



The Logan Post

8th Issue - December 2024

Winter Break Activities

By Riley Praul, Logan Post Staff Writer

It's getting close to winter, everyone. The cold frosty air, the white cloths of snow, laying on the ground creating snow-angels, and the sounds of laughter and joy filling all of our hearts. During these festive times we often have things planned, but in rare instances, you may have no idea how to spend the free time before the big day. I'm talking about Christmas, of course, or if you celebrate something else: Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or even Diwali!

There are plenty of things to do during the holidays: baking, watching holiday movies or, to get creative, even inventing your own traditions.

There are many things to bake and cook during the holidays and this can be a great way to spend your free time. You just need a little bit of Christmas spirit! Some traditional dishes include: gingerbread, cookies, ham, turkey, and stuffing. There's just so much to explore and taste with endless recipes out there to try.

There is one thing that tops all others when it comes to gifts: the greatest gift of all you get from Christmas is simply, family. If you have some extra energy, or in a lot of cases, gas, go out and spend time with your relatives. Or just simply put on your favorite pajamas and snuggle up while watching movies. There are so many big hits on. How the Grinch Stole Christmas, written and directed by Ron Howard. Polar Express, directed by Robert Zemeckis. And last, but not least, Elf! Written and directed by David Berenbaum. The key thing is to make sure to use this free time to spread compassion and kindness with your loved ones this holiday.

Traditions mean everything to people, and a lot of the time, they never want that tradition to end. Eva Soroka, an 8th grader at Logan Township Middle School, said that she and her family drive over to their Grandmother's house and make dinner and open presents. What a tear jerker. Kalynn Rhodes, another 8th grader who attends Logan Township Middle School, bakes cookies and plays Christmas games with her family. The memories that they are creating will be remembered forever.

There's so many things to do outside as well. Building a snowman, ice skating, and sledding are three of the many activities that involve nothing but happiness.

If you're interested in going out for activities, through December 22nd Creamy Acres will be hosting Night of Lights Hayrides where you can walk through their shop, drink hot chocolate, eat yummy treats, and see the beautiful lights all night long.

There are so many elements that go into making your holiday season fun, but the biggest factor is kindness. It's terrible when you see someone not having a good time during the holiday season, or a friend who has no one to spend Christmas with, so get out and share the love: whether that be out of school or in school. Our PRIDE values I, R, and P all are centered around being safe and kind. If you see someone who seems lonely, go up to them and ask them how they are doing. If a student or adult says excuse me, kindly move out of the way. And lastly, if you see ice on the ground, don't slip! The overall message, be kind and safe during the holiday season, but also have fun!

Logan Holiday Celebration Day

By Ethan Brink, Logan Post Staff Writer

For 15 years, LMS has had a tradition of having a winter celebration right before the winter break. It will occur this year on Friday, December 20, the day before break starts. The purpose of the event is to celebrate the holiday season and to build community and spirit prior to the extended winter break. The celebration will be organized by grade level. Each grade level will stay together throughout the event and will rotate between three main events for this year's celebration. The events will begin at 11:15 and classes will spend about 20 minutes at each event.

One of the events will involve students going outside for a walk with a holiday music backdrop and candy canes to eat! Meanwhile, in the Gym there will be a holiday version of Minute to Win It, a game show where participants have 60 seconds to complete a task involving common household objects such as a spoon. The third event is a holiday sing-along in the LGI featuring the teacher band.



The band includes Mr. Illi, Mr. Conklin, Mr. Joe Simonds and possibly appearances from Mrs. Montalvo and Mr. Blatt. In addition, this year there are three students scheduled to join the band for the performance: Elena Wright on drums, Kaylee Byorick singing, and Sebastian Snyder on keys. The group will play a selection of holiday songs, will jump around and laugh on stage, and will ask the student-body to sing along. The teacher band was not able to perform last year, so this will be an exciting return to the stage.

The winter celebration is a CRPBIS (Culturally Responsive Positive Behaviors Interventions and Supports) event. It is planned by a teacher committee including Mr. Floyd, Mrs. McCourt, Mrs. Reilly, and Mrs. Brook. The committee hopes the students will enjoy the event, and I'm sure we will!

In conclusion, the winter celebration will occur on Friday, December 20, and there will be three main events.



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The Logan Post is a part of Logan's LEAP program.

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Mrs. Damminger in Her New Role

By Devin Hall, Logan Post Copy Editor

Mrs. Damminger has made her switch from Dean of Students last year to Building Administrator of the middle school this year. She was set to become the supervisor for grades 2-4 in the elementary school this year after a year as the Dean of Students and many years prior as a teacher in the ELA department. However, when a position to manage the middle school became available, Mrs. Damminger stepped forward. She has much experience, especially in LMS, and felt she would be an excellent fit for the job.

Mrs. Damminger says she would have never imagined herself in this position, but now with her past experiences, she realized she could be perfect for the job and could give so much to our school's community. This realization inspired her to complete her principal certification, which will be finished by the end of this school year. She enjoys all of the things that come from the job including the challenges and new opportunities.



The hardest part of being building supervisor for Mrs. Damminger has been the unpredictability of it. Everyday brings her a new challenge she can't prepare for. She uses quick and logical thinking to make good decisions that will benefit the students, teachers, and the school in general.

The choices she makes have a significant impact on many people, and so she must make every effort to make the best ones. With all her experience, she has learned how to make good decisions when faced with difficult questions.

Since Logan is already a very positive environment, there isn't much need for dramatic changes. Even knowing this, Mrs. Damminger makes sure to address things that could use improvement and finds solutions that are for the better. She says having a positive school climate is essential to students' growth and success. Something Mrs. Damminger created this year is the Energy Zone in the SBC, which allows students to get out their extra energy in a fun and safe way. In addition, she has implemented a new rule this year restricting bluetooth devices for students, including airpods. She believes this change will help students focus better. Another great improvement is the new honor roll celebration. Students who received either first or second honors will get a cookie, and first honor students will have a movie day as well. This replaces the ice cream celebration of the past. In addition, in the PRIDE ticket shop lucky winners can receive a \$10 amazon gift card. To add on, a few 8th graders were selected to join the student voice. They discuss ways to improve our school to advise Mrs. Damminger and other school administrators about the needs and desires of students. We've even had people participate in dressing up as Lenny the Lion, which is another innovation by Mrs. Damminger.

One Logan teacher shared their perspective of this change, expressing that, "there will always be challenges and adjustments with new changes and roles, but Mrs. Damminger has brought a level of organization, enthusiasm, and sheer effort which I believe has been very positive for both and students and teachers."

Mrs. Damminger has clearly taken on her new role as building administrator with energy and fresh ideas to do what's best for our school community and is still thinking of great ideas to improve our school.

Student Chromebook Repairs

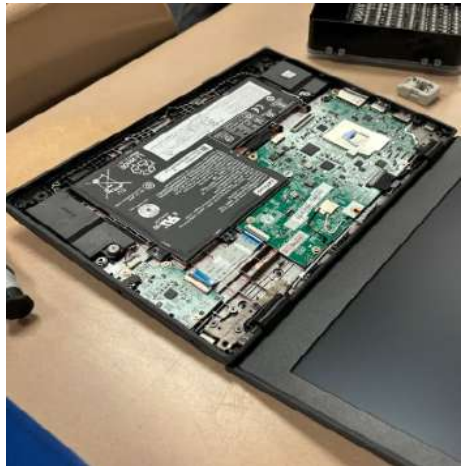
By Riley Praul, Logan Post Staff Writer



Computers, chromebooks, laptops, they all serve a similar purpose. We use them for their efficiency, reliability, and overall attractive demeanor. These three things make them a popular choice among adults and students in the modern age of schoolwork. Much like other pieces of technology and even non-technological objects, chromebooks are not immune to the most common of issues: whether that be malfunctions in the software and screen, battery drainage, or even broken keys. These problems can be relatively simple to fix, but not when they are frequent.

With the rise in damaged computers, Logan Middle School's IT department has been working around the clock to provide extra working computers for students while they fix the old ones. With not enough time and just too many broken screens lying around, the IT department has been having trouble with keeping students up-to-date with new chromebooks. The result is a "graveyard" of over 50 chromebooks in need of repair that often piles up faster than it can be addressed.

However, a new program and plan has emerged to help the situation. A new LEAP program under Mr. Conklin, titled "Building & Technology", has organized a unique group of intelligent students who are working behind the scenes to fix the chromebook issue at hand. A group of students who have shown that they are worthy and mature enough to handle thought-provoking challenges, and the responsibility of working to repair the chromebooks that are so key to our school's daily operation.

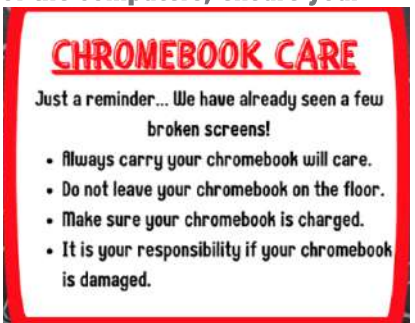


Over the last couple months, this group has worked hard to learn from Mr. Rob in the IT office how to test, take apart, replace parts, and put together the chromebooks. They've learned how to replace broken screens, keyboards, track pads, batteries, and soon even full motherboard replacements - where almost the entire inside of the chromebook will be removed and replaced.



The group of students involved is Hudsyn Hamilton, Jacoby Hernandez, Elena Wright, Adrian Nixon, Noah Hilderbrand, Matthew Aclaro, and Jaeden Keenan. They've repaired over 25 chromebooks so far and plan to keep doing so as the school year continues, with helping the education of our students as their number one priority.

Another solution the school has come up with is simply reminding students how to take proper care of their chromebooks. Don't hold your chromebooks by the handle, zip-up your chromebook case, and make sure not to leave anything inside of the computer to reduce risk of breaking the screen. These things ensure the safety of the computers, ensure your access to quality education, and follow Logan P.R.I.D.E values: P, R, and D. So next time, before you decide to harm your chromebook in any way: does it show that you are determined and motivated to learn? Are you being physically safe? And is this an act of respect? And, finally, if your chromebook does happen to break, give a thank you to the hard work of the I.T. department and the "Building & Technology" students who are working to make sure there will be a replacement available for you.



LEMS Events Calendar

By Ethan Brink, Logan Post Staff Writer

December 19: LES Winter Parties, LES Choir Visits Nursing Home

December 20: LMS Winter Celebration, Early Dismissal

December 23 - January 1: No school for winter break

January 2: School reopens

January 15: Group Picture Day

January 20: School Closed For Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 27: Home & School League Book Fair Begins, Home & School League Book Fair Family Night

January 28: End of 2nd Marking Period

February 14: Friendship Parties For Grades 1-4, Jump Rope For Heart For 5th Grade

February 17: School Closed For Presidents Day

February 27: Home & School League Family Lip Sync Night



A Look Into Yearbook Club

By Savannah Masceri, Logan Post Chief Editor

So far for the 2024-2025 school year, finding club advisors has been somewhat challenging. Logan Middle School wants to provide certain clubs, but without advisors it will not work. For a period of time it seemed that the Yearbook Club would be another facing advisor difficulties. Luckily, those concerns were eliminated because of Ms. Rizzi stepping up. She's ready to make this an incredible year for not only the committee, but for her three math classes and the entire school. She will make sure this is an excellent year highlighting our favorite memories in an unforgettable yearbook.

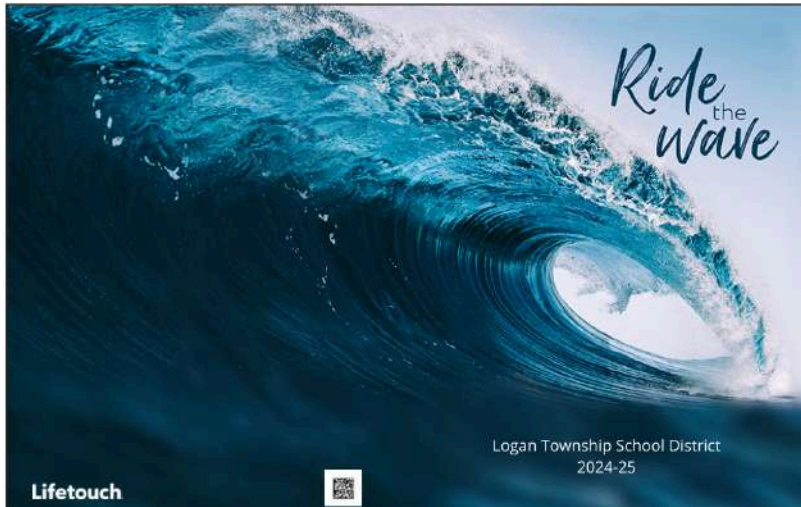
Ms. Rizzi is very pleased to be advising 27 members which consists of boys and girls in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. This large turnout for the club will definitely make the yearbook very successful. More people in the Yearbook Club means more creative ideas that will benefit the yearbook. Also, with a large number of people, you can get lots of work done in an efficient and timely manner. These 27 members will have different roles to contribute to the club. These roles include data checkers, page editors, photographers, etc.

Ms. Rizzi is striving for a diverse yearbook with different photos, capturing this school year in the best way possible.

To achieve this, the first thing the club has to determine is the theme. The theme is a very important part of the yearbook since it will be on the front cover, and dispersed throughout the entire book. In order to successfully come up with ideas for the theme, they need to look back and see what themes we have already used. They've been using their first couple of meetings to not only review past themes, but to come up with 4-5 theme options for the eighth graders to vote on. Personally, I think it's great that 8th graders get input on the yearbook since it's their last year at Logan. They get to decide how they want to capture their last year here by picking the theme that influences the entire yearbook.

Just recently on Tuesday, December 17th, the club was able to formally announce that "Ride the Wave" will be the theme for this year's yearbook.

After the theme is chosen, in each meeting the staff will put a certain part of the yearbook together. One task they have to complete is making sure everyone's names are spelled correctly under their school photos. All of these tiny details are what really make the yearbook complete.



Small things you would've never noticed have lots of effort put into them behind the scenes.

Members also have the job of taking pictures to put into the yearbook. For example, at LMS's Halloween Dance, yearbook club members took pictures of the students in their costumes to capture the moment.

To get a better look at what it's like to be in the Yearbook Club, I decided to interview a few 8th grade students. Jewell Logan explained how she likes the way Ms. Rizzi runs the club, and enjoys participating in an after school activity. She also enjoys the fun atmosphere, and working with her club members to create an amazing yearbook.

Maliah Davis explained the club's process for choosing the initial five yearbook theme possibilities. They're also planning on adding more things to the 8th grader's bios, and adding more pictures throughout the book. Lastly, I interviewed Sophia Archer. She explained how the club's process for using a Google Form so the 8th graders could vote on the theme.

These three members all enjoy being a part of the Yearbook Club. "I want to have the most memorable yearbook ever!" Ms. Rizzi announced. This will definitely be true considering the hard work and effort Ms. Rizzi and the staff members have been putting into this yearbook. Ms. Rizzi is so excited to see what this year has in store, and is thrilled to be the new club advisor. I always look forward to seeing a recap of my year in an artistic way, and can't wait to see the amazing product the club creates.

SPORTS



Logan's Cross Country Recap

By Julia Karetsky, Logan Post Layout/Design

As Logan Middle School's second cross country season has ended, the athletes have shown that hard work pays off. For a small South Jersey school, our record proves that Logan is a strong contender. During the regular season, the boys took first place in all four meets, defeating Williamstown, Charles Lewis, Ann Mullen, and Glen Landing. The girls won three out of the four meets. On October 12th, Logan participated in the South Jersey Open. Both teams successfully placed. The girls got 1st place overall while the boys finished 2nd place overall. They also participated in the Gloucester County Championships on October 17th. Both the girls and boys got 1st place overall. The last meet was the Tri-County Championships on October 24th hosted here at Logan Middle School. Many students, staff, and parents came to cheer on the team. With 12 teams and over 250 runners, the girls' team got 1st overall once again. The boys were just short and finished 2nd place overall. The girls had 6 runners that received medals and the boys with 4. Mr. Floyd is behind the scenes, setting up and scheduling these events. Mr. Haslam and Mr. Abney leading these athletes to success and pushing them to their limits.



The transition from track to cross country varies in many ways. The athletes who participated in cross country have a benefit for track. Cross country is more about your pace and endurance, and track is about speed and crossing the finish line first. If you already run 1.5 miles or more every day during the cross country season, then track should be easier for you. The 800 meters and the 1600 meters are considered distance. The 800 meters is 2 laps around the track and is a faster run and is about your pace. The 1600 meters is 4 laps around the track and is more about your endurance. The athletes should be able to break their records and get faster each year.

In an interview with Mr. Haslam, he said, "My plans for track and field is the continual improvement of the team and program. I believe we have a lot of good athletes here in Logan. My goal is to help them along their journey and for them to realize the potential they have."

He mentioned how he has a passion for the sport and he took the opportunity to lead these athletes to success. Mr. Haslam also said how his goal for the runners was to improve each race. It has been shown that the runners work hard to accomplish this goal.

The Logan athletes have done a great job. They have beaten their personal records over the season, as well as some of the Logan fitness tests. They have put in their best effort and took the time to get better. I hope we will see most of these athletes out on the track.



An Interview With Mrs. Bosco

By [Aria Lucidonio](#), [Logan Post Staff Writer](#)

One of Logan's most beloved teachers, Mrs. Bosco, is retiring on December 20th. Mrs. Bosco has been a teacher at Logan School District for about 30 years. She taught 5th grade ELA and social studies for several years, but recently has served as a music teacher in place of Mrs. Montalvo while she went on maternity leave.

When asked about this sudden shift in her final year, she explained that the hardest part for her has been teaching band lessons because she has never played an instrument before.



She stated, “it's frustrating for me during band lessons if I can't help a student with a particular note on an instrument. The other band members though have been so helpful to one another, and they step up as instructors and support one another.”

Although she struggles at times, it can be easy for her too. She loves music, dancing, studying the rhythms, and also enjoys learning with the children, and is an excellent leader and motivator. At first, she felt a bit lost when she took on the position of the music teacher, but fortunately had the help of Mrs. Montalvo, Mrs. Ottinger, and Mrs. Wilson who came together to help prepare Mrs. Bosco.

Since she enjoys teaching history she decided to incorporate it in her lessons, so the students can learn about the history of music. She tries to make it as entertaining as possible for the students by giving them enjoyable activities to do.

While working at Logan, one of her favorite memories was the "Super Buddy" project she did with Mrs. Consoli's class. Mrs. Bosco stated, “I think it is the small interactions over the years that touch my heart the most.”

She lives locally, and has many friends in the school district. She said she will miss the incredible relationships she has formed with the staff and students, but will stay connected to Logan Middle School.

Local News

Events at Dream Park

By [Haddie Curiale](#), [Logan Post Staff Writer](#)

There are many different events happening at Dream Park to enjoy. There is therapeutic riding, lessons, shows, events, and many other things. While many of the events involve horses and horse riding, the facility hosts other events too. People have hosted weddings, dog shows, club meetings, cross country competitions, and many other things.

The therapeutic riding center is one of the great things Dream Park offers. It is for kids and adults with a variety of special needs. Often, individuals with special needs can be helped with therapeutic riding sessions and experiences with horses.



If you do not have special needs, they also give out a limited amount of non-therapeutic riding lessons, which are extremely fun! You do need to do some paperwork, and the riders have to be at least four years old before they can ride. There are volunteers needed there, so if you are interested in joining please contact: tanddlewis@yahoo.com or call: Terry Lewis: (732)-261-6441 or Fax: (856)-241-1623.

Upcoming shows and events at Dream Park include the Woodedge Hunter/Jumper Horse Show that takes place January 3rd-5th, 2025 in the main Arena and another one the weekend after. There is also a Dream

Park Tack Swap in the TRC that takes place January 18th, 2025, a Delaware County Agility Dog Show from February 14th-16th, 2025 plus another two each of the following weekends, and a pony party on February 22nd, 2025.

As you can see, there are many events happening at Dream Park, and it is a place you should definitely visit for a fun time!



Advice/Wellness



New Year's Resolutions

By [Aria Lucidonio](#), [Logan Post Staff Writer](#)

It's almost New Years, and most people will be making resolutions. However, there are some resolutions that you might want to avoid so that you don't wind up a victim of Quitter's Day. First, what are New Year's resolutions?

New Year's resolutions are things you tell yourself you will do that year. Think of them like a promise to yourself, usually involving improving yourself, trying new things, starting new routines, or ending bad habits. They started around 4,000 years ago and have been a tradition ever since.

Some of the most common New Year's resolutions are going to the gym more, eating healthier, saving money, etc. Some new year's resolutions that are positive and people mostly succeed at keeping are improvements to how they handle their finances, goals for personal relationships, and goals for their work/careers. While these are all positive resolutions, they don't necessarily have a great history of all being accomplished.

Quitter's Day is on the second Friday in January in the US, and several countries. This marks the point when some begin to re-evaluate their New Year's resolutions. Note that this is only 10 days into the new year this year...that's often as far as these "life changing" resolutions go.

Some resolutions that are especially likely to be abandoned are goals involving working out more and eating well. While some may do these things, 43% of people quit their resolutions by just the first week of January!

Most people give up on resolutions because habits take over, you realize they're unenjoyable, or they disrupt your other priorities. They often revolve around huge changes like adjusting your eating habits, getting more sleep, or becoming fluent in a new language. These changes can make it hard for you to stick to your resolution.

Overall, making New Year's resolutions may work for some, but certainly not for all or even most. It's all about how you put your mindset into it, how dedicated you are, and if you're choosing realistic goals. Trying to improve yourself is great and New Year's resolutions are wonderful for that purpose. However, if you're making resolutions this year you may want to consider keeping your resolutions realistic if you want to truly stick to them or, at the very least, don't be surprised if your dramatic resolution comes to an end around Quitter's day.

The Stress of School on Children

By [Cuest Authors Nina Carozzo & Jaylianis Vazquez](#), [Written for Mr. Illi's ELA Class](#)

Imagine you wake up for school at 6:30 to 7:00 AM. You get ready for school and then you are off to school. You get to school and have a social studies test. And then gym. And then a ELA test that you couldn't understand 100%. You go through the day with assignments and tests and then math which you are struggling a little bit with. Then you have to go home with chores and homework. Then you get an hour or two break (that you have to spend on finishing HW and chores) and then have to get ready for your practice. Which is your one time in the day to have fun. Then you get home late. You have to pack your lunch and study for upcoming tests. You feel rushed and then just go to bed and you have to do that everyday. It can get pretty stressful. This is a day in the life of a student.

Grades are probably one of the biggest reasons why students feel drained. Students tend to compare themselves to others or even get compared by teachers just because of their grades. Students spend 7 hours in school everyday for five days a week, doing the same schedule and doing work most of their day. This tells why school is draining for lots of students and it may affect their mental health.

Some parents or people don't recognize that kids have a great number of responsibilities and it's tiring for them as well. Parents always use the excuse that their kids just have to go to school while they have to go to work. And yes they do work really hard, but for kids, school is their work. It's dreadful and long and difficult. Plus kids have chores once they get home and then possible after school activities. And I'm not saying parents don't have that, but they use us and treat us as if we didn't just work for 7 hours as well.

From the article "High School Is Mentally Draining Students" by Faith Bathurst, it says "The amount of overwhelming school and homework also has a huge toll on us. Many students try and do their very best on their assignments throughout the day, but by the time they get home from school or their extracurricular activities, their brains are done thinking and they give up on their homework. Shouldn't eight hours of school be enough?"

I agree with this because the amount of school and homework stresses out most students. Some students have problems with understanding and learning, so their school work piles up and they have to do it on their own time, but on top of that they have homework. Another thing is after school activities, some students have after school activities and it takes time out of their day which doesn't give them enough time to study or do work.

(Continued on Page 5)

("The Stress of School on Children", Continued from Page 4)

7th grader, Nina Garozzo, agrees with me. She says, "because it is super stressful with all of the tests and studying and then I have to go home and get expected to do this and that and then sports and it's very tiring." All the work students have to do is most of the reason why they're so drained and stressed. As a student, I feel like teachers shouldn't give out homework so it doesn't pile up or take time out of our day and should also explain better or even help the students who don't understand. 85% of Logan Middle School students said that they feel stressed and drained during school, and 90% of those students said that they're mostly drained because of school and homework.

Which is just one way that shows and proves that kids can struggle with mental health. People have to realize that and help. I asked my classmates in a form if they struggle with mental health especially during the school year. The form ended up with nearly 55% of the answers saying yes, they do struggle with mental health. I asked what causes them anxiety, Jaylianis Vazquez said, "I get stressed when I have a lot of work to do." As well as saying that the part of her day that causes her stress is school.

The article "Kids' mental health is in crisis. Here's what psychologists are doing to help," states, "the task force now recommends regular anxiety screenings for youth ages 8 to 18 and regular depression screenings for adolescents ages 12 to 18...these trends in children's mental health problems [are] critical, but there are solutions...if we refocus our efforts toward those solutions, we could see some of these tides turn." This shows that lots of kids start feeling stressed as early as 8 years old. And people are seeing that kids are getting depression screenings because they see an increase in depression and anxiety.

In summary, school makes students feel drained in many different ways. Some people think that kids' lives are easy and there is no need to be stressed, but you can now see that kids have responsibilities and their lives are difficult as well. Teachers and staff should consider coming up with ideas to make it less draining and stressful for their students.



Presidential Election Reflection

By Devin Hall, Logan Post Copy Editor

Now that the much anticipated election day has passed, but the beginning of our new president's term has not started, it is a good time to look both back to the election as well as forward to the new term. As we now know, Donald Trump has won the presidential election and will be our new president on inauguration day, January 20th, but how did he become the president-elect?

Donald Trump, the Republican candidate, and Kamala Harris, the Democratic candidate, ran a competitive race for president with many dramatic moments along the way. Most notably, Kamala Harris almost wasn't the candidate at all. President Joe Biden was originally planning to run for re-election, but after a rough debate performance on June 27th, Joe Biden dropped out of the running shortly thereafter, which is when Kamala Harris became the Democratic candidate for president.

To add on to the drama of this presidential campaign, Donald Trump was shot during a campaign speech on July 13th. The bullet pierced his ear, which did not cause any deadly harm, but was obviously a very close and scary situation.

The campaigns built up to a major debate between Harris and Trump on September 10th, which was the only time the two candidates debated one another, and it was a spirited and controversial debate.



As you know, Donald Trump won the election. The swing states this year were; Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Donald Trump received more than seventy-seven million votes, while Harris received over seventy-four million votes. A very important state was Pennsylvania. This is because it's a swing state. Donald Trump won this state, which was essential for him to win.

Some things Donald Trump promised were; being more strict about immigration, tariffs and taxes, education, social security, and medicare. Donald Trump says, "build the wall" in a 2016 campaign. He wants to have a program. There aren't many details, but it would only affect people in the U.S illegally. He also proposes ideas of putting a tariff of 10 to 20 percent on foreign goods. There are many other ideas he has for our country, but these are the most important ones.

Reviews

A Review of "Wicked"

By Sebastian Snyder, Freelance Writer

"Nobody mourns the wicked;" and "Are people born wicked or do they have wickedness thrust upon them?" These are two brilliant quotes stated by Glinda; a role fulfilled by Ariana Grande in the new upcoming blockbuster "Wicked." This movie captivates viewers as they experience The Wicked Witch of The West's (Elphaba) tragic early life before wickedness was thrust upon her and her eventual path to wickedness.

During the movie, the lead actresses Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande create a magical ambiance when singing live throughout the scenes of the film, which has rarely ever been done in movies. This enhances the movie and its plot. This film begins with impressive dance moves in the opening scene where the Oz citizens perform "Nobody Mourns the Wicked." This intriguing opening scene clasps the viewer's attention with prominent vocals and colorful and beautiful set designs. You can tell people's hearts and souls were poured into building them. This scene proudly presents the film's theme and sets a perfect tone and mood for the rest of the movie. It's a great way to capture people's attention and get them to finish the rest of the film, throughout the rest of the movie.

The scenes throughout were filled with heartfelt emotions of sisterhood shared between Elphaba and Glinda. In the final scene where Elphaba must leave her best friend, emotions flood out of the actresses and actors in this sequence, and the rest of the movie is still filled with these warm vibes as well.

This movie is also propelled by its intriguing storylines and character development established throughout the film. People forgive, they forget, they laugh and they cry. Teaching everyone the meanings and natural laws of life. One last thing that extends this movie higher than the rest is the astounding vocals served by leads, Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande. Through numbers like "Popular" and "Defying Gravity," extremely high and impressive notes are provided by both of the proud and talented vocalists. These astounding notes do make this movie special and they intrigue the audience through the sound echoing in their minds.

Later in the movie, the film's directors hired Indina Menzel and Kristian Chenoweth as a remembrance and dignitaries to reference the original Wicked on Broadway. A truly brilliant idea to remind us to always remember our past, and where we started.

So how many students in our school actually want to watch Wicked? Throughout my recent studies, approximately 73% of students throughout eighth grade have shown interest in this two-hour and forty-minute work of art. With replies including "I can't wait to see it next week!" "I wish I could see it," and "We should go see it together!" So will I see you at the movie theater, dressed in your Wicked merch?

A Review of Woodbury's Hollywood Diner

By Kylie Maccarone, Freelance Writer

Have you ever eaten at the Swedesboro Diner? Well, if you like the restaurant, you will definitely love the Hollywood Diner! The Hollywood Diner is located in Woodbury Heights, New Jersey. You may have seen it due to its eye-catching decor. Inside is filled with many 1950s inspired decorations like; designs of singers, cars, and more. Stepping into this diner feels like going back in time. The Hollywood Diner has many options for you to choose from to fill your stomach. For example, they serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Each one comes with different specials.

Make sure to save room for tasty desserts. Every week, there are new desserts to choose from. You can pick from the kids or adults menu. They have a variety of desserts including a wide range of cupcake and cake flavors, brownies, and many more. They have indoor and outdoor seating with tables and seats that can fit a large number of people. On top of that, they have bar seating with a variety of adult beverages. While eating your food you can sit back, relax, and watch some sports!

The Hollywood Diner was established in the 1990s with its 50s theme, and after decades with the same retro vibe and color scheme, it is currently under renovations which will dramatically update the appearance of this iconic diner. While the renovations are bringing significant changes to the appearance, the renovations have not prevented normal operations from continuing. They are still open for their normal hours from 7am-10pm.

My experience of it was great! I had pancakes and they were delicious! I would definitely recommend this diner to others, and the major renovation is exciting!



Games & Comics

G P E K I N G E S E B E I L A
C F N S E A H R E O T A U E A
K O H H A N W E T N N N G P E
S T C E C D R A M A C I R E I
B G H K S O N D S H R L I E L
D R O H E Y T I A D D R A L I
E E H A A R E N B A S E N J I
S A I M S E S G R Y A L H G R
S T S B D N E P E O B O X E R
E D T U N D A I A B C C R O D
R A O R D R I N K N H X E L O
T N R G F G H E F H I N C O R
N E Y E S M E N A S T E I G D
S I A R D O Y S S R M Y L Y E
L L T N S F R A T I T R U D R

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

ART	GEOLOGY
BOTANY	HISTORY
DRAMA	READING

DOG BREEDS

BASENJI	GREATDANE
BOXER	PEKINGESE
COCKERSPANIEL	

RESTAURANT

BREAKFAST	HAMBURGER
DESSERT	LUNCH
DRINK	ORDER

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

Dear Santa,
It's me, Reggie. Last year
I asked you for a puppy.

But insted you ~~bror~~ brought
me these.

puppy shaped
slippers

a duppy

It's okay. Everyone makes
mistakes.

Maybe I shud have sent
a picture. This time I will.
I would like a pony.

it looks
like this.

Thank you, Santa. Stay jolly!
- Reggie

SANTA CAME!
TIME TO MEET
MY NEW--

PONY?

I SHOULD'VE DRAWN
IT BIGGER!

WELL...
MERRY CHRISTMAS,
BUBBA.



Christmas
Word Scramble

On a snowy Christmas Eve, Santa's excited reindeer knocked over a sack filled with festive words while practicing for their big night. Now, all the holiday magic is jumbled! Can you help untangle the words before Santa takes off?

HCSAMTRI	LEICCI
SMTEILEOT	EHERRDI
APOSETTNEI	WEKSFALON
MOWNASH	NASAT
HERAWT	NIELST
RNOIEADRGE	TIEWNR
HQZIDLY	NNMTAERO
RPYTOS	AHKHUNA
GHLISE	AORCL
IPALFECH	EOGNGS
SEERTSPN	ISOGKCTN
CTAODINSERO	CLADNE

The Meme Corner

