



EMANUEL SCHOOL

# Grandparents'

# NEWS

August 2009

Av 5769

Vol 1 Issue 1

Welcome to the first edition of the Grandparents Club Newsletter. If you have something of interest the Emanuel family should know about, please contact Sonia Newell, Development Officer, [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au) for inclusion in future newsletters.

## Invitation to Grandparents & Friends Day



We are delighted to invite all grandparents and special friends of children in Years K-6 to our annual Grandparents and Friends Day which will take place on Wednesday 12 August from 8:30am to 10:50am.

There will be an early morning tea and welcome outside the Aron Kleinlehrer Performing Arts Centre (PAC) followed by classroom visits from 9:00am to 10:00am. The day will conclude with a Book Fair and morning tea outside the Library.

If grandparents or special friends would like to attend please reply prior to Wednesday 5 August 2009 to Ms Sonia Newell on (02) 9398 8388 or email [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)

Are you interested in the history of the Emanuel School site? Do you know that the Saunders Building was designed by Edmund Blacket – a famous architect who also designed Sydney University and other well known buildings in Sydney? We have early letters explaining what the site was like in the 1890s when the Loreto Convent ran a boarding and day school and young ladies from the district learned “Department and Calisthenics” and received “a superior Education.” We are planning a historic tour of the site in Term 4. This will take place on a Sunday morning from 10.30am-11.30am. If you are interested please contact Desi Spiro on 8383 7333 or [dspiro@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:dspiro@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)



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20 Stanley Street Randwick NSW 2031  
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## Update From The Board

### New Building

The Board is pleased to report that Emanuel School has been successful in receiving a \$2.5m grant from the Federal Government for funding via its new Building the Education Revolution stimulus programme. This, together with the largest donation in the history of the School from longstanding benefactors Aron and Helen Kleinlehrer, means that the new four-level permanent building next to the Canteen is fully funded.

The new building will contain a Primary School Library, three state-of-the-art science laboratories, a Language Learning Centre, and an additional Primary School classroom, as well as underground parking. Construction costs are expected to be above \$5m. The plans have been approved by Randwick Council and the NSW Heritage Council and construction is expected to commence in the months ahead.

*Jonathan Sesel*  
President

## Schmooze with a grandparent...



My name is Zina Kaplan and my grandchildren Samuel (6 Kislev) and Lucia (3 Nissan) Meyerratkan only commenced their schooling at Emanuel last year and it has been wonderful to see how quickly they have adapted and settled in. I think a lot of this is due to the warm, community spirit the School evokes. I'm often at the School, picking up the children, doing rosters or attending special presentation days and there's always a friendly wave of recognition from the security guards, a quick chat with one of the parents or teachers and a greeting from [Emanuel Primary Principal] Gabriel Pallo.

I was born in Kiev after the War and my parents and older sister migrated to Melbourne in 1949 where I was raised and educated. My grandparents and many members of my family perished in the Holocaust so I never knew what it was to have an extended family. Just a few years after I got married, we moved to Sydney and my own children only saw their grandmothers in Melbourne a few times a year. So, when Sammy and Lulu were born, I felt doubly blessed because I had a chance to give my grandchildren what I - and my own children - had missed out on. We live just minutes away and they are an integral part of my life. I am very grateful to be able to be involved with their daily activities and to be (almost) fit enough to keep up with them... indoors! Forget the outdoors, they're better swimmers, runners and dogwalkers!

## Message from the Parents & Friends Association (P&F)

Emanuel School Parents & Friends Association works hard throughout the year to fundraise so that we can contribute towards improvements at the School. We assist our teachers and staff with communal events such as the fantastic Pesach Seders and we hold various events to bring our community together. The P&F will be holding our Major Fundraiser on 25 October at the School. This will be an Evening of Art, Auction & Cocktails. We hope to see many of our grandparents attend this event. We are also looking for items to auction in our silent and live auctions on the evening. Perhaps some of you have a business or a contact who would be interested in donating a product or service towards the auction? The P&F Secretary, Liane Turtledove (liane@turtledove.com.au) and I (alexis.aruch@gmail.com) would love to hear from you if you do.

The children in Year K to Year 6 are all producing artworks which will then be collated and made into greeting cards that the P&F will sell as Rosh Hashanah gifts. These will make a very special and unique gift for family and friends.

I look forward to meeting many of you at Grandparents & Special Friends Day. The P&F is always looking for assistance and support. We already have a few fabulous grandparents who have offered to be placed on our Volunteers Register so that they can be advised when the P&F is looking for assistance. If anyone else is interested, please email me or Liane Turtledove. We would love to have you as part of our team whenever you are able.

*Best wishes from my team,*

*Alexis Aruch*

*P&F President*

Whether it's "assisting" with homework (the English part is a breeze) but I had to google perimeters for Year 3 Maths!) the competitive (mostly from their Papa) scrabble, boggle, rummy tile games, their skilful and mostly winning negotiations at Shabbas bed-times, the chats about school and their friends, I love and cherish my time with them.

I was a "working Mum" when my children were growing up - a journalist and copy-writer. I later worked in radio Marketing and Promotions. So, I really appreciate the gifts of grandparenthood - I can love them, then hand over the responsibility.

Now like many other 'baby boomers' I am supposedly retired, but work as practice manager for my GP husband several days a week, I'm a member of two book clubs and a choir, I do pilates with my daughter, walk the dog, entertain and am the "Dr Ruth/Dr Phil" for family and close friends.

I speak, read and write Yiddish fluently and am happy to teach this wonderful, evocative language to anyone who is interested. I have done volunteer work for the Sydney Jewish Museum and at the Shalom Institute and now I'm a very enthusiastic committee member of the newly formed Grandparents Club at Emanuel School.

As an Emanuel grandparent, I feel very privileged to be part of the School Community. I am appreciative and aware of what the School offers our grandchildren and hope I can give something back to show my support.

We hope you enjoyed reading this newsletter and we look forward to your contributions in the future. Please email your contact details so we can add you to our mailing list. All correspondence should be sent to [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)



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