

RECTOR'S eNEWS



MICHAELHOUSE

NEWSLETTER 18/2026: Wednesday 3 June

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Rector's Message

As we look back on an incredibly busy weekend, I am filled with immense pride in our school community, while also being reminded of the ongoing responsibility we share in nurturing the character of our young men.

On Friday and Saturday, we hosted an excellent round of fixtures against Pretoria Boys High School. We enjoyed fantastic results across the board, but more importantly, we enjoyed the spirit in which the games were played. Pretoria Boys is an institution that shares our core values, making this one of the most anticipated fixtures on our calendar. We thoroughly enjoyed hosting them, and we are already looking forward to traveling up to Pretoria next year to enjoy their wonderful hospitality.



Parallel to the sporting action, we hosted a phenomenally successful Old Boys Weekend, welcoming over 400 Old Boys back to Michaelhouse. On Friday night we held our Gaudy where we hosted a spectacular evening. I had the absolute privilege of addressing the room, and it was a joy to catch up with so many familiar faces, including a wonderful time spent with our 1961 leavers group, who continue to show such dedication to their alma mater. It was heartwarming to see so many Old Boys return to campus on Saturday, this time accompanied by their partners and children, introducing the next generation to our school's traditions.

On Saturday morning, we gathered for a beautiful Old Boys Chapel Service. Old Boy, Mr Graham Herbert, delivered a deeply moving homily that resonated with everyone present. We were proud to bestow Honorary Old Boy status upon Mr Russell Byrne and Mr Prithy Haripersad in recognition of their incredible service and dedication to the school over the years.

Overall, an excellent weekend for Michaelhouse. Thank you to all the staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this massive weekend a success.

Use of Creatine at Michaelhouse

We would like to remind all parents that we do not currently allow boys at Michaelhouse to use creatine. This is a school policy.

We raise this after several boys were found in possession of creatine during a random House search last week.

While we recognise that creatine can have certain benefits, we remain concerned about the possible side effects to boys and young men from potential damage to developing kidneys or from other contaminating substances that can be mixed with the creatine. As a school we are not comfortable or prepared to take any chances with the health of boys in our care.

We continue to encourage our boys to take their own training, diet, rest and recovery as seriously as possible without taking short cuts that might negatively affect their health.

We do, however, offer boys the opportunity to use a whey protein product (Biogen) as a top up meal, but not as a meal replacement. It is batch-tested for safety, is stocked in the Trade Inn or can be purchased from retailers such as Dischem and is endorsed by SA Rugby.

We thank parents for your support in taking this approach to ensure the health and safety of the boys at Michaelhouse.

Staff News

Congratulations to **Thokozani Ngcobo**, who has been selected as the KZN U19B Boys' Water Polo Assistant Coach for the 2026 IPT tournament in Cape Town.



Well done TK

Co-Curricular and Individual Achievements

Jazz Band

On the evening of the 29 May, the Michaelhouse Jazz Band performed at the Gaudy. Our setlist ranged from pieces like the Bebop-Bossa jazz standard “My Little Suede Shoes” by Charlie Parker, to the soulful South African ballad, “People of the South” by Viwe Mkizwana. Notable improvised solos were played by **Nic Hornby**, **Harry Witherspoon**, **Luneziwe Mshengu** and **Brent Tayengwa**. The performance was well received by our Old Boys.



Luneziwe serenading the Old Boys with the Jazz Band

Cross Country

We had a strong showing at Michaelhouse on Wednesday. In the senior boys' race, **Dylan Yorke Smith** came in 26th, **Ethan Perry** 32nd and **Zhengfei Li** 33rd. In the junior boys', **Callum Baird** led the way in 4th, with **Geoffrey Pedley** 8th and **Harry Christopher** 16th. Special mention to our non-team runners: **Uyanda Magudulela** who finished 2nd in the senior boys' race and **Duncan Roberts** who placed 24th.

The boys from Pretoria Boys High School travelled to Michaelhouse for a full few days of sport, debating and other co-curricular events.

Golf

Our 1st and 2nd Golf Team played Pretoria Boys at Gowrie on Friday last week with the 1st team winning 5-1 and the 2nd team winning 4-2. Well done to our golfers.



1st and 2nd golf teams after their wins with Mr Jake Owen

Hockey

Our hockey teams played 13 won 7, drew 2 and lost 4 with the below results:

1st XI drew 0-0, 2nd XI won 3-2, 3rd XI won 6-1 and 4th XI won 3-2

U16A won 3-2, U16B drew 1-1, U16C won 6-2, U16D won 3-2, U16E won 1-0 and U16F lost 0-1

U14A lost 0-1, U14B lost 1-2 and U14C lost 1-3



Snapshots of some of the hockey games played against Pretoria Boys

Rugby

Our teams played 21, won 13, drew 3 and lost 5:

1st XV won 53-17, 2nd XV won 43-12, 3rd XV won 49-14, 4th XV won 61-0, 5th XV won 38-0, 6th XV won 59-21, 7th XV won 59-0 and 8th XV won 19-12

U16A lost 27-35, U16B won 33-12, U16C won 29-21, U16D lost 19-21 and U16E won 40-12

U15A drew 19-19, U15B lost 0-12, U15C won 28-21 and U15D lost 12-31

U14A lost 7-29, U14B drew 24-24, U14C drew 12-12 and U14D won 40-19



Jack Carmody splitting the defenders to score



Max Oliva bashing it up



Fabiano Fierro going to ground



Jayeon Connoway-Chang on the attack



Wonga Mlonzi scoring under the poles



Chase Maskell a little outnumbered



Kwando Ngidi surges down the touchline



Jared Cole scores a great team try



Jose Sserwanga fights in contact



Sphe Nxumalo breaks the line

Squash

A narrow but deserved win for the Senior Club, edging Pretoria Boys 7-5 in a tightly contested afternoon of squash.

Tennis

Last weekend, Michaelhouse hosted the top six tennis players from Pretoria Boys High School in a closely contested fixture.

Representing Michaelhouse were **Henry Love** (captain), **Matt Bennett**, **Nathan Marshall**, **Tom Perkins**, **Raif Jinnah**, and **Noah Holl**. The match remained in the balance throughout and came down to the final doubles encounter, where **Matt Bennett** and **Nathan Marshall** secured the decisive point to give Michaelhouse the victory.

Several matches were closely fought, showcasing the competitive spirit and high standard of tennis from both teams.

Following the official fixture, other junior and senior members of the Michaelhouse Tennis Club were given the opportunity to play against the visitors, recording several impressive singles and doubles wins across Friday evening and Saturday morning.



The Michaelhouse Tennis teams with their Pretoria Boys peers

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

It was an incredible weekend of winter sport where we added tennis, golf and squash to the weekly hockey and rugby fixtures. We played 37 matches, winning 23, drawing 5 and only losing 9. A phenomenal record against one of South Africa's great schools. There will be some self-reflection on teams who may have won but didn't but as a whole school we should be proud of our many achievements. The senior rugby and hockey teams had exceptional results - well done for leading the way here. For setting the tone for the weekend and playing some superb hockey on Friday, the accolade of Team of the Week goes to the 3rd hockey team for their 6-1 win. Well done.

Service

The Michaelhouse boys have continued to serve the community in a number of ways, investing in our longstanding relationship with Sunfield Home. Our interactions and activities with the residents are a highlight for both our boys and the Sunfield community. The boys are also regularly visiting our MCPT ECD centres from Lions River to Mooi River, and they continue to support various sport and other programmes (such as IT skills) at the various MCPT partnership schools.



Some of our boys at enjoying some downtime with the Sunfield residents

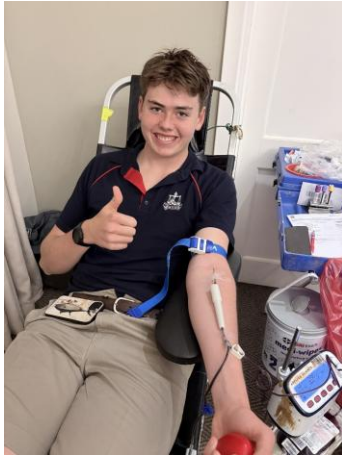


The boys visiting various MCPT partnership schools

2nd Term Blood Drive

Be the Lifeline – Give Blood Give a Tomorrow

We are grateful for the community that supports a worthy cause. Thank you to our staff and boys who came in numbers to donate in celebration of the South African National Blood Services as they celebrate 25 years in service.



Michaelhouse-Hilton Derby Day – 20 June

Please click on the image below to read more about the Michaelhouse-Hilton Derby Day.



MICHAELHOUSE

MICHAELHOUSE-HILTON

Winter Fixture Arrangements
19–20 June 2026

Feeling nervous about Trials and Finals?

Need some help to achieve your A for Science?

29 JUNE - 3 JULY 2026



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

SIGN UP HERE

COST:

R5500 per person (for the week)

For more information on the curriculum covered please click [here](#) or email Mr Clint Sliedricht on Clisli@michaelhouse.org.

Old Boys Event

A reminder that this Thursday, 4 June at 18h00. Two of our own, Rick Grantham (Tatham 1985) and Jago Fiore (Tatham 2018), are hosting an evening through Deal Leaders International - one of SA's leading sell-side M&A advisory firms - in association with the Michaelhouse Old Boys' Club.

Come and hear real stories and gain invaluable insights about founder-built businesses, how deals get structured and what it actually takes to buy or sell a company.

Lessons are applicable to any business person—whether a farmer, banker or entrepreneur. Above all, meet fellow OMs and Michaelhouse parents from different eras, swap business stories, and connect with people who've walked similar paths. After the talk enjoy light refreshments where Rick and Jago will be available to answer any questions you may have. The MHS Jazz Band will be setting the perfect tone.

Spots are limited so click [here](#) to register.

With my best wishes



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ACTING RECTOR

HOCKEY vs WESTVILLE BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
Friday 5 and Saturday 6 June 2026 (Away)



DATE	TEAM	OPPONENT	VENUE	TIME
5 June	1st	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	18:45
5 June	2nd	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	17:15
5 June	U16A	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	16:00
6 June	3rd	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	11:30
6 June	4th	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	10:30
6 June	U16B	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	08:30
6 June	U16C	Westville Boys' High School	Thomas More Astro*	12:30
6 June	U16D	Westville Boys' High School	Thomas More Astro*	11:30
6 June	U16E	Westville Boys' High School	Thomas More Astro*	10:30
6 June	U16F	Westville Boys' High School	Thomas More Astro*	09:30
6 June	U14A	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	09:30
6 June	U14B	Westville Boys' High School	Westville Girls' High Astro*	12:30
6 June	U14C	Westville Boys' High School	Thomas More Astro*	08:30

*Denotes away games



RUGBY vs WESTVILLE BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
Saturday 6 June 2026 (Away)



TEAM	OPPONENT	VENUE	TIME
1st	Westville Boys' High School	Bowdens 1*	15:00
2nd	Westville Boys' High School	Bowdens 1*	13:30
3rd	Westville Boys' High School	Bowdens 1*	11:00
4th	Westville Boys' High School	Bowdens 1*	10:00
5th	Westville Boys' High School	Bowdens 1*	09:00
6th	Westville Boys' High School	Bowdens 1*	08:00
7th	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 1*	09:00
U16A	Westville Boys' High School	Bowdens 1*	12:15
U16B	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 1*	08:00
U16C	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 1*	12:00
U16D	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 2*	11:00
U15A	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 1*	11:00
U15B	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 2*	09:00
U15C	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 1*	13:00
U15D	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 2*	12:00
U14A	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 1*	10:00
U14B	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 2*	08:00
U14C	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 2*	13:00
U14D	Westville Boys' High School	Commons 2*	10:00

*Denotes away games

