



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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## Rector's Message

We had a really **wonderful start to the academic year**: a week of sunshine (and intense heat!) during which the boys have grappled with their new circumstances, begun lessons, been involved in school and House activities, in sport and, in their tutor groups, have begun to set their goals for 2023. The energy which they display has been palpable every day from early in the morning with water polo and gym sessions in the HPC through to all the activities and prep before bedtime. This energy was perhaps never more evident than in the Inter-House Swimming Gala on Friday which was a spirited event, won by Farfield.

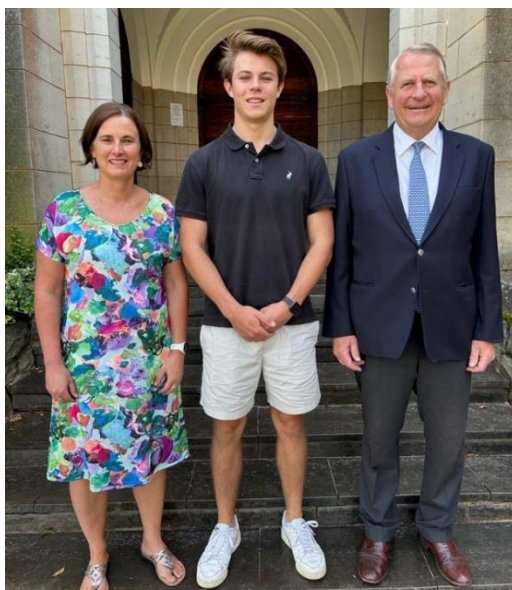
Last week I spoke of the fact that senior staff often guide boys in our weekly assemblies and, of course, clarify the position with regard to a range of circumstances at school. I do not always refer to exactly what has been under review at our assemblies, but I thought I would do so today. At our opening assembly, I spoke about the importance of **discipline** and I elaborated a little on this topic on Monday. A sense of discipline is important in any team or society or year group or House if that group is to make progress. If individuals simply “do their own thing” there will be no cohesion within a particular team or group – it will not move forward. In particular, I wanted to draw the attention of the boys to the outcome for them if certain rules are broken and, *inter alia*, I spoke about the use of drugs, including cannabis. I recognise that it can be confusing for boys since cannabis has been legalised for use by *adults in private*, but it remains a dangerous drug for teenagers because of the development of their brains over this time (13-19) and, it falls into the category of all drugs in the way that the school responds to its use. The message to the boys was simple and intended to be proactive: boys have been told that if they bring drugs (other than prescribed medication) into the school or are found with them here or test positive, they must expect to lose their place at Michaelhouse and, thus, have to leave the school. I give this message to the boys at the beginning of each year and do so in the clearest possible way to protect them on those difficult occasions when they may be at a party somewhere and they need to make a snap decision as to whether they go down the slippery slope or steer clear of drugs. It is always helpful to the boys when parents reinforce what the school is saying in terms of rules and approaches to discipline so that boys cannot steer a course between parents and the school. We, as a school, would really appreciate your support in this regard.



As you will be aware, the notion of a **holistic education** is of great importance to us at Michaelhouse and we seek to develop your sons/our boys as fully and in as rounded a fashion as possible. In doing so, we rely on your wholehearted support as this makes it possible to educate the boys in every sense more effectively. I thought it might be helpful, therefore, to remind us all of ways in which we can work together for the benefit of your son. These include:

- Engaging with your son regularly in respect of issues raised by Michaelhouse and raised by him.
- Supporting your son and Michaelhouse in its academic programme and in the recommendations made to assist your son's academic progress.
- Supporting your son and Michaelhouse by your attendance at school functions and parent meetings wherever possible.
- Keeping us informed of matters that affect your son, in particular issues related to his health and mental and physical well-being. His state of health is clearly a material factor in his on-going enrolment.
- Assisting and supporting Michaelhouse in respect of the general rules of the school and policies relating to alcohol and drugs, including a commitment not to permit your son to drink alcohol in a school situation or to take part in any form of drug consumption.
- Ensuring that your son when under your care conducts himself in a manner that does not bring the name of Michaelhouse into disrepute.
- Committing yourself not to insult or abuse teachers or staff, including sports coaches, and to maintain a courteous and positive relationship with staff as we would expect from our staff to you.
- Assisting Michaelhouse in dealing with instances when your son has broken school rules and is being disciplined in line with the legitimate processes necessary for the effective operation of the school.
- Assisting the School in dealing with social media issues and understanding the impact which social media may have on those in the Michaelhouse community.

My pledge to you is that we continually review our policies and procedures and aim to make good any shortcomings that may arise or occur.



Congratulating Peter Woodland (middle) on being *dux* for 2022 is Deputy Rector: Academics, Mrs Win de Wet (left) and Rector, Mr Antony Clark



Congratulations to Letlotlo Sekatle for achieving 99% for Drama in the IEB Examination

You will find attached to this edition of the eNews, as Annexure A, a full summary of the National Senior Certificate results for 2022.

## Confirmation Camp: 12 – 15 February 2023

Our annual **Confirmation Camp**, a significant and meaningful B Block rite of passage, will take place at the beautiful Em'seni Conference Centre near Spionkop, from Sunday 12 February to Wednesday 15 February. The Camp provides a very special opportunity for boys of every background to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed and non-pressurised environment. Creative small-group discussion material is drawn from the most excellent "Youth Alpha Course", a course designed specifically to encourage teenagers to reflect on the important questions of life, share their views without judgment and ask any question. With plenty of good food and ample time to relax and build friendships, the camp will be a highlight of the year for the boys who attend. For those who subsequently choose to be confirmed in the Anglican Church, the Confirmation Service, led by the Bishop of Natal, will follow in the Michaelhouse Chapel on Friday 10 March 2023.

Finally, please would those B Block parents and guardians who have not yet had a chance to complete the short on-line form confirming their son's participation in the Confirmation Camp, kindly click on the following link as soon as possible: <https://forms.office.com/r/MgvkRSaCpF>  
Many thanks.

## Careers Assessment – A and B Boys

Michaelhouse has partnered with **Bryce Dekker and Direction DD** to work with students, parents and teachers to collectively help your son work through options and move towards the most appropriate choices when it comes to options after school. Bryce will visit Michaelhouse a number of times over the course of the year to do career assessments with A and B Block boys and then feedback sessions with the boys and their parents.



We kick off 2023 next week. Career assessments will be performed on Wednesday 1 February 2023 during the afternoon. A one-hour feedback session will then be conducted, sometime on Thursday 2 February or Friday 3 February. In the feedback session the assessment results will be unpacked with Bryce Dekker to identify possible careers and provide options relating to tertiary choice and entrance criteria. If parents are unable to attend, you will be able to join in the feedback session via Teams.

Please can I ask that you contact Carol Ballance ([carbal@michaelhouse.org.za](mailto:carbal@michaelhouse.org.za)) no later than 27 January if you would like your son to be included in the assessments. The cost of the package is **R2150**. Please note that A Block boys will be given priority in the first half of the year, but all A and B Block boys who book will be given a date during one of the four assessments dates this year. Once you have contacted Carol Ballance more information will be e-mailed directly to you.

## Michaelhouse Channels of Communication

Here is some help with the lines of communication with staff at the school. For most issues in boys' lives the Housemaster is the first point of contact. The Housemaster will then engage with relevant staff members in order to resolve problems. A brief summary of communication channels is listed below for your information:

I am concerned about	First contact	Also Contact/Notify	If issue not resolved then contact
My son in the classroom	Class Teacher/Head of Department	Housemaster	Deputy Rector Academic
Academic Support	Head of Academic Support	Housemaster	Deputy Rector Academic
My son in his House	Housemaster		Deputy Rector Pastoral
General Medical Issues	San Sister/relevant practitioner	Housemaster	Deputy Rector Pastoral
Specific medical treatment	Medical Practitioner	San Sister	Mr James Fleming
General Academic Issues	Deputy Rector Academic		Rector
Cultural Issues	Senior Master Culture		Rector
Psychological Issues	Housemaster	Counsellor	Deputy Rector Pastoral
Spiritual Issues	Chaplain	Housemaster	Rector
Sport Issues	Senior Master Sport		Deputy Rector Pupils
Sport teams, fixtures etc	<a href="http://sport.michaelhouse.org">sport.michaelhouse.org</a>	Senior Master Sport	Deputy Rector Pupils
Finance: Account queries	Finance Director's PA	Finance Manager	Finance Director
Marketing	Admissions Manager		Rector
Community Partnership	CP Manager		Chaplain
Transport	Transport Co-ordinator		Deputy Rector Pupils

International parents may also wish to contact Mrs Riette White ([RieWhi@michaelhouse.org](mailto:RieWhi@michaelhouse.org) or 082 828 8066) to assist with specific things which a mother living in South Africa might do for her son.

**Mrs Win de Wet** is the Deputy Rector: Academic, **Mr Brendan Gittins** is the Deputy Rector: Pupils and **Mr Sibusiso Ncamani** is the Deputy Rector: Pastoral.

We hope this helps you establish the appropriate channel of communication.



## Academic Open Days – 2023

Please find attached, as Annexure B, the Academic Open Days for 2023.

## Michaelhouse Bank Confirmation Letter

Please find attached, as Annexure C, a Bank Confirmation Letter from the Financial Director.

## Message from Mr James Fleming, Head of Sport Medicine

Many of your sons will have requested you to buy them protein supplements before coming back to school or may do so in the next few weeks as they get back into sports and exercise.

We will always encourage boys to eat healthily, and exercise properly and not just expect instant results from a protein supplement.

The school will continue to take a strong stand against boys consuming a supplement that may contain banned substances even if accidentally (not on purpose). Not only are they not good for one's health but may also lead to boy's facing a sporting ban if tested positive at a festival. We have been alerted to the fact that testing at festivals and tournaments will re-commence in 2023.

We do not permit boy's taking 'pre workouts' or 'creatine' products. We do however allow them to take some 'whey protein' products, but only those that have the green 'informed choice' sticker on them, ie: they are batch tested which means they are 'clean'.

Biogen is our recommended product and can be bought at pharmacies.

Please do not purchase your sons any products that do not display the informed choice sticker.

Should you have any queries, please contact our Head of Sports Medicine, James Fleming via email [jamesf@michaelhouse.org](mailto:jamesf@michaelhouse.org)

## Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

### *Canoeing*

We had 9 paddlers compete in the 50 Miler Canoe Race this weekend. Conditions were testing with extreme heat, more water than we've seen for a while and big rapids.

All boys completed the event without major incident and noteworthy performances were achieved by **Robert Butcher**, who was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U18 category and **Craig Cribbins** who was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall, in a K2 with Mr Roberts.

### *Cricket*

Our first fixtures of 2023 were against Kearsney. Our top teams played at home with other teams playing at Kearsney. We had a day of mixed results and more application will be needed in some





teams if we are to fulfil our potential. Here are the results of the matches, most of which were very keenly contested:

1<sup>st</sup> XI lost by 7 wickets, 2<sup>nd</sup> XI won by 3 wickets, 3<sup>rd</sup> XI won by 7 wickets, 4<sup>th</sup> XI lost by 25 runs and the 4<sup>th</sup> XI lost by 7 wickets.

U16A lost by 38 runs, U15A lost by 20 runs, U15B won by 3 wickets, U15C lost by 29 runs.

U14A won by 30 runs, U14B lost by 20 runs and U14C won by 3 wickets.



U14A team after their win against Kearsney

There were some notable performances by the following boys: for the 1<sup>st</sup> XI, **Murray Baker** made 68; for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI, **Murray Hall-Jones** made 52\*, **Dylan Hewlett** made 42 and **Thomas Griffin** 33; for the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI, **Edwin Miller** took 3/7, **Joshua Southwood** took 3/12 and made 56\* with the bat and **Aiden Jinnah** 30. For the U15A team, **Ben Heuer** took 3/31, **Graydon Leslie** made 80 and **Cameron Jones** 50; for the U15B team, **Jarred Van Niekerk** took 4/22, **Ruan Ramnath** made 34 and **Chris van Rooyen** hit a great 46\*. For the U14A team, **Matthew Southwood** made 46, **Riley Muir** made 44 and **Rex Wardlaw** 30\*; in the U14B team, **Wonga Mlonzi** made 53 and in the U14C team, **Drew Lindsay** made 35 runs. Well done to all the boys who participated and contributed to their teams on a beautiful sunny and rain-free day.



The 1<sup>st</sup> Cricket XI in action

## Water Polo

Congratulations to our Michaelhouse boys who participated in the **IPT Water Polo Tournament hosted in Durban from 10-14 December 2022**. The KZN teams featured prominently at this tournament, and the following boys won medals as follows:

KZN U14 – Gold Medal: **Elliot Springate, Nicholas Purdy, Oliver Guy and Tane Greene**

KZN U15 – Bronze Medal: **Bryn Retzlaff**

KZN U19A – Bronze Medal: **Campbell Ridl**

This past weekend saw 13 matches played between Michaelhouse, Kearsney and Hilton. The morning proved challenging, with Michaelhouse managing only 4 victories in these matches. That said a number of these losses were within a goal or two and could have ended in Michaelhouse's favour. Special mention must go to the 4<sup>th</sup> Team who won both their matches convincingly as well as the U15A team who had the better of Kearsney for 90% of their match but fell short in the final minute of play. The results were:





U18A vs Kearsney lost 9–11, U18B vs Kearsney lost 3-8, U18C vs Kearsney won 8-3, U18C vs Hilton lost 3-4, U18D vs Kearsney won 8-3, U18D vs Hilton won 7-2, U18E vs Hilton lost 0-5 and U18E vs Kearsney won 5-4.

U15A vs Kearsney lost 4-5, U15B vs Kearsney lost 2-11 and U15B vs Hilton lost 4-6.

U14A vs Kearsney lost 6-14 and U14B vs Kearsney lost 11-21.



**Strategy Break** - Coach Gerry Noel and the U15A team



2023 E Block boys learning the basics of water polo in their two-day orientation programme



Pre-season training for the 1<sup>st</sup> Water Polo Team





## *Basketball*

All our matches against Kearsney were played at Michaelhouse. We played 22, lost 12 and won 10. Well done to all the players for a successful and enjoyable Saturday:

U18A won 62-41, U18B won 42-27, U18C won 21-13, U18D won 14-4, U18E lost 12-16, U18F lost 15-22 and U18G won 34-15.

U16A won 24-18, U16B won 24-14, U16C lost 19-22, U16D won 22-15 and U16E won 20-13.

U15A won 24-12, U15B lost 14-19, U15C lost 7-21, U15D lost 17-29 and U15E lost 10-19.

U14A lost 5-16, U14B lost 11-21, U14C lost 3-14, U14D lost 2-33 and U14E lost 2-20.



The 1<sup>st</sup> Basketball Team taking on Kearsney in their 62-41 win



Michaelhouse players Sentso Tlelai and Glen Chiimba compete for a rebound in Saturday's 1<sup>st</sup> team match against Kearsney



## *Team of the Week – Senior Master Sport: Mr Ryan Strudwick*

There were some great victories this week. Special mention must go to the 3<sup>rd</sup> cricket XI, the 3<sup>rd</sup> water polo team and the 1<sup>st</sup> basketball team. This week the Team of the Week accolade goes to an individual who excelled in our Inter-House Swimming Gala. **Kyle Heyns** swam in 8 races, breaking 4 individual records and in the relay teams in which he swam a further 2 records were broken. Some of his times were faster than the U17 records. Well done, Kyle!



From left to right: Guest of Honour, Mrs Frances Fleming Boltler, Kyle Heyns and Rector, Mr Antony Clark

## **Inter-House Gala - 2023**

At the conclusion of our first week at school, we had a keenly-contested gala with the boys supporting their Houses enthusiastically. After the final relay, **Tatham** emerged in third place with 325 points, **East** were second with 349 points and first was **Farfield** with 429 points.

Congratulations to the following boys:

Junior Victor Ludorum: **Nathan Cochran**

U17 Victor Ludorum: **Matteo-Marco Valente**

Senior Victor Ludorum: **Theo Apteker**



Swimming Captain, Theo Apteker with the Guest of Honour, Mrs Frances Fleming Boltler



# Rector's eNews

25 January 2023

Newsletter 2/2023



MICHAELHOUSE



The 2023 Swimming Gala





## Sport Information

Please see information below which may be of help when finding your way around our Michaelhouse website or looking for information.

### Term Calendar

The pdf copy of the term calendar is emailed to parents during the last week of each term. The Michaelhouse Calendars and Term dates can be viewed by going onto the Michaelhouse website. Please click on this link for easy access: [www.michaelhouse.org](http://www.michaelhouse.org)

Or directly by clicking on the links below :

For term dates : <https://www.michaelhouse.org/calendars/term-dates/>

For important year dates : <https://www.michaelhouse.org/calendars/important-year-dates/>

For sport information : <http://sport.michaelhouse.org/>

For sport contacts : <http://sport.michaelhouse.org/Contact.asp?Id=27711>

The first date of each term reflected on all calendars is the day the boys are expected back at school in time to attend the Evening Chapel Service.

*Extra info / Sport :*

*All away games on the calendar will have an asterisk (\*) next to the event.*

*If the venue hasn't been confirmed as yet, it will have 'Venue TBC' next to the event.*

*If the venue is at Michaelhouse, it will NOT have an asterisk (\*) or 'Venue TBC' next to the event.*

### Sport Programmes

The Sport Programmes are finalised on Friday afternoons once all the information, team names, fixtures, referee names & times are confirmed and received by both schools. (Usually on a Thursday afternoon) This information is then added to the various platforms mentioned below:

MHS website : [www.michaelhouse.org](http://www.michaelhouse.org) (click on Sport)

Sport calendar : <http://sport.michaelhouse.org>

Digital channels : **Socs Sports App**

QR Code : This will be up and running in January 2023.

### Socs App

The various sport coaches enter the fixtures, times and venues onto our Socs App as soon as they are confirmed. If you need information on how to load the Socs app onto your phone, please see the information below:

You can also view the fixtures on Socs by going via the Michaelhouse website. Once on the Michaelhouse website, click on "Sport" or follow this link: <https://www.michaelhouse.org/sport/>. Please scroll down the page, click on "Sports and Teams, Fixtures and results" and then click on the date that you are interested in and the particular sport and you will then be able to view which sport is played on that day together with the team lists and information.

### Michaelhouse Sports Website and APP on your cell phone


Please follow the instructions below, particularly the final point, to save the Socs App to your phone or mobile device. We are sure you will find this system useful, easy and exciting to use.



## Instructions for using the Sports Website and app on your cell phone (from Socs)




You can see our new **Sports Website** via this link: <http://sport.michaelhouse.org>

You might want to save the link in your **favourites** and send it to your family and friends. To see at a glance What's on, where and when, you have a number of choices:

You can navigate to our **Sports Calendar** via the main menu, and then select the day you are interested in, and you will see the sports being played and the number of teams playing on the day. Selecting a sport shows the teams and venue and if we're playing away there will be a link to the location map of our opponent's school. You can also see the team selected for the fixture wherever you see this blue image . Normally we announce team selections at least the day before and in some cases 48 hours before.

From the **Sports Calendar** you can also click directly through to a team's fixtures & results listing by clicking the Team's Name. E.g. click on the "U16A". Match times will be announced as soon as the host school confirms times, usually on the Thursday before the fixture.

If you are following a particular team or teams you can also select **Sports & Teams Fixtures & Results** from the main menu. Then select a particular sport and your team to see **past results and upcoming fixtures**.

From any team's fixture list you can "Spy" on the opponents recent results by clicking on the spyglass button , see the playing record by clicking on the folder button , or find their location by clicking on the map point button 

From any team's **Fixtures & Results** listings you can also download the entire fixture list to your personal calendar on your PC or mobile device (such as an iPhone or iPad). Any changes we make to our fixtures will be synchronised with your personal calendar whenever you connect your PC or mobile device to the Internet.

If you need to quickly find an away venue for one of our opponents you can either choose the map link directly from a fixture, available via the "details" button as described above, or you can select "**Opponent Maps & Links**" from the main menu.

## Instructions for using the Sports App

If you are visiting our sports website on your mobile device you will need to load the App on your mobile phone.

iPhone :

- The first step is to visit the sports website on your phone. Open the internet on your phone and visit [sport.michaelhouse.org](http://sport.michaelhouse.org)
- To save this website as an icon on your phones home screen, click on the button that looks like an arrow is trying to escape from a square, then click on ADD TO HOMESCREEN, then click ADD

Android phone :

- The first step is to visit the sports website on your phone. Open the internet on your phone and visit [sport.michaelhouse.org](http://sport.michaelhouse.org)
- Then touch the overflow button (three vertical dots) and select *Add to Home Screen*.



If you have any queries regarding a certain sport, please contact the MiC for that sport directly. You will find a list of all the contacts by clicking on the link mentioned above.

Should you have an urgent sport query, please contact our Senior Master Sport, **Mr Ryan Strudwick** on [Ryans@michaelhouse.org](mailto:Ryans@michaelhouse.org) (082 223 0101).

**Important Information for all Water Polo parents** – please click on the below access to access all the information you will need to know regarding water polo for 2023:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pahWHKj0uRaO3WtOfICN5sDPBIuwgOT2/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pahWHKj0uRaO3WtOfICN5sDPBIuwgOT2/view?usp=share_link)

## Prize Giving Ceremony & 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Half-Term Transport Arrangements

Please note that the school's annual Prize Giving Ceremony (as opposed to our Speech Day which is in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter) takes place on the evening of Wednesday 15 February 2023 at 17h00. Boys in A-D Block will be able to leave for the half-term weekend with their parents after this event. All buses to airports, Durban and Pietermaritzburg, the Johannesburg bus, Bloemfontein bus and Pavilion bus will depart Michaelhouse on Thursday 16 February at 07h30. Please note that you should have received a separate letter from the Deputy Rector: Pupils that was sent to you with an updated price list as well as bus schedule. One important change to note is that the **drop off point for the Johannesburg bus has now changed to the Wanderers' Club** and Zoolake will no longer be used. Please could you ensure that you book any flights in a manner respectful of the half-term and term dates.

### *E Block*

It is important to note that the E Block boys do not attend the Prize Giving Ceremony (as opposed to Speech Day), as it is for A-D Block boys. The E Block have their Academic Open Day on Wednesday 15 February and may go home after the Open Day is complete. Should you have any queries around this please contact your Housemaster for clarification.

## Feedem Menu

Please find attached, as Annexure D, the menu for the first four weeks of term.

## Win with Marketing

### **#muttsofmichaelhouse and #birdsofbalgowan Photo Competition**

It's strange to recall that this time last year we were still in the grip of uncertainty around being able to share our spectacular campus with the friends and family of Michaelhouse.

To celebrate a year of that privilege, you're encouraged to share photos of your best furry friends **AND/OR** the incredible bird life of the Midlands, on Instagram. The photo on each of the two #s with the most likes each quarter will receive a R500 voucher from Meadows Clothing (<https://shop.michaelhouse.org/>).

How to play:

### **FOR DOGS**

1. Take a great snapshot of your dog either kitted out in support of Michaelhouse, or somewhere recognizably on campus





2. Upload to your Instagram feed
3. Include the hashtags #muttsofmichaelhouse and #michaelhouse

## FOR BIRDLIFE

1. Take a photo of any feathered resident of Balgowan, recognizably on campus
2. Upload to your Instagram feed
3. Include the hashtags #birdsofbalgowan and #michaelhouse

## Upcoming Events



## Quote for the week on the importance of education

“Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mine-worker can become the head of the mine, that the child of a farm worker can become the president of a great nation.” (Nelson Mandela)

With my best wishes

**ANTONY CLARK**  
RECTOR