



The Logan Post



A Farewell & Good Luck To Mr. Rush

By Jewell Logan, Logan Post Staff Writer

Mr. Rush, our beloved math teacher at Logan Middle School, will be at Logan for his final week this week.

Mr. Rush was a student here from elementary through middle school, and has loved the school ever since. One of his first teaching jobs was as a long term substitute teacher at a college, but that was only for one marking period, the rest of that school year he was working here as a math teacher and has taught at Logan ever since.

Mr. Rush teaches sixth through eighth grade math. In seventh grade he teaches Pre-Algebra, and for eighth grade he teaches Algebra 1. In earlier years, he also helped coach our school's Math Counts, which is very similar to Mathletes, and in these competitions he led our team to place in the top ten.

Mr. Rush has been teaching here for fourteen years and has made many bonds with students and colleagues. He said that he will miss his friends and the bonds he has made when he leaves for a new position in Cherry Hill.

On February 19th, Mr. Rush will begin his role as an instructional coach in Cherry Hill where he will be helping high school teachers create lesson plans and develop teaching strategies.

Because of the new role he is taking on, he said that he will no longer have actual students of his own and that he will miss that aspect of teaching.

The feeling that he has of missing his students is mutual because his students will miss him as



well. Students in his seventh grade Pre-Algebra class expressed that Mr. Rush, "is a good teacher, we will miss his helpfulness and how he takes the time to explain, and that he is very soft spoken." Personally, I've only been in his class for this year, but he has been an amazing teacher and I have learned a lot more than I thought I would. He is very kind, thoughtful, respectful, and patient which makes him a wonderful teacher and I'm glad to have been able to have him as a teacher. The students on the Logan Post staff feel the same.

Nicolette Nguyen says, "I appreciate you for being a good math teacher. You know how to teach others, and you are a nice teacher with a kind heart. Also you're my favorite teacher."

Lily Reed says, "Even though I have only had you as a teacher for this year, I realized quickly that you are an amazing teacher and you are always very positive towards your students even if

they can be a little bit crazy. You've taught me a lot, and I hope that you achieve a lot of success in your next job."

Gracie Green says, "I have been a student of yours for most years in math and every time you have allowed me to succeed while also allowing me to have fun while learning. You always have great and funny ways to remember math. Some of my best school memories have been in your class. I can always tell that you want everyone to succeed and try your hardest to make that happen. I hope that you enjoy your new job and know that everyone is now wanting you to succeed."

"Although I only had you for math this year, I really enjoyed being in your class. You were a very helpful teacher and you made algebra understandable for me. I also appreciate how patient you were with our crazy class. Thank you for all you've done for our school and I wish you nothing but the best at your new job."

And finally Haley Pagnotta states, "Having you as a teacher in 6th grade as well as this year, I've had the opportunity to appreciate how good of a teacher you are. The math in Algebra 1 can be really confusing at times but you always explain it so well. Thank you for all that you have done for students and the school, and I hope that you find joy and success in your new job."

It's very clear that Mr. Rush has been an amazing teacher to many students and will be greatly missed by all at Logan Middle School. We hope that you find great success in your new job.

A Change to Logan's Drop-Off Rules

By Jewell Logan, Logan Post Staff Writer

Many school rules and practices have changed since the pandemic, especially the drop off/pick up rules for the students. However, school administrators have decided to reinforce the old rules for drop off the school had before the pandemic, along with some new changes which all went into effect in January. One rule that the school is newly enforcing is about students arriving late.

All of the entrance doors will close at 8:35am, and if you are late you must go to the main entrance and will be issued a tardy pass. The adult who dropped you off will also have to enter the building to explain your tardiness. This rule does not apply to bus riders because if the buses are late that is not the student's fault.

Another reinforced rule is where students can be picked up/dropped off; there are only certain places where that is allowed. These areas are the South entrance, Gym entrance, and the C wing entrance. Doors A and B will not be open in the morning and students will not be able to enter through those doors.

Parking is another rule experiencing some changes. Parents are not allowed to park in the parking lot next to Amazing Place because that parking lot is for staff only. Also, parking and then walking your child to the south entrance is not recommended. Parents must park in the District Office back parking lot or in the South Entrance lot. This rule is meant to prevent traffic in the drop off lane and to improve safety.

One anonymous student stated, "I don't think that the rule is fair. I mean, sometimes people are just late, and there isn't a good reason for it. And sometimes the reason could be something that parents or students don't want to share with the school." While what this student said is valid, this should be a rare situation since students shouldn't be late often. This change will also help to lessen the amount of tardy students because, when the rules weren't enforced, students didn't care much about being late and thought that it wasn't a big deal. That should change now.



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Our New *Dean of Students*, Mrs. Damminger

By Cracie Green, Logan Post Chief Editor

Change happens everywhere and it happens all the time. This year one of the many changes in our school was the addition of a position called the Dean of Students. Mrs Damminger was hired for this new role after previously working as a reading interventionist. I interviewed Mrs. Damminger about what she sees coming in the future for LEMS and how she wants to address some issues of the past.

“I feel it is more important than ever that students see me celebrating their positive behaviors and not just as the disciplinarian.” -Mrs. Damminger



When she said this it sparked the question of how she shows this change from not just a figure of authority but a figure who is there to guide students to better behavioral standards. She says that she “makes decisions [regarding discipline] for students that I feel best supports them,” and explained that this can vary from student to student depending on the situation, possibly including consequences. This brings up the question: will this decision still feel authoritative to the student? As a student I know that the Dean of Students is someone in a position of authority and feel that most students see her that way. She said that she tries to tell the student body that when a student is in trouble, the person or student isn’t the problem, it is the behavior.

On the topic of specific negative behaviors that she is working to address, she expressed that Bluetooth devices have been a problem. She explained that there have been many problems around devices like losses of devices, students being shamed for the kind of device they use, that they cannot be used for state testing, and that students are using them during times when they are not supposed to.

While the decision wouldn't be up to Mrs. Damminger, she did say that it is possible that in future school years school administration may decide to ban Bluetooth devices entirely.

I asked her if this change will cause the school to now be able to purchase the wired headphones for the students affected by this ban. She said the school would not be able to supply the headphones so the wired headphones would be something added to the beginning of the year supply list, but Mrs. Damminger added that, “wired headphone costs are much lower than Bluetooth devices.” If this ban were to happen, the devices would have similar rules and procedures as the cell phone policy. This could be difficult to manage as students will still be wanting to use these devices similarly to how they want to use cell phones. The administration will have to put some significant thought into this potential change and its impacts.



I also spoke with Mrs. Damminger about the PRIDE values and rewards. There have been little changes to the PRIDE values but one of the major reward changes is the LMS Pride ticket shop. This is a place where students who received Pride tickets can turn them in to then receive a prize. For this school year Mrs. Damminger has incorporated a wheel spinning aspect. I see this as a great opportunity to use your PRIDE tickets in a new and fun way, but I didn’t know how this might work for upper middle school students.

I asked if there was any data that could show that this system reflected positive change on upper middle school students. She said that last year she had seen over 400 “purchases” from the Pride store, of which 181 of them were 7th/8th grade students. For this year, at the time I spoke to her, there had been 158 PRIDE shop interactions which included 63 spins of the new wheel. The majority of this number was lower middle school students (5th/6th), but 30% of this number was upper middle school students (7th/8th). She concluded by saying that she tries to incorporate many different activities that appeal to many students of varying ages.

The PRIDE shop has brought positive effects to students and has built on the efforts to incorporate student input, a trend that will hopefully continue.

From handling troubles with Bluetooth headphones to the PRIDE ticket shop, Mrs. Damminger has the challenge of trying to walk the line between being a disciplinarian who handles punishment and a guide who celebrates positive behaviors to encourage students.

LMS Calendar: February-March

By Lily Reed, Logan Post Staff Writer

A number of exciting events are approaching in February and March. We have a 4 day weekend coming up on the 16th through the 19th for President’s Day weekend. If you haven’t heard yet, there is going to be a Lip Sync Contest happening for teachers and parents to compete. For everyone participating in this, the rehearsal is on February 27th from 4pm-9pm and the Contest is on the 29th from 4pm to 9pm, and if your going be ready for either amazing lip sync singing, or dreadful tunes!

In March, we have the annual March Madness basketball tournament in our gym with both staff and students going against each other on the 14th of March. Following, there is a School Snack Bingo on the 22nd from 5pm to 8pm. What I think we are all looking forward to in March, flowing into April, is our spring break which is now a week from March 27th all the way through April 2nd. That’s all for February and March for our school events!

Feb. 12-16: Random Acts of Kindness Week

Feb. 14: 5th Grade Jump Rope for Heart & Class Party

Feb. 16-19: President’s Day Weekend (No School)

Feb. 22: African-American Read-In

Feb. 27: Home & School Lip Sync Rehearsal 4pm-9pm

Feb. 29: Marking Period 3 Progress Reports

Feb. 29: Home & School Lip Sync Contest 4pm-9pm

Mar. 14: March Madness Tournament 6:30pm-8:30pm

Mar. 22: Home & School Snack Bingo 5pm-8pm

Mar. 27-Apr. 2: Spring Break (No School)

A Look Inside:

The Logan Pride Alliance

By Norah Suit, Logan Post Layout & Design / Staff Writer

The Logan Pride Alliance is a safe space for everyone and everyone. Mrs. Reilly and Miss. Kortonick strive to make everyone feel safe to be who they are. Even if you don’t identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community, the purpose is to have a safe space for people to be themselves.

“We hope to provide a safe place for all students, especially students who are allies and identify as LGBTQ+. We also try to normalize LGBTQ+ terms and spread awareness around the school,” said Mrs Reilly. She and Miss Kortonick share this common hope for the Pride Alliance.

In the words of Mrs. Reilly, “A club like this makes the school community more inclusive and equitable.” This club is for anyone who needs or wants a safe space to not feel judged for how they identify themselves. Even if you don’t identify as LGBTQ+ you can still have a non judgemental place to relax after school with both familiar and new friends.



Mrs. Reilly began our school's Pride Alliance a number of years ago because she saw that many students had written in “journals” and narratives that they had wanted to express themselves and their desire to learn about the LGBTQ+ community and the issues that they face; however, it is difficult to express these interests when these students don’t have an adult or peer that they feel safe to turn to.

This is what caused Mrs. Reilly to feel the need for an Alliance where students can feel safe to fully express themselves.

She first went to students she believed to be interested and afterwards got their parents on board too. After she had her lists of fully interested students and parents, she took this list to our board of education, our principal, and superintendent, who ultimately approved the creation of the Pride Alliance.

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A Look Inside: The Pride Alliance

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During the roughly 55 minutes of club, members share the “sweets and sour” of their week. This gives students a chance to get anything that is or has been bothersome off their chests to feel at least somewhat better. Or if there’s something that you can’t wait to tell someone, you can get it out! Either way, getting your part of the world out there makes yourself feel a little more connected to the rest of it.

Then Miss Kortonick or Mrs Reilly will give the group a little news of the LGBTQ+ world. For example, a discussion of the upcoming Summer Olympics of 2024 and how they are adjusting rules for LGBTQ+ athletes. In addition, discussions about people throughout history who sought to express themselves and to change their world or the world for future generations of the LGBTQ+ community. Being part of this club doesn’t only connect members to like-minded peers, but also connects them to the outside world and to history, providing a better understanding by learning how to look at the world through another person's perspective.

After the weekly tid-bit, meetings then continue by either further discussion of the topic, just hanging out, or catching up on homework, as well as small parties to celebrate holidays or special events.

One student member of the Pride Alliance felt comfortable to share their reasons for joining our Pride Alliance, “I chose to be a part of the Pride Alliance because I wanted a safe place to be myself and it definitely meets that need because you’re able to be yourself without any judgment and it isn’t just for LGBTQIA+ members it can be for anyone.”

They also shared that they joined our Alliance with the hope to make new friends and learn more about the LGBTQIA+ community and issues. They too believe that it is necessary to have an alliance in our school, “I think it is necessary for our school to have this club because it is important to have somewhere that supports the LGBTQIA+ community and is a safe place for students to express themselves.”

In our world there is “taboo” around LGBTQ+ that unfortunately still exists in our society and can make students second guess or overlook themselves, believing that the Alliance isn’t for them, unless they identify as members of the LGBTQ+. That is not the case for our school’s Alliance.

I asked a student member of the Pride Alliance why membership numbers can sometimes be low:

“I think that we don’t have many members because people aren’t ready to put themselves out there, and that’s completely fine. I also think that people don’t join because they think it’s weird to just talk about LGBTQIA+ but that’s not all we do. We love to decorate the room, do crafts, and just talk about funny life stories and difficult struggles in our home lives.”

They continued by expressing that even if there is something you don’t feel comfortable talking about with your parents or peers, you should know you have someone in your corner who is just here to listen. “The pride alliance is a safe place, not somewhere where you will feel uncomfortable.” As the Pride Alliance slogan goes: be an ally, *ALL* are welcome.

How does Italian 1 Class Work?

By Haley Pagnotta, Logan Post Copy Editor/Staff Writer

Italian 1 is an advanced language course that students have the opportunity to participate in as 8th graders. The class is held everyday throughout the whole year. First, in the mornings during period 0 (7:45-8:30) and during the block for 8th grade specials (11:55-12:35) as an alternative to music, art, and STEM. There is one marking period designated for Civics where 8th grade students in Italian 1 won’t take Italian.



You may ask, “How do you get into Italian 1?” Well, closer to the end of the school year, a Google Form goes out to the parents of 7th graders. Students that would like to participate in Italian 1 sign up on the google form and you must have good grades and behavior to be able to take the class.

I asked the Italian 1 teacher, Mrs. Neary, to explain the difference between the rotation Italian class and Italian 1. She explained that the rotation class is what all students in 6th and 7th grade take everyday for one marking period. It is a 45 day cycle. Mrs. Neary told me, “A rotation class is based on a theme in which students learn vocabulary and prefabricated phrases based on that certain theme.” Each grade learns something different. 6th grade focuses on a variety of things such as greetings, expressions and feelings, numbers, animals, days, months of the year, favorite food, and colors. Students use the information they learn to present an “All About Me” presentation at the end of the marking period. 7th graders learn about the Italian food culture and their thematic activity is to present a restaurant skit.



However, Italian 1 is a 9th grade level class open for 8th grade students to take and it’s all year long. The class follows the Kingsway curriculum. “It’s a snapshot into an actual world language class,” says Mrs. Neary. Italian 1 students do not receive high school credit for this class, but they are given the chance to be placed in more advanced Italian classes at Kingsway such as Italian 2.

The material students learn follows the book program “Piazza” and there are four chapters. In the first chapter, students learn about vocabulary and grammar. In all the four chapters students in the Italian 1 class practice reading, writing, listening, and speaking in Italian. It is a requirement that all students present at least three skits and are a part of the music video the class makes in Italian.

Mrs. Neary told me that she loves teaching Italian 1, as it is important to her to teach students about her culture and her ancestors’ language. “I love to hear students speak in Italian and work so hard to learn the Italian grammar. It is amazing to see how much language students acquire in a year. Most of all, I love getting to know my students and engaging them in fun activities such as games, singing songs, and teaching about Italian culture.”

I interviewed three students from the Italian 1 class who all agreed that Mrs. Neary makes the class a fun and enjoyable experience all year long. One student told me, “Mrs. Neary always aims to make class a great time for students.” As a student in Italian 1 myself, I can also say that Mrs. Neary strives to create a fun and productive environment in her classroom. So far in class we have sung Christmas songs in Italian to 1st grade classes, had parties each month to celebrate the birthdays in the class, and we are about to do a music video. Besides these bigger activities, Mrs. Neary works in small fun things each day to elevate the experience of the class such as playing games, doing Blookets, and telling us stories.

Not only is the Italian 1 class fun to be a part of, it comes with a lot of benefits. Being bilingual, or knowing and speaking more than one language, can give someone many advantages when looking for a job or just in life. Learning another language can heighten someone’s study of English and also help with their other subjects. It is also easier for multi-language speakers to travel as well as better understand the languages and culture of others. Each of the three Italian 1 students that I talked with said that they are planning on continuing to take a second language class in high school, so they will be gaining those benefits. I asked one student, “What benefit do you think you are gaining by participating in Italian 1?” The student responded by saying, “Getting ahead of the typical 8th grade level by taking a high school class to advance next year into a higher language class.” I asked one of the students how the Italian class has benefitted them academically and socially.

They told me that the class has brought their grades up, given them something to focus on, and shown how important language classes are, as well as allowed them to connect with peers they wouldn't normally see.

Italian 1 is a very fun class and I’m thankful I decided to take it. I feel as if I have already learned so much about Italy and Italian culture. I love being able to speak even the smallest bit of the language that I can. Italian is honestly one of my favorite parts of the day and I love being in Mrs. Neary’s class. If you are interested in taking Italian, especially in high school, Italian 1 is a great opportunity to get ahead of most students your age and begin learning early.

Overall, the Italian 1 class is a great academic opportunity as an 8th grade student. The class is very lively and educational and can provide students with many benefits academically and socially.

Are You Ready For a Lip Sync Battle?

By Norah Suit, Logan Post Layout/Design & Staff Writer

The Home and School League is excited to announce that they are hosting their 1st Annual Lip Sync Battle which will take place on February 29, 2024, from 6:30 pm-8 pm.

Mrs. Ketterer from the Home & School League is running the lip sync battle this year and happily shared why she chose to have this event, “This is my last year as a H&S League board member. Every year we, as a board, try to come up with new ways of raising funds for our students’ activities. I really wanted to come up with a fundraising idea that could raise a large amount of money, provide an event for our students, families, and staff to enjoy as well as become a fun annual event that everyone looks forward to! The idea came to me one day while I was singing in my car while out running errands. I have a terrible singing voice but thought how fun would it be to do a lip sync battle that would be between competing grownups where students would make monetary donations so that their performer could raise the most money and win!”



The original advertisement for the event called for students to nominate a willing grown-up who they think will be the champion of this battle! It could be a coach, teacher, parent, 1st responder, etc, within the school and community to participate in this competition! The winner will have a trophy to take home, along with an additional trophy accompanied by a picture of the winner that will be displayed in a South Entrance lobby showcase!

The event is free admission, but a full house is expected, so get in soon! The battle will take place in the cafeteria with concessions available for purchase and will be a lights-out event with light-up goodies for sale.

Some of the participants include teachers Mr. Conklin, Mrs. Stampa, Ms. Rizzi, Mr. Silva, and parents Mrs. Walker, Mr. Farquharson, and Mrs. Bock.

An optional dress rehearsal for these participants will be on Tuesday 2/27/24. While who is performing what songs is somewhat of a mystery, The Logan Post has uncovered that some of the chosen songs are; “Happy” by Pharrell Williams, “How Will I Know” by Whitney Houston, and “Girls Just Want To Have Fun” by Cyndi Lauper. Music must fit FM radio criteria.

There are still three places remaining for participants, so if any other adults think they have what it takes to take home that trophy, hurry and sign up.

So be there on February 29th in the LEMS cafeteria to cheer on the teachers and parents to see who wins the trophy! (Or who can’t sync!)



Community News



Holiday Traditions Around Our School

By Lily Reed, Logan Post Staff Writer

As the holiday season has passed we look back on the different ways people celebrate holidays to bring joy, wistfulness, and a warm feeling in their hearts.

In the spirit of these holidays past we decided to ask a couple of our students and our principal, Mr. Turner, a series of questions about their own holiday traditions. About her favorite holiday foods, 8th grader Caroline Illi explained, “Well, I’m usually with my dad’s side of the family for Christmas and it’s right around the time of one of my cousins birthdays so my aunt and my cousin make him a strawberry shortcake from scratch. We also have ham, mashed potatoes, and a casserole on Christmas Eve.”

When asked about her favorite holiday she said, “My favorite memory was when on Christmas day after opening my presents, my family got a call from our uncle to come over to go eat some of the leftovers that they had for Christmas Eve. When we got there, there was a huge smile on my face realizing that they had even more presents for me and my siblings. I think that we might have even stayed there for the whole day because we began watching movies, eating more food, and playing all around the house. That was probably one of the best days of my life to be honest!”

8th grader Braelyne Pfeiffer told us about her favorite foods to eat for the holidays, “My mom and my sister are more of the cooks of the family, so on Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve they are usually the ones that are whipping up everything in the kitchen. They make mashed potatoes, salmon, ham, and sometimes mushroom soup.

Then when they are done making dinner, sometimes I make some [homemade] cookies for everyone.”

Her favorite holiday memory was, “When I was 8 years old, I went to my grandmother’s house for Christmas Eve going into Christmas Day. We ate so much food during our dinner because it was all so delicious. After that me and my sister tried to go to bed, but we were so excited that we couldn’t. After a little bit of talking with my sister we fell asleep and the next morning we probably woke up at 7:00 in the morning. We rushed to where my parents were and dragged them to the living room to start opening presents. It was definitely one of my favorite times ever.”

“I don’t really go anywhere for Christmas or the New Years, but for Thanksgiving, I go to Florida with my family and this year I got to bring a friend...I go to the beach a lot and try to spend the

most time in the sun because it is the middle of fall and I need the most warmth I can,” was Braelyne’s response when asked about her travels over the holidays.

About his holiday food traditions, Mr. Turner told us, “Every Christmas, I indulge in warm, freshly baked, soft chocolate chip cookies – to me, they are an essential part of the holiday season. Another tradition I savor is eating black-eyed peas on New Year’s Day. While there’s a Southern tradition linking them to good luck and monetary gain, I personally enjoy them with rice. Lastly, I make it a point to have joumou soup every New Year’s Day. This tradition was introduced to me by one of my best friends, who is Haitian, and we share a bowl each year as part of our annual celebration.” Joumou soup is a salty soup that has squash, pumpkin, meat, and some vegetables.

When we asked Mr. Turner about his favorite memory his response was, “When I visited South Africa on New Year’s Day 2001. It was amazing because, for the first time, I got to experience New Year’s in a new timezone on a new continent that was seven hours ahead of New Jersey. That was an incredible experience.” Finally he shared his travel traditions, “I usually go to the malls, visit family, and host a Christmas Eve fellowship at my house for my family. I always attend a watchnight service on New Year’s Eve leading into New Year’s Day.”

All of these traditions shows everyone’s colorful palate for celebrating the holidays with friends and families by cooking, hanging with others, and exploring new places, but they all make us feel delighted in their own way.



Logan Township Basketball Season Underway

By Reagan Kanauss, Logan Post Staff Writer

The Logan Basketball Association is a group that gives kids in grades 1-8 a chance to play basketball. Their teams go against other schools in the county to give kids an opportunity to have some competitive fun. The basketball season has begun and games are underway, with an eventful start to the season.

Overall, the Logan teams have been playing hard, putting up great fights against their opponents. The boys’ teams have been doing well, with numerous wins against their competitors. The senior boys teams have had impressing winning streaks including against Gloucester, West Deptford, and Pitman. One of the senior boys teams won an impressive game against Gloucester 64 - 56 as well as the prior game against Gloucester 50 - 27. The Junior 6th grade boys followed up with a 33- 31 win in their game! We hope to see great results like these from the boys in the remaining season.

The girls' teams have also been showing amazing effort and skill against their competition. In a recent game the senior girls won 43 - 22, keeping their lead by over 20 points for the entire game!

They also won a game earlier against Gibbstown by over 15 points. Plus, these girls destroyed Franklin Twp 47 - 17! Furthermore, the Junior girls basketball team won against teams like Pitman and Deptford. Their competition is tough, though Logan does not show remorse. These girls have done an excellent job so far and it shows all in their game. So as these teams continue to face harder competition, make sure to cheer your town on!

How Studying Really Can Make a Difference

By Nicolette Nguyen, Logan Post Staff Writer

Before I *actually* learned how to study, I never thought too much about it. For lack of a better term, I was a fool who failed because I never tried. I was fine having B's in a strict private school since it was acceptable, but I quickly grasped the fact that “average” grades could lead me to fall behind my peers. I realized that when everyone is trying so much more than you and getting more ahead, average wouldn’t make the cut.

The thing I struggled most with was procrastinating and not reviewing all the information until the night before a test, and I’ll admit, I still procrastinate from time to time only working and being productive when stress and adrenaline hit me. I tried using popular study methods like flashcards, highlighting, memorization, and rereading things over and over, but they didn’t really work for me. With my grades barely passing that I needed to change my studying.

I had really good grades in elementary school and I thought back on what I did to have that success.

What I realized was that what had worked for me was quizzing and questioning myself; however, as I looked further into my old methods I realized I didn’t truly *learn* the material, but instead simply memorized the answers. This explained why my performance declined.

When it comes to study methods, it doesn’t matter which methods you use, as long as they work for you. One place to start can be to find what doesn’t work for you to avoid failing with those strategies. One of the worst things you can do is only study the night before as you’re cramming in information and just memorizing the answers instead of studying and learning the material. While this is good for short term success, in highschool or college it’s much more important to actually learn the topics instead of studying at the last minute to memorize the answers. So it doesn’t matter if it’s flashcards, songs, or highlighting - if you’re trying to do it all the night before a test, it won’t help in the long run.

A good strategy for studying is to manage your time correctly, as spacing out how long you study can be important for retaining the material. It’s also necessary to create a space without distractions when you study as you want to keep all your concentration on the topic. This is something that I struggle with a lot since I get distracted and zone out easily. In my experience, when I can find something interesting about the topic it helps me focus, so try and look for ways to make your study sessions interesting and fun.

You can do that by gamifying the learning experience, playing some upbeat music (be careful that it won’t distract you), and even using stationary and supplies to make writing down or typing notes nicer.

I’ve found that if I eat a certain food while studying, and then eat that same food during the test, I can remember more because I’ve associated the food with the topic. If you aren’t allowed to eat in your class, use a different flavor of gum than usual to study, then chew the same flavor during the test.

A recent study by the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences found that color can improve a person’s memory performance. That same study found that warm colors like red and yellow, “can create a learning environment that is positive and motivating that can help learners not only to have a positive and motivating that can help learners not only to have a positive perception toward that content but also to engage and interact more with the learning materials.” So, even if your notes aren’t the most aesthetically pleasing to look at, if you color code it with highlighting it might help you to retain the information.

Recently I found another study method that I think works super well and now use all the time, it’s called “blurting.”

The simplest way I can describe blurting is to grab a piece of paper and write down everything you know about the thing you’re studying, then grab your previous notes or study materials and with a different colored pen/pencil write down everything you missed or don’t know well. Repeat this process until you’ve learned everything and have nothing new to write.

When you blurt, not only are you memorizing, but also you learn the material as you go training your brain to keep it as long-term information.

You might have found some of the study methods that’ve been used or recommended by me or others might not work for you, and that’s completely fine. As humans, we all are different and unique and what might work for you wouldn’t for someone else. It’s important to build good study habits and to find an effective way for you to learn new things, so find out new study methods and keep up good grades. It’s tempting to not do any work at all, but it’s the satisfaction of receiving a good grade, or the feeling that you put in effort to receive your grade is what counts.

Mrs. Stampa’s Magical Journey To Logan

By Mrs. Stampa, Guest Teacher Writer

My father was a teacher. A really great teacher. I learned rules and discipline along with literature and histories at home, politics at the table and Philadelphia sports anytime. I grew up in his image and became a teacher in the same city, even the same school. Mr. Sussman (my father) was dean of discipline and I was a middle school english teacher in the class below his office. I learned my craft from his colleagues and mentors. I loved every minute. Growing into my own, I moved to several schools, always teaching sixth grade- twelfth grade, always staying in the Philadelphia school district. I married and found our family doubling; our two bedrooms no longer would work. Moving to New Jersey, Clarksboro, we found our home. The people, the community and the schools are why we moved our family here. I spent a year teaching high school in Willingboro, but the drive was long and took me away from my family, so I applied to LTMS.

Behold, the room with couches was vacant and I moved my star wars book collection, aroma therapy, plants and plushies in. My classrooms have always been a place of laughter, song, story-telling, learning and discovery. I rely on my love of what I teach and the fact I just truly love being in a classroom to guide my days.

I'm happiest sitting by the smartboard with my pointer humming as I watch my students master a new standard skill. I enjoy the stories you tell me and the pictures you leave on my desk while you think I am not watching.

Review: The First Episode of the Skull Island Series

By Nicolette Nguyen, Logan Post Staff Writer

The show Skull Island was released on June 22, 2023. The show adds on to the Monsterverse franchise, featuring the popular King Kong and Godzilla movies. The Skull Island show is the first TV series in this franchise, and is a sequel to Kong: Skull Island (2017). The show features Nicholas Cantu as Charlie, Darren Barnet as Mike, and Mae Whitman as Annie as the main protagonists.



When I first watched the show, the first episode was not only action packed, but made me want to watch more of it showing lots of engagement to the audience. The show currently as I’m writing has 8 episodes, but it already is making me want to search for more content on this show. It has amazing diversity, and rather than focusing on King Kong, it much more revolves around the “Skull Island” and the environment. One of the more emotional scenes in the early parts of the series is when the two main characters, Charlie and Mike spend time together bonding and talking about their dads in a moment where they’re the only ones who can rely on each other.

The emotional depth of a show that revolves around monsters is surprising and impressive. From what I’ve seen, the show might now get a season two, but there’s always hope it could get another season.

There is a bit of mild language and violence, but the violence is non graphic and it does tug your heartstrings in my opinion. Overall, I would say it’s a very good show and I’d love to see more from the cast and crew of “Skull Island.”



Video Game Statistics

By Maia Myers, Logan Post Staff Writer

Some people play games, but don't realize what other people think of that game or how truly popular the game is (or isn't). Minecraft, Roblox, and Fortnite are three of the most popular games for kids and teens.

Some people say Roblox is fun, others say it's bad and not age appropriate. While 29% of the people who play are between the ages of 9 and 12, the rating for the game is for ages 13+. 51% of Roblox players are male, 44% are female, and 5% are unknown. Roblox has been downloaded 383 million times and Roblox's net worth is currently estimated at \$19.4 billion while and players' spending on Roblox Mobile surpasses \$1.5 billion. More than 20 million people play Roblox daily, and nearly 30% of daily Roblox users are based in the US and Canada. Roblox developers earned over \$328 million in 2020.

Many people say the same things about Fortnite as they do Roblox, with lots of mixed feelings. Over 60% of Fortnite's player base is between the ages of 18-24, and the age rating for it is 13+. Men are 72.4% of the game's users while only 27.6% are women. Fortnite has been in existence since 2011 and was originally inspired by a book called "Battle Royale". Epic Games, the people who created Fortnite, take cheating in Fortnite very seriously, and could even sue players for doing so.

Minecraft is a game that has a massive following with only a small percentage of gamers who think it's not good. The age range is 10+. The most common age of people who play it are 10, 15, and 21 years old. Minecraft has even been used as a teaching tool at schools and Minecraft was almost called Cave Game until the creator switched it. The first version of Minecraft was originally created in just six days and was first released in 2011.

While there may never be a game that everyone likes completely, the numbers show that these three games are extremely popular and have interesting backstories.



Random Facts That Will Blow Your Mind!

By Reagan Kanauss, Logan Post Staff Writer

1. Your blood is as salty as the ocean.
2. There are 2,000 thunderstorms on Earth every minute!
3. A koala's fingerprints are so similar to humans that they could match in a crime scene.
4. Did you know? Human teeth are as strong as shark teeth!
5. You can't breathe and swallow at the same time.
6. One of the loudest animals in the world is the Pistol Shrimp, they can produce snapping sounds that reach up to 200dB (louder than a gunshot!).
7. A cloud weighs about 1.1 million pounds!
8. Identical twins don't have the same fingerprints.
9. Your brain is continuously eating itself. Yes, you read that right! Your new developed cells are constantly consuming smaller cells in your brain.
10. Animals could experience time differently from humans. To smaller animals, like lizards and salamanders, the world around them moves at a slower pace than humans.
11. All of our world's bacteria stacked on top of each other would stretch for 10 billion light years (gross!).
12. The world's oldest dog lived to be 31 years old!
13. There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
14. Tomato ketchup was used as a medicine for 16 years.
15. "Digging a hole to China" is actually possible if you start in Argentina (don't get any ideas)!

Celebrity Trivia

By Jewell Logan, Logan Post Staff Writer

Q1. Ariana Grande got her start on what kids T.V show?

Q2. Taylor Swift made her acting debut in which movie?

Q3. What are the names of Kim Kardashian and Kanye West's kids?

Q4. Drake had his start on which teen drama?

Q5. Which music artist has the most Grammy nominations?

Q6. What is the most watched Youtube video of all time?



- A1. Victorious
- A2. Valentine's Day
- A3. North West, Saint, Chicago, Psalm
- A4. Deglassi : The Next Generation
- A5. Beyonce
- A6. Baby Shark Dance

The Meme Corner

Professor: What inspired you to write this essay?
Me: "The due date"



Me: *puts on hand sanitizer*

A cut I never knew existed:



Requests

Do you have:

- An idea for an article that you would like written for the next issue of The Logan Post?
- A topic that you'd like covered or investigated by our team?
- A tip or useful information about an upcoming event or story?
- A piece of writing that you'd like to submit to be published as a guest writer for the paper?

Email Mr. Conklin with your idea or information and it may just be in the next paper. (No names will be used unless permission is granted)