

The Tusker Tribune

The student newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Summer 2016

Doctors Scratch Their Heads Over 'June-it is' Outbreak at SMS



By Nitin Seshadri
Tusker Tribune Staff

Doctors across the country have been scratching their heads over this unexplained affliction that manifests its symptoms in all schoolchildren from June 1st to the end of the school year.

During this time period, no student gets any assignment of worth done and teachers have to tighten their grip on students like a vice as a result. Even the assignments that students complete result in grades that are lower than normal!

Causes

Doctors believe that because June is the last month of school, it is the sole cause of June-itis. One teacher, Mr. Pappas, said that "all students want to do is wait for the end of the school year."

This seems to be a valid reason. But, how, one might ask, how can a child wait for the end of school year when he/she has a battery of finals to study for? The causes are unknown to this day.

One thing is known, however: As soon as a child begins schooling, the June-itis virus sets into their body and causes a host of symptoms.

Symptoms

Symptoms of June-itis include:

- Excessive procrastination
- Unexpected horseplay or making weird noises during class

- Getting off track during class
- Incomplete or late homework or projects
- Grades are lower than normal
- Disobeying teachers
- Not completing his or her final review packets
- Repeatedly counting the days until school ends
- Playing games during class hours



Thinking about summer plans when there is a final the next day

No doctor that has ever lived knows why these symptoms come about in children, but studies show that children who have bigger plans for the summer tend to exhibit more of these symptoms than those who do not.

Treatment/Cure

There is no known man-made cure for June-itis. However, some scientists have noticed that all symptoms of the disease seem to vaporize on June 23rd, which is the day that school ends.



The disease is not gone; it is still lurking in the bodies of schoolchildren. Also, those who are homeschooled have no trace whatsoever of the June-itis virus in their blood. An important notice for those infected with

June-itis: When you become a parent, June-itis takes form as waiting for your child(ren) to finish school so the stress on yourself will decrease.

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End of Year Calendar (Yay!)

June 9th & 10th:
6th-8th PE Final
(in class)

June 13th -17th:
7th Grade World
Language Final
(one piece per
day)

June 13th: 8th
Grade Social
Studies exam

June 14th: 7th
Grade Math final



June 14: Yearbook Distribution

June 15th: 6th & 7th Grade
Math final

June 16th: Algebra Re-
gents

June 16th: 6th & 7th Sci-
ence final

**June
17th:**
Earth
Science
Re-
gents



(AM)

June 17th: Geometry (PM)

June 17th: 7th Social Studies final

June 17th: 6th Grade Health

June 20th: 7th Health final

June 20th: 6th Grade Social Studies final

June 20th: FLACS Exam

June 20th: 8th Grade Graduation practice, 8th Grade
Dance at Villa Barone (7-9PM)

June 20th: 7th Grade Splashdown trip

June 21st: *Raindate for
7th Grade Splashdown
trip

June 22nd: ½ day
(dismissal at 11:30AM)

June 22nd: 8th Grade
Graduation (2:00PM)

June 23rd: Last day of
school for 6th/7th Grade
(1/2 day – dismissal at
11:30AM)



Volkman's Music Mayhem!

Chart rankings as of 6/9/16



By Evan Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff

1. **One Dance** (feat. Wizkid & Kyla) - Drake
2. **Sweatshirt** - Jacob Sartorius
3. **Cake By The Ocean** - DNCE
4. **Panda** - Desiigner
5. **Don't Let Me Down** (feat. Daya) - The Chainsmokers
6. **Too Good** (feat. Rihanna) - Drake
7. **This Is What You Came For** - Rihanna & Calvin Harris
8. **Work From Home** (feat. Ty Dolla \$ign) - Fifth Harmony
9. **All The Way Up** (feat. French Montana & Infrared) - Fat Joe, Remy Ma, & JAY Z
10. **Close** (feat. Tove Lo) - Nick Jonas
11. **Dangerous Woman** - Ariana Grande
12. **Lost Boy** - Ruth B.
13. **7 Years**—Lukas Graham
14. **CAN't STOP THE FEELING** - Justin Timberlake
15. **Messin' Around** (feat. Enrique Iglesias) - Pitbull
16. **I Took A Pill In Ibiza** (Seeb Remix) - Mike Posner
17. **Let It Go** - James Bay
18. **Never Forget You** - Zara Larsson & MNEK
19. **Work** (feat. Drake) - Rihanna
20. **Love Yourself** - Justin Bieber



Matt Kushner's 'PRISON' Story

Prison is hell. From the front to the back of this wretched place, there is nothing but bland walls and weird punishing systems. And I've hated every single part of it.

The worst thing about it is not being locked in a cell (that happens rarely, only when the warden has to leave), but the exact opposite.

You're given exactly what you need. Food, water, comfy sofas, and a large walking space. And when I have that, with no challenge to get it, I am just left to sit all day and ponder what I did wrong to get here.

And I am stuck here forever to do that. I am also alone in this hell. With no one



Prison Bars Stencil
www.spraypaintstencils.com

to confide my troubles in, I believe I am slowly going insane. I am unable to tell, though, because if I was insane, no one would be able to tell me. Maybe it is just me, or I eat off of plates on the ground because the wardens hate me a lot, but, as I said, how would I know this is just me going insane?

And, maybe it is just me, but I am forced to go outside to go to the bathroom. Or I am just going insane. Or this is a mental facility....

Or this is all a dream....

Or the world is ending.....

Please, oh please God, if you are there, turn me into a human, so I do not have to endure the tortures of being a dog!



Summer's Here!!!! (Almost)



By Kaitlyn DeRosa
Tusker Tribune Staff

Wow! This school year zipped by super fast!

Summer Vacation is quickly approaching but there are still some cool things happening at school!



Year-books will be distributed on June 14th! Also, get your sunscreen and swimsuits ready..... because on June

20th, 7th graders are going to Splashdown!

But, don't lose it yet because you still have those finals coming up, so make sure you study to get a good grade on the last tests of the year!

The Tusker Tribune is published online and is featured weekly on the Somers Middle School Website. It is entirely student-written by 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from

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Somers, NY, USA.

Any SMS student is eligible to write stories.

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Yoga Club a Great Remedy for School Stress

By Hunter Duffy
Tusker Tribune Staff

Downward dog, pigeon, tree, and plank. What do these all have in common?

They're all poses that kids do during Mrs. Nobile's new Yoga Club. This club is for everyone from yogi's to kids who are stressed out.

As a member of the club, I can say its relaxing and fun. We do sun salutations, single poses, and partner poses. It's always fun to challenge yourself with poses like "crow", "double plank", and "pretzel". These poses will help you develop balance, teamwork, and flexibility.

As a person who participates in a lot of clubs, this is one I recommend. And that is just a small part of yoga club.



I interviewed ELA teacher Mrs. Denise Nobile for more information.

Hunter Duffy: What gave you the idea to create this club?

Mrs. Nobile: Well I know that mindfulness helps me so I

wanted to share that with the rest of the school.

Hunter: Now I have a question for the club member. What do you think is the most important thing you've learned here?

Club members: That focusing on your breathing helps you calm down. I've learned how to calm down in tough situations.

Mrs. Nobile: If these kids only leave knowing about breathing, then I'll be happy. Because breathing is like a superpower. It's something that helps people everyday.

Hunter: Interesting. My last question is what is your favorite part of yoga club?

Club members: I like the hand massages. I also like relaxation pose where we visualize our happy place.

We think of places like the beach, our homes, and the woods.

Mrs. Nobile: I would say my favorite part was meeting all these kids that I usually don't see and getting to share this with them.



Tune Review: 'Sweatshirt' by Sartorius

By Hunter Duffy
Tusker Tribune Staff

Most people know about Jacob Sartorius' new single, Sweatshirt.

From what I've seen, it's getting a lot of different reactions. I mean I've seen people mocking the way Jacob sings it but at the same time, I've seen people listening to it with their friends in the halls.



My softball team was listening to it during practice but the next day, I was being told by someone how much they don't like it.

As for me, I think I'm okay with the song but I think that on certain notes, he was off pitch and flat. But he's only thirteen.

So I think that if he wants to work on his singing that he might not get such mixed reviews on his next song.

Try These Yummy Summer Recipes!

By Ray Mandel-Mueller and Lily Mandel-Mueller
Tusker Tribune Staff

Editor's Note: Our intrepid reports have done some digging and have come up with two pretty cool recipes for you to try as you relax during the long, lazy, hazy days of summer break!

Granny cake

Ingredients:

2 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 eggs
16 ounces crushed pineapple
1/2 cup brown sugar
1 cup nuts
1/2 cup butter
1 cup sugar
1 cup evaporated milk
2 teaspoons vanilla

Procedure:

Combine the flour, sugar, brown sugar, salt, baking soda, egg and crushed pineapples according to the quantity in the ingredient list and pour the mixture into a buttered pan 9 inches by 13 inches.

Mix brown sugar and nuts, then sprinkle over the unbaked cake and then bake it at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes.

Now mix the milk, sugar, vanilla and butter in a saucepan and blend them together properly.

Now boil the above mixture and pour over the baked cake while it still hot.

Preparing time: 10 minutes

Cooking time: 40 minutes

Done: Within a hour



Pineapple coconut snowball

Ingredients:

1(8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
1(8 ounce) can crushed pineapple, well drained
2 1/2 cups flaked coconut

Procedure:

Drain the pineapple with a fine strainer to push as much as juice possible to make the mixture a bit more firm and easier to work with

Combine the cream cheese and the pineapple in a small bowl and mix it well.

Cover the mixture with a paper foil and refrigerate it for 30 minutes.

Now roll the mixture into a 1-inch ball and add coconut to it.

Refrigerate it for 6 hours or one full night.

Preparing time: 35 minutes

Cooking time: minimum 6 hours/ maximum overnight

Done: minimum 6 hours 35 minutes



To see video: <http://allrecipes.com/video/4198/pineapple-angel-food-cake-i/>

The Tusker Tribune Commentary:

The Debate Over the Death of Harambe



**By Noelle DeMarinis
Tusker Tribune
Staff**

Over Memorial Day weekend a tragedy struck the Cincinnati Zoo.

A gorilla named Harambe, was shot dead after a toddler snuck into the gorilla's enclosure. The fatal shooting of the gorilla was a result of extreme safety measures. Ever since it happened though, everyone everywhere has shared their opinion. Should the mother be charged with a crime for not keeping her child safe? Should the zoo be fined for ineffective fences and guardrails? Was it absolutely necessary for the zoo to kill the gorilla? Why couldn't they have used tranquilizers?

Many people support the mother of the child. Supporting parents say it is not possible to be completely attentive 100% of the time. Therefore, the child could have slipped away within seconds, without the mother noticing.

Others believe that it is the zoo's fault. Zoos should be responsible to safeguard the visitors from the animals and the animals from the visitors. Obviously, it was easy for the child to get into the enclosure.



On the other hand, some people think it was the mother's fault. These people say that she was negligent and should be held accountable. One states, "Your eyes shouldn't be taken off your toddler at any moment for any reasons." Also, some people think that the mother should sue the zoo for negligence even though her child was saved.

In conclusion, while I understand the outrage that this gorilla had to die, I feel people

are not seeing the bigger picture here.

Silverback gorillas like Harambe are endangered because they are being killed EVERY DAY in the wild by poachers or by habitat destruction.

Where is the outrage over that? Instead of seeking justice for one captive gorilla, send money to an organization that actually helps endangered species in their wild habitats.

If you are so furious by the thought of one gorilla dying, know that there are so many more suffering and being killed in the wild.

Finally, stop blaming the mother for a momentary lapse in judgement and DO SOMETHING THAT WILL

HONOR ALL GORILLAS, not just this one.

June-it is
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Conclusion

June-itis is a serious affliction in all schoolchildren. It needs to be prevented for the

safety of the students, their peers, their teachers, and their parents. If you're interested in learning more about June-itis, contact the Prevent June-itis Foundation at 1(800) – JUNE-ITIS.

Editor's Note: This article is meant as a joke. June-itis doesn't really exist! :D