

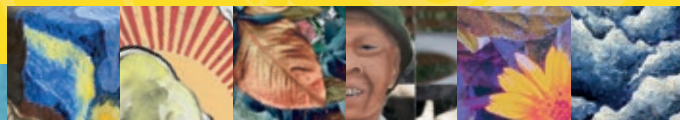


Elsa High School Campus Newsletter

Weekly Daf

Edition 6

27 September 2019 || 27 Elul 5780



Dvar Torah Rosh Hashanah

by Lily Gershon, Elianna Diestel, and Alon Lavi Grade 11

This Sunday and Monday, Jews around the world will commemorate the beginning of the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah. We will come together as a community to celebrate around the table - bonding over apples and honey, challah with raisins, as well as congregating in synagogues around the world to hear the wake-up call of the shofar and to praise and thank Hashem. It is the time where we reflect on our past year and realize our good and wrong actions.

The coming new year provides us the opportunity to reflect on ourselves as individuals and our place in the community. We evaluate ourselves in regards to our place in society and hence decide on how to approach future challenges. As Rosh Hashanah commemorates the creation of the world and the commencement of the Ten Days of Repentance, we utilise this period to reflect on the sins we have committed. As the shofar echoes throughout the shul, we are reminded of the white lies, passing jokes, cheating, and even foolish comments we have made over the past year, allowing us to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. The Midrash

Rabbah (Song of Songs 5:3) says that Hashem urges the Jewish people to do teshuvah, saying: "Pitchu li petach kechudo shel machat ve'Ani pote'ach lachem petachim shetiheyu agalot nichnasot bo" — "Make a small opening like that of the head of a needle, and I will open for you an opening through which caravans can enter." In other words, the Jew merely has to begin the teshuvah process, and Hashem will help us attain the most lofty goals. This allows us to think with a more open-minded approach to then be able to improve ourselves.

As individuals in an ever-changing society, it is vital to constantly reflect on ourselves and the things around us. With this we would like to thank all the teachers and the faculty working in the School, who provide us with countless opportunities to grow and enhance ourselves.

Shana Tova and Shabbat Shalom

Grade 6 Learn More about Rosh Hashanah

by Liora Rebibo Grade 6

This week Grade 6 and above were learning all about Rosh Hashanah and the month of Elul. During Jewish Studies class the Grade 6 had a blast writing and answering lots of questions with Rina. It was fun to work together to learn more about Jewish traditions and what Rosh Hashanah meant for us. We also enjoyed sharing ideas with everyone. Grade 6 also got creative with Rina, making Rosh Hashanah cards to be sent to friends and family. We worked and learned together with Rina and Mr. Burstin and we thank them and all the staff at Elsa High School for bringing this festival to life for us.

Shabbat Shalom and happy Rosh Hashanah



Elsa High School Piano Recital: Mohammed Al Sheik

By Elianna Diestel Grade 11

On Wednesday morning Mohammed Al Sheik graced Elsa High School's Auditorium to perform a piano recital. Mohammed won this year's Solange Jospé Award in Israel.

Mohammed travelled to Hong Kong with Michel Jospé, whose support brings winning pianists from Israel to Hong Kong. The Solange Jospé Foundation was founded in tribute to his sister, Solange Jospé, a lover of classical music at heart, who died at a young age.

Mohammed sat down at the piano and the audience was transfixed. It was so impressive to watch someone of only 16 years old play the piano at such a high level, and Elsa students were inspired. Mohammed played a range of pieces from classical to modern, including some original improvisations. One of the pieces that he played was so new and so special that he was the only person who knew how to play it, because the composer decided he was good enough to play. It was such a beautiful experience to listen to him play, the students and staff watched and listened in awe as Mohammed played.

Thank you to Michel Jospé, and Mohammed for sharing your wonderful gift.



The Grade 10 MYP Personal Projects have officially launched!

by Winona Tong and Sophie Effron Grade 10

The MYP Personal Project is a student-centred and age-appropriate practical exploration in which students consolidate their learning throughout the programme. MYP projects involve students in a wide range of student-planned learning activities that extend knowledge and understanding, and develop important academic and personal skills.

The International Baccalaureate Foundation

In the recent Personal Project sessions, Grade 10 have pitched their ideas in the Shark Tank, a new initiative thanks to our MYP supervisors, Ms. Town and Mr. Bartholomew. Shark Tank has given us the opportunity to present our Personal Project topic and product ideas to a group of teachers and supervisors. In return, MYP supervisors asked questions that would guide us into having a successful presentation, and a better understanding of our own products. If students received a 'Go' card we would be able to proceed with our personal project. However, if we were given a 'Stop' card, students would have to further develop their goal or do more research on their topic before continuing. We now realise the importance of having clear, manageable, and specific goals to work towards if our projects are going to be successful.

We would like to thank all the teachers, supervisors and Mrs. Friedmann for taking the time out of their day to listen to our ideas and give us advice for the road ahead!

Student Reactions

"Although I was a bit nervous for the Shark Tank, I found it very effective because it helped me make connections between my Personal Project and the Global Context in which my idea is placed. It also taught me how to clearly summarise my topic and deliver my message to an audience within a time limit.

I have come away with a greater understanding of what it is I want to achieve. Therefore, we can use this in the future to create interrelationships with different topics and practise effectively communicating ideas to an audience whose responses can help to shape our ongoing thinking."

Winona Tong



"In the beginning, it was a nerve-racking experience. However, once I began explaining my project, I felt comfortable and confident that I was on the right track with my research. Shark Tank gave me the reassurance I needed in order to progress with my project. Although I got a green card, there were still a few comments that I received that have helped inform further research before I continue with my project.

The advice that the teachers, supervisors and Mrs. Friedmann gave me was extremely helpful. It was a great initiative that will help us all speak confidently when it comes to the exhibition later on."

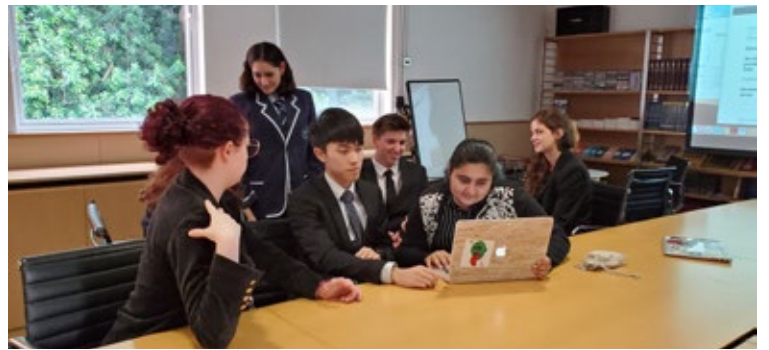
Sophie Effron

Robotics Team Fundraiser

by Arya Idan-Cummins Grade 12

This Wednesday marked a significant milestone for the Carmel Robotics Programme: we had our first sales pitch, and with that our first sponsor for this season, Mr. Pascal Piepers. The marketing team had the privilege to meet Mr. Piepers before the presentation for a mini training session in sales. This was extremely valuable as he has over ten years of experience in global markets and is now CEO of German Real Estate investing.

I am certain that Mr. Piepers' insights and his kind donation has provided the Robotics Team with a kickstart to the season that will send us forward full steam ahead. We look forward to having him on our team of mentors. The marketing team would like to thank Mr. Piepers for his advice and generous donation. We look forward to working alongside him for a successful season. We would also like to thank Mr. David Weiss, for introducing Mr. Piepers, as well as the entire Robotics Staff and Mrs. Friedmann for supporting the program and providing these opportunities for us.



Climate Action Summit 2019

by Louis Effron Grade 12

Climate change is the defining issue of our time, and now is the defining moment to do something about it. There is still time to tackle climate change, but it will require an unprecedented effort from every individual and every sector of society.

To boost ambition and accelerate actions to pursue the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, hosted the 2019 Climate Action Summit on the 23rd of September, 2019. Leaders from nearly 200 countries attended the conference and, in the end, some concrete measures were taken. By the end of the Summit, 65 countries had announced efforts to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and dozens of major businesses said they would aim to abide by the Paris Agreement targets.

While this may come as a relief, it is by no means a reason to stop actively fighting the issue and doing your part. It is important for each and every one of us to understand what we can contribute towards fighting climate change. Whether it's reducing use of plastic bags, eating vegetarian for several days of the week, or cutting down water usage, the action every individual takes is paramount in helping fight against what is currently the biggest global threat against humanity. The choices we make today affect our future in profound ways.



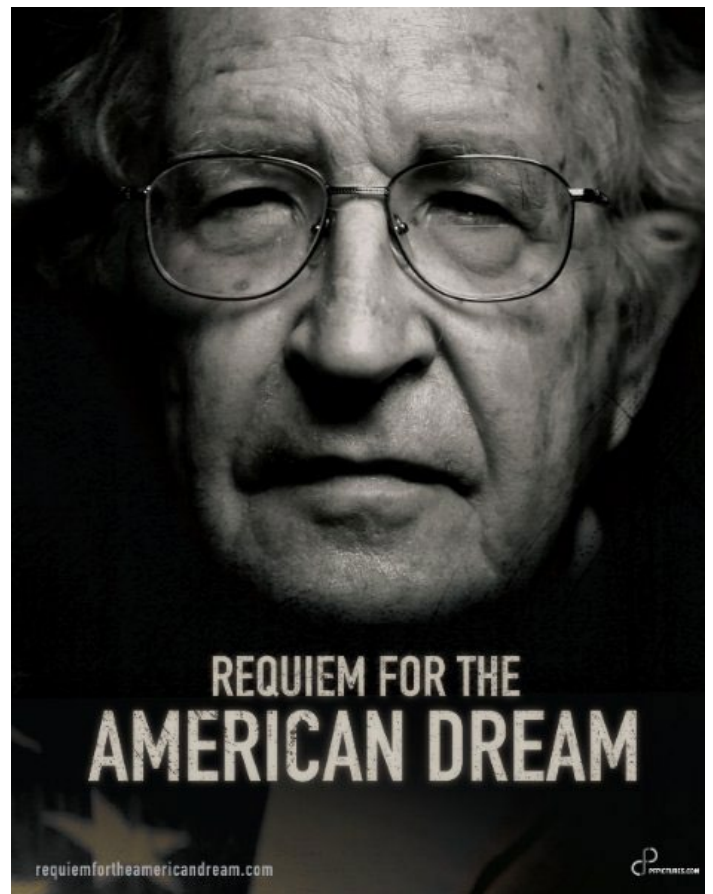
Arts & Culture

Requiem for the American Dream, by Noam Chomsky - A Critical Summary by Victor Fong Grade 11

Written by Noam Chomsky, *Requiem for the American Dream: The 10 Principles of Concentration of Wealth & Power* attempts to illustrate intricate systems of power in society by analyzing the concentration of wealth in the United States. In the adapted film of the book, Noam Chomsky outlines 10 principles leading to the concentration of power: (1) Reduce Democracy, (2) Shape Ideology, (3) Redesign the Economy, (4) Shift the Burden, (5) Attack Solidarity, (6) Run the Regulators, (7) Engineer Elections, (8) Keep the Rabble in Line, (9) Manufacture Consent, (10) Marginalize the Population.

All of these principles are intriguing in their own right; however, "Reduce Democracy" piqued my interest the most. In the film, Chomsky quotes James Madison, one of the founding fathers: "the major concern of society has to be to protect the minority of the opulent against the majority." This argument depicts the innate nature of American society, built upon a system where the wealthy are not of premium interest but of national interest. Chomsky then discusses the concept of financialization, which "is a process whereby financial markets, financial institutions, and financial elites gain greater influence over economic policy and economic outcomes." Across the world, the rising influence of lobbyists and their attempt to obtain advantages through government-imposed policies is becoming more and more apparent.

The ideas proposed and conveyed by Noam Chomsky are of great importance, as every citizen of society takes part in a system similar, if not identical, to the one prevalent in the United States today. This system engenders economic disparities, which may cause many more conflicts in the future. Despite Noam Chomsky's description of the system, and how inequality is deeply ingrained in its foundation, he did not provide any solutions for change. Therefore, as global citizens, it is our duty to uphold the rights and freedoms of our societies, and to stay educated on topics of global concern, because even the slightest shift in course can have profound effects.



Write a Game Review for the Young Post and win a Nintendo Switch Lite!

This week Young Post offers the opportunity to win a Nintendo Switch Lite and Nintendo eShop gift vouchers. How? Write them a video game review! The game review must be 300-450 words in length and can be of a console (PS4, Nintendo Switch, Xbox One) or a PC game. It does not have to be a recent release.

Contestants should email their entries before 10:00pm on 28 September. Three writers will come away with a prize on 7 October.

Are you ready to be the one who rises to the occasion, or will you let this once in a lifetime opportunity slip away?

For more information, check out:
www.ypp.scmp.com/SwitchLite2019

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 here: libraryceo.com/carmel/opac/index.php, or through our online library: carmel.edu.hk/learning/library.



The League of Seven by Alan Gratz

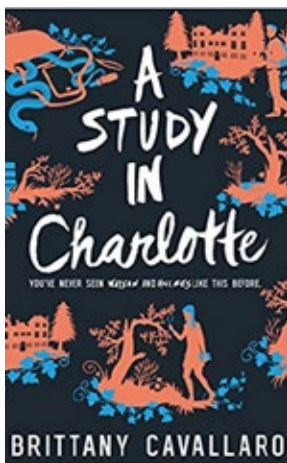
Thirty days hath September.
Seven heroes we remember.

Young Archie Dent knows there really are monsters in the world. His parents are members of the Septemberist Society, whose job it is to protect humanity from hideous giant monsters

called the Mangleborn. Trapped in underground prisons for a thousand years, the Mangleborn have been all but forgotten-until now.

Evil genius Thomas Alva Edison and his experiments in the forbidden science of electricity have awakened a Mangleborn in the swamps of Florida. When Archie's parents and the rest of the Septemberists are brainwashed by the monster, it's up to Archie and his loyal Tik Tok manservant Mr. Rivets to assemble a new team of seven young heroes to save the world: the League of Seven.

"An enticing alternate history presents an America in which Native tribes have as much power and presence as Yankees, with politics of their own to navigate. Gratz has created an imaginative world with appeal far beyond its immediate middle-grade market." Publishers Weekly



A Study in Charlotte by Brittany Cavallaro Fiction age 14+

The last thing Jamie Watson wants is a rugby scholarship to Sherringford, a Connecticut prep school just an hour away from his estranged father. But that's not the only complication: Sherringford is also home to Charlotte Holmes, the famous detective's great-great-great-granddaughter, who has

inherited not only Sherlock's genius but also his volatile temperament. From everything Jamie has heard about Charlotte, it seems safer to admire her from afar.

From the moment they meet, there's a tense energy between them, and they seem more destined to be rivals than anything else. But when a Sherringford student dies under suspicious circumstances, ripped straight from the most terrifying of the Sherlock Holmes stories, Jamie can no longer afford to keep his distance. Jamie and Charlotte are being framed for murder, and only Charlotte can clear their names. But danger is mounting and nowhere is safe - and the only people they can trust are each other.

"Cavallaro's crackling dialogue, well-drawn characters, and complicated relationships make this feel like a seamless and sharp renewal of Doyle's series. An explosive mystery featuring a dynamic duo." Kirkus

Hong Kong Battle of the Books Review

In support of our Hong Kong Battle of the Books team we are including reviews of all of the books the students will be reading. If your child is one of the participants this will provide you with the chance to encourage and engage with them in their reading.

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Running. That's all Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But Ghost has been running for the wrong reasons - it all started with running away from his father, who, when Ghost was a very little boy, chased him and his mother through their apartment, then down the street, with a loaded gun, aiming to kill. Since then, Ghost has been the one causing problems - and running away from them - until he meets Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who sees something in Ghost: crazy natural talent.

If Ghost can stay on track, literally and figuratively, he could be the best sprinter in the city.

Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed, or will his past finally catch up to him?

"It's easy to praise Reynolds's vivid depiction of life in Ghost's urban neighbourhood as one that's challenging and full of warmth, relationships and hope." New York Times Book Review





The Carmel School Board
together with
Principal Mrs. Rachel Friedmann &
Head of Elementary Mrs. Mira Hasofer
Wish all our students, parents, friends and supporters
**Shana Tova, Chag Sameach and
a healthy New Year**



www.carmel.edu.hk

Elsa High School Newsletter

Weekly Daf

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Editor in Chief Mr. Dan Bartholomew

Thanks for reading!

**Happy Birthday
to Eyal Lenga and
Kelly Wong!**



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פינת הספרייה העברית

סמסטר ראשון: מהדורה מספר 5
כ"ז באלול ה'תשע"ט

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המלצת השבוע: הצעיף האדום / כתב: רם אורן

שם הממליץ: טל שחר אבא של עמית, רעות ונטע

הסיפור מתרחש בתקופת מרד בר כוכבא, תקופה מעניינת שמהווה לדעתי את אחד הצמתים החשובים בהיסטוריה היהודית בארץ ישראל, ובוא מתוארים אירועים שבהם משולבים סיפורים אישיים וסיפורי גבורה מאותה התקופה.

הגיבורים מתגלים בחוזקתם ובחולשתם, והסופר רם אורן, מביא את הסיפורים בדרך נוגעת ללב שקל להתחבר אליהם.

כשקוראים את הסיפור, ניתן למצוא הרבה נקודות דומות לאירועים היסטוריים אחרים וגם לאירועים בני זמננו, בהם מתקבלות החלטות הרת גורל, שהשפיעו על היישוב היהודי באותה התקופה ועל עתיד העם למשך דורות רבים עד עצם היום הזה.

הוויכוח הפנימי, שהוביל לפילוג והחלשות אל מול אימפריה גדולה וחזקה, סיכונים מיותרים וחירוף נפש, שלעיתים היו נכונים ולעיתים לא הועילו.

ספר מרגש וסוחף דרכו ניתן
ללמוד הרבה על אופיה של החברה
היהודית בארץ ישראל באותה התקופה.

מילת השבוע

ראש

ראש הוא חלקו העליון של גוף האדם, ומכאן בהשאלה גם החלק העליון של עצמים, כגון ראש הָהָר (שמות לד, ב), ראש הַמִּגְדָּל ("הבה נִבְנֶה לָנוּ עִיר וּמִגְדָּל וְרָאשׁוּ בְּשִׁמִּים", בראשית יא, ד), ראש הדף. לעומת ראשו של האדם – ראשם של בעלי חיים נמצא לפניו, הוא הקצה הקדמי של הגוף, ובתור שכזה הוא מנוגד לזנב. לכן אנחנו מבקשים בראש השנה ש"נהיה לראש ולא לזנב". בהשאלה ראש הוא גם חלקם הקדמי של עצמים, כמו ראש המיטה וראש השולחן.

בהשאלה נוספת ראש הוא מנהיג, זה ההולך לפניו, בראש. על יפתח נאמר "וַיִּשְׁמְרוּ אֹתוֹ עַלֵּיהֶם לְרָאשׁ וּלְקֶצִין" (שופטים יא, יא); בספר נחמיה אנחנו מוצאים את ראשי הַמִּדְיָנָה (יא, ג), ובדברי הימים את ראשי הַצָּבָא (דברי הימים א יב, טו). בתלמוד יש ראש ישיבה ובימי הביניים יש ראש הקהל; כיום יש לנו ראש קבוצה, ראש עיר, ראש המטה הכללי (רמטכ"ל) וראש ממשלה.

אבל המילה ראש קשורה גם לזמן, וביתר דיוק למושג התחלה, בדומה למילים ראשית, ראשון. משמעות זו מתקשרת למשמעות של ראש כקצה קדמי. במגילת קהלת נאמר: "...הַמַּעֲשֶׂה אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה הָאֱלֹהִים מֵרָאשׁ וְעַד סוֹף" (ג, יא). כך גם ראש חודש הוא תחילת החודש, וראש השנה הוא תחילת השנה.

מעובד על פי פירסומי האקדמיה ללשון העברית



לבזבז זמן על מילים נוספות, רתמה חמור לעגלת עץ ישנה, מיהרה לביתו של ראש העיר וכרעה ליד מיטת אשתו שצירי לידה אחוזו בה. מבט אחד בפניה הנעווים מייסורים של שרה בר כוכבא הספיק למיילדת. היא ידעה שהאישה הזאת לא תזכה לראות בלידת ילדה הראשון. שרה רצתה כל כך ללדת, אבל כוחה לא עמד לה להתמודד עם הלידה הקשה והיא נפטרה על סף צאתה של בתה לאוויר העולם.

הנשים שהקיפו את מיטת היולדת התייפחו מרה, תלשו את שערותיהן וקראו את בגדיהן. שרה הייתה שרועה על המיטה, אותות כאב חרוטים על פניה. לפני שעצמה לנצח את עיניה ביקשה שאם תיוולד לה בת, ייקרא שמה רחל.

בתוך קולות בכיין של הנשים נמהל לפתע קול אחר, דק וצווחני, קולה של התינוקת שהגיחה מרחם אמה. היא פלטה יללה אחת ולא יספה. המיילדת, לבה כבד על מות האם, ניתקה את חבל הטבור, רחצה את התינוקת במי קערה פושרים, ועד מהרה לבשו פניה מבע קודר יותר. התינוקת שהגיחה זה עתה לאוויר העולם הייתה קטנה מהרגיל, עורה הלבן שקוף ואיבריה רופסים.

לפתע, למרות שהקיץ עמד בעיצומו וימיו היו חמים מהרגיל, כיסתה חשרת עבים את השמיים וגשם דק החל לרדת. בבתי המדרש של ביתר הציצו התלמידים בחשש אל מעבר לחלונות. גשם בקיץ לא אמור היה לבוש טובות. מיוזע ומתנשף דהר סוס בשביל העפר לעבר השוליים המרוחקים של העיר וקצף לבן זב משפתי. בין דקלי התמר העתיקים, מאחורי סלעי ענק שכוסו במעטה של אזוב ירוק, צמחו בתי אבן קטנים, שהגשם שטף מעליהם את האבק. ניחוח עז של שיחי נענע ומרווה עמד באוויר.

הסוס עצר בשערו של בית חד-קומתי, מוקף גינה. שמעון בר כוכבא, ראש העיר, צנח מעל גב הבהמה ונקש בחוזקה על הדלת. אישה גדולה הזדרזה להופיע בפתח. "חיכיתי שתבוא", אמרה, "יש לה כבר צירים?"

"יש".
"איך היא מרגישה?"
"לא טוב".

המיילדת נשאה עיניה אל השמיים ומחתה בכף ידה את טיפות הגשם שנשרו על פניה. היא קיוותה שאין זה סימן רע.

בחיפזון צררה כמה כלים בשק"ב ובלי