

# RECTOR'S eNEWS

18 June 2025

Newsletter 19/2025



MICHAELHOUSE

Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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## Rector's Message

The strength of the Michaelhouse community was so clearly evident over the Old Boys' Weekend, as we warmly welcomed Old Boys from around the world to Balgowan for the annual Gaudy weekend.

On the Thursday evening we were honoured to host **Mark Suzman (Pascoe, 1985)**, Rhodes Scholar, Harvard graduate, and CEO of the Gates Foundation. Under his leadership, the Foundation continues its mission to help people to live a healthy, productive life. In his inspiring address to the boys, Mark shared insights from his remarkable journey in global philanthropy and offered a vision for tackling some of the world's most pressing health challenges over the next two decades—including HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, and, very significantly, breast cancer.

Another highlight of the weekend was the prestigious St. Michael's Award ceremony on the Friday evening. This honour is bestowed upon Michaelhouse Old Boys who exemplify outstanding leadership, service, and commitment in line with the school's core values of courage, compassion, humility and integrity, and was proudly made, amongst others, to **Professor Kit Vaughan (Founders, 1970)**.

Professor Vaughan is a globally recognised authority in the biomechanics of human locomotion and has made pioneering contributions to medical science, most notably through his development of a revolutionary 3D ultrasound device. Portable and powered by the latest advances in artificial intelligence, this life-saving technology is designed to improve early breast cancer detection and extend its reach to millions of women in rural communities.

Considering the fact that the two distinguished guests had not previously met each other, the occasion provided a pivotal moment of the weekend, where the two Old Boys, global leaders in their respective fields, were introduced to each other in a special meeting on the banks of Meadows, where they came together for a profound and potentially **important conversation in the international context**. They

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discussed cutting-edge innovations in breast cancer detection, with a focus on Professor Vaughan's portable, AI-driven diagnostic device and the role of philanthropic support in ensuring its global accessibility.

This remarkable opportunity not only showcased the extraordinary global impact of our Old Boy community but also stood as a testament to the strong bonds, meaningful networks, and shared purpose of the Michaelhouse brotherhood, spanning generations and disciplines.



Mark Suzman with Frances Fleming Bolttler, Head of Development, and the Michaelhouse boys at the presentation in the Schlesinger Theatre



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The principal task of the Board is to set the **strategic direction of the school for the long term** rather than to make decisions about short-term/immediate issues in the school. These matters are in the province of the school and I attach a reminder of the guide which I sent out earlier in the year to help parents identify the most appropriate member of staff to contact should they wish to do so.

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	Deputy Rector: Pupils	Rector
Psychological Issues	Housemaster	Counsellor	Deputy Rector Pastoral
Spiritual Issues	Chaplain	Housemaster	Rector
Sport Issues	MiC of particular Sport	Head of Sport	Deputy Rector Pupils
Sport teams, fixtures etc	MiC of particular Sport	Head of 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

Michaelhouse has a teacher exchange programme with both Rugby School and Radley College, two of the top schools in the UK. Each school is able to send a teacher to the other school for a two to three week period during which time he/she gains an insight into the operation of a similar though different educational system; our Michaelhouse teachers go to the UK at a time when end of year examinations are being written here and into the Christmas holiday and their teachers come to us when, similarly, their end of year exams are being written. Recently we have enjoyed interacting with Luke Wilson, a young Radley teacher who teaches Theology and is likely to play an important role in their pastoral development in time to come. We have very much enjoyed our interaction with him and he leaves us on Saturday after a most rewarding few weeks with us. We wish him every success and fulfilment in his future career.



Linda Shezi who has hosted Luke Wilson during his stay



## Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

### *Cricket*

**Daniel Rees** (E Block Baines) recently took part in the prestigious XPL Cricket Tournament, held over the past few weekends at St Charles College and the Pietermaritzburg Oval. A highlight on the cricketing calendar, the tournament features 16-over innings and attracts over 200 of the top players from across KwaZulu-Natal, spanning various age groups.

Daniel played for the AET Sharks in the U15 division. The Sharks emerged as tournament champions, with Daniel earning both the **Best U15 Batsman** and **U15 Player of the Tournament** titles. He also made history by setting a new National Premier League (NPL) record for the highest-ever individual score across all age groups—an extraordinary 172 not out off just 49 balls. This feat broke a national record that had stood for over 12 years. Across his 9 innings, Daniel achieved a match average of 111.2, a strike rate of 271, and scored 48 fours and 51 sixes. He also contributed with the ball, taking 7 wickets.



**Daniel Rees** in action at the XPL above and below with his Player of the Tournament Accolade





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## *Squash*

We are pleased to announce that the following boys have made the following KZN Squash teams. These boys will participate in the upcoming IPTs 27 June - 2 July:

U19A - **Justin Higginson**

U19B - **Connor Hatfield**

U19C - **Sumeshin Naidoo**

U16B - **Cameron Hatfield, Graeme Higginson and James Moodley**

U14 - **Liam Muller**

Congratulations to Mr Matthew Higginson and Mr Bruere Venter who were selected to manage the U19 boys and U16 girls KZN teams respectively.



U19 representatives: **Connor Hatfield, Justin Higginson and Sumeshin Naidoo**



U16 representatives: **Cameron Hatfield, Graeme Higginson and James Moodley**



U14 representative: **Liam Muller**



KZN Squash Managers: **Mr Matthew Higginson and Mr Bruere Venter**



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## *Hockey*

Our teams played 13 games against Westville this past weekend; we did particularly well in the A teams as well as our First XI.

U14A won 5-3, U14B lost 0-4 and U14C lost 0-3

U16A won 2-1, U16B drew 2-2, U16C lost 0-6, U16D lost 0-4 and U16E lost 1-2

1<sup>st</sup> XI won 6-0, 2<sup>nd</sup> XI won 1-0, 3<sup>rd</sup> XI won 2-0, 4<sup>th</sup> XI won 1-0 and 5<sup>th</sup> XI lost 0-4



**Luke Camerer** and **Gordon Deutscher** celebrate at the end of the game



**Charles Purdon** uses aerial skills along the touchline to beat the WBHS midfield



2025 A Block 1<sup>st</sup> XI players after their last game on Punchbowl: **Gregor von Mayer, Luke Camerer, Gordon Deutscher, William Gilson, Brunton Bigalke, Sisthaba Simukonda and Matthew Carolan**

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## *Rugby*

Our teams played 19 games against Westville where our senior teams did particularly well on Meadows.

U14A won 24-19, U14B lost 0-28, U14C lost 14-47 and U14D lost 7-61

U15A lost 8-24, U15B lost 19-25, U15C lost 17-21, U15D lost 26-33 and U15E lost 14-31

U16A lost 19-21, U16B won 29-19, U16C lost 19-21 and U16D won 28-0

1<sup>st</sup> XV lost 20-50, 2<sup>nd</sup> XV won 38-27, 3<sup>rd</sup> XV won 54-7, 4<sup>th</sup> XV won 43-7, 5<sup>th</sup> XV won 46-0 and 6<sup>th</sup> XV won 70-0



**Jack Ralfe** on the attack



**Molemo Moloi** powering his way towards the corner flag



**Ross Askew** rounding the defence



**Nicola Salamousas** barrelling his way over the tryline

## *Soccer*

Michaelhouse participated in the Inland C League this term, competing against Maritzburg College, Newton School, and Umvuzo. We are thrilled to announce that Michaelhouse were crowned C League champions and have earned promotion to the KZN Inland B League for 2026.





Umvuzo entered the final as strong favourites, having topped the regular season standings with 16 points to our 8. However, our boys rose to the occasion, displaying remarkable determination and resilience. In a gripping final, Michaelhouse triumphed with a 2–1 victory over Umvuzo, sealing a well-deserved promotion!



Winners of the Inland C League

*Team of the Week: Head of Sport – Mr Ryan Ravenscroft:*

Overall, we should be pleased with another well-hosted weekend at Michaelhouse. On Friday, our hockey players excelled with wins across the board for our A team hockey sides on both Punchbowl and Aitkens.

On the rugby front, the senior teams continued their dominance on Meadows. The standout results speak for themselves, with the U14A and 3rd XV being the pick of the performances. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV rugby match was an incredible spectacle and this team deserves full credit for another well-earned win. However, the Team of the Week must go to the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Hockey Team, who were simply sublime in their 6-0 victory — a result that doesn't happen often, and one to truly savour.

## End of Term Arrangements – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Please take note of the following arrangements for the final week of term:

The last week of school will be a week with an important academic focus and will include our annual Inter-House Challenge. The term will officially end on Thursday, 26 June, following the Closing Chapel Service and Final Awards Assembly, which is expected to conclude by 15h00. Boys may be collected after this. While some boys may depart on Thursday afternoon, the majority will leave on



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Friday, 27 June. School buses to Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, and Durban will depart at 07h30 on Friday morning.

## Kindly note:

- No school transport will be arranged on Thursday, 26 June. If your son is not collected after the Chapel Service, he will need to travel on Friday with school transport.
- All bus bookings for Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Pavilion, and King Shaka will close on Tuesday, 24 June. Please click [here](#) to book.
- Thursday, 26 June remains an academic day and early departures will not be permitted.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.



## Michaelhouse Science Winter School



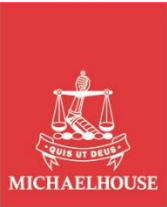
### Feeling nervous about Trials and Finals?

Need some help to achieve your A for Science?

7 - 11 JULY 2025




## SCIENCE WINTER SCHOOL



Get help from expert teachers who know what it takes. Enjoy a week of study and fun on the amazing Michaelhouse campus – bring your padel racket!


**PRESIDENT'S AWARD** – this week counts towards the Gold Residential Project!

 **WHAT TO EXPECT:**

The programme will cover the whole IEB curriculum (7 Physics and 7 Chemistry topics). IEB and NSC Learners in Grade 11 and 12 welcome. Accommodation and meals at Michaelhouse included. Transport to and from Michaelhouse available at a nominal extra fee. Limited spaces available. Secure your space by completing the form here <https://forms.gle/2uY5a7a76JiyPJxZ6>

**SIGN UP HERE**

For more info email [clisli@michaelhouse.org](mailto:clisli@michaelhouse.org)

 **COST:**

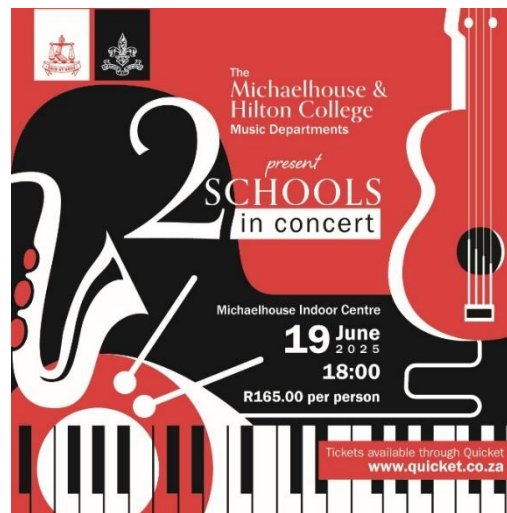
R5500 per person (for the week)

Click [here](#) for detailed information.



## Two Schools in Concert – 19 June

The annual Two Schools in Concert Music Festival will take place tomorrow in our Indoor Centre with our great friends and rivals Hilton College. A glimpse into the evening will see Choirs, Marimba Bands, and some individual performances from both schools (click [here](#) for a full programme of events). This event is a spectacular occasion and traditionally opens the derby weekend as well as the Cultural Week which will follow. Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets or you will be able to purchase tickets at the door.



## Chronicle 2024

Good news! The 2024 Chronicle has been published. Please click on the picture below to read the publication.







## Michaelhouse Community Partnership Trust

Saturday 7 June was a happy day for the Michaelhouse Community as the Khulakahle ECD Centre was officially opened in Zenzane Village where many of our staff reside. It will serve about fifty 2-3 year-olds as they ready themselves for Primary School. It is well known that the 1000 days of pre-schooling where essential numeracy, literacy, motor and social skills are developed is a critical component for ongoing education, the absence of which will result in considerable learning deficits and difficulties.

The Michaelhouse CPT in recent times has expanded its reach to include seven ECD centres that serve the 10 primary and 6 secondary schools in our 'footprint'. Until recently Zenzane Village where Asithuthuke Primary and Secondary Schools are located had no viable ECD centre.

And sadly, currently Lions River has no Centre with most toddlers staying at home or being taken by taxi to Howick or Lidgetton.

To help in this area, Steuart Pennington (East, 1988) arranged funding to convert an unused building into a state-of-the-art ECD Centre engaging the community in the refurbishment exercise. The Farfield boys painted the pillars, Old Boys Nick Rogers and Bongani Phakathi donated the jungle gym and David Thorrrington-Smith representing the donor, the Eric Thorrrington-Smith Family Trust, officially cut the ribbon and pronounced the KhulaKahle (Grow Safely) Centre open as the Zenzane community gathered for celebratory tea and sandwiches. A happy occasion.



David Thorrrington-Smith speaking on behalf of the Donor, Akhona Sikhakhane CPT Manager, Steuart Pennington CPT Trustee and Khulakahle project manager



Plaque on the wall of the new ECD Centre

Should you wish to assist with our endeavours to raise the funding for an ECD Centre in Lions River for the 50-60 children who currently stay at home or make difficult alternative arrangements, please contact Akhona Sikhakhane [akhsik@michaelhouse.org](mailto:akhsik@michaelhouse.org).

Visit our website <https://www.mcommunitypartnerships.com/> for more information on the work we do and the 13 projects we support.

## Soccer Preseason Training Camp

**Dates:** 18–21 July

**Location:** Michaelhouse

We are pleased to announce our **Preseason Training Camp** for all **A teams**.

### **Important Information:**

Attendance at the camp is by invitation only. Invitations will be sent out by 27 June. Selected players will be accommodated at Michaelhouse. Further details will be communicated directly to the parents of invited players.



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## Save the Date

There will be an opportunity to meet with Rector-elect, Mr Bart Wielenga who will be out from the UK on a visit in September and will be keen to meet with parents and friends of the school as per the advertisement below preparatory to taking over as Rector in July 2026. More details will follow in due course.



MICHAELHOUSE

SAVE THE DATE TO

## MEET THE RECTOR-ELECT MR BART WIELENGA

Mount Edgecombe Country Club  
on **Saturday 13 September 2025**  
at **18h00 - 20h00**

Michaelhouse Centenary Centre  
on **Sunday 14 September 2025**  
at **12h00 - 14h00**

Bryanston Country Club  
on **Wednesday 17 September 2025**  
at **08h00 - 10h00**





## Michaelhouse Schlesinger Theatre



## Michaelhouse-Hilton Derby Day

Once again, this exciting event is upon us and we look forward to our boys giving of their best on the field and behaving appropriately off it. It is a privilege to be part of the camaraderie associated with the day and we warmly thank Hilton for hosting us on Saturday.

Please click [here](#) to find out more information about the upcoming Hilton/Michaelhouse Derby or to purchase your tickets.

The sports programme will be sent to parents separately later in the week.





## Michaelhouse Golf Day – 8 August 2025



### Join us at the MICHAELHOUSE GOLF DAY

It's a unique opportunity for networking, exposure, and meaningful community engagement — all while supporting a great cause.

At **Gowrie Farm Golf Course, Nottingham Road**

On **Friday, 8 August 2025**

Cost **R6000 per 4 Ball including dinner**

**Shotgun start 10:30**

Interested in Sponsorship Opportunities and Prizes  
Contact Frances Fleming Bolttler - [devooffice@michaelhouse.org](mailto:devooffice@michaelhouse.org)

*With your help, we can change a life.*

To secure your 4 Ball for the Michaelhouse Golf Day



## Student Led Initiative - Narrativ

During the Michaelhouse Old Boys' Day on 7 June, six boys — **Brent Tayengwa, Thomas Wayne, Gabe Isabwa, Khashane Maenetje, Ethan Chiimba, and Sihle Ludonga** — launched the very first activation of *Narrativ*, a student-led initiative rooted in the belief that behind every product, every artwork, and every idea, lies a human story worth honouring.

The debut took the form of a curated bronze sculpture exhibition, hosted at the Old Boys' Club in partnership with The Platform Gallery. With 27 artworks on display and over R36,000 raised through sales and donations, the event introduced members of the Michaelhouse community to a different kind of engagement with creativity — one that didn't simply showcase art, but celebrated the artists themselves. Among those featured were renowned local talents such as Sma Tshabalala and Nelson Mchunu, whose works reflected heritage, identity, and personal journey.

But *Narrativ* is about more than exhibitions. It's about rehumanising creation. In a world of faceless

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production and fast consumption, the initiative challenges audiences to ask deeper questions: Who made this? What shaped their voice? And why does it matter? By centering the creator in the experience of the created, *Narrativ* seeks to close the gap between consumer and maker — reminding us that stories carry power, and that people must not be overlooked in the pursuit of product.

Now, *Narrativ* is preparing for its next chapter.

On Saturday, 21 June, during the Hilton-Michaelhouse return derby fixture, the team hopes to host a pop-up stand at Hilton College. Though there will be no formal exhibition this time, the goal is the same: to start meaningful conversations, connect with new communities, and share the vision behind *Narrativ*.

All are encouraged to stop by the stand — whether to learn more, to exchange ideas, or to simply say hello. This is just the beginning, and the team is eager to build something lasting, with others walking alongside them.



The *Narrativ* team



Artwork associated with *Narrativ*



With my best wishes

**ANTONY CLARK**  
**RECTOR**