

# RECTOR'S eNEWS



MICHAELHOUSE

NEWSLETTER 14/2026: Wednesday 6 May

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## Rector's Message

Our recent derby day against Hilton College was a fantastic display of what schoolboy sport should be: tough competition combined with genuine friendship and camaraderie. Many of the games were incredibly close, decided only in the final moments. What impressed me most, however, was the respect the boys showed afterwards. While it's easy to get caught up in the heat of the "battle," these moments remind us that our boys are far more than just athletes, they are young men with a wide range of interests and talents that go well beyond the sports field.

At Michaelhouse, we believe in the value of the all-rounder. We want our boys to be more than just one-dimensional. We aim to raise young men who are spiritually grounded, focused on their academics, and involved in the arts, whether that is music, drama, or debating. We value integrity and a sense of honour, but we also value a good sense of humour. Everything we do is built on our core values of integrity, humility, courage, compassion, and service.

We feel that focusing too narrowly on one area limits a boy's future. By encouraging our boys to explore academics, the arts, and sports in equal measure, we give them the best chance to find their true calling. Often, a boy discovers a passion here at school, something "beyond the boundary ropes", that ends up becoming his career or lifelong hobby.

While some schools might focus primarily on producing professional athletes or Springboks, sport is not our only way of measuring success. We are certainly proud when our boys reach the top of their game, and we enjoy being competitive in the sports leagues, but those rankings don't define who we are.

A truly educated person has many different strengths. Sporting talent is just one part of a much bigger picture. Our goal is to develop the "whole man", someone who is prepared not just for a match, but for a meaningful life after school.

We look forward to our return matches against Hilton on 20 June, which will mark the end of our winter season. Thank you to all the parents, past parents, and Old Boys who came out to support us this weekend. Your presence continues to foster that invaluable spirit of community and shared purpose.

## isiZulu Spelling Bee and Speech Competition

Four of our junior boys recently participated in the isiZulu Spelling Bee and Speech Competition for IEB Schools held at Epworth, an event designed to enhance communication skills, build confidence, and develop writing and critical thinking abilities. The competition also strengthens language accuracy and vocabulary across its various categories.

**Nkanyezi Ndlovu** delivered a well-structured and thought-provoking speech on societal pressures facing young boys. Meanwhile, **Lwandle Dube**, **Lubanzi Hadebe**, and **Philangezwi Thusi** took part in the timed and nail-biting Spelling Bee challenge.

We are especially proud of Philangezwi, who secured an impressive 8<sup>th</sup> place out of 42 participants. We are grateful for opportunities like these that allow our boys to grow and showcase their talents. We remain confident that they will continue to benefit from such experiences and only improve further.



Lwandle Dube, Philangezwi Thusi, Nkanyezi Ndlovu  
and Lubanzi Dube

## Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

### *Debating and Public Speaking*

Round 4 of the PMB Debating league took place last week and we sent two E Block teams and one Junior team. The motions were feminism themed and really challenged the boys.

Our Michaelhouse 1 Junior team of **Charlie Parham**, **Rohan Erasmus** and **Nkanyezi Ndlovu** narrowly lost out to The Wykeham Collegiate, arguing a very tricky motion: *This House Believes that Western feminism does more harm than good in African societies*. The Grade 8 motion was *This House Regrets the rise of social media as a platform for feminist dialogue*.

Our Michaelhouse 2 team of **Nqobizwe Nkambule**, **Lindo Langa** and **Hlabangane Mtshali** lost their debate to a strong GHS team. Michaelhouse 1 – **Arno Pretorious**, **Fred Williams** and **Timmy Yorke-Smith** were victorious against St Nicholas, despite some last minute preparation and Timmy was very proud to take home the Best Speaker Accolade for that debate. Well done to all of the boys.



**Amo Mokwebo, Arno Pretorius, Timmy Yorke-Smith  
and Fred Williams**

### *Cross Country*

Treverton is notoriously the second-toughest course on the circuit (trailing only our own, of course), and our boys rose to the challenge with some seriously impressive performances.

#### Junior Boys (30 Runners)

**Callum Baird** delivered a standout performance to snag 2<sup>nd</sup> place, with **Londi Nkambule** putting in a solid shift to finish 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### Senior Boys (52 Runners)

The senior team showed incredible heart, highlighted by some massive "rank-climbing" since last week:

- **Eli Clarence:** 16<sup>th</sup>
- **Dylan York-Smith:** 26<sup>th</sup>
- **Ethan Perry:** 31<sup>st</sup>
- **Zheng Fei Li:** 39<sup>th</sup> (A huge jump from 66<sup>th</sup>)
- **Kwanda Dumasi:** 40<sup>th</sup>
- **Trent Buckley:** 48<sup>th</sup> (Another stellar improvement from 67<sup>th</sup>)

Huge congratulations to the whole squad for conquering the hills.

Congratulations to **Ethan Perry**, who has been appointed as the Cross Country Captain for the upcoming season.



Some boys from the Cross Country team with MIC,  
Mrs Lieschen Harrison

### Swimming

At the championships held at UCT from 24-27 April, our swimmers delivered standout performances: **Bandile Mahaye** dominated the butterfly events, becoming the national U15 champion in both the 50m and 100m sprints. He also secured two silver medals in freestyle and anchored his relay teams to two golds:

1<sup>st</sup> place: 100m Fly (PB), 50m Fly (PB), 400m & 200m Free Relays

2<sup>nd</sup> place: 100m Free (PB), 50m Free (PB)

**Samuel Gilson** showcased significant improvement and strength in breaststroke, clinching two bronze medals against top national competition:

3<sup>rd</sup> place: 50m Breast, 100m Breast (PB)

5<sup>th</sup> place: 200m Breast

Congratulations to our athletes for their dedication and exceptional results this season.

This past weekend we travelled to Hilton to participate in the first of two Michaelhouse-Hilton Derby Days. The day was a successful one with games won and lost but with spirits high and camaraderie at its best.

### Hockey

U14A won 1-0, U14B lost 1-2 and U14C drew 0-0

U16A lost 0-1, U16B won 4-3, U16C won 4-2, U16D won 3-0 and U16F lost 0-6

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





## Rugby

U14A lost 17-40, U14B lost 15-45, U14C lost 12-47 and U14D lost 7-27

U15A lost 13-22, U15B lost 19-32, U15C won 20-10, U15D won 29-25 and U15E vs Treverton won 33-26

U16A lost 24-30, U16B won 19-0, U16C won 55-5 and U16D won 34-10

1st XV lost 21-23, 2nd XV lost 26-29, 3rd XV won 35-25, 4th XV lost 12-14, 5th XV won 24-14, 6th XV won 47-20, 7th XV won 57-0, 8th XV lost 12-20 and 9th XV vs Treverton won 29-12







*Rector's Team of the Week:*

What a weekend, it had all the emotions of two schools giving it their all.

Fifty percent of the results went in our favour, and fifty percent did not. We experienced some painful losses as well as some memorable wins. But as a school, we move on from this and look forward to the return match.

To single out a nomination this week would do an injustice to the 17 teams who won over the weekend and thus Mr Ravenscroft handed over the decision to me. For their outstanding effort under immense pressure on Saturday, as the Rector's Team of the Week, I congratulate the 1st Team hockey side on their 4 - 2 victory against Hilton College.

## Half Term Arrangements – Ms Karin Moffat

The half term break is set to begin on **Thursday 21 May 2026**. On Wednesday 20 May E, D and boys not participating in the iNhlosane hike may depart from 14h30, with their parents.

The annual iNhlosane Day hike for A to C Block concludes on Wednesday afternoon from around 14h00, but may finish as late as 17h30. This event is not compulsory, and boys may depart as soon as their participation concludes. Bus departures to airports will depart at the stipulated times, whilst busses to Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, and Durban will depart on the Thursday morning at 07h30.

## Transport Bookings – 2<sup>ND</sup> Quarter Half Term

Please use the Transport Portal to book all your sons transport requirements. Kindly note that bookings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Half Term will close on **Monday 18 May**.

For any transport queries please contact **Mrs Nirvana Naicker**, the School's Transport Co-ordinator on [nivnai@michaelhouse.org](mailto:nivnai@michaelhouse.org)

Please click [here](#) for the half term bus information.

## Michaelhouse School Production

“Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more; Or close the wall up with our English dead.”

Shakespeare's Henry V is one of his best-known history plays. The epic story explores England's rising nationalism under the young King Henry V and the 1415 Agincourt campaign, a bloody war stemming from a questionable English claim to France. Exploring leadership, nationhood, and the moral ambiguities of war, following fun loving Prince Hal's transformation into the respected and ruthless warrior-king, Henry V. Although a history of England, told by the Bard, seems a far reach for our audiences today, the relevance of our return to nationalism and unnecessary conflicts seems more relevant than ever.

"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers. For he who sheds his blood with me today shall be my brother."

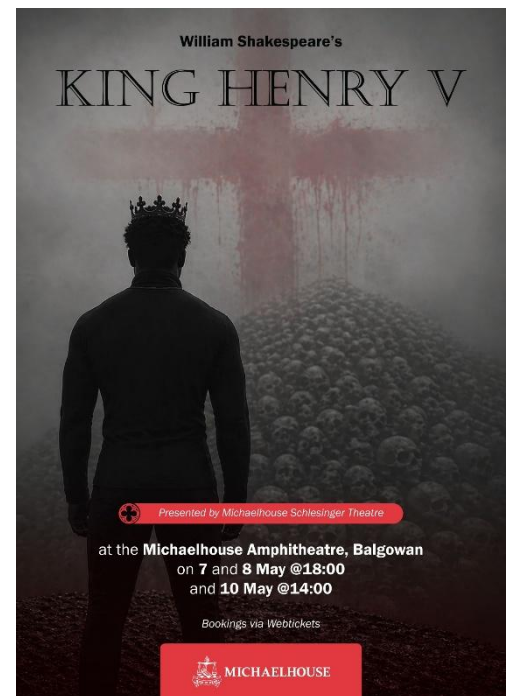
The play has been cut and edited, with the Shakespearian language trimmed in an attempt to reach our audience. It tells of a heroic legend, but reminds us of the brutal realities of conflict, and in this case, the inevitable violence that comes with popularised nationalism.

"Few die well that die in a battle".

The play is staged by over forty Michaelhouse boys representing grade 8 to grade 12, as well as two members of staff and a staff members child, and three St Anne's girls. It runs for approximately 1hr30min. it will be staged in the Michaelhouse Amphitheatre, weather dependent.

Dates and Times: 7-8 May at 18h00 and 10 May at 14h00

Costs: R50/ticket – call 033 234 1238 for more info



Venue: Michaelhouse Amphitheatre (next to Schlesinger Theatre)

Bookings: <https://www.webtickets.co.za/v2/event.aspx?itemid=1594201632>

Contact Ms Lawanda Zondi on [lawzon@michaelhouse.org](mailto:lawzon@michaelhouse.org) or 033 234 1238 (between 08h00-13h00 Mon-Fri)

Parking: on Willows

**Please dress warmly and bring your own cushions and blankets**

Parents are welcome to their bring their own picnic baskets for the Sunday show, where there will be complimentary tea and coffee as well as a cash bar from 13h00.

On the Thursday and Friday show there will be complimentary hot chocolate.

## Feedem Menus – Quarter 2

Please click [here](#) to view the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter menus.

## Michaelhouse Golf Day



 **MICHAELHOUSE**

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 14 August**

Cost: **R6000** per 4 Ball (including dinner)  
**Shotgun start 10:30**

Interested in Sponsorship Opportunities and Prizes,  
Contact Frances - [devoffice@michaelhouse.org](mailto:devoffice@michaelhouse.org)

To secure your 4 Ball for the Michaelhouse Golf Day

 **CLICK TO RSVP**

## St Michael's Club

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our recent annual gathering at the Old Boys Club. It was wonderful to welcome St Michael's Club members back to Michaelhouse alongside our current A Block parents for an evening of connection, friendship, and community spirit.

A special thank you to Rick Grantham (Tatham 1985) of Deal Leaders for sponsoring the event and for his inspiring reminder of the strength and value of the Michaelhouse network.

We are grateful for the continued support and involvement of our Michaelhouse community and look forward to seeing you again at future events.



## Old Boys' Club

Join us for an evening dedicated to the Michaelhouse community, focusing on the core pillars of our future: 'Our Community' and 'Funding our Future'. This event is designed to move beyond informal sideline chats and into a space where real business insight meets our shared heritage.

As part of this initiative, Rick Grantham (Tatham 1985), founder of Deal Leaders International and Jago Fiore (Tatham 2018), will be hosting an evening at the Michaelhouse Old Boys' Club.

The aim of this event is to bring business owners in the Michaelhouse community together - Old Boys, parents, past parents and friends of Michaelhouse - in an environment we all love for a pleasant evening of chat, networking, and maybe the first step on the road to destiny!

The MHS Jazz Club will open the evening as we are joined by representatives from the school, Old Boys' Club and St Michael's Club.

Drinks and light bites to be provided.

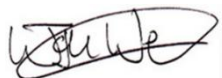
Date: 4 June 2026

Time: 18h00

Venue: Old Boys' Club

To attend the function please click [here](#) to RSVP

With my best wishes



**WIN DE WET**  
**ACTING RECTOR**

## HOCKEY vs KEARSNEY COLLEGE

Saturday 09 May 2026 (Home/Away)



TEAM	OPPONENT	VENUE	TIME
1st	Kearsney College	Mason Astro*	11:15
2nd	Kearsney College	Mason Astro*	13:40
3rd	Kearsney College	Punchbowl	11:00
4th	Kearsney College	Punchbowl	12:00
U16A	Kearsney College	Mason Astro*	12:40
U16B	Kearsney College	Mason Astro*	09:00
U16C	Kearsney College	Aitkens	10:00
U16D	Kearsney College	Aitkens	11:00
U16E	Kearsney College	Aitkens	12:00
U16F	Kearsney College	Aitkens	13:00
U14A	Kearsney College	Mason Astro*	10:00
U14B	Kearsney College	Mason Astro*	14:40
U14C	Kearsney College	Punchbowl	13:00

\*Denotes away games

SUPPORT OUR BOYS.



## RUGBY vs KEARSNEY COLLEGE

### Friday 08 - Saturday 09 May 2026 (Away)



DATE	TEAM	OPPONENT	VENUE	TIME
08 May	2nd	Kearsney College	AH Smith*	15:00
08 May	U16B	Kearsney College	Matterson*	15:00
08 May	U15B	Kearsney College	Osler*	15:00
08 May	U14B	Kearsney College	Roberts*	15:00
09 May	1st	Kearsney College	Gilfillan, Hilton College*	11:00
09 May	3rd	Kearsney College	AH Smith*	11:15
09 May	4th	Kearsney College	AH Smith*	10:15
09 May	5th	Kearsney College	AH Smith*	09:15
09 May	6th	Kearsney College	Matterson*	10:30
09 May	7th	Kearsney College	Matterson*	09:15
09 May	8th	Maritzburg College	Leach's*	11:00
09 May	9th	Maritzburg College	Leach's*	10:00
09 May	U16A	Kearsney College	Weightman-Smith, Hilton College*	14:15
09 May	U16C	Kearsney College	Osler*	09:15
09 May	U16D	Kearsney College	Osler*	11:15
09 May	U15A	Kearsney College	Etheridge, Hilton College*	10:10
09 May	U15C	Kearsney College	Osler*	10:15
09 May	U15D	Kearsney College	Roberts*	09:15
09 May	U14A	Kearsney College	Lombard, Hilton College*	12:20
09 May	U14C	Kearsney College	Roberts*	11:15
09 May	U14D	Kearsney College	Roberts*	10:15

\*Denotes away games

# SUPPORT OUR BOYS.

