

# Bialik's inclusive approach to Pesach

## BIALIK COLLEGE

Pesach comes alive at Bialik College as we recount the story of the Israelites' exodus from Egypt during interactive model sederim. Each year level has their own special seder, where the students are involved in the preparation for the big celebration.

Traditionally, Pesach is a time to reflect, discuss and debate. At Bialik, the individual sederim have age-appropriate themes and every student gets the opportunity to participate.

Middle school students will explore the concept of linking traditions with our contemporary world, while senior students enjoy sederim with links to their personal life and development. In each case, lively discussion ensues with a vibrant atmosphere, enriched with singing, games and educational quizzes.

This very special time of year is also an opportunity for the new prep students to cement bonds with their year 12 buddies.

The program begins when the kinder 4 students meet their year 11 buddies and start to build relationships that continue through to the end of prep and year 12.

The joint year 12 and prep seder is a

highlight for the students. The year 12s sit with their prep buddies and help them read from the Haggadah, play games and get to know one another.

Just as Pesach is a bonding experience for Jewish families, so it is a time for the Bialik family to unite, help each other out and enjoy each other's company. Like the tradition of the Pesach seder has been passed down to our people through the ages, so the Bialik tradition of unity and inclusive Jewish learning is passed down from our Senior students to the youngest members of the Bialik community.

The seder experience is the pinnacle of the chag, but is backed by formal and informal learning.

The students from all year levels are taught the story and meaning of Pesach during their Jewish studies classes and the informal Jewish education team are involved in hosting a great range of fun activities that further instil in the students the meaning and feeling of the chag.

Middle school students read from a personalised Haggadah, created by the informal team. The team has developed a fun, informative text that captures the Bialik spirit "be your best".



Leor Chabat and Jesse Felman at the seder.