



Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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Rector's Message

Our Speech Day was held last Friday with a keen focus, as always, on the matriculants as they take leave of the school. Prizes were awarded to those who have excelled academically and to those who were top in each subject as well as to those who have improved to the greatest extent and/or were the most diligent, underlining our philosophy which seeks to promote excellence as well as the determination to "be the best version of yourself". A list of the prize-winners on the basis of their aggregate as well as those winning special prizes is attached.

We have received many accolades about the day, including praise for the Guest Speaker, Andrew Cook, a teacher at Michaelhouse between 1980-2004 and, subsequently, Head of two schools, Beaulieu College and Mitchell House. Andrew's love for Michaelhouse was demonstrated at various times in his inspiring talk to the boys and parents and is also encapsulated in a poem he wrote while he was a teacher here. This depicts the essence of and activity in the Main Quad so beautifully:

Michaelhouse Main Quad

Mostly male domain, the quad squats foursquare
In the lap of the school, its neat rectangles and
Weighty flagstones rooting it firmly in the earth.
It's not going anywhere.
Through its traffic crossroads gowned academic,
Bookshod sportsman, hungry schoolboy and aspirant Thespian.
The upstand buttress arrows the overarching sky
Magnifying masculinity, and eyes
Drawn along geometric lines
Amplify the stark imperative:
Quit ye like men: be strong.

But the colour doesn't fit: rosy, red brick
Gentles the impression, and the worn edges
Of tiles and arches, transfigured by human touch
Softens the thrust and drive of perfect symmetry.
The fountain's running water too, and privet's
Rounded topiary makes feminine influence tangible
Though few flowers grow.
Site of warcry and schoolboy prank



Great moon clock and horror tale
Barn owl's haunt and Jabula sale
Round it all lie ancient arms
"Who like God?" He will prevail.

For breathed in brick and balustrade
In rounded arch and colonnade
Live still the shades of those who've passed
Along these paths and passageways
Their quiet spirits here excite for us who wander in and out
A sense of balance, love and light
That graces all that's best in life.

Boys and staff voted at the end of last week for the Senior Prefect as well as for the Heads of House who constitute the School Prefect body. The voting serves as a guideline to the Rector in the appointment of the Senior Prefect and to Housemasters in the appointment of the Heads of Houses. Within each House there is a process followed from the C Block year onwards of Housemasters discussing leadership with their boys and boys gaining experience of leadership through portfolios such as being on the School Council, the Kitchen Committee, organising House sport and the like.

We follow a process in which the Senior Prefect is announced, followed by the Heads of House, and then later on the House Prefects are announced.

At last week's assembly, I drew attention to the fact that, in line with the traditional Michaelhouse way, a leader should have certain qualities: firstly, there is the quality of integrity, meaning that such a person can be trusted even when nobody is watching his actions. Secondly, he should have courage, especially moral courage which enables him to overcome the natural desire to compromise his position simply because he will be better liked by others; thirdly, he should have humility which entails serving others and having the well-being of others at the forefront of his mind; fourthly, he should have compassion which enables him to support those who are not as able as he is and need support. Fifthly, and perhaps most important, he should be prepared to serve others.

A leader should also have a sense of purpose and, indeed, clarity of purpose. In terms of this clarity of purpose, he should have clear moral beliefs, understanding the difference between what is right and what is wrong and therefore not turning a blind eye to what is wrong. He should have initiative because he needs to set the tone for the conduct of events and organise and arrange activities; he should have enthusiasm and commitment for the task and be able to motivate others; he should have self confidence and the capacity to earn respect; he should have consideration for others as he will need to understand that other people are different and he may need to see things from a different perspective. He will need to acknowledge his mistakes and be big enough to apologise when he is wrong; he will need determination in order to see things through to a logical conclusion and he will need intelligence as he will have to weigh up a range of possibilities and make a good decision. There are other considerations too, but these are just some of the examples of the qualities and direction that a leader at Michaelhouse will need to have.

The School Prefects will be inducted in a service on Sunday evening in the Chapel and each School Prefect is asked these questions. Will you:



- Do all you can to enhance the good name of Michaelhouse?
- Use your authority to serve those entrusted to your care?
- Exercise your authority in order uphold the school rules and maintain good order and discipline?
- Endorse through your behaviour the mission of Michaelhouse?
- Oppose any form of bullying or unfair discrimination?
- Recognise and protect the rights of others?

The announcement of the House Prefects will be made next week once they are finalised, but at this stage I am pleased to announce that **Carlyle Hawkins** of Mackenzie House is the Senior Prefect for 2024 and, consequently, the winner of the Chree Bright Award. Well done, Carlyle!



From left to right: Mr Antony Clark, **Carlyle Hawkins** and Mr Sibusiso Ncamani pictured shortly after the announcement of Senior Prefect for 2024

The Heads of Houses who are also School Prefects are: **Luke Davidson** (Founders), **Luke Kaufmann** (East), **Jack Hughes** (West), **Dylan Hewlett** (Farfield), **Ben English** (Tatham), **Ben Cheales** (Pascoe), **Sanele Mnganga** (Baines), **Cival Rugbar** (Mackenzie), **Michael Spencer** (Ralfe) and **Alex Vries** (McCormick). **Luke Kaufmann** is the Second Prefect. Congratulations to them all.

Firstly, I have made the point to the boys that those who are not, at this stage, elected to the role of School or House Prefect still have the opportunity to be made up to that position at a later stage if they develop further and make a good impact on their peers and the School.

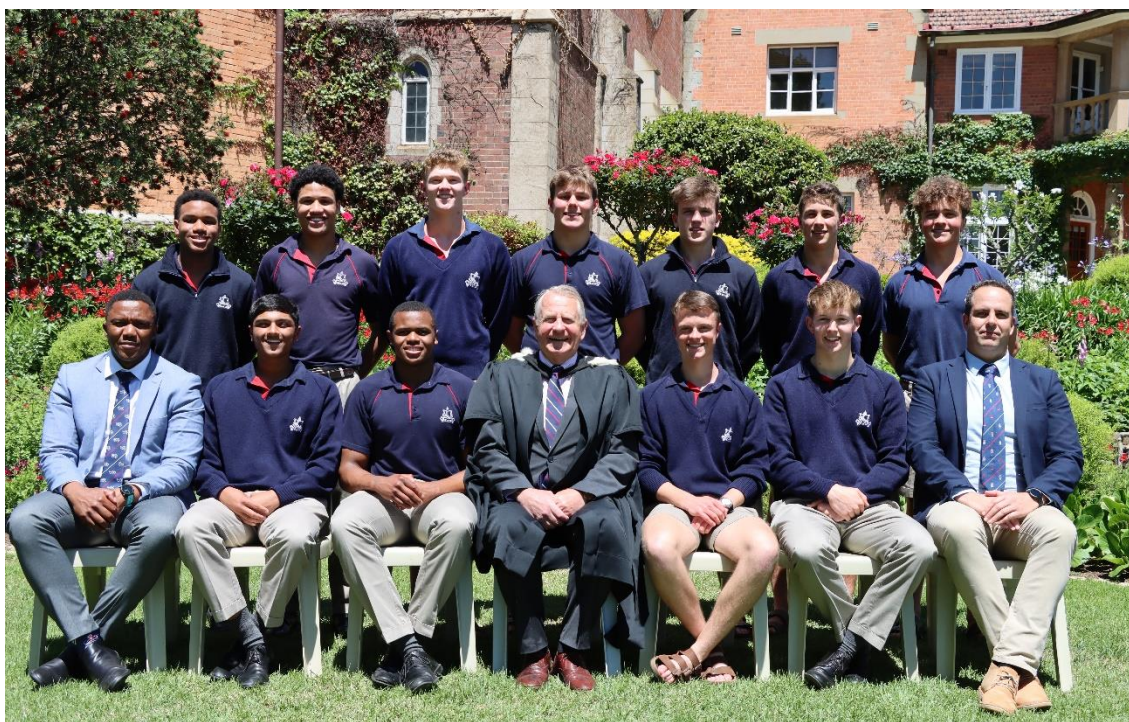
Rector's eNews

18 October 2023

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MICHAELHOUSE



left to right back row: **Sanele Mnganga, Alex Vries, Luke Davidson, Michael Spencer, Dylan Hewlett, Jack Hughes and Ben Cheales**

left to right front row: **Mr Sibusiso Ncamani, Cival Rugbar, Carlyle Hawkins, Mr Antony Clark, Luke Kaufmann, Ben English and Mr Brendan Gittins**

Cowan House recently celebrated their 75th anniversary and I presented a bench with the Michaelhouse and Cowan House emblems engraved on it to mark this occasion.



Mr Antony Clark handing over the bench to Mr Derek Braans to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Cowan House



Individual Achievements

Well done to **Samir Dookie** who was selected to play as a soloist with the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra in the Young Performers concert last Saturday.



Samir Dookie about to take a bow after his performance with the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra

Congratulations to **Luke Kaufmann** who was awarded Honours for Debating in assembly on Monday, and to **Sebastian Bailes** who has been awarded his Academic Honours.

Jason Brufau is congratulated for getting a late call up to the KZN U16 soccer team. He represented KZN at the IPT in the holidays, along with **Luke Mitchell** and **Tyron Kaufmann**.



From left to right are: **Jason Brufau**, **Luke Mitchell** and **Tyron Kaufmann**



Co-Curricular/Sports and Service Activities

Canoeing

The tenth and final event on the inter-schools' canoeing calendar, the Enduro Relay, took place on the Umgeni River over the weekend. Michaelhouse entered three teams into the relay with our A team finishing second. This was enough to secure Michaelhouse first place overall in the tightly contested Inter-Schools' Canoeing Series.

In the individuals' inter-schools ranking, Michaelhouse took the top three senior places. Congratulations to **Lucien Baldry** who won the U18 Victor Ludorum, with **Robert Butcher** 2nd and **Ethan Cockram** 3rd. Well done to **Craig Cribbins** who won the Victor Ludorum in the U16 age group.

The Canoe Club's dinner and internal annual awards evening was held on Saturday. Congratulations to the following worthy recipients for putting in the training and effort this season:

The Floating trophy for best Junior Canoeist (U16): **Craig Cribbins**

The Stu Maclaren Floating Trophy for best Senior Canoeist: **Lucien Baldry**

Connolly Award for Perseverance and Commitment: **Nathan Strachan**



The Michaelhouse Canoeing Team

Waterpolo

KZN Top 10 Tournament - 1st Team

The First Water Polo Team competed in the KZN Top 10 Tournament this past weekend. Michaelhouse was drawn in a very strong pool with eventual winners of the tournament Clifton College. The boys showed some very spirited play their pool matches where the results did not reflect their efforts, losing 2-3 to Clifton School and unfortunately going down to Kearsney College on penalties. On Sunday, the boys rallied and won both their games against Glenwood High School and Maritzburg College eventually being placed 7th out of 10 in the tournament. Our results were: vs Northwood School lost 3-7, vs KZN Invitational won 21-1, vs Clifton School lost 2-3, vs Kearsney College lost 7-8 on penalties, vs Glenwood won 6-2 and vs Maritzburg College won 7-6.



KZN Top 10 Tournament – U15A Team:

Our U15A Water Polo Team were favourites to finish (at the very least) in the top 4, at the recent KZN Top 10 tournament last weekend. We were aiming for nothing less than gold, but sporting lessons were learned about complacency and taking ownership and accountability in the pool. The team had some good displays of water polo from time to time, but unfortunately lost in the final minute of a pool game to a much-improved Maritzburg College side which managed to secure a 7-6 victory which set us on a best-case scenario of finishing 5th overall. Special mention must go to **Oliver Guy, Tane Greene, Alex Jankowitz, Nicholas Purdy** and **Elliot Springate** for being selected for the U15 KZN squad. The results were:
vs Northwood won 3-2, vs Kearsney lost 5-9, vs KZN Invitational won 11-2, vs DHS won 6-2, vs Maritzburg College lost 6-7 and vs Northwood won 6-4.

KZN Top 10 Tournament – U14A Team:

The U14 top 10 Tournament was held at Westville Boys High School this past weekend. The U14 Michaelhouse boys played some great polo against the four teams in their group, winning 2 and losing 2. In the play off to move into the semi final we went down to Clifton, which meant we played Northwood for the 5/6 position and were placed 6th overall. We recorded these results: vs Hilton lost 1-9, vs Glenwood won 9-4, vs KZN Invitational won 13-2, vs Westville lost 0-10, vs Clifton lost 1-9 and vs Northwood lost 2-7.



Ryder Jordan (goalkeeper) and **Sam Smithers** stop Westville's attempt on goal



Jed Reilly at full stretch blocking a strong attempt on the Michaelhouse goals

All our other teams not competing in the Top 10 had matches versus Kearsney. Kearsney with an extra week of fixtures under the belt, dominated the earlier encounters:

Highbury Prep U13A vs Michaelhouse U14B lost 3-19, Kearsney vs U14B lost 3-21, vs U15B lost 3-12, vs 3rds lost 11-12 and the 2nds won 11-6.

Basketball

Our teams played against Kearsney in Durban, with the following results:

U14A lost 32-26, U14B lost 20-11, U14C lost 26-16, U14D lost 8-24 and U14E lost 8-24

U15A won 26-16, U15B won 22-17, U15C lost 11-15, U15D lost 39-9 and U15E lost 6-46

U16A won 30-20, U16B won 33-17, U16C lost 9-15 and U16D lost 8-13

1st team lost 35-48, 2nd team won 27-25, 3rd team lost 16-17, 4th won 18-14 and 5th lost 15-38



Kyle Farndell (left) and **Ntando Mbhele** (right) in action against Kearsney

Athletics

We had a number of boys taking part in a meeting in Pietermaritzburg last week with **Daniel Uys** coming first in the U16 400m with a time of 0:54.85 secs.

Golf

This Sunday, Michaelhouse took on Hilton College in the annual Douglas Cup at Bosch Hoek Golf Club.

The 2nd team got off to a steady start, splitting the better ball round 2 - 2 with Hilton. Hilton came out firing in the singles round, winning it 5.5 to 2.5. The final score for the day was 7.5 to 4.5 in favour of Hilton.

The 1st team got off to an excellent start, winning the foursomes 4.5 to 1.5. We managed to hold off a resurgent Hilton College in the second round, drawing level at 3 - 3. The final round constituted singles matches, and our boys managed to clinch it with a score of 6.5 to 5.5. The final score for the day was 14-10 to Michaelhouse. This was the first Douglas Cup victory since 2015.

Well done to our golfers.



Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo with the 1st golf team



Cricket

Our teams played against Kearsney, and did very well, playing 9, winning 7 and losing 2 with the following results:

U14A won by 66 runs, with **Riley Muir** making 56 with the bat, **Leo Oliva** taking 3/34 and **Jason Joiner** excelling with both bat and ball making 55 runs and taking 3/6.

U14B won by 8 wickets, and U14C lost by 10 runs.

U15A lost by 65 runs, with **Tom Pakendorf** taking 3/30 and our U15B team won by 60 runs. Well done to **Morgan Cantlay** on making 35 runs.

3rd XI won by 19 runs with **Jack Walters** making 102* and **William Gilson** 46, 2nd XI won by 3 wickets with **Dylan Hewlett** and **Luke Payne** both making 53, **Graham Wynne** took 3/47 and **Harry Vickery** 3/39 and 1st XI won by a huge margin of 7 wickets with **Ethan Muir** and **West Mitchell-Innes** making 47 and 60* respectively and **Cameron Strudwick** taking 3/33

Our 1st XI played against Hilton just before the holidays and won, for the first time in recent years, by 35 runs. **Basti Hofmeyr** made 56, **Nathan Hoatson** 50 and **Cameron Strudwick** took 3/19.



The 1st XI after their win against Kearsney



John Yeadon and **Luke Payne** making their way onto the pitch for the 2nd XI



2nd XI huddle before the game



Cycling

Four boys represented KwaZulu-Natal Cycling at the National Final Enduro in Pietermaritzburg this past weekend, and did well:

Dan Uys - time 18:54, 11th overall and 2nd in category

Matt Carolan – time 21:32, 47th overall and 13th in category

Ian Graham – time 27:06, 80th overall and 11th in category

Rhys Watson – time 32:18, 84th overall and 16th in category

Inter-House Soccer

Our boys enjoyed the Inter-House competition on Sunday. Farfield won the senior competition and Tatham the junior competition.

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

Some great results were achieved this past week and a number of teams put their name in the hat for this accolade. Special mention must be made of the Canoeing Club for their victory in the Inter-Schools series, the 1st XI cricket for their win over Kearsney after losing to them in the 1st term. But team of the week goes to the 1st golf team for winning the Douglas Cup for the first time in 7 years. Well done!

PinkDrive Campaign

This year Michaelhouse will be hosting the annual cricket match for **PinkDrive**.

The Michaelhouse vs Hilton 1st XI cricketers will be playing on 11 November 2023 for **PinkDrive** using the Sport for Lives platform.

All cricket teams participating on this day will be playing for this important cause.

Boys, parents, friends and family are encouraged to donate ahead of time to ensure that a tree is wrapped in honour of a special person who is either a cancer survivor or is fighting the battle, or perhaps someone who they have lost to cancer.

We invite anyone, no matter what team you are supporting on the day, to get behind this initiative.

Please use the link below to donate: <https://sportforlives.org/campaigns/pink-drive/>

2024 Term Dates

Please find attached the 2024 Term dates. Please note the fact that there was a list of dates circulated last year with an incorrect date. These are the final and correct dates.

Old Boys' Golf Day

Mark your calendars for the Annual Durban Old Boys' Golf Day on 16 November at Royal Durban Golf Club.

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MICHAELHOUSE

The cost is R2000 per 4-ball, which also includes a delightful dinner. We encourage you to book as a 4-ball team to simplify the process. Once paid, kindly send your Proof of Payment directly to Michael Strachan (see below).

For those interested in a golf cart on the day, please contact Royal Durban Golf Club directly. Please note that there are only 37 carts available, so it's first come, first served.

Should you have any questions or require further information, don't hesitate to contact Michael Strachan directly. See contact information below.



DURBAN BRANCH



ANNUAL OLD BOYS GOLF DAY
Royal Durban Golf Club
Thursday 16 November 2023 | Tee off times: 11h00 - 12h45



IMPORTANT DETAILS	PLEASE MAKE PAYMENT TO:
Cost: R500 pp (Includes early dinner) R2000 per 4 ball Golf carts excluded (R360 limited to 37)	Account Name: Michaelhouse Old Boys Club Account Number: 10012684443 Bank: Investec Reference: Name and Surname + Golf

Please send POP to Michael Strachan (Farfield 2009) to confirm booking:
mike@breeprobiotics.co.za or 083 634 9853
Non Old Boys are welcome

Postscript: Tony Ardington

We have just heard that, sadly, Tony Ardington died yesterday after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Tony was Chairman of the Board of Governors from 1991 to 1996 and a Governor from 1981 to 1996. He was Chairman of the Board during the strategic planning which took place in the period leading up to the School's Centenary in 1996.

Tony was a very well known businessman in KZN. He was Chairman of the Sugar Association and a progressive force in the sugar industry and elsewhere. He and his family were huge supporters of Michaelhouse his brother, Peter, was also a Governor and an instigator in founding the School's Nature Reserve. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

May his soul rest in peace.

With my best wishes

ANTONY CLARK
RECTOR