



MINEPLEX NEWSLETTER

WWW.MINEPLEX.COM

CREATED BY THE NEWSLETTER AND MEDIA STAFF

ISSUE 36

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5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT RECAP!

BY: SSNIP

If you joined Mineplex at all between July 13th and July 27th, you might have noticed some big additions to our Java server. In celebration of the five-year anniversary of Mineplex, an update was released that included an updated hub, 3 revamped retro games, an exclusive title and particle effect, OP games, double XP, and more!

Exclusive Cosmetics

Upon joining the server during this event, players received an exclusive title and particle celebrating this occasion. To activate the title, right click on the Title Book in your inventory, and click on the plus button next to "Five Year". To enable the particle, right click on the Cosmetics Menu item in your inventory, click on the Particle Effects button, and then click on the Mineplex Cape particle.

Retro Games

In addition to the exclusive cosmetics, some nostalgic retro games were revamped and temporarily re-added to the network. In Squid Shooters, you can become a squid and battle it out with your Squid Laser until someone reaches 20 kills and wins. In Tug of Wool, two teams are tasked with protecting their wheat from the other team's animals. In Dragons Teams, four teams avoid flying dragons for as long as possible.

5 Years Discord Hangout

Our Events Squad team hosted a special event for this occasion. In the event, our Recruitment Team made a surprise appearance to host a mini Trainee Acceptance Party. Some Mineplex developers also made an appearance, as well as DeanTM, the Staff Management and Recruitment administrator. The participants in the event got to play the retro games and some throwback maps.

Community Appreciation Event

Members of the Mineplex forums also got to join in on the fun through the Community Appreciation Event, hosted by our Forums Teams. In this event, members of the community and staff team submitted appreciation messages that were sent out at the end of the event. Over 50 messages were submitted and sent out via Enjin DMs by our Forums Teams, so make sure to check your DMs!

Dragons on Bedrock

Last but not least, in celebration of this anniversary, Bedrock received a new game! Dragons, a classic game on Mineplex, has been added to the Bedrock network and is now playable on xBox, Windows 10, and mobile devices! Similar to the Java game, players must survive the relentless dragon attacks until the last player standing is crowned as the winner.

Did you get a chance to participate in some of these events? What was your favorite part? Let us know on the forum thread for this newsletter. We'd love to hear your thoughts!

SOCIAL MEDIA OVERVIEW!

BY: SNOWYKITTY

Mineplex has a lot of social media platforms that you can reach out to and follow, from a Twitter page to a YouTube channel! They provide sneak peaks and information about server updates, news, and your daily dosage of Mineplex memes. However, these things cannot manage themselves. The Senior Mod team Social Media manages all of Mineplex's accounts. It's led by BlueBeetleHD and currently has six members, with two of them being brand new to the team! Two members of the Social Media team came forward and answered a few questions to give the community a closer look at what the life of a Social Media member is like.

How long have you been on Social Media?

Hqmza: I've been on the social media team since December 1st, 2017.

xMini: I got promoted on July 7th, so less than a month!

Why did you originally want to join the team?

Hqmza: I originally wanted to join the team because I have always been interested in working on developing my marketing skills, and I saw joining the social media team as a good place to start improving my skills and communication while still learning new things along the way.

xMini: As soon as I joined the staff team as a trainee, I knew I wanted to join the team. Social Media plays a key aspect in all of our lives and it's the only team that I feel truly connected with, and because I love it so much I want to make sure I put in the work and dedicate my efforts to the team. It was one of those things I didn't have to think about, it connected with me.

What do you enjoy about the team?

Hqmza: I enjoy working on new content and interacting with other team members to create something that will get our followers attention - it's always something really cool when you can see the reactions to the work you spent time doing and how it draws the attention of many different people.

xMini: The best part about the team is how much everyone works together. Whenever you have a project to complete, all the members of the team are ready to help. Whether that be answering questions or helping with phrasing/graphics, the collaboration that goes on within the team is outstanding. It truly is a family.

What do you do as a Social Media member?

Hqmza: We work on marketing for new updates to the server, work together to improve on existing campaigns and how we can improve them before they go live/for the next time we have to make an update, and work on getting content for up and coming things we want to showcase.

xMini: The main thing we focus on and what I've been learning these past few weeks is Marketing. This could be through interacting with people on our walls, or creating posts for the Mineplex Twitter account, our purpose is to promote and advertise the server in the best way.

What's the most difficult part of your work?

Hqmza: Sometimes it can take a bit of time to think of what you want to say - you feel like you know how you want to type it out, but when you go to write it down it just doesn't come out right the first try. I would have to say that is for sure the most difficult thing I do.

xMini: I think every position has their difficulties no matter what, especially when you are just starting the position. Figuring out all the responsibilities and duties has taken a while and I'm still working on it every day. But I know through this process I have the best people ever to rely on which makes the whole experience fantastic.

MINEPLEX S HISTORY!

BY: SM_AWESOME

Mineplex recently turned five years old! What better way to celebrate than by recapping some of the most important events in its history.

May, 2013: Mineplex, owned by Spu_ and sterling_, releases its first game, Castle Siege

July, 2013: Mineplex merges with BetterMC, Chiss and defek7 become Mineplex owners

October, 2013: Mineplex Anti-Cheat (MAC) beta released

November, 2013: European servers released (eu.mineplex.com)

July, 2014: Staff team restructure results in new Helper and Sr. Mod ranks, Spu_ resigns from his positions at Mineplex

August, 2014: Released statistics and achievements

November, 2014: Mineplex merges with Red Warfare

December, 2014: Legend rank released with Mineplex Player Servers (MPS) as a perk

February, 2015: Old, Ancient, and Mythical Chests released

May, 2015: Helper rank renamed to Trainee

August, 2015: Hub tree removed, Added Carl the Creeper

October, 2015: Mineplex reaches 43,033 concurrent players, breaking the world record, Titan rank added

November, 2015: Clans Alpha released for Legends and Titans

February, 2016: Premium ranks no longer required to apply for Trainee

April, 2016: Clans Beta released for all players

July, 2016: Mineplex Pocket Edition (PE) released

August, 2016: New anti-cheat, GWEN, released

September, 2016: Power Play Club subscription introduced, Omega Chests released

October, 2016: Noble, Royal, and Imperial Crates added to PE

December, 2016: Eternal rank added, Communities added

January, 2017: Lord rank added to PE

February, 2017: Chiss departs from Mineplex; AppleG and Strutt20 become owners, US and EU servers temporarily merged

July, 2017: Mineplex Missions released

September, 2017: Mineplex's Bedrock server released as an official Minecraft partner

December, 2017: Duke/Duchess rank released on Bedrock along with Lady variant of Lord rank

February, 2018: Mineplex removes some NPCs to focus on core set of games, Java lobby redesigned with games sorted into Casual, Intermediate, and Hardcore, Mineplex Discord server released

May, 2018: Mineplex's TeamSpeak server closes

I'm excited to see what will be next. Thanks for five great years, Mineplex!

NEWSLETTER OVERVIEW!

BY: EMILIEE

In the weeks leading up to a brand new month, the Newsletter Program is always hard at work. Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes while an issue of the Mineplex newsletter is being written? The team, comprised of both staff and community members, is split into two parts: writers and editors. Both of the parts are self-explanatory – the writers write the articles, and the editors edit what the writers have produced. While writing articles, the team can also request pieces of art from the Media Team if we believe it will be a nice addition to our article. Now, what are people's positions on the team, you may ask?

Writers: SuspiciOus, SnowyKitty, ssnip, sm_awesome, TheGrandmaster, Cowieh, Emiliee, Geographies

Editors: SuspiciOus, SnowyKitty, ssnip, sm_awesome, Geographies, HuskieALS

Designer: Tortelett (since December of 2015)

Team Manager: SnowyKitty (since October of 2017)

A lot goes on behind the scenes, and there's no way better to find out all of the details than an interview with Newsletter's very own team manager and designer!

How much happens behind the scenes while the newsletter is in the making?

SnowyKitty: Quite a bit, to be completely honest! However, everything you can find in our editions is almost all the work we did over the previous month. While it usually takes a few weeks to gather all our articles together, within the last week of the month, we're rolling. With articles being finished, then edited by our editing crew, and finalized, it can be a long process before it hits people's eyes. Of course, we wouldn't be able to even publish an edition without the few hours Tort takes to create the pdf you're currently viewing.

How is it decided who becomes an editor and who becomes a writer?

SnowyKitty: This decision mostly happens within our application process. When people submit applications for our sub-team, I and other Newsletter Program members will review applications to see who is fit for our team. We will decide on their role off of what they're best fit for and what they are applying for. Writers are generally based off the entirety of their application, minus a few details, while editors are judged off their editing skills and general English language knowledge.

What can the community look forward to in regards to future newsletters?

SnowyKitty: We always have fun and helpful articles being written every month! Our writers work to create new ideas to turn into articles, whether it be interactive or an informative update. However, once in a while we get some exciting things pushed out with our edition. Who knows? Maybe there'll be something cool coming out in our next editions.

NEWSLETTER OVERVIEW!

BY: EMILIEE

How long does it usually take for you to create the visuals for the newsletter?

Tortelett: It usually takes me around one to two hours to put together the newsletter every month since I have a template. The original template made back in January 2016 for the team's 5th newsletter took me around five hours to complete.

What happens behind the scenes while you're creating the newsletter?

Tortelett: The process behind the scenes of creating the newsletter pdf is pretty straightforward. I first organize the articles on the Trello page then copy paste each article's text one by one onto the template. The reason it takes me around an hour to complete is that the template isn't really one size fits all, and often I have to do a good bit of text formatting to get articles to fit nicely on the pages. When working on the pdf I like to have Illustrator and Trello split on my main ultrawide monitor while Slack and Spotify are crammed onto my laptop screen to the side. After everything is completed I always post the pdf in the newsletter team chat for error checking prior to public release.

What program(s) do you use while creating the newsletter?

Tortelett: The program I use to create the newsletter pdf is Adobe Illustrator. I am aware that there are many other programs that are much better equipped for text such as Adobe InDesign, but Illustrator has been what I've been using for the newsletter since the beginning and I do not really want to do a full redesign just yet. The articles themselves are written by the team's writers on google docs and shared for editing and commenting on Trello and Slack. I listen to Spotify nonstop for any task on the computer.

A huge thank you towards all of the members of the Newsletter, a lot of their hard work goes unnoticed while each issue is being produced. As always, we hope you enjoy this issue of the Mineplex Newsletter, and hopefully you have a better understanding of how the team functions in the background of the community!

FILL IN THE STAFF MEMBER!

BY: SUSPICIOUS

Last month we asked you to submit your best attempt at filling in the blanks of a Mineplex staff Mad Libs. Here are the wackiest entries!

By Greguhlicious:

Hi my name is sterling_. I am just your average Mineplexer, but one day I hope to be the best PandaFyre in the world, I have been training for years, by Jarvis the staff on Mineplex. My friend John was walking with a Raech hack enabled the other day, when out of nowhere came a Jarvis and Kxssy him. Apparently, it was the most Awquard one he had ever seen! He said she was about as Minty as Gwen's beams! Luckily, he made a new WebGLitch, because everybody knows Jarvis can't get past that. My dream is to one day be a PandaFyre. Sadly for me, being a PandaFyre is hard, especially since those epicbluej Mods always Kxssy me. I wonder how they do it. I bet they get all the power from their Jarvis. Oh no, there's a Moderator now! I better ssnip away!!!

By acroo

Hi my name is acroo. I am just your average Mineplexer, but one day I hope to be the best Meami in the world, I have been training for years, by SnowyKitty the staff on Mineplex. My friend John was walking with a Raech hack enabled the other day, when out of nowhere came a ImposterK and Surved him. Apparently, it was the most Shook one he had ever seen! He said she was about as Awquard as Gwen's beams! Luckily, he made a new xSlowWifi, because everybody knows Prophate can't get past that. My dream is to one day be a PizzaMan319. Sadly for me, being a GuitarHero_King is hard, especially since those SuspiciOus Mods always ssnip me. I wonder how they do it. I bet they get all the power from their MapleSyrup_. Oh no, there's a Moderator now! I better Wanderer away!!!

Thanks for playing!

GUESS THE LOCATION!

BY: SNOWYKITTY

We're hauling out another edition this month, and that means another round of Guess the Location for y'all! It's not a surprise that this glorious game is appearing once again. If you're not a frequent guesser of the locations, or you just need a simple reminder, the game's easy to pick up. As the name suggests, you need to guess the location provided! Below, a tricky screenshot has been given to test your knowledge of our hub. It was carefully picked to make sure that it wouldn't be too easy, too hard, but just right! After you have taken your time to study this screenshot and determine its place on the server, you should head to the link to the form provided and submit your guess! Of course, there's a prize involved. If you get it correct, you will be entered to win two Mythical Treasures! Are you ready?

Here's our super secret location from our main lobby!



Do you know where it might be? Submit your guess here:
<https://goo.gl/forms/ErvBqaDIQr4SaMMr1>

Finally, congratulations to our winners from last month!
MCCharity
Satiated
Special_kk_9

You all will receive your Mythical Treasures soon.

CAPTION THE IMAGE!

BY: COWIEH

Sit back and enjoy the rest of your dog days while turning on your thinking cap! Caption the Image has returned once again for the month of August. Caption the Image is a game of ingenuity that awards the players with the most captivating captions. The entries we find most intriguing will be presented in the next edition of the Newsletter. Submissions may be silly or straight to the point—the choice is yours!

For the smoldering month of August, it seems as though the scorching heat from the sun scared us to the cold, murky depths of the ocean. When we decided to put on our scuba gear to take a look at the wonders under the sea, we spotted a guardian relaxing in an underwater house!



Do you have any creative captions that you are dying to submit? Send us your entries here, and good luck!

<https://goo.gl/forms/GEiB7LxnaXMLNOAp2>

PROMOTIONS/RESIGNATIONS

BY: HUSKIEALS

This month, we want to give a shout out to promoted and returning staff members as well as our thanks to those who have decided to resign.

Promotions:

Builder

July 1 - BlueeFiree

Java Trainee

July 7 - Baran, DanielW231

July 21 - BaconAnEggs

July 28 - BatTheFox, Musclehead

Bedrock Trainee

July 21 - xxSkillzmasterz

Java Mod

July 7 - Nezze

July 8 - BLOckBuster_

July 15 - Enunciate_, SkarmMines

July 29 - SomeRqndomName

Bedrock Mod

July 17 - SenpaiApp

Java Sr. Mod

July 24 - Flaym, kxssy, NaiculS (Clans Management)

July 31 - Marzie (Forum Ninja)

Resignations:

July 1 - Kzyla

July 3 - Caameronn

July 5 - Cosmic_

July 7 - Sook_Potato (Social Media)

July 9 - iNewo

July 17 - Qu1nten (Builder)

July 18 - Raech (Builder)

July 20 - Raech (Recruitment)

July 18 - StephenTries

July 20 - Mindless

July 25 - BaconAnEggs

July 28 - Shipopi

July 28 - Lightsi

NEWSLETTER STAFF BIOS



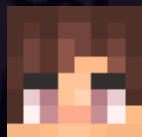
TorteleTT: Hi I made the pdf this month.



SuspiciOus: Hi there, I'm SuspiciOus! I enjoy writing, reading, and technology. I'm currently a Sr.Mod that works in the Quality Assurance division for the Mineplex Pocket Edition and PC servers.



SnowyKitty: Hey there! I'm SnowyKitty and most call me Snowy. I am a Java and Bedrock Sr. Moderator here on Mineplex and the manager of the Newsletter Program. I love to read and write fiction stories, from realistic to sci-fi! My favorite game is Draw My Thing, though I'll really play anything even though I'm not the best at PvP. If you see me somewhere, don't be afraid to shoot me a hello!



ssnip: Hey, I'm ssnip, and I'm a Community Manager here on Mineplex. I manage the Ideas Project, work as a member of the Feedback Team, host weekly events, and I'm a writer and editor for the newsletter!



sm_awesome: Heya! I'm sm_awesome, and I'm a moderator here on Mineplex. In addition to being a writer and editor for the newsletter, I'm also on the Feedback Team, Ideas Team, and Translations Team. If you see me around, don't be afraid to say hi – I (usually) don't bite!

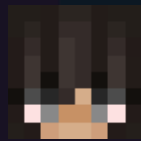


TheGrandmaster: Hey! I'm the one and only grandmaster. I'm a moderator on Mineplex on the Java platform. I'm presently in two sub-teams; Recruiter Assistance and Newsletter. Feel free to message me on the forums or friend me in-game if you require assistance!



Cowieh: Heyo! My name is Cowie, but you can call me Evan. I am currently a Mineplex Moderator on the Java platform. In my free time, I enjoy knitting, crocheting, and of course, writing! If you ever see me in-game, don't be afraid to say hello!

NEWSLETTER STAFF BIOS



Emiliee: Hey, my name is Emilie! I'm a Mineplex Legend and a writer for the Newsletter. I'm also a previous Social Media Sr.Mod. Outside of Mineplex, I love to travel, create art, and go out with friends. I hope you enjoy this issue of the Newsletter!



Geographies: HeIIIIloooo there! I'm Geographies, but many people call me Geo or Isaac. I'm currently an ex-staff member that worked on many sub-teams, ranging from QAT to FM. I'm both a writer and an editor here at the Newsletter, and absolutely love it! Always feel free to say hello to me if we cross paths!



HuskieALS: Hey! I'm Huskie and am a Sr.Mod on Staff Management and Recruitment! I'm also the MA and StM Documents Manager. In my free time I love watching ASMR and binge watching Netflix series. I'm usually hanging somewhere around the network, so feel free to poke me!

