



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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Rector's Message

In this eNews, I aim to further and complete what I have written so far on the topic of grooming which normally involves an older person befriending a younger person in unusual ways – ways which are inappropriate and make the younger person feel uneasy, even if there may be a certain thrill about the interaction he/she has with the older person and even if it is difficult for them to pinpoint why it is that they feel uneasy.

There is an onus on us all to prevent grooming in whatever ways we can:

- Talking about healthy relationships from an early age helps young people to differentiate, on the one hand, between normal, respectful, loving behaviour which is out in the open and demonstrates warmth and, on the other hand, that which is secretive and edgy.
- As parents, you might encourage transparency in what your children are doing online. Using parental controls and keeping as up to date as one can on the apps and games that your sons and daughters are engaged with can be helpful, even though teenagers do need a degree of independence. Exercising excessive secrecy and hiding of screens could be an indication that something is amiss.
- We will shortly be engaging with Emma Sadlier, an expert on social media, once again. Luke Lamprecht, an expert in safeguarding, spoke to our boys and staff earlier this year in this regard. This is part of our programme to deal with a range of issues confronting young people in 2022 and to steer them away from the dangers of social media.
- There are arms of the police to whom problematic behaviour should be reported, even if this is not as well known as it should be nor as prevalent as it is in many other countries. The message, however, is clear: people who are engaged in grooming need to be reported to the police.

An area which is potentially related to this is that, on occasion, some parents wish to engage a tutor/coach from outside the school who has particular expertise to assist their son in some area. In view of the comment above and the importance that we need to attach to preventing grooming, it is important that the school should be fully aware of every person coming onto the campus for this reason. To give effect to this, if you have not already done so, I ask that you provide the contact details of such tutors/coaches to Mrs Win de Wet, Deputy Rector: Academic, if it is for an academic purpose and to Mr Ryan Strudwick, Senior Master: Sport, if it is for a sporting purpose. We will then be able to check the credentials of such tutors/coaches and allow them to be admitted at the main gate. I very much appreciate your support in this regard. If you have any general queries, please direct them to Mr Sibis Ncamani, Deputy Rector: Pastoral, who is in charge of monitoring the well-being of all the boys.



In my last eNews I spoke about Mr Ryan Strudwick leading the C Block Journey. **Mr Ryan Strudwick** is the leader of one of the groups and the others are led by Messrs **James Fleming, Paul Snyman** and **Sibonelo Khanyile**. All of the arrangements for the C Block Journey, as well as the D Block Pondoland exercise and the E Block camp are administered by **Ms Joanne Morrison** here at the home base at Michaelhouse. This is an immensely time-consuming and important role and we thank Joanne Morrison for her support of the leaders of the C Block Journey as well as **Mr Gerry Noel** who is in charge of the D Block hike and Messrs **Herman Visagie** and **Mark Blew** who are in charge of the E Block camp.

There is much excitement in the lead up to these events and also much preparation; the teamwork of all concerned will, doubtless, lead to outstanding experiences for all of the boys concerned.

Staff News

On Sunday four staff members ran the “Ultimate Human Race”, the Comrades Marathon: **Mr Paul Snyman, Ms Cheron McConnell, Mr Justin McDougall** and **Mr Brendan Gittins**. This year was the down run from Pietermaritzburg to Durban totalling 89.9km. Huge congratulations to all four runners who successfully completed the race in very respectable times.



From left to right: Mr Paul Snyman, Ms Cheron McConnell, Mr Justin McDougall and Mr Brendan Gittins

Ms Amy Webster takes leave of Michaelhouse this month and has been instrumental in taking our Community Partnership Trust to new levels in terms of our resourcing and engagement with the 16 schools in our area, the development of the programme of the 23 Eduhelpers under the aegis of the CPT and much else. She has made a big impact on many lives, and we salute her outstanding work in this area as she moves on to new challenges.





Michaelhouse Tutor Groups – Mr Tim Jarvis



Each boy at Michaelhouse belongs to a Tutor Group. Boys enter this group in the middle of E Block and stay in the same group, with the same Tutor, until the middle of A Block. Each group is House based and consists of two or three boys from each grade, making a total of around 12 boys per group. The reason behind this is for their Tutor to build a relationship with them over an extended period, and to get them to interact with boys of other ages. The groups meet twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays for 25 minutes.

Our tutor group logo, above, represents academics (the pencil), connection (the hands), and growth (the plant), combining to make an M.

While the main purpose is for them to get to know each boy in their group and support them, a fair amount of content is also covered through video clips, activities, and discussion. More recently we have also introduced a reading time (on Monday) where each boy reads a book of their choice.

Below are some examples of the topics that have been spoken about so far this year:

- Goal setting
- Interpersonal skills
- Superbowl talking points
- Digital citizenship
- Wellness questionnaire
- Human Rights Day
- Grooming
- Vaping
- The importance of self-disclosure
- Gender equality

As parents, your son's tutor is a useful contact point for you if you need to talk to someone from the school about your boy. You should have heard from your son's tutor this term so that you know who they are and how to contact them. Each tutor is in a unique position to build a strong relationship with each of their tutees over the lifespan of their school career.

Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Soccer vs Grace College, Clifton Durban and Zenzani

On Wednesday, our U15C and 2nd team travelled to Hilton to play against Grace College's U15A and 1st team. Both teams came away with 3-2 wins, with **Jordan Baxter** scoring a hat-trick for the 2nd team.

Our soccer teams travelled to Durban to play against Clifton on Saturday. It was another excellent day on the football field for the Michaelhouse boys, with our boys winning 13 of the 16 matches played:

U14A won 5-0, U14B won 6-0, U14C won 7-0 and U14D won 6-0



U15A lost 0-4, U15B won 3-0, U15C won 6-1 and U15D won 10-0
U16A won 1-0, U16B won 6-0, U16C won 3-1 and U16D won 6-0
1st team won 3-1, 2nd team won 2-1, 3rd team lost 0-1 and 4th team drew 1-1

We also hosted our friends from Zenzani Village again and competitive football was played, and stronger bonds forged on and off the field.



A 1st team huddle celebrating their 3-1 win



Mpumzi Ngogodo on the left backing **Lazola Mayeisko** on the ball

Sevens Rugby

The U15A and First (U17) teams attended the Durban High School Festival which took place over Friday afternoon and Saturday.

The First team played some fantastic sevens rugby winning four of their six games and unfortunately lost to Westville in the semifinals on the stroke of full time.

The U15A team won three of their five games and lost to College in the Plate Final.

The Seconds nearly stole the show but went down 21-14 to Westville in the final having led 14-0 with **Thabo Njapha** starring as the stand in 'flyhalf'.

The U15B team won two of their five games in what proved to be a tough tournament for them but great experience was gained.



Josh Aissing clearing the ball and **Tristan Arde** and **Graham Wynne** closing in on defence



Golf

Some of the Michaelhouse golfers took part in the last round of the KZN trials. Our best performers were **Michael Thornton** who came 26th and **Luke Jankowitz** who came 31st. Well done to all who participated!

Polo

Congratulations must go to **Edwin Miller** (Ralfe, B Block) who has been selected for the Zambian Schools Polo team which will play an international fixture against South Africa in Lions River from 2 - 4 September.



Edwin Miller (right) in action

Team of the Week: Mr Ryan Strudwick: Senior Master Sport

There were many outstanding performances this week, but only one really big victory. The Team of the Week accolade goes to the U15D soccer team for their 10-0 win against Clifton Durban. Well done!

Service

There are approximately four or five visits per week where boys from different Houses visit their respective CPT partner schools to assist with various tasks and activities identified by the principals of the schools. The boys may facilitate rugby skills, homework, reading activities, or enjoy a game of soccer.



West House continues to assist with the Foundation Phase Aftercare programme at Nottingham Road Primary School



East House gifted Shea O' Connor nets for their soccer posts and played a friendly soccer match ahead of the tournament held at Michaelhouse last weekend



Words of thanks from Lorraine Yoko of Khazimula Children's Project:

“A few words to express mine and Thathu's gratitude for the support received from Michaelhouse Community Partnership and Mackenzie boys over the last couple of weeks. Nets for our soccer goal posts had been on our wish list for so long - thank you for granting this wish. As you can imagine, hardly a day goes by when there isn't a ball being kicked around and at the goals on our soccer field. We also have soccer teams from the Lidgetton village coming to play every now and then - the nets are being put to good use.

A shout out to the boys who dug the holes for the fruit trees that were delivered. They are all planted and we're keeping a watchful eye on them to ensure that in a couple of years they will bear fruit. How wonderful it will be for the children who are in our care to one day be able to have the experience of picking the fruit and then having it to eat on demand. Special thanks to the boys who choose to visit Khazimula for their community service afternoons and engage with our children.

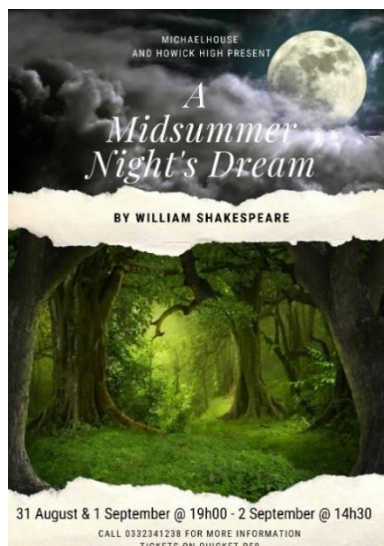
Thank you for keeping Khazimula on your radar - and for reaching out to the children in our care.”



Upcoming Events & Performances

Midsummer Night's Dream

A Midsummer Night's Dream is perhaps one of Shakespeare's most loved plays. It's light, fun, full of mischief and hopeful in respect of transformation from chaos to order and hate to love. Perhaps this is the tonic to make sense of our current chaotic state, to look back to “the bard”, and to dream. We invite you to join us at the Michaelhouse Schlesinger Theatre from 31 August to 2 September for what promises to be a fun and visual interpretation of this age old classic.





Below is an invitation to the annual Treverton-Michaelhouse Grade 10 and 11 Art Exhibition which opens in the Schlesinger Theatre Foyer on 7 September at 6.30pm and will run until 10 October. Please do feel free to come and visit the exhibition



The Visual Art departments of
TREVERTON & MICHAELHOUSE
cordially invite you to attend the opening of their

2022 Combined
Grade 10&11
Exhibition

Hanley Enle (B Black Reims) Self-Portrait (2022) Acrylic on canvas

Schlesinger Theatre Foyer Gallery, Michaelhouse, Wednesday 7 September 2022 at 6 for 6.30 pm

With my best wishes

ANTONY CLARK
RECTOR