

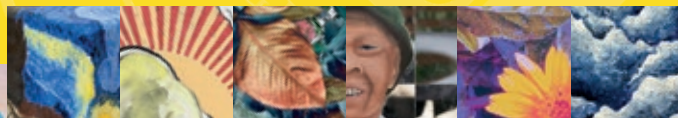


Elsa High School Campus Newsletter

www.carmel.edu.hk

Weekly Daf

12 September 2019 // 12 Elul 5780 (Edition 4)



Dvar Torah: Ki Tezteh

by Arya Idan-Cummins Grade 12

In this week's Parsha, Ki Tezteh, Moshe talks about the Mitzvot we have to do. These range from returning lost items to the killing of Amalek; and from sustainability to divorce. But there is a certain Mitzvah that I would like to focus on:

"When you enter your friend's vineyard, you may eat as many grapes as you desire, until you are sated, but you shall not put [any] into your vessel."

In a Parsha that talks of ethics and sustainability, a Mitzvah as specific as this one is quite odd, to say the least. Trying to understand this Pasuk, this Mitzvah, is challenging, but I would like to share my ideas with you.

In the Bible, grapes often symbolise pleasure, prosperity and abundance. The act of eating them in our "friend's vineyard" may represent the act of sharing pleasure, sharing prosperity, enjoying the abundance of life with our friends. The Torah encourages this, saying we should do this until we are sated, until we are satisfied. However, it is forbidden for us to take the grapes home, to transport them out of the vineyard in which they belong. I take this to mean that we are not allowed to exploit these goods, and are forbidden to take advantage of them. The moral reasons are obvious, but when

considering grapes there is also the idea that they spoil after a certain amount of time after being removed.

I think that this idea is relevant to a variety of notions, but in order to keep this relevant, I would like to bring this back to School. Here at Elsa, we are an IB School; our studies are testing, we're teenagers going through changes, we get stuck in personal or academic ruts; but we must remember that we too have a vineyard abundant with prosperity.

Here at Elsa, our School is our vineyard; the staff and resources we have are our grapes. The rest of our life is the vehicle. While we are here in the vineyard, I urge you to take as many grapes as you desire, because these grapes are willing to help you. Once you leave this vineyard, you will no longer have these grapes; unfortunately we cannot take teachers with us to guide us for the rest of our lives. So take advantage of what you have here and you will prosper. Embrace it and you will feel sated.

With this I would like to thank the teachers and staff here at Elsa for the constant support and tolerance you provide us on a daily basis.

Oxford University Admissions Day

by Elianna Deistel Grade 11

Oxford University: a beacon of enlightenment and learning. But what would it be like to study there? Last Friday, several students and I had the opportunity to visit King George V School and listen to the Oxford University Undergraduate Admissions Information session. It was led by Oxford's Director of Admissions.

The presentation explained the steps on how to get into specific courses you might like and the college you might want to join. Something I learnt about Oxford that surprised me was the actual teaching system; most of your studies at Oxford are tutorial based, meaning that it is one on one or one on two with your assigned tutor. This allows a thorough and deep exploration of the topics being studied, and appears to have strong ties to the IB philosophy of inquiry-based learning.

This session gave me knowledge to help me decide if Oxford is the right university for me and I was grateful for the opportunity to attend. While achieving a place at Oxford would be no easy task, it was inspiring and exciting to think about the future possibilities of studying there.



Liberal Arts Colleges in USA

by Louis Effron Grade 12

On Friday morning, Grades 10 through 12 received a discussion from several US College Admissions Directors. The speakers came from several Liberal Arts Colleges: Washington & Lee, Kalamazoo, Skidmore, Rhodes, Bennington, Dennison, and Bucknell University. The discussion entailed what made each college unique and the opportunities they provided, as well as some information on the characteristics that embody a Liberal Arts College.

One of the points mentioned in relation to the Liberal Arts system was the ambiguity of it's curriculum, allowing for students to take up to the end of their sophomore year before having to officially declare a major. This, I found to be quite enticing, as it provides an opportunity for very experiential learning, whether it involves doing an internship while still fulfilling course requirements, or joining classes with a small student/teacher ratio, prompting more personal and engaging discussions.

One stand-out reason why I believe Liberal Arts is a well suited system of education for any student at Elsa, is because of the strong interpersonal relations that you form with the College's professors. Similar to the way we conduct our learning at Elsa, Liberal Arts colleges emphasize the importance of forming relationships between the student and teacher, allowing for more genuine interest in a subject and more personal guidance throughout your time in college, which in the end, will prove extremely helpful.

Thank you to Mrs. Friedmann, Mr. Ford and everyone else involved in providing us with this very insightful discussion.

WASHINGTON AND LEE
UNIVERSITY

K KALAMAZOO
COLLEGE

SKIDMORE
COLLEGE


Rhodes College
—1818—

Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

DENISON

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

myisrael.

Jump in 100%

Service and Action: MyIsrael

Action and Service have always been shared values of the IB community and lie at the heart of Judaism and thus much of what Carmel's Elsa High School students stand for. Students take action when they apply what they are learning in the classroom and beyond. At Elsa, IB learners strive to be caring members of the community who demonstrate a commitment to Service - to the Jewish principles of Chesed (good deeds) and Tzedakah (giving to charity) – making a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

This year, Grade 7 students will be fundraising to support charities through *MyIsrael*, a charitable organisation that connects donors to small charities working on the ground in Israel. All fundraising and donations go directly to the charities each group has chosen, and enable this amazing work in Israel to continue while inspiring others to do the same. Below are some projects our students are getting involved with. Thank you to all our Grade 7s taking part!

"At MyIsrael, every single donation truly makes an impact. I have watched a 12-year old child receive dental treatment for the first time and heard his relief that he is no longer in pain or embarrassed to open his mouth. His treatment cost HK\$280 at DVI. I have witnessed the impact of art and drama therapy at Misholim on Etai. He's nine-years-old and has autism. His therapy sessions cost just HK\$170 each, but it gave him the confidence to share his worries

and fears for the first time. We've achieved so much in our first decade- and now it's all about making the next one even better."

Danni Franks, Founder and Chief Executive, MyIsrael

"Our chosen charity is Re-specs. Re-Specs collects, recycles and redistributes new and worn glasses, providing free eye tests and glasses to over 2000 people from cities and towns across Israel. For those people, Re-Specs services are life-changing. Clear sight means they can focus better, progress at school or work. Our goal for our SaA is to raise money to give to that charity. We will be running some exciting fund-raisers in the year to come so look out for our events."

Yoav Assor and Roi Amos

"During our SaA time, we are taking on the initiative to raise money for a charity that is a part of "MyIsrael". The charity is called "The Lemonade Fund". The Lemonade Fund is a charity that raises money for females who have breast cancer. We chose this fund because there are many women who don't have the money to pay for treatment and prevention. We have some amazing fund-raising ideas to help us raise the money for this charitable cause. We hope you all participate to help support it, thank you."

Abigail Apfelbaum, Asya Poller, Ella Goldberg

Volleyball at Elsa: Dig, Set, Spike! by Sophie Efron (G10) and Ativa Goldberg (G10)

Last year, Mr. Julian launched a new sport at Elsa High School, volleyball. The sport was first introduced to us in our PHE lessons but slowly gained popularity and more students wanted to get involved. Rumour has it even Elsa High School staff can often be found in the auditorium on Mondays practising their skills!

This year Mr. Julian and Ms. Town have successfully introduced volleyball as an official CCA (Co-Curricular Activity) for students wanting to develop their volleyball skills further. Along with Coach Town and a few other

students, we play at the volleyball court at Island East Sport Centre which is amazing as it gives us the experience of playing volleyball outside of school. Due to this being a new CCA many participants are not as familiar with the sport, but in just two short lessons we have improved a lot thanks to the guidance of Ms. Town and enthusiasm from the rest of the team.

Thank you to Ms. Town and Mr. Julian for starting this new initiative and giving us the opportunity to develop our skills in a new and exciting sport!

Advanced Jewish Studies

by Tamir Razon, Roi Amos and Dov Kamhin
(Grade 7)

Yesterday, Thursday afternoon, as part of a new activity for Advanced Jewish Studies we were introduced to the basics of Beit Hamidrash. Beit Hamidrash is an after school program which aims to discuss the elements in the Bible. In this group, we had Tahlia Goldberg, Tamir Razon, Roi Amos, Dov Kamhin, Ezra Cohen and under the

educational supervision of Mr. Netanel Burstin and Mr. Achiya Eliav.

We would be delighted if we could be joined next week by others and we guarantee that everyone will learn a lot while having fun with friends. Lastly, every session is supplemented with some delicious snacks and treats ... So see you there next week!

Inside Scoop With Mr. Cheung

By Isabella Ricklow (G10) and Liana Tang (G9)

Mr. Cheung teaches IBDP Math and graduated from the University of Waterloo. He completed his Master's degree in Mathematics last year. When the going gets tough, Mr. Cheung sleeps it off.

Mr. Cheung, thanks for talking to us today. First of all, why did you become a teacher?

I didn't plan to be a teacher at first since I studied science, which makes me an insurance calculator per se. However, what inspired me to become a teacher was bad teaching. Back in high school, my friends had uninspiring teachers, and because of those experiences, they did not enjoy math and other subjects as much. I'm good at maths and I'm passionate about its merits. I want future generations to have a good experience and positive exposure to mathematics, so that they will see maths in a good light. And that's what propelled me to become a teacher.

Tell us about your education.

I was born in Hong Kong, and I moved to Canada when I was 10. I studied in Canada for 17 years and graduated from the University of Waterloo in Actuarial Science. Since coming back to Hong Kong around eight years ago, I have been a tutor and a teacher. I also completed my Master's Degree in Mathematics just last year.

What are you passionate about?

I'm passionate about many things, besides mathematics. I enjoy playing music quite a bit. I've played both the trumpet and trombone, and I also like to sing. Right now I'm also in a ToastMasters Club, a public speaking and leadership development organisation, where we hold meetings every two weeks.

Since you teach mathematics, I wanted to ask you what is mathematics and its purpose?



Mathematics, in general, provides a model to describe things and the behavior of life around us. For me personally, I use maths in automating my daily tasks that are repetitive and mundane. And it gives me time to explore other areas which I enjoy, like music and perhaps public speaking. For students, I would say mathematics is an excellent subject where it develops your critical thinking and problem-solving skills that require the use of maths and manipulation.

How does Maths come into your daily life?

Maths knowledge can help you see which products are more beneficial, both costs and quality-wise. That translates over to buying the right insurance, being enrolled in the right program, and also subscribing to the right services.

When you're having a bad day, what do you do to make yourself feel better?

Sleep.

What is the best piece of advice you've received?

Life's too short to stress over everything. So slow down and pause when you need to.

All right, that's it, thanks for talking with us, Mr. Cheung.

Out and About in Hong Kong

Hiking Trails by David Effron Grade 10

Dragon's Back

One of Hong Kong's most famous hikes, Dragon's Back Trail, is known for its easy access, short hike, scenic views, and ends at a very beautiful beach. For lots of Hong Kongers, Dragons Back is a good introduction to the hiking lifestyle in HK and shows people the more beautiful side of the city. The side with no skyscrapers, and plenty of trees, sandy beaches, and the sea. You won't be disappointed when you reach the beautiful views at the top. To get there, take the Island Line MTR to Shau Kei Wan Station. Take exit A3, hop on the No.9 bus at Shau Kei Wan bus terminus. Get off at the stop "To Tei Wan, Dragon's Back", which is 11 stops later. Then follow the path leading up the hill to the Dragon's Back Hike.



Sunset Peak

Ranking as the third tallest mountain in Hong Kong at about 869m, Sunset peak is the hike you want to take for a hard and ambitious climb. After reaching the top, the greatest reward is the view featuring gorgeous views of the sunset. The hike is long, about 4.5 hours and closing in at a distance of about 9km. The scenery from the top and along the trail is truly what makes this hike so special. Try going in autumn or winter: you will find the shiny seas of silvergrass along the trail truly unforgettable. Begin your hike at Pak Kung Au between Lantau Peak and Sunset Peak. Trekking along the Lantau Trail toward Sunset Peak, be ready for a 2 km uphill climb. Luckily, much of the ascent is shaded. At the end, with only shrubs and tall grass along the trail, you'll get amazing panoramic views. From MTR Tung Chung Station Exit B, take bus 3M, 11, or 23 at Tung Chung Bus Terminus and get off at Pak Kung Au.



Po Toi

Po Toi Island is beautiful and known for its impressive rock formations, seaweed soup and dried seafood products. The short circular hike from Po Toi Pier takes you to landmarks like Ngau Wu Teng Pavilion, Monk Rock and Tortoise Rock, Nam Kok Tsui lighthouse and the fascinating 3,000-year-old rock carvings near Nam Tum. The main highlight of this trek is the ending in Lai Chi Wo, an abandoned Hakka village. The 400-year-old former walled village is home to well-maintained ancestral halls, 211 Hakka houses, temples, monasteries, and quaint squares. Take Kaito ferry from Aberdeen Pier or your can take Stanley Blake Pier to Po Toi Pier. Return the same way by Kaito, the journey is about 3 hours. You can also get there by Taking minibus 20C from Tai Po Market to Tin Sam Village, Wu Kang Tang. Finally, When you finish at Lai Chi Wo, take bus 56K back to Fanling MTR station.

If you want any more information on these hikes, or other recommendations just ask me directly. Hope you enjoy these hikes!



Taher Jaoui & George Morton Clark

By Scott Xiang Grade 11

With the works of Taher Jaoui and George Morton-Clark, one should expect the vibrant boldness of street art, cartoon, and graffiti. The collaborations between the two artists are in the spotlight of Wyndham Street's Opera Gallery and is a must-see for those with a passion for visual art. While the two artists boast artistic practice over diverse mediums such as music, film, and text, this gallery focuses on some large scale creations, with bold and colorful aesthetics.

Oil paint, spray paint, charcoal, and acrylic are utilized to render the spirited collages featuring pop culture references and cartoon characters. Meanwhile, the spontaneous strokes of the pieces suggest an influence of abstract expressionist ideas, brought to the audience through the fashion of street art and graffiti.

The mathematical symbols that commonly appear in the works provide insight to the intuitive approach of formulaic quality, yet overlays of colorful palette bring a sense of movement to the paintings.

The composition of the collages encourages the synesthetic experience; the collage juxtaposes visual references from which the viewer is invited to form meaning through. Morton-Clark combines familiar cartoon character cut-outs, gestural lines, and abstract color blocks to create provocative images that are a mix of Pop and Abstract Art.

"I want my art to excite people. I know I have created a decent painting when I look at it and feel my pupils dilate. I want the same to happen to the viewer and for them to experience something similar to what I did while painting it." George Morton-Clark

Rooted in the idea that art should be accessible to everyone, Opera Gallery Hong Kong is located in the heart of Central adjacent to the on-going Takashi Murakami's solo exhibition at Tai Kwun. The exhibition is running all the way through to the end of September, providing a chance for one to experience the bold, cool, colorful and provocative style of contemporary art.





Mid Autumn Festival

By Sarah Cohen Grade 11

This Friday, Hong Kong will be celebrating the Mid-Autumn Festival. Observed in many East Asian countries, the Mid-Autumn Festival is celebrated when the full moon rises on the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar, and proclaims the end of the Autumn harvest. This festival dates back 3000 years ago in the Shang Dynasty, where people would pray to their deities as a thanks for the harvest. As it falls every year on the full moon, many of the traditions associated with the festival revolve around lunar or circular elements. Eating mooncakes and hairy crab, which are in season during this period, are common traditions to enjoy with family, as well as drinking cassia wine. Lanterns are sold abundantly in cities, and lion dances are performed in street squares. Due to its popularity in Hong Kong, such traditions embrace the diversity of cultures in Hong Kong, which come together for this local festival.

From a Jewish perspective, there are similarities between the Mid Autumn festival and Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. They are both celebrated at similar times (Rosh Hashanah falls only a few weeks after the Mid-Autumn festival) and both are a celebration of the harvest season. While Rosh Hashanah celebrates the beginning of harvest season

instead of its end, perhaps due to geographical differences, it is fascinating as Jewish student living in Hong Kong to find similarities between different elements of your identity. After conducting research, I discovered that some scholars regard Tishrei, the month of Rosh Hashanah, to be originally regarded as the seventh month of the Jewish calendar, only one month difference to the lunar calendar. Two distinctive cultures, whose festivals date back from several millennia, have a common point of affinity and understanding.

This has served only to strengthen my appreciation for the intertwining cultures of the environment I live in, and is yet another sign of what unites us rather than divides us. I believe we can see this special celebration as a symbol of the many connections between the local Hong Kong community and the Jewish community in Hong Kong.



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

Bronze and Sunflower by Wenxuan Cao

Sunflower is an only child, and when her father is sent to the rural Cadre School, she has to go with him. Her father is an established artist from the city and finds his new life of physical labour and endless meetings exhausting. Sunflower is lonely and longs to play with the local children in the village across the river.

When her father tragically drowns, Sunflower is taken in by the poorest family in the village, a family with a son named Bronze. Until Sunflower joins his family, Bronze was an only child, too, and hasn't spoken a word since he was traumatized by a terrible fire.

Bronze and Sunflower become inseparable, understanding each other as only the closest friends can, creating a timeless story of the trials of poverty and the power of love and loyalty to overcome hardship.

"Two lonely children, scarred by tragedy, form an inseparable bond in this lovely novel from a beloved Chinese author set in the Chinese countryside during the Cultural Revolution." The Times



Game Changer by Tim Bowler

Life is hard for Mikey. He's frightened of open spaces and would much rather curl up in his room and avoid the world outside. So going to a noisy, public place is a big deal – but with his sister Meggie by his side, it should be safe. And Mikey is determined to overcome his fear.

But things go badly wrong when he encounters a gang and witnesses something terrible. To make matters worse, they know where he lives, and now they want to see him.

This time, there's no hiding place for Mikey . . .

"Pulls you in from the very first page and doesn't let you go until long after you've finished reading." The Bookbag



Fiction Age 12+

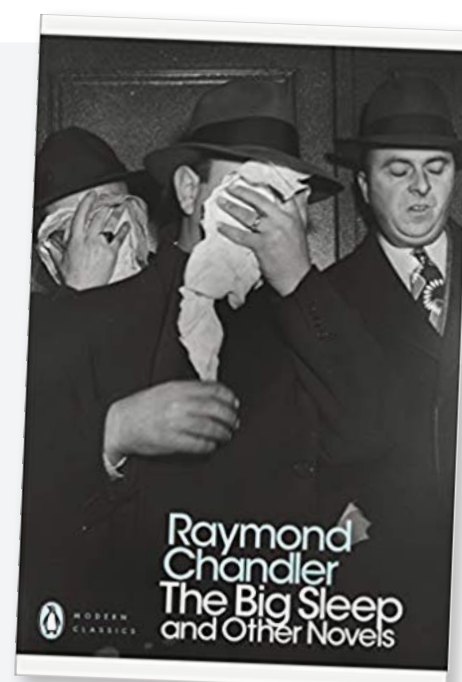
The Big Sleep and Other Novels by Raymond Chandler

Raymond Chandler created the fast talking, trouble seeking Californian private eye Philip Marlowe for his first great novel *The Big Sleep* in 1939. Often imitated but never bettered, it is in Marlowe's long shadow that every fictional detective must stand – and under the influence of Raymond Chandler's addictive prose that every crime author must write. Marlowe's entanglement with the Sternwood family – and an attendant cast of colourful underworld figures – is the background to a story reflecting all the tarnished glitter of the great American Dream.

The hard-boiled detective's iconic image burns just as brightly in *Farewell My Lovely*, on the trail of a missing nightclub crooner. And the inimitable Marlowe is able to prove that trouble really is his business in Raymond Chandler's brilliant epitaph, *The Long Goodbye*.

Chandler was America's preeminent writer of detective fiction, and this Penguin Modern Classics edition of *The Big Sleep and Other Novels* collects three of the best novels to feature his hard-drinking, philosophising PI, Philip Marlowe.

"One of the greatest crime writers, who set standards that others still try to attain." Sunday Times



Announcements



Auditions for WEST SIDE STORY

Sign Up and Material Collection - 3 September at 13:10
Open Call (Singing and Acting) - 9-13 September
Open Call (Choreography) - 16-20 September
Call Backs - 23-27 September

All auditions and call backs will take place
in the Black Box Theatre.



Elsa High School Newsletter

Weekly Daf

Editorial Team Issy Lyons, Louis Effron, Isabella Ricklow,
Liana Tang and Sarah Cohen

Managing Editor Mr. Adam Darell

Editor in Chief Mr. Dan Bartholomew

Thank you for reading,
The Weekly Daf Team

Happy Birthday to

Arthur Tong, Harry Golovski,
Ori Assor, Orly Berman, Paz
Haviv, and Myron Wong!



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@CarmelSchoolAssociation



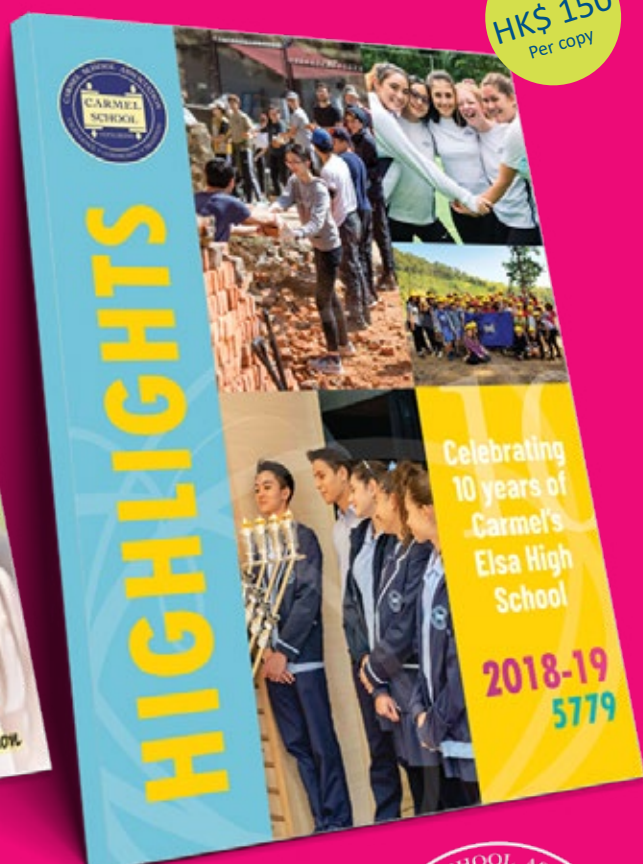
Carmel School Association

Carmel Elementary & Elsa High School Highlights on sale now!

Order your copy of this special keepsake of the
2018-19 / 5779 Carmel School Year.

Now available at the Carmel Elementary and
Elsa High School Reception.

Don't miss out!



פינת הספריה העברית

סמסטר ראשון: מהדורה מספר 3
י"ג באלול ה'תשע"ט



אפשר לבקר באתר שלנו: <http://hebrewlib-elsa.weebly.com>

קבלו את הקבוצה הראשונה של מועדון הספרים:

אביב יוחאי, גאיה לוסטגרטן, אנדי עוז, נטע שחר, נעמי רוז, סי יצחקי, שירה רונן, ליהי לוסטגרטן, נטע גפן ותמר רונן. במפגש הראשון החברים בחרו את הספר שהם יקראו במהלך הסמסטר הראשון. החברים קיבלו הכוונה לנושאים שעליהם מומלץ להתייחס במהלך הקריאה על מנת לקיים את הדיון במפגש הבא. כמו כן חברי המועדון החליטו על הפעילות שתתקיים במהלך הפסקת הצהריים. הוחלט על יום כישרונות, כל תלמיד יוכל להראות את כישרונו במה שיבחר. הוחלט גם על משחקי קופסה ואף שעת סיפור. במהלך המפגשים הבאים חברי המועדון, בשתי הקבוצות, ימליצו על ספרים חדשים שנזמין עבור הספריה שלנו.

כמו תמיד
מחכים לכם
בספריה שלנו.
כולם מוזמנים.



מילת השבוע

ט' ו-ת' במילים לועזיות

מתלבטים מתי לכתוב ט' ומתי ת' במילים לועזיות שונות?

נעשה קצת סדר: מילים לועזיות שנכתבות ב-th ייכתבו בעברית באות ת', ואילו מילים שנכתבות באות t ייכתבו באות ט'.

לדוגמה:

ממותה (mammoth), סימפתיה (sympathy).
סטטי (static), סמנטיקה (semantics).
היפותטי (hypothetical), פתטי (pathetic).

מעובד על פי פירסומי האקדמיה ללשון העברית

להלן רשימת הספרים החדשים שהגיעו אשתקד והומלצו על ידי חברי מועדון הספרים:

אשמת הכוכבים - ג'ון גרין
ארץ האגדות / מעבר לממלכות (ספר רביעי בסדרה) - כריס קולפר
39 רמזים / תו קטלני (ספר שני בסדרה) - גורדון קורמן
39 רמזים / גנב החרבות (ספר שלישי בסדרה) - פיטר לרנג'יס
39 רמזים / מעבר לקבר (ספר רביעי בסדרה) - ג'וד ווטסון
אני מספר ארבע (ספר ראשון בסדרה) - פיטקוס לור
כוחה של מספר שש (ספר שני בסדרה) - פיטקוס לור
עלייתו של מספר 9 (ספר שלישי בסדרה) - פיטקוס לור
המפלה של מספר 5 (ספר רביעי בסדרה) - פיטקוס לור
מגנס צ'ייס והאלים של אוסגרד / להב הקיץ - ריק ריירדן
שליחות חשאת 5 - מבצע טוקיו / דנה אלעזר הלוי
משחקי בילוש 4 - הברחה מיערות הערפל / מיכאל אבס
משחקי בילוש 5 - קרקס המסתורין / מיכאל אבס
משחקי בילוש 6 - בעקבות האוצר האבוד / מיכאל אבס