

RECTOR'S eNEWS



MICHAELHOUSE

NEWSLETTER 28/2025: Wednesday 10 September

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Rector's Message

Heritage Day will be celebrated in South Africa in a couple of weeks time on 24 September but, by then, our boys and staff will be spreadeagled over different venues from the examination hall to leadership programmes and to outdoor exercises such as the C Block Journey or other expeditions. And so, recognising the importance of our young people growing to understand and appreciate their own and different cultures within the context of the Rainbow Nation, we have brought forward our focus on addressing the challenges of multi-culturalism and diversity to this week.

As Mr Tim Jarvis, our school counsellor, has pointed out in his briefing of our tutors knowing your heritage is not only about family trees or cultural symbols. It is about understanding the values, beliefs, languages and customs that have been passed down to you. These things shape how you view the world – and how you view yourself. Your heritage is often the first layer of your identity. It offers a foundation and gives you a sense of belonging. When you feel like you belong, it strengthens your self-worth and confidence. This foundation helps you to decide what to keep, what to change and how to express yourself in a way that feels genuine.

As *Achieve Careers* suggests, a question related to who I am is not simple and we are encouraging our boys to return to this question often because our identity is always developing. Identity is not fixed. It is, rather, shaped by one's heritage, one's choices, one's community and where you focus your attention. This Heritage Day, we are encouraging our boys to take a moment to honour who they are and who they are becoming. Identity is made up of several layers. Psychologist, Carl Rogers, believed that self-concept includes: ideal self – the person who you want to be; self-image – how you see yourself; and self-esteem – how much you like and value yourself.

When these are aligned, we feel authentic and confident but when these are out of alignment we might feel lost or unsure. That is why it is important to understand what shapes self-image. Our social identity, the labels and roles we take on throughout communities, such as being part of a sports team, another school group such as a tutor group or a cultural organisation such as a choir, also influences how we see ourselves.

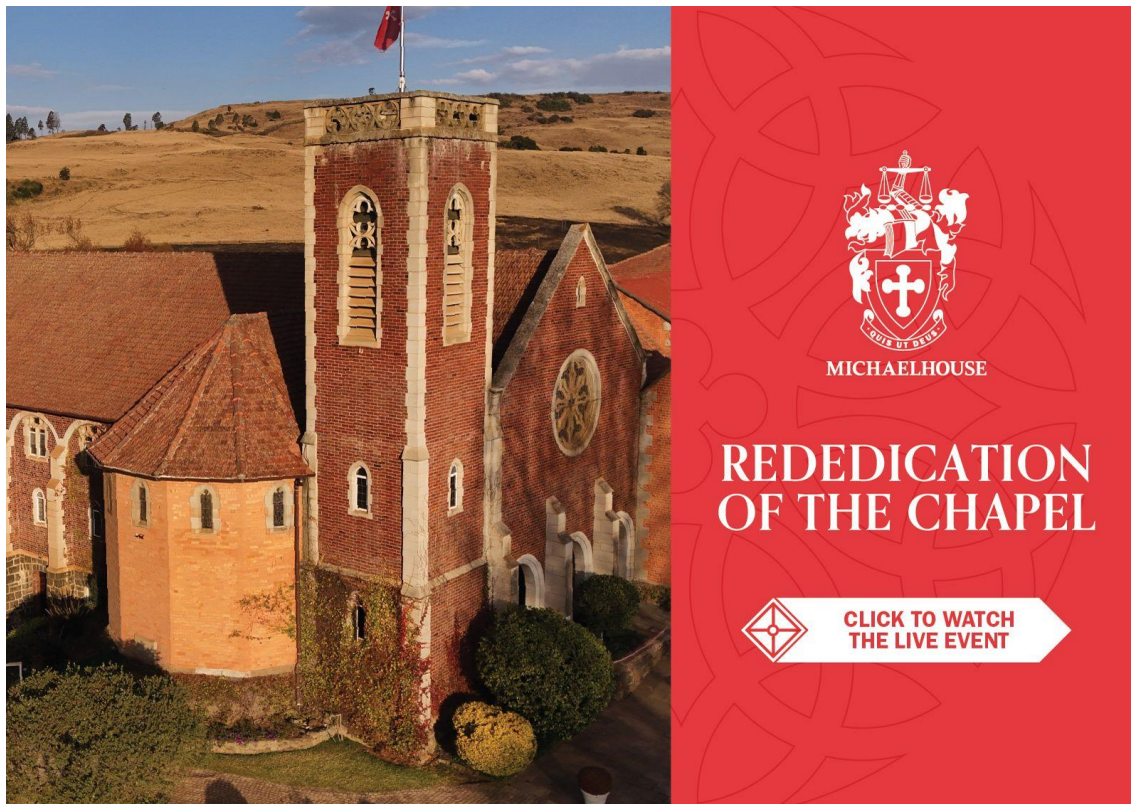
This week the boys have been or will be addressed by two powerful and influential speakers: Dr Thandeka Mdlalo and Mr Matthew Willman. They will also have some fun activities such as a very keenly contested Inter-House potjie competition and, on Friday, they will be able to wear dress in line with their culture or



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heritage. We hope all of these activities will enhance nation-building, respect for others and respect for our own traditions.

On Friday afternoon, Bishop Nkonsinathi will be here for our service during which we will re-dedicate our Chapel. After many months of planning and building we have been able draw all the boys and staff together in this wonderful venue. You may watch the service live by clicking below.



Michaelhouse Law Society – Mr William Koopman

Recently the Michaelhouse Law Society had the privilege of hosting Mr Jaymion Hendricks, one of South Africa's foremost legal minds in the field of international law. Mr Hendricks currently serves as a Legal Advisor on International Law at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), where he works on treaties, international tribunals, and legal guidance for South Africa's global diplomatic missions.

The evening began with a keynote address to the school community, during which Mr Hendricks spoke with clarity and conviction on two themes: Law as a Profession and the legal concept of genocide under International Law. He offered insightful reflections on his own career journey, the skills required to thrive as an international lawyer, and the unique challenges of applying international law in a politically complex world.

Particularly striking were his remarks on genocide: the legal hurdles of defining and prosecuting it, the influence of global politics on justice, and the ongoing responsibility of the international community to prevent atrocities before they occur. His ability to connect weighty global issues to the experience of young South Africans was both challenging and inspiring.

Following the address, a lively Question and Answer session ensued, with members of the Law Society

leading the way in asking thoughtful, specific questions. This encouraged many boys to participate, resulting in a dynamic and engaging discussion.

The Law Society extends its gratitude to Mr Hendricks for sharing his expertise and to all who supported the event. It was an evening that not only deepened our understanding of international law but also inspired many Michaelhouse boys to consider law as a calling.



The Law Society with Mr Jaymion Hendricks

Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Soccer

Michaelhouse Clinch Jody Momphe Cup 2025 in Thrilling Fashion

Michaelhouse 1st XI Soccer proudly lifted the Jody Momphe Cup for the second consecutive year after a weekend of grit, flair and determination at Hilton College last weekend. Against a backdrop of misty Midlands mornings and later, warm spring sunshine, the boys in red and white showcased both resilience and skill on their path to victory.

The pool stages on Saturday began with a commanding 3–0 win over Weston College, where Michaelhouse’s attacking trio of **Gordon Deutscher**, **Asande Nkosi**, and **Rendani Nonge** found the back of the net. **Asande Nkosi’s** sharp play and relentless drive earned him the title of Man of the Match. The team carried that momentum into their next clash against Grace College, once again prevailing 3–0. Goals from **Nkanyeziyokusa Ndlovu**, **Asande Nkosi**, and **Nkateko Mathebula** sealed the win, firmly establishing Michaelhouse as early tournament favourites.

On Sunday, as the Midlands mist lifted into golden sunshine, Michaelhouse faced Carter High School in the quarter-final. It was a tense contest, ultimately decided by a single strike from **Gordon Deutscher**. His clinical finish secured the 1–0 victory, with **Jason Brufau’s** commanding presence earning him Man of the Match.

The semi-final against St Charles College delivered one of the most dramatic moments of the weekend. With the team trailing deep into the final minutes, **Kumkani Dwenga**, making his debut appearance for the 1st XI soccer team this weekend after being called up from the U16A side, slotted home a last-gasp equaliser—his first 1st team goal, and one that will be remembered for years to come. Michaelhouse held their nerve in the penalty shootout, edging St Charles 4–2 thanks to **Tyron Kaufmann’s** heroic double save, which earned him Man of the Match.

The final against Maritzburg College was a tense and tactical stalemate, finishing 0–0 after regular time.

Both sides pushed hard, but **Luke Mitchell's** defensive composure and leadership stood out, seeing him named Player of the Final. Once again, penalties decided the outcome, with Michaelhouse holding their nerve to clinch the title 4–3 in dramatic style.

Adding to the weekend's triumph, **Gordon Deutscher, Jason Brufau, Asande Nkosi and Sumbi Tshivhase** were all selected for the **U19 KwaZulu-Natal provincial team for 2025**, a testament to their individual brilliance and consistency.

Michaelhouse's back-to-back Jody Momphe Cup victories underline the depth of talent, determination, and team spirit within the squad. It was a weekend of unforgettable moments, where experienced campaigners and new faces alike combined to write another proud chapter in the school's soccer legacy. Special thanks go to all the 1st team soccer staff: Ms Aimee Nell (manager), Mr Simphiwe Xulu (head coach), Mr Ross Dubazana (strength and conditioning) and Mr Thokozani Ngcobo (assistant coach).



Michaelhouse 1st Soccer Team lifting the Jody Momphe Cup



KZN Soccer representatives: **Jason Brufau Galvin, Asande Nkosi, Gordon Deutscher and Sumbi Tshivhase**

The remaining soccer teams played fixtures against Hilton College at Michaelhouse, playing 20 games, winning 9, losing 6 and drawing 5:

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

U16A lost 1-4, U16B drew 2-2, U16C lost 0-2 and U16D won 4-3
U15A lost 2-4, U15B drew 0-0, U15C won 3-0 and U15D won 3-2
U14A won 3-1, U14B lost 2-3, U14C lost 0-2, U14D drew 2-2 and U14E won 2-1



5th Soccer Team after their 4-0 win against Hilton



4th Soccer Team after their 3-1 win against Hilton

Cricket

Our 1st team continues to play with grit and determination in the Eston Night Series having another two games under our belt, winning one and losing one:

vs Hilton College – won by 16 runs, with **Ethan Muir** making 106 and **Cody Sander** 61 and **Thandanani Zuma** taking 4/42.

Vs Maritzburg College – lost by 6 runs, with **Graydon Leslie** making 41, **Hayden Hewlett** 35* and **Ben Heuer** 32 and bowlers, **Thandanani Zuma** and **Rex Wardlaw** taking 2/38 and 2/23 respectively.



1st XI T20 team at the Eston Series

Good luck to our team who will be playing Durban High School in the semi-final.

An U17 Stayers team also played a 50-over game this week against Steyn City's 1st XI. We lost by 3 wickets with **Riley Muir** making 96 runs, **Victor North** making 43 and **Ben Heuer** making 40 runs as well as taking 2/53 and **Preston Greene** taking 2/60.



The U17 Stayers team with Steyn City 1st XI

Athletics

Last Wednesday, a handful of Michaelhouse athletes participated in the first aQuelle Spring Series competition. The following results were achieved:

Imani Nkilankila 1st in the U18 100m, **Kyle Heyns** 3rd in the U18 100m and 1st in the U18 400m, **Henco van Loggerenberg** 1st in the U16 Discus and 2nd in the U16 Shotput, **Thembekile Ntuli** 2nd in the U16 Discus and **Kyan Mokgwatsane** 1st in the U16 Shotput

Squash

Our 1st and 2nd team squash players recently went on their annual tour to Johannesburg and Pretoria, from 4 to 7 September. The tour kicked off on Thursday night with a match against the experienced Sacco Jaguars. The Jaguars, dominating the court, won the match 11-1. This tough match was excellent preparation for the competition that lay ahead at the Stayers Festival in Menlo Park.

At the festival, our boys played hard, with many matches going right down to the wire. Although we had a few very close calls, we didn't always get the final result they we were hoping for. Overall, it was a successful tour that provided invaluable experience for our players. Congratulations to all of the boys on their dedication and effort!



2nd squash team with the St John's squash players



1st squash team ready for their games



The Michaelhouse squash teams with the Des Sacco Jaguars

Tennis

Our teams played against St Charles this past week with the following results:

1sts won 5-1, 2nds won 6-0 and the 3rds game was cancelled in Pietermaritzburg due to inclement weather

Canoeing

The Legends Memorial Canoe Race was held on the Upper Umgeni River this past Sunday, with Michaelhouse fielding a team of ten participants across all age groups. Low water levels and technical rapids created challenging conditions that favoured the junior and lightweight crews.

In the K2 U18 category, **Duncan Roberts** (C Block East) teamed up with a College paddler to secure 2nd place. In the U16 singles, **Sam Hoy** (C Block Founders) claimed 1st place, and **Jamie Grantham** (D Block Tatham) 2nd place. In the U14 age group, **Brett Roberts** (E Block East) took 1st place, followed closely by **Callum Baird** (E Block West) in 2nd.

Water Polo

Several Michaelhouse staff members and boys recently took part in a full-day water polo refereeing course presented by top South African and international referee, Mr Dion Willis. The workshop provided participants with valuable insights into the rules and finer details of the game, helping them to strengthen their skills not only as referees, but also as coaches and players. Congratulations to all who completed the course and for their commitment to growing the sport at Michaelhouse.



Sheldon Topham (D Block Ralfe), **Mikayla Geemooi** (C Block Tatham), **Ben Sevel** (C Block Founders), **Elliot Springate** (B Block Pascoe), Mr Dion Willis, **Keagan Elliott** (A Block Pascoe), **Tane Greene** (B Block Tatham), **Edward Mvulana** (E Block Baines)

Swimming

Congratulations to **Bandile Mahaye** (E Block East) for his recent achievements in swimming:

At the Beavers Short Course Champs 2025 on 30 August 2025:

1st – 50m Freestyle

3rd – 100m and 200m Breaststroke

At the XXI Africa Aquatics Zone IV Championships Eswatini from 3 to 6 September:

1st – 100m Butterfly, 50m Backstroke (with a new record), 4x100m Medley Relay, 4x100m Freestyle Relay and 4x50m Freestyle Relay

2nd – 50m Breaststroke and 50m Butterfly

3rd – 200m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle

Bandile has also qualified for the SA National SC Championships taking place on the 25-28 September 2025 in Pietermaritzburg. Good luck. Bandile!



Bandile Mahaye with all his medals after his recent swimming events

Rugby

Well done to **William Ridl** (A Block Founders) who has just signed papers to join the Sharks team next year. All the best for the future, William!



Congratulations William!

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

The 5th soccer team was nominated for their excellent win against Hilton, along with several other brilliant performances in the week. However, the accolade for *Team of the Week* must go to the 1st soccer team for their outstanding achievement in winning the Jody Momphe Cup (old FA Cup) for the second year in a row.

End of Term Arrangements

A reminder that school closes for the end of the 3rd Term on Friday 26 September. Please take note of the following important arrangements.

Transport Bookings

For all transport requirements, it is vital to use the transport portal in advance to facilitate smooth and efficient planning. The closing date for bookings is Monday 22 September.

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 but may only depart on Thursday after all exam checking has been completed
- B Block: Boys will be on community service, the details of which have been communicated separately
- C Block: Boys have a Chapel service at 16:00 on Thursday 25 September, after which they may depart
- D Block: Boys are expected to arrive back from Pondoland in the evening on Thursday 26 September; this is sometime after dark
- E Block: Boys will arrive back from 14:30 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 7:30 am.

Transportation Details

Please note that there will be no airport transfers or Michaelhouse transport available on Thursday. However, buses to Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, and Durban will depart on the last day of the term, Friday 26 September at 7:30 am.

For any queries please contact Mrs Nirvana Naicker, School Transport Co-ordinator:

Cell: 060 562 3954

Office: (033) 234 1170

E-mail: opsadmin@michaelhouse.org





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Join us in supporting our partnership schools by purchasing a raffle ticket (or a few). Every ticket brings us closer to creating real and lasting change.

WEST RAFFLE

Raffle tickets are available at R20 each.

Funds raised this year will go towards:

- Planting more trees
- Building a much-needed bus shelter
- Repairing soccer nets that bring joy to so many pupils

There are also fantastic prizes to be won, including hampers, vouchers, nights away, and much more.

Your generosity helps uplift schools in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. Together, we are growing stronger, greener, and better.

Thank you for helping us make a lasting difference.



Thought for the week

Risk and reward travel side by side. Avoid one and the other will also pass you by.

Anonymous

With my best wishes



ANTONY CLARK
RECTOR

SUPPORT OUR BOYS.



Soccer

Saturday 13 September 2025

(HOME)

Team	Opponents	Venue	Start
1st	Clifton College	Meadows	11:30
2nd	Clifton College	Meadows	10:30
3rd	Clifton College	Meadows	09:30
U15A	Clifton College	Tarpeys	10:30
U15B	Clifton College	Tarpeys	09:30
U15C	Clifton College	Tarpeys	08:30
U15D	Clifton College	Vlei	08:30
U14A	Clifton College	Holleys	10:30
U14B	Clifton College	Holleys	09:30
U14C	Clifton College	Holleys	08:30
U14D	Clifton College	Vlei	10:30
U14E	Clifton College	Vlei	09:30



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