



EMANUEL SCHOOL

Grandparents & Friends

NEWS

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Introduction from the Development Officer



Welcome to our end of year edition of this newsletter. Via the Internet and email, we can now let Grandparents

and Friends across the globe know just what is happening at School. We held a very successful Primary School Grandparents and Friends Day on 7 September, combining it for the first time with *Rosh Hashanah* and *Kabbalat Shabbat*. Please see the Jewish Studies Department report for details and photos.

Emanuel School turns 30 next year!! We are planning some very exciting events to celebrate this milestone, so stay tuned....

You can read past issues of this newsletter as well as our weekly *Ma Nishma* on the School website, www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au under "Publications".

We wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and look forward to an exciting 2013.

Sonia Newell, Development Officer



Emanuel School is a member of the JCA family of Organisations



EMANUEL SCHOOL

20 Stanley Street Randwick NSW 2031
www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au

EMANUEL SCHOOL Where the Individual Excels



From the Principal's Office

Dear Grandparents and Friends
of Emanuel School,

As we come rapidly to the end of the year, I'd like to tell you about some of the student initiatives this year in the area of social action, across the School. Volunteering and fundraising for those less privileged than us are ways of life here. Positive Psychology is the basis of our philosophy of student and staff wellbeing at the School. This philosophy shows us that the best way to ensure a life of flourishing is through having a purposeful life and giving one's time for the good of others.

One piece of evidence for this is the way in which all the Year 9 students have embraced the Duke of Edinburgh program this year. This involves them doing community service, among other activities, which they organise themselves. Another is an initiative of our 2012 Social Action *Madricha*, Aliza Waxman, who organised a comedy evening to raise money for Braveheart, an organisation that protects children at risk of violence. Just lately, our Year 10 students have been given the challenge of raising \$6,000 to pay for a water tank for Genna Radnan's Grandma Jenny's women's training centre in Kenya. Our two trips to the Northern Territory and Jilkminggan School near Mataranka this year have initiated fund-raising for laptops for the students there. Primary School students raise money for a range of charities, including sponsoring children through the PLAN program. This year, the students from K – 12 have raised over \$30,000 for a range of good causes.

Our students have also given their time to help out with a number of other programs. Some of them make a weekly trip to Eastern Respite, spending time and helping out with the disabled teenagers who use the centre after school and during the holidays. Last term, in collaboration with the Holdsworth Centre and Year 10, we had a program of regular visits to the School by young disabled people for afternoon activities, with a band of Emanuel students and teachers to help out. Earlier this year five of our Year 10 students collaborated with the SRC to raise funds to bring Ya, a young Cambodian boy, out to Australia for five weeks. This year our SRC and a group of students have been conversing with an entirely new SRC in Nepal at the Heartland Children's Academy in Kathmandu. The SRC there wanted some tips on running meetings, agendas, ways of operating and so on. Our students not only gave them advice, but also sent over a lot of gifts that they had made by hand.

The different initiatives are many and varied, as are our students, but they all have the common theme of striving to make a positive difference to others' lives.

I hope the end of the year goes well for all of you. Don't forget that 2013 is our 30th Anniversary, with numerous opportunities to celebrate this wonderful milestone.

I hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter and keeping in touch with Emanuel School.

Anne Hastings, Principal

Update from the Board

The School Board transitioned its leadership at the beginning of Term 4, when Grant McCorquodale was elected as the new President, with Shira Sebban as Vice-President and Abigail Goldberg as Chair.

They succeed outgoing President David Nathan and Vice-President Anthony Holman, whose youngest children are graduating from the School this year.

We thank both David and Anthony for their considerable contribution to the Board over the last ten years, during which time our student numbers, reputation and facilities have all grown considerably.

Grant, who will guide the School into its 30th year in 2013, holds a senior role with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and has already served a number of years on Emanuel's Board and Finance Committee.

We are looking forward to celebrating Emanuel's 30th anniversary with you in 2013. We are delighted to see so many former students now returning to enrol their children in our School.

2013 will also be our Capital Appeal year. We hope to be able to count on your support to raise funds for a much needed upgrade to our facilities for our students.

Plans for a new building, which will amalgamate and replace the two current temporary demountables, include eight classrooms, a visual arts precinct, a 200 seat tiered theatre and a learning and leadership centre. The outcome will also release new recreational space, so critical for our students.

We thank our Principal Anne Hastings and her staff for a strong and fulfilling year, offering unlimited support for, and dedication to our students

We are also grateful to all our inspirational volunteers, whose contribution makes such a difference to our students. We are so appreciative of the commitment you provide.

We wish you all a *Chag Sameach* and well-earned break and look forward to a wonderful 2013.

A NOTE TO REMEMBER

If you have mobility problems and would like to come to the School for an event, please contact the organiser of the event and they will arrange for parking in our car park, which provides easy access to the lift and the Multi-purpose Hall (MPH).

Message from Kornmehl Centre Emanuel Pre-school



2012 has been a very special and busy year with so many opportunities for parents and grandparents to be involved in our program. We recognise that families are children's first and most influential teachers. At Kornmehl all children and families are respected and actively encouraged to collaborate with educators

in order to ensure that learning experiences are meaningful. Partnerships are based on the foundation of the understanding of each other's expectations and attitudes, and built on the strength of each other's knowledge.

At Kornmehl we have been very lucky to have a number of grandparents come in during the year to help with activities such as baking, gardening and reading to the children. The joy it brings to the children's lives is immense and helps to contribute to the family and community spirit we encourage and foster at Kornmehl. Building these important relationships is vital to our program and the overall wellbeing of the children.

This year we held two very special family fun days. The first was a Movie Night and the second was a Mini Olympics. For each of these events parents, grandparents, staff and children enjoyed a relaxed and interactive time together. The most pleasure we all got was seeing how happy and excited the children were to have their families join them at Pre-school.

In Term Three, we invited parents to join us for Shabbat. It is always special when grandparents come along too to witness the special spirit and feelings that Shabbat evokes in the children. Shabbat is one day when all three groups at Kornmehl come together. Nothing gives us more pleasure than sharing our weekly Shabbat experience with families.

Over the past three years we have been very lucky to have one of our grandfathers offer to compile and make a DVD for Kornmehl families for the end of the year. This daunting job is taken in his stride and the end result is a stunning visual representation of the entire year at Kornmehl for families to treasure and enjoy for years to come.



We also enjoy taking the children during the year to visit the residents of The Burger Centre. The children sing, dance and entertain the appreciative audience, who delight in seeing young faces and who sing along to many of our familiar tunes.

At Kornmehl, we are also very privileged to see many of our grandparents on a daily or weekly basis, as they drop off or pick up their grandchildren. This has allowed us to form strong connections with them and to get to hear some of the grandparents' special stories. We invite all Kornmehl grandparents to come in more often and share in our special Kornmehl spirit.

"What children need most are the essentials that grandparents provide in abundance. They give unconditional love, kindness, patience, humor, comfort, lessons in life. And, most importantly, cookies." Rudolph Giuliani (past Mayor of NYC).

Terry Aizen, Director

There are many opportunities to be involved. If you have a little time to spare and would like to help at School, please contact Sonia Newell on 8383 7350

What is “GESHER”, you ask?

Gesher is the Hebrew word for “bridge” and from that word and its connotations we developed *Gesher Community Connections* – it really is the figurative bridge between the School and the wider Emanuel community.

Through *Gesher* we connect with Grandparents and Friends, both past and present, and Old Scholars (Alumni). We also include external organisations that have an interest in our School under the *Gesher* umbrella.

With around 760 students at School we have a growing grandparents’ database, including many grandparents who live overseas and regularly receive news from *Gesher*. More than 800 Old Scholars have completed their schooling here at Emanuel, increasing each year, so our School “family” is growing!

You can read about *Gesher* news on the School website under “Community”. We also have updates in *Ma Nishma*, our weekly newsletter and of course, our bi-annual newsletters are full of news, *simchot* and photos.



Message from the Parents & Friends



The year has flown by and since the last newsletter in July, the P&F has been having fun and fundraising as we work to promote the wonderful Emanuel community of which we are all a part.

This year our Father’s Day breakfast for Fathers, Grandfathers and special friends had a huge

turnout and was thoroughly enjoyed by the children in particular, as well as the dads and granddads of course. The children got so very excited spending time with the special men in their lives whilst our merry band of volunteer mums were in the kitchen bright and early at 6am to ensure everyone was well fed.

This year, we trialled new personalised gifts for Father’s Day. Children could include their photos or photos with their dads and granddads and these were printed onto mugs or mouse mats. These proved to be an incredibly popular gift offering as well as helping us to raise funds.

The weather was perfect for our Emanuel Camping weekend in early November, which by all accounts was a huge success. 102 people attended in total, made up of 32 families comprising 54 children and 48 adults. A great time was had by all from the Friday night *Kiddush* under the Emanuel Gazebo to the Talent Show on the Saturday night, which proved to be the highlight of the trip. The children loved toasting marshmallows by the open fire and participating in a wide range of activities including bush walking, kayaking and horse riding.

We would like to extend our thanks to you for your support of the Coles and Woolworths voucher programs. This year we collected in excess of 10,000 Woolworths vouchers – a 4,000 increase over last year – and we are pleased to report that the School has already purchased Mathematics equipment for the classrooms, which will be used from next year.

The Coles vouchers were too large in volume to attempt to count and so these are with Coles, who are working to finalise counts and will advise us of our final tally before the year is out.

As a school community, we will be donating a percentage of the Coles vouchers collected to the Jilkminggan School in the Northern Territory.

Our Uniform Shop continues to provide an essential service to our school community, and we would like to extend our thanks to our grandparents who volunteer their time there.

The Trivart event on 11 November was the culmination of many months of work by both the school and the P&F and brought together over 240 families and friends of the Emanuel community.

The spirit of Emanuel shone through the wonderful art produced by our children in conjunction with the teaching staff, through our student volunteers and through the generosity of spirit of our P&F volunteers and sponsors, who worked so incredibly hard to put together an evening which proved to be a highlight of the Emanuel calendar this year.

We were blessed to have the services of Andrew Klein, one of our parents, as our MC and he ensured that the night was a hit right from the start.

The P&F were able to raise in excess of \$10,000 towards the school bus, whilst the School raised funds to support the Artist in Residence program and for the One Laptop per Child program for the Jilkminggan School.

Our parent volunteers have been assisting the School through the Wellness Club programs, the Mitzvah Meals program, and the Olympathon just to name a few of the many activities taking place in the vibrant community that is Emanuel.

As the school year is drawing to a close, we are busy preparing our calendar of events for 2013. Next year will include our usual programs such as the *challah* program which allows families to have *challot* delivered every week, Camping Trips in March and November, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day etc.

We are also planning some new exciting projects, including a cookbook to tie in with the 30th Anniversary of the School, a book cover fundraiser, and a fete in Term 4. We are very excited to be able to bring the production of *Chocolate, Change & a Skinny Flat White – a Quasi Musical in Oy Flat* to Emanuel in Term 1, 2013.

We thank you for your continued support of the P&F and we look forward to your participation in all our activities in 2013.

Sharon Schulz & Susie Rosen,
P&F Co-Presidents

From the Jewish Studies Department

"I love my grandparents because they make yummy food".

"My grandparents are special because they love me".

"I love sleeping over at my grandparent's house".

These are some of the answers students gave when asked why grandparents are special. This year for the first time we combined our *Rosh Hashanah* celebration with Grandparents and Friends Day. Some 300 visitors and 350 Year K-6 students came together in the Lehrer Family Building Multi-purpose Hall (MPH) to enjoy a variety of activities.

The day started with *Kabbalat Shabbat* run by Year 12 *Madrichim*, leading their final sing-a-long for our students before leaving for their HSC preparations. Grandparents together with the K-6 students sang *Shabbat* songs in a wonderful atmosphere filled with *ruach* (spirit). The Emanuel parent and teacher choir then sang the song *Zochrenu* with beautiful harmony conducted by Mr Adam Majsay, Head of Music. Year 5 students prepared a story and rap relating to *Rosh Hashanah* using movements and drums, directed by parents Debbie Meyer and Josh Oshlak. They gave their time and expertise to this performance and have demonstrated once again the special connection Emanuel has with our community. The finale of the morning was the song *Aveinu Malkenu*, sung by the Junior Choir and then by all the students, grandparents and friends together. What a moving way to conclude!

Grandparents and Friends then joined the students at various workshops. Years K-1 learned about bees and how honey is made. The students then made beautiful *Shana Tova* cards with their grandparents.

Year 2 students made a coaster in the shape of an apple for a *Rosh Hashanah Kiddush* cup, decorating it with bright colours and *Rosh Hashanah* symbols.

Year 3 students together with their grandparents made a *Shofar*. The *Shofar Factory* explained where the *shofar* comes from and the origin of the *mitzvah*. The students then sanded and lacquered their own *shofar*. The whole school was filled with the sound of the *shofar* for the rest of the day and some of us were deafened by the noise.

Year 4 students made beautiful candle holders as well as candles from colourful



wax which we hope they used on their *Rosh Hashanah* dinner table.

Year 5 decorated magnificent *Challah* covers, using the Hebrew words *Shana Tova* and drawing *Rosh Hashanah* symbols.

Year 6 students made round *challah* boards for the *Rosh Hashanah* table. The boards were unique in their decoration and the students were very creative, drawing *Rosh Hashanah* and Jewish symbols and writing *Shana Tova* in Hebrew.

Grandparents who have a number of grandchildren at Emanuel School, would have enjoyed a decorative table filled with many artworks that the children produced. The day ended with a sing-a-long in the MPH and a three-generation shofar blowing, which was very emotional.

It really was a wonderful morning and we look forward to welcoming our Grandparents and Special Friends again next year.

Many grandparents also attended the recent Year 2 Pathways ceremony, in which families joined the children at the weekly Primary School Torah service and formally presented them with their school *siddur*.

This *siddur* will be used by the students during their daily prayers. In preparation for

Pathways, each *siddur* was personalised in a number of special ways. Each child composed their own prayer of thanksgiving and parents wrote their own special prayer for their child, both of which were incorporated in the *siddur*.

Parents and students were involved in various honours during the *tefillah* service. Three generations of the Auerbach family were called to the Torah as representatives of the Year 2 families and to symbolise how the rich heritage of our *siddur* has been passed on

From the Jewish Studies Department (continued)

between the generations. "It was very moving to be with the whole family standing together at the Pathways ceremony" said Grandmother, Mrs Wanda Manning. "I am so happy that the grandparents are invited to these special events and we are included in the lives of our grandchildren. It was so special to see Solomon and Shoshana receive their *siddur* and see how delighted they were with the words written by their Mummy and Daddy. It was also fantastic to see how much Mordechai had learnt since his Pathways ceremony a few years ago."

Before giving their child the *siddur*, parents were led in the *birkat banim* – the blessing over the children. After receiving their *siddur*, students recited the *Shechiyanu* prayer and led their families in singing *Adon Olam*. This beautiful ceremony was followed by hugs, kisses and the singing of *siman tov u' mazal tov*.

The pride and delight expressed by the children and their families over the giving of the *siddur* was something very special to witness. Families shared a quiet moment at the end of the ceremony to read over and share the special blessings they wrote. Year 2 students will spend the remainder of the term joining the weekly Torah service and familiarising themselves with their *siddur*.



Events at Emanuel School



Schmooze with a Grandparent...

Rose & Ray Novis

Rose and her husband Ray, were born in South Africa, he in 1932 in Pretoria and she in a country town or “dorp”, in 1936. They had happy childhoods with *Habonim* and sport playing a big part in their lives. Vryheid, where Rose did all her schooling, was a predominantly *Afrikaans* speaking town in a coalmining area. There were about 35 Jewish families but there was a *shule* and a *cheder*. Rose has no memory of anti-semitism at school, although Ray experienced it at his state school, both from staff and the boys.

They met (on a blind date) soon after Rose matriculated and were married three years later. By then Ray was a qualified dentist and Rose was in her final year of physiotherapy. Having then saved some money, they went on a working holiday to London, Europe and Israel. Living in London resulted in the development of a love of live theatre and travel that has been an important part of their lives.

Rose and Ray then returned to South Africa and settled in Pretoria where they had four children and lead very busy and active lives. However, the Apartheid Policy of the ruling Nationalist Party was always a concern and in January 1987, they took the big step of immigrating to Australia. Allan, their elder son had immigrated three years previously. Hayley, who had recently finished her matriculation came with them. Unfortunately, Kenneth and Clair who were in their 20s, could not get visas at that time. It was also heartbreaking to leave Ray’s aged parents. Starting afresh in a new country when they were in their 50s was a challenge, but in time, the family was reunited and they began enjoying all the wonderful opportunities Australia offered.

When Hayley returned to work after Jordan was born, both Rose and Ray felt it was time to retire and were thus available to care for Jordan three days a week. This has been a fulfilling experience and a great opportunity to be close to a grandchild. They have four older grandchildren, two of whom live in St. Ives and two in Melbourne.

Rose and Ray play tennis, bowls (Ray a lot, Rose less and very badly, she says), bridge and walk regularly. They have maintained their interest in live theatre and the movies. They have attended lectures at Shalom College for many years, which have really enriched their lives. Ray does the gardening, and although their garden is small, in spring and summer it is quite spectacular. Rose likes to do the cryptic crosswords in the *Herald*.

Ray is an enthusiastic sport watcher, so together they have been to many overseas and interstate major sporting events, including Wimbledon five times, three British Open Golf tournaments, three



Olympic Games and nine Australian Open Tennis tournaments, as well as to an Empire Games in Wales and a Commonwealth Games. Ray went to Argentina for the 1978 World Soccer Cup and he also watches rugby at any opportunity.

Rose and Ray’s association with Emanuel School began five years ago, when their grandson Jordan Rom started in Year K at the School. Since then, Rose has fetched Jordan three times a week and so feels very close to the School. When there was a request for volunteers to help in the library a few years ago, she jumped at the chance. She volunteers as a library helper every week and now feels she is doing her bit to help at School. As a keen reader, she also enjoys the atmosphere in the library and the friendliness of the librarians and support staff. Besides Rose’s observations that the School offers so much to all the pupils, she is particularly impressed by the staff of the Wolanski Family Specialist Learning Centre. “They seem dedicated to helping the students reach their best potential” she says.

Would you like to join the Emanuel School Grandparents & Friends Club?

Contact Sonia Newell at Emanuel School to find out how
phone 8383 7333 or email snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au

Project Heritage: Bringing People Together

The Year 6 Project Heritage Oral Presentations were held in the Lehrer Family Building Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH) on Friday 14 September. The theme of the nine presentations was a "Journey around the World," as our Living Historians originated from all corners of the globe. The presentations were the culminating activity of a term's work, including four interviews with the historians and writing their biography. Students also wrote poetry, information reports and completed some stunning art work.

Our students gave oral presentations in their groups, highlighting the features of their historians' lives, values and achievements through the use of drama, film and multimedia. They also sang two beautiful songs: The first, *Oifn Pripitchik*, is a traditional Yiddish song that had several of the historians happily singing along. The presentations concluded with the song, *I am Australian*, to highlight the journey to Australia that all of the historians have taken.

By coincidence, one of our historians, Erich Pisk, was placed in a group with one of his best friend's great granddaughters, Daniella Gold. It was a highly emotional reunion when Daniella's father, Jeff, and Erich were re-connected after not seeing each other since 1978.

All of our students should be congratulated on the respectful, informative yet entertaining way in which they honoured their Living Historians. Their dedication to this project was outstanding.



Stay in touch with the Emanuel School Grandparents & Friends Club

Do you want to add or update your details on our Grandparents and Friends mailing list?
Please complete this form and return it to the School at the address below, or send an email to Sonia Newell at snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au

Name

Current Postal Address

Telephone (mobile preferred).....

Email

Grandchild(ren)

Name Year

Name Year

Name Year

Please return this form to:
Emanuel School Grandparents & Friends Club, Attention: Sonia Newell, PO Box 202 Randwick NSW 2031

We thank our Grandparents and Friends for their time and support in helping make Emanuel School such a special place and we look forward to your continuing assistance.
We believe the information included is correct at the time of printing. Any errors are regretted.



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