



Moriah College
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בס"ד

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APRIL 2009 — NISAN 5769



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Moriah's new College Principal/CEO Kim Fillingham with our Year 12 Captains and Vice Captains

Our College Principal/CEO – Kim Fillingham

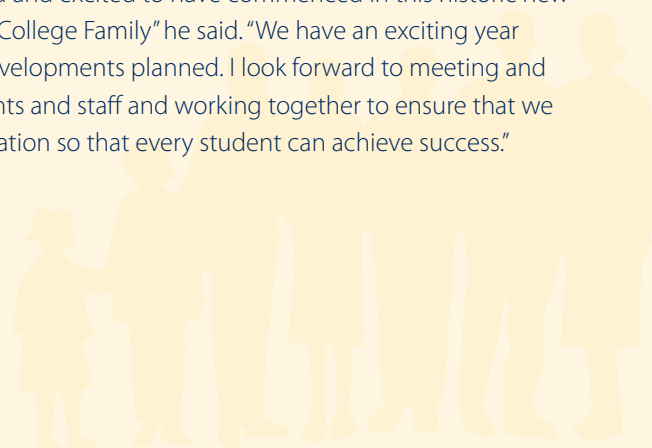
Moriah welcomed Kim Fillingham as our new College Principal/CEO on the first day of the 2009 academic year.

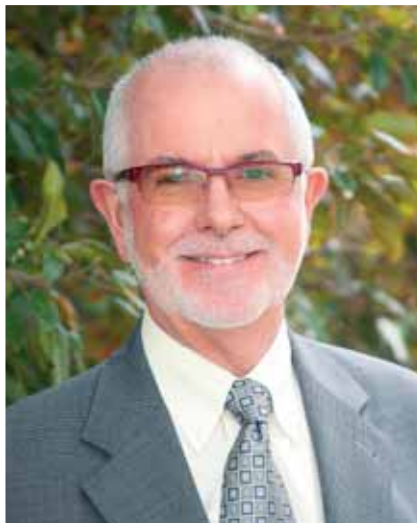
The appointment was announced to the Moriah family by College President Roger Kaye in December last year. "This is an historic appointment for the College and we are very excited to have attracted a candidate of such high calibre, who fulfills our requirements for a Principal/CEO with such exceptional credentials" said Roger.

Since day one, Kim has been familiarising himself with all aspects of College life from Preschool to Year 12. "I am delighted and excited to have commenced in this historic new role and to have joined the Moriah College Family" he said. "We have an exciting year ahead, with many initiatives and developments planned. I look forward to meeting and getting to know the parents, students and staff and working together to ensure that we provide the highest quality of education so that every student can achieve success."



Moriah College is a member of
the JCA family of organisations





Message

FROM THE COLLEGE PRINCIPAL/CEO

*Welcome, Good Luck and
How are you settling in?*

These have been the three most common greetings for me from the Moriah family. I have been overwhelmed by the warmth and consistency of the welcome I have received. There are very few schools that demonstrate this family feeling. There are very few schools where students from all years are as comfortable and genuine in their greetings – whether it be a nod, a smile or a daily hello. There are very few schools with such a palpable positive culture as Moriah College. It really is something that you have to experience first hand to appreciate. I am very fortunate to be the recipient of the welcomes and to have been included in this community so rapidly.

Throughout the term I have been making opportunities to meet our parent body, community representatives and, of course, our staff and students. I have been able to participate in gatherings of parents in the High School, the new parents dinner, the Years 6 and 12 parent evenings, the parent teacher afternoons across the entire

College and the Open Afternoons in Years 1 and 2 where mums and dads (and many delighted grandparents) have been able to join in the excitement of learning activities with their children.

My role is very different from those who have been privileged to occupy the College Principal position before me. My focus is two fold. Primarily, it is very clearly on the educational outcomes of all of our children across the College – from our four Preschool centres (in association with the Mt Zion Trust), to our Primary, Middle and High Schools.

The second focal point is the CEO part – the provision of these educational services in a sustainable way. I will ensure that all decisions are based on the simple first test of “what is in it for the kids”. At the same time as we maximise the opportunities and hence the individual success of each of our students, we must operate in a fiscal environment that recognises and retains our role as a community college. In working with the Board of Management, I am charged with that responsibility.

We have exciting challenges ahead of us as a result of our presence on the one campus

for Years T to 12. We will be working to ensure a curriculum and pedagogical continuity; to provide enrichment and challenging educational experiences to nurture and develop potential; to offer appropriate support to those in our care with special needs in a manner that is specific to the learning needs and development of the individual child; and to develop the Jewish education components that make us special, in order to ensure that the College traditions, ethos and values, both cultural and religious, are at the forefront of those programs designed to enable our students to be valuable and productive members of the Moriah family and all it holds precious.

Thanks for the welcome. I have the good luck in being appointed to this position and I am sure that the word “settle” does not include any suggestion of being sedentary in the Moriah context! I am excited about our future together. I am honoured and thrilled to have been appointed to this wonderful new position and look forward to our working together.

Kim Fillingham – College Principal/CEO

Our Sheirut Leumi Girls

A big welcome to our new Sheirut Leumi girls, Michal Belzberg, Leah Rapaport and Tamar Feldman. Through the Sheirut Leumi (National Service) program, these girls will spend a year at Moriah, adding an Israeli flavour to many of the informal Jewish educational activities in Primary, Middle and High School. They have already endeared themselves to many of our students who look forward to participating in programs led by the girls during the year.

Sheirut Leumi girls, Michal Belzberg, Tamar Feldman and Leah Rapaport



A Fresh Look for our Website

The first stage of a re-design of the Moriah Website has now been completed and the site has a fresh new look. You are invited to visit the site at <http://www.moriah.nsw.edu.au>. We are planning to implement a lot more exciting upgrades to the site to ensure that it is user friendly, informative and up to date.



Music Camp Dates for 2009 and 2010

Due to the Mourning Period known as the "3 WEEKS" which occurs in the last week of Term 2 in 2009 and 2010 Music camp has been moved to the following dates:

2009: Saturday night, 20 June – Thursday, 25 June 2009 (inclusive) – this is the third last week of Term 2

2010: Saturday night, 19 June – Thursday, 24 June 2010 (inclusive) – this is the second last week of Term 2

MORIAH WAR MEMORIAL COLLEGE ASSOCIATION (ACN 000 049 383)
THE MORIAH WAR MEMORIAL JEWISH COLLEGE ASSOCIATION LIMITED (ACN 003 214 560)

– ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS –

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meetings of Moriah War Memorial College Association and The Moriah War Memorial Jewish College Association Limited ("the Associations") will be held at Moriah College in the Drama Theatre, **Queens Park Road, Bondi Junction** on **Tuesday, 26 May 2009 at 8.00pm**.

Nominations are hereby called for the positions of President, two Vice Presidents, Honorary Treasurer and ten members of the Board of Management of the Associations for the ensuing year.

Nominations signed by the nominee, who must be a member of the Associations, and signed by the proposer and seconder, both of whom must also be members of the Associations, must be lodged with the Honorary Secretary of the Associations at the office of Moriah College, at Queens Park Road Bondi Junction NSW 2022 (the College office) by **4.00pm Thursday, 30 April 2009**.

The Registration of new Members of the Associations will close at 4.00pm Wednesday, 13 May 2009. Membership applications received by

that time and date will be entered on the Register prior to the Annual General Meetings if approved by the Board of Management and the requisite fee has been paid.

Nomination forms and Membership Application forms are available from the College office. Properly executed Nomination forms and Membership Application forms must be returned to the Associations at the College office.

A member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a **proxy** to attend and vote instead of the member. A proxy must be a member of the Associations. A **proxy form** is available at the College office and can either be collected in person or may be requested in writing, by the member so entitled to vote, and the proxy form must be deposited at the College office during office hours and at other times in the letter box situated in York Road no later than **8.00pm Sunday, 24 May 2009**.

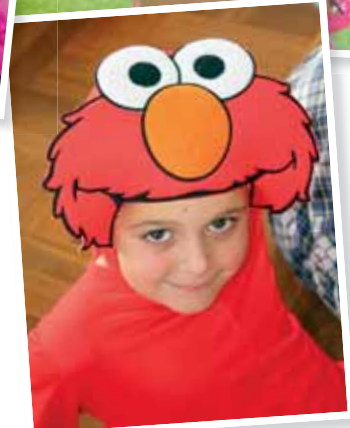
A list of candidates will be sent to members as soon as possible after the closing date for nominations.

By Order of the Board
GIORA FRIEDE, Honorary Secretary

Purim Celebrations

The infectious excitement of Purim spread through Moriah from Preschool to Year 12 with staff and students joining in on the fun.

Purim Shpiels, a Hypnotist show, art and craft activities, carnival style stalls and hamantaschen making were just some of the events on the day. Add to that Megillah readings, exchanging Mishloach Manot and giving Matanot Le'evyonim and a wonderful, traditional Purim celebration was had by all.





HSC 2008

The Moriah Family celebrated the many achievements of the Class of 2008 with enormous pride.

As expressed by Year Coordinator Assunta Di Gregorio, "The Class of 2008 has distinguished itself as a dynamic yet compassionate and caring group of young men and women who have embraced all that Moriah has to offer".

Two students achieved first place in the state in three subjects: Liron Hayman for Classical Hebrew Continuers and Classical Hebrew Extension 1 and Simon Gardner for English (Standard). Liron was also named Dux of the year after scoring a perfect UAI of 100.

Several other students achieved a UAI of 99 or greater including Steven Gluckman (99.95), Talia Fuchs (99.95), Joel Larish (99.90), Lara Nurick (99.90), Rachel Levy (99.75), Robert Gertsakis (99.7), Cayley Cohn (99.55), David Kaye (99.45), Raphael Hodes (99.3), Simon Gardner (99.25), Moshe Engelman (99.15), Johanna Deutsch (99.10) and Annabel Weiss (99.00).

These students were joined by Monica Baird, Sarah Brenner, Debra Foyer, Aimee Greenstein, Leeora Gubbay-Nemes, Yaacov Klein, Gabrielle Metz, Simon Moses, Natalie Rosin and Lara Schreiber on the prestigious Honour Roll of students who scored greater than 90 in at least 10 units of study.

In addition, Lara Nurick and Leeora Gubbay-Nemes were joined by Jordana Dostalek to have their major works nominated for exhibition in ArtExpress, the showcase for excellence in HSC Visual Arts, while Hannah Blumgart's monologue 'Normal Jean' was nominated for the Drama equivalent, OnStage.

Overall, more than 11% of the Class of 2008 were placed in the top 1% of the State and over 60% were placed in the top 10% of all students in NSW – an incredible result!

1. David Kaye
2. Jordana Dostalek
3. Lara Nurick
4. Leeora Gubbay-Nemes
5. Monica Baird
6. Simon Gardner
7. Hannah Blumgart
8. Liron Hayman



2008 School Certificate Results

We congratulate Year 10, 2008 on their outstanding results in the external School Certificate Examinations run by the Board of Studies. The results in Australian Geography, Australian History, English Literacy, Mathematics, Science and Computing Skills are outlined below and demonstrate how academically strong this year group is.

Special mention must be made of Jesse Ende who, along with Katherine Tobias, scored above 90 in five of the six external tests. At the same time Jesse came first in both Mathematics and Computing.

In Australian Geography, 40.53% of Moriah students were in the top two bands compared to the State Average of 28.17%. Eighteen students had a mark over 90 putting them in the top band with Jacqueline Lindeman scoring Moriah's top score of 96.

In Australian History, 37.83% of Moriah students were in the top two bands compared to the State Average of 22.98%. Thirteen students had a mark over 90 putting them in the top band. Jonathan Schneider top scored with a mark of 97.

In English Literacy, 62.83% of Moriah students scored in the top two bands compared to the State Average of 38.55%. Eleven students had a mark over 90 putting them in the top band with Chloe Silver scoring the highest mark of 97.

In Mathematics, 47.95% of Moriah students were placed in the top two bands compared with the State Average of 25.39%. Twenty students had a mark over 90 putting them in the top band. Jesse Ende scored the highest mark of 99.

In Science, 35.8% of Moriah students scored in the top two bands compared with the State Average of 31.92%. Seven students had a mark over 90 putting them in the top band, with Tali Feiglin scoring Moriah's highest mark of 94.

In the Computing Skills Test, an impressive 74.32% were graded as Highly Competent against the State Average of 57.27%, a tribute to the cross curricular approach to the integration of technology that Moriah has taken. Jesse Ende scored the top mark of 98.

celebrating High School Success

A Prize Giving evening was held at the very end of the 2008 academic year for students in Years 9 and 11 to celebrate the many achievements of an eventful year.

Donna Delbaere addressed the gathering in her role as Acting College Principal, thanking the students and their teachers for their dedication to the College.

The distribution of prizes commenced with Commander Duncan Wallace from the Australian Defence Force who presented the ADF's Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Awards to this year's recipients, Leora Rudansky, Tal Chodos and Moshe Engelman.

Guest of Honour, former Vice Principal and Acting College Principal Morrie Finberg handed out the remainder of the prizes which were awarded in recognition of academic and sporting excellence, most improved in each subject area and a range of community service achievements.

In one of his very first official tasks as Moriah College Principal/CEO, Kim Fillingham presented the awards to Year 10 students from 2008 during a separate Prize Giving celebration which was held during an Assembly in Term 1 this year.



Business Scholarship



Congratulations to Daniel Toblib, Year 11, who has been awarded the inaugural Aslan J Moses Business Studies Scholarship. This new and prestigious scholarship has been generously donated by The Gateway Partners Group and is awarded to a student who has chosen to study Business Studies in Years 11 and 12 and, who, over Years 9 and 10, has demonstrated high achievement and interest in Commerce and co-curricular business related activities within and external to the school. The late Aslan Moses was the husband of recently retired Primary School teacher Suzanne Moses and a partner in the Gateway Group. Daniel was short listed from a very strong field of applicants.

High Resolves

The High Resolves team seeks to motivate young people to be purposeful global citizens by running highly engaging experiences in High Schools. The programs create opportunities for learning that are specifically designed to provoke teenagers to reflect on questions such as: "What is my role as a global citizen?", "In 50 – 100 years will my actions and choices be on the right side of history?" and "How can I make a difference?"

In Term 1, two day High Resolves seminars were held for students in Years 9 and 10. Both seminars are being followed up by lunch time meetings every month. Year 10 students will be involved in doing two projects associated with this program, with mentors from software provider Tenex and financial consultants Deloitte Australia.



Savion Visit

Putting their language lessons into practice, Year 10 Hebrew students visited Savion restaurant in Bondi recently for an Israeli lunch.

The students were expected to order their food in Hebrew and participate in Hebrew conversation in between mouthfuls of delicious felafels. Everyone agreed the excursion was definitely very (insert Hebrew word for yummy here – will find out what it is!)



Biology in Action

All Year 11 Biology students enjoyed an excursion to Long Reef to study the rock platform. They explored the distribution and abundance of the different organisms and species and their adaptations as well as the abiotic factors which determine which organisms can survive on the rock platform.



Moccariah



Students and staff pack into the popular Moccariah cafe

Staff and Year 12 students are enjoying their visits to the Moccariah Café, run by the Home Room.

Inspired by a Canadian program called 'Serving up Success', the Café was set up in 2007 with a Middle School competition to find a name, thus, Moccariah!

The idea of the program is to offer our Home Room students a hands-on approach to learning life skills such as financial literacy. The students take orders, serve coffee and home-made cakes and biscuits which they bake during Design & Technology lessons. They also collect payment for the items.

Each Wednesday morning the café is open to staff and this year, Year 12 students have been invited to join in to support two of their Home Room class mates.

Camp Sababa

Students and staff from Moriah and Masada Colleges came together to host the second annual Camp Sababa – a four day camp for children with disabilities.

This extraordinary event gives these children the opportunity to have four days of fun while allowing their parents to enjoy some much needed respite.

It also offers a life-changing experience for our young adult companions, most of them from Year 12, to spend some time with these children and become their future advocates.

Fun-packed every minute, the camp included a huge range of activities including sailing, swimming, music and drama workshops and kite making just to name a few. The venue was St Ignatius College Riverview whose staff were welcoming, generous and catered for the group's every need.

A team of volunteers from the community came to the camp morning and night to help clean up the public areas, make beds, do the washing and settle the children while companions were having a debrief. Kol Hakavod to everyone involved.



IST

Over 60 Year 10 students participated in the most recent Israel Study Tour (IST), the largest ever contingent for this event.

The majority of them began their journey with a trip to Europe, travelling through Prague and Poland.

After an intensive pre-program briefing which began in Sydney well before they left, the group spent several days visiting Holocaust landmarks including the Camps of Birkenau, Auschwitz, Treblinka and Majdanek.

A three-week tour of Israel followed during which the students explored the country from North to South enjoying many unique experiences such as camel riding, banana boat riding, visits to the Kotel, volunteer work and the wonders of Masada at dawn.



IST students and madrichim at the Kotel



Acting College Principal Donna Delbaere farewelling IST students at Sydney airport



Trudging through snow at Birkenau



Students take a ride on some donkeys

Green Rewards

Moriah's plans to set up a veggie garden in the High School have been given a boost by a grant of nearly \$3500 as part of the Waverley Council's Greenwave Sustainable Schools Program.

This program is presented annually to encourage schools to continue and develop environmental initiatives, incorporate those initiatives into their syllabus and become more sustainable.

Waverley Mayor Sally Betts presented the cheque to College Principal/CEO Kim Fillingham at a recent High School Assembly, saying that "The veggie garden is a great idea and is a natural fit with Moriah College's existing sustainability projects, recycling, worm farming and composting. It's wonderful that the students will be able to sow, grow, harvest and eventually share a meal."

Plans are to incorporate the garden into many aspects of learning such as Science, Geography, Hebrew and Jewish Studies.

Meanwhile, a new garden featuring native Australian plants, to recognise the traditional owners of the land, has been established in the High School thanks to an anonymous donor.

Moriah parent Jane Grossberg, who has worked on many of the College's environmental initiatives, together with Jewish Studies teacher Hilary Kahn and an armful of volunteers from Years 9 and 12 created the garden early in Term 1.

Visual Arts teachers will be involved in consulting with local members of Aboriginal Tribes to create some appropriate art work to display within the space.



1. Students and Staff in the garden



2. Waverley Mayor Sally Betts presents College Principal/CEO Kim Fillingham with a cheque as part of the Greenwave Sustainable Schools Program

Music Combined

Moriah's Symphonic Winds joined forces with bands from St Patricks College, Strathfield and Chatswood High School to perform a combined concert.

Now in its third year, this annual event is a highlight on the Music calendar, giving the students an opportunity to play with peers from other schools and treating family and friends in the audience to a wonderful afternoon of entertainment.

Under the baton of conductor Russell Hammond, Moriah performed a Medley from Phantom of the Opera, El Camino Real by Alfred Reed and Flight of the Bumblebee.

The highlight of the afternoon was Ravel's Bolero performed by the three schools combined, featuring no fewer than six snare drums!



Students from Moriah College and St Patricks College during the combined rendition of Ravel's Bolero

All Schools Triathlon

Held at the Penrith Regatta Centre, Moriah entered this event in both the Individual and Team categories.

Year 10 students Zac Seidman, Ryan Gadeley and Elise Kempler entered the Individual competition which was held on a separate day to the Teams events, contested by six groups of Moriah boys.

All our entrants rose to the challenge of participating in such a demanding event, training in the three disciplines to complete the 600 metre swim, 16km bike and 4km run.

There was a record number of 700 entries in this year's team event so the competition was extremely tough – well done to all our participants.



AICES Tennis

Six boys – Gavin Levy, Steven Bome, Ben Kochan, Benjamin Sofaer, Michael Prag and Robert Leach and joined Cassandra Aaron at Cintra Park, Concord, to compete in the AICES Opens Tennis tournament trial for selection to CIS.

Gavin Levy won convincingly and was selected for CIS along with Steven Bome and Ben Kochan.

Gavin then breezed through the CIS Championships to become a member of the CIS team to play in the All Schools Selection trials in Wollongong.



Alternative to the High School Swimming Carnival

An "Alternative Program" was organised by College Rabbi Dr Aryeh Solomon for High School students who, for genuine halachic reasons, do not participate in the Swimming Carnival.

Following Tefillah, students enjoyed one-on-one learning with students of the Midrash Shmuel Yeshiva of Jerusalem who are currently visiting Australia. Senior students received an advanced shiur in The Laws of Shabbat from Rosh Kollel, Rabbi Sholom Silberberg. A shiur on "The Jewish Women in Halacha" was given by Mrs Miriam Ballin. Following this Bet Midrash learning, students listened to shiurim by Moriah teachers Nechemia Jacobs, David Klahr and Lior Misraichi. Topics included "Israeli Military Operations in Halacha" and various interpretations of the connection between Shabbat and the Mishkan in Tanach. The students then travelled by College bus to the Jewish Learning Centre where they heard an in-depth explanation of the connection between Purim and Pesach by Rabbi Danny Eisenberg, a graduate of Moriah College. After lunch at Katzy's, they proceeded to the TzemaCh Tzedek Shule, where they engaged in small-group learning with the Shule's Semicha students on "Laws applying to the Pesach Seder". They also heard an in-depth shiur on this topic by Rabbi Yosef Braun. A Mincha service completed a spiritually stimulating day.

Water Works

Nothing was going to keep our High School swimmers out of the water this year! When bad weather cancelled the original event, everyone crossed their fingers for clear skies on the rescheduled date and thankfully the grey clouds stayed away.

Apart from all the heats, finals and relays, there were a range of novelty events which were particularly enjoyed by Year 12 students as it was their last school Swimming Carnival.

Herzl was the winning House followed by Hillel, Ezra and Akiva.

Congratulations to all the Age Champions:

- Year 9** – Tara Lobelson and Anthony Glick
- Year 10** – Rachel Saltoon and Saul Dyne
- Year 11** – Jodie Cohen and Sebastian Iгла
- Year 12** – Carla Sank and Paul Khodor

1. Ezra supporters out in force
2. Herzl supporters show their colours
3. Year 12 boys preparing to take the plunge



Prize Giving

The Middle School Prize Giving event is unique in that it not only highlights the academic, sporting and community service achievements of individual students but showcases the accomplishments of all the Middle School students.

Video presentations, musical items and the much anticipated announcement of the Year 8 Leaders for the ensuing year all added to the wonderful atmosphere of the event.

Head of Middle School Jeff Cohen and Moriah President Roger Kaye both addressed the audience.

The prizes were handed out by Head of Welfare Rob Weiss and the Year Coordinators.



New Leaders

The Middle School Leadership Team for 2009

SRC Leaders: Nicole Hauser and Jack Symonds

SRC Assistant Leaders: Gila Rudansky and Aidan Baron

Sports Leaders: Talia Binkin and Joshua Shubitz

House Leaders:

Akiva – Annabel Finkelstein and Damian Sidney

Ezra – Rachel Jablonka and Adam Silver

Herzl – Melanie Weiss and Toby Shabtay

Hillel – Gemma Adelman and Jonathan Goldstein

Jewish Life and Zionism:

Nechama Basserabie and Gila Friedgut

Social Action:

Millie Stein and Chad Heilig

Charity:

Gabriella Bolel and Aimee Katz

House Convenors:

Akiva – Rebecca Toblib (Talent Quest),

Gareth Milner (Sport)

Ezra – Sophie Levy (Talent Quest), Oren Shmailov (Sport), Shardi Clemenson (PR)

Hillel – Julia Milwidsky (Talent Quest), Talia Vidor (Sport)

Herzl – Bianca Linz (Talent Quest), Davin Glick and Jesse Lenn (Sport), Michael Garbuz (PR)



The 2009 Middle School Leadership Team

Orientation Camp

For Year 7 students, the year started off with the much anticipated Orientation Camp, held at the Narrabeen Sports and Recreation Centre. The inclement weather didn't dampen the spirits of the enthusiastic year group.

Much of the program was organised by the new Year 12 Leadership Team who enjoyed facilitating the activities as much as the younger students enjoyed participating in them.

With many new students joining Moriah in Year 7, it was a great opportunity for bonding as a year group, establishing new friendships and working together.



Tu B'shvat

To celebrate Tu B'shvat, students in Year 7 made their own pots out of clay and painted them, then planted parsley.

They took their potted parsley plants home to care for with sunlight, water and lots of nurturing with the aim being for the students to use the parsley at their family Sederim.

"This activity was a huge success on so many levels" said Jewish Studies teacher, David Klahr. "Firstly, the 'hands-on' approach of meshing both formal and informal education is always well received by our students and they were very enthusiastic about connecting the chaggim of Tu B'shvat and Pesach. In addition, the activity was related to their classroom study during which they discussed the importance of caring for the environment."



Shark Island

Year 7 Geography students spent a day on Shark Island to study the physical and human features of the island. The students completed field sketches, learnt how to measure bearings and collected data on the weather and water quality.



Using a colour chart to examine the quality of the water around Shark Island

Medieval Day

A visit from Medieval expert James Adams is definitely a popular activity with Year 8 History students.

James' stories of life in Medieval times constantly has the students on the edge of their seats and they particularly enjoy exploring his extensive array of Medieval weaponry and everyday items.

The opportunity to try on an item of armour or the robes of a Queen or to brandish a sword, shield or axe is always greeted with much enthusiasm!



Merry Medieval Maidens



James Adams demonstrates the advantages and disadvantages of wearing mail armour



Knights ready for battle

Moriah Aquathon Results

A record number of 100 competitors competed in this year's Aquathon at Clovelly Beach. The high tide presented a challenge for the swimmers and made for a more competitive race while the overcast weather was welcomed by the runners. The Middle School Competitors swam 400m and ran 3km while the High School contested a 500m swim and 5km run.

It has been decided to rename this event for 2010 – the Moriah BIATHLON.

Mazal Tov to all who took part and especially to the following:

Middle School Individual Boys:

- 1st – Joshua Gordon
- 2nd – Damian Sidney
- 3rd – Jordan Besser

Middle School Individual Girls:

- 1st – Sophie Levy
- 2nd – Annabel Finkelstein
- 3rd – Ellie Silvers

High School Individual Boys:

- 1st – Ryan Gadeley
- 2nd – Zac Seidman
- 3rd – Daniel Schwartz

Middle School Teams Boys:

- 1st – Adam Senecky and Daniel Shein
- 2nd – Justin Malek and Joshua Shubitz
- 3rd – Eden Savitt and Craig Reichman

Middle School Teams Girls:

- 1st – Nechama Basserable and Gila Friedgut
- 2nd – Taryn Levin and Emma Finkelstein
- 3rd – Tamar Shifroni and Rachel Kaplan

High School Teams Boys:

- 1st – Anthony Glick and Moshe Wakil
- 2nd – Remy Negrine and Marc Kopelowitz
- 3rd – Jack Weiss and Jacob Nightingale

High School Teams Girls:

- 1st – Carli Binkin and Tasha Kahn
- 2nd – Ofir Schwartzmann and Elise Kempler

Middle School Teams Mixed:

- 1st – Zara Seidler and Ryan Berman
- 2nd – Rebecca Toblib and Adam Silver
- 3rd – Jenna Isacowitz and Gus Kugel

High School Teams Mixed:

- 1st – Kelsey Proskewitz and Dylan Blumberg
- 2nd – Rachel Saltoon and Joshua Goldberg



On your mark! Getting ready for the swim



Making a splash

With 2009 came the decision to revert back to separate Swimming Carnivals for High and Middle School and our students in Years 6-8 were keen to make a big splash at their very own event. Bad weather forced the re-scheduling of the Carnival to the 25 metre indoor pool at the Des Renford Aquatic Centre and within this intimate space participation levels were high, House spirit was loud and several records were broken. Hillel was the winning House followed by Akiva, Ezra and Herzl.

Mazal Tov to the Age Champions:

11 years – Talia Klimt and Nathan Weinstock

12 years – Mikaela Zuck and David Bassin

13 years – Talia Vidor and Eden Savitt

14 years – Rachel Jablonka and Justin Malek
(also Middle School Champions and 50m Invitational Champions)

New records were set by:

Justin Malek – Senior 100m Freestyle

Eden Savitt – Senior 200m Freestyle and Senior 50m Butterfly

Hillel Junior Boys' 6 x 50m Freestyle Relay

Hillel Senior Boys' 6 x 50m Freestyle Relay

Akiva Junior Girls' 6 x 50m Freestyle Relay

Ezra Senior Girls' 6 x 50m Freestyle Relay



First Day of *School*

There were smiles all around and tissues for the mums on the first day of school for Year T, 2009. Our youngest Queens Park students were very excited to explore their classrooms and play areas, meet their teachers and make new friends.

Before we know it, they will be the graduating Class of 2021!



Chess Fun

Two separate Chess Days were held for students in Years 3-5 and students in Year 2. All who participated had a great deal of fun and enjoyed the challenge of a stimulating day of Chess. Mazeltov to Greg Levine who was the overall winner for Years 3-5 with Liam Roozendaal coming 2nd and Gregory Ellerine in 3rd place. Ricky Abel was the Year 2 winner with Joshua Levin in 2nd place and Gidon Kessler and Jesse Nash tying for 3rd.

The fun days were a platform from which to choose Moriah's competitors in this year's NSW Junior Chess League Competition.



Holiday Planting

On Tu B'shvat it is customary to plant trees and students in Year T enjoyed their own gardening activity.

Here, students sow the seeds for a crop of Parsley which was beautifully grown just in time to dip into salt water at the Year T Sederim.



Celebrating a Year of Success

Two Prize giving events were held at the end of 2008, an afternoon celebration for Year 3 and an evening event for Years 4 and 5.

Both were an opportunity to celebrate a remarkable year of achievements and successes for all our Primary School students.

Musical performances from the children were the highlights of the proceedings with each year group entertaining the audience with a repertoire of Hebrew and English songs that they had rehearsed for weeks.

Acting College Principal Donna Delbaere congratulated the students and their teachers for all their accomplishments and acknowledged the valuable contribution of each child.

Former long-standing Board member and Parent Support Group founder, Ivan Chait was the Guest of Honour at the evening event while Hanni Chalmers presented the prizes to the Year 3 students. Hanni was one of the original "Moriah Kids" when the College first started in Glenayr Avenue and has helped many children over more than 26 years as a volunteer worker at Moriah.

Jewish Communal Appeal representatives were on hand to accept a cheque representing funds raised for the JCA by Primary School students throughout the year. The JCA generously doubles the amount raised and donates it back to the school.



Swimming Carnival

The lead up to this year's Primary Swimming Carnival was just as exciting as the day itself with dozens of children cutting short their sleep to turn up for early morning trials in the Moriah pool.

House cheer practice was also well attended and the playground was a sea of House colours. The practice obviously paid off as the stands were constantly buzzing with House spirit on Carnival day.

Participation was high with most students competing in at least three races. As always, the novelty races were very popular with some energetic students completing more than 17 laps of the 50 metre pool!

The overall winning House was Akiva with Ezra, Herzl and Hillel close behind.

Mazal Tov to the Age Champions:

8 years – Joshua Levin, Hannah Balkin

9 years – Isaac Cremer, Jemma Resnick

10 years – Matthew McCarthy, Gabriella Cremer

11 years – Jake Berman, Nadia Vidor



CIS Tennis



Congratulations to Noah Ehrlich (Year 5) and Jonathan Solomon (Year 6) who were selected for the NSW CIS State Tennis team and will represent NSW in Canberra in early May.



Preschool Dedication

A morning tea was held recently to mark the official naming of the newly renovated building at the Moriah Shya Redelman Preschool Campus in Glenayr Avenue.

The Shirley Lowy OAM Preschool Building was dedicated to Shirley and her family to recognise their 50 year involvement with Moriah College which commenced with David Lowy AM attending Glenayr Avenue in the 1950s.

Guests included family members and close friends, Preschool staff, Moriah's Board Executive, former Preschool Directors Rose Fekete and Sheila Catterall and Moriah's very first teacher, Betty Wilkenfeld.

A wonderful musical performance by the centre's Preschoolers was definitely the highlight!



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1. Members of the Lowy Family: Noah, Margot, David, Shirley, Frank, Judy, Steven, Joshua and Jonah
2. Shirley Lowy OAM with Preschooler Sherydan Reid
3. Frank Lowy AC with grandson Jonah
4. Jewish Studies teacher Uncle Velvel leads a musical performance by the Preschoolers
5. Acting College Principal Donna Delbaere, Preschools Director Cathy Milwidsky, Former Preschools Directors Rose Fekete and Sheila Catterall



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Tu B'shvat Celebrations

Tu B'shvat was celebrated over a week at our Preschools.

The children tasted fruits abundant in Israel including figs and dates and enjoyed planting the native trees donated by Waverley Council.

After the tree planting the children formed a big circle and danced a special Tu B'shvat hora around the tree to help it grow!



Sharing the Joy of Purim

Our Preschoolers learnt that Purim is not just about dressing up, having fun and eating delicious treats!

Thanks to the generosity of our Preschool families, beautiful baskets of Mishloach Manot were collected at each of the four centres and distributed to The Burger Centre, Wolper Hospital, Centre on Aging and the Montefiore Home where they brought an enormous amount of Purim joy to residents and patrons.

Students from the Mount Zion Rabinovitch Preschool Bondi brought Purim cheer to the Montefiore Home in Woollahra. The outing was a wonderful experience for both the residents and the children.



Parents Club

Arianne Fuchs and Natalie Sassoon took up the positions of Co-Presidents at the Preschool Parent Club's recent Annual General Meeting.

Enthusiastic parents came along to socialise and to share ideas for fundraising events during the year both to support the Preschools and the broader community.



Natalie Sassoon and Arianne Fuchs

Playball

Thanks to a Parent Club initiative our Preschoolers are enjoying Playball lessons each term and having a ton of fun!

Together with their teacher each class meets with a Playball trainer once per term for a half hour session of ball skills, sport activities and learning how to work as a team.

The teachers then follow through with the lessons and skills learnt during the rest of the term.

This is the second year that the Parent Club has funded Playball lessons at the Preschools and they are loved by teachers and students alike.



Report Card

**Paul Leventhal**

Currently: State Director and Jerusalem Emissary of the JNF of NSW

Paul Leventhal attended Moriah for Years 7-10 between 1978-1981. Although a student at the College for only a relatively short time those four years were to have an enormous impact on him later on. "I didn't do so well at school but Moriah did instill in me real practical Zionism, which is a love for the Hebrew language," Paul says. "[That is] the cultural part of being a Jew – not so much the ritualistic – and that language is the most defining part of the Hebrew culture."

He was discouraged from going further in High school and took up a vocation. After four years of study he became a qualified aircraft mechanic and then took up professional jazz guitar leaving Australia in 1990 for London to play music. There he also began pursuing his love of all things Jewish undertaking his first tertiary degree as a mature-age student at 27 in Jewish History and Hebrew at the University of London. This degree included studying in Israel for a year where he met his wife, Dr. Debbie Haski, a leading authority on volunteerism in the social sector. Following their wedding conducted by a female Israeli celebrant in his family home in Maroubra he made aliyah and the couple returned to Jerusalem.

As well as having a strong Jewish identity Paul credits Moriah with inspiring a love of learning that directly led to his completing two further degrees in Middle Eastern studies and languages (Jerusalem and Scotland).

Since then his roles have included working as Senior Assistant in Israeli Foreign Policy at the Hebrew University, working alongside a former Israeli Deputy Foreign

Minister and a year's stint in the US as a volunteer consultant on fundraising for the New York Jewish Federation.

Being recognised by former US President Bill Clinton for his work in closing ethnic divides in Israel is one of Paul's many accomplishments as is being a recipient of the Ford International Fellowship for community leaders.

The love for Israel inspired in school has brought him full circle: as the JNF Emissary he is now six months into a four-year posting back in his home town. And the good friends he made at Moriah are still his closest friends.

For current students he is keen to point out how he has used his initiative to succeed. When he left school he believes there wasn't anything indicating that he'd succeed professionally or academically. On the contrary: "(Initially) I would have been classified as a failure (marks wise)... maybe because of that, I decided to challenge myself and pursue my own excellence – no-one else's excellence is important. When I stopped worrying," he observes, "I started growing."

Peak Performance

A new Moriah Heritage Centre exhibition explores how two Moriah alumni made it to the top... literally!

A lawyer and an upcoming doctor, Cheryl Bart and her daughter Nikki pretty much fit the clichéd image of the Jewish high achiever – except that they also regularly sleep in tents and eat freeze-dried food.

That's because Cheryl and Nikki are also highly regarded mountaineers. In May 2008, they climbed to the summit of Mount Everest and, in doing so, completed their ascent of the Seven Summits – the tallest mountains on each of the world's continents.

So how did two eastern suburbs women achieve this almost unattainable dream? A new Moriah Heritage Centre exhibition due to open at Moriah at the end of Term 2 will explore this question, examining the preparation, commitment, endurance and motivation demonstrated by Cheryl and Nikki in order to realise their goal.

Students will learn about the incredible physical, mental and technical challenges that mountaineers must overcome, as well as getting the chance to see real mountain climbing equipment, crawl into a mountaineer's tent and try on a fully laden backpack.

The exhibition will also be linked to various parts of the curriculum from Year T to 12, giving students the chance to explore the display.



Cheryl and Nikki Bart before their attempt on Everest



On the Summit

20 year *Reunion*

With well wishes from former Prime Minister John Howard and a personal message from Bob Carr, the Moriah College Class of 1988 certainly celebrated their 20 year reunion in style. Sixty-eight former students of the College gathered at the Eastern Suburbs Rugby Club ready to celebrate their shared past.

Thanks to a dedicated committee headed by Shoshana (Lenthen) Wall, the class of 1988 was able to come together even when 40% of the group live overseas. The evening featured a video presentation with messages from several former students from the year who now live in other countries, many of them in Israel.

The highlight of the evening was a video incorporating old photographs and footage as well as a tribute from former College Principal Lionel Link. The video also incorporated a moving tribute to the three students from the year that tragically passed away since leaving school.

The classmates also enjoyed a specially prepared booklet which included the updated details of everyone in the year.



1. Saralea (Bogan) Weinberg, Shoshana (Lenthen) Wall, Rachel (Knebel) Coghlan
2. Paul Trachtenberg, Mark Grynberg and Ronnie Fiala
3. Jenny (Kovari) Senator, Jodie (Gero) Elmer and Misty Lebowitz
4. Daniel Weizman, Ian Ginzberg, Nicole (Delbaere) Samuels and Tanya Stein



Staying in touch with Past Students

Births

- Jordana (Ingster) '97 and Roby Sharon-Zipser, Jesse Jayden
- Karen (Rosenstrauss) '94 and Ben Kresner, Joel Chaim
- Dana (Stoliar) '97 and Ben Finger '98, Millie Rose
- Michelle (Nagel) '99 and Barry Meskin, Dovi
- Amy (Fleischer) '00 and Jonathan Barouch, William Joseph
- Angela and David Vitek '92, Dylan Joseph
- Lisa (Schwarz) '95 and Adam Sonabend, Sam Oscar
- Maytal (Bergman) '97 and Aaron Cooper '99, Miley
- Caroline (Isaacs) and Roman Garbuz '95, Suzanna Tali
- Natalie (Staub) '97 and Guy Pozniak, Joshua Barney
- Judith (Wittenberg) '94 and Trevor Sidley, Daniel Eric
- Ilana (Wechsler) '95 and Tony Gellert, Alexander
- Jessica (Swaab) '94 and Gavin Kawalsky, Olivia
- Rachel (Duggan) and Alon Mizrahi '90, Joel Jonathan Elijah
- Angela (David) and David Vitek '92, Dylan Joseph
- Candice (Talberg) and Simon Palmer '93, Ben Noah

- Sharon (Gale) '01 and Andrew Gerber, Zoe Gail
- Natalie (Haimovitch) '94 and Omri Katz, Lior Yehoshua
- Joleen (Teperson) '92 and Joshua Zucker, Ashley Samantha
- Samantha (Finger) and Daniel Butt '89, Emma Sara
- Toni (Shur) '90 and Derek Simons, Tali
- Tamara (Eichel) '92 and Noam Orski, Amiel Oren
- Joanna (Gazal) '92 and Danny Goodman, Eden Ezra

Engagements

- Leah Lewin '02 and Naftali Lewis
- Lori Snipelisky and Mark Levine '00
- Alex Abrams '01 and Mark Bernberg
- Amanda Narunsky '02 and Brad Goldberg
- Natan Kuchar '05 and Lili Nelson
- Joanne Sharp '99 and Jeremy Tobias '99
- Andrew Pollak '97 and Shulie Goldman
- Andrea Kilov '02 and Shimi Friedgut

- Paula Liebowitz and Joshua Itzkowic '98
- Joshua Hyman '06 and Rivka Azulay
- Carly Abrahams '95 and Gea Elkin
- Matti Bechler '95 and Jonathan Weinstock
- Stephanie Symonds '02 and Marc Schwartz

Marriages

- Lauren Smorgon '02 and Elliot Placks
- Vanessa Gavshon '04 and Brian Sher
- Zoe Spiegel '95 and Darren Smorgon
- Jemma Lenn '00 and Ricky Lops

We would like to hear from anyone with information about past students. Please send your emails to yedid-alumni@moriah.nsw.edu.au or phone Vivienne Radomsky on 9375 1600. (The greatest care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this information and any errors are regrettable)

Purim Party

On Erev-Purim, Kehillat Moriah held its annual children's party. A show by Adrian the Magician was enjoyed by all and the children participated in a fancy dress competition. A special bracha followed complete with hamantaschen and bags of Mishloach Manot.

The children's event was followed by Maariv in the Hugo Lowy Synagogue and the reading of the Megillah.



Torah Thought

by Rabbi Dr Aryeh Solomon, College Rabbi

The Lessons of the Counting of the Omer

Our current edition of *Contact* appears in the period of the Jewish year known as the Sefirah, the seven week period that connects the festivals of Pesach and Shavuot. Sefirah means "counting" and we begin counting the days of the Omer immediately after the day of the Exodus from Egypt, the day of liberation from slavery, and we continue for forty-nine days, when we celebrate the festival of receiving the Torah, marking the climax of the liberation. Counting is a sign of anticipation. Having gained our physical freedom on Pesach we yearn for our complete freedom which comes with the spiritual freedom attained at the Giving of the Torah on Shavuot.

There is a profound lesson to be learnt from the mitzvah of counting the days and weeks between Pesach and Shavuot:

The purpose of counting or measuring is to ascertain the exact number or measure of a certain thing, the quantity of which is variable. A population census, for example, is taken from time to time, since the population can either increase or decrease. Similarly, statistics are kept of various fluctuating phenomena.

Were these phenomena stationary and unchangeable, or were they uncontrollable, there would be no real purpose served in reviewing such statistics periodically. Time is an element over which man appears to have no control or influence. Time moves inexorably. We can neither slow its march, nor accelerate it, nor can we change its dimensions and make an hour last more or less than sixty minutes. What then is the purpose of Sefirah?

The Torah is teaching us that although time is unchangeable and beyond our control, this is only partially true. Actually, time possesses, for each individual, vast potential for achievement. In fact, while our influence over things under our direct control is limited, our influence over time is, in a sense, unlimited. For time is like a 'vessel' which is highly elastic with an infinite absorptive capacity. It has the power of expanding or contracting, depending upon how much or how little is put into this 'vessel'. We can fill our time with unlimited content, or squander it completely. The very same unit of time may be an eternity to one person, or shrink to nothingness for another. ***The true measure of time is not its quantity but what was achieved during that period.***

It is true that we cannot alter the passage of time, either stretching it or contracting it, yet Sefirah teaches us that each unit of time, not necessarily a long period, but even a day, offers us limitless possibilities. Judaism's inspirational message is that although human life is limited to a certain number of years, the use to which these years are put, and what may be accomplished in them, is unlimited.

P&F Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Moriah College Parents' & Friends' Association will be held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of the Moriah War Memorial College Association and the Moriah War Memorial Jewish College Association on **Tuesday, 26 May, 2009** commencing at **8:00pm**.

Nominations are called for the positions of **President, Co-President, Vice-President and Treasurer**.

Nomination forms are available from the P&F Office.

New Parents Dinner

More than 150 guests attended the Annual dinner for new parents to the College. It was an opportunity for new parents to get to know each other and to meet executive staff, members of the Board and the P&F, and our new Principal/CEO Kim Fillingham.

Guests were greeted by Year 11 students who helped lead a pre-dinner tour of the College and a wonderful musical treat was provided by the senior Clarinet Choir. Once again this event was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.



1. Diana Shoolman, Ariella Green and Monique Gara
2. Liora Srage, Brett and Sharon Oberstein
3. Lynda and Daryl Rosen with Ady Regenbaum
4. Miriam Sonnabend and Kevin Wunsh with Melissa and Michael Goldman
5. Michelle Zeltzer and Regina Melamed

Changing of the Guard

It was with regret that the P&F announced the resignation of President Arlene Mazabow late last year. Arlene has remained on the P&F committee however, in a less demanding capacity. The P&F thanked Arlene for her tireless efforts and leadership during the past two years. Lauren Ehrlich and Michele Silver have assumed the role of Co-Presidents until the AGM in May.

Dates for your Diary

Lookout for more information about these upcoming events:

Big Breakfast:

Wednesday 5 August (morning)

Trivia Night:

Saturday 5 September (evening), combined with the Preschool P&F

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will open for Term 2 on Tuesday, 28 April, 2009 from 7:30am to 1:30pm.

During Term, the uniform shop is open at the following times:

Monday – 8:30 am to 1:30 pm
Tuesday – 7:30 am to 1:30 pm
Thursday – 10:30 am to 4:30 pm

Contact is produced by the Moriah College Development Office with the aid of contributions and input from the Moriah Community.

• Marketing and PR Development Manager: Brenda Jankelowitz • PR Coordinator: Yvette Sher • PR Assistant: Vivienne Radomsky
 • Photographic Contributors: Roxanne Dunkel, Julie Fisher, Ofer Levy, Nadine Saacks, Ingrid Shakenovsky, Simon Moses, staff members, students and parents
 • Graphic design, production and printing: Network Printing Studios 9662 4848

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