



EMANUEL SCHOOL



Connecting the Emanuel School Community

# Connecting with Grandparents & Friends

July 2022

Tammuz 5782

Vol 14 Issue 1



## From the Development Office

Welcome to our latest Grandparents and Friends newsletter.

Term 3 has only just begun and already there is so much happening on campus. We're looking forward to inducting our new High School Madrichim on Tuesday, welcoming back our many students, parents and alumni who competed at the Maccabiah Games in Israel and wishing our Year 12

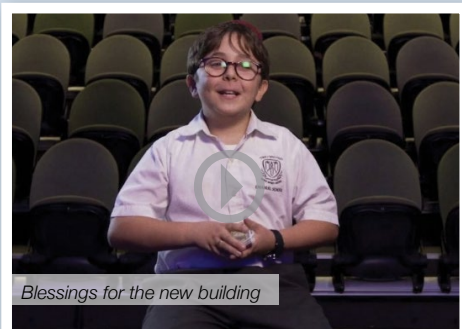
students all the best for their Trials.

We are all part of an amazing community with so much knowledge, wonderful skills and many stories to share. I hope you enjoy reading this latest edition of YOUR newsletter, where you may find the names or photos of your grandchildren and/or those of friends, information about some of the achievements of our wonderful past students, and maybe even a photo of you.

At the end of June, our youngest students celebrated 100 Days of Kindergarten. It was so special to see the children dressed up as "oldies" and enjoying sharing this milestone with their parents and the Years 1 and 2 students.

Thanks to our community's generosity, the construction of our new building is well underway. We interviewed Years 4 and 5 students about their hopes, dreams and blessings for what will be their future 'home'. I know that you will find their responses as inspiring as we did. You can enjoy the interviews by clicking here.

This newsletter is published twice a year whilst the School newsletter, Ma Nishma, comes out every Friday during School term. If you do not receive Ma Nishma but would like to please let me know and I'll add you to the list.



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Stronger together.  
Now more than ever.

## From the Development Office (continued)

Many of our readers would have attended this year's Jewish International Film Festival (JIFF). There were a number of Emanuel connections at the Festival including the film *I Am Here*, a provocative portrait of the feisty and spirited, then 98-year-old Capetonian Holocaust survivor, Ella Blumenthal, one of our Emanuel great grandparents, who turns 101 next month.

Another school connection with JIFF 2022 is Emanuel grandparent, Vic Alhadeff, who wrote a play about his father's Holocaust story titled *Torn Apart by War*. The play was part of an evening of theatre called *Letters From a Troubled Past* produced by Moira Blumenthal.

Our grandparents have, for many years, enjoyed being part of the audience as our students perform in various drama and musical productions. We have an amazingly talented group of students and staff who bring us such professional shows. If you were lucky enough to get tickets for last month's sell-out production of *Lord of The Flies*, you know what I mean. Co-Directors, Samantha Bauer, Head of Drama and David Camp, Head of English/Library said: "Our vision to direct *Lord of the Flies* has finally come to fruition. We are so proud of our absolutely amazing cast for their enthusiasm and dedication to this play. It is no easy feat to perform a serious dramatic work. This group of talented actors has worked tirelessly to bring Goldings' themes alive beautifully on stage. The cast's sensitivity to the content of the play and maturity in dealing with confronting themes was truly admirable".

We thank our many student actors and all those behind the scenes, as well as the staff who directed and produced this fabulous production, and to parent, Ofer Levy, for his magnificent photographs.

In mid-May we welcomed back over 20 of our past students to our 2022 Careers Space event where they spoke with our Years 11 and 12 students, sharing aspects of their journeys post-school. This annual event which we have held with alumni presenters since 2016, provides our students with the opportunity to hear from past students and ask questions about their study and career paths. We hope this annual forum gives these senior students a better understanding that there is so much more to life than just an ATAR and the HSC, and that there are so many opportunities available to them out in the big wide world.

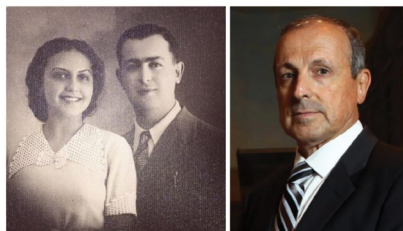
We look forward to welcoming you back to School for a variety of events, including Primary Grandparents Day on Friday 16 September, so watch this space and read Ma Nishma each week during school term. Our last Grandparents Day was held in September 2019 – it was a very special morning where, together with your grandchildren, we all celebrated Rosh Hashanah with songs and activities plus a yummy morning tea – something we all look forward to doing again this September.

If you have news to share, please get in touch: [snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au) and don't forget to keep us updated if you have moved and/or changed your email.

If you did not receive the last newsletter from December 2021, you can see it and all past Grandparents & Friends newsletters at: [www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/Gesher](http://www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au/Gesher)

Sonia Newell, Development Officer – Alumni & Community Relations

### 'Torn Apart by War': Vic Alhadeff's play uncovers the unexpected love story of his Greek Jewish father



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



**FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2022**  
**PRIMARY GRANDPARENTS DAY**  
*More details out soon*





# From the Principal's Desk

By the time you receive this newsletter I will have begun my long-awaited Sabbatical. I will be studying Strategic Leadership in London, followed by time enjoying the beauty of Europe in summer. My wife and I are grateful for the opportunity to take a break from

the frenetic pace of school life and take time to pause, rest, and reflect on my leadership journey thus far. I hope to return refreshed, invigorated and full of new ideas that will be of benefit to our School.



Building works have begun

## Not just bricks and mortar

In 2021 we held a very successful Capital Appeal, raising over \$10 million to redevelop what was known as the Adler Building. I am delighted to confirm that the construction of our new building is well underway.

## Pathways

As COVID restrictions waned, it has been wonderful to see the excitement of those parents, grandparents and alumni who have attended events on campus. On the last day of Term 2 our Year 4 students enjoyed their Pathways Ceremony, receiving their first Tanakh. It is always a moving experience to see so many generations together, enjoying these special moments.



Cast of Lord of the Flies  
Photo by Ofer Levy

## Lord of the Flies

Many of you will remember our High School productions which are always a great success. This year's offering, *Lord of the Flies*, didn't disappoint. Despite illness in the lead up, with no full cast rehearsal possible until two weeks before the opening night, our talented thespians put on a lively and polished performance.

Well done to our Co-Directors, Samantha Bauer, Head of Drama and David Camp, Head of English/Library, as well as the whole cast and crew.

## Reconciliation Action Plan

I am delighted to report that, after a long journey of exploration and preparation, Emanuel School has taken the significant step of submitting a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to Reconciliation Australia, as part of the Narragunnawali network.

Our vision is to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and perspectives and to recognise these as valuable and rich sources of learning. We are committed to building genuine, long-lasting relationships with local and wider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and to fostering a deep connection to the Land on which our School stands. Our vision is to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and languages meaningfully and authentically within our practice. To achieve this, we seek to equip our staff, students and wider school community with the confidence and understanding to do so, and nurture positive partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. We aim to prepare our students to actively pursue reconciliation, thinking and acting with knowledge, understanding and respect. We have committed to a range of actions, to build respect, relationships and opportunities in the classroom, around the school and within the community.

We are proud of our achievements over recent years, including our strong links to the Jilkmanggan community, the strengthening of recognition through our Year 9 Jewish Studies 'Be the Change' elective and our Year 11 Speaker series. 'Putuwa' was introduced on Instagram, which focused on learning and using Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander words, in order to deepen understanding of the culture. With the RAP in place, we look forward to our next steps.



House Music - Rashi

## House Music Extravaganza

Our annual High School *Battle of the Bands/Dancers/Singers* did not fail to delight and impress. Parents joined with students from Years 7 to 12 to enjoy a showcase of colour, creativity and fun! The depth of singing and dancing talent within each House was celebrated with raucous support and Szenes House enjoyed an historic win. This student-led event is one of the highlights of our School calendar and showcases the leadership of Year 12 students and specifically, our House Madrichim.

## Investment Club

Last Term our Year 12 students launched an Investment Club, inviting well-known and successful business people to share their experiences and encourage the students to delve deeply into the world of stocks and shares. Members of the Club are also encouraged to research a related topic to present at meetings. Some interesting meetings included information about careers in

## From the Principal's Desk (continued)

Finance, the current state of global financial markets in the context of rising interest rates and sub-par tech company earnings and the 'Firm Foundation Theory'. This very popular club is growing from strength to strength and I look forward to hearing of its continuing success on my return.

### Shaun Micallef's Brain Eisteddfod

I hope you tuned in to Channel 10 to watch Emanuel Year 11 students, Alix Cane, Jake Fleischer, Ma'ayan Granot and Jake Newfield, in their debut primetime TV appearance as contestants on *Shaun Micallef's Brain Eisteddfod*.

The quiz program sees Year 11 students from 18 schools, compete in teams on a range of school subjects including foreign languages, Australian history, mathematics, physics, art, economics and, according to Shaun Micallef, woodwork.



The team, ably lead by Ma'ayan, had no information about the format or content of the show prior to recording and had to rely on their combined general knowledge and that of the Year 11 curriculum areas as they faced their opposition, Balwyn High School, Victoria. Emanuel was the only Sydney Eastern Suburbs School and Jewish School to be selected to appear on the program.

Appearing on a major network TV show is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I am sure that Alix, both Jakes and Ma'ayan will remember the experience for many years to come. Although the time difference is not terribly favourable, I will still be able to cheer on the team when I watch the catch up episode from Europe on 10 Play!

### Our emerging leaders

In Term 3, students will select their student leaders for 2022/23. In my final assembly address in Term 2 our students were encouraged to select their leaders wisely:

*It is good to remember that before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. But when you become a leader, success is all about growing others. The motives for wanting to be a Madrich or Madricha should focus on serving, on giving, on wanting our School to thrive, on wanting to be a great ambassador for Emanuel. It should not be about the prefect badge, the power, the extra ATAR points for leadership, or having it on your CV. Every student in their senior years carries the responsibility of being a leader at Emanuel, whether it be a formal or informal position, or whether they want it or not! In practice, this means that they should:*

- *Never walk past poor behaviour or bullying in school, but rather, they should intervene and report*
- *Step in, if the behaviour of our students in the playground, on buses or at the shops is disruptive or rude*
- *Take the lead and help-out, if a student is upset, or if the canteen needs help, or if an event needs setting up; and finally,*
- *Be a role model, in the way that our uniform is worn, or the way they contribute to Shabbat celebrations and chagim, or participate in House activities.*

I remain confident in the wisdom of our students to select their leaders based on far more than popularity alone.

### Save the Date

The time is coming to welcome our Grandparents on campus to once again experience the joy of an Emanuel School Rosh Hashanah celebration with their grandchildren. We have not been able to host our annual Grandparents Day in the past two years and so are excited to announce this special event will take place on Friday 16 September 2022. Grandparents, while September may seem far away, please diarise the day, which promises to be the biggest yet!

Thank you for taking the time to read about what is just a small number of exciting events at Emanuel School. There is always so much happening.

With best wishes

Andrew Watt, Principal

## Parent Safety Group (PSG)

A huge "thank you" from Head of PSG, Emanuel parent Elan Miller, and from all of us at School, to the many grandparents who are already members of our PSG. These volunteers are our eyes and ears each morning and afternoon during school term, as they quietly and carefully walk around the perimeter of the school grounds to help ensure the safety of our students and staff. We encourage more of our grandparents and friends to join up too. Please email Kirsti for more information on what is involved and how to become part of this very important team that helps keep our campus and students safe.







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

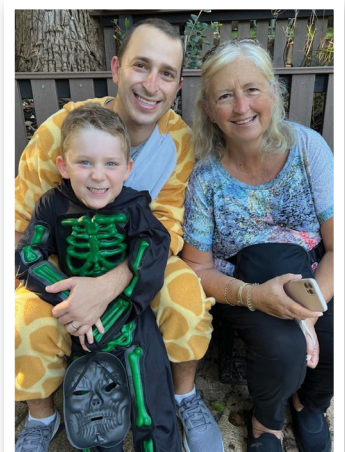
At Kornmehl, we are blessed to be involved with and connected to grandparents daily at drop-off and pick-up. This is indeed a great privilege and one we treasure and value very much. We are able to witness firsthand, the unconditional love the children have for their grandparents and vice versa. This time in their lives is precious and does not last for long. So, it's very special to see how deeply grandparents are involved in the lives of their grandchildren.

Our first event of the year, when parents and grandparents joined our celebrations, was Purim. The event was held outdoors and the love and happiness emanating from everyone was palpable. It was a special time to come together, with joy, happiness, and lots of appreciation all round.

Our second event in Term 2, was our Family Day breakfast. The excitement could be felt from the minute everyone walked inside. There were smiles all around. I think some children were in shock that their parents/grandparents were coming inside the Pre-school – something that had not happened for quite some time due to COVID. For most of our Dolphins and Starfish, the norm is drop-off and pick-up at the door. Thus, emotions were heightened, as we all enjoyed this beautiful time together. The atmosphere was energetic, filled with fun, wonder, creativity, and an enormous amount of love!

Bush School is very much an embedded part of our program at Kornmehl. Each visit is filled with wonder, excitement, discovery and lots of life lessons. We have been lucky enough to have a grandparent volunteer to accompany us on almost every Bush School visit. Emanuel grandparent, Susan Sweller, is our dedicated and committed Bush School volunteer and botanist who has accompanied us for the past seven years!

Susan has a wealth of knowledge about local fauna and flora and shares this freely and openly with the educators and children in such a beautiful way. Thank you, Susan, we are so honoured that you still join us on all our visits year in and year out. We are indeed very blessed.





## Message from Kornmehl Centre Emanuel Pre-school (continued)

We are also connected to grandparents through our online communication portal, Educa. Many grandparents are able to receive Day Books and observations about their grandchild to read – something beautiful to brighten up their days and to help them feel connected to their families, especially those who live overseas or interstate. We receive incredible comments and feedback from grandparents on Educa:

**Lynn Freedman:** *What a lovely celebration of Matteo's birthday – and the perfect day for it! I can see the delight on his face. Thank you to the staff and gorgeous children for making his day.*

**Eva Gerber:** *You teachers are just inspiring! This little person can blossom and flourish in this open understanding and flexible environment! What a space for him to grow in! Brings tears to my eyes. What adventure, freedom and joy these children are experiencing. Natural and personal discoveries that allow their little imaginations to have free reign. Thanks all. What a great job you are doing.*

**Bev Brand:** *Oh, my word! How absolutely fabulous. How special for Ziggy that his interest is recognised and celebrated. This is a beautiful example of immersive reading and writing with his own interest at the core. Special educators.... lucky, lucky precious boy. Thanks for sharing this story. Our children and grandchildren are certainly privileged to have this fantastic learning opportunity at their doorstep.*

**Maria Herczog:** *Thanks a lot for caring and meeting the needs of Benjamin.*

We look forward to many special moments together with our Kornmehl grandparents as the year progresses.

Terry Aizen, Kornmehl Centre Emanuel Pre-school Director



*Connecting the Emanuel School Community*



Hello and welcome to the first Gesher report for 2022.

Before I fill you in on what's been happening, I want to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Daniela Freed. My husband Peter and I are proud parents, with three children at Emanuel School in Years 7, 10 and 12.

I have been a member of the Emanuel School Board since 2017 and am the Chair of the Gesher Committee and I also sit on both the Building and Security Board committees.

I often have people telling me they don't know what Gesher is or does, so I hope this brief explanation helps answer these questions. Gesher ('Bridge' in Hebrew) seeks to extend the spirit of the School by building the links between the School and its community. We aim to do this by facilitating highly valued, friend-raising events and initiatives. We seek to engage in a meaningful way with Alumni both recent and not so recent including those who are now parents at Emanuel, grandparents and friends and family of Emanuel.

Unfortunately, COVID has prevented us from being too active over the past couple of years. However, we are very much looking forward to regrouping and starting to plan some great events in the near future so we can continue strengthen our fabulous Emanuel community.

During COVID around 70 families joined us online for a Pickling and Preserving event hosted by Gesher, and led by alumnus Mitch Burnie, Manager of Adamama, the first Urban Jewish Farm.

Our current Gesher committee members are Andrew Watt – School Principal; Michelle Favero – Manager, Marketing and Communications; Sonia Newell – Development Officer Alumni & Community Relations; alumna Asha Friedman (Class of 2020); alumnus Joshua Moses (Class of 2011); Samantha Butt – alumna and current parent; Carli Rothman – current parent; grandparents Kathy Passman and Tammy Keller and me.

We would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions of events you would love to see and/or feedback in general on how we might be able to better engage with the community **please email us**.

I look forward to reconnecting with you all very soon.

**Daniela Freed, Chair – Gesher Committee**

# From the Jewish Studies Department

## Primary School

During Term 1 we welcomed groups of parents and grandparents to our Year 6 Pathways Ceremony during which the students received their first Tanakh. Our visitors also had the opportunity to experience our Purim parades as well as the Year 1 and Year 3 Pesach Seder.

**Year K Pathways ceremony:** We celebrated and welcomed the Year K students and their families to 'big school' with a special Pathways ceremony, the theme of which was the importance of names, and the meaning and stories behind our names. In preparation for the ceremony, Year K students traced their hand which was then given to their parents to write a special blessing or message for their child. The hamsa-inspired artwork was framed and presented to the children during our ceremony by parents and grandparents.

**Year 4 Tanakh Pathways ceremony:** We welcomed parents and grandparents of our Year 4 and new Year 5 students on the final day of Term 2 for our Tanakh Pathways Tefillah and ceremony. Prior to the event, families were busy preparing and decorating their child's Tanakh, filling it with family photos, histories, genealogies, and messages. It was wonderful to have some grandparents join parents for an information evening earlier in Term 2 and to receive their child's/grandchild's Tanakh to begin preparing it.

Project Heritage begins in Term 3 with a number of Year 6 grandparents and we look forward to welcoming you all on campus for our Grandparents and Friends Rosh Hashanah event on Friday 16 September 2022.

Adam Carpenter, Head of Jewish Life, K-6



## High School

Emanuel families practice different streams of the Jewish faith and there are some who practice none and/or are of other faiths. One of the many wonderful things about our School is that it is accepting of all and on 31 May, our Year 7 students and their Jewish Studies teachers went on an interesting excursion called *Tiyul Ani Tefillati*, the *I am My Prayer* excursion, to explore four different synagogues in Sydney. The students learnt all about the different denominations of Judaism and how the different synagogues express the Judaism they represent. These are the words of Year 7 student Maya Balkin: "The four synagogues we visited were: The Great Synagogue in the heart of the city, Coogee Synagogue, The Sephardi Synagogue Sydney and Emanuel Synagogue.

The Great Synagogue had truly beautiful architecture, it was really quite grand and felt very established.

It was interesting to hear from Rabbi Chriqui at the Sephardi Synagogue and see what Sephardi Jews do differently and what their customs are.

Coogee Synagogue was nice and small and the Rabbi was very humorous and welcoming. It is a nice Chabad Orthodox shul in our local neighbourhood.

Emanuel Synagogue has a few different congregations under the one roof. We were warmly welcomed by Rabbi Ninio, Rabbi Kaiserblueth and the Rabbi Cantor Mordecai, who explained to us about Renewal, Reform and Conservative Judaism.

We are lucky that in Sydney that we have many options to choose from to express Judaism in many different ways. Thank you to Morah Gaida, Morah Becky, Mr Hajun and Mr Peacock for taking us on this excursion".





## From the Jewish Studies Department (continued)

### Rabbi, I was wondering....?

Year 11 student Arielle Melamed wrote: "Our Year Group was fortunate to recently have had a panel of Rabbis speak to us, demonstrating diversity of opinion within the Jewish community. Rabbi Elton, Rabbi Ninio and Rabbi Cantor Mordecai all answered a variety of questions posed in advance by students, ranging from discussing their path to becoming a Rabbi to gender roles in Judaism to the meaning of life.

Rabbi Elton is Orthodox and is a Senior Rabbi of the Great Synagogue, as well as being involved in interfaith work. He first worked in the Ministry of Justice in London for seven years before deciding to go to New York to retrain as a Rabbi. Rabbi Ninio is a Progressive Rabbi at Emanuel Synagogue. She originally qualified and worked as a family lawyer, before becoming the third Australian-born woman to be ordained as a Rabbi. She is an active leader in social justice. Rabbi Cantor Mordecai is both Cantor and Renewal Rabbi at Emanuel Synagogue and he weaves spirituality, mysticism, music and his Judo-Iraqi heritage into his teaching.

They debated the impact of viewing Judaism through a modern lens, discussing to what extent we should adapt Judaism to better align with modern societal ideals. This prompted the discussion of a key idea of 'choice through knowledge', and the journey Judaism encourages of questioning and exploring morality while balancing our past and present. Their answers highlighted the beauty of each individual's connection to Judaism as well as the shared communal connection to culture, history and stories, emphasising the often-forgotten unique diversity present within Judaism.

We thank Rabbi Ninio, Rabbi Mordecai and Rabbi Elton so much for coming in and answering all our questions with incredible thought-provoking answers".



### Year 10 visit to The Sydney Jewish Museum

The semester of Holocaust learning in Year 10 culminated in a tailor-made visit to the Sydney Jewish Museum (SJM). Our students found the experience meaningful and that it greatly enhanced their learning over the semester. A huge thank you to the wonderful Holocaust survivor, Emanuel great grandparent Yvonne Engelman OAM, who shared her incredible journey and memories with us, as well as to Emanuel parent and Museum Educator, Ilana McCorquodale, and Emanuel alumna, Rebecca Kummerfeld, who is the museum's Head of Education, for organising the event. We also are grateful to the Museum Guides and Educators for their invaluable time with our students. One of their guides was Leora Ross, grandmother of Year 10 student, Koby Michel.

If you have never been to SJM, I highly recommend you do so. Established in 1992 by the generation of Holocaust survivors who came to Australia, they envisioned the Museum as a place which could hold their stories and personal objects, memorialise those who were murdered during the Holocaust, and within which the lessons from the past would be taught. It is a living museum: a place that holds the voices of history and in which survivors still share their experiences with visitors. We thank the many grandparents and parents who volunteer at the Museum.



### Did you know our Informal Jewish Life Educators are all past Emanuel students?

Joshua (Josh) New (Head Madrich, Class of 2019) and Mia Shapiro (Class of 2019) work with the Primary School students whilst Asher Klein (Head Madrich, Class of 2016), Daniel Van Sluys Erlich (Class of 2019), Maya Buhrich (Class of 2017) and Kerryn Finn (Class of 2017) work with our High School students.





## From the Jewish Studies Department (continued)

### Primary School Informal Jewish Life

For the last year and half, we (Mia Shapiro and Josh New) have been working at the School as Alumni Informal Jewish Life Educators for the Primary School. Our role ranges from organising and running weekly Shabbatot to creating and running peulot (informal experience-based sessions) for the students, which allow for deeper critical thinking within their Jewish learning. These help the students interact with the curriculum in new and exciting ways and often are a great medium for bringing Jewish content into their everyday lives. Alongside this we are involved in creating ruach (spirit) for the many Jewish Festivals that occur throughout the year.

Some of our highlights so far include working with the Year 6 Jewish Life Leaders and the whole Year 6 cohort on their journey through Leadership Camp. We also created a K-6 Purim scavenger hunt and have loved running festivals such as Pesach, Shavuot and Yom Ha'atzmaut! We've also run plenty of peulot on a range of topics from 'Climate Change and Shmitah (the Sabbatical Year)' to 'Refugees', to 'Personal Journeys of Growth' and 'The Modern Ten Commandments' and so much more.

We've absolutely loved our work at Emanuel so far and look forward to the rest of the year and beyond to bring the *ruach* (spirit) that is Informal Jewish Life at Emanuel.

Mia Shapiro and Josh New, Primary School Alumni Informal Jewish Life Educators



### Jewish Life in High School

The last few months have been packed with lots of chaggim celebrations. We have challenged and empowered students to take ownership over their Judaism through various student-run initiatives in the School. Each week we meet with a group of Year 12 students who take responsibility over organising the Friday morning Shabbat service for that week. Together with our team, the group curates the theme, activities, songs and dvar torah, each time bringing exciting ideas and concepts to the rest of the School, in order to bring in Shabbat in a meaningful way.

As well as this, we have facilitated different Year-Group led Shabbatot, in which a small group of students within that cohort plan a special Shabbat for just their Year level. We've also collaborated with other committees in the School, like the social action committee, to incorporate important themes into our Shabbatot, broadening the lens of our service to relate to our wider community.

A huge achievement of the Jewish life team this term was our Year 11 Tikkun Leil sleepover. It was a successful night filled with guest speakers, thought-provoking conversations and an amazing opportunity for the cohort to bond. Speakers presented on a variety of different topics varying from Agriculture in the Shmitah year to designing your own midrash in the style of Matisse, all of which related to the overarching theme, Torah: Revelation, Renewal and Innovation.

We are constantly inspired by the enthusiasm and participation of the students within the High School and can't wait to work with them to continue to bring a vibrant Jewish life to the School!

Asher Klein, Daniel Van Sluys Erlich, Maya Burich and Kerryn Finn, High School Alumni Informal Jewish Life Educators



## Social Media @ Emanuel



INSTAGRAM

Check out our Instagram page – [watt.s\\_up\\_at\\_emanuel](https://www.instagram.com/watt.s_up_at_emanuel), where the latest news around our campus is posted to members of the Emanuel School Community. It provides an opportunity for special moments in the life of Emanuel School, big or small, to be shared on a regular basis. We request that for privacy reasons, please ensure that your Instagram page is 'private'.



FACEBOOK

**Emanuel School Community page:** If you are not already a member, please join us to know what's happening around the School. Join [here](#).

**Emanuel Shuk:** The place to swap, sell, buy and advertise pre-loved and new items, holiday homes and cars...in fact anything that is of value (actual or perceived) can be advertised here. If you have a business, you are welcome to tell us what you do, but please make it interesting and a special offer for the Emanuel community is always a bonus!

There are rules to posting – please check out the pinned post for these. Join [here](#).





# Parents & Friends Association

Hello everyone! For those of you who aren't regular readers of Ma Nishma this may well be the first time we meet. My name is Justine Hofman and I am the new Head of Emanuel School's P&F. Our family has been at the School for four years (my three children are scattered throughout the Primary School) and I am thrilled to have

the opportunity to bring our Parents and Friends community together – and back into the School.

A bit about me... our family moved from Melbourne four years ago (my husband, Guy, is originally from Sydney) and I've always been involved in Jewish community life through schools, youth movements and volunteering for Jewish organisations, which most recently includes the Jewish Climate Network. My day job is in marketing, working with businesses that have a positive impact on society and the planet.

I am a big believer in the importance of community and especially the sense of connection and support a school community like Emanuel can provide. It's the main reason I have put my hand up to help build the Emanuel P&F into a committee-based structure.

So far this year we have been forming a number of sub-committees to run events and to find new ways for us all to build a resilient, supportive community. Close to 100 parents have volunteered in some capacity through the P&F so far this year with many more participating. And we aren't even close to getting started.

As far as events, this year the rain may have washed out our March Emanuel family camping trip but we were back in force at our newly-spun Mother's Day morning, aka *Retro Schvitz*. The event saw 250+ mums, special friends and kids celebrate together with an 80s-themed aerobics class outside. This was, of course, accompanied by a mandatory coffee cart and pastries!

We also held our Mother's Day gift stall and this year we added a charity gift option in support of Women Up North shelter.

**Still to come in the second half of the year will be a beautiful community Shabbat event to be held on campus on Friday 21 October.** Please put this date in your diary as it will be an event that brings together kids, parents and grandparents. Also planned will be a Father's Day morning, a Spring Family camping trip and a Parents' night out which should be a lot of fun.

Finally, I want to extend a huge thank you to Ruby Berkovic and Jen Opit who held the reins of the Emanuel P&F for over five years. I always appreciated how much tireless work they committed, but now even more so since stepping into their shoes. They are Wonder Women who dedicated so much time and energy to our School. On behalf of our parent community, we acknowledge and thank them both.

**Justine Hofman, P&F President**







## EMANUEL SCHOOL FOUNDATION



After two years of countless disruptions and lockdowns, it has been lovely to witness the School abuzz again with students returning to a richness of activities from music and singing to sport, drama and debating. Though the term provided us with some of the challenges of COVID, the School safely and warmly welcomed parents and grandparents back on campus to experience the spirit and energy of our wonderful school.

We are still in the early stages of the redevelopment of the old Adler building. The majority of works have been concentrating on the demolition and building preparation stages. The other main component of the works has been the preparation of the adjacent playground, which is taking quite a lot of effort as the whole area is being lowered to provide a level playground (if you remember, it was always a sloping playground – not so effective for handball!).

Overall, the project is progressing very well and on budget. However, the near continuous rain is having an effect on the program to some extent, although works are progressing as quickly as possible.

In the background, more work is being done on the final internal design of the building, which should be one of the outstanding features of the completed building!

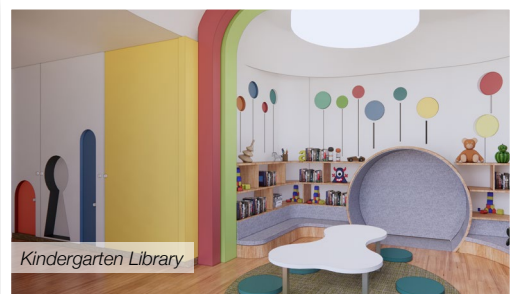
The Foundation's vision is to ensure the long-term viability and continued success of Emanuel School by maximising the education experience for current and future generations of Emanuel families. The Emanuel School Foundation prides itself on its commitment of nurturing student well-being, innovation, entrepreneurship, sustainability and Jewish living. The Foundation views its role as the scaffold for the School and our community, simultaneously building financial infrastructure and strengthening community.

We look forward to the future, guided by the school values of Tikkun Olam, social justice, religious pluralism, egalitarianism, acceptance of diversity and commitment to the State of Israel.

Your gift can change the lives of current and future Emanuel students and ensure that Emanuel School continues to be a school of choice for the community.

As always, we welcome any comments or questions you have. Please feel free to contact us.

Marla Bozic, President of Emanuel School Foundation



Thank you to everyone for their contributions to this newsletter. We look forward to sharing more news in our weekly Ma Nishma and the end-of-year newsletter.

We believe the information included is correct at the time of printing. We regret any errors.

## Stay in touch with the Emanuel School Grandparents and 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](mailto:snewell@emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)

[www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au](http://www.emanuelschool.nsw.edu.au)