NEWSLETTER 24/2025

Wednesday 13 August 2025

Rector's Massage

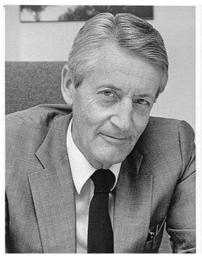


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Rector's Message

Service is one of the cornerstones underpinning the foundation of Michaelhouse boys, and our encouragement to live a life of service was exemplified by the life of Dr Maurice McGregor. Dr Maurice McGregor was, until last month, the oldest living Old Boy of our school (at 105) and his contribution to the world in the field of medicine led to the Order of Canada being conferred on him in 2010 for a "lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to community and service to the nation." His impact on the practice of medicine and, in particular, the field of cardiology as a cardiovascular surgeon and later in health technology assessment marked Dr Maurice McGregor as a person of extraordinary capability and empathy with his fellows.

Born in 1920, Maurice was educated at Michaelhouse before proceeding to the University of the Witwatersrand where he graduated as a doctor. Later, he supported the Allied Eighth Army and the United States Fifth Army in Italy in the medical field from 1943 to 1946 before moving to Britain and then to Canada where he held many positions including that of Physician-in-Chief at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal and Vice-Principal of the prestigious McGill University.



Dr Maurice McGregor (RIP)



It was mainly under the aegis of McGill University that he was the author of as many as 157 peer-reviewed articles for a variety of medical journals. Maurice returned to South Africa as Dean of Medicine at Wits for three years from 1984 to 1987 and, during that time, an increasing number of black medical students were enrolled at the university. He empathised strongly with the plight of black people at that extremely challenging time in the history of this country, but a variety of factors took him back to Canada where he assumed, in 2000, as an 80-year-old, the Chair of Technology Assessment at the University of McGill Health Centre.

Dr Maurice McGregor married Dr Margaret Beckdale, a respirologist who later became an epidemiologist, and who, for decades, engaged in developing ways in which to fight lung diseases.

Here is an example of a Michaelhouse boy who, in essence, gave his life in the service of others in the field of his expertise. The world, and especially people in South Africa and Canada, are the richer for that service.

We have a number of erudite and high-respected women on our staff, one of whom is our Senior Academic, Mrs Tanith von Mayer. On the occasion of Women's Day, she spoke eloquently to our boys on attitudes to women, hitting the right buttons in a powerful and pertinent address. If you would like to read it, click <a href="https://example.com/here-number

Meet the Rector-Elect Invitations

We are hopeful that you will have kept one of these options open to meet with Mr Bart Wielenga, the Rector-elect, when he visits South Africa in September. There will be further details regarding each occasion but, in essence, Bart's availability to meet with parents and others in three venues should enable many of those who wish to engage with him to do so.

DURBAN MEET AND GREET:

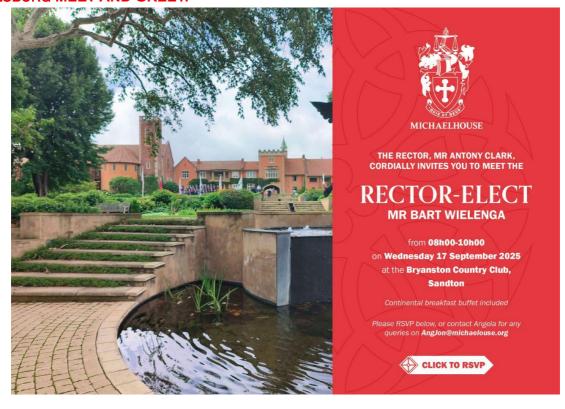




KZN MIDLANDS MEET AND GREET:



JOHANNESBURG MEET AND GREET:





World of Work Day

On Wednesday 6 August the Makan Centre was buzzing with boys and speakers for the second ever World of Work Day (WOW) for our B Block boys. Michaelhouse hosted 20 guest speakers both in person and online, highlighting diverse careers from supply chain management to engineering. The boys attended a keynote speaker at both the start and the end of the day, and in between chose four workshops (from over 15 options) to attend depending on their personal and career interests. A huge thanks to our Old Boy network who really stepped up to provide a broad speaker base each with a fantastic depth of knowledge in their field.

Mr Paul Bushell, a psychologist from Raising Careers kicked off the day with a keynote address called *Career Development – A lifelong journey for adults and teens.* He encouraged the boys to reflect on their strengths, interests, values, and personality when considering careers.

The day closed with careers specialist Mr Tim Jarvis sharing 5 Myths of University Applications.

The day was a wonderful success and the boys thoroughly enjoyed listening to all the diverse presentations. The World of Work Day forms part of the B Block syllabus as the boys start preparing for their job shadow week in September.

Click <u>here</u> to see the program from which the boys benefited. Please let Mrs Leigh Kotze (<u>leikot@michaelhouse.org</u>) know if she can assist in putting your son in contact with any of the guest speakers if they are interested in asking further questions or advice in a particular field.









The various speakers interacting with the boys during WOW



B Block Economics: Visit from Dr Getik - Durham University

The B Block Economics students had the privilege of hosting Dr Demid Getik, Assistant Professor of Economics at Durham University on Monday. Dr Getik delivered an engaging and thought-provoking session on the Economics of Poverty in Africa which served as a taster of further study in this field.

Drawing on research and current theories, Dr Getik explored the complex causes and measurement of poverty across the continent from the paradigm of Economics. He highlighted the interplay between historical factors, governance, and resource distribution. In addition to the academic content, Dr Getik also spoke briefly about Durham University, sharing insights into its academic culture, student life, and opportunities for those interested in studying Economics at one of the UK's leading institutions.

We are grateful to Dr Getik for his time and expertise, and for offering our students a window into both real-world economic issues and the possibilities that further study can offer.



Dr Getik addressing the B Block Economics classes

Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Jazz Band

On Friday the Michaelhouse Jazz Band had the privilege of performing at the Michaelhouse Golf Day held at the prestigious Gowrie Farm Golf Course.

The beauty of the sunset was matched by the warm, vibrant sounds of the acclaimed Michaelhouse Jazz Band. Their well-curated set featured timeless jazz standards, soulful South African jazz, and smooth classic R&B favourites.



The afternoon was brought to life by standout improvised solos from **Brent Tayengwa** (alto saxophone), **Harry Witherspoon** (guitar), **Nic Hornby** (keyboard), **Joe Gilson** (drums), and **Lune Mshengu** (vocals), each adding his own flair to an unforgettable evening of music.



The Jazz Band performing at the Michaelhouse Golf Day

Debating and Public Speaking

Last week, three of our teams, one E Block, one Junior and one Senior, competed in the semi-finals of the Pietermartizburg Debating League. This is the first time in years that we have had so many teams progress to this stage. Unfortunately, the Junior team lost to Epworth, whose third speaker was, by all accounts, "unbelievable". However, our novice E Block team won their debate, with **Charlie Parham** (E Block Baines) named best speaker. And in a huge upset, the MHS 1 Senior team beat GHS, arguably the strongest team in the league, with **Tumi Motsepe** (A Block West) being awarded best speaker. Both of these teams have advanced to the finals, for the first time in years, and will take on GHS Grade 8s and Maritzburg College Seniors on Thursday evening. We wish them all the very best!



E Block debaters - Moletsane Likate, Charlie Parham and Hlumisa Mpulwana



Senior debaters – Jono Boesak, Daniel French and Tumi Motsepe



This past weekend, six boys: Kai de Klerk (D Block Baines), Nicholas French (B Block Pascoe), Tanaka Chinyoka (C Block Ralfe), Rendani Nonge (B Block West), Oliver Thompson (C Block McCormick) and Otto von Claer (B Block Farfield), travelled to Joburg to participate in the National Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championships (NIDPSC). This is an annual, prestigious and highly competitive event and the boys, having auditioned and been selected, spent months preparing to compete in each of the four categories: Interpretive Reading, Impromptu Speaking, Debating and Persuasive speaking or After-dinner speeches.

They all did well, ranking highly in a variety of categories and receiving impressive feedback. Well done to **Rendani Nonge** who made the final for his persuasive speech, entitled *The Sound of Silence*. A special congratulations to **Oliver Thompson**, who made the finals for both Interpretive Reading (The Book Thief) and Persuasive speaking (his speech was entitled *Through the Glass* and reflected on the invention of the mirror and the impact it has had on self-perception in the modern world.) Oliver ranked 10th out of all of the speakers and has been selected for the South African delegation that will travel to Bristol in the UK next year to take part in the Worlds Championships (World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championships). This is a phenomenal achievement and we are so proud of Oliver!



NIDPSC team, from left to right: Kai de Klerk, Nicholas French, Tanaka Chinyoka, Rendani Nonge, Oliver Thompson and Otto von Clear



Swimming

Congratulations to **Samuel Gilson** (E Block West) and **Bandile Mahaye** (E Block East) who participated in the KZNA Short Course Championships held at St Mary's this weekend. They both swam well and achieved the following results:

Samuel got to four finals and, although he did not achieve any placements, he swam two personal bests. A good start to the swimming season for Samuel.

Bandile achieved the following results for the 14 years age group:

1st for the 400m Individual Medley, 200m Freestyle, 100m Individual Medley, 50m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly

2nd for 50m Breaststroke and 200m Backstroke

In addition to this, Bandile has been selected to represent South Africa at the Africa Aquatics Zone IV Championships Manzini Gala to be held in Eswatini at the beginning of September. Well done, Bandile!





Well done to Bandile Mahaye and Samuel Gilson



Canoeing

The annual Inter-Schools mixed doubles race took place at Midmar Dam over the weekend. Although the event is promoted as a social day, competition was fierce, with couples racing hard for glory.

Michaelhouse entered 16 mixed-doubles crews into the race, with **Craig Cribbins** (A Block Tatham) and **Brett Roberts** (E Block East), both partnered with paddlers from Epworth, winning the senior and junior categories respectively. **Albert van Zyl** (E Block Tatham) claimed third place in the junior division, paddling with his partner from St Anne's.



Michaelhouse Canoeing Club at Midmar Dam

Athletics

Our athletics team competed in the Treverton Super League last Wednesday, with the Michaelhouse boys securing an impressive 3rd place overall.

Individual results achieved:

- Henco van Loggerenberg 1st U15 Shotput, U15 Discus (New Record 42,46m)
- Keegen Bezuidenhout 2nd U15 Discus, 4th U15 Shotput,
- Kyle Heyns 1st U18 100m (New Record 11,09s), U18 400m (New Record 52,65s)
- **Josh Ngcobo** 4th U18 100m
- Akhona Sayeeda 10th U18 Long Jump
- Nicola Salamousas 3rd U18 Discus and 6th U18 Shotput
- Manoli Leondidis 6th U18 Discus and 10th U18 Shotput



Huge congratulations to all our athletes, especially those who set new records!



Keegan Bezuidenhout



Henco van Loggerenberg



Nicola Salamousas



Akhona Sayeeda

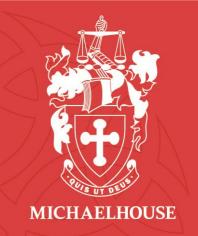


Manoli Leondidas

Golf

On Monday, 28 July, our team of 8 played in the KZN Champs at Kloof Country Club (Individual Strokeplay, 5 scores count). With a total score of 750, Michaelhouse finished 2nd overall—our best result in 10 years! From 60 players, Michaelhouse had 6 top 20 finishes, including:

Connor Brown - tied 5th with 6-over par, **Oliver Brown -** 9th with 8-over par, **Matt Carolan** - tied 10th with 9-over par.



Seven boys qualified for the final KZN trials at Victoria Country Club this Saturday: **Matt Carolan**, **Connor Brown**, **Oliver Brown**, **Ben Heuer**, **Sam Heath**, **Jack Campbell**, **Gareth D'Oyley**.

vs St Charles: played 6 matches, won 1 and lost 5 vs Hilton College: played 5 matches and won all 5

Michaelhouse sent two U16 teams to the Grey High School U16 Golf Tournament in Port Elizabeth. We played three rounds at Humewood, Wedgewood, and PE Golf Club, Michaelhouse A was placed 11^{th} and Michaelhouse B 14^{th} out of 16 teams. Well done to our boys.



Mr Matthew Higginson with the U16 team on tour in Port Elizabeth

Rugby Sevens

Our Sevens teams were in action this past weekend at various festivals: 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} Teams were at Hillcrest High School 2^{nd} team won 4 and lost 1 and 3^{rd} team won all their games

Our Junior teams played at Hilton College U15A won 2, lost 1 and U15B lost all 3 games

Michaelhouse hosted Hilton College, Westville Boys' High School, and Howick High in a friendly sevens tournament:

 1^{st} team drew with Westville, won against Hilton A, lost against Hilton B

4th team: lost all 3 games



Well done to all our players for their efforts and sportsmanship across the various events.



2nd team - runners up at the Hillcrest High tournament



Nicola Salamousas bursting through the defence



Ivan Nel on the attack with Mitchell Muirhead and Max Oliva in support



3rd team at the Hillcrest High Tournament



Soccer

Congratulations to our touring teams for their outstanding efforts at their respective festivals:

1st team and U15A at the St David's Challenge Cup

1st team - vs Marist Linmeyer won 7-0, vs St Peter's won 3-0, vs Clifton Durban won 2-1 and vs St John's lost 1-4; vs KES lost 1-2, vs St Andrew's lost 0-1, vs Hilton lost 0-2

U15A:

vs Jeppe lost 0-2, vs Springs lost 2-3, vs St Alban's lost 4-6, vs CBC won 3-1, vs St Andrew's won 2-0 and vs St Benedict's lost 1-2

U16A and U14A participated in the St Stithian's Challenge Cup

U16A:

vs St Andrew's won 3-0, vs St Stithian's lost 2-3, vs Woodlands International won 4-2, vs St David's won 3-2, vs St Alban's lost 1-2, vs Grey College lost 3-4 and vs Hilton lost 2-3

U14A:

vs St David's drew 2-2, vs St Stithian's lost 1-2 vs St Peter's won 3-0, vs St Andrew's won 6-2, vs Grey PE lost 1-3, St John's lost 1-2 and vs St Benedict's won 2-1

Well done to all players and coaching staff for representing our school with such determination and pride! Whilst our A teams were away at the various festivals, the remainder of our teams played fixtures against Hilton College, both home and away where we won 7, drew 7 and lost 4:

U14B drew 1-1, U14C lost 0-2, U14D won 2-0 and U14E drew 2-2

U15B won 2-1, U15C drew 1-1, U15D drew 1-1 and U15E lost 2-3

U16B lost 1-4, U16C won 3-1 and U16D drew 2-2

 2^{nd} team lost 2-0, 3^{rd} team won 3-2, 4^{th} team won 4-1, 5^{th} team won 5-2, 6^{th} team won 6-1, 7^{th} team drew 2-2 and 8^{th} team drew 1 - 1



5th soccer team after their 5-2 win



3rd soccer team after their 3-2 win





U14A soccer team at the St Stithian's Challenge Cup



U14D soccer team after their 2-0 win

Tennis

Our senior tennis teams played fixtures against Howick High, Treverton, and Wembley College last Monday, winning all of their matches. The junior teams faced Grace College and St Charles and emerged victorious in all their games:

1st team vs Howick High won 6-0, 2nd team vs Treverton won 6-0, 3rd team vs Wembley College won 6-0 and 4th team vs Wembley College won 6-0

Junior A team vs Grace College won 12-0 and Junior C vs St Charles College won 11-1

Hockey

Our U16A team has just returned from Paarl after competing in the Top Schools Tournament. The boys have performed exceptionally well against some very tough opposition, finishing in 8th place overall: Vs Grey High drew 2-2, vs Bishops drew 0-0, vs Menlo drew 0-0, vs Pearson lost 0-1 and vs Grey Bloem lost 0-3.

Well done to the team on their determination and strong performances.



Dan Pieterse with a diving deflection up the line



Nishay Sudhoowa man of the match vs Grey High School





U16A team photo

Eventing

We are proud to announce that **Simon Reeve** (B Block Ralfe) has been selected to represent South Africa in the Junior Shield category at the upcoming African Nations Shield and Cup Eventing competition. This prestigious annual event brings together top riders from South Africa, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Eswatini (Swaziland), competing across four divisions: the Over 25 Adult Cup, Under 25 Adult Cup, Adult Shield, and Junior Shield.

Hosted in a different country each year, this year's event will take place in Mpumalanga from 15–17 August 2025. Simon will form part of a four-member national team competing in the Junior Shield, and we wish him and his teammates every success as they represent South Africa on this international stage.

Service

The Brun10 *Play It Forward* Foundation continues to have a positive impact in the local community. During the recent holidays, **Connor McMurray** (D Block West) and **Noah Rushton** (D Block West) dedicated their time and effort to refurbishing sports equipment generously donated during the Hilton–Michaelhouse Derby Days.

On Tuesday afternoon, **Connor McMurray** delivered refurbished hockey sticks and cricket bats to Nottingham Road Primary School. The children were thrilled to try out the newly refurbished hockey sticks during practice on Tuesday afternoon and are eager to learn new skills.





Connor McMurray with some of the boys who were given hockey sticks at Nottingham Road Primary School

A group of boys from Mackenzie House led by B block service leaders **Stefano Benassi** (B Block Mackenzie) and **Masupha Seeiso** (B Block Mackenzie) prepared the beds and planted seedlings in the tunnels at Khazimula Children's home last week -keeping plenty of healthy greens on the menu.







The Mackenzie B Block boys helping prepare seedlings in the tunnel at Khazimula Children's Home



Travel Arrangements

Half-Term Arrangements:

There will be both a C Block Open Day and a compulsory Inter-House Athletics event on Wednesday, 20 August. The athletics will end around 16h00. Boys may stay overnight and depart on Thursday morning or leave with their own parents after the athletics event. Please note that boys are not allowed to get lifts home with another boy's parents and cannot leave before the athletics event is over. As usual, buses to Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, and Durban will depart on Thursday morning, 21 August, at 07h30.

End of Term Arrangements:

The last day of the quarter is Friday 26 September. However, the outdoor education for C, D, and E Block returns the day before, on Thursday 25 September. Boys will be allowed to leave with their parents on this day, or, as usual, leave the following day. No school transport will be made available on Thursday.

Summary of End of Term Arrangements per Block:

- A Block: Boys will end their Trial Exams on Wednesday 24 September but may only depart on Thursday 25 September at 13h00 after all exam checking has been completed
- B Block: Boys will be on community service, the details of which will be communicated separately
- C Block: Boys have a Chapel service at 15h00 on Thursday 25 September, after which they may depart
- D Block: Boys are expected to arrive back from Pondoland in the evening on Thursday 25 September; this is sometime after dark
- E Block: Boys will arrive back from 14h30 in the afternoon on Thursday 25 September
- Buses to Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, and Durban will depart on the last day of the term, Friday 26
 September at 7h30

Michaelhouse Inaugural Golf Day

The inaugural Michaelhouse Golf Day, held at Gowrie Farm Golf Course last Friday, was an outstanding success. On a glorious winter's day, the event brought together members of the wider Michaelhouse community – including Parents, Old Boys, Staff, and St Michael's Club members – in support of funded places for boys at Michaelhouse.



The day was made all the more special by the incredible generosity of our sponsors and prize donors, whose support was both impactful and deeply appreciated.

As players completed their rounds, the smooth sounds of the Michaelhouse Jazz Band added a perfect touch to the atmosphere, enhancing a day already rich with camaraderie, fun, and shared purpose.

We are already looking forward to next year's event. To watch a video of the day, please click <u>here</u>







THANK YOU

for supporting the Michaelhouse Golf Day

Gowrie Farm Golf Course, Nottingham Road Friday 8 August 2025





Scenes from the Michaelhouse Golf Day



Michaelhouse Community Partnership



ABSA & Kusini Water Bring Clean Water and Solar Powered Boreholes to Partner Schools

The Michaelhouse Community Partnerships Trust is thrilled to announce the successful completion of a transformative project: the installation of a solar-powered borehole system and sustainable garden setups at two of our 16 partner schools – Bruntville Primary and Eminyezaneni Senior Secondary School.



Some of the installations at the partner schools

A Partnership for Progress

This initiative was made possible through the generous support of ABSA Bank and the innovative expertise of Kusini Water. Kusini Water, a pioneering social enterprise, develops water treatment systems using nanotechnology and macadamia nut shells. Their mission is to deliver clean, safe drinking water to rural, peri-urban, and informal communities across Africa. This year, their treatment system has been implemented in two of our partner schools (pictured below).





Some happy faces after the CPT visit

What Each School Received

- 12 wooden garden planters
- 1,000 seedlings (carrots, spinach, and tomatoes)
- · Fresh compost for planting
- Gardening tools (including gloves and watering cans)
- A borehole-powered irrigation system

A Day of Celebration

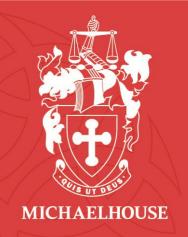
On the 6 and 7 August, the two schools gathered for the official handover ceremonies. The atmosphere was filled with excitement and gratitude as representatives from ABSA, Kusini Water, the Michaelhouse Community Partnerships Trust, Michaelhouse boys, and local leaders joined in the festivities: cutting a celebratory cake and delivering speeches of appreciation. Poems, dancing and choir singing concluded an exceptional day.

A Step Towards a Brighter Future

This initiative is about more than just clean water and fresh vegetables – it's about hope, sustainability, and self-reliance. With solar power, safe water, and flourishing gardens, these schools are now better equipped to teach, nurture, and inspire their learners. In addition to saving on water and electricity costs, the schools are more functional as places of learning.

When hands join, possibilities are endless.

For any questions or further contact details please email Mr Vuyo Ngcobo on wuyngc@michaelhouse.org or cpt@michaelhouse.org.



Heritage Week: Mr Sibusiso Ncamani: Deputy Rector: Pastoral

September is known as the Heritage Month. Michaelhouse will hold its annual Heritage Week from 8-12 September. This week is about celebrating and educating our boys about various cultures in our school. This week culminates in boys and staff showcasing their own heritage through clothes and garments that demonstrates their cultures. Please ensure that your sons return from their half term break with garments/items that demonstrate their heritage on Friday 12 September.

Grandparents Day





Jesus Christ Super Star - A Schlesinger 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.

Below are some snippets of what you have to look forward to, don't miss out and book your ticket before it's too late - click on the link below:

https://www.quicket.co.za/events/320944-jesus-christ-superstar











Thought for the Week

Standing still
Is the fastest way
To move backwards
In a rapidly
Changing world.

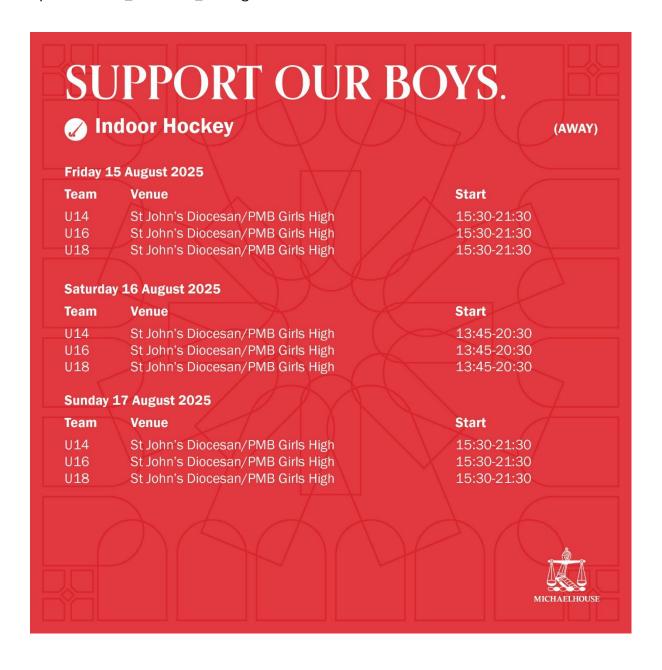
(Anonymous)

With my best wishes

ANTONY CLARK

Aming Che

RECTOR





SUPPORT OUR BOYS. Soccer Saturday 16 August 2025 (HOME/AWAY) **Opponents Team** Venue Start Westville High School: Big 10 Festival 09:00 Hilton College* Kearsney College: Big 10 Festival Hilton College* 13:00 Clifton High School: Big 10 Festival Hilton College* 16:00 11:30 2nd Westville High School Meadows Westville High School Meadows 09:30 Westville High School Meadows 08:30 Far Meadows Westville High School 10:30 Westville High School Far Meadows 09:30 Far Meadows Westville High School 08:30 7th U16A Westville High School U16B Meadows 10:30 **U16B** Westville High School U16C Tarpeys 09:30 U16C Westville High School U16D Tarpeys 08:30 U16D Westville High School U16E Vlei 08:30 Westville High School Bowdens 1* 11:30 Westville High School Bowdens 1* Westville High School Bowdens 2* 09:30 Bowdens 2* Westville High School Commons 1* Westville High School 10:30 Westville High School Commons 1* 09:30 **U14A** Westville High School Bowdens 1* 09:30 U14B Westville High School Bowdens 1* 08:30 U14C Westville High School Bowdens 2* 11:30 U14D Bowdens 2* Westville High School 10:30 U14E Westville High School Commons 1* 08:30 U14F Westville High School Commons 2* 10:30 09:30 U14G Westville High School Commons 2* * Denotes away matches