

A momentous year at Bialik College

BIALIK COLLEGE

Some of the highlights of 2015 for Bialik College included our acclaimed state-of-the-art new primary school, two spectacular productions (High School Musical for the secondary students and Aladdin for primary), Bialik Rising Star, the year 10 Israel and China experience, Space Camp in the USA, an Alumni v Senior Boys basketball match and the International Cultures of Thinking Conference, which attracted more than 400 educators from around the world.

This year is looking good. Introducing Enterprise Chinese to the middle school curriculum, our Asia agenda continues to roll out, culminating in the life-changing Year 10 Chavayah trip to China and Israel. Whole-school events including Science Week and Bialik Arts Festival are just around the corner.

Last year, we held our inaugural Science Week, during which all year levels were able to experience the wonders of science and the natural world. There was a butterfly enclosure for all to enjoy, light shows, exploring the wonder of colour, electronics, forensics and so much more. This year, the theme for Science Week is 'Water' and we are looking forward to seeing the 'magic' our Science Department has in store! The Bialik Arts Festival is another week-long event that offers a bounty of creative activities for every student at the College.

The first mainstream school in Australia



to integrate dogs into the curriculum, the Dogs for Life program sees trained dogs in classrooms as learning partners to our younger students, helping to develop their social skills, and increase their resilience and confidence.

In the middle school, the years 8-9 students will take part in the Etgar

(Challenge) program, which immerses them in real-life learning opportunities. This year, Financial Literacy Makerspace and Wearable Technology will be added to the Etgar electives. Makerspace is an interactive workshop-style activity that involves computer coding and robotics. Another new subject available to Year 8 is

Investigative Science.

What's in store for Bialik Primary School in 2016?

In 2015, Bialik's primary school entered a new era as it opened its doors on a freshly refurbished space. Certainly a highlight of last year, the rebuild revitalised and re-energised the primary school and students are looking forward to continuing their journey in 2016 in this stunning new world-class learning environment.

Year 2 students will have the opportunity of learning woodworking skills from Bialik's artist-in-residence, Bruce Bellman. The program will provide both a means of creative expression and also a chance to explore the physical science of forces.

The introduction of Drama to year 3 students will enhance skills like performance, viewing, speaking and listening and all students will get a chance to shine in the exciting 2016 primary school production.

The entire primary school, years 2-4, will continue the amazing workshops with the Resilience Project's Hugh Van Cuylenberg. Hugh visits the College regularly, working with the students to develop healthy social skills, mindfulness and positivity. The year 5 students will also work with a neuroscientist to understand the brain and its potential.

As always, every year 5 student will step up as a leader of the primary school in the Manhigut (Leadership) program.