



Elsa High School Newsletter

Weekly Daf

Term 1 Edition 11

2 November 2018 - 24 Cheshvan 5779



Dvar Torah: Chayei Sarah

In this week's Parasha, Parashat Chayei Sarah, we read about two of our foremothers: Sarah and Rivkah. The parasha begins with the death of Sarah, who is only briefly mentioned in this parasha due to her death. The main topic of the Parasha is the journey that Avraham's servant Eliezer makes to a foreign country to find a wife for Yitzchak.

After spotting Rivkah approaching a well, Eliezer comes up with an idea to test her character and determine whether she is a suitable match for Yitzchak, and whether she will be able to go on to be one of Am Yisrael's founders. He decides to ask her for some water from the well to see her reaction, and whether she offers water to his camels as well.

The test that Eliezer performed on Rivkah may seem somewhat unfair. Gathering water from a well and giving it to Eliezer's many camels is undoubtedly a demanding task, especially when we take into consideration that

Rivkah was of such a young age at the time. Was that really a reasonable test for her? However, if we think deeper, Yitzchak was exposed to constant giving, through the kindness and generosity of his parents Avraham and Sarah. As we know, Avraham and Sarah were known for always giving, no matter the situation. Their tent was open 24/7 for everyone who wished to be their guest, regardless of their personality or beliefs. This exceptional hospitality, disregarding the effort and the cost it demands, is the level of giving that the forefathers and mothers set for us as an example.

Obviously, we may not always be able to live up to this level of generosity that was set by Avraham, Sarah, Yitzchak and Rivkah. However, it is important that we learn from it, and understand that giving and *TODA* can not be limited to "when it suits me" or "when I have time for it". It is something we must always try to do, as we learn through the theme of Chayei Sarah.

Shabbat Shalom,

Marco Caviglia Grade 10

Carmel School Association, Elsa High School

Presents

INTO THE WOODS

April 9-10, 2019 / 7:45pm

Elsa High School

Auditorium, Shau Kei Wan Campus

TICKETS ON SALE SOON

Directed by Gary Swart

Musical Director – Celia Leung

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by James Lapine



INTO THE WOODS

Coming Soon...

"Do you know what you wish?

Are you certain what you wish is what you want?

*If you know what you want, then **make a wish**"*

After two weeks of exciting auditions we are getting closer to announcing the cast who will bring you this year's eagerly awaited musical, **"Into the Woods"**.

This Tony Award winning Sondheim musical intertwines fairytale characters, including Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel, Cinderella and others. Each character has a dream, and journeys into the woods to fulfil that dream. With songs such as *"Children Will Listen"* and *"Stay With Me"*, this extraordinary musical reveals the power of wishes and what really happens after those wishes come true.

This lyrically rich retelling of classic Brothers Grimm fables will take place at **Elsa High School** on **9 and 10 April**. Keep your eyes peeled for tickets which will be on sale soon!



Mr. Gary Swart
Director of Theatre Arts and
Director of Pastoral Care



Poland

Grade 11 share their experiences after returning from their Poland Educational Visit

This week we returned from our trip to Poland. Although we expected the trip to be solely based around the events of the Holocaust, we were surprised to find that many aspects of the trip involved celebrating Jewish life before and after the war. One moment which we found to be especially moving, began with a drive to what used to be a small Jewish village known as Dabrowa Tarnowska. Here we saw the synagogue which has since been converted into a museum. While touring, we were told the stories of the Jews that once lived here. It was touching to hear how the Jews were more devoted to the creation of the synagogue than their own homes; spending what money they had on it. Before leaving, we joined in song and dance, ending the experience with a sense of empowerment.

Many times, we transitioned from powerful experiences to ones of sorrow, and found that these transitions brought out many emotions in all of us. This made the journey all the more powerful. One moment that struck us was when we learned of the killing of children by Nazis, as we came across their mass grave. We spent

some time by the grave, sharing stories of children of the Holocaust.

One story entailed a Rabbi who went to an orphanage after the war searching for Jewish children. In the end, he found that the only way to find the children was to recite Shema. It was striking to hear how the children, who had most likely forgotten their Jewish identity, were still able to recall this prayer. Being Jews from different communities, we are able to reflect on this as we are all from different places, but like the children, are all able to recite the same prayer.

The journey proved to be emotionally exhausting, but also an empowering experience which we will take with us to every situation we face, and to any community we may join.

Many thanks to Mr. Greenbaum for accompanying us on this vital journey,

Arya Idan-Cummins and Louis Effron Grade 11

Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences at Elsa High School

Parents, students and teachers came together in Elsa High School's Auditorium on 29 October to reflect on the year thus far.



Photo credit: Romy Serfaty



Service and Action

Our Service and Action has had a relaunch this week. Grade 6 students are focusing on further understanding what 'Service starts at Home' means and they will be working on Service based projects at school. Grade 7 will be working with an Israel based NGO called 'MyIsrael' where they will be focusing on a few projects based in Israel and will raise funds for them.

Grades 8-10 have chosen to follow a concept designed by the United Nations called 'Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs), a vehicle for driving change globally. SDGs represent an action plan for the planet and society to thrive by 2030, addressing poverty, hunger, and climate change, among other issues central to human progress and sustainable developments, such as clean water and sanitation.

The students have chosen to further develop their understanding as they research NGO's either in Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong or globally to see what they can drive in this academic year.

I look forward to seeing the students continue to develop their understanding of Service locally and internationally.



Mr. Roshan Julian

Director of Experiential Learning

Elsa High School Football Team take on Korean International School



Elsa High School's U14 football team played Korean International School, (KIS) this past Tuesday.

KIS started with possession but we played well defensively in the first half. After a strong defense, our squad started going on the attack. From a goal kick, Alex Gershon passed to Noah Ricklow in an amazing play: Noah chipped the ball over the KIS goalkeeper and scored. We took the lead with a 1-0 score. After the restart, KIS immediately went on the offensive with a good pass from the centre of the field. Our opposition got a through ball

past our defensive line - tie game. In the second half, a player from KIS got fouled in the penalty area. The penalty was saved by our goalkeeper Alex Gershon, but KIS scored on the bounce back.

Our team put on a good effort towards the end of the game but couldn't tie up the score. The final score was 2-1

Thank you Mr. Julian and Coach Julian for organizing the match and shabbat shalom!

Ben Oz Grade 7



Elsa High School Football Team Qualifies for League Final

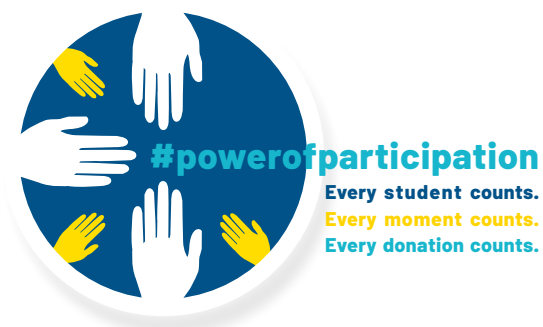
On Thursday 1 November, Elsa High School's U14 team played against two schools, The Harbour School (THS) and The American School Of Hong Kong (ASHK). Our first game was against THS, which we won with a score of 8-0. We were then able to have a break and watch THS play ASHK, after which we faced ASHK, winning 5-0 with a great last minute free kick from Noah Ricklow.

Winning these two games - and in such a decisive manner - meant we are able to progress into the finals on Monday.

Many thanks to our coach and Mr. Julian for organising.

Alexander Gershon Grade 8





#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

Announcements

Carmel Elementary PTA Workshop Series

Is making time for homework help a challenge? Are after school tantrums and tired children an every day occurrence?

Learn tips and strategies for supporting your child with their home learning with Mrs. Hasofer, Head of Elementary and Ms. Kirchner, Learning Support Coordinator at

Homework The *Happy* Way

Wednesday 21 November
8:30-9:30am
BRC Tech Zone

Register at
carmel.edu.hk/homework



Organisation
and Planning
tips

Creating the right
environment for
homework

Successful
homework
routines

Everyone will
receive a
**Homework
Toolkit**



Happy Birthday to Diya Gangaramani



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

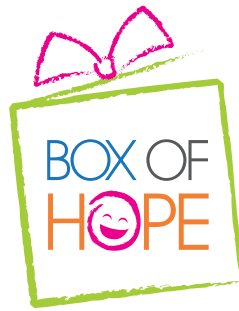
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Carmel School Association



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 :

5TH - 9TH 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

or through our school library site here:

carmel.edu.hk/learning/library

The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

The bestselling controversial novel about corruption and misuse of power in an American boys' school. The headmaster of Trinity College asks Archie Costello, the leader of the Vigils, a secret society that rules the school, to help with the selling of 20,000 boxes of chocolates in the annual fund-raising effort. Archie sees the chance of adding to his power - he is the Assigner, handing out to the boys tasks to be performed if they are to survive in the school. Freshman, Jerry Renault, a newcomer to the corrupt regime, refuses to sell chocolates. Enormous mental and physical pressure is put on him but he will not give in - the result is an inevitable, explosive tragedy.

To some, Jerry is a hero, but to others, he becomes a scapegoat - a target for their pent-up hatred. And Jerry? He's just trying to stand up for what he believes, but perhaps there is no way for him to escape becoming a pawn in this game of control; students are pitted against other students, fighting for honor - or are they fighting for their lives?

"Masterfully structured and rich in theme; the action is well crafted, well timed, suspenseful." — The New York Times Book Review



Fiction

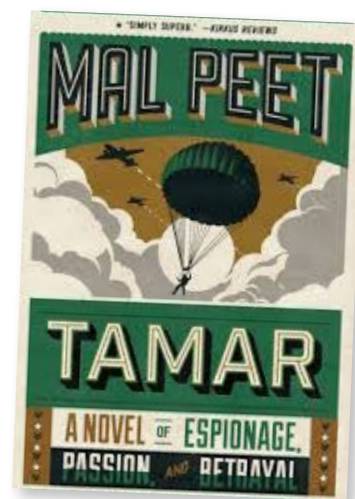
Tamar by Mal Peet

From acclaimed British sensation Mal Peet comes a masterful story of adventure, love, secrets, and betrayal in time of war, both past and present.

When her grandfather dies, Tamar inherits a box containing a series of clues and coded messages. Out of the past, another Tamar emerges, a man involved in the terrifying world of resistance fighters in Nazi-occupied Holland half a century before. His story is one of passionate love, jealousy, and tragedy set against the daily fear and casual horror of the Second World War – and unraveling it is about to transform the younger Tamar's life forever.

New York Times Book Review – Editors' Choice

"Tamar is a novel worthy of standing with the very best of contemporary British fiction."
– The Guardian



Fiction

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.

But what Starr does or does not say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.

"Heartbreakingly topical, its greatest strength is in its authentic depiction of a teenage girl, her loving family, and her attempts to reconcile what she knows to be true about their lives with the way those lives are depicted – and completely undervalued – by society at large." – Publishers Weekly



Fiction

פינת הספרייה העברית

סמסטר ראשון: מהדורה מספר 9
כ"ד בחשוון ה'תשע"ט



ספר זה מביא את סיפורה של ילדה בשם עינת שהחברה הטובה שלה, שחר, עזבה בפתאומיות את העיר, בלי שום הודעה, בלי שום מכתב, ממש נעלמה. העזיבה היתה מלווה בדאגה רבה ובגעגועים שהשפיעו על עינת מאוד בבית ובבית הספר. עינת מנסה בכל דרך אפשרית למצוא את חברתה, ובדרך היא מתקרבת לחברים בכיתה ומגלה על עצמה דברים נפלאים. ליד ביתה של שחר ישב במשך זמן רב מחוסר בית אשר עינת דאגה לבקר אותו, לשוחח איתו ולקנות לו אוכל. במהלך הזמן נוצר ביניהם קשר נפלא שמוביל להפתעה בסיפור. ספר זה עניין אותי מאוד, כיוון שבישראל פגשתי את הסופרת אחרי שקראנו את הספר הזה מטעם בית הספר. הספר מלמד על חברות אמיתית, שהיא דבר מאוד חשוב בעיני.

גפן הראל כיתה ו'

מתוך הספר "חברות עם שחר" כתבה: אורה קרופיק

כולם הלכו ברגל בכל מזג אוויר.
"יופי, יופי, רק אנחנו יצאנו מפונקים, רטן אח שלי.
בשני השיעורים הראשונים לא הצלחתי להתרכז. חשבתי על שחר והתגעגעתי אליה. בהפסקה הלכתי אל חדר המזכירות.
"שחק קרפובסקי מכיתה ו' אחת חסרה? ממתי?"
"אז גם את לא יודעת איפה היא?"
"לא, ענתה המזכירה. "לא קיבלתי שום מידע לגביה."
דרך המחשב שלה היא איתרה את מספרי הטלפונים הניידים של ההורים שלה.
"מוזר. שניהם לא עונים."
"תוכלי לתת לי את מספרי הטלפון? אני אנסה להתקשר אליהם. "התפלאתי על הנחישות שצצה בקול שלי.



כל הדרך מבית הספר הביתה חשבתי על שחר. התחיל לרדת גשם. הוא טפטף לי על הראש ולא הצלחתי לראות כלום דרך המשקפיים. איפה שחר יכולה להיות? למה כבר יומיים היא לא מגיעה? למה היא לא עונה לטלפון? לפי ההסכם שיש בינינו, אם אחת מאיתנו לא מרגישה טוב, השנייה מתקשרת לברר מה קורה. נכנסתי הביתה עם המטרייה המטפטפת. הרמתי את שפופרת הטלפון. היא לא ענתה. היא אפילו הייתה מנותקת מהפייסבוק. יצאתי ונעלתי את הדלת אחרי. דפקתי על דלת העץ של

הדירה שלה. לא הייתה תשובה. אחר כך צלצלתי בפעמון. שום קול לא נשמע. אולי אשפזו אותה בבית חולים כמו לפני כמה חודשים: אבל בפעם האחרונה שראיתי אותה, היא נראתה בריאה. חזרתי הביתה דרך רחובות ריקים מאנשים, מוטרדת. למחרת בבוקר הגשם נמשך וקיבל תגבורת של ברקים ורעמים.

אח שלי אמר: "אין מצב שאני יוצא מהבית."
"מה הבעיה?" אמר אבא: "אני אסיע אתכם."
זאת הייתה טעות איומה. במשך כל הדרך לבית הספר אבא אמר: "כשהיינו ילדים, אף אחד לא הסיע אותנו.

"אם תדעי משהו, תעדכני אותנו," אמרה

המזכירה. בכל הזדמנות שהייתה לי התקשרתי אליהם. קודם התקשרתי לשחר, אחר כך לאמא שלה ובסוף לאבא שלה. אף אחד מהם לא ענה לי. לכולם השארתי הודעות קוליות וסימסתי. שום תשובה לא קיבלתי.

"את חושבת ששחר בבית חולים?" שאלה אותי אמא. "אני לא יודעת כבר מה לחשוב," עניתי.

מזמן שהיא התקשרה לכל אחת ממחלקות מיון הילדים בבתי החולים באזור, ישבתי על ידה.