

Bialik College And The Posh Opp Shoppe – Working Together To Support Jewish Schools

BIALIK COLLEGE

Bialik College has very close ties to the Posh Opp Shoppe in Elsternwick, and to Rosalie Silverstein, a Bialik grandparent and friend of all the Jewish day schools, who runs the business. The Posh Opp Shoppe is a much loved and respected icon in the Melbourne Jewish community, whose main beneficiary is the Jewish Day Schools Integration Program (JSIP). JSIP, which is chaired by Bialik's Student Services Coordinator Deborah Reed, helps to fund aides in classrooms for children with physical, emotional or learning difficulties. The assistance of aides helps the children stay in the mainstream schooling system and receive a Jewish education.

This resonates with Bialik's philosophy of Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World). Under the guidance of Assistant Principal and Head of Pastoral Care, Ian Poyser, the Etgar (Challenge) and B'nei Mitzvah programs at

Bialik both have a Tikkun Olam component, which sees the College's students volunteer for a variety of organisations, in order to help the wider community. The Royal Children's Hospital and Emmy Monash are two examples of organisations Bialik students visit, as well, of course, as the Posh Opp Shoppe, where the students help sorting and arranging, cleaning and speaking to customers. Many students find the experience of volunteering at the Posh Opp Shoppe so rewarding that they choose to continue their relationship with the business in their personal time.

Bialik Principal, Jeremy Stowe-Lindner, joined students on a recent visit to the Posh Opp Shoppe. Mr Stowe-Lindner said, "I am always awed by the range and organisation of the shop and, in particular, the vision, dedication, leadership and menschlichkeit of Rosalie, who is a truly amazing person. It is no surprise that Rosalie has been granted numerous honours and awards for service to the community."

