

A special friendship

THE students of Bialik College recently welcomed a delegation of visiting students from the Arava region of Israel. Bialik College has a continuing strong relationship with the Arava and the student exchange is a favourite of the shared programs.

Every winter, a group of Arava high school students visits Melbourne. Bialik hosts these students aiming to give them a true taste of life and schooling in Australia, with many varied activities run by the college's informal Jewish learning team.

The students spend time in their peers' classrooms, as well as in the early learning centre, participating in special activities with the youngest Bialik students.

They also visit Jewish landmarks like the Holocaust Museum and engage with the greater community, while their base remains at Bialik College and the homes of their Bialik host families.

Strong bonds are forged between the students, many of these resulting in long friendships.

In December-January, the year 10 Chavayah trip to China and Israel will be an opportunity for the Bialik and Arava students to reunite again.