



EMANUEL SCHOOL

Grandparents & Friends

NEWS

June 2016

Sivan 5776

Vol 8 Issue 1



from the **Development Office**

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. Another year is flying by! 2016 really is a busy year at School. Here are just some of the recent events we've held with our community.

We held our second Jazz on the Hill, now an annual event to which we invite our School community to enjoy a Sunday afternoon of relaxation and fun, listening to our student jazz bands as well as our staff jazz ensemble and 33 Degrees, an alumni jazz ensemble. The younger children were entertained with a variety of supervised craft and other fun activities. Our Year 9 Design and Technology (D&T) students baked delicious cookies and quiches to sell, and one of our alum, Justin Moddel, was our barista for the afternoon. We held Sederim for each year group – very special times! We celebrated our Year K Pathways ceremony (see report and photos on page 5) as well as our annual Emanuel School/King David School Music Exchange and other school events too numerous to list.

Our annual Primary Grandparents and Friends Day will be held here on Friday 23 September, and as has been the tradition now for a few years, will include Rosh Hashanah celebrations and Kabbalat Shabbat. We hope you will join us for this very special morning with your grandchildren. You will receive information about this event at the start of next term.

We also invite you to join us for our Geshher Nine and Dine golf event on Thursday 17 November at The Coast Golf Club, Little Bay. Please put these dates in your diary.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter. We look forward to welcoming you to events here at School later in the year.

Sonia Newell, Development Officer



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Emery Angles, long standing supporter of Emanuel School, joined the Year 2 children after their Pesach Seder to examine the students' family treasure boxes. Here Emery speaks with Gabriel Pozniak about his box's items.



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EMANUEL SCHOOL

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



From the **Principal's Desk**

Dear Grandparents and Friends of Emanuel School,

The students and staff were excited to be able to begin to use our beautiful new deck and music rooms that were completed over the holidays at the end of Term 1. The deck provides much additional space for High School students to use at recess and lunch, and the music rooms give us a large rehearsal space and four new practice rooms, thus very much expanding the facilities for our Music Department. Both of these fantastic additions to our School will be extremely useful. These facilities represent another major step towards the completion of the renovation of our campus and we are very proud of them. We invite you to come and take a look at our new facilities when next you are at the School.

Late last year we commissioned an independent, confidential 'experience' survey of the 2015 parents as part of our commitment to continually monitor and improve the quality of education we provide to our students. This information is most important for our operational and strategic planning, as well as tracking changes in our performance.

For the 2015 review, a total of 290 Primary and High School parents completed the survey. The surveys were extensive and covered in excess of 300 aspects in relation to education at Emanuel School. Overall, we are very pleased with the results. All areas showed improvement on our previous survey from 2013. However, of course there are areas identified where further attention still needs to be given.

In response to the question about what parents valued most about the School, they noted many aspects of life at Emanuel, including the sense of community and inclusiveness, the warm, safe and nurturing environment, the quality of the teaching staff, the Jewish education, the School values and ethos, the individual student focus, the balanced, quality education and the focus on holistic development and student wellbeing.

I hope to see you at our annual Grandparents Day on 23 September or at some of the many opportunities to watch your grandchildren shine and display their learning that will be happening during Semester 2.

Best wishes

Anne Hastings, Principal



Connecting the Emanuel School Community

Each year we welcome "new" Grandparents and Friends, as new students commence their schooling at Emanuel. For those "not so new" Grandparents and Friends, please forgive me as I remind you all (again) just what Gesher means in our community. Gesher is the Hebrew word for "bridge" and so it is under the banner of Gesher that we invite you to some of the events that bring all members of our amazing School community together! We love that our Grandparents and Friends come to School to share in their grandchildren's activities, to hear beautiful music performed, attend our Pathways ceremonies and the numerous other events organised here at School. We also appreciate the time many of you give to volunteer here as well. We thank you for your contributions to the life of our amazing School and community and look forward to seeing many of you here on Friday 23 September for our annual Primary Grandparents and Friends Day, to help celebrate Kabbalat Shabbat and Rosh Hashanah.

Daniel Knoll,

Board member and Chair, Gesher Committee

"EXACTLY WHAT YOU WISHED FOR!"

SUNDAY 13TH NOV, 6:30 PM
EMANUEL P&F THEATRE EVENT
 STRICTLY LIMITED OFFER

Disney **Aladdin**
 THE HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL

ATTENTION EMANUEL FAMILIES!!
 Don't miss the incredible new production of Disney's Aladdin.
EMANUEL PRICE \$119.50 per ticket - not available anywhere else
 (Usual price \$135 + booking fees)
 Also included **FREE** Souvenir Program per booking (valued at \$25)
PLUS the chance to win one of two Aladdin merchandise packs
 valued at \$100 each.

BOOK NOW <https://www.trybooking.com/199948>
 Questions: Emanuel.aladdin@gmail.com



Message from the **Parents & Friends**

Where has the year gone? We can't believe we are already more than halfway through second term, with so many exciting events planned and so many already having taken place.

We started the year off as we always do, hosting a welcome lunch for all staff,

followed by a welcome to all of our new Year K parents at the Tea & Tissues afternoon which is hosted by our Year 1 parents.

It was wonderful to bring back the camping trips after a hiatus in 2015, and Lindi Bloch did an amazing job in organising our biggest camping event to date, with well over 100 people attending at the Cattai National Park Camping Ground in Hawkesbury, secured exclusively for Emanuel families that weekend.

Our Purim Disco this year was bigger and better than ever. Despite the torrential rain, the children came flocking to the MPH in spectacular costumes and they all enjoyed an afternoon of fun, friendship and, of course, food!

The Pesach sederim this year were held in the new Angles Leadership & Learning Centre (LLC) and were a series of creative new events over a week, including a concert as well as individual year group sederim. As always, a big shout-out of thanks goes to the many grandmothers who helped us setting up and packing away for the sederim, in which the children love to participate.

We celebrated Mother's Day last month and were excited to have so many grandmothers come along to the MPH to enjoy breakfast with their grandchildren. Every year we say we break records with the number of attendees at the breakfasts and this year was no exception. Our mums and grandmas were treated to coffee from a coffee cart donated by Biller Real Estate which proved to be a big hit, as did the tea station offering a selection of teas to tempt the tastebuds. We hope you enjoyed the gifts your grandchildren purchased for you at our Mother's Day Stall.

We are now focused on the second half of the year and have two major events planned. The first is our Emanuel Trivia Night on Saturday 3 September. This event has been two years in the making.

Hosted by our very own Andrew Klein, this is a not-to-be missed event and a wonderful opportunity to get your friends together to compete for top Trivia honours, bragging rights and prizes too of course!



In addition there will be a catered dinner and a full bar. We are looking forward to drinks on the newly opened deck!

Like our previous Trivia Night, there will be a theme twist which promises to add an extra dash of fun to the night. We would love to have the company of our grandparents at this event and those who attended the last event weren't disappointed, so please gather your groups of ten together, and be sure to book your table via the link below. Single tickets are also available but seating requests cannot be guaranteed.

Date: Saturday 3 September.

Time: 7:30pm to 10:30pm

Cost: \$45 per person (includes dinner and munchies)

Venue : MPH Building

Booking: www.trybooking.com/LQOL

If you can't make the Trivia Night but would like to support us, we would welcome your assistance through either the promotion of your business or the donation of products and services to the Trivia Night. We are looking for the following:

- Prizes that are suitable for our Silent Auction (value of \$100+)
- Smaller prizes or gift vouchers that would be suitable for the raffles or as spot prizes during the evening (value of \$25 – \$100)

If you are able to donate a prize, please contact our Trivia Night Gift Co-ordinator, Joanne Rose: joanner174@gmail.com

We appreciate your generosity and hope to see you at our Trivia Night.

Our second major event is our Emanuel Theatre outing to Aladdin on Sunday 13 November, at 6.30pm at the Capital Theatre.

After the success of Matilda, it was always going to be a challenge to find a great show for us all to enjoy but Michael Nebenzahl was able to negotiate a wonderful deal with Disney which will allow us access to an incredible allocation of A Reserve seats.

The great news is that these tickets have been secured for \$119.50 a price that cannot be found anywhere else! The usual price is \$135 + booking fees. In addition, each booking will also receive a complimentary souvenir program valued at \$25.

Show your support to the School – bring along your family and friends and join us for a magical experience. To book, simply log on to www.trybooking.com/LJUI.

By booking with the School you will also go into the draw to win one of two Aladdin merchandise packs valued at \$100 each.

If you have any questions simply email: Emanuel.aladdin@gmail.com

Finally, if you haven't already done so, a great way to keep your grandchildren entertained is through the 2015/2016 Entertainment Books. NEW Digital Memberships are also available to order. The Digital Membership is such a great idea, allowing you to redeem offers directly from your phone.

A percentage of all sales goes to the School, so please be sure to order your book via the link below:

www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/200508p

We thank you for your continued support of the School and hope to see you at one of our events very soon.

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



Message from **Kornmehl Centre Emanuel Pre-school**

The Pre-school children have had a wonderful first half of the year as they learn so much and share some very special times with visitors both here on campus and also on excursions. Bruce Lyons, Zoe Lyons' grandpa who lives in Perth, was in Sydney recently visiting the family and he came to help look after the Kornmehl veggie garden. Susan Sweller, Nathan Shammay's grandma was involved with Bush School as she is every year. Many grandmothers come to help bake for some of our special events. Leonie Milner, a past Kornmehl grandmother, recently returned to prepare dough for one of our regular Friday challah-baking mornings. Grandparents and families are always welcome to help celebrate their grandchildren's birthdays here at the Pre-school.

Terry Aizen, Director



From the Jewish Studies Department

RAVSAK Artists' Beit Midrash competition

Emanuel School, as a pluralist community Jewish Day School, is a member of RAVSAK – a network of community Jewish Day Schools based in North America. Last year some of our students participated in RAVSAK Artists' Beit Midrash competition, a program which encourages students in Primary and High School to use their imaginations, to challenge the traditional definitions of Jewish art and to expand the boundaries of their own potential. We are proud to share that one of our current Year 2 students was awarded an Honourable Mention in the Drawing and Painting (K-5) category. Mazal Tov! The Artists' Beit Midrash attracted a range of quality artistic representations in a variety of media. The winning entries can be viewed on the RAVSAK website: www.ravsak.org/2016-artists-beit-midrash-awards

Chavayah 2015

Towards the end of 2015, 56 of our Year 10 students, accompanied by staff members Kobi Bloom and Caroline Laumberg, travelled to Israel on our Chavayah program.



Yael Grunseit, one of these students, writes "During Chavayah each Shabbat was a very special moment for me and will forever be a highlight of the trip. On our first Shabbat in Israel we were presented with the opportunity to go shule-hopping through Jerusalem with one of our teachers, Miriam. I'm not going to pretend that I go to shule very often because I don't, and that can be partly attributed to the fact that I never really connected with the service. But on Day Seven in Israel, a group of us went to five different synagogues, starting with the Great Synagogue. This was the largest shule we went to, with a very traditional service, something I would expect from an Ashkenazi Orthodox service in Sydney.



The next synagogue we went to was Italian. It was very small with golden and wooden artwork throughout. The service included a lot of singing and community involvement, and you could see the great pride these Italian men and women had in their synagogue. We then continued to walk through the streets of Jerusalem and stumbled across a tiny Sephardi shule. We talked to a group of elderly Israeli men who showed great pride in their synagogue, saying that it is the second oldest Sephardi synagogue outside the Old City. The next place we went was a Moroccan Sephardi Synagogue. This was by far my favourite place. As you walked in you saw metal lanterns hanging from the ceiling that had been donated by each family from the community. There was also a lot of artwork around the shule

donated by families. Whilst we were there they opened the Aron ha-Kodesh for us and we were able to see the traditional cylinder Torah scrolls decorated with fine metalwork. It was such a beautiful shule and an amazing experience. Lastly we went for Kiddush at a Russian Orthodox Chabad Shule. The men and women were separated and there was a lot of singing of Shabbat songs and food for us all to enjoy.

Through this experience, I really found a new appreciation for religious Jews. I was able to connect with the rich history that Jerusalem holds and I admire the dedication and pride of the people attending these shules. This made me really proud of my Judaism and accepting of others. Ultimately moments like this, throughout the trip, changed me to be a much more open-minded and educated person on all forms of Judaism. Just because I may not believe in a certain way of practice doesn't mean I cannot connect with, respect and admire different practices."

If you are a Facebook user, you might like to view a wonderful video by Ethan Cohen about our students' experiences on our Facebook page – 'Emanuel School Community': www.facebook.com/groups/emanuel.community/

Year K Pathways

On Friday 18 March, Year K students and their families came together for their first Pathways ceremony, which serves to celebrate and welcome them to the Emanuel School community. Parents, grandparents and siblings of the Year K students joined the K-2 School for a special Kabbalat Shabbat ceremony, where all of Year K were the guests of honour. The theme was the importance of their Hebrew name and what they do in their lives to create a good name for themselves. We also spoke about the birkat banim, the beautiful blessing of the children by their parents, which is part of the Friday night Shabbat table ritual. Rabbi Jacki Ninio shared a lovely Jewish story and then recited this blessing for the students. In preparation for the ceremony, Year K students traced their hand and decorated it. The drawing of their hand was then given to their parents to write a special blessing for their child. This item was then framed and the parents presented it during the Pathways ceremony. It was inspiring to read the blessings that parents wrote for their children and to see the pride and joy in the faces of the children when receiving their special blessing from their parents. High School Design and Technology students provided delicious Aleph-Bet shortbread biscuits to symbolise the sweet taste of Jewish learning, which they have started to experience at Emanuel School. A big thank you to Ofer Levy who photographed the event and to Ms Buzo, Ms Yunis, Morah Shirley and Morah Jenny.

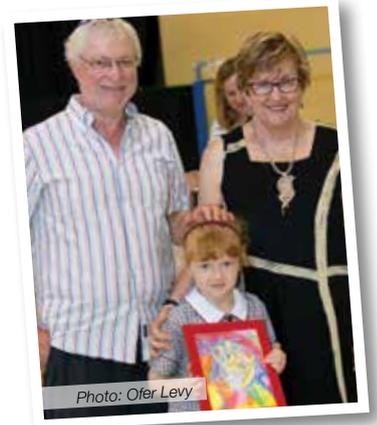


Photo: Ofer Levy



Photo: Ofer Levy

Hagit Bar-On and Adam Carpenter,
Jewish Studies Department

Simcha Sharing with B'nai B'rith Seniors

Before the holiday break and in anticipation of Pesach, Rabbi Danny Siegel, Head of Jewish Life, and a number of students visited the B'nai B'rith Princess Gardens Retirement Village in Rose Bay, to sing Pesach songs and share morning tea, games and conversation with the residents. This was the first time a school had visited the Centre and the seniors were delighted. Our students warmly engaged the residents in conversation, with joy, laughter and smiles quickly pervading the room. There were many highlights to a morning in which we shared some holiday simchah through the singing of Pesach songs and the presenting of gift bags and boxes of Matzah in the spirit of the Chag.



Our students entertained their new friends. Amber Langman sang a beautiful solo for the "crowd" and Ari Merten enticed all to join in as he played several tunes on his ukulele. Miriam Itzkowitz entertained the group with several card tricks and Ricky Studencki shared welcoming words about the holiday and the importance of our joining together as Jewish family and community. We had morning tea together with some special treats for our students, and with the quick passing of time, we soon needed to say our goodbyes. With smiles and embraces, the residents asked that we be sure to return soon. Our students were wonderfully welcoming, showing sensitivity and caring in our time together with the residents of Princess Gardens.



Happy Birthday

Some of our children pictured here, celebrating Mr Aron Kleinlehrer's 94th birthday last month.



Save the Date

Primary Grandparents and Friends Day

Friday 23 September 2016
Please keep the morning free.

EMANUEL SCHOOL
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

THE MILLIE PHILLIPS THEATRE
SATURDAY 25 JUNE, MONDAY 27 AND TUESDAY 28 JUNE 2016 @ 7PM
\$25 FOR ADULTS - \$15 FOR STUDENTS
BOOKINGS NOW OPEN AT: [HTTP://TINYURL.COM/MIDSUMMER2016](http://tinyurl.com/midsummer2016)

You are invited to our School production of
"A Midsummer Night's Dream" in our amazing Millie Phillips
Theatre later this month - bookings essential:
<http://tinyurl.com/midsummer2016>

Mother's Day Classic

On Sunday 8 May (Mother's Day), whilst some mothers were presented with breakfast in bed, 30 people from our School community joined forces as the Emanuel School Striders Team for this year's Mother's Day Classic at The Domain, raising \$961.00 towards helping find a cure for Breast Cancer.

Most of the team entered the 4km walk, including some in prams and others held high on shoulders. Some fit and game people ran the 8km, including our principal Anne Hastings. Everyone had fun whilst helping such a worthy cause at the same time!

Hazel Blend, Devan Bloch's grandma said "what a fun way to spend Mother's Day morning, with my grandson and friends. There was a lovely atmosphere, community feel and fundraising for a great cause." Perhaps some of you will join us next year, as part of our 2017 Emanuel Striders Team!



NOV
17

Save the Date

Gesher Nine And Dine golf afternoon
Thursday 17 November
at The Coast Golf Club

BROUGHT TO YOU
BY
EMANUEL SCHOOL'S
P&F

TRIVIA NIGHT

SILENT AUCTION & CASH BAR THEME YOUR TEAM

Saturday 3 September 2016
7.30pm in the MPH

Bookings are now open at <https://www.trybooking.com/LQOL>

Tickets: \$45 per person which includes dinner, an amazing night with your friends and our MC, Andrew Klein.

This year we have an alphabet theme. Book your table of 10 and we will send you a letter from the alphabet which you can use to theme your team however you like!

Prizes for the best themed table.

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

Schmooze with a Grandparent...

Introducing the new president of the Emanuel School Foundation, Charles Aronson

"I was born in Amsterdam, Holland, the second child of Holocaust Survivors and we migrated to Sydney in February 1951. Prior to leaving Amsterdam, my parents found the surviving child of my mother's sister and her husband, who were both murdered in the Shoah. The little girl had been hidden in the Dutch countryside by the Underground, and when my parents were advised of her survival, they adopted her... so my first cousin became another sister.

After an almost forty-year career in antiques and fine arts, I retired in 2000. In 2002, I started working at the Sydney Jewish Museum as Director of Marketing and Development. I retired from the Museum in 2014 and joined the Museum Board. I now spend most of my time volunteering for the community and helping with my grandchildren.

I have two children and four grandchildren. Thankfully they all live in Sydney. My Emanuel School grandchildren are Samuel and Alice Milner. People are always amused when I tell them I have a child and two grandchildren in the same School. My daughter is Natanya Milner, Head of Primary.

Last year I was asked to take over as President of the Emanuel School Foundation. This Foundation raises funds to assist the School by providing bursaries and scholarships to students who, for financial reasons, may not be able to attend a Jewish day school. The mandate of the Foundation is also to assist financially in any other areas of need in the School. Our benefactors include parents, grandparents and members of the Jewish community who have a desire to contribute to the future of the pluralistic goals of Emanuel School.

Most of my spare time over the past 50 years has been spent in community work. I was President of Masada College for five years, Chairman of North Shore UIA, Treasurer of JCA and Chairman of North Shore JCA, and Treasurer of the Shalom Institute, among other positions. I am currently President of the Emanuel School



Foundation, President of the New South Wales Association of Jewish Ex Servicemen and Women, Chairman of the New South Wales Jewish War Memorial and a Board Member of the Sydney Jewish Museum. In my professional life, I was President of the NSW Antique Dealers' Association for 13 years, President of the Australian Antique and Art Dealers' Association for five years, Chairman of the Australian Bureau of Customs Antique Verification Panel for 25 years and Chairman of the Australian Auctioneers and Valuers' Association Education Committee for many years.

Emanuel School holds a unique position in our community. In educating Jewish children, regardless of their religious affiliations, Emanuel perpetuates the diversity and plurality of our community, engendering a love of Judaism, Yiddishkeit and Israel. For me, a great attraction is the warmth and family spirit which pervade the School. It is such a pleasure to see the kids happy and engrossed. I believe that Emanuel provides a well-rounded, balanced education, leading to future generations of true 'mensches'."

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 send an email to Sonia Newell at snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au

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.

Thank you to our staff and other members of our Emanuel School community for your invaluable contributions to this newsletter.

We believe the information included is correct at the time of printing. Any errors are regretted.



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EMANUEL SCHOOL Where the Individual Excels