

# The BASH

THE BNEI AKIVA SCHOOLS HEADLINES • EST. 2017

VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 1 • DECEMBER 2021

## NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNINGS



### Letter from the Editors

Dear Reader,

We write this over oversized sandwiches and shakshuka at Aroma, fueled by caffeine, chocolate, and far too much lemon water. We've been sitting here for two hours and all we've accomplished is the completion of several levels of Minesweeper – some hard, but most easy. A non-cliché introduction is harder to write than you might think, and not wanting to mention a certain virus makes our job a lot more difficult. This letter sets the tone for this year's BASH, and the significance of it weighs heavily on our shoulders. Dead set on getting it right, we've been going back and forth at our little table in the corner about what exactly we wanted this year's theme to be.

After much consideration, however, we decided that due to the BASH's diverse selection of articles and our broad audience, we can't pinpoint a single central theme, as we are dedicated to providing a wide range of topics to ensure that there is something for everyone. Whether you like reading about school news, sports, Israel, current events, or you're just here for the fun section, we hope to be able to cater

to your specific interests, no matter how unique they may be.

On that note, we are thrilled to announce our inaugural Literary Contest! Each issue, we will offer a different creative writing challenge, ranging from poetry to short stories and everything in between. The top three winning pieces, chosen by our esteemed panel of judges, will be published in the next issue of the paper and receive a prize. The first-place winner will have his or her submission published in the school's Literary Journal at the end of the year. Our hopes are that this unique opportunity will foster the creative spirit in our schools and showcase the talents of our student body.

We're incredibly grateful to all of our returning writers and topics from previous years, and pleased to extend a warm welcome to our new team of writers for what we hope will make this year of the BASH the best one yet!

Your editors,

Yael Gryn, Joseph Newman,  
Chaim Straus

### FIRST EXPERIENCES OF ULPANA

**YAMAYA NEWMAN**

As I reflect on my first month here at Ulpana, I feel blessed to be enrolled in this school. When starting out here, I realized right away what a strong sense of community our school has, even among the different grades.

Being a freshman, before I got here I was so scared. Coming from Ottawa, a city with a small population and an even smaller Jewish community, I couldn't imagine being in a school with around 30–40 girls per grade! There were only nine in mine in elementary school, after all. But I didn't need to worry. Our orientation, followed by a Grade 9–12 barbecue, was a great way to start off the year, as we freshies got to know each other better and meet our big sisters from Grade 12 (shout-out to my big sister Hannah Halberstadt)! As soon as I walked through the doors, everyone was so welcoming and warm. They really made me feel right at home.

One thing our school did that helped me to get to know some new people was our grade trip to Green Acres outdoor... *Continues on page 2*

# DON'T GO TREETOP TREKKING IF YOU'RE SCARED OF HEIGHTS

## THE ULPANA GRADE 11 BONDING TRIP

**MALKA MOSHKOVITS**

Ulpana is so much more than a school. Ulpana is a family, and what is a family without a little family bonding time? Near the beginning of the 2021–22 school year each grade went on its own bonding trip. We started the day with a Yom Iyun to get inspired by learning *Torah L'Shima* before splitting away from the rest of the school.

My grade, 11, was scheduled to go to Treetop Trekking. We waited for our bus, and waited, and waited. Eventually, word started to spread that the grade 10s took our bus! They had been travelling towards Treetop Trekking Brampton for a while before realizing a mistake had been made. The bus they were on turned around and took them to their intended trip to Timber Creek Mini Golf.

When the bus meant for grade 10 arrived, we got on. The school made sure not to make the same mistake again, and let the driver know our

destination. When we got there we harnessed ourselves up and took a class picture.

We began treetop trekking at the orientation area, where the instructor taught us how to fall safely. We had to climb up a ladder, walk halfway across a tightrope and then do a trust fall. The problem is, that meant we had to trust ourselves and our harnesses. We had to trust that we wouldn't fall to the ground and that we'd be able to get back up. After we managed to do the trust fall we had to zip line across to the next platform.

Even though it was only a few feet off the ground, it turns out... I'm a little scared of heights. I managed to get to the other side but wasn't prepared for what was coming next. The beginning course was much, much higher up. We all laughed with each other as the first people struggled to complete the first challenge, and then we realized they made it look

very easy. It turns out everything is scarier so high up in the air.

The key is not looking down, we soon realized, and just focusing on your steps... until the next challenge. Apparently, treetop trekking has some trick questions. Imagine a rope ladder, turned horizontally. Seems easy, right? The problem is, it tilts completely to one side. After standing there for a while, terrified, the instructors came over and gave us a very helpful hint. Stay on one side of it.

After that obstacle the rest were easy, and then we all got to the most anticipated part: zip lining. One by one each person zip lined down, filled with pure glee. Eventually came my turn, and many people's favourite memory of the day: my fear of heights making me the centre of attention and the joke of the moment. I just couldn't do it. I couldn't get myself to walk off the edge and zip line down.

The instructors were trying to talk me through it, the teachers were motivating me and my classmates were hoping I'd figure it out soon so they could finish the course and move on to the next one. One of the instructors had to come up there and help me but even he couldn't figure it out. Eventually someone yelled out in frustration, "just push her!" As it turns out, that was the solution to the problem. I had no issue with someone shoving me, it was just that I couldn't get myself to walk off the platform, so all I needed was someone to do it for me.

It wasn't as scary as the anticipation made it seem. Once I was sliding down it just didn't last long enough. It truly felt like flying, the wind rushing through my hair as everyone cheered me on. The lesson of the day: don't let anything stop you, because if you just trust yourself, you can fly through the wind.

### First Experience at Ulpana, continued

education centre, where we all connected to each other in a unique way, outside of the classroom setting. We broke the ice by participating in cool team building activities, like swinging on a Tarzan rope and climbing up a big wall as a team. It was a lot of fun. Another thing I noticed about Ulpana is its eccentric atmosphere. The rooms of the school are constantly buzzing with life and spirit. The cheering and singing in

the lunchroom, combined with the famous Ulpana *tisches* and the fun clubs, give our school a happy and lively feel everywhere you go. I think that we can all agree that Ulpana has a lot of *ruach*.

Something coming up that I can't wait for is Shabbaton. I hear it's supposed to be a highlight of the entire year. I'm really happy with this school so far and I can't wait for the year ahead!





## YOC Grade 9 Shabbaton

### NOAH WOLFSON

The annual Grade 9 Shabbaton was a fantastic experience full of singing, dancing, *shiurim* and bonding. When I had heard about the Grade 9 Shabbaton and the family-like experience it was, I was cautiously optimistic that it could live up to such lofty expectations. As we got off the bus at Moshava Ennismore, we were greeted by Mr. Lazar, Rabbi Grauer and Moshava's beautiful scenery. The students who had attended Moshava Ennismore were thrilled to be back. Those who hadn't been there before had an equally fantastic

time seeing Moshava for the first time. They got to see the cabins, the dining hall, and the basketball courts. After a short schmooze with the grade twelves, teachers and rabbis, all the students went down to the basketball courts to enjoy basketball games. Later that evening at Kabbalat Shabbat, we sang and danced with incredible joy. It was terrific seeing the teachers and students singing and dancing together with so much power and energy. As we continued our *davening*, happiness filled the air. Throughout the Shabbaton, we were split into groups to learn a Dvar Torah from each

Rabbi. We ended the Shabbat with a meaningful havdalah, full of *ruach* and *kavanah* that left us eager for our next Shabbaton.

From the singing and dancing to the bonding with each other and learning with our rabbis, this Shabbaton was a memorable experience. The weekend opened our eyes to the fact that the rabbis and teachers at Yeshivat Or Chaim are people we can connect with, talk to and learn from. It is clear that our rabbis only want what is best for us and to see us become closer and more connected with each other, Judaism and Hashem.



## YOC STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

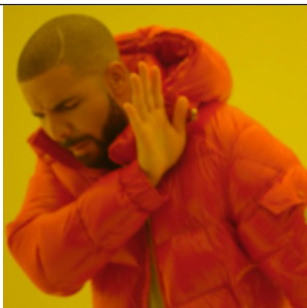
### AHRON ABRAMS

To my fellow BAS students,

Welcome back for the 2021–2022 school year! I hope everyone had an amazing, meaningful, rejuvenating summer and is ready to get back into gear. The past year and a half has not been easy, with the lack of social interaction, online school, and loss of many opportunities. So far we have been lucky to be in school. It is important to be appreciative and soak up all the events at hand. This year is crucial. The ability is in our hands to set the tone for how we want Or Chaim to look and feel moving forward. All the tools necessary to have a spectacular year are here, and I have no doubt in my mind this will be the best one yet!

This year has had an amazing start to it out the gate. We have lunch basketball back, the weight room open, grade 9 and 10 Shabbatons, tons of amazing learning opportunities, and the school-wide Shabbaton! We also are having practice teams for basketball, with tryouts already starting. The difference between this year and last year is remarkable. We are truly blessed. Another important factor of the great success of the year so far is the hardworking staff and administration at our Yeshiva. We are beyond lucky to have them, and it is important to constantly thank them for all they do. Our Yeshiva would be nowhere near the same without them.

The Student Council has started off the year strong. With successful Sukkah building and Arbah Minim campaigns, we are on track for another outstanding year. We are looking forward to, G-d willing, having all the fun extracurricular activities we would normally have and much more. May Hashem bless us all with a truly unforgettable year filled with health, happiness, and success!



Running  
for student  
council



Joining  
the  
student union

# CANADA'S ELECTIONS

Yael Gryn

On September 20, 2021, Canada had a federal election.

For those of you who have not yet learned about how these elections work in Civics class (and, let's be honest, those of us who have already forgotten everything we learned in Civics class), here's a quick refresher: Canadian elections are regularly held every four years, but the Governor General can dissolve the current parliament and call a snap election at any time. They often call elections at the request of the Prime Minister. The country comprises 338 federal electoral districts, also called ridings, and constituents vote for someone to represent their riding as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the House of Commons. Each person running for this position is a member of one of Canada's political parties, and after all votes are counted the one with the most seats in the House of Commons becomes the new government. A majority of 170 seats is not necessary for a party to form the government – Canada often has a minority government with no party holding more than half of Parliament's seats – but it must be able to rely on the support of a majority of MPs through individual agreements or coalitions. The position of Prime Minister goes to the winning party's leader, and the party holding the second most seats becomes the Official Opposition.

As it turns out, September's election did not



DAVID KARVA/BLUMBERG VIA GETTY IMAGES

result in much transformation regarding the breakdown of Parliament. After the previous election in 2019 the Liberal minority government held 155 seats, with a total vote count of 5,911,588; the Conservative Official Opposition held 121 seats, winning the popular vote with 6,150,177 votes; the Bloc Quebecois held 32 seats; the New Democratic Party held 24; the Green party held three; and there was one independent MP. Voting patterns this year showed no major difference. The Conservative party once again obtained the popular vote with a total of 5,742,635 to the Liberal's 5,556,835, but since the Canadian electoral system is based on MPs and not on overall vote majority, the Liberal party still won with 160 seats. The Conservatives resumed their role as Official Opposition with 119 seats, the Bloc reclaimed its 32, the NDP won 25, and the Green Party managed two. Even from a local perspective things mostly

stayed the same, since almost every riding stuck with whichever party it had appointed back in 2019. Essentially, a few seats were shifted around, but on a practical level nothing really changed.

For such inconsequential results, this was the most expensive Canadian election to date. It cost \$600 million to the Canadian taxpayers, leaving many questioning how worthwhile it all was. Some believe it was simply Trudeau's attempt to attain a majority government, since his approval rating had risen according to recent polls prior to the dissolution of Parliament. Others maintain that in light of recent events, especially the COVID-19 pandemic, a reevaluation of Canada's leadership was necessary. Either way, the 2021 Canadian election will go down in history – whether simply as its costliest game of Federal Musical Chairs, or as the origin of a ripple effect with great impact, only time will tell.

## Returning to Normal

ADINA SHOSHAN

I was in eighth grade when lockdown started.

Crazy to think, right? That was nearly two years ago. I'll be honest, I don't remember a single thing that happened between, say, March of 2020 to September of that same year. Assignments, conversations with friends, even my graduation – all those days blurred into going to bed concerningly late, watching Twitch streams, binging TV shows, playing video games (badly), and being mind-numbingly bored.

When school started, things calmed down again. I felt comfortable and secure (at least, as much as I possibly could be as a freshman in a new school), and I was getting used to the workload, wearing masks, and navigating new situations.

And then the rug was pulled out from under my feet, and I tumbled into a seemingly endless rabbit hole of lockdowns.

I'm hesitant to say that things are going back to normal. The paranoid pessimist within me seems to think that if I say it, we'll get thrust into yet *another* period of confinement. However, we haven't been stuck at home since the last school year, and for that I'm immensely grateful. Not a day passes where I don't ponder how low my mental health would be dipping if we were all still in quarantine. I think that very few people could

handle being constantly glued to their laptops for Zoom classes and hardly leaving their houses. If they can, they are in a tiny minority.

I am sure we can all agree, though, that human contact tends to be an important factor in our well-being. The fact that we have in-person classes and can hold conversations face-to-face (despite being masked) is something I feel we should all celebrate, especially given how little we can predict about the future. More and more activities that we used to take for granted and were off-limits to us for so long are now being reopened. Restaurants, movie theaters, and stadiums are now becoming accessible again. Families are reuniting after being apart for many, many months. There are lots of reasons to be optimistic – let's all hope this trend continues.

Personally, I'm beginning to be cautiously hopeful about this school year. I'm looking forward to Shabbaton. I joined Yearbook. I have motivation to complete my work. And wow, look at me! I'm writing an article for the school newspaper! These things are all leading me to believe that despite the challenges we've all faced in the last two years, we're making headway towards being the (semi-) functioning society we were before. True, things may be both different and perhaps difficult, but it seems that we are edging towards something that might be considered normal once again.

## SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Puzzle 1 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.50)

4	3	9	1	6	2	8	7	5
5	8	2	3	4	7	1	9	6
7	1	6	5	8	9	3	2	4
3	6	1	7	2	4	5	8	9
2	7	8	9	1	5	4	6	3
9	5	4	8	3	6	2	1	7
1	9	7	2	5	3	6	4	8
6	2	3	4	9	8	7	5	1
8	4	5	6	7	1	9	3	2

Puzzle 2 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.47)

2	1	7	8	4	9	5	3	6
8	3	9	5	1	6	4	7	2
5	6	4	3	7	2	1	9	8
3	8	1	9	5	4	2	6	7
4	2	6	7	8	1	3	5	9
7	9	5	6	2	3	8	4	1
1	7	8	4	6	5	9	2	3
9	4	2	1	3	7	6	8	5
6	5	3	2	9	8	7	1	4

Puzzle 3 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.49)

2	4	6	7	1	3	9	8	5
1	8	5	4	9	6	7	3	2
9	3	7	8	2	5	1	4	6
6	7	8	5	4	2	3	9	1
4	9	3	1	6	8	2	5	7
5	1	2	3	7	9	4	6	8
8	2	4	9	5	7	6	1	3
7	5	9	6	3	1	8	2	4
3	6	1	2	8	4	5	7	9

Puzzle 4 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.48)

3	2	1	8	5	7	6	4	9
6	8	4	1	3	9	5	2	7
9	7	5	6	4	2	8	1	3
7	5	9	4	2	8	1	3	6
2	6	8	5	1	3	9	7	4
4	1	3	7	9	6	2	5	8
5	3	7	9	8	1	4	6	2
8	4	6	2	7	5	3	9	1
1	9	2	3	6	4	7	8	5

# The Kawhi Effect

## SHMUEL FISCH

It is game seven of the second round. The game is tied at 90 apiece. Four seconds is all that remains on the clock. The series is on the line. The amount of pressure on both teams is insane. Marc Gasol inbounds the ball to Kawhi Leonard.

“It’s off to Leonard... Defended by Simmons.... is this the dagger...”

The whole arena goes crazy. The atmosphere is electric. Kawhi Leonard, who is known not to show emotion, is yelling out in celebration. The moment brings the seven foot tall Joel Embiid to tears.

So you probably get the point: it was a historic shot. But let us look at the so-called “Kawhi Effect” of that moment. Before this shot, Ben Simmons was averaging roughly 17 points a game, nine rebounds, and eight assists. The next year Simmons’ stats dropped by a bit, averaging roughly 16 points, eight rebounds, and eight assists per game. Now let’s look at Joel Embiid’s stats. Before the shot, he averaged roughly 28 points, 14 rebounds, and four assists a game. After the shot, Joel’s stats dropped a lot more, averaging 23 points, 12 rebounds, and three assists a game. Now, I am not saying this for sure, but it is not a coincidence that the 76ers two stars’ stats both dropped since that moment. It could be that there was a collective drop in confidence, or maybe just

a lack of morale or chemistry over the past two years. In any case, the results are what we call the Kawhi Effect.

The Kawhi Effect cuts both ways, though. Take Giannis Antetokounmpo for example, who is now a two-time MVP and NBA champion. The relation to Kawhi? The Raptors played the Bucks in the 2019 Eastern Conference finals and beat them in game 6, after being down two games to nothing at the start of the series. I truly believe that Giannas was not happy with this loss and wanted to win even more after that. So he announced shortly after the loss that he had only reached 60 percent of his potential. How is that possible? He already made the All-Star game and was an MVP. The only thing Giannas needed at that point was a championship ring. Well, that’s what he did. He went and won a ring two years later. Once again, we can tie this back to the Kawhi Effect as Giannas used the loss as motivation to just get better and is currently the best player in the league.

Our third example of the Kawhi Effect is not a player, but actually an entire team: the Los Angeles Lakers. In the summer of 2019, Kawhi Leonard signed a big contract with the Lakers’ rival, the LA Clippers. That same year, the Lakers won their first championship in a decade. So there are multiple things to break down, but let’s start off with the Lakers’ star LeBron James. He wanted to prove he was still the best player in the league,

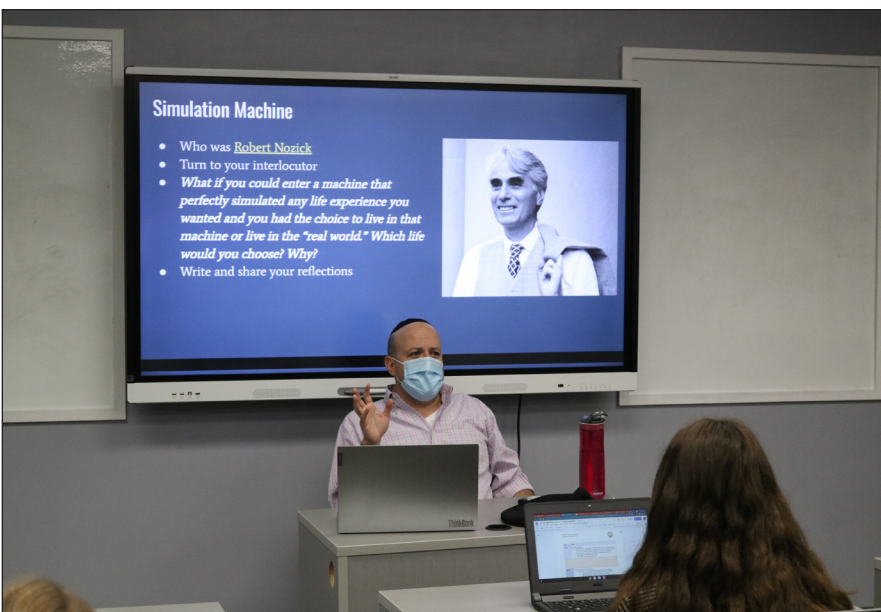


CHARLES FOX / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER, PHILADELPHIA ENQUIRER

and by outshining Kawhi he showed the world that he still had it in him to dominate. As for the team, the Lakers have outshined the Clippers throughout their collective history, so the fact that Kawhi went to the Clippers made it significantly more challenging for the Lakers to topple the rest of the league. Here comes the Kawhi Effect. By Kawhi signing with the Clippers, the Lakers had to work a lot harder than before, which was what drove them to win a championship for the first time in a decade.

I hope you enjoyed this article and now understand the Kawhi Effect.

## UO CANDIDS



# LEARNING FROM OUR MISTAKES

## AHARON TORCZYNER

The Gemara on Daf 55 in Masechet Brachot talks about someone who forgot to make a *bracha* on food. The question is asked to Rav Huna, should they continue eating or just make the *bracha* there? Rav Huna replies by posing the question: if someone eats a piece of garlic (making their breath smell bad), should they eat more garlic? What Rav Huna is saying is that to just keep eating won't fix this situation.

Just like the case of Masechet Brachot, there are many mistakes that happen during the National Hockey League season, and a lot of them repeat from season to season. But if you learn from those mistakes, you'll be able to stop them from happening again the next year. So, with that said, here are three mistakes that were made in the 2020–21 season that can be fixed, and stopped this year.

### 1. DON'T COUNT OUT ANY TEAM

Two examples prove this point. The first is the 2012 Los Angeles Kings. The Kings had not won a playoff series since 2001 and had missed the playoffs six out of those 10 years. They had good pieces. Anže Kopitar could play just as good defense as offense, franchise defenseman Drew Doughty played 24 minutes a night (out of a total 60) and they also had a goalie who could play 60+ games a year without his performance tailing off in Jonathan Quick. The problem was the offense. The only player on the Kings who hit 25 goals was Anže Kopitar. Only three other players hit double digits in goals. They did trade for Jeff Carter from Columbus, but even with him scoring six goals in 16 games, the Kings barely made it into the playoffs as the eighth seed (back when the playoffs were 1–8 per Conference). They faced off against the top team in the league during the regular season: the Vancouver Canucks. But, through Jonathan Quick's huge performance, they knocked off Vancouver in five games, swept St. Louis in the second round, took out Phoenix in five in the Conference Final, and then beat New Jersey in the Stanley Cup finals in six games. By the way, Jonathan Quick allowed 29 goals in 20 games and won the Conn Smythe (playoff MVP award).

The second example of underdog achievements is from this past season: the Montreal Canadiens. Going into the 2021 season, fans weren't sure what to expect of the team. They had made the playoffs the year before and upset the Pittsburgh Penguins, before losing to the Philadelphia Flyers in the next round. On the other hand, they had been "sellers" at the 2020 trade deadline and had only made the playoffs because the NHL couldn't finish

out the season, so expanded the playoff format to include 24 teams instead of the traditional 16 teams. Further, no one knew what to expect of the newly formed North Division consisting of all seven Canadian teams due to COVID travel restrictions. That meant facing the stacked Maple Leafs, Connor McDavid and his Oilers, the Calgary Flames, and the always dangerous Winnipeg Jets upwards of nine times throughout the season with only four playoff spots up for grabs.

The Canadiens squeezed into the playoffs after an up-and-down year. If they weren't in the North Division, they wouldn't have made it. And they found themselves facing off against a powerhouse Leaf team that finished first in the division. Despite being written off by every expert in the game and being down 3–1 in the series, the Habs rallied to defeat the Leafs in seven games. They then took down the Jets in a four game sweep. They followed up that performance by taking care of the Cup-favourite Vegas Golden Knights in the Conference Final – their first games against a non-Canadian team. The Canadiens even managed to take a game off Tampa Bay before ultimately dropping the final series against Tampa Bay in the finals.

The Lightning did end their run in Game 5, but the Canadiens had gone from barely squeaking into the Stanley Cup Final. How did they do it? Well, if you compare the Canadiens squad to the 2012 Kings team, there are a couple of details that line up. Carey Price and Jonathan Quick both carried their teams at times. They both had young guys playing important roles on their teams, such as Nick Suzuki and Cole Caufield. Most importantly, they had some playoff experience, with the Kings losing in back-to-back first-round series in 2010 and 2011, and the Habs beating Pittsburgh the year prior.

So which team could be in that situation this year? I would suggest Minnesota. They have a good goalie who has playoff experience in Cam Talbot (see: Edmonton in 2017, Minnesota 2021), they have played in back-to-back series this past two playoffs, and they have the young players to go along with the team. Kirill Kaprizov just won the Rookie of the year trophy, and Kevin Fiala hit 20 goals at the age of 24. For those reasons, expect a team like Minnesota to go far.

### 2. DON'T OVERREACT TO THE REFS

Last year there was a situation in the NHL that caused a big discussion in hockey. A referee named Tim Peel was officiating a game between Nashville and Detroit and called a controversial penalty against Nashville. As the TV crew was going to break, he was caught on air saying to his

referee partner Kelly Sutherland that he wanted "to get a penalty against Nashville early". Peel was forced into retirement a month early because of that, missing his retirement ceremony. The main conversation that came out of that was: do we care that the referees are making calls out of personal interest? Whatever caused Peel to make the extra call, it wasn't part of the gameplay. I think a lot of people stopped trusting the refs after that, not believing that they could make a proper call (or that every call they made was wrong). I think that continuing that mindset this season would be a mistake though. Some people might claim that "this call was a make-up call", or "that was done because he was frustrating the referee", but I think continuing that just hurts the game and distracts from the actual reason you're watching hockey: to see some good plays. What happened with Tim Peel might happen again, but if you're trying to guess whether this call or that call was a fake, as the saying goes, אין לדבר סוף, there's no end to it.

### 3. JUDGE PLAYERS FAVOURABLY.

The best example that I can think of for this point is the Vancouver Canucks. In the 2020 bubble, they beat the defending Stanley Cup Champion St. Louis Blues in the first round and nearly knocked off the Vegas Golden Knights in the next round. They were led by two young rising stars studs, Elias Pettersson at forward and Quinn Hughes on defense. Everybody expected them to perform well in the 2020–21 season, but they had one of the worst seasons in the league, finishing with 23 wins in the 56 game season. However, they were one of the teams that was hit the hardest by COVID-19, with the majority of their players testing positive. Because of that, they missed over three weeks of scheduled games, which then had to be crammed in. So did the Canucks have a bad season? Yes. Was it entirely their fault? No. Some of what happened to the Canucks happened throughout the league, to teams and individual players. Players were either at the rink or in their hotel, and they had to wear a mask nearly everywhere they went until they were vaccinated. In the junior leagues, it was handled differently. Some leagues, like the Western Hockey League and the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League, played in bubbles. Some played shortened schedules, like the Ontario Hockey League, which played 24 games per team. This caused weird statistics for most players. For these reasons, I think it's smart to go easy on your team's prospects if they didn't put up the points or perform up to earlier standards.

Those are three mistakes that might repeat this year and are important to keep in mind while going through this NHL season.



**SUDOKU**

Puzzle 1 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.50)

4			1	6		8		5
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	7						6	
			8					7
		7	2			6	4	
		3				7	5	
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Puzzle 2 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.47)

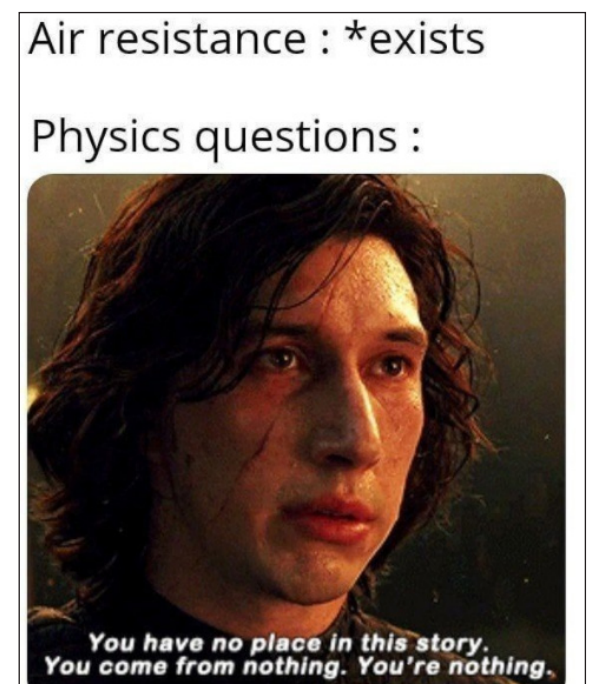
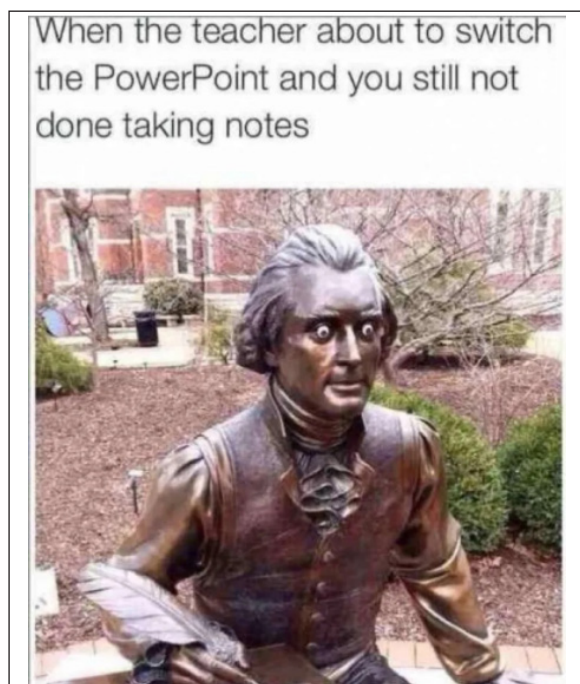
	1						3	6
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5				7				8
	8							7
	2	6		8		3	5	
7							4	
1				6				3
	4	2	1	3		6		
6	5						1	

Puzzle 3 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.49)

2				1		9	8	
	8	5	4	9		7		
						1	4	
6			5			3		1
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	2	4						
		9		3	1	8	2	
6	1		8					9

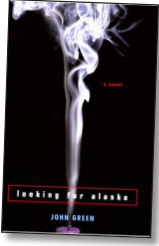
Puzzle 4 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.48)

	2			7	6	4		
						5		
9		5	6	2		1	3	
	5			2		3	6	
4	1			9			5	
5	3		9		1	4		2
		6						
	9	2	3					8



## AVI'S BOOK CORNER

AVI MARKUS



**Title:** *Looking for Alaska*

**Author:** John Green

**Genre:** Realistic fiction

John Green's amazing way of writing has not let us down yet. With his mesmerizing book, *Looking for Alaska*, he has captured the interests of teens around the country. *Looking for Alaska* has a setting that is similar to our time and gives young adults more reasons to drop their computers and pick up a book.

Miles "Pudge" Halter is starting grade 11 at a brand new school, the boring world of Culver Creek Boarding School. His whole life has been one big non-event, and his craving for famous last words has only made him want to understand "the Great Perhaps" even more (Francois Rabelais, poet). He heads off to the wildly adventurous world and his life becomes the opposite of safe. Because down the hall is Alaska Young. The gorgeous, brilliant, funny, self-destructive, messed up, and utterly

fascinating Alaska Young. She is an event unto herself. She grabs Pudge out of his own world, launches him into the Great Perhaps, and runs away with his heart. Then... nothing is ever the same.

What happens to Alaska? And will Pudge ever figure her out? You will have to read this captivating book to find out. *Looking for Alaska* is an amazing story that will leave you craving to turn the page; your emotions will be cranked up to an all-time high. I recommend this amazing book to any girls or boys who like realistic fiction and teen angst.



**Title:** *Shadow and Bone*

**Author:** Leigh Bardugo

**Genre:** YA Adventure/High Fantasy Fiction

In the first book of the *Shadow and Bone* trilogy, Leigh Bardugo proves herself to be a truly

captivating author, writing characters that seem to float off the page, magic that spirals through the book, and evoking emotions that only awaken when reading true high fantasy. Bardugo combines Russian storytelling and literature with magic, making for an experience you can't get from just any book.

Alina Starkov, a nobody from nowhere, joins the First Army, made up of regular people who want to fight for their country. She then discovers she has powers that separate her from any form of a comfortable life that she might have been able to have with her childhood best friend and long-time crush, Mal. Soon afterwards, Alina meets the Darkling. Things just get better and better from there.

I would recommend this fantastic read to anybody who is a fan of magic, love and a hint of darkness. This book really puts together self-confidence and doubt, love and hatred, and the trickery and lies that hide behind every corner of the Shadow Fold...

### WORD SEARCH

E	O	U	O	E	O	W	G	I	O	B	O	S	C
R	I	S	M	T	S	A	O	E	E	R	U	B	S
U	I	H	W	A	K	A	B	T	E	A	V	R	B
T	S	R	E	T	S	I	S	T	I	S	I	O	R
A	I	I	W	T	I	M	A	B	H	A	D	T	A
R	W	H	L	L	T	W	O	L	H	T	E	H	C
E	A	R	S	E	N	H	R	C	U	I	O	E	H
T	A	A	H	O	P	K	L	T	S	R	G	R	O
T	W	T	M	O	I	A	U	R	K	H	A	H	T
I	E	E	R	A	C	L	T	U	R	S	M	O	O
W	L	C	E	I	A	A	H	A	D	C	E	O	R
T	A	H	S	S	W	S	O	C	I	S	S	D	D
S	O	U	R	B	I	K	A	H	T	V	W	A	H
S	M	C	E	O	O	A	A	S	T	C	O	A	E

- RUACH
- ACROPHOBIA
- LEMON WATER
- VIDEO GAMES
- ALASKA
- SISTERS
- TWITTERATURE
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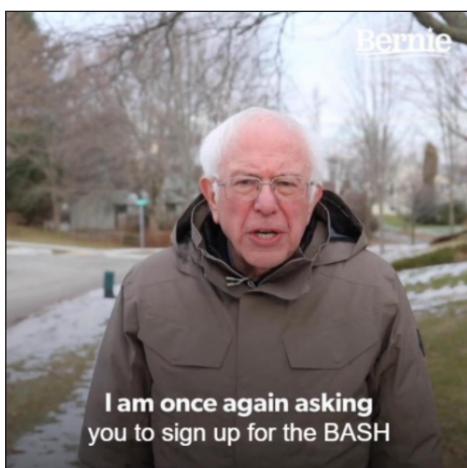
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The Bnei Akiva Schools Headlines  
Volume 5 • Issue 1 • December 2021  
Faculty Advisor: Mr. Eric Saltsman

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