

The Tiger Times

Created by Jacob Abroon, with articles written by Rhone Galchen, Darragh Boyle, Zachary Meryn, and Jared Meryn

February, 2019

Second Edition

Interview with Mr. Feder

By: Jacob Abroon and Rhone Galchen

On the second floor of the building, as you head towards room 223, which holds the homeroom 603, there is a teacher named Mr. Feder. We wanted to know more about Mr. Feder than that he is a 6th grade humanities teacher. We went deep for information as Jacob Abroon and Rhone Galchen interviewed Mr. Feder to find out more about him. Here are the questions we asked him, with his answers:

Q: How long have you been working here?

A: This is my 17th year at ESMS.

Q: What is your favorite part about ESMS?

A: The French bread pizza served in the cafeteria. Just kidding, although I really do enjoy it! I would say my 2 favorite things about ESMS are the students and the staff. I love the enthusiasm that our 6th graders bring to class every day. It makes my job a lot of fun! And the staff here is great! They are all professionals, but they're also kind, decent people as well!

Q: When did you start working here?

A: September 2002

Q: Have you always liked humanities?

A: Absolutely! I started as an English teacher, but I've always been a History buff and a big follower of politics and government. So, when I had the opportunity to teach both English and Social Studies, I jumped at the chance!

Q: What is the biggest challenge you have faced in ESMS?

A: My biggest challenge is that because I'm so handsome, people don't take me seriously as a teacher. That, and a limited menu at Butterfield's next door.

Q: What is the best thing about being a



Coat Drive

By: Jacob Abroon

As we go deeper and deeper into the winter season, and the average temperature slowly drops, there are people all across the city, state, country, and even across the world that cannot afford or receive any coats or sweaters to keep them warm. So, East Side Middle does an annual drive with an organization called NY Cares. ESMS students were able to bring in new or gently used coats, fleeces, jackets, or other things that would keep people warm throughout the winter. The drive lasted from December 10 – 21. Many, many coats, sweaters and fleeces were donated to the coat drive, and all were given to people in need all across New York. If you were someone who donated, then you helped out someone without warmth in the cold, winter months.

Quote of the Month

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: Only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: Only love can do that."
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

New Year's Article

By: The Newspaper Team

5...4...3...2...1...0...HAPPY NEW YEAR! That's what it was like at the last seconds of 2018 in Times Square. People were crowded into Times Square to catch a glimpse of the New Year's Ball reaching the end of its journey. Families crowded around their TVs to watch the moment. At this very exciting time of year, many people take the time to create a New Year's resolution, something they hope will make them a better person. So, we at the newspaper team want to find out what your resolutions are!

Please send your resolutions to esmsnewspaper@esmsnyc.net, and we will put the best ones into the next issue!

The New Year's Ball in Times Square weighs 11,875 pounds

Shoutout to our Spelling Bee Champions!

By: Jared Meryn

Congratulations to Jacob Berger and Angela Iong, winners of our ESMS spelling bee! They worked hard to reach the goal, and we know they tried their best. We hope that they can participate in the state championships this year, and that they had a great time competing. Again, congratulations to our winners!

teacher?

A: I get lots of free stuff, like nice umbrellas the kids leave in the closet and other toys I confiscate. Just the other day, I received two Rubik's Cubes. I save a lot of money on Christmas presents every year.

Q: What is a story you can tell about something you experienced here?

A: In the old 158 building, we once had a hard lockdown when a squirrel entered the building. I heard later on that the spirit of a former disgruntled student had inhabited that squirrel to complain about an 89 average in Math.

Q: What is a book you have read that you can relate to?

A: That's such a hard question to answer, because nowadays I tend to read books in order to learn about people who've had different experiences than mine. I think that it's important to reach beyond yourself every now and again. Two books that come to mind are: 1) *The 57 Bus* by Dashka Slater; and 2) *The Port Chicago 50* by Steve Sheinkin.

Q: Who did you look up to when you were younger?

A: I looked up to my Dad. He taught me the values of hard work and love for family. He didn't have much of an education, but he woke up real early every single day while it was still dark outside and drove to New Jersey to work and earn money so his kids could have a better life. He's a hero in my book.

Q: What is a memory you remember as a child?

A: Most of my students know the story of when I was 4, I fell into a pig sty at a petting zoo, and because I didn't have a change of clothes, I was forced to wear Claudette Pike's extra pair of pink corduroy overall shorts that her mom brought along. I don't remember the incident well, but my Mom likes to tell it to people every now and then!

On March 18, from 6:00 to 8:00pm, ESMS will be hosting its third annual International Festival! There are only two unclaimed tables left, so hurry up and represent your culture!

Student Council

By Zachary Meryn

In the beginning of the year, each class elected a student council representative. But since then, you may wonder what they do. They organize drives and fundraisers, but is that it? Of course not!

The student council is by definition "the voice of the student body." Your class has a representative who participated in programs that make the school a better place to learn, such as the GSA, Big Buddies, HHWC (Helping Homeless Women Committee), and many more. The council also creates many drives to help both the community and the school. But how does the student council get all of it done?

To break it down for you, here's the story simple: The student council is divided into small committees, which handle different parts of the work. These committees meet all the time, whether it's early in the morning, during afternoon homeroom, or afterschool. These committees then work on creating drives, like the coat drive, GSA holiday drive, bake sales, and more. In order to better explain this, I sat down with Kate Hankin, a 7th grade student council member.

Q: What do you do in student council?

A: I am working on No Name Calling Week (NNCW), to help raise bullying awareness and stop bullying

Q: What is one memorable event from your time on the council?

A: Seeing all of the time I invested actually make something great.

Q: What inspired you to become a member?

A: I really wanted to make a difference in my school, and I thought student council would be a fun way to do so.

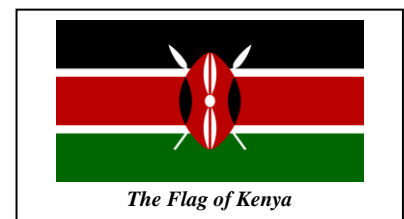
ESMS Sister School in Kenya

By: Jacob Abroon and Jared Meryn

Across the ocean, on the continent of Africa, there is a school in Kibera, Kenya, that is called the Red Rose Primary School. The school is currently constructing dormitories for women who feel unsafe in their town or live too far away to make the trip to and from school. Every day, students that attend these schools (such as Red Rose) have to worry about their safety. Comparing their lives to ours, we are living a dream. To help, East Side Middle has raised money via bake sales, and has donated sports supplies to the Red Rose Primary School.

One of the most popular things that our school does is Skype Kenya. Skype Kenya is where all of the students who signed up go early to school on Friday morning to chat with their buddies in Red Rose School through Skype. We show them new dances and other things that we enjoy. When we Skype, it makes everyone at the Red Rose school feel better.

We want you to think about being in those



The Flag of Kenya

students' shoes. Imagine how it would be if you were in a school that is in Kibera, Kenya, which is the poorest urban slum (a district inhabited by poor people) in Africa, and you are Skyped by people across the Atlantic Ocean, and receive donations from them; it would make you extremely happy. Luckily, on Friday, January 4, Skype Kenya resumed after a holiday break, and everybody who attended Skype Kenya in the fall came to room 121 to see the people in Red Rose School through Skype. We know that Skype Kenya serves a very important

US News: Gun Control

By: Darragh Boyle and Rhone Galchen

It feels like every day we hear about a school shooting or that many people were killed in a gun massacre. Let's take a look into what is going on with guns in America.

As you may know, 17 people were killed in the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, which sparked protests and rallies that have really been heard throughout the whole nation. Since the Parkland shooting there have been 26 shooting events in US schools and colleges. Here at ESMS even, we protested with a school walkout, and some students even marched in NYC and Washington in the March for Our Lives. (You can see our march banner in the school cafeteria.)

But America has decided to not do anything about gun control. Some believe that it is a right to own a gun, while others think only certain people like police officers should be able to use guns. Both ideas are worth looking at, so let's start with the people who believe it is their right to own guns. Many of you know the main advocate for gun rights is the National Rifle Association (NRA). "The NRA's interest in promoting the shooting sports among America's youth began in 1903 when (they) urged the establishment of rifle clubs at all major colleges, universities and military academies." The NRA says that they have 5 million members. So, that means they still have a decent amount of support. However, the NRA has a 40 percent approval rate among Americans, possibly impacted by the hundreds of mass shootings in this country last year. According to the Business Insider, more people do not approve of the NRA than approve for the first time since 2000. The people that believe in having a gun say that it is their second amendment right. They say that guns make them feel secure and safe.

Snow Ball Dance

By: Jared Meryn

On Friday, January 25, kids from ESMS put on their dancing shoes and went to the snowball dance! It included a DJ, photo booth, pizza, and other light snacks. There were also different types of objects that were handed out including: flashing rings and bracelets, and glowing sticks and headphones, which really made it the time of your life! This wonderful dance gave students a chance to meet, talk, and create memories that will last lifetimes. Shoutouts to our parent coordinator, Beth, who sent out emails for this spectacular event, and to the ESMS amazing staff for making this dance possible. Another shoutout to all the families and students who attended, donating to our school to make everything they provide possible. Here are some of the photos that our newspaper team collected:



The school parties throughout the snowball dance



purpose, and donating and Skyping with the people in Red Rose School is a very important thing to do. We hope that as you continue your time in East Side Middle, you keep in mind that there are others in need of your help, and some you have supported are at the Red Rose Primary School.



Red Rose Primary School Sports Team

ESMS Supports Saving Mothers

By: Elah Wilson and Natalie Bassini, 803

Every day across the world, approximately 830 women die during pregnancy or childbirth. That's almost the same as every student at ESMS dying every day - *doubled*. Almost all of these deaths are preventable, but most are happening in Africa and South Asia where pregnant women can't get basic medical care.

As part of the ESMS Student Council, we reached out to an organization called Saving Mothers to find out how our school could help. Saving Mothers was founded by a New York City obstetrician-gynecologist, Dr Tara Shirazian, and every year she takes teams of doctors to hospitals in Guatemala, Uganda, Kenya, and the Dominican Republic to help women deliver their babies safely.

We invited a representative from Saving Mothers to visit our school, and on November 20, 2018, Isabel Cuervo, addressed the Student Council. We learned that the major causes of death in pregnancy and childbirth are heavy bleeding right after birth, and infections and high blood pressure during pregnancy. Women in poor countries are more likely to die because they are less likely to visit a

Now let's take a look into the people who don't support having guns. There were over 300 mass shootings in America last year. People think that being able to buy guns is the major cause. They say to stop a major shooting problem we need fewer guns, not more. People say that the access to a gun is way too easy and that we need more gun control and gun laws to prevent mass shootings. These people feel the second amendment does not say this nor does it fit this century or decade.

However, the supreme court interpreted it like the people who believe in having a gun, they said it meant that you could own your gun.

Whether that is right or wrong is what the debate is really about. Who is right? Who is wrong? The answer to that question is for you, the people, to decide. For more current topics affecting the country, tune in to the next issue of US News!

Courtesy of:

CNN.com, Vox.com, BBC.com and Business Insider.com

On May 10, ESMS will hold its annual auction to benefit the school. Save the date and make a donation! Solicited Donations are much appreciated.

If you have any questions, please email junniemark@yahoo.com.

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Super Bowl LIII

Pre-game:

On Sunday, February 3, the Patriots face the Rams. Some, like ESPN, predicted that the Patriot dynasty will hold, giving QB Tom Brady his sixth super bowl ring. Others, like David Carr, a writer for NFL Media, said that the Rams will make their coach, Sean McVay, the youngest head coach in NFL history to win the Super Bowl.

Post-game:

Congratulations to the Patriots for winning their sixth super bowl. After a big defensive struggle, and monster performances from Stephen Gilmore, Aaron Donald, and Julian Edelman, the Patriots won Super Bowl LIII with a 13-3 final score.

With Jared Goff and Tom Brady not performing nearly as well as expected, it was up to the defense, and the Patriots controlled the Rams. Six wins ties the Patriots with the Steelers for the most Super Bowl titles. Tom Brady is the player with the most Super Bowl wins (6). The Rams now hold the record for longest punt ever. The 65-yard kick by Johnny Hekker broke Patriot punter Ryan Allen's record by 1 yard. Finally, Julian Edelman became the first Jewish man to win Super Bowl MVP. Again, congratulations to Super Bowl LIII champs, the New England Patriots.

**The 10 Best
Super Bowl Commercials
of 2019**

www.pastemagazine.com/articles/2019/02/the-10-best-super-bowl-commercials-of-2019.html

doctor during pregnancy or to deliver in a hospital, and because the hospitals are often ill-equipped to respond to complications.

We also learned that the loss of a mother has a huge effect on the family, and especially on children in these countries. After the death of a mother, studies show that children experience poorer health and nutrition, a greater risk of dropping out of school, and even a higher risk of death. It can be worst for girls. In some households after the mother dies, the girl has to take on the role of mother. This means that she has to cook for the whole family, clean the house, and take care of any younger brothers and sisters. This can stop her from going to school and from getting an education and a job.

To help Saving Mothers purchase the supplies they need to reach more women, we decided to raise money by selling special Saving Mothers bracelets. We were thrilled with the ESMS response and were able to raise \$600! We asked that this money be used to purchase 100 pregnancy tests and 10 Intrauterine Devices (IUDs) because helping women plan their pregnancies will reduce maternal deaths. Saving Mothers agreed! We want to thank all of the ESMS students, teachers and parents for their support, and especially Beth Servetar, the ESMS Parent Coordinator, for her help.

If every middle schooler could think about how they could help solve this problem and take just one small action, we could end the tragedy of deaths in pregnancy and childbirth in our lifetimes. Everyone can do something, and a large number of small actions can add up to one major change. With medical technologies advancing at a rapid pace, there is no good reason that hundreds and thousands of women should be dying giving life each year.

Tiger Times special thanks to:

***Mr. Feder, Ms. Hyman,
Mr. Getz, and Kate Hankin***

