Shana Tova שנה טובה ומתוקה

Inspirations The King David School's Magazine

The King David School's Magazine September 2014 | Tishrei 5775



From the School Council President



The school year continues to fly past and what a fantastic term this has been

The King David Community has once again been wowed by the outstanding Performing Arts students with the annual Winter Concert, Years 3-8 Musical "Annie", the Southwick Twilight Concert and the Senior School Musical "The Drowsy Chaperone".

All of these performances were sellout successes and I am privileged as a parent and President of the School to have attended these events with great pride.

King David has also once again been recognised for our Visual Arts talents with VCE student Courtney Pollak winning two B'nei B'rith awards recently. Mazal Tov to Courtney and her family on this great achievement.

With the sale of the Kooyong road campus underway, Council is extremely excited for the next stage of project Chai Ve'kayam, with building plans being finalised over the next few months.

The Michele Bernshaw Gala Dinner will be held at the River Room at Crown on 21 October where we will celebrate Michele's fantastic career at the School and recall the amazing transformation that took place at the School during her tenure. Tickets are available on the website and have been priced to ensure everyone can attend so please get in early to avoid disappointment.

In finishing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and healthy Shana Tova and well over the Fast.

Mark Harrison President, School Council

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Inspirations

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From the Principal Marc Light



The inspirational educational thinker, Sir Ken Robinson posits in his world famous TED talk, 'Do schools kill creativity?' that "creativity now is as important in education as literacy, and we should treat it with the same status."

Likewise, the Australian Curriculum describes the importance of nurturing creativity through education in an arts program when it states that "the Arts entertain, challenge, provoke responses and enrich our knowledge of self, communities, world cultures and histories. The Arts contribute to the development of confident and creative individuals, nurturing and challenging active and informed citizens."

Contemporary research tells us that arts education has wide ranging benefits for young people. In a recent study jointly researched by the University of Sydney's Faculty of Education and Social Work and The Australia Council for the Arts it was noted that students who had received an arts education enjoyed advantages in a range of academic and well-being measures including "motivation, homework completion, class participation, enjoyment of school, and educational aspirations... self-esteem, life satisfaction, and a sense of meaning or purpose."

With all this in mind it is apt that this Inspirations celebrates some wonderful achievements in the Performing Arts at The King David School.

An incredible highlight was the exhilarating performances of Annie Jr, our Years 3-8 Musical. The Show was a tremendous accomplishment and was a wonderful display of our inspiring talent. Perhaps, even more importantly it was a joyous learning experience that encouraged team-work, collaboration, risk-taking and courage.

A further sensation was the outstanding success of our Senior School Musical, The Drowsy Chaperone. It was such a delight to witness the joy, riotous humour and incredible genius that were on display.

In addition to this, our Music Department has fostered a number of fabulous performances including soirées, the packed out Years 3-12 Winter Concert and the Southwick Twilight Concert.

While it fills us with pride and joy to see our students take to the stage - it is important that we understand that the learning involved in these opportunities is as relevant and important for their continued development as any classroom-based activity. There is no doubt that a flourishing curricular and co-curricular arts offering is necessary to ferment a life-long love and appreciation of the arts.

Tribute to Rabbi Levi



"Born from dreams and a vision, Hearts that stirred with decision".

These lines from our School Song acknowledge the daring and inspiring work of the School's founders in creating our wonderful School. At The King David School recently, we took time out of our regular routine to pay homage to a true dreamer and visionary who has been instrumental in shaping the success and ethos of our School. For the first time in many years the School, from Prep – Year 12, came together for an Assembly to celebrate Rabbi Dr John Levi's 80th birthday.

This was a special opportunity to extend our gratitude to Rabbi Levi and Robyn Levi for all they have done and continue to do for us. Over the entire course of the

School's history, Rabbi Levi has given tirelessly of his time and efforts to ensure that we stay true to our mission and values, and grow from strength to strength.

In a moving celebration, Dr Bryan Conyer reflected on Rabbi Levi's contribution and Rabbi Gersh Lazarow used the motif of the School's emblem to explore the many ways in which Rabbi Levi has supported the School throughout our history. Rabbi Levi was then presented a very unique gift by our Year 12 Captains and he is thrilled to supplement his very substantial Judaica collection with a 3D printed shofar produced on one of the three 3D printers recently donated to the School by the KDSPA.

For Rabbi Levi, the highlight of the assembly was looking out as a sea of students sang:

I am young hear my voice now Watch me grow and rejoice now

On behalf of the School community I join with Rabbi Levi in rejoicing our incredible growth. I wish him a happy birthday and express to him our deepest gratitude for his friendship and support in dreaming the dream and then helping to build this vision into reality.

Marc Light School Principal

KDSPA

Update

I would normally take this opportunity to reflect on all the wonderful activities and events happening on the KDSPA calendar. Whilst we most certainly have had a very busy and productive quarter, the events in the Middle East over the last 2 months have been in the forefront of my mind as it has no doubt been for many others in our community and beyond. For this reason, I would like to spend some time reflecting on a once in a lifetime opportunity I've had the privilege to be involved in recently, a part of which involved our fabulous KDS students and teachers.

On 19 July 2014, I journeyed to Israel with 23 other Australians and nearly 300 American and Canadian mothers on a program called Jewish Women's Renaissance Project. My position on the trip was confirmed in February of this year. Only a few months later, I realised I would be flying into a country in the middle of a war operation. There are so many parts of my awe inspiring journey I would love to share with you but for now, I'll limit it to this one experience.

Prior to leaving Melbourne, I knew that on one of the program days I would be visiting the base of an IDF soldiers unit. I didn't realise at the time how moving an experience this would be given Operation Protective Edge. Aside from care packages that we brought to the Soldiers from home, I got hooked on an idea I had heard about where school children wrote letters to the soldiers. In conjunction with the fabulous Jewish Studies Teachers at Magid Campus, the Years 3, 4 and 6 students all participated in letter writing to the soldiers in both English and Hebrew. The children wrote how thankful they are that the soldiers are protecting Israel and her people. They commented on how brave they are for doing so and asked guestions about their lives as soldiers. The students

gave their heartfelt gratitude for everything they were doing to protect Israel and the Jewish people. The letters were beautifully written and superbly decorated.

When I handed the letters to the Soldiers, they were gobsmacked to know that children from the other side of the world were thinking of them. To say they were touched would be an understatement. Many were brought to tears of joy reading the letters. It certainly made their day and no doubt they would re-read those letters during tough times and smile. They then promised to decorate their tanks and huts with the cards to remind them of their little Aussie friends. Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen. It was an incredible day and the strength and resilience of the IDF soldiers was inspiring. Here are some photos that I hope will bring a smile to your faces.

Back to KDSPA, please book your babysitters for the evening of Sunday 9 November as we bring you a fun-filled and action packed Trivia Night. Your invitation will follow shortly.

My reflection isn't complete without sending a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supports the KDSPA; whether that is through volunteering, donating or attending any of our functions and events. I look forward to sharing more of our successes with you in the next edition of Inspirations. For now, on behalf of your KDSPA, I would like to wish everyone a Shana tova u'metukah – a good and sweet New Year. May you all have a joyful and blessed year ahead and wishing you well over the fast.

Rochelle Rothfield President, KDSPA kdspa@kds.vic.edu.au









SPORTS

An Interview with Sasha Kiroi (Year 7)



1. What age did you start gymnastics competitions?

I started gymnastics when I was 4 and a half and never looked back. I have also tried different types of dancing, but I am glad my parents got me into gymnastics as this is the foundation for many Olympic disciplines. In Rhythmic Gymnastics you have to start young in order to really progress.

2. Where did your interest in gymnastics come from?

I saw girls doing a rhythmic gymnastics display - they were much older than me, very elegant, graceful, very flexible and wearing beautiful costumes. Also things they could do with different apparatus like ribbons and clubs – their level of skill just blew me away.

3. In a typical week, how much training do you manage to fit in?

I train 22 hours per week plus never ending workshops, competitions, extra lessons etc. This is a FIG (International Gymnastics Federation) requirement which I have to meet to be able to stay within my skill level and to be able to take part in international competitions. Most of the days I train for 4 hours but some days I have to do morning and afternoon training as well as school hours. This makes it the hardest day of my week.

4. How do you balance your training and competition schedules with the pressures of school and homework?

Balancing gymnastics and school is very tricky. I always need to know what's ahead of me at least one week in advance, to be able to complete all my work on time. I make my plans according to what is needed to be done and I just stick to it. If something unplanned comes up, it means staying up till late or waking up early which leads to me sleeping and resting less. When I travel overseas to compete I can't stick to any regime, so I do my work when I can – airports, planes, hotels.

5. What has been the biggest competition win you have had to date?

I had two major International competitions, one last year and one this year, both in Spain. I had to compete against my age, but from countries like Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan where the strongest gymnastics schools are.

6. Where do you see yourself with your sport in say 5 years time?

In 5 years I will be a Senior Athlete in my sport, and that means I will be able to take part in all level competitions. I am aiming for the Commonwealth Games podium finish, Youth Olympics and of course Olympics. I know it is a long road ahead of me but I know what needs to be done to get there. I have the most supportive parents who help me in every step of my life, I have school which supports me with my out of school commitments and I have the best coach I can possibly get in Australia. But most importantly I have got skills, determination and desire to succeed. And once I am done with the sport, I plan to become a Sports Doctor to help people overcome their injuries while on their way to Olympics!

Snow Sports Championships

King David students excelled at the recent 2014 Jewish Snow Sports Championships at Mt Buller taking 2nd place overall and winning many of the age division competitions.

Snowboard

1st place - Hannah Ungar (Year 8) 1st place - Jai Kanat (Year 9) Alpine

DIVISION 5 - BOYS: 1st place - Raphael Moss (Year 2) 2nd place - Avi Wolff (Year 2) 3rd place - Charlie Rozenes (Year 2) DIVISION 4 - BOYS: 1st place - Daniel Lindros (Year 6) 3rd place - Oscar Freeman (Year 6) DIVISION 3 - BOYS: 1st place - Josh Brill (Year 7) DIVISION 2 - BOYS: 1st place - Ben Brill (Year 9)



Performing Arts

Winter and Twilight Concerts

On Sunday 10 August, the Alwynne and Walter Jona Multipurpose Hall at Rebecca Magid Centre was filled with music and song during the 2014 Winter Concert which involved performing arts students from Years 3 to 12.

Our talented students who entertained the capacity audience included the Senior Vocal Ensemble, Wind Trio, Senior and Junior Guitar Ensembles, String Ensemble, 3-8 Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles and Senior Orchestra. The wonderful performances reflected the students and their music teachers' hard work and dedication in bringing together such an event.

The following day, our Prep to Year 2 students delighted a capacity audience at the Southwick Twilight Concert. They performed familiar favourites including some well-loved Abba songs. All the songs and instrumental pieces were learnt in the classroom Music program. The Year 2 students also presented an amazing dance from the film "Frozen" which was choreographed by our Head of Theatre and Dance, Laura Rickhuss.





















Performing Arts



Our Senior Musical, The Drowsy Chaperone was performed over 2 nights in late June, to rave reviews. Our extremely talented students wowed the audience with their brilliant comedic timing, singing, dancing and music accompaniment.

Expertly directed by Laura Rickhuss, musical direction by Adam Yee and vocal direction by Libby Choo, this Production was refreshingly original and very entertaining.

In The Drowsy Chaperone, the 'Man In Chair's' favourite musical comes to life in his imagination and involves fascinating characters from the extravagant world of the 1920s.

In Laura's words our students' performances were "vivacious and captivating. Their enthusiasm for music and theatre, commitment to the rehearsal process and skilled characterisation has ensured not only the success of this Production, but their development as young artists".







The much-loved theatre classic, Annie was performed by students from Years 3 to 8 over two nights recently, with two casts involved for the main characters.

Masterfully directed by Laura Rickhuss, this production of Annie was a feast for the senses. Little orphan Annie, performed beautifully by Georgia Harrison (Year 5) and Sidra Nissen (Year 6) won our hearts over with her sweetness and determination to find her parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City Orphanage.

The embittered Miss Hannigan who ran the Orphanage was perfectly portrayed by Freya Boltman (Year 7) and Olivia Harrison (Year 7). Mr Warbucks, Grace, Lily and Rooster were also magnificently cast and performed over both nights. The entire cast provided 2 nights of wonderful family entertainment and with the superb musical direction of Adam Yee and the wonderful vocal direction of Georgia Brooks and Dermot Tutty, the audience couldn't help but get swept up in the magic of the Musical.





















FOUNDATION

Science Fundraiser



Run or walk to raise money for Science education!

On **Sunday 26 October 2014** the Caulfield Racecourse Run and Community Day will take place in the centre of iconic Caulfield Racecourse to raise money for future Scientists and Engineers!

In support of kids in the wider community, this year The King David School (TKDS) in collaboration with the Robert Feigin Memorial Scholarship Trust (RFMST) and Ardoch Youth Foundation, are raising money for an outreach program to allow kids from all walks of life the opportunity to participate in our highly acclaimed Robotics and Lego League programs. A social justice initiative, the program expands TKDS' Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) education leadership to other schools, while creating mentoring opportunities for our students. Coinciding with the TKDS Senior Science Fair that afternoon, the 26 October is looking like a day to remember!

The Caulfield Racecourse Run will consist of a 10km run with a 5km walk/run option for those wanting an easier pace. Both legs will kick off from 10am. For kids under 8 years, there will be a short run around the Racecourse lake.

There will also be a Community Fete on the day with music, entertainment and rides.

Last year, TKDS came second overall in the Caulfield Racecourse Run, raising \$3,000 for kids in financial need, plus a \$1,000 gift from Bendigo Bank. This year we would like to beat that result - together we can do it!

By involving Ardoch Youth Foundation, this extends our value of social equity and awareness of The King David School's leadership in educating future Scientists and Engineers.

Runners and Walkers can register and join The King David School team and get sponsored with as many sponsors as you can.

Please visit The King David School Team page at:

www.mycause.com.au/page/82319/runorwalktoraisemoneyforscience to register, join the team and donate! Share on Facebook, Twitter, email and go in the running to be the highest fundraiser! All sponsors will receive a receipt for their donations and can leave motivating messages on The King David School team page.

There will be a 10km Run and a 5km Walk which will start at 10am. Registration at 9am and warm up at 9.45am.

We look forward to seeing you there!

This initiative is dedicated to the family of the late Robert Feigin, in memory of the 20 year anniversary of his passing. May his memory be for a blessing.



"Our Dad believed strongly in Science and volunteering. Today, these are two of our greatest passions. We feel lucky to be able to intergrate these in memory of our Dad, through the work of the Robert Feigin Memorial Scholarship Trust, The King David School and Ardoch Youth Foundation. We hope to make a difference to the lives of these kids through access to Science and opportunities. We think our Dad would be proud." Ricky, Anita & Alex Feigin, TKDS Alumni and Trustees of the RFMST.

Welcome



Foundation

Our community welcomes Sam Sharman this month, who joins The King David School Foundation as Deputy Chair to Michael Lawrence. As Immediate Past President of Temple Beth Israel. Sam is on the Board and Executive at TBI. conducts school tours of the Shul, and has been part of the team in the recent refurbishment project.

Sam is an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher, is passionate about education and believes that it is our responsibility as a community to provide holistic child development — physical, emotional and spiritual. Sam considers herself fortunate to be able to devote her time toward helping this become a reality.

We welcome Sam to the Foundation team and School community.



Gala Dinner Invitation



Please join us for a Gala Dinner to celebrate the achievements of The King David School during Michele Bernshaw's leadership

TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER 2014 6:45PM for 7:00PM The River Room Crown Melbourne

The evening will honour Michele for her contribution to the School and the wider community. Featuring entertaining anecdotes from Colleagues and Alumni. RULER OUTDOOR E

Tickets can be purchased online www.kds.vic.edu.au or contact Jackie Ellis on 9527 0103

TICKET PRICES PER PERSON: Current Parents & Staff - **\$90** KDS Alumni - **\$70** Community - \$120 Function Host - \$250 Function Patron - \$500

DRESS: Lounge Suit

We look forward to sharing this momentous occasion with you







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PRE-SCHOOL

Grandparents and Special Friends' Shabbat

Pre-School children celebrated Shabbat together with grandparents and special friends during Term 3.

The children sang Shabbat songs and performed Shabbat rituals to the delight of their adoring families.









"Grandparents' Shabbat is always a treat - you celebrate with each grandchild and store a unique set of memories into the memory bank -We love receiving the first challah of the day and the candles which we use later at home. There was an additional treat for us when Luca's older sister Claudia could celebrate with her younger brother and also be present with her four grandparents. How fortunate we are".

Erica Frydenberg

"What a pleasure it was to attend the grandparents and special friends' Kabbalat Shabbat of Minnie and her classmates recently. Each of the children was given something special to do during the session, and the teachers had obviously taught them very well because it all went so happily and smoothly. It is a joy to see our traditions kept alive by this youngest of our generations".

Joe Lewit



VISUAL ARTS

B'nai B'rith Art Competition

The Annual B'nai B'rith Jewish Youth Art Competition, held in August at the Glen Era Town Hall Arts Complex is, according to the organisers, "a great forum for showcasing the wonderful creative talents of Jewish students in the 11 - 18 age group". Our Middle and Senior School students were recognised for the high standard of their artwork, achieving a total of eight awards. Courtney Pollak, Year 12 VCE Studio Arts student received the top two prizes at the Exhibition. She was awarded the major prize, the \$1000 Bencian Rozenswaig Memorial Scholarship for the student whose "work demonstrated the most potential". In addition, Courtney won the Morrie Gold Memorial Award for best artwork in the Exhibition which included a \$500 cheque. Courtney's work, titled "Millie" which is a drawing using ballpoint pen of her maternal grandmother, also won the King David Sharon Hamilton Visual Arts Acquisition Award at Presentation Evening at the end of last year.







Our VCE Arts Show was held on Sunday 14 September at the Rebecca Magid Centre. Studio Arts, Media and Visual Communication Design students in Years 11 and 12 presented highly creative pieces which are part of their VCE assessment work. Families were able to view the artwork in the Joseph Brown Gallery and film screenings by Media students were presented in the Walter and Alwynne Jona Multipurpose Hall. Students have worked hard all year in preparation for this Arts Show and the calibre of artwork, design pieces and media presentations showcased the wonderful individual expression. creativity and extremely high standard of work produced by our Visual Arts students.

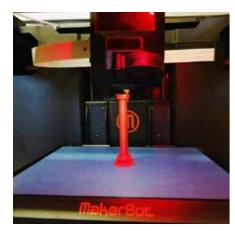


SCIENCE



3D Printing

As part of the Year 11 Astrophysics detailed study, students had the opportunity to design a space-based observatory using Computer Aided Design (CAD) software donated to the School by Autodesk. These designs could subsequently be 3D printed using one of the 3 state of the art 3D printers, donated to the School by our Parents' Association.





Mentoring

With the support of the Robert Feigin Memorial Scholarship Trust (RFMST) and Ardoch Youth Foundation, an outreach program has been established involving students from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, giving them the opportunity to benefit from the expertise the School has gained from its Robotics and Lego League programs.

King David is a leader in Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) education and is committed to creating a love of Science with students not only within the School, but beyond. The outreach program is beneficial to our robotics students as they gain valuable mentoring experience.

Recently, keen Lego League students from Monterey Secondary College in Frankston North, came to the Senior School for a mentoring session with our robotics students. They are hoping to gain sufficient experience so that a team can be put forward for this year's Lego League Tournament in November.





The Inaugural King David Science Fair Sunday 26 October 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Projects on display by students in Years 9 & 10 Interactive stations with activities for students of all ages including robots and slime making Refreshments provided

JEWISH LIFE

Jewish Life



Our students' Jewish Learning has been very focussed during the month of Elul on activities that promote self-reflection and introspection, with a major focus upon Teshuva (repentance), Tefillah (prayer) and Tzedaka (justice).

Year 2 students have performed the mitzvah of blowing the shofar for the younger students at the Junior School. Junior School students also participated in the ritual of Tashlich (the symbolic casting off the sins of the previous year) and participated in a Shofar making workshop.

Pre-School children visited Temple Beth Israel and helped transform the Synagogue into white, representing a fresh start. Years 3 to 8 students spent time during T'filah sessions in small groups, examining:

• Teshuva – students, using Rambam's 4 step guide to repentance, namely recognise, regret, reconcile and refrain, reflected on what they had done well in the last year and what they could improve on.

- Tefillah students were asked to selfreflect by considering someone in their year level they really admire and for what reason. They then had to think about a real person role model and what qualities they recognise in that person that they would like to aspire to in the following year.
- Tzedaka students brainstormed in small groups, how they could implement Tzedaka within their school, their community, their country or



the World. There was also discussion surrounding active involvement in protecting the environment as a key responsibility in being a global citizen.

During weekly Mifgash, Senior School students engaged in a "High Holy Days Marketplace" where they explored their relationship to teshuva, tefillah and tzedaka. Students across the School also ate apples dipped in honey and heard the Shofar sounded throughout the month of Elul.



We extend a hearty mazal tov to the following King David Alumni. Please continue to keep us informed by sending your news to: jackie.ellis@kds.vic.edu.au. Please also advise of changes to your contact details, especially email.

Alumni News...

Engaged

Braham Cohen (2005) Joe Dreyfus (2003) Zak Eichenbaum (2004) Danielle Grayman (2006)

Married Dora Banyasz (2000)

Adam Rogers (1998)

Births Daniel Stiglitz (1995) Gabriel Marc Stiglitz August 2014 Monique Sweetland (Hain)(1994) Gus Sweetland July 2014

Hannah Taft Tara Kornhauser (2003) July 2014 Amy Spark Clinton Yudelman

Jonathan Goldsmith Samantha Duzenman

Simi Kaplan Wilf Sweetland August 2014 August 2014 October 2013

September 2014 August 2014



Alumni Joe Dreyfus and Tara Kornhauser celebrated their engagement in September 2014. Mazal Tov!



Australian Company of Les Misérables with Sir Cameron Mackintosh

Yossi Torbiner graduated from TKDS in 2009. He was then accepted into the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA), and graduated with a Bachelor of Production (Lighting/Stage Management) in 2012. He was awarded Beleura the Tallis Foundation Award for Design and Production, and was given the honour of 2013 VCA Valedictorian.

He is currently Assistant Stage Manager on Cameron Mackintosh's brand new

production of Les Misérables, currently playing at Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne before touring Australia.

Yossi spent last year touring Australia, as Assistant Stage Manager, with Grease the Musical starring Rob Mills, Todd McKenney and Bert Newton.

His other professional credits in Stage Management include Legally Blonde the Musical in Sydney and Melbourne (Frost/ Panter), Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (TML) and for a Developmental Reading of a new Musical for the Gordon/Frost Organisation.

Recent Lighting Design credits include Third World Blues (Company Eleven), Evermore at Sunnylot Music Festival; RENT – BuSTCo (Lyrebird Award), Distance (La Mama).

THE KING DAVID SCHOOL

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

להבין ולהשכיל TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND

Modern | Thinking | Judaism