

RECTOR'S eNEWS

6 August 2025

Newsletter 23/2025



MICHAELHOUSE

Dear Parents, Old Boys and Friends of Michaelhouse

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Rector's Message

Over the past week, the **Christian Focus Week** gave our boys the opportunity to interact with a range of university-age students alongside older Christian leaders as they wrestled with questions of their faith. Judging by the enthusiasm of many of the boys for voluntary evening worship and prayer, it appears that they felt their lives were greatly enriched by the experience.



Scenes from the various activities during Christian Focus Week

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Confirmation on Friday afternoon followed, and our visitor, Bishop Nkosinathi Ndwandwe, was here to sign some 83 Confirmands in the B Block on the forehead and to bless them in the company of their parents and family. We thank the Bishop for his presence among us.



Some of the 83 B Block boys being confirmed

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Then our Michaelhouse Matric Ball, held on Saturday evening, was a special event in the lives of our most senior boys and our sincere thanks go to Ms Marcel Cornelius and Mrs Ilne Visagie along with a number of mothers who transformed the functional Indoor Centre into a palatial setting reflecting the Western theme of the Ball.



The Indoor Centre totally and magically transformed



Emma Sadleir, the Social Media lawyer, who visited Michaelhouse recently, has been kind enough to send us her *Tips for Parents*. (Click [here](#) to read). These have also been distributed to staff, including tutors and Housemasters. Some of Emma's tips are universally applicable across all ages of young people, and having such a checklist may help parents with further reading/research opportunities and enable us to interact with greater understanding, authority and wisdom with young people. We are grateful to Emma for her long-standing association with Michaelhouse as we attempt to steer our boys in a direction which is not harmful either to themselves or to others.

Michaelhouse Economics

The Michaelhouse team consisting of **Reily Elliot** (A Block East), **Lerotholi Seeiso** (A Block Mackenzie), **Simon Bailes** (A Block Founders) and **Oliver Bruyns** (A Block Ralfe) spent Monday and Tuesday in Pretoria for the 2025 MPC Schools Challenge Finalists Judging Session.

They were treated to a welcome cocktail function in the newly renovated Reserve Bank headquarters in Helen Joseph Street on Monday evening. They were also given an orientation session in the media room and the holding rooms.

On Tuesday morning the team presented their monetary policy statement to a panel of Reserve Bank economists, along with observers from the Department of Education. They were then questioned on various elements of their economic knowledge by Pamela Mjandana, Witness Simbanegavi, Jean-Francois Mercier and Philadelphia Makhanya – all senior Economists at the SARB. The Michaelhouse team presented themselves incredibly well, in what was undoubtedly demanding academic extension. Mr Mercier was particularly complimentary of our boys' knowledge and conduct. We look forward to the announcement of the winner which will be live streamed via YouTube, on 18 August.



**Reily Elliot, Simon Bailes, Oliver Bruyns
and Lerotholi Seeiso**



"The Statement"



C Block Zulu Cultural Experience

The C Block boys proudly represented the IsiZulu Department at the annual IEB Schools Zulu Cultural Day hosted by Curro Hillcrest. Although they initially felt a little uncertain as they left the school, any fears were quickly put to rest upon realizing they would be performing among their peers. Once on stage, the boys delivered a captivating short skit, followed by an electrifying Zulu dance that had the crowd cheering, fellow learners whistling, and teachers ululating in celebration. Their performance was met with overwhelming support and appreciation.

After their performance, the boys were treated to a delicious traditional Zulu gourmet meal, adding to the day's rich cultural experience. We extend our sincere thanks to Curro Hillcrest for their warm hospitality and for hosting such a memorable event. We are extremely proud of our boys for embracing and showcasing their culture with pride and enthusiasm.



The C Block Zulu classes entertaining the audience

Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Debating and Public Speaking news

Last week, four of our debating teams competed in the quarter-finals of the Pietermaritzburg debating league. At this point in the league the competition has ramped up significantly. Our Michaelhouse 1 Junior team unfortunately lost to St Anne's, but every other team was victorious and has progressed to the semi-finals. The E Block team beat Riverwood College, the Michaelhouse 2 Junior team beat Pietermaritzburg Girls High 1, one of the strongest teams in the league, and our Senior 1st team beat Maritzburg College 1. Well done to **Oliver Thompson** (C Block McCormick) and **Hlumisa Mpulwana** (E Block Pascoe) who were named Best Speaker for their respective debates.

Six of our boys are travelling to Johannesburg today to participate in the National Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship. Best of luck to **Rendani Nonge** (B Block West), **Otto von Claer** (B Block Farfield), **Nicholas French** (B Block Pascoe), **Oliver Thompson** (C Block McCormick),

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Tanaka Chinyoka (C Block Ralfe) and **Kai de Klerk** (D Block Baines). We hope it is an invaluable experience for them and that they achieve success.

Michaelhouse Choirs

On Saturday, the Chapel Choir, under the direction of Mr Gareth Dry, travelled to Pretoria to compete in the finals of the ATKV Applous Choir Competition. The ATKV Applous is South Africa's oldest and most prestigious school choir competition, with a legacy spanning nearly a century.

Following their gold award at the regional round, the Chapel Choir was selected from nearly 300 participating choirs to advance to the national finals. The boys delivered an outstanding performance and were awarded second place in their category — a remarkable achievement for a choir that has been under Mr Dry's direction for just over a year.

The Chapel and Chamber Choirs now look ahead to their next engagement: the National Eisteddfod later this month.



The Chapel Choir on stage



Success in Pretoria

Marimba Band

We are thrilled to share the incredible achievements of our competition marimba band during their recent tour to Cape Town. Accompanied by eight junior players from the second team and led by Dr Carika de Swardt, our band joined a remarkable event: a massive marimba ensemble of 1,178 players aiming to set a new Guinness World Record for the Largest Marimba Ensemble in the World.

On Saturday, 2 August, at the Grand Arena at GrandWest, Cape Town, this extraordinary group of 75 schools and bands from both South Africa and Zimbabwe captivated the audience as they broke the previous record of 505 Guatemalan marimba players in spectacular fashion. The ensemble performed a vibrant 10-minute medley of "Waka Waka" and "Jerusalem", songs that celebrate African unity and joy, and truly showcased the power of music to inspire and unite.

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The momentous occasion was celebrated with official recognition from Western Cape Premier Alan Winde and MEC for Cultural Affairs and Sport, Ricardo Mackenzie, who personally congratulated all participants. Each performer will receive an official Guinness World Records™ medallion in due course.

While in Cape Town, our group also participated in three dynamic concerts, delivering some of the most exciting performances in recent years. Alongside the Siyadladla marimba band from Richard's Bay, the St John's D.S.G. band, students from Queen's College's Primary School band, and two bands from Cape Town's Marimba Jam, our band showcased their talent at a lively concert at the V&A Waterfront amphitheatre on Sunday evening, 3 August. In this stand-out event, the Michaelhouse band performed remarkably well and their flair for performance, the exceptional standard of their technique, and their ability to connect with the audience, were second to none.

The following days saw our students perform at La Rochelle Girls' School in Paarl and Herschel High School in Cape Town. The response from audiences was nothing short of electrifying; cheers and applause rivalled the excitement of Beatlemania!

This tour has not only been a celebration of musical excellence but also a testament to our students' passion, teamwork, and the joy they bring through music.

The boys in the group were: **Louis Ayo** (captain), **Khwezi Dube**, **Ziyanda Hlongwa**, **Nyiko Mboweni**, **Joe Gilson**, **Tyron Kaufmann**, **Brent Tayengwa**, **Dimo Papadopoulos**, **Nate Ross-Kent**, **Ben Viljoen**, **Mvelo Zondo**, **Nkgwete Tlailane**, **Thembekile Ntuli**, **Reese Hill**, **Simphiwe Kona**, **Valentino Zedde**, **Jabulani Nyenwa**, **Thabiso Nthoba**, **Eneko Mwakio**, **Minenhle Shinga**, **Nate Ndolo**, **Luthando Mxhego**, **Khumo Ntumba**.



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Soccer

This weekend our teams travelled to St Charles College, played 22 games, won 13, lost 5 and drew 4:

U14A lost 2-3, U14B won 9-0, U14C lost 1-2, U14D lost 0-1 and U14E won 2-0

U15A won 3-0, U15B won 5-1, U15C drew 2-2, U15D won 4-1 and U15E won 4-1

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

1st team drew 0-0, 2nd team won 1-0, 3rd team won 6-0, 4th team won 6-2, 5th vs Michaelhouse 6th team drew 0-0, 6th vs Michaelhouse 5th team drew 0-0 and 8th vs Michaelhouse 7th team lost 0-5



The 4th soccer team after their 6-2 win over St Charles



The 7th soccer team after their game against the 8th soccer team



Nkateko Mathebula shows incredible athleticism as he rises high to meet the ball



Gordon Deutscher and **Nkanyeziyokusa Ndlovu** battle fearlessly in the air as Michaelhouse fights to gain control against a determined St Charles

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Khazimula Hadebe fiercely contesting a high ball



The Michaelhouse 1st Team locks in as one before kick-off — united in purpose, focused, and ready to give their all on the field

Congratulations for the following boys who have been selected to represent the Midlands District Soccer Squad:

U14 -Ben Hingeston, Nsovo Makobela, Lerako Moeng, Oratile Phasha and Mutale Sunkutu

U15 -Curtis Matshela, Thibedi Mogoba and Neo Mphati

U16 -Kumkani Dwenga, Khazimula Hadebe, Ethan Makamure, Tshego Mashile and Kganya Mondlane

U19 -Jason Brufau Galvin, Gordon Deutscher, Luke Mitchell and Asande Nkosi



U14: Oratile Phasha Ben Hingeston, Nsovo Makobela and Mutale Sunkutu
(absent: **Lerako Moeng**)



U15: Curtis Matshela, Neo Mphati and Thibedi Mogoba

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U16: Kumkani Dwenga, Khazimula Hadebe, Ethan Makamure, Tshego Mashile and Kganya Mondlane



U19: Asande Nkosi, Luke Mitchell, Jason Brufau Galvin and Gordon Deutscher

Rugby Sevens

Our 3rd and 4th teams played at the Riverwood Sevens Festival in Durban with some mixed results:

3rd team

vs Weston College lost 5-32, vs Amanzimtoti High lost 20-26, vs Ferrum U17 lost 0-28 and vs Riverwood lost 5-28

4th team

vs Hillcrest High drew 24-24, vs Ashton College won 15-14, vs George Campbell Technical High won 28-12 and vs Ferrum High lost 0-31

Our 1st and 2nd and U15A teams played in Pietermaritzburg at the St Charles Festival with the following results:

1st team:

vs Hilton won 14-5, vs St Charles lost 15 – 26, vs Westville won 21 - 15 and vs Westville in the final lost 5 - 24, finishing 2nd in the festival

2nd team:

vs Howick won 57-0, vs St Charles won 48-0, vs Westville lost 12-14 and vs Westville in the final drew 19-19, finishing 2nd at the festival

U15A:

vs Hilton lost 0-26, vs St Charles lost 0-20, vs Westville lost 15-17 and vs Westville won 26-12

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Indoor Hockey

The Michaelhouse U15 and U16 Indoor Hockey teams toured Pretoria over the weekend. The teams were coached by Mr Justin Rosenberg who is the South African Mens' Indoor Hockey coach and their results are as follows:

U16 - vs St Alban's won 4-3 and drew 5-5 in another game and vs Garsfontein won 5-2

U15 - vs St Alban's won 6-1 and vs Garsfontein drew 1-1



Both the U15 and U16 Indoor Hockey teams with
Mr Justin Rosenberg

Swimming

Well done to **Bandile Mahaye** (E Block East) who swam in the eThekweni District Aquatics Age Group gala which took place last Saturday. His results were as follows: 1st place - 100m Backstroke, 100m Breaststroke and 200m Individual Medley. For the first time ever, he participated in the 800m Freestyle event where he was placed 2nd in his age group and 7th overall.

Canoeing

Michaelhouse Canoe Club hosted the KZN Inter-Schools' River Championships on the Tugela River over the weekend. The event covered two days of river racing, with over 60 canoeists participating, representing 12 schools and clubs.

Michaelhouse had eleven boys take part. The champs are only open to canoeists competing in single canoes. **Brett Roberts** (E Block East) won the gold medal as the first KZN canoeist in the U14 age group and **Duncan Roberts** (C Block East) claimed the silver in the U16 age group.

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**Jamie Grantham, Albert van Zyl, Brett Roberts,
Duncan Roberts, Sam Hoy, Leo Watson and Ethan Perry**



Sam Hoy (left) and Robert Short (right)

C Block Open Day

A reminder to all C Block parents that you should have received an invitation from Mrs Wendy Kelly regarding the Open Day on Wednesday, 20 August. If you have not yet responded to the invitation to attend, then please do so on 033 234 1122 or via email at wenkel@michaelhouse.org.

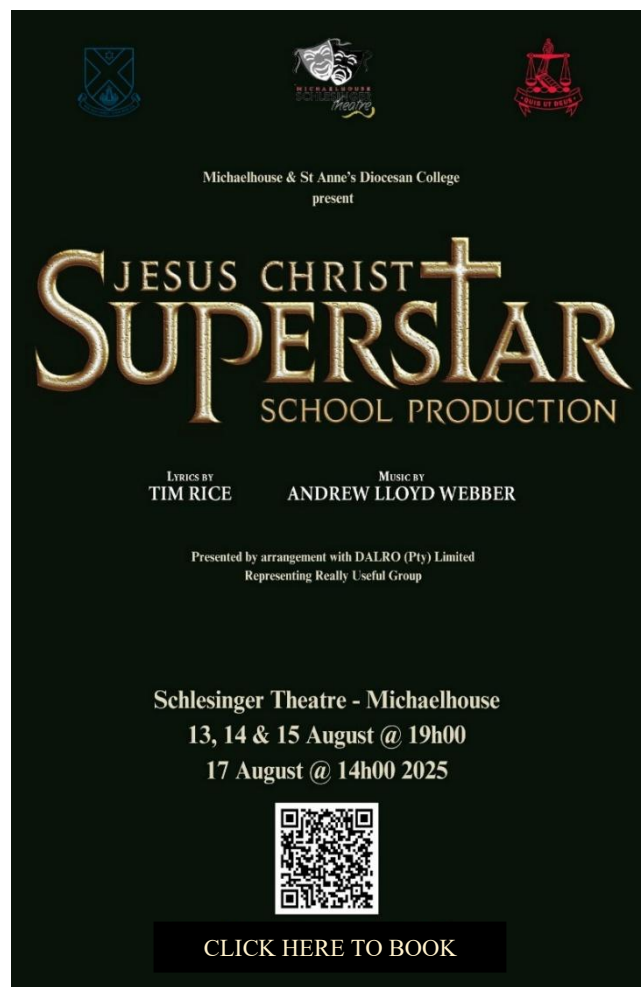


Jesus Christ Superstar – Schelsinger Theatre Production

Jesus Christ Superstar has wowed audiences for decades, bringing both joy and controversy, with its catchy rock numbers in this retelling of the last days of Jesus.

Michaelhouse and St Anne's present this timeless classic with an eleven piece live rock orchestra of professional musicians under the Musical Direction of Mr Gareth Dry. Stage Direction is by Mr William le Cordeur (District Six, Phantom of the Opera, My Fair Lady, Chess, Little Shop of Horrors and Urinetown), and choreography by powerhouse couple Mr Bonwa Bartel and Mrs Nadja Bartel of BoNana Dance.

The story is all sung, and the point of view is largely from Judas' perspective. We have remained faithful to the script and to the music, and the play runs for approximately 2hr30 with an interval and two hour long Acts.





Cecil Renaud Educational and Charitable Trust (CRECT) Overseas Scholarship

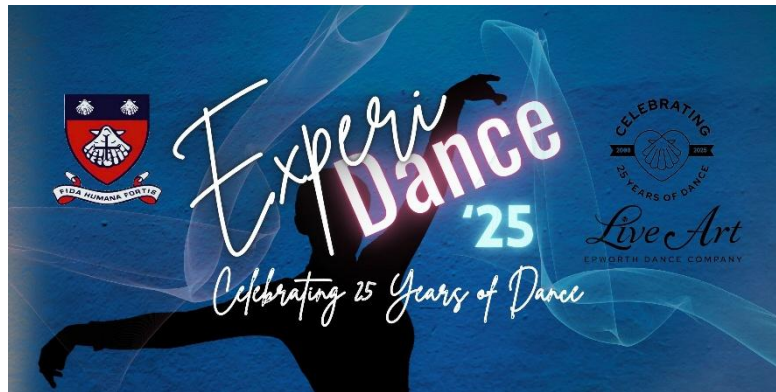
I have mentioned this before in an eNews, and I do so again today: there is an outstanding opportunity available for extremely high-performing students who completed their secondary education at any school in KwaZulu-Natal to **study at postgraduate level in the UK**. Naturally, this does not apply right now to your sons who are currently at Michaelhouse, but you may have older children who are completing their initial degrees or indeed who have done so recently and who would qualify for such a scholarship.

Further information can be found on <https://www.cecilrenaud.co.za/>.

Feedem Menus

Please click [here](#) to see the 3rd quarter menus.

Cultural Event - Experidance



Epworth LiveArt Dance Company presents its annual dance festival. This year they present a special edition as they celebrate 25 years of dance at Epworth. Schools and dance studios in and around Pietermaritzburg are coming together for a spectacular showcase of local talent. Joining the Epworth LiveArt Dance Company on stage are Amber's Ballet Studio, Bonana Dance Studio, Drakondale School of Arts, Howick High School, Michaelhouse, Pietermaritzburg Girls High School, Riverwood College, St John's D.S.G. and The Wykeham Collegiate.

The Michaelhouse boys who will be participating are **Max Murray** (A Block Tatham), **PJ Motsileng** (C Block Tatham) and **Joel Reinhardt** (B Block West) who represent our Movement Programme in this celebration of dance. You can book tickets on the link below:

[Book tickets for Experidance 2025 Celebrating 25 Years of Dance](#)

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Gratitude

My Mission

From tomorrow on I shall be sad.

From tomorrow on.

Not today. Today I will be glad.

And everyday, no matter how bitter it may be

I shall say

From tomorrow on I shall be sad

Not today.

From a child in a Nazi death camp

With my best wishes

**ANTONY CLARK
RECTOR**

SUPPORT OUR BOYS.



Soccer

Saturday 02 August 2025

(HOME/AWAY)

| Team | Opponents | Venue | Start |
|------|-----------------------|------------------|-------|
| 1st | St Davids Festival | St Davids* | |
| 2nd | Hilton College | Meadows | 11:30 |
| 3rd | Hilton College | Meadows | 10:30 |
| 4th | Hilton College | Meadows | 09:30 |
| 5th | Hilton College | Meadows | 08:30 |
| 6th | Hilton College | Tarpeys | 10:30 |
| 7th | Hilton College | Tarpeys | 09:30 |
| 8th | Hilton College | Tarpeys | 08:30 |
| U16A | St Stithians Festival | St Stithians* | |
| U16B | Hilton College | Holleys | 11:30 |
| U16C | Hilton College | Holleys | 10:30 |
| U16D | Hilton College | Holleys | 09:30 |
| U16E | Hilton College | Holleys | 08:30 |
| U15A | St Davids Festival | St Davids* | |
| U15B | Hilton College | Zungu* | 09:30 |
| U15C | Hilton College | Zungu* | 08:30 |
| U15D | Hilton College | Weightman-Smith* | 09:30 |
| U15E | Hilton College | Weightman-Smith* | 08:30 |
| U14A | St Stithians Festival | St Stithians* | |
| U14B | Hilton College | Etheridge* | 09:30 |
| U14C | Hilton College | Etheridge* | 08:30 |
| U14D | Hilton College | New Field* | 09:30 |
| U14E | Hilton College | New Field* | 08:30 |

* Denotes away matches



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SUPPORT OUR BOYS.



Rugby 7s

Saturday 09 August 2025

(HOME/AWAY)

| Team | Opponents | Venue | Start |
|------|---------------------------|-------------|-------|
| 1st | Hilton, Westville, Howick | Baileys | 09:00 |
| 2nd | Hillcrest High School | Field 1* | 09:30 |
| 3rd | Hillcrest High School | Field 2* | 09:30 |
| 4th | Hilton, Westville, Howick | Baileys | 09:00 |
| U15A | Hilton, Westville, Howick | No 2 Field* | 09:40 |
| U15B | Hilton, Westville, Howick | No 2 Field* | 09:20 |

* Denotes away matches



Golf

Saturday 09 August 2025

(AWAY)

| Team | Opponents | Venue | Start |
|------|----------------|-------|-------|
| | Hilton College | VCC | 08:00 |



Canoeing

Saturday 09 August 2025

(AWAY)

| Team/Opponents | Venue | Start |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-------|
| Schools Mixed Doubles Social Race | Midmar Dam | 09:00 |

