



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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Rector's Message

I hope that you have had a **Happy Easter** and an excellent opportunity to re-engage with your sons over the past couple of weeks. As you know, it has been an incredibly wet period over much of South Africa and particularly here in KwaZulu-Natal. I know that some of our families have been affected by this and we hold them in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time for them.

With the boys only having arrived back at school last evening, term has officially only been underway for less than a day, but there is a palpable sense of purpose in the air as the boys approach their activities.

In assembly this morning, I spoke about the fact that we have a very full term ahead of us and, particularly with most boys giving considerable focus to the winter sports season, it is important that they should maximise their learning opportunities in lessons each day and in prep each evening when they settle to academic tasks. I spoke to the boys about being **active learners** and asked them to consider what the difference between an active and a passive learner might be. In short, an active learner drives his own learning while a passive learner is driven in his learning by the teacher concerned. For an active learner, there is a high level of involvement in lessons and in prep time; he will seek answers for himself and ask questions when he doesn't understand. He will prepare for lessons attempting to foresee the next step relating to an academic problem or issue and these characteristics will lead to his actually enjoying his work so much more. A passive learner will, as I have said, be driven by a teacher who sets the agenda and he may take notes in class and do his prep, but he won't ask questions when he doesn't understand or really get on top of a subject. The work of a passive learner is done because he has to do it rather than because he wants to do it. An active learner does not necessarily have to spend more time in the learning process, but it is time that is better directed and more focused than that of the passive learner. A greater sense of enjoyment is also derived from it.

I also spoke to the boys about **behaviour and attitude**. This entails valuing their place at Michaelhouse as they would in any team which they may represent. As a team member, they are expected to contribute positively to their team and this may well require them to make adjustments to do what they need to in order to fulfil a particular role whether it is at centre-link or scrumhalf or any other position. If boys let their team down and don't fulfil the requirements for their position, then they forfeit their place in the team. In simple terms, they are dropped. I explained that this metaphor carries through to their conduct because if they bully in a way which has a significant impact, or if they break other important rules, or if they have little regard for the reputation of the school, or if there is an accumulation of smaller issues where they have broken the rules, then they lose their place in the Michaelhouse team. I have tried to explain that those people who lose their place at



Michaelhouse cause immense distress to their families, their friends and to themselves. So I encouraged them to **think before they act stupidly or out of character or maliciously** as the reality is that there is a replacement waiting to come off the bench from other boys who desperately want to be here. So I urged them to value their place at Michaelhouse for this and many other reasons.

I also spoke to the boys about the person that they are becoming and whether they are humble, empathetic, understanding of other people, prepared to serve, prepared to display integrity and honesty and prepared to be supportive of others. Or, alternatively, are they only driven by what they can get out of life for themselves? As you well know, personal characteristics and attributes are so very important in the workplace. These are not suddenly acquired through a post-graduate MBA or another similar qualification; they are developed slowly through family and through school. Our attitude and everything that we do as young people underpins our future prospects and this is why it is fundamentally important that there should be an alignment between the values that young people have and their thinking and actions.

On another topic, we have Luke Lamprecht visiting us tomorrow and speaking to the boys in various groups; Luke is widely regarded as the most knowledgeable person in South Africa on matters of child protection and development. He is a specialist in the area of **safeguarding** and, following issues that have been reported in other schools and because we do not wish to be complacent in this or other areas, our boys and staff will have the opportunity to engage with him.

Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Music

Congratulations to **Samir Dookie** who achieved an outstanding result in his Trinity College Grade 5 Organ Examination. Samir achieved 94% which is amongst the top distinctions awarded by Trinity College. Clearly Samir has a bright future as a musician!

Swimming

Congratulations to **Joshua Haswell** who competed at the SA Schools Gala in the holidays where he won two silver medals, one for the 50m breaststroke and the other for the Medley Relay.



Joshua Haswell at the SA Schools Gala



Hockey

There were several festivals over the holiday period, both at Michaelhouse and away. The U14A team played in the ISHF at home and achieved the following results: vs Cornwall won 5-0, vs St Benedict's drew 3-3, vs Bishops drew 3-3, vs St Andrew's Bloemfontein won 8-0, vs St David's won 3-0 and vs St Andrew's lost 1-2.



U14A hockey team played at home in the ISHF

The U16A team played at St Alban's in Pretoria as well as at Pretoria Boys' High School, playing 6 games, winning 5 and losing 1 with the following results: vs Bishops lost 0-1, vs St Benedict's won 5-0, vs Cornwall Hill won 4-0, vs St David's won 5-0, vs Helpmekaar won 3-0 and vs St Andrew's won 5-0.



U16A hockey at the ISHF at St Alban's

The 1st team travelled to York in George, playing 5 games, winning 4 and losing 1 with the following results: vs Bishops lost 0-7, vs St David's won 3-0, vs Cornwall Hill won 6-0, vs Helpmekaar won 3-2 and vs St Andrew's won 6-0.



Rugby

As with the hockey, our boys participated in several parts of the country and got the term off to a good start.

The U15A team travelled to Grey High in Gqeberha and posted these results: vs Muir College won 15-0, vs Kingswood won 76-0 and vs St Andrew's won 22-7.

The U16A team went to the Jeppe Festival in Johannesburg and also did well, winning two games and losing one: vs Grey PE won 19-17, vs Jeppe lost 13-17 and vs St Andrew's won 5-0.



U16A rugby team at the Jeppe Festival in Johannesburg



Congratulations to **Aphiwe Shelembe**, who was voted Best Forwards Player of the Festival

The 1st XV had a number of games over the holidays, winning all but one during this time. vs Selborne at King's Park won 16-10, vs Kingswood won 19-12 and vs St Andrew's College lost 15-17.

The 1st XV then travelled to Johannesburg to participate in the St Stithian's Easter Festival: vs Maritzburg College won 33-32, vs St Stithian's won 34-3 and vs St Alban's won 37-7.

Golf

The Michaelhouse golf team travelled to the annual Affies Golf Festival which entailed playing varying golf competition formats over four days. The team had some challenging matches and played some good golf in patches against top opponents throughout the country. Our inconsistency meant we were in the 9th/10th match playoff on the final day. This was a close tussle which we won.



Academic Open Days

Please note the following Academic Open Days will be taking place this quarter:

C Block - Friday 29 April

D Block - Wednesday 18 May

A Block - Friday 17 June

Further information will be sent out regarding the C Block Open Day by Mrs Wendy Kelly later today.

2023 Scholarships

We congratulate the following boys from a variety of prep schools who won scholarships to Michaelhouse when these were awarded over the past holiday:

| Award | Name | Prep School |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Major Open | Zhengfei Li | St Peter's |
| Minor Open | Zaeem Laher | Pridwin |
| Major Trust | Shail Rajkumar | Randpark Primary |
| Minor Trust | Eli Clarence | DPHS |
| Pridwin Closed | Oliver Thompson | Pridwin |
| The Ridge Closed | Connor Wilson | The Ridge |
| Major All Rounder | Nathan Simons | Cordwalles |
| Minor All Rounder | Bernard Rossouw | WHPS |
| Music Scholarship | Connor Maitland | Cordwalles |
| Drama Exhibition | Thomas Ries | Highbury |
| Major Sports Scholarship | Jason Joiner | St John's Prep |
| Major Sports Scholarship | Fabiano Fierro | DPHS |
| Sport Scholarship | Ethan Kruger | Laerskool Kenmare |
| Sport Scholarship | Rex Wardlaw | Cordwalles |
| Sport Scholarship | Matthew Southwood | DPHS |
| Sports Scholarship | Cian Hoskings | Highbury |
| Sport Exhibition | Riley Muir | Cordwalles |
| Sport Exhibition | Jed Reilly | DPHS |
| Sport Exhibition | Thomas Smith | DPHS |
| Sport Exhibition | Ben Hughes | DPHS |
| Sports Exhibition | Daniel Uys | Merchiston |



B Block Formal

Please note that the B Block Formal has been rescheduled to 28 May 2022. A further letter with more detail as to the arrangements for the evening will be sent to parents in the next fortnight.

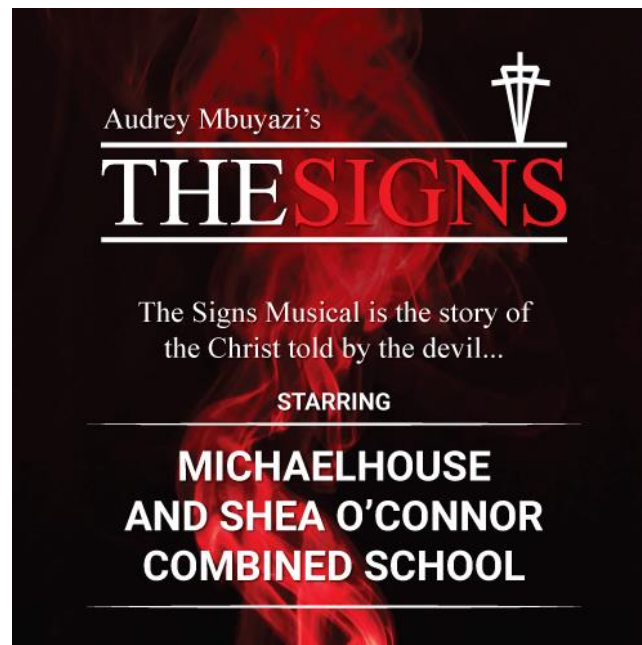
Drama Collaboration between Michaelhouse and Shea O'Connor

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 as a 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/>



Hilton-Michaelhouse Fixtures

The Hilton-Michaelhouse sports fixture will be hosted first by Hilton in the 2nd quarter, on 30 April. This will be followed by the return fixture at Michaelhouse on 18 June.



Please find attached the Hilton College programme of events for the Hilton-Michaelhouse sports fixture on 30 April.

Please also take special note of the following information :

- No tickets will be sold at the Hilton College gate and no stickers will be issued at the gate.
- No Sticker, No Entry.
- Pop-up shop operating hours:
 - Thursday 28 April : 12h00–17h00
 - Friday 29 April : 09h00–12h00
 - Saturday 30 April : 06h00–16h00

Trade-Inn, Coffee Shop and Old Boys' Club

Please note that the following will be open at all home fixtures this quarter:

- Trade Inn: 09h00 – 14h00
- Heritage Centre: 08h00 – 16h00
- Coffee Shop 08h00 – 16h00

The **Old Boys' Club** will also be open for parents, staff, Old Boys and opposition parents. After the conclusion of all matches there will be a basic bar facility, with beer, wine and soft drinks and some light meals available to purchase. I hope to see you there.

With my best wishes

ANTONY CLARK
RECTOR