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The Vallès Oriental's leading language school is pleased to offer you this review, crossword and contest.



The Farewell – Review

The push and pull between the bonds of blood and the **ties** of culture are explored with a light touch and a perceptive eye for detail in this **delightful**, semi-autobiographical family drama from writer and director Lulu Wang. Chinese American Billi (Awkwafina) has a foot in each of the two countries. Wang introduces the idea with the same deft writing and wry insight that characterise the film in its entirety. Billi walks through the streets of New York talking on the phone in the respectful Chinese of a dutiful granddaughter to her **beloved** Nai Nai (Zhao Shuzhen). “Yes, I’m wearing a hat,” she reassures Nai Nai (she isn’t). Then she effortlessly switches personas and languages to **banter** in American-accented English with a **canvasser** on the street.



The American tendency to freely share thoughts and feelings **collides** with the Chinese way of parcelling up emotions. The two identities co-exist in Billi, until the moment that she learns that Nai Nai has been diagnosed with terminal cancer and that her family have decided to keep the information from the **elderly** lady. “Chinese people have a saying: when people get cancer, they die,” says Billi’s mother (Diana Lin). “But it’s not the cancer that kills them, it’s the fear.” Billi disagrees, arguing that Nai Nai should have the chance to confront her fate.

A hastily convened wedding provides the cover story to bring the extended family back to China to bid farewell to their unwitting **matriarch**. Cut-away shots of the shell-shocked happy couple, Billi’s cousin and his Japanese girlfriend, steamrolled into marriage after three months of diffident dating, are among the many **sly** comic asides that punctuate this poignant story.



As gifted a writer as she is at creating playful, visually layered frames, Wang is constantly juggling clashes – of cultures, of tragedy and joy. I particularly loved a heart-to-heart conversation between Billi and Nai Nai, which plays out against the backdrop of the soon-to-be married couple posing for wedding pictures wearing panicked, firing-squad grimaces. Ultimately, it’s all about balance, a yin and yang of roots and identities, humour and pathos that comes together into a satisfying, bittersweet wedding **banquet** of a movie.



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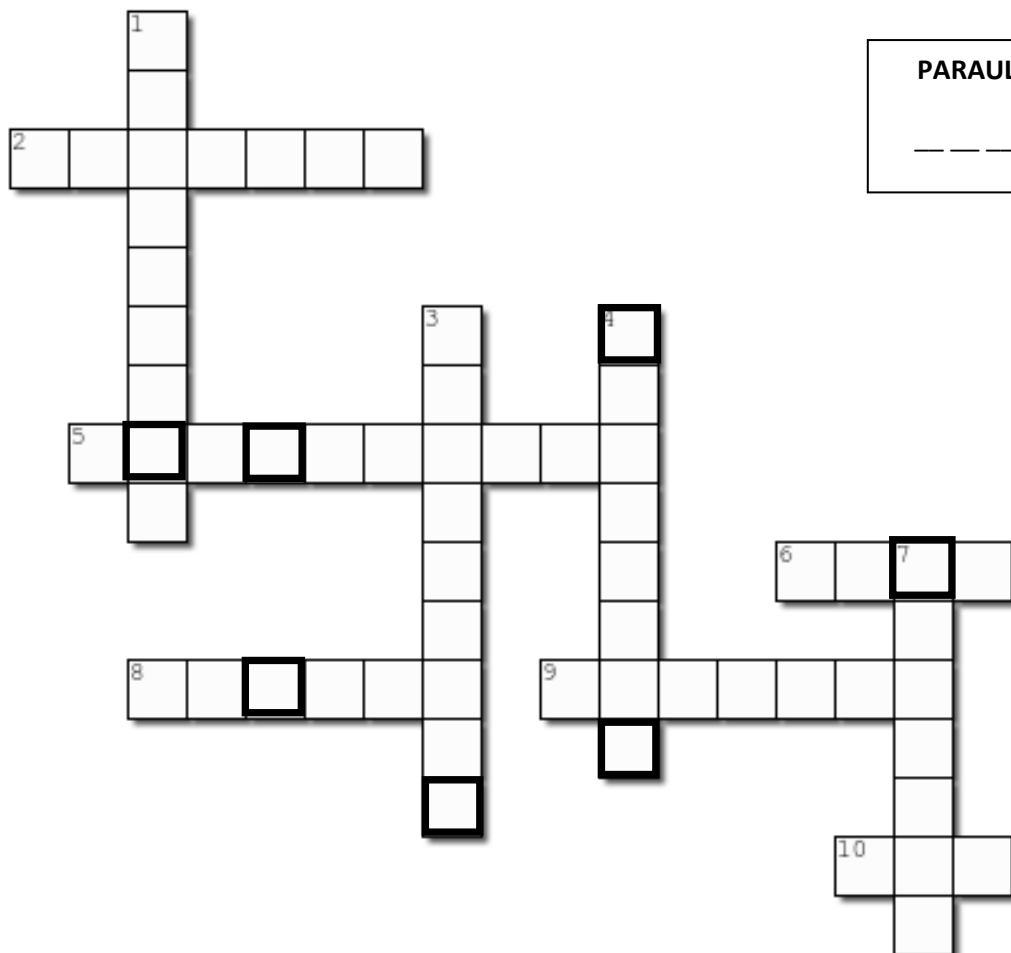
Ajuntament de Cardedeu

cinema
ESBARJO

The Farewell – Crossword

GUANYA 2 ENTRADES GRATUÏTES AMB EL CINEMA ESBARJO I CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL

- 1) **Completa els mots** encreuats amb el vocabulari de la crítica.
- 2) **Reuneix les lletres** de les caselles en negreta i forma la paraula secreta.
- 3) **Sigues el 1r en publicar la paraula al Facebook** de Cambridge School www.facebook.com/CambridgeSchoolPage i guanyaràs 2 entrades per a una pel·lícula en VO al **Cinema Esbarjo de Cardedeu** (a recollir al mateix cinema).



PARAULA SECRETA:

ACROSS

2. a formal meal prepared for a large number of people on an important occasion
5. very pleasant or attractive
6. connection
8. friendly conversation in which people tell jokes and laugh at each other
9. very much loved by someone
10. showing in an insinuating way that one has some secret knowledge that may be harmful or embarrassing

DOWN

1. a person who tries to persuade people to vote for or support someone/something
3. a woman who is the head of a family
4. come into conflict or opposition
7. old or ageing



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