



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse
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Rector's Message

It is astonishing how life can change within a week and, though the European crisis sparked by Putin's marching into the **Ukraine** may seem not to have a direct impact upon South Africa, there will, doubtless, be a knock-on effect on this and other countries in all sorts of ways such as in the increase in the price of fuel. That single factor, of course, influences many other aspects of our economy and that of similar nations. What was particularly chilling was the sight of an Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) being photographed in Moscow – a projectile that has the capacity to destroy a city such as New York at the press of a button. A variety of problems face different people all over the world but, at present, our thoughts and prayers at school have been directed to those thousands of people in the Ukraine who have had to flee from their homes or have been subjected to the Russian onslaught.

On another matter entirely, some parents have asked if we are able to restore or make available the Names and Faces App or a similar app to them but, regrettably, we are very limited in the information about others which we are legally able to disseminate as a result of the **POPI Act**. I am sorry about this as it was a very useful tool, but I am sure that you will understand our position.

We are now considering beginning to re-develop our **exchange programme** with other schools in the USA, Canada, the UK and Australia. At this stage, we are "putting out feelers" to previous exchange school partners in these countries with a view to moving on this later in the year – in all likelihood, we might have boys from partner schools joining us in September to October with our boys from the C Block going abroad in the October to November period. Mrs Mary McMichael (marmcm@michaelhouse.org) is in charge of this aspect of Michaelhouse and you may like to contact her in this regard. It is likely that there will be a selection process as there will be considerable demand for places on this programme.



A beautiful morning view of Meadows today



Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Jazz Band

This year has brought an exciting new addition to the ensemble line-up of the Michaelhouse Music Department – the **Jazz Band**! Under the direction of **Mr Joshua Turnbull**, the 6-piece group will be playing a unique blend of South African, traditional and popular jazz. Parents can look forward to seeing the ensemble perform in and around the school in the near future.



In order from left to right: **Nicholas Pitt** (Bass Guitar), **Benjamin Turner** (Drum Kit), **Andrew Woodland** (Tenor Saxophone), **Peter Woodland** (Trumpet), **Kofi Asumaning** (Alto Saxophone) and **Ggamile Mbuyazi** (Piano).

Debating and Public Speaking Society

Our two Junior Teams and two E Block Teams took part in Round 2 of the Pietermaritzburg debating league on 24 February. The Junior motion was “This House believes that individuals who commit petty crimes should be tried solely by members of their local community”. Michaelhouse 1 lost the toss and were assigned to side Proposition. Their major arguments were that implementing the motion would alleviate the case overload on courts and the idea that those close to the case should be the authority on the case. Despite a strong, well-structured argument, we lost out to Maritzburg College, following some strict adjudicating.

Michaelhouse 2 had a frustrating second round as, once again, their opposition failed to turn up, robbing them of the chance to try out their well-prepared arguments. We won by default for the second time.

We are so proud of our two Grade 8 debating teams. They prepared well together, on opposite sides of the argument and both teams enjoyed victories in what were only their second debates ever! Their passion and abilities as strong debaters are evident, and they are excited for Round 3. Well done to **Matthew Longmore, Nicholas French, Jake McDonald, Max Oliva**, and to **Brent Tayengwa** and **Jack Stevenson** especially, for stepping in at late notice and being such valuable additions to their teams!

A sincere thank you to **Mr Simeon Goddard** who gave of his time this past Sunday to attend our Society meeting and deliver a fascinating and useful workshop on logical fallacies. It has given all our debaters something very valuable to think about when preparing for their future debates and we are grateful to him.



Swimming

Five Michaelhouse swimmers took part in the KZN Championship Gala. The swimmers were chosen to represent the Umgungundlovu District based on their performances at the trials held several weeks prior. The swimmers did Michaelhouse proud with their achievements:

Oliver Guy came 2nd in the 200m Individual Medley, 2nd in the 100m Freestyle and 3rd in the 100m Butterfly; **Kamogelo De Almeida** was 2nd in the 200m Backstroke and 3rd in the 100m Freestyle; **Tristan Atkinson** was 1st in the 100m Breaststroke and 2nd in the 50m Backstroke and **Joshua Haswell** was 1st in both the 50m Freestyle and 50m Breaststroke. Well done to these boys.

Water Polo

The U15 team played in the Dallas Hutton Festival in Durban over the weekend and did well, playing five, winning four and losing one. We came 2nd in the Festival, losing 3-2 in the final against KES.

We also played against St Charles, winning both our games with a 1st/2nd combined team beating the St Charles 1st team; and a 2nd/3rd team beating the St Charles 2nd team.

Well done to our water polo players on their great results over this past weekend.

Canoeing

Once again, our canoeists had a full weekend of paddling and competed in the K2 Interschools River Race on the Upper Umgeni on Saturday with the following results:

Jack Shooter and **Reuben Baldry** won the race overall; U16 – 2nd **Aiden Furby** and **Louis Souchon**, 3rd **Stuart Neilson** and **Rourke Murray**; U14 – 3rd **Jess Webber** and **Nicholas Purdy**.

On Sunday the Lundies to Deepdale Race, known as the Umko - was held and our boys did exceptionally well with **Matthew Nel** and **Lucien Baldry** finishing 1st and **Rourke Murray** and **Stuart Neilson** finishing 2nd in the U16 category.



Aiden Furby (front) and **Louis Souchon** (back) finishing the Upper Umgeni race



Jess Webber (right) and **Nicholas Purdy** (left) at the finish in the Upper Umgeni race



Squash

This weekend saw the KZN Junior Squash Start of Season tournament. The tournament took place at different venues in and around Pietermaritzburg, with the following results:

U19: 3rd **Joshua Hoatson**, 18th **Andrew Woodland** and 19th **George Bolttler**.

U16: 7th **Anesu Nduru**, 8th **Benjamin Harper**, 10th **Kungalo Somhlahlo**, 13th **Jack Hughes**, 17th **Noah Satram** and 20th **Josh van Duren**.

U14: 2nd **Matt Stanistreet**, 3rd **Graydon Leslie**, 5th **Joshua Strudwick** and 9th **Harry Witherspoon**.

Congratulations to all those boys who participated in the tournament.

Tennis

Our U15A team played against Hilton during the week and won 9-3.

Huge congratulations go to **Karl Schaefer** who was selected for the KZN U19B side and **Samuel Heath** KZN U15B side. They will be representing KZN in the TSA Inter Provincial Tournament planned for 18 to 22 March 2022.

Basketball

Our U19 and U15 teams competed in the St John's College Basketball Festival from 24 to 27 February. Our U15 team played four matches, losing to Northwood (21-22) and St Stithians (11-39) before winning against Kingswood College (31-3) and KES (29-9).

Our U19 team played five group stage matches, winning four and losing one (vs Pretoria Boys High won 20-15; vs Dominican Convent won 31-26; vs Sacred Heart College won 29-22; vs Hout Bay won 62-19; vs Kearsney College lost 27-31).

Due to poor weather on the outdoor courts at St John's College the 1st team were forced to play 4 full matches over a period of 6 hours on Sunday and this caught up with the team in the knockout round of the tournament as they went down to St Charles College (22-28) in the round of 16. We are proud of both teams' efforts at the tournament and expect the boys will have learned some valuable lessons.



U15 (left) and U19 (right) Basketball teams conferring with their coaches during the St John's Festival

Our other teams played fixtures against Howick last Thursday, and the results are below:
2nd team won 47-14 against Howick 1st team.



U16B won 32-13 against Howick U16A
U15B won 32-18 against Howick U15A
U14B won 57-13 against Howick U14A

Basketball games were also played over the weekend against St Charles with some really good wins: U14A won 31-6; U14B won 35-13; U14C won 29-3 and U14D won 24-5. U15B won 25-6; U15C won 25-12 and U15D lost 15-16. U16A won 39-16; U16B won 33-19; U16C won 34-28 and U16D won 36-16. 2nd team won 36-27; 3rd team lost 26-43; 4th team won 48-3 and the 5th team lost 12-24.

Cricket

Our 1st XI participated in the Independent Schools' Cricket Festival (ISCF) at St Alban's from 24 to 27 February with the below results:

vs Woodridge:

Woodridge were 129 all out (**Duncan Davies Webb** 3/6) & Woodridge 17/1

Michaelhouse were 187/3 dec (**Thomas McCall** 100*, **Jeremy Foss** 48)

Michaelhouse won

vs St Andrew's Bloem

Michaelhouse were 126 all out (**Thomas McCall** 71)

St Andrew's 127/4

Michaelhouse lost by 6 wickets

vs St Stithian's

St Stithian's 199/10 (**Luke Jankowitz** 4/18)

Michaelhouse were 93 all out and lost by 106 runs.

vs St Benedict's

St Benedict's were 141/6

Michaelhouse were 141 all out (**James Kennedy** 43)

The game was tied

Our cricket teams played against St Charles over the weekend. Fixtures were played both at St Charles and Michaelhouse and, the weather just about held out for a full day of cricket which was enjoyed by all who participated, resulting in the following scores:

U14A won by 95 runs (**Benjamin Heuer** 67, **Graydon Leslie** 41 and **Michael Smithyman** 6/17);

U14B won by 9 wickets (**Zach Fourie** 50*) and U14C won by 29 runs (**Jack MacDonald** 32 with both **Uyanda Magudulela** and **Oliver Brown** taking 3 wickets each).

U15A lost by 3 wickets, U15B lost by 54 runs (**William Gilson** 3/24) and U15C won by 6 wickets.

U16A lost by 8 wickets, U16B won by 72 runs (**Jack Hughes** 56*) and U16C won by 8 runs (**Lwandle Nzama** 55).

Our senior teams lost their games, some by a narrow margin, with **Edwin Miller** taking 3/31 in the 3rd XI game, **Jack Lawrence** taking 4/44, **Thomas Mitchell** taking 3/38 and **James Asherson** making 52 for the 2nd XI.



B Block Open Day – Friday 18 March 2022

We look forward to welcoming the 2022 B Block Parents to the Academic Open Day. You should have received your invitation by email. For planning and catering purposes please complete the RSVP link by Thursday 10 March 2022. For any queries, please contact **Mrs Wendy Kelly** – wenkel@michaelhouse.org

Strong Mothers – Strong Sons – Mr Tim Jarvis

“Strong Mothers – Strong Sons” is a course for mums of teenage boys facilitated by psychologist and author Megan de Beyer. The course is ideal for mothers who want to have a connected, meaningful relationship with their sons and yet allow their boys autonomy, independence and maleness as they reach adolescence. It will equip you with tools and information to raise a son in a balanced way. The programme deepens a mother’s understanding of her son and offers advice on how to approach, communicate and deal with him in a way that allows him to become a strong and caring man. It includes practical tips, discussions, time for questions and beneficial interaction techniques to use with your son.

The topics covered are:

- Understanding what it means to be a teen... the struggle for identity
- Mom’s role in raising a son... the demand for more freedom
- Dad’s role in raising a son... shared and co-operative responsibilities
- The impact of parenting... getting in touch with your past and your present
- Communicating with boys... reaching him in his silence
- Tackling boys’ emotions... your anger and his
- Sex, drugs, parties and his value system
- Good relationships... establishing inter-dependence and healthy intimacy

Details

The course takes place in person at Michaelhouse, starting at 12:00 on Tuesday 22 March and continuing throughout Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 March. Lunches and teas are included. The cost is R 3 200 (R1 600 non-refundable deposit) and can be debited to your school account.

How to book

Contact the Counsellor’s Secretary, Caryl Ballance, for a booking form.

Email: carbal@michaelhouse.org Phone: 033 234 1014

(Spaces are very limited. On receipt of the completed booking form, your **place will be confirmed by return letter** from Michaelhouse)

Term Dates - 2023

LENT QUARTER : Tuesday 17 January – Friday 24 March
(New Boys arrive on Sunday 15 January)

Half-Term : Thursday 16 – Monday 20 February



PENTECOST QUARTER : Monday 17 April – Friday 23 June

Half-Term : Thursday 18 – Monday 22 May

MICHAELMAS QUARTER : Monday 17 July – Friday 22 September

Half-Term : Thursday 17 – Monday 21 August

CHRISTMAS QUARTER : Monday 9 October – Friday 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.
3. This may also necessitate appropriate changes to the dates.

Conclusion

In the Rector's Reception, there is a bust of Inkosi Albert Luthuli (1898-1967) who became president of the ANC in 1952 and won a Noble Peace Prize for his non-violent struggle against apartheid in 1960. Luthuli was the first person of African Heritage to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and the bust was a donation from one of our most prominent Old Boys.



With my best wishes

ANTONY CLARK
RECTOR