



Elsa High School Newsletter

www.carmel.edu.hk

Weekly Daf

Term 1 Edition 17

14 December 2018 - 6 Tevet 5779



Dear Parents,

We hope you had an enjoyable Chanukah. The Festival of Lights was the cause for much celebration across Carmel, seeing students and faculty enjoying the festivities and learning from the events at each of our campuses.

As Semester 1 draws to a close, we would like to thank you all for your dedication and contributions. Your commitment is invaluable for us to continue to improve and grow. With exciting projects in the pipeline - watch this space! - made possible by your support, we invite you all to contribute in the [Power of Participation](#).

We wish you and your families a very happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing all students on 3 January 2019.

Rachel Friedmann, Principal
Mira Hasofer, Head of Elementary



Dvar Torah: Va'yigash

One of the main questions that our Rabbis ask is why hadn't Joseph contacted his father during all those years? Joseph became the second most important figure in Egypt and he must have had the ability to send a delegation to tell his father that Joseph is still alive. This, in turn, would have shortened his father's pain and suffering. The Ramban says that Joseph wanted his wish for his brothers to bow down to him to come true. Joseph waited until the very moment that his brothers bowed down to him, and then felt it was the appropriate time to reveal himself. Abarbanel thinks that Joseph had not contacted his father due to wanting his brothers to repent what they had done to him. Thus, Joseph waited until his

brothers came to Egypt and only in this Parsha does he hear a sense of regret from his brother Yehuda.

Rabbis also think that Joseph comprehended that if he were to contact his father, it would be the end of the family as Jacob would realise what had happened. Jacob would then be furious with all the other brothers for lying and telling him that Joseph was attacked and eaten by a beast when it was actually the brothers who had sold Joseph to the Egyptians.

Rav Yoel Bin Nun comments that the answer is much simpler. From Joseph's perspective, he was sent by his father to bring food to the brothers. The brothers then captured Joseph and sold him. Joseph believed that Jacob was also part of the plan to get rid of Joseph, making it a factor for not contacting his father for all those years. Only in our parsha, for the first time, does Joseph hear the story from Jacob's perspective, as Yehuda expresses, "We have an old father and there is a young son born to him... and his brother is dead." According to Rav

Bin Nun, Joseph now understands that his father believes that Joseph is dead. At this point, Joseph grasps what really happened and believes it is the appropriate time to reveal himself to his brothers. In this week's Parsha, Parshat Va'yigash, we read the dramatic episode of when Joseph revealed himself to his brothers twenty years after they had sold him to Egyptian merchants. Joseph unveils himself as his brothers stand before him, unable to recognise that they are standing in front of their brother, Joseph. When Joseph wants to keep Binyamin in jail, Yehuda interferes and demands his release. Only at this point does Joseph reveal himself to his brothers as he tells them, "I am Joseph, is my father still alive?" This event is followed by Jacob and all the family with Joseph in Egypt.

Let's learn from this parsha and communicate honestly in all our relationships.

Shabbat shalom.

Lily Gershon Grade 10

Elsa High School's Got Talent

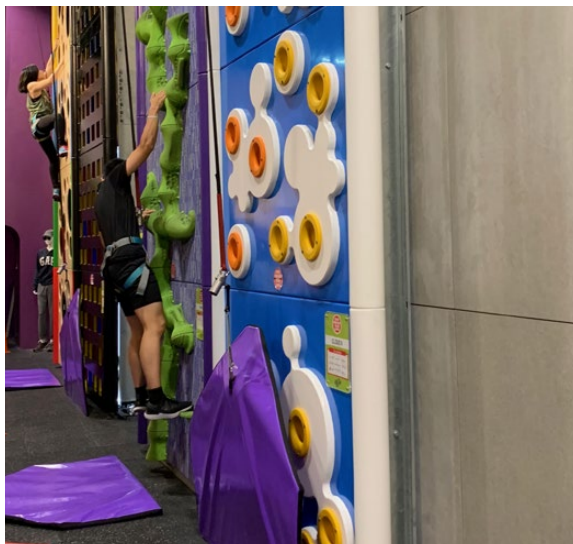
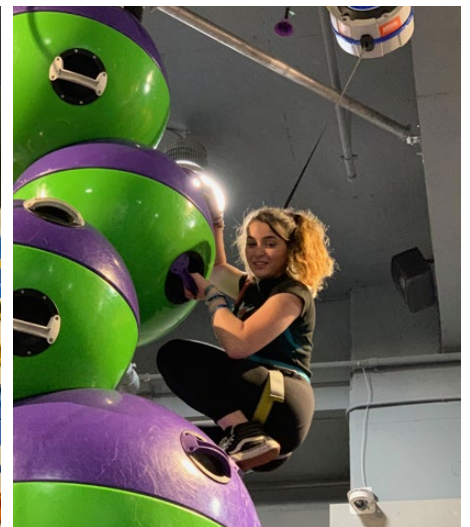
Students of all ages showed off their wide range of talents at last week's Chanukah Talent Show. The audience was kept highly entertained by a range of musical performances and were eager to join in, singing and dancing along with the performers.



Week without Walls

In the penultimate week before the Winter break, students from Grade 6-12 took part in WeekWithoutWalls. An invaluable experiential learning experience, Week Without Walls took place all over Hong Kong and challenged students to expand their horizons.

Full reports to come in the next issue.





From beach clean-up to 'up-cycled' art Grade 7 - 9 collected rubbish from a beach for analysis and repurposed some into sculptures





Photojournalism around Hong Kong and some new games back at school



#powerofparticipation
Every student counts.
Every moment counts.
Every donation counts.

CARMEL ANNUAL FUND

Thank you to all who have pledged so far

Please visit <https://carmelschoolassociation.wufoo.com/forms/srkpwrj0azvroo/>
to find out how you can contribute

Chanukah Menorah lighting at Elsa



Last Friday we were honoured to welcome Mr. André Rofé, past Carmel Board Chair and his wife Valerie to light the menorah. Mr. Rofé gave us a warm message of praise and encouragement. On Monday, Carmel stakeholder, Ms. Sharon Ser came with her mother, Irene, who is celebrating her 90th birthday. Elsa sang happy birthday and presented a birthday cake to Irene who lit the menorah.

Mazal Tov!

Announcements

Happy Birthday to
Ori Assor, Jennie Wong, Erin Dewes
and Aaron Meoded



We hope you've enjoyed reading The Weekly Daf!

From **The Weekly Daf Team**

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

Follow Us Online!



@CarmelSchoolAssociation



Carmel School Association

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 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 Thornthwaite Inheritance by Gareth P. Jones

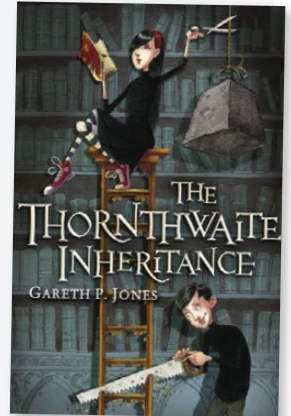
Ovid and Lorelli Thornthwaite have been trying to kill each other for so long that neither twin can remember which act of attempted murder came first.

But whoever struck first, trying to take each other's lives is simply what they do. Until one day a lawyer arrives at their house to take stock of its contents, and his accompanying son attracts their attention.

Soon a new battle evolves - one in which the twins have to work together to solve the mystery of their parents' deaths.

Can Lorelli and Ovid overcome their old animosities, and will they ever get to finish that game of chess?

"Beautifully simple comic ideas that children instantly love . . . This is a book certain to make family holidays go with a bang." The Times



Fiction



Fiction

The Leopard by Giuseppe di Lampedusa

Elegiac, bittersweet, and profoundly moving, The Leopard tells the spellbinding story of a decadent, dying Sicilian aristocracy threatened by the approaching forces of democracy and revolution.

The dramatic sweep and richness of observation, the seamless intertwining of public and private worlds, and the grasp of human frailty imbue The Leopard with its particular melancholy beauty and power, is now considered one of the greatest works of 20th-century fiction.

"The genius of its author and the thrill it gives the reader are probably for all time." The New York Times

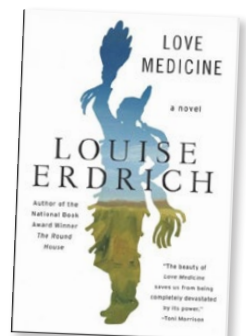
Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich

Set on and around a North Dakota Ojibwe reservation, Love Medicine - the first novel by bestselling, National Book Award-winning author Louise Erdrich - is the epic story about the intertwined fates of two families: the Kashpaws and the Lamartines.

With astonishing virtuosity, each chapter draws on a range of voices to limn its tales. Black humor mingles with magic, injustice bleeds into betrayal, and through it all, bonds of love and family marry the elements into a tightly woven whole that pulses with the drama of life.

Filled with humor, magic, injustice and betrayal, Erdrich blends family love and loyalty in a stunning work of dramatic fiction.

"A dazzling series of family portraits... This novel is simply about the power of love." The Chicago Tribune



Fiction

פינת הספרייה העברית

סמסטר ראשון: מהדורה מספר 15
ו' בטבת ה'תשע"ט



כמו תמיד בספריו של הרלן קובן, מה שנראה בהתחלה כפשוט ומובן, מקבל תפנית מפתיעה שגורמת לך לא להוריד את הספר מהיד עד שאתה מסיים אותו.

המורה ברק

מותחן עוצר נשימה
על הקשרים שמחברים אותנו
אל העבר... ועל השקרים
שקושרים אותנו זה אל זה...



הרלן קובן סופר ספרי המתח

בספריה העברית שלנו, ולפי בקשת הקוראים, ישנם גם ספרים מתורגמים רבים.

אחת הסידרות המצליחות והמומלצות היא סידרת הספרים של הרלן קובן. הרלן קובן פירסם 30 ספרים, מתוכם 27 תורגמו לעברית. בספריה שלנו תוכלו למצוא את כל 27 הספרים שתורגמו.

לסופר יש קשר חזק ליהדות, קובן נולד במדינת ניו ג'רזי להורים יהודים אשר שם משפחתם המקורי היה "כהן". סבו, חיים כהן, נולד בירושלים ומשפחתו היגרה לארצות הברית בסביבות שנות העשרים של המאה העשרים. הרלן ביקר מספר פעמים בישראל ויש לו קרובי משפחה בראשון לציון.

הרלן קובן הינו סופר ספרי המתח, ברוב ספריו יש עלילה יסודית החוזרת על עצמה:

- יש דמות שנחשבת מתה או נעלמת ובמהלך הספר מתברר שהיא איננה מתה, או להפך.
- הגיבור מתואר כאדם תמים אך מואשם בשלב כלשהו ברצח.
- לגיבור ישנו בן/בת זוג שהוא מעריך ואף מעריך.
- לגיבור יש דמות של "החבר הטוב ביותר" שמוכן למסור את חייו בעבורו.
- העלילה מתרחשת ככלל בניו ג'רזי אך גם במנהטן.
- ישנו קישור בין הספרים - מופיעה דמות או סיטואציה שהוזכרו בספרים אחרים, אף על פי שאין קשר עלילתי מוצהר בין הספרים.
- גיבור העלילה הוא יהודי במקורו.



מחסה הוא הספר הראשון בסדרת "מיקי בוליטר" (אחינו של מירון)

למיקי בוליטר נדמה שהחיים לא יכולים להיות גרועים יותר. במהלך שנה אחת אביו מת, אמו התאשפזה במוסד לגמילה מסמים, והוא נאלץ לעבור לגור עם מירון, דוד שהוא בקושי מכיר, ולהתחיל ללמוד בתיכון חדש. בבית הספר יש למיקי חברים חדשים ואויבים חדשים, ולמצולו - גם חברה חדשה ונפלאה, שקוראים לה אשלי. נראה שהחיים שלו מתחילים להשתפר - עד שיום אחד אשלי נעלמת כאילו בלעה אותה האדמה. מיקי יוצא בעקבות הרמזים שאשלי השאירה אחריה, כי הוא לא מוכן שעוד אדם קרוב ייעלם מחייו. אך מתברר לו שהנערה המתוקה והביישנית שהכיר שונה בתכלית משחשב. הוא נחשף לפרשה כה מטלטלת עד שהבעיות בתיכון נראות לו לעומתה כמו משחק ילדים. הדברים המדהימים שהוא מגלה גורמים לו לפקפק בכל מה שידע עד כה על החיים.



סטודנטית יפהפייה המאוהבת בכוכב הפוטבול של הקולג' נעלמת כאילו בלעה אותה האדמה. כולם, כולל המשטרה, מאמינים שהיא מתה... לתמונה נכנס מירון בוליטר, סוכן הספורטאים המייצג את שחקן הפוטבול, ובעצמו כדורסלן לשעבר שפרש מהמשחק בנסיבות טרגיות. בוליטר מנסה לפתור את התעלומה אך עד מהרה מתחוויר לו שהוא והלקוח שלו נמצאים אף הם בסכנה. האמת מתקתקת כמו פצצת זמן מאחורי רשת סבוכה של סודות, שקרים, סקס וסחיטה, וכמו תמיד אצל הרלן קובן, הדרך אליה עוצרת

משחק מסוכן הוא הספר הראשון בסדרת מירון בוליטר

