

MINEPLEX

NEWSLETTER



Issue 77
February 2022

2021 Mineplex Rewind, New Year's Resolutions,
The Seasonal Art Showcase, and more.

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Have any feedback? We'd love to hear it. Share with us on our [feedback form](#)!

From the Editor

Happy February! This first month of 2022 has passed super quickly, but regardless, I hope everyone jump-started their new year as best as they could. Many of you may have begun school once again, but for others who are still on break, I hope you're enjoying your last bits of free time before going back!

To commemorate the new year, our writers focused on a couple of 'New Year' focused articles this month, so we hope you enjoy reading those on top of our regulars as you look through this month's issue of the Newsletter. The Mineplex community comes from various areas of the world, but despite that, many of us may have similar resolutions!

With Valentine's Day coming up, Mineplex will lose some of its Christmas holiday glory as we revert back to some of the standard aspects of our server and say goodbye to our holiday games. If you remember which update Mineplex receives in February you must be excited, but for those who aren't sure—stay tuned!

Lastly, I have some exciting news—the Newsletter Team is opening applications once again! This time, we are solely looking to bring on some new writers. More information can be found in the Newsletter announcement and the application here: <https://forms.gle/n5WAYWMMiwwJXDBL7>

If you have any specific inquiries in which you would like to speak with me privately about the Newsletter, the team, an article, or any other concern, you're more than welcome to and can do so through messaging me on the forums. Otherwise, as mentioned, you can always submit comments or feedback through our [official form](#) or on the thread. I hope you enjoy this month's edition of the Mineplex Newsletter!

Have a delightful February and best of luck if you choose to apply for the team!

- Arjun, Newsletter Program Manager

2021 Mineplex Rewind

By ddgolfer

As the year 2021 came to a close, there were several remarkable events that took place over the past year to reflect upon. 2021 brought a wide range of changes and fun events from rule updates to thrilling events like Jurassicplex. With the thoughtfulness of everything exciting that has happened within the past year, the Newsletter team decided to have a look back on some of the highlights of 2021!

January

The Clash of Cakes Winter Edition is what kicked off the new year to an exciting start of the year! Competitive Cake Wars players could create their teams and make their way to the highly anticipated games to take their place on the podium. While Christmas activities and maps were unfortunately removed on the Java and Bedrock server in January, the monthly map update was released as well as a /disguise update for Immortal users on the Java server. Additionally, the Bedrock server also received bug fixes and quality of life (QoL) updates, too!

February

An announcement from AlexTheCoder was one of the first things that happened this month with a message regarding a newly hired anti-cheat Developer: konsolas. Alex revealed that konsolas had been working on GWEN v2 during the Clash of Cakes tournament for an upgrade from the current anti-cheat. Community Quality Assurance Testing (QAT) applications also opened for interested applicants as well as the initial launch of the Community Management's (CoM) discord server: The Mineplex Community Center. This new discord server was the host of the first "Town Hall" meeting that had several important announcements such as the switch from the current Idea's Team (IT) and Feedback Collectors (FC) teams into a combined subteam now known as the Community Council (CCO) which included information on the application for the new subteam. The monthly map update was also released along with a bug fixes update and the yearly release of Valentine's activities like the Rose Bush minigame, Valentine's chests, and Valentine's lobby map. The Bedrock server also disabled their winter event

and released another bug fix and quality of life update.

March

With the removal of Valentine's activities and lobby, March was a huge month for the Build Team. There were two map updates, along with a map fixes update, during this month and one of the updates even included the Map Submissions Competition of 2021! Congratulations to the new Map Masters, Ian923, BasicT, and unrelease, who won the 2021 Map Submissions Competition!

April

Of course, the traditional April Fools Day event of Jurassicplex did occur with in-game names and ranks changing to themed dinosaur names and lobbies to go with it. The Bedrock server received a small Cake Wars, bug fixes, and quality of life update! The Clash of Cakes finals took place in April and the winners of the tournament were announced. Congratulations to team Alpha for their magnificent win in the tournament!

May

To start off the month, the Staff Management (StM) team hosted a QnA session with their Mentors and

Mentoring Assistance (MA) members for the community and staff members. The most detailed rule update from the entire year also was released in which the main highlight from it was that the Lunar Client had officially been unblocked. Following this, a new subteam had been created by Toki and was going forward by being managed by Marzie. This subteam was Discord Management which started out as a staff subteam where the first batch had been accepted. In addition, there were also another two map updates from the Build Team.

June

While June was cut short for the Java server due to the DDosing Attack across multiple other Java servers, a double XP event occurred for around a week after the server was online again. The summer lobby and waiting lobby were also added for the summer season that followed another map update from the Build Team. The Bedrock server also updated their party ownership in a small bug fixes update.

July

This month kicked off with a map update and followed with the Bedrock Five Year Anniversary Update. With the celebration of Bedrock's milestone, a

major Cake Wars update was released with birthday events, bug fixes, map additions, and quality of life updates. A Bomb Lobbers update was also launched to continue the celebration! Timmi6790 was also announced as a new frontend Java Developer by AlexTheCoder later in this month.

August

The Summer 2021 Contest on the Mineplex Discord (MPD) server was announced and winners were selected during August. Congratulations to wumbo, Mining, broomy, Sunrise Valley System, and SpamLess on their correct word searches! The Map Testing Team (MTT) opened their applications for new members and were later announced. The Social Media (SM) team also opened their applications for both staff and community members. The Build Team had two map updates during the month of August and general changes, bug fixes, and quality of life updates were released throughout this month, too.

September

During this month, Discord Management (DM) opened applications to community members, and a new Community Discord Management (cDM) member was accepted. The September

map update was also released and Bedrock's invisible persona skin bug was fixed in a small bug fix update. Two new Admins were also announced for the Forum Management (FM) team after Wanderer_'s resignation and the Quality Assurance (QA) team. The two new Admins, chhase for the Forum Management Team and rosmeme for the Quality Assurance team, both took their positions in late September and have both been successful in their positions since then.

October

The spooky season hit the Java server with the release of Halloween chests, Halloween Havoc, and the Death Knight Cosmetic Set. A Cake Wars Solo post patch update was also unveiled along with a huge game update that included updates within: Gladiators, Cake Wars Regular, Solo, Duos, and Sugar Rush, MineStrike, and Champions Capture the Flag. Bedrock released Cake Wars Solo and Castle Defense with a follow-up of bug fixes and quality of life updates. Finally, new Social Media (SM) members were announced in the middle of the month.

November

The November map update was released from the Build Team along with a small bug fix update on the Java server. AlexTheCoder also announced some features and tests going on with GWEN v2 and its future. Cake Wars, Champions, Clans, Lobby Gladiators, Mineplex Player Servers (MPS), and Mineplex Event Servers (MES) also received some minor and major updates in the middle of the month.

December

As the last month came with tons of exciting updates, the main highlight from this month was the Java Christmas update that included: a new Christmas lobby, Christmas waiting lobby, the Advent Calendar, lobby treasure hunt, Snow Fight, Castle Siege, Christmas Chaos (II), Draw My Thing themed words, Master Builder themed builds, and Speed Builder themed builds! There was also a small update for the Advent Calendar, Survival Games, and Clans as well as a version support update and a quality of life update for Immortal cosmetics and Christmas Chaos II about halfway through the month. The Bedrock server also received a new costumes system as well as a couple of Christmas seasonal games (one being Snow Fight) and a

Christmas hub. There was also a short rule update that highlighted the rules against spawn killing in Castle Siege on the Java server and inappropriate Xbox profile pictures on the Bedrock server. The December map update, of course, brought several themed maps all across the network along with the Christmas morning update on the Java server.

With all the positive, and negative, changes that 2021 brought, the year can be concluded as another year for the books. If you are interested in viewing a list in a bullet point form of the updates throughout the year, you can check out Evgeen's 2021 Mineplex Updates list [here](#). The Newsletter team wishes a Happy New Year and a fantastic 2022 for everyone!

New Year's Resolutions

By aiirr

As we step into 2022, let's take a second to look back on all that we've accomplished over these past few years despite all the hardships thrown our way. We hope that the world will slowly go back to normal as we enter this new year. With events such as the pandemic affecting us all, in one way or another, we can't forget how far we've come. Everything aside, going into the new year with all the hardships we have faced, it is important to use these experiences to better ourselves each and every day. Let us take a look at what resolutions our fellow community members have set for themselves for 2022!

dualkong: "My resolutions for this year are pretty simple. First, it would be nice if I could finally achieve Level 100 on Java Edition! I'm a bit of a ways away, but time and dedication could get me there in no time. Another resolution I have is to spend more time with my family, as I've been growing up and cherishing the time I've spent with them more now that I'm older. Finally, I'd like to start looking for a new job, and begin saving some money as well that could help my student loans or just help in the

future."

Nexdron: "For 2022 I plan on attempting to read 300 books this year and hopefully get more than 3 hours of sleep at night instead of being a night owl! Additionally, I want to stop saying no to new experiences due to my fear of the unknown."

whalker: "This year, I am working on A) Being more active and establishing an exercise habit B) eating healthier and snacking less C) continue to work on personal development projects each week and expand from C to other languages, including Java and Swift."

aahadd: "Honestly, I haven't thought about my new year's resolutions. This past year has been such a hectic year due to college applications and just life. My job takes up most of my time, and when I am not working, I am doing school. One of the main things I want to focus on this year is my mental health. I have always pushed my mental health to the side to concentrate on other things, but I want to put myself first. Another resolution I have set for myself this year is to get into my dream

college. Past that, I haven't given much thought; however, that could always change."

Amg_: "Hello Everyone, happy New Years! Before sharing more about my personal resolutions this year, I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, safe, and fulfilling New Year. It has been a tough past two years for everyone across the world with the ongoing pandemic and all, so I just hope this year is overall better for everyone! With the New Year, of course like anyone else, I have thought of some resolutions that I personally would like to work towards this year. For those of you who don't know me personally, outside of Mineplex I'm a full-time college student and work a part-time job. With that being said, I think one of my very first resolutions this year is to strengthen my time management skills. This year, I hope to develop a better time schedule that will allow me to devote my time and effort equally between all of the major events going on in my life. (I.e. College, work, personal time and Mineplex) -- Of course, this is easier said than done, but I really would like to start working towards a more scheduled routine that will allow me to be as efficient and productive as possible on a daily basis. To continue with other resolutions I

have this year, I have promised myself to pick back up on art and start a new art journey. If you guys haven't seen my art, you probably will be moving forward in the Arts & Banner Showcase Sub-Forum! I've done Art for 10+ years, and I just started digital art, so I can't wait to share what I create with you all. Speaking of new journeys, (and I know this is a super basic resolution to have), but I have also committed to starting a personal fitness journey! I've always really enjoyed lifting and being active outside, but as someone who graduated two years ago, I can confirm that it's truly hard to exercise and remain active after you graduate. I'm looking forward to what I can accomplish for myself this year, and working out truly makes me happy and relieves a lot of stress."

Lastly, just a huge Mineplex related resolution I have for myself: I hope to work towards growing more in my position as Forum Manager and Sr.Moderator here on the Network! My whole experience since returning to the Staff Team in 2020 has just been incredible, and I'm beyond grateful for every opportunity I've been given here

I hope everyone accomplishes what they want this year, and here's to 2022!

The Seasonal Art Showcase

By **neotheater**

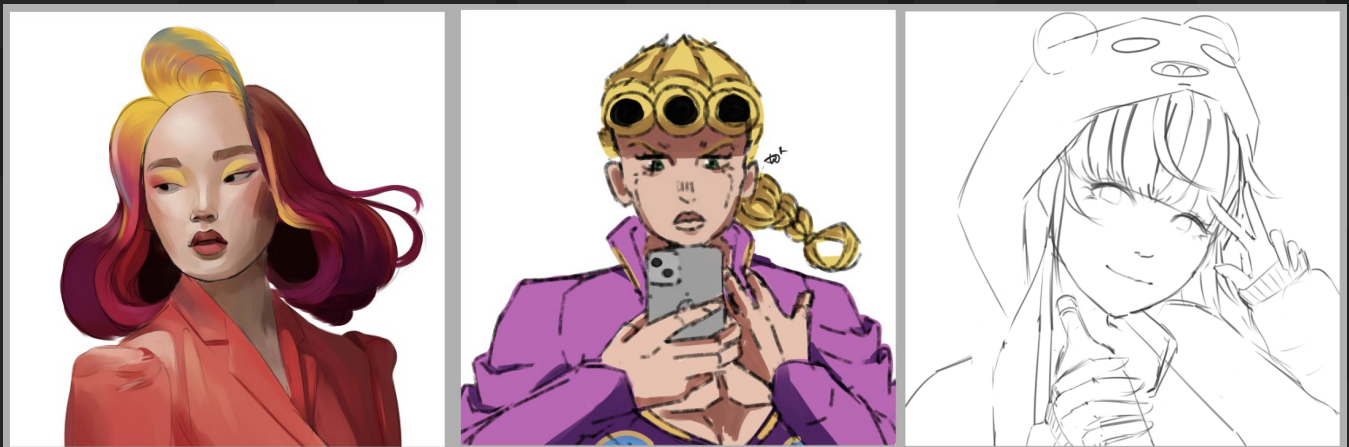
I don't know about you, but I'm feelin' twenty-twooo! It feels like last year went by in the blink of an eye for everyone else too, right? How many of you have already failed your New Years' Resolutions? Come on, be honest. I have. Anyway, Happy New Year from Mineplex's seasonal art department! We're only a month late; and we have some very talented artists from the final couple months of 2021 to bring to you all today.

If you wish to be included in next season's art showcase, be sure to share your art in the #art-club channel in the Mineplex Discord server or the 'Arts and Banner Showcase' section on the forums!

Digital Art:

This is one of the most impressive and widespread art styles out there due to there being so much variety. Artists can create whole new worlds, people, and creatures through means of digital art. Here are four digital artists that really stood out this season:

maevestarbaby:



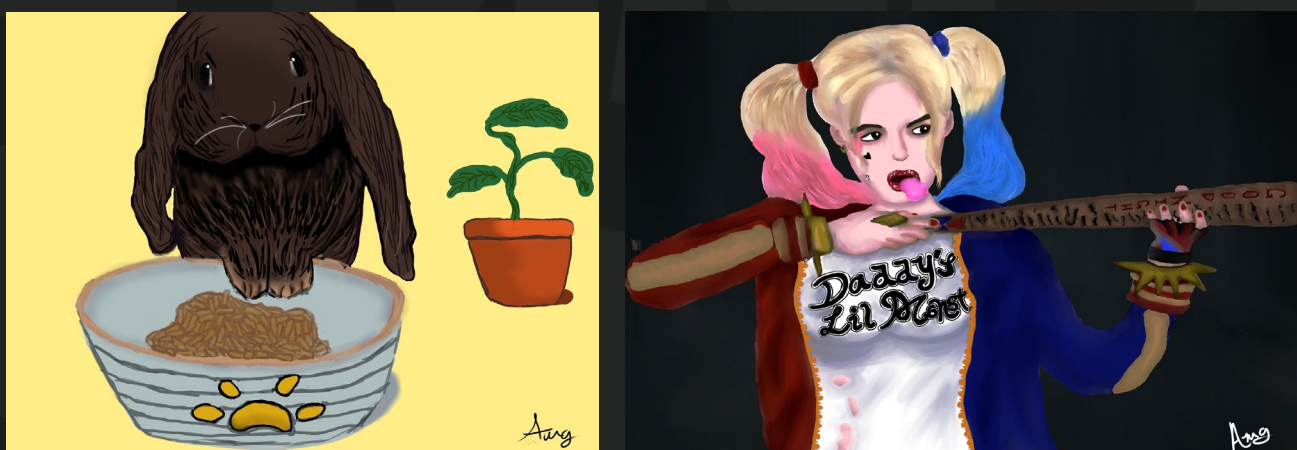
SlashTheWarrior:



TheArrowsShadow:



Amg_:

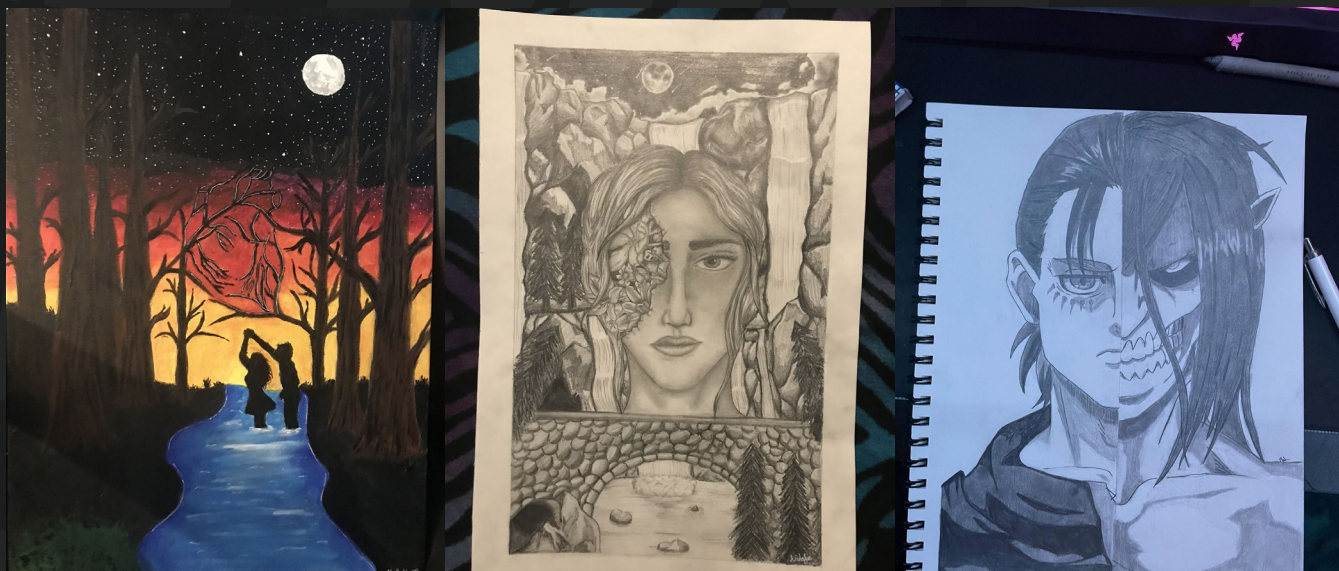


Miscellaneous Art:

Madao San:



Mitsoko:



To all of the artists showcased, keep up the great work because you're all so incredible. Remember, if you want to be showcased in the next Seasonal Art Showcase, which will appear in the April edition (released April 1), be sure to post your work before then!

Guess the Staff Member

By Looof

Well well well, do you think you can guess this month's staff member? Only the best of the best will be able to examine the clues and correctly pick out the staff member described below! Oh, you think you have what it takes? Every month, a staff member is chosen to be featured in this fun game. You get to play the role of a detective as you read through a short description and a few hints about the staff member. Once you've figured out who the staff member is, submit your response through the google form below! Remember, you can see a full list of staff at <https://www.mineplex.com/staff>

Description of the Staff Member: This staff member is a 19 year old male from Texas. He spends most of his time enjoying playing in his college band as a lead trumpet, spending time with his friends and family, and writing. You can usually find him online playing speed builders and/or ensuring that the discord server is running smoothly. His favorite animal is also a wolf.

Hint #1

He has been a staff member for over a year

Hint #2

He was first staff back in 2016

Hint #3

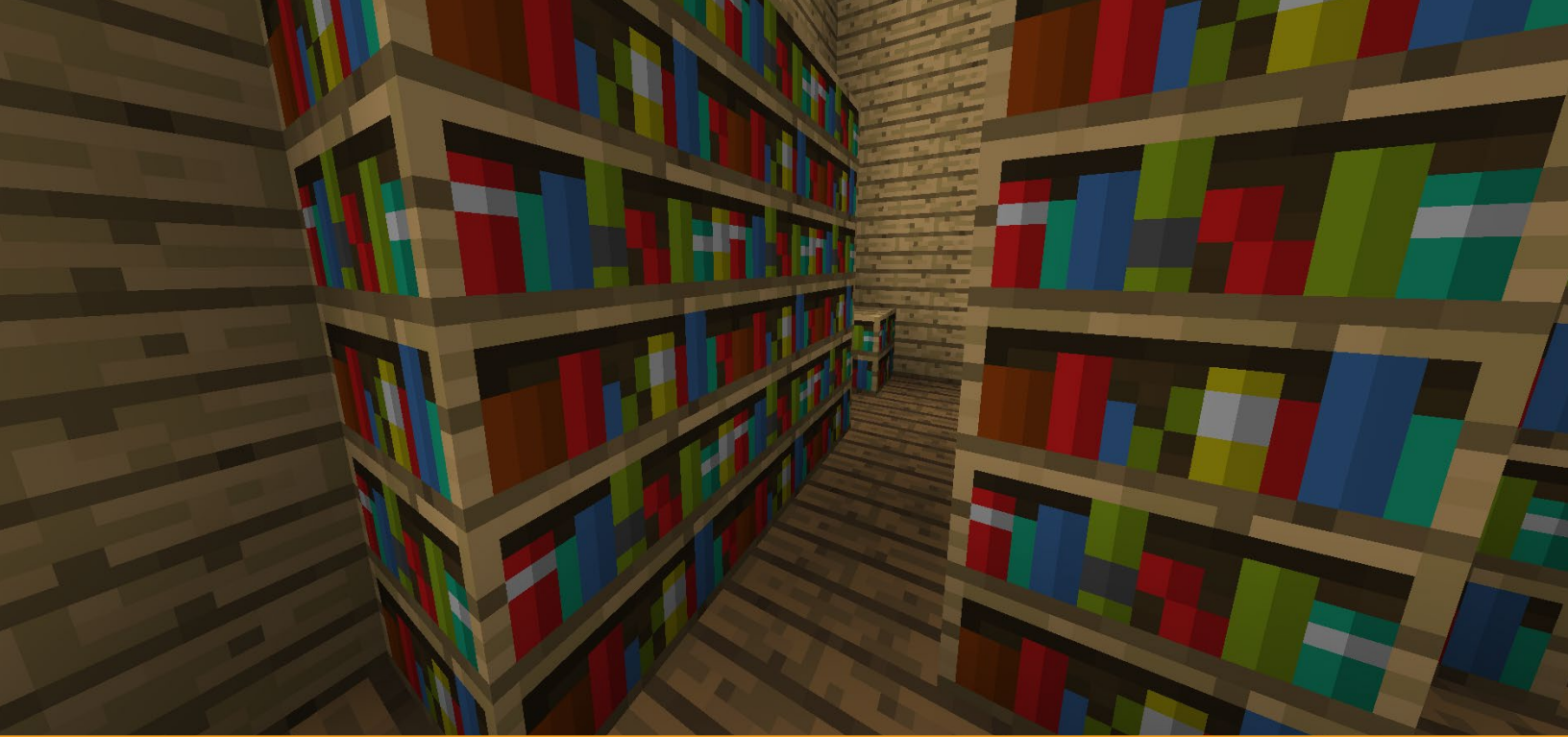
He uses Light Mode

Does this staff member sound familiar to you? Take a guess here:

<https://forms.gle/S32qWjbUaH6xKJdz6>

Last month's staff member was Nolawn! A bunch of people guessed correctly so we had to put all of the names on a wheel. Congratulations to these winners!

Paulacalmen4151, HarryCARD, rmotheram



Guess The Location

By [joshuart_](#)

As the holiday season melts away, we remember all of the fun we had with our friends and family and look toward a fun 2022! The Mineplex elves have plowed all of the snow and the holiday decor has been put away until next year. The big tree is gaining its leaves back and the flowers are beginning to bloom once more. The classic Mineplex hub has many places to explore including dark caves, tall trees, and even underground rooms but we're curious to see if you all have explored every little bit the hub has in store. Take a guess to see where this sneaky location is!

This place looks oddly familiar, where could it be?

Take your guesses here:

<https://forms.gle/fBLXzb6QRHHmjcaP9>

Believe it or not, September was our last Guess The Location and we have a winner! It was a fairly difficult location to guess and good job to those of you who guessed correctly! The special winner was LemmyBall and will be receiving 2 Mythical treasures.

The last location was in our 2021 Summer Lobby on top of Big Larry's island. For those of you wondering, the coordinates were x: -96 y: 69 z: -70!

January Staff Statistics

By Arjun

This month, we wanted to issue a huge welcome to all the new staff members who joined us and say thank you to all of the staff members who have sadly resigned for all of their hard work for the network.

Java Trainee

January 15: Ian923, Nepchunex

January 22: Looof

Senior Moderator

January 8: aiirr (Forum Management)

Resignations

January 3: xGillzz

January 7: cloudyanika,
Block2Block (Event Squad)

January 9: Vytas

January 14: wattywatty14 (Event Squad)

January 20: Kindnessaj

January 21: FILTHYRODDER

January 31: Beelnc

1 Year Milestones

January 9, 2021: Bob16077777

January 9, 2021: BloodOfTheKings

January 9, 2021: NuclearTM

January 16, 2021: Exclipse

2 Year Milestones

January 18, 2020: chhase

January 18, 2020: Documents

4 Year Milestones

January 5, 2018: Tylarr

January 19, 2018: xFrazer

5 Year Milestones

January 6, 2017: FairestLordHarry

Meet the Team



Arjun: Hey there! I'm the Newsletter Lead. I'm also a Sr. Recruiter/Manager on the Recruitment team, a Rules Committee member, and I work on a couple of other sub-teams. Hope you enjoyed this month's issue of the Newsletter!



Tortelett: Six years of making the pdf!



Sophie_OGrady: Hi, I edit the newsletter.



Marzie: For your safety, this product has been carefully removed from shelves and will be carefully disposed of.

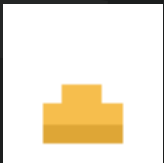
Meet the Team



EmmaLie: Hiya! I'm Emily and I'm that one weirdo who loves lollipops and doing stuff for the community. I'm currently the admin of Community Management & the Event Squad, so you'll see me a lot in-game, especially in EVENT-1. Outside of Mineplex, a lot of my time goes toward family, friends, Netflix, and Overwatch.



neotheater: i'm feline more generous than usual today. also bye that was my last article ciao ciao ciao



chhase: goose admin



aiirr: Hey guys! My name is Alyssa, though most people call me aiirr! I am an editor and writer for the Newsletter team! On Mineplex, you can see me playing either Champions Domination or Turf Wars. If I am not on Minecraft, I'm more than likely working or playing Overwatch with friends!

Meet the Team



ddglfer: Hey y'all, I am ddgolfer and I am a writer for the Newsletter as well as a Scout on the Translations Team!



Looof: yea yea yea yea yea we paid



joshuart_: Your friendly neighborhood Build Lead & Sr.Mod