

The Tiger Times

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Eighth Edition

Email jacob.abroon@esmsnyc.net
to join or contribute to The Tiger Times!

See this issue for jokes, riddles, quotes, ESMS Fun Facts, interviews, and introducing the comic page and a list of unanswerable questions!

An Interview With Nick Lacativa, The After School Director

By: Jacob Abroon

Debate. Study Lab. Basketball. Baseball. Soccer. Flag Football. Model U.N. and many, many more. All of those are after schools that some of you might have had recently. As most of you may know, the organization called Manhattan Youth has been partnering with East Side Middle to supply these after schools. Recently, a new person was appointed as the site director for East Side Middle after school. His name is Nick Lacativa, and he is an ESMS graduate. To learn more about the new ESMS afterschool director, we interviewed him, and here are the questions, with his answers:

Q. What are you looking forward to as director?

A. I'm looking forward to running a fun, safe and positive program at ESMS that gives students the opportunity to explore their passions and creativity. Coming to ESMS, I was very impressed by the class offerings; now that I'm here, I am looking forward to working to improve the program.

Q. While we are transitioning to a new afterschool cycle, what are you expecting?

A. With the new Winter trimester underway, I'm excited to see some of our new classes. We are introducing an Anime class this trimester as well as bringing back a Creative Writing class. It is great to see the excitement new classes bring. I am always open to starting a new class as long as there is enough interest!

Q. As an ESMS graduate, how are you looking forward to collaborating with your old school?



The Newspaper
for
East Side Middle School

An Interview With Mr. Durante

By: Jacob Abroon

701. 702. 703. 705. 601. 602. 603. 605. Classic Comedies. Situation Comedies. Those are some of the classes Mr. Durante has taught. Mr. Durante is a substitute teacher for ESMS. He taught 601 and 603 while Mr. Feder was temporarily out, filled in for Ms. Dragone, and he is now teaching 701 and 703 for Mr. Lyons. He has also taught the electives Classic Comedies and Situation Comedies. Many can agree that Mr. Durante is a great teacher; to find out more about him, we interviewed him, and here are the question with his answers:

Q. What are some of your hobbies?

A. Some of my hobbies include:

- **Watching and playing soccer**
- **Playing video games**
- **Researching historical topics, currently:**
 - **Ancient Roman Warfare**
 - **Italian Organized Crime**
 - **The "Golden Age Of Piracy"**

Q. What is your favorite part about ESMS?

A. My favorite part about ESMS is definitely the students. The student body is wonderful and intelligent.

The ESMS Chess Team And the Brooklyn Chess Tournament

By: Rhone Galchen and Nicholas Oh

Several members of the ESMS chess team will try to start off the new year strong at this weekend's Brooklyn Chess Tournament (February 1-2 at the Brooklyn Marriott Hotel, 333 Adams Street). This tournament is the most important competition in NYC this year. While it may not be nationals, if you are a chess player, you will almost for sure find yourself at this tournament. If you are experienced, this is a very fun and great way to jumpstart your rating. Don't forget, you have an amazing chance to see Gary Kasparov at the tournament. Tiger Timers writer, Rhone Galchen, was once



Gary Kasparov is considered one of the best chess players of all time. He was the World Champion for over 18 years!

able to get Gary Kasparov to sign his clock at the tournament. You, too, have a great chance to see the person who was world champion for a seismic 225 months. If you do not play chess, you can always tell an interested sibling about the tournament. Students interested in going can stop by Chess afterschool on Friday and talk to Nicholas Oh about it. Overall, if you are even remotely interested in chess, look up Brooklyn Chess Tournament and see for yourself how great the Brooklyn Chess Tournament is!

A. Well, let me first say it's great to be back at ESMS. I always wanted to lead an after school program but never imagined it would be at my old school. When the opportunity arose, I couldn't turn it down. I'm very excited to bring my experience working in youth development back to ESMS and lead a program that the ESMS community is proud of.

Q. What do you enjoy most about working with ESMS so far?

A. The people. From the students and parents, to teachers, staff and administration, everyone has been very welcoming and have made my first few months very enjoyable.

Q. What are you excited about for the future?

A. For only being at ESMS for a little over a month, there are many things I am excited about. I'm constantly thinking of ways to improve our program, whether it is introducing new classes or perfecting the curriculum of a current class. This winter, Cooking, Fencing and Soccer are our most popular classes. My goal going forward is to expand these classes to give more students the opportunity to experience them.

Q. What is your favorite school subject?

A. My favorite school subject has always been social studies and history.

Q. Why is this your favorite subject?

A. History is my favorite school subject because it helps people understand the past. Personally, I love researching my family history, my nationality, and culture (be it Sicilians or Italians).

Q. What do you do in your free time?

A. My hobbies are what I do in my free time, but mostly I watch soccer games and clips.

Q. Who is someone you look up to?

A. I have always looked up to my grandmother, who passed away in April of 2019. She was my inspiration for going to college, graduate school, and making something of myself.

Clearly Mr. Durante is more than a substitute teacher, but a great person, with incredible hobbies and role models.



Skype Kenya And The Red Rose School

By: Lola Kravitz

Students of all grades gather around a computer in anticipation. Anticipation for a new outlook on life, anticipation for a chance to make a difference. Anticipation to meet new people, to see new things. To open up their horizons. The notification flashes on. Members learn forward as if they are pulled to the screen by a magnet. The screen is silent, then blurred, then...

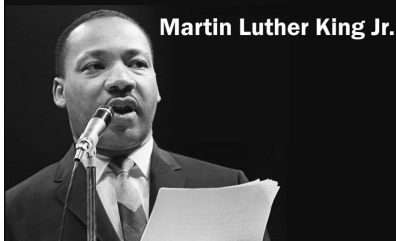
Smiling students of the Red Rose School wave and greet you excitedly. In the Skype Kenya extracurricular, you don't just skype the students or write to them. You have a chance to bond, to create a friendship that stretches across countries and continents, oceans and rivers. We talk with them about their life and ours, and we sing and dance and write and do magic tricks and riddles. We get to know them, and have fun.

In one recent meeting, newcomers to Skype Kenya introduced themselves to the Red Rose School (RRS) students and received their pen pals. They showed the students of RRS dances that the 6th grade has learned so far (Footloose and the Git Up - thank you, Ms. Deneroff!!!) and did some magic tricks and classic riddles and jokes. One 6th grader, Anna Patnaik, sang a beautiful Puccini aria which blew everyone away in utter awe. To end the session, members of Skype Kenya, old and new, sang the song "Lean on me" by Bill Withers, which sums up this organization completely in its beautiful and powerful lyrics.

Thank you to everyone who showed up. We know it is always great when we can Skype the RRS, and hope to see new members when we resume! To everyone reading, thank you as well, and we hope you have learned more about this unique ESMS organization in the process.

Quote Of The Month

**"If you can't fly then run,
If you can't run then walk,
If you can't walk then crawl,
But whatever you do
you have to keep moving forward."**



Martin Luther King Jr.

**See this issue for an article
on Martin Luther King Jr.
Day!**



Hi ESMS students! Have you been reading the Tiger Times? Do you want to send in an article you have written, or join the team? Then email me at jacob.abroon@esmsnyc.net to sign up for the Tiger Times!

ESMS Riddle Page

By: Jacob Abroon and Rhone Galchen

1. What is the next letter in this pattern:
O-t-t-f-f-s-s-e-n-t-?
2. A doctor and a boy were fishing. The boy was the doctor's son, but the doctor was not the boy's father. Who was the doctor?
3. How many animals did Moses take on the ark?
4. What belongs to you but is used more by others?
5. A man started to town with a fox, a goose, and a sack of corn. He came to a stream which he had to cross in a tiny boat. He could only take one across at a time. He could not leave the fox alone with the goose or the goose alone with the corn. How did he get them all safely over the stream?
6. What tastes better than it smells?
7. What looks like an elephant, is the same size as an elephant, but weighs absolutely nothing?
8. What is 36 divided by 6^2 divided by the difference of 6,594 and 6,593 times the square root of π^2 ?

See the end of this issue for the riddle answers!

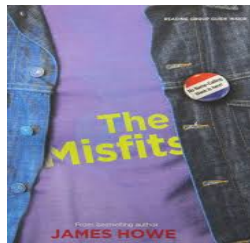
If you have a riddle to suggest, email:
jacob.abroon@esmsnyc.net



The HHWC's Saving Mother's Kit Packaging Fundraiser

By: Hana Jang

Once again this year, the Helping Homeless Women Committee (HHWC) worked with the Saving Mothers Organization, packaging kits to help decrease the mortality rate for mothers and young infants/children who otherwise lack the necessities to survive the strenuous work of childbirth. Underprivileged mothers often give birth in unsanitary locations which makes them under even more risk of an untimely death. Without proper treatment, the women become increasingly weak which can be fatal for them and their unborn child. So the HHWC is working to provide kits that contain all the essential items that a woman needs while giving birth. These include sanitary items such as bandages and hand sanitizer. Money was raised by the HHWC through bake sale and student and teacher (suggested amount \$10 or more, but any amount of money was appreciated). Thank you so much for donating, packing and reading about this.



No Name Calling Week

By: Alexi Chu and Clarissa Kunizaki

Years ago, after the students of East Side Middle School read The Misfits, by James Howe, the student council decided to make an annual tradition of the "No Name Calling Week" from the book. Our 2020 NNCW will take place in a few months, on a date to be determined. It is a fun week full of activities with lessons to learn from. ESMS student council representatives listened to feedback about last year (that some of it wasn't great or was boring or cringey) and have taken their time to come up with the many new activities that will take place on each day. We hope you enjoy it!

The Super Bowl

By: Darragh Boyle and Thomas Steytler

Recently, title matches for two divisions of the NFL took place. The Tennessee Titans and the Kansas City Chiefs competed to win the AFC title, and the Green Bay Packers and San Francisco 49ers competed to win the NFC. The Titans and Chiefs game ended 24 - 35, with the Chiefs playing really well to win. The 49ers beat the Packers 37-20. Both the 49ers and the Chiefs nearly dominated their games, and when they took their leads, they held on until the final whistle. After a two-week break, we now turn our attention to the biggest match of the NFL season: the Super Bowl. Everyone is excited for the big game this Sunday – Super Bowl LIV - with the Chiefs being slight favorites over the Niners at press time.

Viewers will also tune in to watch the special half-time show, with Jennifer Lopez and Shakira performing. Don't forget to pay attention to the unique advertisements too, with some of the most entertaining ones being shown. Will the 49ers win the 6th Vince Lombardi trophy to tie the Super Bowl record, or will the Kansas City Chiefs win their 2nd one? Don't forget to watch...



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

By: Lauren Ireland and Ella Nahmiyas

Martin Luther King Junior Day is a national holiday, celebrated on the 3rd Monday of every year. On this day we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr, who was born January 15, 1929. Dr. King was a very important person, one of the leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. He was an incredible activist and speechmaker, his most famous being titled, "I Have A Dream." Sadly, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968. We celebrate his life to this day as an amazing person, activist, and an inspiration to all to stand up for what they believe in.

ESMS Joke Page

By: Hadrian Berenson and Skyler Cheng - Chapman

Kid: My father's Laughing, my mother's Smiling.

Teacher: You must be kidding.

Kid: That's my brother. I'm JoKiNg.

Why is the vampire smarter than the skeleton?

Because the skeleton is a bonehead

How does a squid go into battle?

Well-armed

Why aren't koalas actually bears?

They don't meet the koalafications

What do you get when you cross a vampire with a snowman?

Frostbite

Did you hear about the two peanuts walking through town?

One was a-salted!

What is it called when a snowman has a temper tantrum?

A meltdown!

Two men meet on opposite sides of a river. One shouts to the other, "I need you to help me get to the other side!" The other guy replies, "You're on the other side!"

What did the left eye say to the right eye?

"Between you and me, something smells."

What did the apple say to the tomato as he was falling behind?

"I'll ketchup with you later"

What do you call bears with no ears?

B

If you have any jokes you would like to contribute, email:
jacob.abroon@esmsnyc.net

Unanswerable Questions

By: Jared Meryn

1. Is water wet?
2. What do you call a male ladybug?
3. Is it pronounced JIF or GIF?
4. When did time begin?
5. What is the color of glass?

ESMS Poetry Page

By: Lola Kravitz

Halcyon Haiku

The streets are dusted
With a fine layer of ice
Swirls of blissful pearl

Sun glows, filigree
Rays of gold glimmering to
Rival rosy dawn

Crinkling autumn
Leaves rustling, as they drift
To ashy pavement.

Owls blink, inquisitive
Bathed in the luster of moon
Curious is thought

Crimson arcs fly
The robin asleep, retreat
To a nest of sun

Ode to January

The sky envelops you, the meek
As you cower in the wake of the frost.
You cry crystal tears

Of ice and rain
As the world bustles
Dismissive of the constraints of time and place.

As January, o, you the loyal, the forgotten month
Who is first among your kind yet last in memory.

Looked o'er as tinsel is removed
Shimmering wreaths detached
With heavy sighs
Resenting the prolonged winter.
O January, you the glorious
Replest in silvery finery,
Bedecked with diamonds.

Though you do pierce our skin with knives of frost

Frigid and brumal, winds roaring in frustration

You who dwell in the inbetween

Between life and death

Winter and spring

Dream and reality.

Hovering in the balance

While the world rests in a tranquil sleep

Frozen with knives of icicles

Sleep on,

Sleep on,

The world serene

As January croons a lilting lullaby to the earth.

ESMS Fun Facts

By: Jacob Abroon

Topic: The ESMS Debate Team

1. An ESMS Debate team won the 2019 New York City Championships!
2. ESMS placed first in this year's first debate tournament!
3. The ESMS Debate Team has placed 2nd in 2 tournaments this year!
4. Many debaters and debate teams have placed first in tournaments!
5. Our team is a part of The Urban Debate League, which is one of the most famous debate leagues in the country!



The Snow Ball Dance

By: Rinoha Isetani

The Snow Ball is a party where you can dance, have the best time with your friends, enjoy some food & desserts, and much more! This was a great opportunity to get to know your friends better and maybe even make a new friend!

This year's party was on January 10, and was a great way to start off with this year. We were greeted with DJ music, pizza and so much more. There was also a photo booth to take pictures with your friends. Teachers and students all had the best time. Everyone left the school with a big smile on their faces after a party that hyped everyone up!

6. If anything is possible, is it possible for something to be impossible?
7. Do stairs go up or down?
8. If you try to fail and succeed, then which have you done?
9. Can you daydream at night?

If you have any unanswerable questions you would like to contribute, email:
jacob.abroon@esmsnyc.net

Crazy Comics

By: Hadrian Berenson



ANSWERS TO THE RIDDLE PAGE

1. N
2. The boy's mother
3. None, because Moses didn't go on an arc
4. Your name
5. Take the goose with you across the river, go back and bring the fox, take the goose back to where you began, bring the corn to the other side, go back, and bring the goose
6. Your tongue
7. An elephant's shadow
8. 1

Special Thanks to Mr. Getz, Ms. Hyman, Beth Servetar, Mr. Durante and Nick Lacativa