

THE KING DAVID SCHOOL



Inspirations

The King David School's Magazine

April 2017 Nisan 5777



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Inspirations

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What an exciting start to the new school year! The buzz and excitement from our Kinder and Prep to Year 5 students as they entered their new school grounds on the

Dandenong Road Campus was so gratifying to witness. After years of planning, seeing the realisation of a vision that School Council had in 2012 was wonderful. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Marc Light, David Opat, Marina Gnatyshina and their entire team of dedicated staff who have ensured the smooth transition for all of our students. Setting up classrooms from scratch is a huge undertaking and they have managed this and the operational challenges of a new campus with great success.

Across our entire school, the flexible learning spaces have been carefully designed to inspire creativity in our students and give them the opportunity to flourish. With the completion of the Mansion refurbishment at our Magid Campus, all our students will benefit from a learning environment that will set new standards for smart design in all schools.

There is such a diverse educational offering for our students, both in and outside the classroom and we hope every student will take full advantage of the first class education they receive at our School.

It is very exciting to see all the events that the new Friends of the King David School Association have planned for this year. Erica Frydenberg and her committee of dedicated members have a huge role to play in engaging grandparents and past families in our school community.

Welcome to all of our new families in 2017. We look forward to another successful year at The King David School. Wishing all families a Chag Sameach and a wonderful break over Pesach.

Mark Harrison
School Council President



In 2012 School Council announced a bold initiative that would lead to a consolidation of our campuses, a generational enhancement of teaching

and learning spaces and the most ambitious development program the School has ever undertaken.

Another wonderful milestone in Project Chai Vekayam, meaning life everlasting, was achieved at the beginning of this year with the opening of the Junior School Campus on Dandenong Road which incorporates our brand new Kindergarten and our Prep to Year 5 classrooms.

Since its inception our school has maintained its homely feel, in part, through establishing our campuses literally in homes. The historic mansions on Kooyong Road, Orrong Road and Dandenong Road have allowed our students to learn in a warm environment that is rich in history.

We know that this area of Armadale was traditionally held by the indigenous people of the Boonwurrung language area. This

formed part of what is sometimes referred to as the Kulin nation. According to the Boonwurrung people's tradition, the land is protected by their creator, Bunjil, who travels as an eagle and by Waarn who travels as a crow. The Boon Wurrung Foundation teaches that visitors should protect the land and care for the children. With this in mind I believe that a Junior School devoted to the nurturing of children could not have found a better setting.

In 1893, William Winter-Irving, a wealthy landowner and former member of the Legislative Council, purchased the land and built the mansion known as Noorilim here. He lived here until his death in 1901.

By the late 1930s Noorilim had been converted to a guest house called the Rio Grande Guest House. This was then acquired by The University of Melbourne in 1949 as a residential hostel for their secondary teachers' college which was called Frank Tate House.

Frank Tate House continued to operate until the site was purchased by The King David School in 2002 and was then established as our senior campus. The purchase was made

possible through the largess of many in our School and wider community.

Since then generations of King David students have loved the distinctive culture of what was affectionately known as 'MI' or 'The Institute'. The Campus has been regarded for the convivial relationships garnered between students and staff which has, without doubt, been well supported through the pleasant feel of being housed in this grand and historic mansion. There is no doubt that this reputation will be continued with the spirit of our Junior School students and their families.

I can't wait to be a part of the development of new narratives as Noorilim progresses into this next incredible next stage of its history.

Wishing you and your family a Chag Sameach and a meaningful Seder.

Marc Light
Principal

Leading by Example

In a brand new initiative, Year 5 students have been involved in a Leadership Program at the Junior School. The Program has been designed to give students the opportunity to develop leadership skills that will serve them well throughout their lives. They will be encouraged to step up, think critically and creatively to solve problems, work in trusting and productive teams and to create their own journey. To this end, each student will be part of one of 7 Va'adot (committees) for at least one semester.

All Year 5 students participated in a full day of leadership training which involved workshopping the concept of leadership including what it means to be a good leader, what qualities and

skills are required. The following Va'adot (committees) were available for students to apply for:

- Tikkun Olam – Changing the world
- Chesed – Kindness
- Sport
- School Life
- Jewish Life
- Communications
- Sustainability

Students ranked their top three Va'adot and applied for these positions using their persuasive writing skills. The Year 5 Leaders received their badges at a special Induction Assembly and have already begun leading by example around the campus.

Jayne Wise
Assistant Head of Junior School



Year 5 student leaders assisted in preparing lunches for underprivileged students as part of the Eat Up initiative



It's where I...
develop my curiosity

It's where I...
love to learn

Fully Refurbished Prep to Year 5 Campus

Prep to Year 5 students are now based in the fully refurbished Mansion on Dandenong Rd. Marc Light, Principal announced "it is with great pride and excitement that we have witnessed our students, teachers and parents' joy in the new spaces. The spaces offer light-filled rooms in natural textures, a mix of heritage era tradition and contemporary and bold design and offer flexible opportunities for our teachers to use their creativity to best meet the learning needs of our students".

These spaces include functional walls, integrated use of technology and flexible learning areas that can open for collaborative learning or be closed for quieter reflective learning experiences.



and outdoor spaces are designed to fit the children's needs as they grow and change. The modern, flexible and innovative design, use of timber and natural materials and spacious rooms, work together to maximise the children's learning and their engagement with their peers and educators.

There are busy and quiet spaces to enable children to engage in both active and calming experiences. Throughout the day, children use many open-ended learning materials and resources which they can explore, manipulate, shape and adapt. These materials, which have no specific set of directions, help children develop creativity and problem-solving skills.

King David continues to offer children and families an environment which is nurturing, haimish, friendly, secure, safe and stimulating. A King David Kindergarten student has a rich learning experience with diverse programs designed to keep them engaged in secular and Jewish learning, encouraging a sense of belonging and community.

Marina Gnatyshina
Director of Kindergarten

New Purpose-Built Kindergarten

For The King David School, 2017 has had an exciting beginning with the opening of a brand new, state-of-the-art Kindergarten. The Kindergarten is located on the new Junior School campus (for Kindergarten to Year 5) on Dandenong Road in Armadale.

The Kindergarten has been designed and purpose-built to offer our Junior and Senior Kindergarten students the very best learning experience.

From the minute you enter the King David Kindergarten, you will find furniture, equipment, resources and play materials to spark children's curiosity and enrich their explorations and interactions. The indoor



Mezuzah Ceremony

According to Jewish tradition, the first thing to do when you move into a new home is to perform the mitzvah (commandment) of hanging a Mezuzah, a scroll containing the fundamental "Shema" prayer, on the doorpost of each room. The Mezuzah is one of the most visible and powerful symbols of Judaism and serves as a daily reminder of God's presence, commandments and protection.

Prep - Year 5 students learned about and affixed their Mezuzah at the door of their new classrooms. Significantly, the students themselves performed this mitzvah - it did not require a Rabbi or even an adult, just a class of passionate and excited students. We hope that each class will be filled with learning, laughter and light.

Jewish Life Team – Junior School



It's where I...

explore the world of science

It's where I...

enrich my learning



Nurturing STEAM Enthusiasts

Our Science Club is open to all Senior students and aims to provide access to a variety of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) activities outside of the classroom.

Students meet regularly during lunchtime and explore different scientific processes. One of the recent tasks was to create hovercrafts from simple materials and then investigate the effect of friction on the movement of the hovercrafts. Students experienced varying degrees of success as they tested different surfaces to glide across. In the end, the students concluded that the table tops produced the best gliding hovercrafts! Students agreed that a smooth, flat surface provided the least amount of friction.

They've also explored bubbles and how to make them with dishwashing liquid and glycerine and determine what shapes they form under different circumstances. In another session, cabbage was investigated as a natural compound that acts as a pH indicator. It will change colour when added to substances which are acidic (pH lower than 7) and substances which are basic (pH higher than 7).

Claire Stanner
Science Learning Area Leader Yrs 6-12



Using Neuroscience to Enhance Learning Outcomes

How does King David help our students to become better learners and teach fundamental thinking skills?

Recent developments in neuroscience have provided educators with a far greater understanding of how the human brain works and the links between effective pedagogy and deeper learning. We have moved from a view of the human brain as one that grows and then stops growing, to one that constantly renews and restructures as new neural pathways are formed and enhanced throughout our lives. Intelligence is no longer seen as a fixed asset, dependent of the luck of your genes, with the right stimulation and 'mediation' we can all improve the level of our thinking.

Now in its fourth year at the School, Instrumental Enrichment (I.E.) is a key program devoted to improving students' thinking skills and ultimately making them more effective learners. All students from Years 2-6 and selected students in Years 7-8 participate in weekly lessons designed to enhance the cognitive functions necessary for academic learning and success in life. This program developed by Israeli cognitive psychologist Professor Reuven Feuerstein, relies on a series of instruments or learning tasks, which are used as a basis for students to gain an understanding of which type of thinking should be applied to which type of challenge. Here both the repetition of patterns of thinking and the active mediation of the tasks by the teacher have been shown to help overcome cognitive deficiencies

through establishing neural connections. Students become more aware of their thinking (metacognition) and the program promotes intrinsic motivation and independent learners with skills that can be applied to all areas of the curriculum.

Students enjoy completing different kinds of challenges, dependent on which 'instrument' they are completing. On the surface some of the tasks may seem simple, but they increase in complexity and abstraction as each component is mastered. The idea being that there needs to be just the right amount of difficulty in order for students to learn.

The skills learnt in these classes are proving to be valuable for concentration and academic achievement across other learning areas and can also be applied outside the classroom, to the home and to life in general. I.E. is just another way that King David is adding value to each child's learning experience whilst at the School.

Rosalyn Muir, Coordinator Teaching & Learning Prep-Year 5



Developing the Whole Person

The Student Wellbeing program of The King David School focuses on the development of the whole person. It is hoped that our students become productive members of the community, self-aware, purposeful, caring, resourceful and healthy.

In Wellbeing classes, students in the Junior School discuss the following values and characteristics that would describe the ideal KDS students.

Students at KDS...

- Take risks and solve problems
- Are flexible and curious learners
- Are principled and community minded
- Are reflective and thoughtful communications
- Demonstrate empathy
- Take ownership

Year 4 students created posters of these characteristics to display on the walls in their learning areas.



It's where I... celebrate my Jewish identity

A Festival of Celebration

From our Pre-School students to our Year 12s, Purim was a day of celebration and festivities. Megillah readings, costume parades, foam parties, jumping castles, bubble soccer and exchanging mishloach manot were just some of our students' wonderful experiences.

Our students participated in the four mitzvot that are associated with Purim:

1. Tzedakah: Matanot L'Evyonim – Giving gifts to the needy
2. Mishloach Manot – Giving food parcels to friends and family
3. Mishteh/Seudat Purim – The Purim feast
4. Megillah – Hearing and Learning about the Purim Story





Connecting with Israel: Yesh Israel Experience

To put it simply (and slightly clichéd), Yesh was one of the best experiences of my life and always will be. Not just the amazing places we visited and learnt about, but the growth of friendships and the group dynamics created will never be broken. Even coming back to school, the little jokes and the things only Yeshies will know still remain. I cannot even begin to describe the feelings experienced going to each stop on our tour. Highlights for me include Yad Vashem, Masada (for sunrise) and going camel riding. Among the amazing places we visited, the highlights as a group in general include trying to pop each other's balloons while hiking, having a talent show on the last night, spontaneous (and loud) karaoke while passing buckets of rocks up a large number of stairs, the 'warm book of fuzzies' we wrote for each other, and also our campfire singalong at the Bedouin tents. They were funny, emotional and will never be forgotten.

The people we met along the way made this trip even better; our tour guide Assaf, who spent so much time planning activities to make it all the more enjoyable. The kids and their families from the Arava, who we spent three nights with – we bonded straightaway with them and we all agreed that we wanted more time with them. Also, somewhat more surprisingly, our bus driver, Abed; we all became friends with him and he made every bus trip more exciting with his jokes and crazy driving.

Lastly but certainly not least were the teachers that accompanied us on this trip – Justin and Ms Chakman (and Marc Light for a few days). Like Assaf, the amount of work they put in behind the scenes was amazing, just to make the trip more enjoyable for us. Not only were they our teachers, but they were our friends. But the experiences shared and memories created with them, the rest of the group, and everyone in between will be something I can reflect on and remember for a long time into the future.

Hugo Burstin, Year 11

From 2017, The King David School is proud to be able to offer the Yesh program to all families at an even more affordable price. Our aim is to give all students the opportunity to experience Israel first hand.



It's where I...
gain a new perspective

Looking Beyond Disability

What is the connection between someone who is wheelchair bound and being the world champion rower? It is sheer determination to keep pushing forward.

During a recent Mifgash session, Moran Samuel shared a very personal and extraordinary story with all Years 9-12 students.

She grew up with a passion for basketball, breaking the barrier for participation in competitive sports for women in Israel. After achieving a place on some of Israel's most outstanding teams, she woke up one morning with a sudden spinal stroke. The result was paralysis from the waist down.

Moran shared her story of how she awoke to this new reality and transformed her life in every way. With poignant life lessons to share, such as "the path to each big victory must contain many small ones" and "you will always miss 100% of the shots you don't take", Moran was able to implore every student to focus on their strengths, and not allow any perceived obstacle to get in their way.

Moran then continued to describe how through Bet haLochem, the extraordinary support centre for people with disabilities in Israel, she was given opportunities to live her life more fully, in a way that emphasised her abilities. She quickly joined the wheelchair basketball league but, dissatisfied with the level of achievement available to her, she transferred to rowing, finding herself winning the World Championships and later reaching the finals in the Olympics.

Her powerful message to our students left everyone inspired to persevere with their dreams.

Dr Bryan Conyer
Director of Jewish Life





It's where I...
learn team spirit

It's where I...
belong to a caring community



THE KING DAVID SCHOOL
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



Balaclava District Swimming Carnival

The Balaclava District Swimming Carnival was held at GESAC in Term 1 with many 29 Years 4-6 King David swimmers. A number of students won ribbons for their races and three students advanced to the Beachside Division Competition

Drew Solewicz
Sports Manager



Inter-House Swimming Gala

It was hard not to get swept up in the wonderful spirit that was present at this year's Years 6-12 Inter-House Swimming Gala. Students cheered their peers on with encouragement and excitement. They genuinely seemed to care for each and every student that participated in the races.

Our student leaders with the assistance of students in Years 11 & 12 created a carnival atmosphere at lunch time with almost every student (and staff) kicking up their heels and showing support for their House. With this year's "a day at the beach" theme, there was a great display of floral shirts, skirts and all things beach related.

This year, a new race was brought in with great success as brothers and sisters teamed up to compete in the Sibling Showdown. This 2x50m Freestyle Relay race was won by the Kanat family closely followed by the Brill family and Finks. Other highlights included the staff vs students 4x50m Freestyle Relay race and Galil's great performance during the dance off.



Celebration of Our KDS Community

We started the School Year uniting with old friends and welcoming many new students and families to our King David School Community. Principal Marc Light at the Orientation sessions reminded us that we should not take our KDS Community for granted. The strength of our Community requires a commitment to nurture and value it. The King David School Parents' Association's primary role is to support and enhance the School Community.

It has been exciting to see students and families mingling and creating community across all campuses at organised events such as coffee mornings, parent evenings, family catch-ups or in the playground and at drop off and pick up. It is great that every year level from preschool through to year 12 has volunteer class representatives and we thank all those parents who took the leap and agreed to do it!

We are looking forward to our much loved annual KDSPA Breakfast on Friday 16 June. Please mark the date in your calendar and invite your friends and family to join you. We have a great speaker lined up and our breakfast is a wonderful opportunity to take time out, catch up with friends and make some new ones too.

The KDS Art Fair to be held at the Dandenong Road Campus on Sunday 10 September also promises to be an event not to be missed.

Look out for KDSPA events and services including perennial favourites such as MTC subscriptions, the Entertainment Book, the KDSPA babysitting list, KDSPA cafes and Art by Kids. We have lots planned for this year and our beloved Kings Carnival will return in March 2018.

I'd like to acknowledge and thank all the amazing people involved in bringing these events and services to you. The KDSPA Committee and Sub-committee members put in countless volunteer hours and are so passionate about what they do.

Please step up and get involved in KDSPA activities and suggest some new ones. Not only will it be a rewarding experience for you, you will be ensuring that our KDS community remains vibrant and strong.

On behalf of the KDSPA I'd like to wish everyone a Chag Sameach and a wonderful Term break.

Lisa Klepfisz
KDSPA President
kdspa@kds.vic.edu.au



Save the Date
FRIDAY 16 JUNE

THE KING DAVID SCHOOL
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Save the Date
Sunday 10 September

KDSPA
Art Fair

Junior School
373 Dandenong Road
Armadale





It's where I...

see the future

The Greatest Gift You Can Give... A Jewish Education at King David

2017 Annual Giving



The King David School is where a child can learn their Jewish values, make lifelong friends, learn to question and ... belong. We light the flame for each student to

strive for academic excellence and emotional intelligence, encouraged to think big and embody the values of social justice for all.

The greatest gift you can give is a Jewish education at King David – offering every child the opportunity to thrive.

Marc Light
Principal

Ways to Give

Please consider how your family can contribute to the 2017 Annual Giving. All donations are fully tax deductible.

- Online**
www.kds.vic.edu.au/donate
- Phone**
Naomi Pizzo 03 9527 0122
- Email**
foundation@kds.vic.edu.au
- Mail**
520 Orrong Road
Armadale Vic 3143

Look for your 2017 Annual Giving Brochure with this edition of Inspirations



THE KING DAVID SCHOOL FOUNDATION



Michael Lawrence OAM



The King David School community is thrilled that Michael Lawrence, immediate past School Council President, Chair of Foundation, past parent and infinitely generous

member of our community was awarded a medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in this year's Australia Day Honours Awards.

Michael was recognised for his service to education, to youth, and to the community. He has been passionately involved with the School for decades and is currently the Chair of The King David School Foundation.

Michael has singlehandedly built and maintained the donor base of The King David School, offering community support since 1990 when the Foundation was established. For over 25 years, Michael has worked to consistently

ensure the subsidy and financial support of one quarter of the student body has been provided. Committed to the values of social equity and opportunity for all students, Michael has tirelessly met with community donors, served as a voluntary trustee or executor for several private Trusts and Estates, and has ensured children who would otherwise be unable to receive a top class Jewish education be granted the opportunity.

Michael has played a central role in negotiating with Local Government in the building permit process for the School's current building program and continues to meet with community and donors for this project.

We would like to thank Lyn Lawrence for her endless support and wish Michael and his family a huge Mazal Tov – we remain deeply indebted to him for his incredible contribution to our School.

An Interview with Academic Scholarship Students Gabrielle Arnheim & Adam Kaplan, Year 11

What does King David mean to you and how has the Scholarship Program made an impact on your life?

Gabrielle Arnheim: I started at King David when I was three years old. King David is basically my home. I haven't known anything else my whole life and I don't think I want to. The Scholarship Program allowed me to start learning cello in Year 8, which was really interesting and it also helped me with my piano. With the academic scholarship there are a lot of opportunities I can take at the School such as leadership programs especially going into Year 12.

Adam Kaplan: The Scholarship Program really means a lot to me as it gave me the opportunity to come to the School in Year 7. There are many amazing educational opportunities and the teachers are extremely dedicated.

The diverse educational programs allow me to explore my passion for Music and Science. I also really enjoy community involvement and I have already volunteered at a number of community organisations. I participated in the Australian Brain Bee Competition at Melbourne University Neuroscience Department. It was the State Finals of the Neuroscience Competition – two of the laboratories were there and we heard from industry experts.

It's where I...
belong

What areas are you interested in for your future?

G.A.: I'm interested in Law and Medicine. A few of us went to a mock United Nations competition where we were in a pair with someone from School and given



Academic Scholarship Students Gabrielle Arnheim & Adam Kaplan with Principal, Marc Light

diplomatic issues to debate in the same way as the United Nations. This was at Melbourne Law School which was a really amazing opportunity. I don't really know a lot about politics or the United Nations so that really helped me with what I want to do for the future.

It's where I...

*am motivated
to do my best*

A.K.: I'm interested in pursuing something involving Science after school so visiting Melbourne University's Neuroscience Department really opened my eyes as to the possible options available to me. It sparked my interest in those areas.

What would you say is unique about King David?

G.A.: King David from my perspective is a really inclusive School. While it's really important to me that I've had the same teachers and friends watch me grow up since I was

three, when new students come, I always feel that people make an effort to include them and make them feel part of the culture. We are like a family here and we all care about each other.

King David is a special sort of education that doesn't only focus on your academic results, it's also your emotional wellbeing and your feeling included in the School, involvement in the community. It's a good experience that a lot of children would like to thrive in.

A.K.: I think the caring nature of many of the teachers. That you can go up to any teacher and talk to them about... anything, not only the subject matter but also anything personal that is bothering you which I would imagine, doesn't happen at other schools. The people and the environment is unique and inclusive.

I know when I came in Year 7 with 20 other new students, I felt like the existing students made an effort to make all the new students feel welcome – like they belong. Students who feel comfortable are more likely to excel.

ENGAGED

Jamie First (2009) Jason Hymans
January 2017

MARRIED

Jennifer Gerrard (2000) Sagi Mitlin
December 2016

Victor Gordeyev (2007) Lara Gordeyev
December 2016

Shayndle Loewy (Grinblat) (2007) Nick Loewy
December 2016

BIRTHS

Russell Aronson (1997) Sally Aronson
Lara, February 2017

Adam First (2006) Jessica First
Darcy, January 2017

Ben Goodman (1994) Stella Goodman
Hayley, December 2016

Thalia Prum (Blumenstein) (2006) Shanon Prum
Eliza, April 2016

Joshua Same (1994) Tara Same
Ariel, January 2017

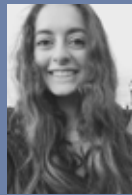
Danni Yudelman (Grayman) (2006) Clinton Yudelman
Amalia, November 2016



Victor Gordeyev (2007) & friends (mainly KDS alumni) at his wedding to Lara



Shayndle Loewy (Grinblat) (2007) at her wedding to Nick Loewy



Where are they now?

Alex Lehrer graduated King David with the Class of 2011 and the following year participated in AUJS Aviv program in Israel for 5 months followed by some travel through Europe.

In 2013 she commenced a Bachelor of Health Science at La Trobe University and completed a Masters of Speech Pathology. Throughout her studies she gained valuable experience in the speech pathology profession through various clinical placements and health support work roles.

Alex has a strong desire to give back to the community and attributes this to the values she learned as a KDS student. Alex has volunteered with the Community Security Group (CSG) for the past 3 years and has taken on team leadership and supervisory roles. She also assisted with CSG's Annual Appeal.

She feels strongly about maintaining a healthy work/life balance and ensuring one makes time for things that you enjoy.

In January this year, she commenced a graduate speech pathology role at Sunshine Hospital (Western Health), working in the acute stroke/neurology unit. She looks forward to growing as a professional and gaining valuable experience and knowledge in the workforce.

Alumni Reunions

Sunday 21 May 2017 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Junior School, 373 Dandenong Road Armadale

CLASS of 2007 (10 Year Reunion)



CLASS of 2012 (5 Year Reunion)



Please continue to keep us informed by sending your news or changes to your contact details to:
jackie.ellis@kds.vic.edu.au

For information about The King David School contact the Admissions Department on: (03) 9527 0102 or admissions@kds.vic.edu.au