Anthony Melouney, Letlotlo Sekatle and Peter Woodland.**

Certificate of Distinction:

English: E Block: **Michael Spencer, Nathan Strachan, Damian Watson** and in D Block: **David du Toit, Sandiso Hlongwa, Thomas Lahaye, Ntando Ndhrazi, Aeden Turner** and in C Block: **James Asherson, Benjamin Frost, Joshua Hadley-Grave, Tristan Hoyle, Lusanda Mrasi, Lwando Ntuli, Ross Rhodes, Frederick Waller, and Peter Woodland.**

Certificate of High Distinction:

Mathematics: E Block: **Dylan Hewlett, Luke Kaufmann, Matthew Kennedy, Kian Moses, Anelechi Obasi, Seth Segal, Michael Spencer, Alex Vries** and in D Block: **Kofi Asumaning, Ethan Cockram, Marc du Plessis, David du Toit, Dominic Furby, Nicholas Pitt, Aeden Turner, Erich van Zyl, Oliver von Klemperer, Jack Walters, Oliver Walters, Andrew Woodland** and in C Block **James Asherson, Reuben Baldry, Benjamin Frost, Lekgotla Kebonang, Xihluke Marhule, Alejandro Sartini-Kruger, Liam Telford, Benjamin Turner and Frederick Waller.**

Certificate of High Distinction:

English: E Block: **Lucien Baldry, Dylan Hewlett, Brett Hill, Kian Moses, Dylan Noach, Luke Payne, Seth Segal, Alex Vries** and in D Block: **Kofi Asumaning, Gqamile Mbuyazi, Oliver Walters** and in C Block: **Reuben Baldry, Michael Dalglish, Adrian Hill, Xihluke Marhule, Ayanda Nongauza, Alejandro Sartini-Kruger, Letlotlo Sekatle and Tomas Szudrawski.**

Certificate of Honour:

Mathematics: D Block: **Nathan Strachan.**

## Sports & Cultural News

### Squash

Last Wednesday our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Teams played Maritzburg College. The 1<sup>st</sup> Team won 5-1 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> team drew 3-all.



On Thursday our Junior Team played Maritzburg College and won 10-4. Then, this past weekend several of our squash players took part in the inaugural Midlands Open Squash tournament. The tournament took place on Friday and Sunday, and all the players must be congratulated on their efforts! The tournament results were:

U19 – 2<sup>nd</sup> **Richard Upfold**, 4<sup>th</sup> **Kameran Jinnah**, 6<sup>th</sup> **Connor Oellermann**, 10<sup>th</sup> **Noah Bedingham** and 12<sup>th</sup> **Thomas De Lange**.

U16 – 1<sup>st</sup> **Murray Baker**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Joshua Hoatson**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Nathan Hoatson**, 7<sup>th</sup> **Ben Harper**, 8<sup>th</sup> **Anesu Nduru**, 9<sup>th</sup> **Aiden Jinnah**, 11<sup>th</sup> **Graham Wynne**, 14<sup>th</sup> **Kungalo Somhlahlo** and 18<sup>th</sup> **Andrew Woodland**.

U14 – 3<sup>rd</sup> **Justin Higginson**, 5<sup>th</sup> **William Ridl** and 7<sup>th</sup> **Nicholas Baker**.

## *Hockey*

There were various matches held over the past week and into the weekend.

Against Grace College, both the 3<sup>rd</sup> Team and U16C Team won 4-0 against their Firsts and U16A.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> XI, Under16A and Under14A played in the Top 10 KZN Festival of Hockey over Friday and Saturday. Whilst this was the end of term for some of the state schools which had had several weeks of practice, it was a pipe-opener for our boys who worked hard to establish good patterns of play.

Each team played five matches, with the 1<sup>st</sup> XI achieving wins against DHS (2-1), Kearsney (4-3) and St Charles (5-0).



Rector wishing the U14 Hockey Team well for their first match in red and white



## *Rugby*

Our senior rugby players had a “practice match” against St Andrew’s College. Each side used up to 25 players who were rotated through three “chukkas”. There was a lot of enterprising play by both sides, considering most had not played for nearly two years. At the end of the third “chukka” with each side having scored three tries, St Andrew’s intercepted a pass and ran away to score an excellent try.

## *Canoeing*

The SA Schools Sprint Championships were held at Shongweni Dam from 24 – 26 April. Please find the Top 10 results:

U18 1 000m K1 – 4<sup>th</sup> **Matthew Millward**, 8<sup>th</sup> **Jack Edmonds** and 9<sup>th</sup> **Murray Behn**.

U18 1 000m K2 – 1<sup>st</sup> **Matthew Millward** and **Jack Edmonds** and 5<sup>th</sup> **Murray Behn** and **Jack Shooter**.

U18 5 000m K1 – 4<sup>th</sup> **Jack Edmonds**, 7<sup>th</sup> **Murray Behn**, 9<sup>th</sup> **Reuben Baldry** and 10<sup>th</sup> **Jack Shooter**.

U18 500m K1 – 5<sup>th</sup> **Matthew Millward**, 8<sup>th</sup> **Jack Edmonds** and 10<sup>th</sup> **Murray Behn**.

U18 500m K2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> **Matthew Millward** and **Jack Edmonds**, 5<sup>th</sup> **Murray Behn** and **Max von Klemperer**.

U18 200m K1 – 7<sup>th</sup> **Max von Klemperer**, 10<sup>th</sup> **Matthew Millward**.

U18 200m K2 – 4<sup>th</sup> **Matthew Millward** and **Jack Edmonds** and 6<sup>th</sup> **Murray Behn** and **Jack Shooter**.



From L-R are Reuben Baldry, Jack Shooter, Murray Behn, Max von Klemperer and Huntley Earle.



## *Cultural*

The Michaelhouse Competition Marimba Band will be performing at the Earth Route Market in Nottingham Road this Friday 30 April 2021 @ 5pm

The Michaelhouse Chapel Choir had their first workshop of the year this past Saturday afternoon and evening. A visiting specialist from Cape Town, Mr Daniel Nambassi, who is also member of the group AnecNote who won the 2017 SA's Got Talent competition, worked with the boys on establishing a djembe drum circle and a brand new gumboot routine. The rest of the choir focused on learning parts for their performance on 10 June at the much anticipated *Two Schools in Concert with Hilton College* taking place in the Schlesinger Theatre - Covid-19 regulations permitting. This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the talents of our Michaelhouse boys.

## **C Block Open Day**

A reminder to all C Block parents about the Open Day this Friday. If you are unable to attend, please contact your son's teachers to set up online appointments. Your son's Housemaster may assist you if necessary. The Academic and C Block Journey presentations will be recorded and the link will be sent to all C Block parents. If you have not yet responded to the invitation to attend or if you have further queries please contact Mrs Wendy Kelly on 033 234 1122 or [wenkel@michaelhouse.org](mailto:wenkel@michaelhouse.org).

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Exam Dates**

The June examinations for A to E Block start on Wednesday 26 May, which is just after the mid-term break. The examination session for D and E Block ends on Friday 4 June after which there will be an integrated studies week. A to C Block examinations end on Thursday 10 June. Please encourage your sons to prepare thoroughly for these examinations, as we did in the first assembly of the term. Doing well in them will be a result of consistent application through the term and then having a proper revision programme.

## **Durban Parents' Evening**

Please find attached an invitation to the **Durban Parents Evening** to be held at the Mount Edgecombe Country Club on 17 May at 18h00. We look forward to an extremely pleasant and informal occasion which will be attended by some staff and boys. For any enquiries, please contact Angela Jonsson on [angjon@michaelhouse.org](mailto:angjon@michaelhouse.org).

The purpose of the evening is for current parents to get to know other parents in their son's year and /or House and it also gives an opportunity for some interaction with the Rector, some members of staff and some senior boys.





## Grandparents' Day

Regrettably the Grandparents' Day for 2021 has had to be postponed until further notice.

With my best wishes

**ANTONY CLARK**  
RECTOR