

5 June 2013

Dear Parents and Friends,

As many of you are aware, we will be farewelling our School Rabbi, Gersh Lazarow, at the end of Term Two as he commences his new role as Senior Rabbi of Temple Beth Israel. Gersh's contribution to Jewish life and learning at The King David School has been outstanding.

The School is proud to announce that Dr Bryan Conyer has been appointed to the position of Director of Jewish Life for The King David School. Dr Conyer is an acclaimed educator with a depth of experience in North America and Australia. Dr Conyer is currently the Deputy Principal Jewish Life at the Emanuel School in Sydney where he has transformed the curricular and co-curricular learning. He has previously taught at the TIOH Jewish Day School in Los Angeles and served as the Director of Education at Congregation B'nei B'rith in Santa Barbara. Dr Conyer has also taught at the University of Sydney and was the Coordinator of the NSW Board of Jewish Education.

In joining The King David School, Dr Conyer will take over responsibility for development and implementation of the Jewish Studies curriculum, as well as managing and expanding the experiential offering through the Centre for Living Judaism. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position and we look forward to him making a major contribution to Jewish Life at The King David School.

The School is also pleased to announce that Stephanie Gratch, our current Jewish Life Fellow, has been appointed to the new position of Coordinator of the Centre for Living Judaism. We look forward to her continued efforts to shape and enhance Jewish Life at the School.

In addition, we welcome Rabbi Allison Conyer who will teach in the Jewish Studies Learning Area at the Senior School. Rabbi Conyer has also been appointed to the rabbinic position at Etz Chayim Progressive Synagogue. Rabbi Conyer brings extensive experience in pastoral care and Jewish Education, most recently as an integral part of the Jewish Studies team at the Emanuel School in Sydney.

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○ Southwick Campus
Junior School
117 Kooyong Road
Armadale VIC 3143
T: 03 9822 3236
F: 03 9822 2491

○ Magid Campus
Middle School
517-519 Orrong Road
Armadale VIC 3143
T: 03 9529 5277
F: 03 9525 2247


○ Magid Institute
Senior School
373-375 Dandenong Road
Armadale VIC 3143
T: 03 8508 9600
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Previously, Rabbi Conyer was a congregational Rabbi at North Shore Temple Emanuel in Sydney and the Hillel Director at the University of California, Santa Barbara. We have no doubt that her scholarship and experience will add immense value to our educational program.

The Conyer family will be relocating to Melbourne in time to settle their four children into our school in January 2014. Until this time, the School is extremely fortunate to have been able to secure the services of Michael Cohen to lead the Jewish Studies team and to support Stephanie in her coordination of the CLJ. Michael is widely recognised as one of the leading Jewish educators in Australia and has previously served as the Deputy Principal of Bialik College and coordinator of the biennial Conference for Jewish Educators.

We are excited by these new appointments and the continued development of Jewish Life at The King David School.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michele Bernshaw".

Michele Bernshaw
Principal