



Elsa High School Newsletter

# Weekly Daf

Term 1 Edition 10

26 October 2018 - 17 Cheshvan 5779



Parents please note that Interim Reports will be sent home today.

More information to follow on the school app.



Every student counts.  
Every moment counts.  
Every donation counts.

An important PTA message inside—→

## Dvar Torah: Vayera

In this week's Parasha, Parashat Vayera, we read about the story of Sodom and its destruction. The Torah tells us that the city "was sinning greatly" and the citizens were therefore punished for their negative actions. The term "Sdom" has since become a symbol of cruelty and evil. Despite this, the Torah chooses not to explicitly tell us what the people of Sodom did to receive such a harsh punishment. This question is a source of a debate within the Midrashim; some say that the people of Sodom engaged in corrupt behavior such as abusing the needy and refusing to honour and accept visitors.

Interestingly, in Pirkey Avot there is a Mishna that says the following: "One who says, 'What's mine is yours and what's yours is yours' is righteous. [One who says] 'What's yours is mine and what's mine is mine' is wicked. And whoever says, 'what's mine is mine and what's

yours is yours' is of average character, and some say, this is the character of Sodom."

Although at first glance, it may seem as if the sin that is described in the Mishna does not warrant such a punishment, this quotation can be looked upon from another angle. Through this we can understand that if a society is filled with these "average characters", it will eventually deteriorate into a corrupt society, similar Sodom.

From this we can see that sharing and showing compassion towards one another are not just cliches, but are actually fundamental values, that can help us make our society more just and fair.

Shabbat shalom,

Alon Lavi Grade 10



**#powerofparticipation**

**Every student counts.**

**Every moment counts.**

**Every donation counts.**

## #PowerOfParticipation

We are pleased to launch the 2018-2019/5779 Carmel Annual Fund.

Dependent upon a partnership with our community, the Annual Fund is one of Carmel School's most essential resources: it supports every student. The Annual Fund provides for both expected and unexpected needs and opportunities throughout the academic year.

Your donation will empower Carmel School Association to further its mission by continuing the journey of spiritual growth, making available advancements in technology, enhancing academic and co-curricular programming, and most importantly closing the gap between the tuition fees and the actual cost of tuition per child per year.

The opportunities for Excellence, Community, Tradition that the Annual Fund makes possible in our School are never-ending because they are ever-changing.

This year, as we boast over 420 students across three campuses, we are asking each of you to stand up, be counted and make a meaningful contribution: with spirit; with time; with money.

The power of participation is limitless.

**Every student counts. Every moment counts. Every donation counts.**

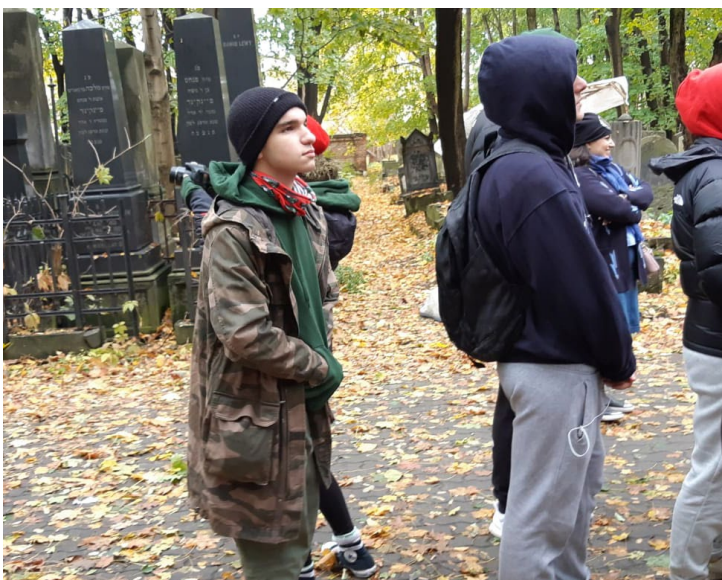
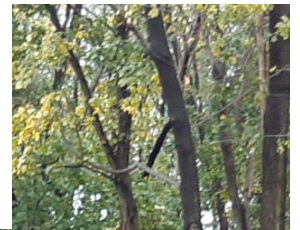
Shay Razon  
Board Chairman





# Greetings from Poland

Grade 11 on their Poland Educational Visit. More updates to follow when they return from their trip.







*'In Conversation' with Carmel students*



## Students and faculty lead the conversation at Elsa High School's annual showcase

On Tuesday, Elsa High School held its annual Open Day. Following a year of fruitful achievements, we were prepared to showcase our many highlights.

At 6:00pm, guests began to arrive. They were first led to the auditorium, where the musical talents of our school were playing live under the leadership of Ms. Celia. Below the stage, subject booths were set up to exhibit student work and showcase the range of subjects that MYP and DP students study. Aside from the subject booths, the Robotics display was a main feature. Guests engaged with our veteran robot from last year's FIRST Robotics Competition and got to know more about this unique part of our School.

After some mingling in the auditorium, guests were led on a School tour by student ambassadors. They were shown around various facilities such as the STEAM Room, Science laboratories, Library and the newly constructed Robotics Lab. They interacted with students further, then returned to the auditorium for the formal introduction to Elsa High School.

The talk started with Mrs. Friedmann's welcome speech. After the introduction, Mrs. Lavi talked about her experiences at Elsa from the perspective of a parent. This was followed by Mr. Ford's discussion about colleges and then by his interview with six Elsa High School students. The combination of these

four insightful perspectives provided a comprehensive overview of the versatility and unique nature of our learning environment.

This year's Open Day concluded as a great success. I am looking forward to seeing next year's Open Day and in the meantime, let's take on new endeavours so we can continue to share exciting achievements!

Many thanks to all students, teachers and administrative staff who worked hard to make this Open Day the most successful yet.

Janice Cheng Grade 11





*Student ambassadors and faculty exhibit Carmel's best facets*







## Israeli Pianist Almog Segal Demonstrates Piano Mastery

Last week in assembly we had the pleasure of hearing Israeli pianist Almog Segal play three pieces for us on the piano. Every year Michel Jospé brings the winner of the Solange Jospé Voice of Music Young Artists Competition, held in Israel, to Elsa High School. This year, Almog Segal a professional piano player, aged 24, was the winner brought to us to perform.

During the assembly, Michel explained to us about the competition and how it is hosted in memory of his late sister who died in a fatal car crash, and since she didn't

have any children to remember her by and she loved piano, this was a great way to do so. Almog then played for us a modern piece by an Israeli composer and another two pieces in a variety of styles.

I really enjoyed listening to Almog's piano playing and the different pieces he performed and look forward to this great opportunity that we have to listen to piano playing from a professional.

I would like to thank Almog for playing the piano so beautifully and Michel Jospé for bringing him and others who win this competition every year.

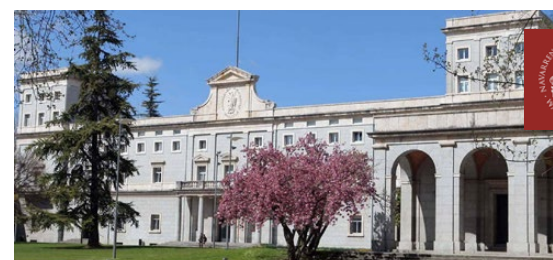
Tahlia Goldberg Grade 8

## University of Navarra Information Session

A representative of the University of Navarra came to Elsa High School this Thursday to speak about the University and the courses it offers. As the name implies, the University is situated in Navarra, a city in northern Spain. Although it is a Spanish university, 24% of the students in the university are international students and the university provides classes both in Spanish and in English, but it does require a certain level of Spanish.

The most prominent courses are Medicine, Business, Economics and International Relations and they have a hospital and many laboratories on campus for the students to use for their own learning, so it is an excellent opportunity to learn through experience.

Furthermore, their international relations programs have extensive opportunities for overseas travel. For example, during the first three years of school,



international relations students will go to countries such as China, Israel and the United States for a period of time.

As a Spanish speaker, I was very interested in the School because I think their education is based on gaining and developing personal experiences rather than learning through solely traditional methods.

Thank you to Mr. Ford for organising this interesting talk and organising such a successful event.

Victor Fong Grade 10





## Reading For the Love of Reading at Book Café

On Wednesday, Grades 6-8 went to the Book Café at the JCC. Not only does the Book Café open lots of opportunities for people our age to explore many different genres of books, but it also helps to attract lots of younger students to start reading at a young age.

While browsing, you could see all different types of books: colouring books, novels, non-fiction, cookbooks, as well as books for small children. This event catered to all different ages, from parenting books to 'Mr. Men' and

*By exposing all different students of different backgrounds to such a diverse range of books, students can develop their reading ability and learn new things through reading.*

'Little Miss' with illustrations. I feel that this event benefits students because by exposing all different students of different backgrounds to such a diverse range of books, students can develop their reading ability and learn new things through reading.

Book Café also had, for the first time, a variety of French, Mandarin and second hand Hebrew books for students speaking a first language other than English or students who are interested in reading books in another language.

Overall, I think that the Book Cafe was an excellent opportunity for all students across the school to experience the profound power that books can have.

Hannah Davidson Grade 8

### Thank You to

**Book Cafe Committee**  
Chair Deborah Khorsandy  
Committee Nofar Damari,  
Avivia Weinberg, Yana Stern,  
Arianne Ngo, Goldie Isselstein

**Special Thanks**  
Marcelle Wosner, Alexandra Guitelman, Zhang Ke, Yael Zion, Agnes Effron and to Nofar Damari for her coordination of the second hand Hebrew books

**Book Companies**  
Bookazine, Fields, Parentheses

**A very big thank you to our sponsors** the Nagar Families of Hong Kong



# Announcements

Carmel School Association, Elsa High School  
Presents


# INTO THE WOODS

April 9-10 2019 / 7:45pm  
Elsa High School  
Auditorium, Shau Kei Wan

TICKETS ON SALE SOON

Directed by Gary Swart  
Musical Director – Celia Leung

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
Book by James Lapine



## Happy Birthday to Elianna Diestel



We hope you've enjoyed reading The Weekly Daf!

From **The Weekly Daf Team**

Tyra Dahlberg, Louis Efron, Hanna Hipwell-Serfaty, Ian Lyons, Issy Lyons, Luis Yap and Mr. Dan Bartholomew

Follow Us Online!

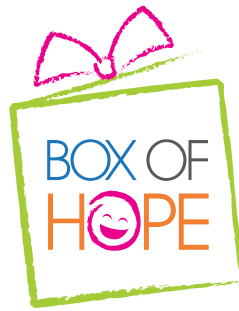


@CarmelSchoolAssociation



Carmel School Association





CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN

# BOX OF HOPE NEEDS YOU



THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN HAVE NOTHING.  
Join our 'One Item' Collection

**DONATE**

**A TOOTHBRUSH/ TOOTHPASTE/ A BAR OF SOAP**

and

**help make a difference.**

DROP OFF DATES :

**5<sup>TH</sup> - 9<sup>TH</sup> NOV 2018**

Please help us help others.



@boxofhopehk #boxofhope2018



# Library

Support at home is key to how young people approach reading for pleasure. Every week we will be promoting books new and old, fiction and non-fiction for readers of all ages and levels.

Our libraries are open to students and parents alike and books can be borrowed through student's accounts.

These books, and more, can be found directly here:

[libraryceo.com/carmel/opac/index.php](http://libraryceo.com/carmel/opac/index.php)

or through our school library site here:

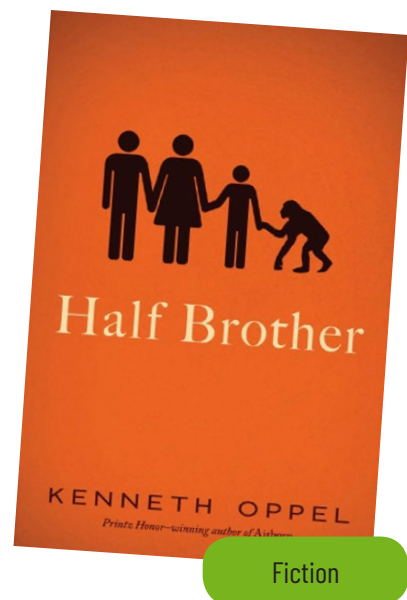
[carmel.edu.hk/learning/library](http://carmel.edu.hk/learning/library)

## Half Brother by Kenneth Oppel

For thirteen years, Ben Tomlin was an only child. But all that changes when his mother brings home Zan — an eight-day-old chimpanzee. Ben's father, a renowned behavioral scientist, has uprooted the family to pursue his latest research project: a high-profile experiment to determine whether chimpanzees can acquire advanced language skills. Ben's parents tell him to treat Zan like a little brother. Ben reluctantly agrees.

It isn't long before Ben is Zan's favorite, and Ben starts to see Zan as more than just an experiment. Soon Ben is forced to make a critical choice between what he is told to believe and what he knows to be true.

Half Brother isn't just a story about a boy and a chimp. It's about the way families are made and the way humanity is judged. In the hands of master storyteller Kenneth Oppel, it's a novel you won't soon forget.



"This well-plotted novel weaves together themes of animal rights, family issues and the cost of animal research...There are no easy answers, just a thoughtful portrayal of real people grappling with tough questions." *Kirkus*



## WE by Yevgeny Zamyatin

WE tells the story of the minutely organized United States, where all citizens are not individuals but only he-Numbers and she-Numbers existing in identical glass apartments with every action regulated by the "Table of Hours." It is a community dedicated to the proposition that freedom and happiness are incompatible; that most men believe their freedom to be more than a fair exchange for a high level of materialistic happiness.

Primitive passions and instincts have been subdued. Even nature has been defeated, banished behind the Green Wall. But one frontier remains: outer space. Now, with the creation of the spaceship Integral, that frontier — and whatever alien species are to be found there — will be subjugated to the beneficent yoke of reason.

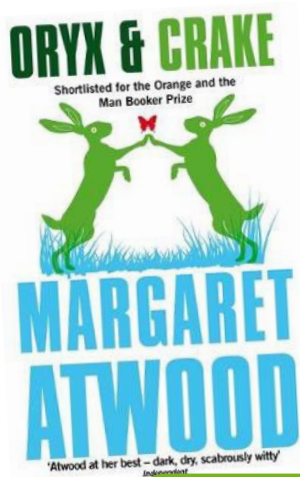
WE is recognized as the inspiration for George Orwell's famous 1984, and is generally regarded as the classic anti Utopian novel and a historic landmark in Soviet literature.



Fiction

"One of the best!" *New York Review of Books*

"We is one of the great novels of the twentieth century." *Irving Howe*



Fiction

## Oryx and Crake by Margaret Atwood

*A stunning and provocative novel by the internationally celebrated winner of the Booker Prize and New York Times bestselling author.*

Oryx and Crake is at once an unforgettable love story and a compelling vision of the future. Snowman, known as Jimmy before mankind was overwhelmed by a plague, is struggling to survive in a world where he may be the last human, and mourning the loss of his best friend, Crake, and the beautiful and elusive Oryx whom they both loved. In search of answers, Snowman embarks on a journey—with the help of the green-eyed Children of Crake—through the lush wilderness that was so recently a great city, until powerful corporations took mankind on an uncontrolled genetic engineering ride.

Margaret Atwood's novel is so utterly compelling, so prescient, so relevant, so terrifyingly-all-too-likely-to-be-true, that readers may find their view of the world forever changed after reading it.

"Atwood has long since established herself as one of the best writers in English today, but *Oryx and Crake* may well be her best work yet. . . . Brilliant, provocative, sumptuous and downright terrifying." *The Baltimore Sun*



# פינת הספרייה העברית

סמסטר ראשון: מהדורה מספר 8  
י"ז בחשוון ה'תשע"ט



הספר "סלפי אחד יותר מידי" מספר על ילדה בשם טל אבידן גרה בבסיס חצרים במשך שש שנים, הוריה מודיעים לה שבמהלך השבוע הם מתכננים לחזור חזרה לרמת השרון, לעיר שבה התגוררו לפני המעבר לבסיס חצרים. המעבר עבורה הינו דרמטי. קשה לה לעזוב את החברים, את תחושת הבית הפתוח והטבע האינוסופי, ואת רועי, החבר הכי טוב שלה שמאוב בה בסתר. כאשר היא מגיעה לרמת השרון היא חוזרת היישר לזרועותיה של ג'ולי, החברה הכי טובה שלה מכיתה א' ולעדן, חברה נוספת. כאשר טל מגיעה לבית הספר מתחילים המון שינויים עבורה: ההסתגלות לחיים בעיר, לסגנון הלבוש ולסגנון הדיבור, לסמארטפונים ולקבוצות הווטסאפ הסוערות. חוץ מזה היא גם מתאהבת בילד הכי פופולרי בבית ספר בשם שון. זאת הפעם הראשונה שטל ממש מתאהבת וזה מוביל אותה לשלוח סלפי, סלפי אחד יותר מדי. זהו הסלפי שאחריו חייה כבר לא ייראו אותו הדבר. התחברתי לספר זה מכיוון שהוא מרגש, מעניין ויכול לעזור להרבה ילדים בגילי לכן החלטתי להמליץ עליו.

אביב יוחאי - כיתה ט'

מתוך הספר "סלפי אחד יותר מידי" כתבה: דנה אבירם

הסיפור שלי נשמע סתם כמו עוד סיפור. כזה שקוראים בהודעה פרטית בווטסאפ, או ששומעים ברכילות חמה הנלחשת בחצר בית הספר על "חברה של חברה שזה בדיוק מה שקרה לה". אם לפני שנה, תמר, החברה מהבסיס שבו גרתי, הייתה מראה לי תמונה חושפנית שפרסמה אחת הבנות שאנחנו מכירות, הייתי בטוח מנענעת בראשי מצד לצד כלא־מאמינה, ואומרת, "זה לא יכול להיות". ושתינו היינו מביטות זו בזו במבט ארוך של הסכמה - ומהנהנות.

הסיפור הפעם הוא לא על מישהי אחרת שאני בקושי מכירה - אלא עליו, על טל. אני, שיכולה למתוח קו על החיים שלי ולחלק אותם ל"לפני ואחרי" פרסום התמונה.

זאת אני שעוברת בעיניים מושפלות במסדרון בית הספר, מתאמצת לא לפגוש את המבט של אף אחד כי אני יודעת - מי שעובר מולי ממילא לא רואה אותי כמו שאני, אלא את תמונת הסלפי המקוללת ההיא. כשיסתכלו עליי ימחקו בראש מיד את חולצת בית הספר האדומה שאני לובשת, את מכנסי הג'ינס הצמודים המשופשפים, את עגילי הפנינה

הלבנים שקיבלתי בחג מסבתא שרה, את הקוקו הגבוה שהתאמצתי למתוח בבוקר, ויראו אותי לגמרי שונה - כמו שהייתי בתמונה. בסלפי רואים רק את הגוף שלי. במטרה להיות זהירה, לא צילמתי את הראש. וטוב שכך, כי אם הייתי מצלמת את הפנים שלי, היה אפשר לראות את הדמעות שעמדו לי בקצה העיניים, נאחזות באחרון הריסים רגע לפני שהן זולגות מטה. אי־אפשר לראות את השפתיים הדקות שלי שמהודקות היטב זו לזו ואת השיער השחור שהיה פרוץ וסתור. הרי לא מעניין אף אחד איך הרגשתי באותה שנייה כשלחצתי על המצלמה ושלחתי את התמונה. מי שראה אותה, התעניין רק בגוף שלי: שוכבת על המיטה בחדר שלי, יד על המותן כשחתיכת בד קטנטנה שחשבתי שמסתירה את מה שהתביישתי לחשוף.

נדמה היה לי שאם לא אחשוף את פניי אני בטח אהיה מוגנת, אלא שכמו דברים רבים שקרו מאז שצילמתי את אותה התמונה, התברר שטעיתי - ובגדול.



המלצה  
נוספת שלי:

**כוכב ברשת**

ספר נוסף של דנה אבירם.  
אורן הינו נער מקובל מאד בבית  
הספר ובגלל טעות אחת כל חייו  
משתנים. גם ספר זה מתחבר  
לדברים שאנחנו הנוער  
עוברים