East Islip Middle School Newspaper



May 2017 Issue

Masthead design by Melissa Lubitz / Read our newspaper online at: eischools.org

EIMS Pie eating competition By Kaitlyn Donnelly

On Thursday, March 16th in honor of Pi Day, Mr. Bernard held pie eating contests in the cafeteria. Staff members were put up against one another during all lunch periods. Pi Day is celebrated March 14th each year but we had a snow day.

In period 4, it was Mr. Deedy vs. Mrs. Frees. Period 5 was Mr. Dolan vs. Mr. Bernard and period 6 was Ms. Marinaro and Ms. Modugno. Finally, in Period 7, Mr. Bilotti took on Mr. Stanton. Everyone had a blast, along with the students who looked on as their teachers and administrators had a face-to-pie showdown!

DID YOU KNOW?

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world. Pi (Greek letter " π ") is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159.

Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point. As an irrational and transcendental number, it will continue infinitely without repetition or pattern. While only a handful of digits are needed for typical calculations, Pi's infinite nature makes it a fun challenge to memorize, and to computationally calculate more and more digits.

From www.piday.org





Pi Day Celebration, March 16, 2017













GAME CHAT With Frank Cuoco and Connor Bolster TODAY'S TOPIC: Geometry Dash



Image from play.google.com

(*Frank*): Welcome back everyone! Today it's just me because Connor had baseball things to do. So, let's get right into this, shall we?

Let me say this first, there is no sort of story or goal in **Geometry Dash**, which is published by RobTop Games. The only thing you need to do is move a square while dodging obstacles and get to the end of the level. There are 21 main levels in the full game and also many user created levels to check out. The game is available for these platforms: iOS, Android, Windows Phone, Microsoft Windows, and macOS.

In order to play **Geometry Dash**, the user needs to tap (on mobile) and click (on computer) to jump and to do basically anything in the game. There are 6 different game modes in the game. While playing the main levels, try to include the different game modes as much as you can. The difficulty levels range from easy to demon. Everyone should try to enjoy these levels and beat them completely. Then, move on to the user created levels that are everywhere, but that's a whole other story.

Thanks for Reading!!

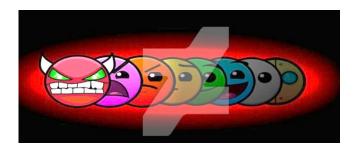


Image from steamcommunity.com

Nintendo Switch By Sebastian Higgins



Nintendo's new console, the Nintendo Switch, was released on March 3, 2017 and is priced at \$299. This is not just any console - it is marketed as a "hybrid" console or for short, it is portable. The main section shares many similarities with a tablet computer which consists of two controllers on both sides called Joy-Con. They can be used individually or attached to a grip to provide a traditional gamepad form.

The main unit is connected to a television display through a docking station. Unlike most new consoles, the Switch has cartridges like the 3DS does and it also supports digital content. There are three gameplay modes that can be used with the Switch: TV Mode, Tabletop Mode and Handheld Mode.

The Switch has a few games out currently including 1-2 Switch, Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild, Just Dance 2017 and Super Bomberman R. Later this year, we will see other titles such as Super Mario Odyssey, Splatoon 2, and Mario Kart 8 Deluxe.



Images from www.nintendo.com



The Quarterly Gamer Corner By Johnathan Yankus









Hey guys I'm backs from PAX. Now, you might ask "What is PAX?" Well, it's one of the biggest gaming conventions in the world. In 2004, the creators of the webcomic Penny Arcade decided to create a convention exclusively for gaming. The first gathering in Bellevue, Washington had about 4,500 people in attendance and focused on board, tabletop, card, arcade, console and computer gaming. Each year since its inception, the convention has doubled in size. In 2010, the show expanded into Boston for PAX East. The PAX shows in Seattle and Boston now represent some of the largest gaming events in North America.

There were several competitions throughout the weekend. I had the luck to be teamed up with a great group of people and we won **Final Fantasy XIV Stormblood online**. Tabletop gamers are also given their own specific areas on the floor to compete in tournaments - dice and **Pokemon** abound. All over PAX, you can try out some of the many new and up-and-coming games being promoted. There are demos for everything from VR car racing rigs to a card games.

A huge portion of the new PC games are frequently debuted at PAX, which gives game lovers the chance to try the latest games before they hit the shelves. Of course, there are also many gadgets at PAX. For some reason, mechanical keyboards seemed to be very popular with the PAX crowd and there were quite a number of customizable keyboards. There were also chairs with amazing features as well as very high price tags.

I tried my best to run all over the convention and play as many games possible. There is really no way to say which game is my favorite without someone responding "What? Are you for real?" One game I really liked is **Minibotz** by Spydersoft. This is a game where tiny robots battle it out, shooting lifesavers and bullets to blow up cockroaches and angry gummy bears. **Minibotz** has been out on Steam since January and you should really give it a try.

Another suggestion is **Little Nightmares** by BANDI NAMCO. It is a single player, horror adventure game, coming to consoles this April. I interviewed Kasumi Yogi, Brand Marketing Associate for BANDAI NAMCO Entertainment America Inc. After playing the game, I knew I wanted to get it! She appreciated my enthusiasm and told me I would be receiving a limited edition bundle of the game in April – doesn't get much better than that.

It was a great experience at PAX East 2017. I can't wait to go next year (my parents have already promised the passes for 2018)!

Blood Drive for Team Taylor By Kelcie Alba

Two eighth-graders at our school, Samantha Ryan and Samantha Seibert, have achieved their Girl Scout Silver Award, which is the second highest award given by Girl Scouts of the USA. It is given to Cadette Scouts, ages 11–14 after completing a 50-hour service project. The girls are members of local Girl Scout Troop 984 and they organized an upcoming blood drive to support Team Taylor. The two students attended the Board of Education meeting on March 9, 2017 and gave a presentation about the blood drive and histiocytosis. The community has been very supportive to Team Taylor over the past few years.

Taylor Ryan (Samantha Ryan's sister) is a 9th grade student at EIHS who suffers from histiocytosis. According to histiouk.org, "Histiocytosis is an umbrella term applied to a group of rare diseases, characterized by increased numbers of white blood cells called histiocytes in the blood and tissues. In all forms of histiocytosis, these cells, which are part of the protective immune system, begin to attack the body, targeting many organs of the body including the bone marrow, liver, spleen, lungs, skin, bone and brain". Taylor's wish is for more people to know about histiocytosis and for people to help spread awareness! For more information on her story, visit:

www.taylorshopefoundation.com/

The blood drive will be held on Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at the East Islip Fire Department, located at 30 E. Main St. in East Islip. The community is encouraged to attend.





Pictured above: William Carpluk (Board Vice President), Samantha Ryan, Samantha Seibert, John Dolan (Superintendent of Schools)

Photo: eischools.org



Pictured above: sisters, Samantha and Taylor Ryan

Photo: www.taylorshopefoundation.com



Pictured above: Mark Bernard, Christopher Zachry, John Dolan, Johnathan Yankus, and from Prudential, Roderick Shea and Lee Lessing

Photo: eischools.org

Way to Go, Johnathan!

The Newspaper staff would like to congratulate fellow staff member Johnathan Yankus for receiving a Certificate of Excellence from The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. These awards are given to young people across the country to recognize outstanding volunteer service to the community. He was in the top ten percent of all applicants in the state and was also given a President's Volunteer Service Award. Congratulations, Johnathan!

The Deal With Fidget By Melissa Lubitz





Some Fidget Cubes

The Fidget Spinner

Two new items have hit the market recently from a company called Fidget: the Fidget Cube and the Fidget Spinner. They are popular with kids and adults. The fidget cube consists of 6 unique sides with various mini contraptions where you can fidget your way. You can roll, click, spin, and more! This practically replaces the clicking function of pens. They may help some students focus a lot better on your studies.

There is also the Fidget spinner to mention. This doesn't have as many things to it, however it is also a great stress reliever and may help you focus. It consists of 3 branches with a bearing in each one and spins quite fast. The manufacturer claims it may help people concentrate in school, home, and work as well.

CBS news consulted some mental health experts about these products (http://newyork.cbslocal.com). Psychologist Dr. Harris Stratyner said that "fidget toys are often used by doctors while treating patients with autism, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder." However, in our school, some students and teachers think these are distracting to others in the classroom.

What do you think? We asked students for their opinions about Fidget toys:

- "I think they are fun but the teachers hate them."
- -Robert Graziano
- "They are quite fun! I don't have the spinner but I plan on getting one soon."
- -Hailey LaMacchia
- "They are okay, but I find them useless."
- -Frank Cuoco

Upcoming MS Events

May 8

MS Spring Concert I @ HS Auditorium 7 p.m

May 10

MS Spring Concert II @ HS Auditorium 7 p.m.

May 10

MS PTA Meeting 7 p.m.

May 15

MS Incoming Sixth- Grade Parent Orientation 6 p.m.

May 16

BUDGET VOTE & BOARD ELECTION 6 a.m.-9 p.m. @ ECC

May 17

MS Fifth-Grade Visits

May 29

Memorial Day (schools closed)



Need advice? Submit your questions for the *Red Girl* to answer in our next issue of the *Redmen Reporter*. Write your letter and sign it with an alias (example: "Stressed Out 6th Grader"). Place your letter in the box at the school store or give it to Mrs. Avella in Room 116 or 118.

The Climate Issue By Jake Thompsett

Climate Change is a controversial topic and many consider it a dangerous one. Some people, including many Republican leaders, choose to not "believe" in this issue. Whether you believe in it or not, it's something to be concerned about. From more droughts, to rising sea levels, climate change is altering the world, and in a bad way. But what exactly is it?

According to www.nationalgeographic.com, "scientists often use the term 'climate change' instead of global warming. This is because as the Earth's average temperature climbs, winds and ocean currents move heat around the globe in ways that can cool some areas, warm others, and change the amount of rain and snow falling. As a result, the climate changes differently in different areas."

Greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane and ozone cover the Earth's atmosphere like a blanket. Generally speaking, the Sun's rays shine through the atmosphere, heating up the earth. At night, some of the Sun's energy escapes, which cools the Earth. However, with the "blanket" in our atmosphere, the rays are trapped which results in heat. This is referred to as the "Greenhouse Effect" which allows for life as we know it on our planet.

The problem is that humans have been contributing to an increase in greenhouse gases since the Industrial Revolution. Factories, cars, and even manure can pollute the air by creating more greenhouse gases. Cutting down trees leads to more carbon dioxide in the air. Human activity is making the natural greenhouse effect stronger.

So, what does this have to do with climate change? This is the cause of climate change. With the temperature of Earth increasing by one degree over the past three decades, ice caps are melting, displacing arctic creatures such as polar bears. This increase seems very small, but is actually very significant. One interesting fact: only 3% of the water on Earth is fresh and drinkable, and 90% of that is frozen. Speaking of water, sea levels will be rising if this continues. With sea levels rising, land at a low altitude, well, won't be land anymore. It'll be water. New York, and even entire island nations such as the Philippines will be underwater.

But that's not all.

The Earth's oceans have a thing called natural conveyor belts. These currents pull materials through the ocean. If there were no currents, the oceans would be a dark, desolate place, like space. That isn't good. Those are just a few reasons to at least contemplate this issue.



For more information, watch this video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M2Jxs7IR8ZI

Read our newspaper online at eischools.org where you can easily click on a link.

Image from climate.nasa.gov/resources/global-warming



Winter Sports Wrap up By Hailey LaMacchia and Kaitlyn Donnelly



As we go into spring, we conclude our winter sports season: girls' volleyball, girls' and boys' basketball, and wrestling. Our athletes worked very hard this past winter and we are proud to support them and their journey throughout the season. Their coaches are honored to have mentored them and are all proud to have such wonderful students with great sportsmanship and school spirit.

The Girls Volleyball team had a challenging, but fun season. Most of the girls had not played volleyball before so it was on the job training; they were learning the skills and the game throughout the season, as per Coach O'Donnell. She says "in the first half of the season, the defeats were against real tough opponents, but were close games, some within only a two point difference. In the second half of the season, the team won four of their last five games. The girls worked hard, came together as team and finished their season 5-5. I am proud of them all as athletes and as young ladies."

The EIMS girls' basketball team had an undefeated season going 10-0. The girls always played hard and played the game as a team. Coach Montuori says "This team was one of the best teams that I ever coached. I enjoyed every minute of it. One of the highlights of the season was when we beat Gelinas Junior High School, 48-31. Gelinas had not lost a game in five years. That win cost me a trip to Carvel with the team, but it was so worth it! Girls, thanks for your great effort and for a great season."

Coach Padgur is extremely proud of the boys' basketball team and how they played, practiced, and represented the school and their community. He says "We finished with a 5-5 record and scored a season high 81 points in our final game. We had tremendous leadership from our 8th graders who set the tone in practices and raised the level of competition at practice which helped us in games. Ryan Glennon, Ryan Thompson, Ryan Cooper, Ryan Ferremi, Eli Daniello and AJ Share played huge roles in our success. Newcomers in 7th grade that played tough and learned the rigors of higher level basketball were Derek Burrell, Petersen Lowman, Jake Gibbons, and David Prince. Everybody on our team contributed to our season against a difficult schedule. We are looking forward to next season with great enthusiasm."

The EIMS wrestling team had an awesome year with over 30 team members. Coach Croteau says "they had over 50 wins as a team and recorded over 25 pins. The guys worked real hard and learned many new moves. Congratulations on a great season!"





Word Search: Sports

By Justin Martinez

Η K \mathbf{C} G T S V K Е V В X Н J U L Y В S \mathbf{C} I F W W D N O Ο Η O E W K X Η I S F K A X I G T G Ο L K L T R T Ε V X Q I В U P D V A R G N T A В Y T L N M Ε J F \mathbf{C} K G W S S E A A J N Η P Q J K J Е Ε L F Ι W A Q K N L L S A В Y E L L O V R T L C Q Η P K T O L D P В U W G F P D J G В N U S W I M I N G Α M K P P T L U В R Е C C O S N A I L U W V F E A F P W N \mathbf{C} S Н L S S I W В A L I D W M W Ι K O O E R O Н 0 A D Α K Z L Z I F V Y G В G M C J T Z Y D

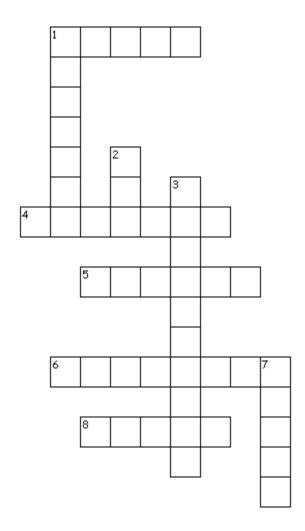
BASEBALL GOLF SOFTBALL TRACK BASKETBALL LACROSSE SWIMMING VOLLEYBALL BIKING SOCCER TENNIS WRESTLING





Crossword Puzzle: Tech Class

By Markus Higgins



Across

- 1. Used To Control The Cursor (Name Of An Animal)
- 4. Used To Browse The Internet
- 5. Used To Sand Wood
- 6. Use This To Type
- 8. Used To Measure

Down

- 1. Screen Connected To Computer
- 2. Use This To Cut Wood
- 3. Listen To Music With These
- 7. Used To Make Holes



Staff List



Kelcie Alba John Boccalupo Connor Bolster **Robert Camlet** Jonathan Cirillo Julian Covarrubias Frank Cucco Chelsea Dodenhoff Katie Donnelly **Emily Gargano** Robert Graziano Joseph Graziano Sarah Haanraadts Sebastian Higgins Markus Higgins Taryn Kilrain Hailey LaMacchia **Emily LaMorte** Melissa Lubitz Ruelin Man-Martinez **Justin Martinez** Victoria Miller Caitlin Morales Olivia Pena Sarah Piccinini Amanda Romano Toniann Santamaria **Taylor Sturtz** Jake Thompsett Jenna Thompsett Padraig Thompson Marie Tohill Joelle Tomossone Maggie Ulrich Johnathan Yankus

ADVISOR: Mrs. Avella

EIMS Newspaper Club Redmen Reporter

Officers:

President: Kelcie Alba
Vice-President: Sebastian Higgins
Secretary: Hailey LaMacchia
Treasurer: Maggie Ulrich