



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

Please click on the headings below to navigate around the eNews.

Rector's Message.....	1
The Shaya Izibalo Maths Institute – powered by Michaelhouse and the Michaelhouse Community....	2
Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements.....	2
Community Partnership meeting with KZN.....	5
Senior Drama Production – The Birds by Aristophanes.....	6
Drama Collaboration between Michaelhouse and Shea O' Connor.....	6
Vaccination Message from the Sanatorium.....	6
Bus Bookings / School Transport.....	7
Term Dates – 2023.....	7

Rector's Message

Over the past couple of years when the school has been in session, we have celebrated notable public holidays by recognising the intention behind their creation.

On Monday we will recognise **Human Rights Day** at school in a simple way; there will be a lunch for all of our staff, including the operations and support staff, together with the boys in the Main Quad (weather permitting), and then a talk arranged by Mr Sibs Ncamani and given by Advocate Dali Mpfu, an activist from earlier days, after which the boys will be able to ask questions.

On the issue of human rights, one cannot but continue to be appalled at the position of the **Ukrainians** as Russia relentlessly bombards their key cities. We are told that, currently, there are just over 2 million refugees who have fled from their homes, leaving behind what they own, and travelling with just a rucksack or a suitcase containing their possessions and that this number is expected to rise to some 15 million as the war develops further. A major humanitarian catastrophe is unfolding and our boys are learning first-hand about it as they study in History aspects of the Cold War and link those years to the very real hot situation which is current north of the Black Sea.

I thought I would bring to your attention a possible opportunity for our boys studying at a post-school level in Europe. I have not, myself, had direct contact with this organisation, but I have learned of the **EU Business School** which is an international, professionally-accredited business school with campuses in Barcelona, Geneva, Montreux, Munich and online.

The EU Business School offers English-taught Foundation, Bachelor's, Master's and MBA programmes in the realm of Business Communication and Public Relations, International Business, Digital Business, Sports Management, Marketing, Finance and Enterprise amongst others.

EU Business School has a multicultural student body with more than a hundred nationalities represented and a network of alumni of some twenty seven thousand students. They have inter-campus and international exchange programmes to enhance their students' global experience.

I have no direct knowledge of how this business school might rank against other international opportunities, particularly since it was established in 1973 and not earlier, but I thought I would bring it to your attention in case it was something which those with European connections may wish to pursue.



We invite all our **Michaelhouse Grandparents** to join us and their grandsons for this special annual event. Please find attached, separate to this newsletter, the invitation with RSVP details.

I have asked **Mrs Riette White**, one of our Economics teachers, to be the Michaelhouse Liaison Person with international parents. This should not, in any way, deflect international parents from the usual liaison they have with their son's Housemaster, tutor, sports and cultural coaches/mentors or with the Transport Co-ordinator, Nirvana Naicker, but Riette will be an additional point of contact should it be helpful for parents to engage with her. Her email address is riewhi@michaelhouse.org.

The Shaya Izibalo Maths Institute – powered by Michaelhouse and the Michaelhouse Community

As you know, until the end of last year, our Director of Mathematics, **Mr Paul de Wet** was the principal leader in our Mathematics Department here at Michaelhouse. Paul is an outstanding Mathematics teacher who now feels called to share the privilege of his own education and his teaching experiences with those in less privileged schools and situations. To this end, at the start of the year we appointed **Ms Aldi Smith** to take over the day-to-day running of our Mathematics Department. The purpose of this is to allow Paul to pursue his dream of founding a Mathematics Institute so that his expertise will be able to be more widely felt throughout South Africa. The *Shaya Izibalo* (literally translates to “hit the numbers” or “excel in Maths”) *Mathematics Institute* will provide resources, training, and services to secondary schools, not only in our locale, but also further afield through an online presence. Paul will still teach a top set class for Mathematics and Further Studies Mathematics (formerly known as Advanced Programme Mathematics) and will continue to provide strategic input and mentoring to our Mathematics team here at Michaelhouse. The reason for giving you this background is that we are now seeking corporate support for the life-defining work that Paul could be doing under the banner of the *Shaya Izibalo Mathematics Institute* to uplift Mathematics in our country. If you feel you can assist, either in your own right or through your business, or by making an introduction to someone who can, then please contact Paul (paudew@michaelhouse.org or [082 492 3769](tel:0824923769)) directly. We had one parent indicating he may be able to support this initiative and, if there is anyone else whose business may be able to do so, please let us know soon.

Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Debating and Public Speaking Society news

Our two Junior Debating teams (a mix of D and C block boys) travelled to Hilton last week to take part in Round 3 of the Pietermaritzburg Debating League. Again, this was their first “real”, face-to-face debate in over a year and for some their first league debate ever.

A strong Grade 8 debating force in 2021 seems to have prompted the League Motions Committee to think up some particularly challenging motions for our Junior Debaters, and this week's was no exception. The motion was: *This House regrets white veganism* – an obscure and potentially extremely controversial topic with many definitions. We are therefore particularly proud of our boys for emerging victorious this round!

Michaelhouse 2 debated against Linpark and won, with **Daniel French** being awarded Best Speaker for that debate. Michaelhouse 1 were down a speaker and had to employ the “iron person” option against Hilton College, meaning that only two boys debated and that both had to speak twice. It is



considered very difficult to win a debate under these circumstances, but win they did, and **Tumi Motsepe** is congratulated on being awarded Best Speaker in this debate.



The Junior Debating Teams at Hilton

President's Award



Congratulations to **Andrew Woodland** (Bronze) and **Peter Woodland** (Silver) on receiving their President's Awards at assembly this past Monday.

Athletics

Two of our athletes took part in the Senior KZN champs this weekend and achieved the following results:

- **Tshiamo Boikhutso** advanced to the finals of the men's 400m and in the final he came 7th in a time of 51,09 seconds
- **Ruben Visagie** came 4th in the men's 1500m in a time of 4 min 07 seconds



Congratulations to **Ruben Visagie** who has been selected to participate in the SA Schools' meeting to be held in Germiston from 22 to 24 March. He will run the 1500m at this meeting.

Golf

Our 1st and 2nd teams played against Hilton and Maritzburg College and the results are as follows:
1st team beat College 6-2 and lost to Hilton 7-1
2nd team beat College 4-2 and drew with Hilton 3-3

Squash

The 1st and 2nd teams played matches against Kearsney this past week with the teams winning 4-2 and 6-0 respectively.

Tennis

Our 1st tennis team played a match against Hilton 1^{sts} and drew 6-6.

Rugby

The rugby season kicked off last Saturday with a series of friendly matches against Helpmekaar Kollege as we tried to give a range of boys match time in preparation for the season ahead. The games were played with guts and determination, with our U14, U15 and U16 teams all losing against Helpmekaar, but our senior teams winning their matches, apart from the First XV which lost in the last minute. A big thank you to Martin Ashworth for taking photos on the day.



Various friendly matches against Helpmekaar Kollege



Hockey

Some pre-season friendlies were held at various venues with the following results:

U14A:

- vs Maritzburg College lost 1-2
- vs Durban High School lost 1-3
- vs Clifton Durban lost 1-2

U16A:

- vs Maritzburg College lost 1-4
- vs Durban High School lost 0-3
- vs Clifton Durban won 2-1

1st Team:

- vs Maritzburg College lost 0-2
- vs Durban High School won 3-1
- vs Clifton Durban drew 3-3

Sports Captains:

Congratulations to the following boys who have been selected as Captains and Vice-Captains for 2022:

Rugby – Captain: **Andrew Davis** and Vice-Captain: **Ayabonga Zakwe**

Hockey – **Kamohelo Rathepe** and Vice-Captain: **Jeremy Foss**

Community Partnership meeting with KZN

The Michaelhouse Community Partnership Trust team were invited to meet the MEC of Education in Kwa-Zulu Natal in Pietermaritzburg. The meeting was to explore synergies and overlap of projects as well as to update the MEC on the work that the Michaelhouse Community Partnership Trust has been doing in the schools within their footprint. A follow up meeting will be held next month.



2nd Row (left to right): Rev Chris Meyer, Mr Jon Bates, MEC (Minister) of Education in KwaZulu-Natal Hon. Kwazi Mshengu and Acting Head of Department Dr Barney Mthembu
Front Row (left to right): Head of Ministry Nkosikhona Mthlane, Mr Ray Mkhulisi and Ms Amy Webster



Senior Drama Production – The Birds by Aristophanes

The 2022 senior drama production, performed by A, B and C Block drama students, is the madcap Greek comedy by Aristophanes that created the term, Cloud Cuckooland. *The Birds* is set in Athens, around 414BCE, but is adapted to suit an audience of 2022, with surprisingly few changes. Taking a swipe at politics, religion and money, *The Birds* tackles taboos in a fictitious new country made for birds and run by one entrepreneurial man. Using simple bamboo puppets and a bare stage, the cast takes you on a hilarious journey to a land that is too good to be true!

Date: 22, 23 & 24 March @ 18h00

Runtime: 1hr20

Venue: Amphitheatre (or Schlesinger Theatre, rain dependent) Michaelhouse

Bookings: <https://www.quicket.co.za/events/169767-the-birds/>

Cost: R50

For any more information, please contact Lawanda Zondi on lawzon@michaelhouse.org

Drama Collaboration between Michaelhouse and Shea O' Connor

Audrey Mbuyazi, in collaboration with the Schlesinger Theatre and the Michaelhouse Community Partnership Trust, along with pupils from Michaelhouse and Shea O'Connor Combined School, will present *The Signs*, the musical, from 28 to 30 April 2022.

With script, music, direction, and choreography by the multi-talented and award-winning Gospel singer Audrey Mbuyazi, *The Signs* is a first of its kind musical in the Midlands. This Hip-Hop Gospel Musical will have your feet tapping and your soul rejoicing! *The Signs* is the story of Jesus, as told by the devil.

It is a combined musical with performers from Shea O'Connor Combined School and Michaelhouse, building an important bridge for the whole community, with the magic of theatre, dance, and song (at a world class level) being the blocks of unity and understanding.

Please follow this link for tickets <https://www.quicket.co.za/events/169234-the-signs/>

Vaccination Message from the Sanatorium

With the flu season approaching, please could you arrange for your son to have the 2022 flu vaccination during the holidays?

The latest Department of Health Guidelines state that both the Covid 19 vaccine or booster can be given on the same day as the flu vaccine if required.

Please could you ensure that your son has his Covid 19 vaccination or booster during the holidays, as the Hilton Life Vaccine Centre has now closed down. It will only be possible to take boys for vaccination from Michaelhouse in exceptional circumstances going forward.



Bus Bookings / School Transport

A reminder that school closes for the end of 1st Term on Friday 25 March and school transport will depart from school at 08h30. Please ensure that all bus bookings for Johannesburg, Pavilion and King Shaka are made **before midday on Monday 21 March** through the online booking system.

For any queries please contact **Mrs Nirvana Naicker**, School Transport Co-ordinator:

Cell: 060 562 3954

Office: (033) 234 1170

E-mail: opsadmin@michaelhouse.org

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.

With my best wishes

ANTONY CLARK
RECTOR