



Elsa High School Newsletter

www.carmel.edu.hk

Weekly Daf

Term 2 Edition 5

1 February 2019 - 26 Shevat 5779



Mrs. Friedmann wishes all our Chinese students and parents Kung Hei Fat Choi - prosperity and good health in the coming year and a safe, happy holidays to all Carmel Families.



Chiang Mai and Nepal Educational Visit 2019

Further to the letter and presentation you received today, parents are invited to join us at the PTA monthly lunch meeting on Thursday 14 February in the Elsa High School campus Conference Room where an outline of the visits will be followed by a Q&A.

Dvar Torah: Mishpatim

This week's parashah, Mishpatim, follows last week's, where G-d gave the ten commandments to Moses at Mount Sinai. G-d follows up in our Parasha and delivers a series of laws (Mitzvot) for the people of Israel. The Mitzvot encompass a wide range of topics, starting with freeing the slaves and continuing with laws regarding damages due by a person if he or his animals commit a crime, the rules of loans and guarding other people's property and possessions.

Similar to other Parashot in the Torah, the rules are given in short versions covering different aspects of life that, at first glance, don't seem associated with one another. After reading the previous Parashot that tell us about the events of the extraordinary Exodus from Egypt and Revelation at Mount Sinai, our Parasha seems as if it is too practical or even boring. After experiencing G-d through the miracles of the Ten Plagues and the splitting of the sea, in this Parasha the Jews are asked to pay attention to a set of long rules that goes down to the smallest resolution of possible daily incidents. This seems to be an anti-climax when juxtaposed to the experience of the Almighty.

When we give it deeper thought, we can realize that the main

events of the Exodus, extraordinary as they were, were an exception from the normal routine of life. The main challenge, as the Torah teaches us in our Parasha, is to maintain morality and follow the words of Hashem, not in unnatural events or when we experience miracles, but in the acts of our everyday life. The main mission of the Jewish nation is to lead a moral and holy life in every aspect of regular life and not only when they encounter miracles. That is the reason there are so many Mitzvot in the Torah, because for every aspect of everyday life, there are heavenly rules and guidance. The main challenge is to express morality and our values in what seems to be repeated routine and not only with exceptional events.

As we are about to go next month on our educational visits where we are to begin community service, we should remember that although it is more visible to others to serve in remote areas where actions are clear, this is not our main challenge. The main challenge is to keep this spirit of service also in the routine school setting with our relations with our peers and staff. It is a much harder task, but as we learn from our Parasha, this is our destined goal.

Shabbat shalom!

Charlie Allard Grade 10



Chinese New Year Assembly

In preparation of the 2019 Chinese Lunar New Year, Elsa High School hosted an assembly with special performances by the majority of the students.

The Grade 10's sang a song, Victor Liu played the guitar, the Grade 8's and 9's in Ms Gao's class danced, the Grade 8's and 9's in Ms Wei's class recited a poem, Nicholas (trombone), Benjamin (djembe), the ukulele group (Grades 8 and 10), and myself (violin) performed "God of Wealth" and "Happy New Year".

Chinese New Year marks a very important occasion in the Lunar Calendar: it is the most festive celebration and it is important that in this international school environment we mark the occasion in an appropriate way.

Many thanks to the whole Chinese department and Ms. Celia for their tireless work in preparing the whole school for this fun and festive event!

Scott Chua Grade 8







Carmel hosts Inter-School Debate Friendly

As part of a larger initiative launched and led by Ms. Jasmine Yao, mother of Jeffrey (G11), in conjunction with the Equal Opportunities Commission, this week saw the inaugural Carmel Interschool Debate. The event brought together over 20 students from a range of schools from across Hong Kong to debate in a friendly competition which gave participants an opportunity to hone their craft in a safe and supportive environment. The topic for this debate was 'This House Believes that Hong Kong Primary Schools should teach their students to swim', which was tackled by the Elsa High School team comprising Isabelle Madliar, Nilly Pardo and Asya Poller from Grade 6. The girls were a testament to perseverance, hard work and great teamwork in how they put together their affirmative and negative debate speeches under extreme time constraints.

Special thanks must go to Tahlia Goldberg Grade 8 for acting as chairperson, Asher Berman Grade 11 for being the timekeeper and Andrea Au Grade 12 for stepping in to provide invaluable advice as the adjudicator. Thank you too to Jasmine Yao for this opportunity and for arranging participation of other HK schools.

Well done!



Mr. Dan Bartholomew
English Teacher



ISSFHK Cross Country Championships

Carmel School Association took 26 students from Grades 3-11 to compete at the annual ISSFHK Cross Country Championships. The selected students have been training throughout the year across a number of sports and competed in this season's mini-meets. The Championships were larger than ever, with over 700 students across 25 international schools from Hong Kong and we were blessed with glorious running conditions.

We had some very strong results across each category, especially for Issy Lyons (G11) and Reut Shahr Charnuha (G7) coming in the Top 15. A special mention to Ruby Tadelis who was the youngest runner in the whole competition and performed extremely well in the Under 12 Girls category.

Well done to everyone and I look forward to the ISSFHK Track & Field season starting very soon after the CNY break.



Mr. Roshan Julian
Director of
Experiential Learning



FIRST Robotics Competition Weekly Update: Week 4

This week in robotics we have made great progress. First, we finished the drive base which will support the structures on top of it. We have also finished the lift mechanism which will be used to move the ball-intake mechanism.

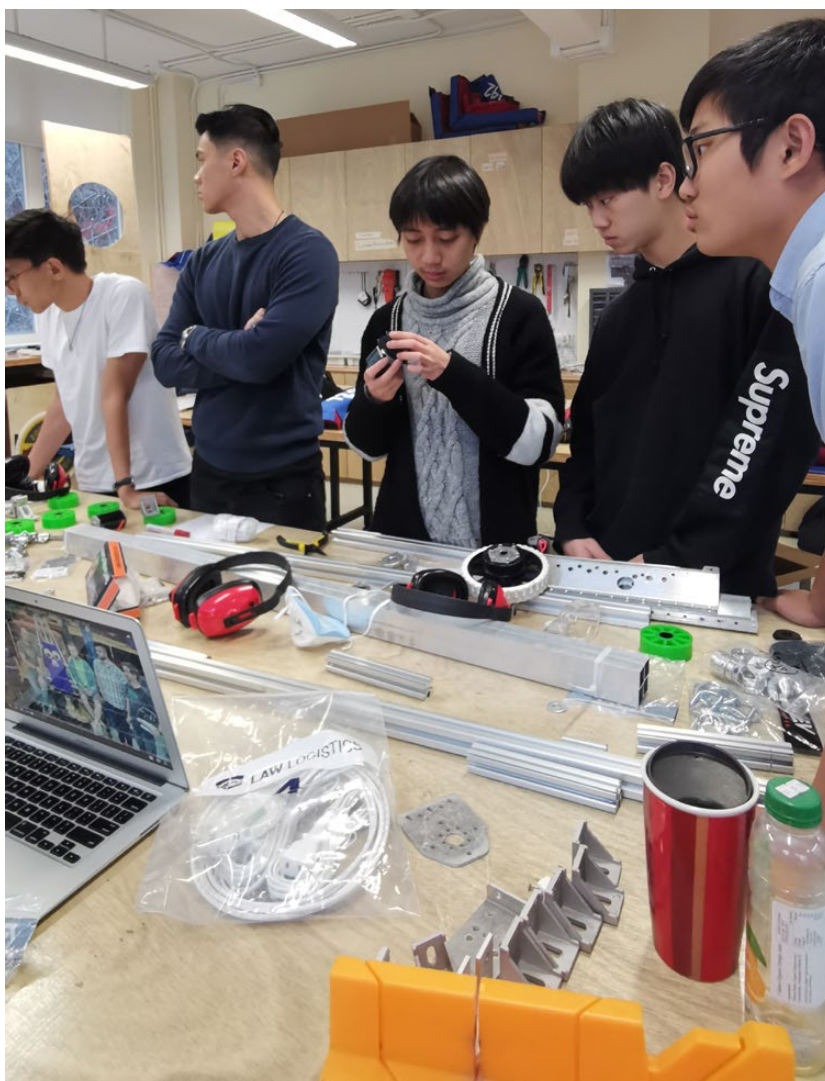
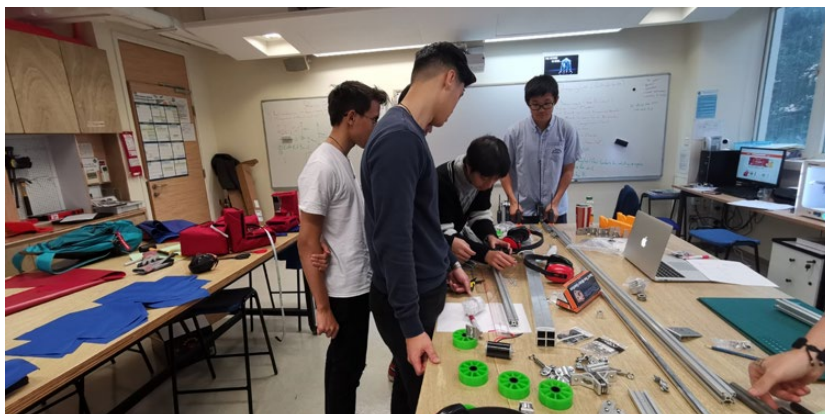
The design for our merchandise has been finalised and we will soon be starting sales of our hoodies, t-shirts, caps and team buttons. This is part of our fundraising effort which also includes a bake sale led by Juhi at school who will even be reaching out to companies.

As we are soon approaching the end of the build season, we offer you the opportunity to support us through donating at www.7242.team. All the donations will go towards the improvement of the robot and supporting facilities.

Our team will continue to work on our robot during the Chinese New Year and we are prepared to bring more exciting updates soon after.

We thank you again for your continued interest and support!

Steven Zhou Grade 12



Progress: our ball-intake mechanism takes shape

CNY PTA Lunch

What better way to usher in the Year of the Pig... than with a Chinese Kosher lunch at the JCC?!

A mixed group of Elsa Parents, Teachers and Staff celebrated together the dawn of the New Chinese Year at the King David room, enjoying together a feast of (fake) shrimp hagao, cinnamon banana fritters and various other cross-culturally adapted Cantonese delicacies.

Spearheaded, as every year, by the indefatigable ladies of the PTA (thank you Agnes Effron and Krysia Allard), beautifully arranged this year by Christine Wong, mother of Myron (G6) and Mimi Lin, mother of Duncan (G6), the annual celebratory lunch is an opportunity for Chinese and Jewish parents to mingle and catch up.

In a short speech, Mrs. Friedmann shared her enjoyment and pride in attending a song and dance celebration in the morning, performed by both Chinese and Jewish students, that perfectly embodied the spirit of this time of the year – and of Elsa in general. She also shared an outline of the main developments being planned for the school in the coming year, both in terms of numbers and programmes. Pigs might not be kosher, but they represent luck, overall good fortune, honesty, hard work and sense of humour in the Chinese zodiac – attributes we certainly all thrive to achieve. The Year of the Pig will definitely be an auspicious one for Carmel School Association! Thank you to Mimi and Christine for organising this year's lunch!

Romy Serfaty



ATTENTION HIKING LOVERS!

AMAH ROCK HIKE

Thursday 21 February 9:30am

Join us to experience views of Tai Mo Shan, Needle Hill, Grassy Hill, Ma On Shan, the Hunch Backs, and the beautiful Amah Rock.

The group will depart 9:30am Thursday 21 February and walk the Sha Tin Au Section 5 of the Wilson Trail, an easy 7.4 km (2.5 hour) hike.

This is an all-campus event.

To RSVP and for more details please
Whatsapp Ronit at 66886010

PETER INGLIS PHOTOGRAPHY
ELSA AND CARMEL FAMILY/GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS ON
Tuesday 26th February 2019
JCC CAMPUS 70 ROBINSON ROAD

BOOK NOW-PAY ON THE DAY

FAMILY & GROUP PHOTOGRAPHY SESSION in the YOUTH ROOM
PLEASE BOOK A TIME:

Ganeynu & Preschool: 2:00pm - 6:30pm

K-G5: 3:30pm - 6:30pm

G6 above: 4:00pm - 6:30pm

We invite families to attend a special family photo session. What we'll do is take a number of photographs (*allowing up to **20 minutes per group***) of various combinations-children, mum and dad together, siblings, grandparents together, everyone who turns up.

H.K.\$950.00 for the 10 photograph (or 6 high resolution full size digital images) package and H.K.\$750.00 for the 6 photo package (or 4 high resolution full size digital images) plus ONLINE low resolution images of your shoot for reference (downloadable).

Photographs are 5x7" (13x18cm) and mounted in (removable) card frames. Additional prints may be ordered later and in different sizes if required.

If you're interested, what do you do next? (**THIS IS FOR FAMILY & GROUP BOOKINGS ONLY**)

1. **email: info@peteringlisphotography.com** or telephone/whatsapp: +852 **96758724** and book a time **BETWEEN 14.00 to 18.30**. I'll get back to you to confirm your time, so leave your contact details:
2. Your **name**,
3. Your **phone number/email**.
Turn up on Tuesday 26th February 2019 at your time-***it's really important you are ON TIME.***
4. Wear what you think you look good in. We will probably use a white background.
5. **Cheque (payable to PETER INGLIS PHOTOGRAPHY) or cash ONLY.**
6. **email: info@peteringlisphotography.com NOW AND RESERVE YOUR BEST TIME.**



CARMEL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION, ELSA HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS

INTO THE WOODS JR.

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY STEPHEN SONDHEIM
BOOK BY JAMES LAPINE

APRIL 9-10, 2019 / 7:45 PM

ELSA HIGH SCHOOL

AUDITORIUM, SHAU KEI WAN CAMPUS

TICKET PRICE: \$360 FOR ADULTS / \$160 FOR STUDENTS

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT:
CARMELMUSICAL.EVENTBRITE.COM

DIRECTED BY GARY SWART
MUSICAL DIRECTION BY CELIA LEUNG
ASSISTANT DIRECTION BY ILLY GERSHON



We hope you've enjoyed reading

Elsa High School Newsletter

Weekly Daf



From **The Weekly Daf Team**

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

Mazel Tov to
Iska Guitelmann on
her Bat Mitzvah

Happy Birthday to
Ativa Goldberg and **Lily Gershon**



CARMEL ANNUAL FUND



#powerofparticipation

Every student counts.

Every moment counts.

Every donation counts.

Thank you to all who have pledged so far

Please visit www.carmelschoolassociation.wufoo.com/forms/srkpwrj0azvoo
to find out how you can contribute

Follow Us Online!



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Carmel School Association

Carmel Library

Books of the Week

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 students' accounts.

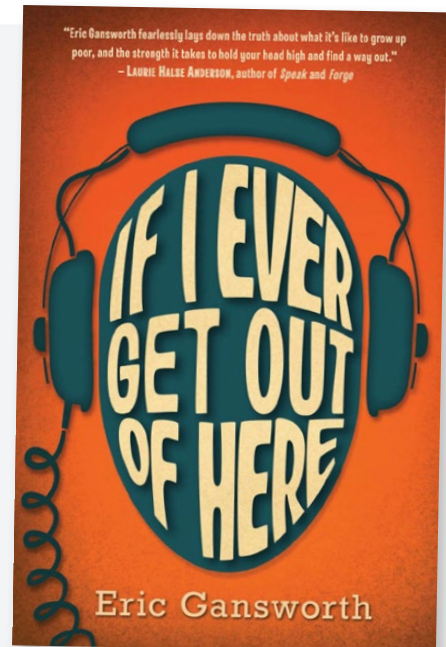
These books, and more, can be found directly:
libraryceo.com/carmel/opac/index.php
or through our school library site:
carmel.edu.hk/learning/library

If I Ever Get Out of Here by Eric Gansworth

Lewis "Shoe" Blake is used to the joys and difficulties of life on the Tuscarora Indian reservation in 1975: the joking, the Fireball games, the snow blowing through his roof. What he's not used to is white people being nice to him — people like George Haddonfield, whose family recently moved to town with the Air Force.

As the boys connect through their mutual passion for music, especially the Beatles, Lewis has to lie more and more to hide the reality of his family's poverty from George. He also has to deal with the vicious Evan Reininger, who makes Lewis the special target of his wrath. But when everyone else is on Evan's side, how can he be defeated? And if George finds out the truth about Lewis's home — will he still be his friend?

"Gansworth manages the weighty themes of racism and poverty with nuance and finesse, at its heart, this is a rare and freehearted portrait of true friendship." Booklist



Fiction

Nimona by Noelle Stevenson

Nemeses! Dragons! Science! Symbolism!

All these and more await in this brilliantly subversive, sharply irreverent epic from Noelle Stevenson.

Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.

But as small acts of mischief escalate into a vicious battle, Lord Blackheart realizes that Nimona's powers are as murky and mysterious as her past. And her unpredictable wild side might be more dangerous than he is willing to admit.

"At its core, Nimona is a story of rescue. Each of the main characters rescue allies, friendships, the Kingdom, and ultimately, themselves ... A vibrant solo work." School Library Journal



Fiction

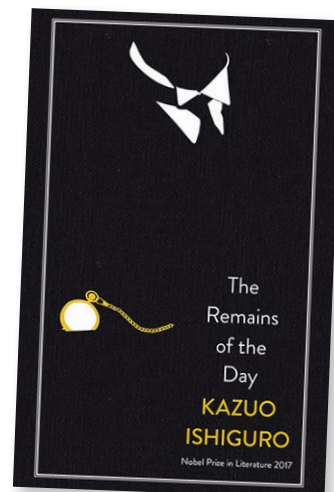
The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro

From the winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, here is the universally acclaimed novel and winner of the Booker Prize.

The Remains of the Day is a spellbinding portrayal of a vanished way of life and a haunting meditation on the high cost of duty. It is also one of the most subtle, sad and humorous love stories ever written. It is the summer of 1956, when Stevens, a man who has dedicated himself to his career as a perfect butler in the one-time great house of Darlington Hall, sets off on a holiday that will take him deep into the English countryside and, unexpectedly, into his own past, especially his friendship with the housekeeper, Miss Kenton.

As memories surface of his lifetime "in service" to Lord Darlington, and of his life between the wars, when the fate of the continent seemed to lie in the hands of a few men, he finds himself confronting the dark undercurrent beneath the carefully run world of his employer.

"A virtuoso performance ... put on with dazzling daring and aplomb." The New York Review of Books



Fiction

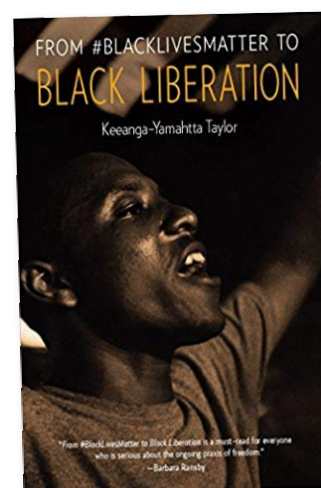
From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation by Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor

An indispensable contribution to the movement for racial justice in "postracial" America.

The eruption of mass protests in the wake of the police murders of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri and Eric Garner in New York City have challenged the impunity with which officers of the law carry out violence against Black people and punctured the illusion of a postracial America. The Black Lives Matter movement has awakened a new generation of activists.

In this stirring and insightful analysis, activist and scholar Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor surveys the historical and contemporary ravages of racism and persistence of structural inequality such as mass incarceration and Black unemployment. In this context, she argues that this new struggle against police violence holds the potential to reignite a broader push for Black liberation.

"A penetrating, vital analysis of race and class at this critical moment in America's racial history." The Guardian



Non Fiction

Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution by Ji-li Jiang

In the tradition of The Diary of Anne Frank and I Am Malala, this is the incredible true story of one girl's courage and determination during one of the most terrifying eras of the twentieth century.

It's 1966, and twelve-year-old Ji-li Jiang has everything a girl could want: brains, popularity, and a bright future in Communist China. But it's also the year that China's leader, Mao Zedong, launches the Cultural Revolution—and Ji-li's world begins to fall apart.

Over the next few years, people who were once her friends and neighbors turn on her and her family, forcing them to live in constant terror of arrest. And when Ji-li's father is finally imprisoned, she faces the most difficult dilemma of her life.

ALA Booklist Editors' Choice

"Absorbing. Jiang views devastating developments with the wide-eyed innocence of youth." Publishers Weekly



Non Fiction

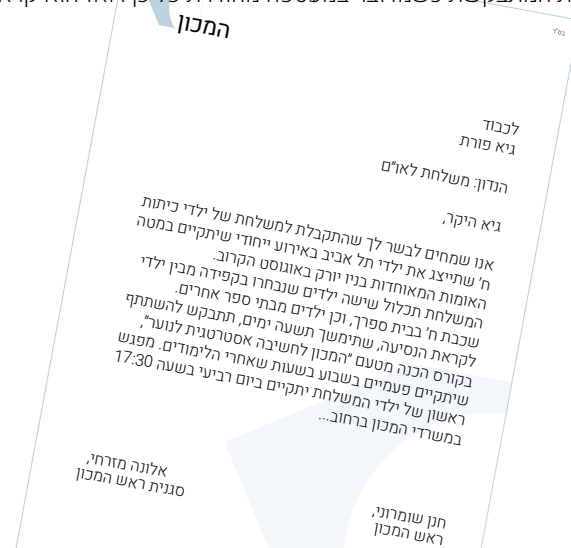
פינת הספרייה העברית

סמסטר שני: מהדורה מספר 21
כ"ו בשבט ה'תשע"ט



מתוך הספר "מבצע מנהטן" כתבה: דנה אלעזר-הלוי

גיא התיישב על הספה האפורה, ולשם שינוי לא הדליק מיד את הפלייסטיישן אלא נשען על הכרית הלבנה הנעימה ופתח את המעטפה, בזהירות המתבקשת כשמדובר במעטפה מהודרת כל כך. ואז הוא קרא:



גיא הבין מיד במה מדובר. לפני כשבועיים, אולי שלושה, הגיע לכיתה שלהם איש שהציג את עצמו בשם חנן, ואמר שהוא עומד לראיין את כל ילדי השכבה ולבחור מתוכם את הילדים שיצאו למשלחת לא"ם. ברגע שחנן ציין שהמשלחת תיסע באוגוסט, על חשבון החופש הגדול, גיא איבד עניין. בשביל מה הוא צריך לימודים ופעילויות גם בחופש? אחר כך הגיע

שלב הריאיון האישי, ואמנם הוא לא אמר לחנן ישירות שהוא לא רוצה לנסוע – הוא חשב שזה עלול להיראות כמו זלזול – אבל הוא הקפיד לא להישמע נלהב מדי. ובאמת, מהר מאוד הוא הרגיש שחנן מבין שהוא לא מתאים למשלחת הזאת, ורק למען הנימוס, כדי שהריאיון לא יהיה קצר מדי, הוא ממשיך לפטפט איתו על שני העניינים האהובים עליו – מחשבים וכדורסל. ככה זה נמשך כמה דקות, ואז הוא יצא והגיע תורו של הילד הבא. לכן הוא התפלא כל כך עכשיו, כשגילה שהתקבל למשלחת. למה דווקא הוא? ועוד אחד מתוך שישה בסך הכול?

מוזר. הטלפון בבית צילצל, וגיא ניגש לענות. "גיאצ'ק? ראית? נכון חדשות נהדרות? רק השבוע אמרת שהיית נותן הכול כדי לראות איזה משחק במדיסון סקוור גארדן. אני בטוחה שנצליח לסדר שתראה לפחות משחק אחד ו –"

"אמא, אין משחקי אן'ביי באוגוסט, ומאיפה את בכלל יודעת על כל זה? המעטפה היתה סגורה כשפתחתי אותה."

"גם אני ואבא קיבלנו מהם מכתב. איזה יופי, באמת. אני כל כך גאה בך. ומזל שהמפגשים בראשון וברביעי, כי אין לך שיעורי קלרינט. טוב, חמוד, אני חייבת לחזור לעבודה, רק רציתי לראות שהגעת הביתה וראית את זה. ויש לך כרגיל צלחת במיקרו. ביי, מתוקי. ואל תשכח להתאמן."

להתאמן, להתאמן. הקלרינט הזה יוריד אותי ביוגון שאולה, חשב גיא. "יוגון שאולה" – הוא באמת קורא יותר מדי ספרים. רק שלא ייפלט לו איזה "יוגון שאולה" בכיתה, כי אז הוא פשוט אבוד.

גיא קם מהספה, והלך למטבח כדי לחמם את האוכל שאמא שלו השאירה לו במיקרו. אז מה, הוא חשב לעצמו כשלחץ על כפתור ההפעלה, אולי בכל זאת הוא ייסע בקיץ לניו יורק?

מבצע מנהטן מספר על שלושה ילדים, גיא נועם ורועי.

גיא הוא ילד מחונן שאוהב לפרוץ למחשבים, נועם היא ילדה גותית שאוהבת לבנות מטוסים, ורועי הוא ילד חזק וספורטיבי שמשחק כדורסל, כדורגל ולומד קראטה.

נועם רועי וגיא נבחרו לצאת למשימה חשאית במנהטן כדי לתפוס מחבל שמסתובב במנהטן.

חנן, עובד ותיק במוסד, בחר את השלושה, כל אחד לפי הכישורים שלו, והעביר להם הכשרה מתאימה.

הסיפור מתחיל במכתב שכל אחד מהילדים קיבל בדואר ובו היה כתוב שהוא נבחר למשלחת של ילדי כיתות ח'.

לאחר ההכשרה והאימון, טסו הילדים לניו יורק, שם הם נתקלו בבעיות רבות שהקשו מאוד על ביצוע המשימה. בכדי לדעת האם הם הצליחו במשימה, תצטרכו לקרוא את הספר.

אנחנו מאוד אהבנו את הספר, הוא מעניין, מרתק ודרמטי. ממליצים.

גאיה לוסטגרטן ואביב יוחאי - כיתה ט'



ELSA HIGH SCHOOL
HEBREW LIBRARY
הספרייה העברית