

# Education matters

EARLY education is more than colouring-in, games and singing songs. It plays a critical role during a child's important developmental period and these early years lay the foundation for all that is to come. With so many great opportunities to learn, interact, experience and participate, here are just some of what these schools and organisations have on offer.

## Bialik College

**B**IALIK College has your child's education covered from as young as two years old all the way through to VCE.

The Nevatim program at Bialik College gives children a fun and enriching start to their educational journey at the College and provides a specialised group for carers and toddlers as young as two years old to play and form relationships.

Nevatim, the Hebrew word for seedling, brings together parents and children two days a week to engage in open-ended play and experience a program of games, stories, dance, music and song in a supportive and nourishing environment.

The family and heimish atmosphere is at the core of the program and introduces youngsters to individual and group play, preparing them for their future learning at kindergarten and beyond.

Nevatim, which precedes Bialik's Early Learning Centre (ELC), has been expertly designed to educate, enrich and introduce little seedlings to Jewish learning in a warm and inviting setting.

The program also encourages a positive attitude to learning, participating and engaging, which is essential for a child's development. It provides the building blocks for numeracy and literacy skills.

The youngsters celebrate the chagim, gain a basic understanding of Hebrew and learn about Shabbat. Through play and song, children build up their confidence and garner excitement for their kindergarten experience as they familiarise them in the school surroundings.

For children enrolled at the college's ELC, there is no better way to get a taste of what it is like to be part of the close and supportive Bialik community.

The Nevatim sessions are held in the ELC,



Youngsters and parents at Bialik's Nevatim program.

allowing future students to get accustomed to the environment and give parents the opportunity to peek into the day-to-day activities of the internationally renowned ELC.

The next phase of the child's educational story is with the college's Reggio Emilia inspired ELC, which was awarded the high-

est possible rating of "Exceeding" in all seven national quality standards audit.

Nevatim paves the way for a child to exceed at kindergarten and form lasting friendships with fellow children.

The sessions take place during the school term on Thursdays and Fridays in the morning for just over an hour.