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WHAT'S UP AT KING DAVID?

An update brought to you by Rabbi Kacev

HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 New classrooms for KD Primary School
- 2 KD Ariel – building has begun!
- 3 KD High School teachers experience Israel
- 4 New Student Leaders appointed for 2018
- 5 KD Schools have Soul
- 6 Innovation and Creativity with the KDLMakerSpace

Facility Upgrades – KD Primary School Victory Park Foundation Phase Classrooms

The SABJE is continually upgrading and improving the facility offerings of King David Schools. At the beginning of the third term, students at King David Primary School Victory Park foundation phase excitedly walked into school to experience their

brand new block of classrooms built to house the Grade 1 and 2 classes, the learning support classrooms and the fully-functional new computer laboratory. In addition to the new classrooms, the grounds have also been transformed into lawns which serve as safe playing fields for the children as they learn, play and grow. Many thanks go to the King David Schools' Foundation (KDSF) for assisting with the financial support required to build this new Foundation phase block on the KD Victory Park campus and for making a dream into a reality.





An update on King David Ariel – excellence in remedial education with all the benefits of a KD School

Excitement is mounting for the opening of the newest member of the King David family, King David Ariel. Construction on the new school began in the July school holidays on the King David Victory Park Campus and is due to be completed by the middle of December.

The new school which will be opening in January 2018 will initially cater for Grade 1, 2 and 3 students and ultimately grow to Grade 7 in the future. The new school will have 8 fully equipped classrooms, a state-of-the-art playground, offices and meeting rooms for staff, a therapy center for the therapists to conduct their

teaching sessions and a “Snoezelen” room. (A “Snoezelen” room is a therapeutic environment created for the purpose of delivering high levels of stimuli to students by using combined lighting effects, aromas, colours, textures and sounds).

Under the leadership of Principal Sally Ann Knowles and Clinical Director Genevieve Sandler, a full team of teachers, therapists and support staff have been employed. Positions filled include 3 remedially qualified teachers, 2 Occupational Therapists, 1 NDT Physiotherapist, 2 Speech and Language Therapists and 1 Remedial Therapist. The teachers will commence their employment in September 2017 for planning/development purposes.

Student numbers are looking extremely positive for 2018. Grade 1 is currently full with a waiting list. There are still limited places available for Grade 2 and 3 for 2018. The interest level for KD Ariel reinforces and confirms the SABJE’s decision to open a Jewish remedial school in Johannesburg.

Please take a moment to watch the latest King David Ariel video. https://youtu.be/cYmwmG9_hmk

For more information contact kdariel@sabje.co.za or 011 446-7877



KD High School teacher's trip to Israel

During the July holidays, 90 teachers and staff from both KD High School Linksfield and Victory Park embarked on a journey of a lifetime to Israel. This initiative, undertaken by the SABJE is aimed to be an educational process that will grow and

engage all participants, educating them about the complexity and dynamism of Israel and equipping them to be better in their teaching. All eligible staff completed a learning course on Israel before embarking on the trip.

The SABJE's vision over the next few years is that with the assistance of generous donors, all eligible staff of every King David School will travel to Israel for an educational and experiential tour.

The theme of this particular trip was 'Bring home the Gold'. The reason behind the name was that one of the central destinations of the journey was Jerusalem, the "City of Gold", during its 50th year celebration since its reunification. The King David group also attended the opening of the Maccabi games in which many King David students participated. The central idea though, was to bring home all the learnings, inspiration and perspective gained from the trip to share with the students and colleagues – the teachers' own personal gold.



Student leaders and Head Prefects appointed at both High Schools

The SABJE extends a hearty Mazaltov to the student leaders and head prefects who have been appointed at King David High School Victory Park and Linksfield for the 2018 year.

King David High School Victory Park
Head Student Leaders: Jason Mervis and Rebecca Matisson
Vice Head Student Leaders: Gadiel Shepherd and Natasha Lipschitz
Student Leaders: Gabriel Wolfson; Orion Avinir; Jess Rom; Joshua Arenson; Aryn Bloch; Daniel Fleishman; Carl Koton; Joshua Nossel; Gavriel Nossel; Loren Kramer; Rachel Edelstein; Ruby Lazarus; Tyra Parsons; Jamie Gordon



King David High School Linksfield

Head Student Leaders: Benjamin Atie and Hannah Bloch

Vice Head Student Leaders: Natalia Laffer-Liebson and Ross Nowitz

Student Leaders: Yael Ben Melech; Kayla Buchalter; Adam Chilewitz; Tarryn Forman; Kira Hertz; Gina Izerel; Joshua Jackson; Nurit Joselowsky; Mira Jossel; Jonathan Kier; Jenna Lazarus; Noah Marks; Jacob Ogus; Ari Raz; Shani Rosenfeld; Adam Seef; Oren Shaff; Aiden Smith; Kayla Strous; Adam Witt

Heads of Committees: Awareness – Jamey Wolpe; Arts & Culture – Daniel Suttner; Eco – Jay Kaplan; Judaica – Benjamin Atie; Outreach – Hannah Bloch; Sport – Yonatan Lipshitz; SMACC – Ross Nowitz; Wellbeing – Tal Aarons



King David Schools have Soul

The Soul department is responsible for the development and implementation of powerful Jewish educational initiatives within King David Schools to impact students, teachers and parents. The Soul team aims to not only impart Jewish knowledge but to also make that knowledge engaging, creative and connecting. A core ethos at King David Schools is to nurture a deep connection and love of our Jewish heritage and traditions.

Here are just a few of the recent Soul projects:

JWRP King David Mother's trip to Israel

Under the leadership of Robyn Smookler (Head of Community Development at King David), 20 King David mothers recently travelled to Israel as part of the Jewish Woman's Renaissance Project (JWRP) initiative. The JWRP motto is "if you inspire a woman, you inspire a family, which inspires a community and has the power to change the world". It sounds like a lofty goal but we have seen this play itself out with the mothers who return to South Africa inspired, connected and hungry for more knowledge. We see the mothers coming back with a widened perspective, gratitude for all their blessings and deep connections to the other women on the group.

As a result of the growing numbers of women who are attending these trips, King David Schools have launched a new initiative called **IN_** which will open the channels for these women to truly transform their communities and the world. To join **IN_** click on the following link <http://kingdavid.us16.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=d2878b16b293704293ee7d9d0&id=e01453fa62>

9 Days of KD'nness

To highlight the importance and great significance of the 9 days preceding Tisha B'Av, King David Schools embarked on a campaign called "9 days of KDness". The aim of the campaign was to bring an awareness of the 9 days of mourning - the darkest time in Jewish history and express that everyone has the power to turn the darkness into light with acts of love and kindness. Each student at King David School from nursery through to high school was given a sheet of stickers with

statements such as “You inspire me”, “I appreciate you”, “You’re a true friend” and “Thank you”.

The objective of the stickers was to reach out to someone each day, in a tangible way to compliment or acknowledge them. Students were encouraged not only to give stickers to friends, but to broaden horizons and give to new friends, teachers, colleagues and significant people in their lives. The King David students were able to appreciate that the benefits of simple acts of kindness are powerful and immediate. Our students really took this campaign to heart as we witnessed the glowing smiles of students, teachers, care givers, parents, cashiers and car guards adorned in these colourful stickers.

King David students embracing technology with innovation and creativity

King David Schools are always looking to expand the creative minds of our students. In 2015, King David High School Victory Park created an Innovation Space for the students. The first course in 3D Printing was run in 2016 and another in 2017. KDHSVP plans on holding two courses in 2018 which will also involve the Primary School. This year King David High School Linksfield has proudly set up an inventive room called the KDLMakerSpace. The central purpose of this initiative is to give pupils the space to learn, be creative and to innovate.

Practically, this is a space that is filled with cutting-edge technology. From a laser cutter to 3D printers and vinyl cutter, as well as more traditional avenues of pursuing creativity, like old fashioned pens, pencils, glue guns and sewing

machines. Students are able to utilise a wide variety of tools to bring their ideas to life. It is difficult to cater for innovation, as innovation, by definition, involves a wildly creative process that exists outside of regular trains of thought. Thus, the KDLMakerSpace aims to provide students with as many tools and materials as possible to help them maximise their potential. It provides hands on learning, helps with critical thinking skills and even boosts self-confidence.

With the support of generous donors, as well as staff and students, KDL has succeeded in creating a space full of the tools to help physically manifest dreams and ideas, a space that is limited only by creativity.

We are looking forward to seeing great things from the KDLMakerSpace and to nurture and encourage our students beyond what they believe to be the limits of their ingenuity.



