

MINEPLEX NEWSLETTER



Issue 89
February 2023

Admin & Social Media Changes, Love Letters,
Caption the Bedrock Image, 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! The first month of 2023 is officially in the books and now we are in the month known for the celebration of love. I hope you all have had a good start to the year and continue to live 2023 to the fullest. This month, do not forget to hold your loved ones tight and continue crushing your new year's resolutions!

Within this month's edition of the Newsletter, we will be starting out with an article featuring our new Admins! Then, as love starts to swim through the air, we have an article that spotlights some love and appreciation letters to several members of the community. Finally, we have a Caption the Image contest but this time the image is from our Bedrock server, so be sure to fill out your responses since there will be prizes!

Just a reminder that the Newsletter Team applications are open. If you would like to become a member of our creative team then please submit an application [here](#). 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 by messaging me on the forums. Otherwise, you can always submit comments or feedback through our [official form](#) or on the thread. We hope you enjoy this month's edition of the Mineplex Newsletter!

Have a lovely February!

- ddglfer, Newsletter Program Manager

Admin & Social Media Changes

By maevestarbaby & Sophie_OGrady

With the many hierarchical and developmental changes across all of the Mineplex Network over the past few weeks came some resignations but also new promotions to the Admin team! As we say goodbye to rosmeme, EmmaLie and Islendingurinn, we welcome slip to lead Quality Assurance, Marzie to lead Community Management (newly merged with Social Media), and Toki with open arms to lead Recruitment, respectively.

Not only has there been changes within the Admin team, but, the Social Media (SM) team is being overhauled too! The Social Media team has been at a standstill during the last few months after losing access to Mineplex's social media accounts. However, after merging with the Community Management team under Marzie's and Loofii's guidance, the team is excited to be creating and managing brand new social media accounts! With goals such as getting Mineplex's very own Content Creators and community involved, the Social Media team intends to take TikTok, Youtube and Twitter by storm! Plus, they have a snazzy new purple tag to show off. We are excited to see what comes with these new accounts and we hope to provide an update on their progress in a couple of months!

Introduce yourself and the team(s) you're now leading!

slip: "My name is Slip and I currently lead the Quality Assurance and Game Insights teams. I also host the private Staff SMP that many staff members and subteam members have played on."

Marzie: "I am Marzie! My original role as Admin was just supposed to be the Community Management Admin, but that semi changed as we merged the Social Media team into Community Management. So, I guess you can say I'm the SM & CoM Admin now? Take it as you will I suppose lol"

Toki: "Hey I'm Toki or Taco! Some of my hobbies include going to the zoo, fishing, binge watching too much TV, and playing games! I'm currently the admin for Staff Management, Recruitment, Rules Committee, and Discord Management!"

What are some of your plans for your newly led team(s) and how would you like to go about them?

slip: "Right now with the lack of development going on, there isn't much for the teams to do. On QA/QAT, we are

continuing to respond to bug reports, GWEN appeals, and handle closet cheaters. Once things settle down a bit more on the development side of things I'm hoping to open community/staff QAT applications and promote some QA members."

Marzie: "With SM joining CoM and talking over plans with Dean & the SM team, we decided to start doing Tik Tok, YouTube, and Twitter. I have also gone ahead and promoted Loofii to be the Social Media team lead (think of this like what Bunni does as EA Lead within CoM) to help out with that side of things. We plan to have Tik Tok be the first project to be worked on as it's likely the most viable in our eyes. Other plans I had in mind with this all happening was to have some community content be featured on these platforms and also involve our Content Creators if they were interested in doing such a thing. People have asked what kinds of content will be featured on these platforms: we will be working with all things we currently have on the Java/Bedrock servers and not so much "new/upcoming" things. So, the skin packs and marketplace promotions that were the main thing on Twitter/Discord are, for now, a thing of the past. You can look forward to seeing much more content that is community-driven/based. On the event side of things, we don't currently have too

much planned as we're trying to get all the Social Media members settled into CoM and getting their plans going first. After all, what's better to do than promote events on your new social media accounts? Other than that, I've given one of our sub-teams for CoM, Event Assistance (EA), more freedom with prizes. At the time of writing this, they can now give prizes at their own events (of course they have guidelines, so don't go asking for wild things), so I hope you all get more prizes as well during those events! I hope to have an update on the Social Media stuff in the coming weeks, so until then keep your eyes peeled."

Toki: "Recruitment is the newest team that I've started leading and I've already made a ton of changes. The first thing I did when I got the team was to meet with all of the members and get a feel for what they want for the team. After doing that, I started to make some changes to some of our most outdated internal resources like our Trello Boards, and Documents. I plan to start making more "public facing" changes to Recruitment (hopefully, if we have enough time) sometime in February (such as requirements, our blacklisting system, BAT2, and more)."

How was the transition to admin or managing another team? Did you feel prepared for the role or is it challenging to get used to?

slip: “When I heard that Maggie was resigning from her admin position I was quite shocked. I hadn't expected her to leave, let alone suggest that I become the next QA admin. I've been in a few management positions before at Mineplex, so I wasn't too worried about becoming the admin of both teams. It's also a lot easier because I already know a lot of the current team members and are familiar with how they work on a team. I definitely don't know everything about being in my position currently, but I have no doubt that I'll be able to adapt and overcome any challenges that might occur.”

Marzie: “Not gonna lie, it's been a bit hectic. This is mainly due to the sudden change of the Social Media team being merged into Community Management basically the day of me getting Admin. I thought that if I ever did get Admin it would likely be easy and I'd likely be prepared since I did a lot already in managing subteams, but I underestimated how much goes into being Admin. However, as the days have been going on it has been slightly slowing down, but still slightly hectic at the time of writing this. Dean, Toki,

and EmmaLie did an amazing job helping me with questions and everything though. Me and slip even help each other with commands and bug each other on things too. So, while my mind is a bit jumbled these days, it's still a very fun experience and friendly environment.”

Toki: “Since I've been an admin for a little more than four years, adding another team to lead under my belt was actually pretty easy. I already kind of know what my expectations are for my teams, the sort of internal formats I prefer for our Discords, Trellos, Documents, etc. The only challenge was learning the actual Recruitment processes since I've never been a Recruiter myself, however I had the amazing members of the team to help me out!”

What was it like being a Helper/Trainee, and now all the way as an Admin? Have you changed much as a person and if so how, did you ever think of joining different teams in the past, and, finally, how do you feel now?

slip: “I originally became a Trainee in March of 2019, roughly three/four years ago. After two months, I was promoted to Moderator and I was extremely excited. Over this period, my mentors were SnowyKitty (shoutout TeaSpiller), xUmbreon, and

Sven. As a moderator, I joined quite a few teams, including RP, CCC, CMA, MA, and QAT. It's honestly quite frightening to think about how much I've changed since I first became a staff member, I've definitely grown a lot in maturity and experience since my time as a Trainee. Back then I was just a young teenager who was thrilled to be staff. Nowadays I have a new appreciation for the server. I've made many great friends & memories on it and I hope to help the community the best I can as an admin."

Marzie: "Going from Trainee to Admin has been a wild ride. There were a lot of times where I just wanted to resign and people kept telling me to as well. I always said, "yeah I'll probably resign soon" and then kept myself around with team promotions and the people around me on the staff team. I remember when the staff team was on Slack still and I got my Mod promotion message from Dean while I was in school. I was so happy and couldn't wait to get home to see all the new things to do and learn. Not long after that one of my batch buddies and a few others kept urging me to join FM[A] (used to be Forum Mod, now Forum Management Assistance) and saying how amazing the team was. At this point in time, I hated forums with every

fibre of my being. It was like typing essays constantly. I wrote a slight joke application with not much detail and was..somehow.. accepted. I gave it a try and ended up falling in love with the forums. Later getting promoted to my first Sr. Mod team, Forum Ninja. My Trainee Mentor Whif came back to the server and saw I was Sr. Mod and yelled at me saying, "WRONG TEAMMM WHY AREN'T YOU ES, wasn't that your dream team???" Yes, ES/CoM was my dream team but didn't need people at the time. Funnily enough, I was only an FN for three months before being asked to join ES. Sadly, I really didn't want to leave FN and I missed it so much over the course of being ES. Luckily, Wanderer and the old FM team were kind enough to let me dual ES and FM. After a lot of changes, a lot of sub-team promotions and management promotions along with creation and disbands of teams, I eventually got to be the Admin of my Trainee self's dream team. It's really a bittersweet time for this to happen, but I'm still very happy it happened at all.

When I was just a small Trainee, my personality was very much different back then, and that was only almost six years ago. I was a quiet and shy person who didn't like talking to anyone. I barely

typed to anyone outside of my friend group. I kept my personality in as much as possible as that was what I felt I needed to do as a Trainee at the time and I always undermined myself and was not confident in my abilities at all. As time went on, there were people who brought me out of that shell/cover and I was gaining confidence as time went on. While I'm still not completely confident, I at the very least know now that I'm not alone in that boat. I thought Admins were always these perfect people who knew everything almost perfectly, but boy was I wrong when I actually started speaking to them. I'm not sure why all these misconceptions were a thing or why that's how it looked to me. Now, I feel like I've learned so much social-wise and skill-wise to bring out my confidence and personality."

Toki: "Being a helper back towards the end of 2014 was honestly a wild time. Back then there wasn't a whole lot of supervision or structure to the staffing process (when I was promoted to mod back then I even had the option of not having a mod mentor which looking back is really weird). Not to diss any one person specifically either but for a long time while I was a helper/mod, a lot of the former admins were pretty inactive and uninvolved with the staff team unfortunately (which was just how

things were done back then). As a mod I originally wanted to join Helper/Trainee Management, I applied and interviewed for it but was ultimately denied. The former admin of Moderator Coordination (ishh) then invited me to Mod Coord which I stayed on until it eventually merged with Trainee Management to become Staff Management, so things kinda turned out nicely there. Being an admin has been fantastic, I'm able to help the staff team all of the time and really be there for them whenever they need me, which is the most important thing for me. I've changed quite a bit as a person since first joining the team, I'm able to be more social (when I first started I would never fathom the thought of talking to someone in VC), I've made lots of friends, I'm able to stand up for myself more, and I've developed a ton of other traits that have helped me in my IRL job too."

Huge thanks to slip, Marzie and Toki for taking the time to sit down with us and telling us a bit about them! We are excited to see what's in store for Quality Assurance, Community Management and Recruitment under new guidance.

Love Letters

By TheBlueComet

Love is in the air, and Valentine's day is coming up soon! During this special time, we hope you spend time with those who bring you joy in your life. Last month we provided a form to allow you to write a special letter to someone who makes your life worthwhile. Listed below are some of the responses!

Anonymous -> abletostrafe: “For a long time now, I have had a serious crush on you, but had no idea how to express it. I actually looked for some cute paragraphs to say to your crush so that I don't come off as too pushy or inappropriate, but none of them matched my feelings. Only then did I realize that there is no need for a fancy way to say “I love you.” You make me laugh and you make me smile. I don't even know if you will ever even see this but I loved your videos, and you should come back. You have a unique voice that feels me up with joy. Happy Valentine's day xoxoxo!”

Widestsinger982 -> ForevrrFury: “Not really a love letter Fury, but I just wanted to say thank you for everything you've done for the mp community and me. Thank you for all the videos, it really did

help me learn a lot more about Cip as I knew almost nothing about him or the stats. Also, I wanted to say thank you for bothering to put up with and talk to me and being such a kind friend, I know we joke around a lot and make fun of each other a lot, but deep down my experience would be more depressing and boring without you.”

Emiliee -> thejoshxgames: “Hi! I love you! I cannot believe it'll be six years this year, and we somehow made our way back to Mineplex. Thank you for all the support you've given me, for being there when I need someone, for driving me around at 3 a.m. because you are too scared of my driving, and for caring for our daughter when I'm at class. I cannot wait to see what life brings us!”

Toki -> Staff Team: “This Valentine's Day I'm once again showing my enormous amount of love and appreciation for the staff team. This place would honestly not be the same without you guys and while I know things haven't been wonderful lately, I admire each and every contribution you all make to do what you can for this place & the people here.”

Loofii -> Dutty: "O mine love I
Remember those nights
On the open sea
I remember those nights
I sat with thee, I sat with
My thoughts of you, unspoken
Water sang pink, hearts bleed unbroken
Sunset over sails and the wind strikes
my cheek
Wandering infinite rivers if only to seek
Some destination I had never found
Or perhaps it lay there in my hand
Just as the wheel guides the mast

O mine love, I beg
Pick up your scabbard
Weary soul do return to
Our once wooden castle
Cross horizon once more
Arm yourself with my fingers
Though rough they may be
In the waves, your face lingers

emma dutty please play sea of thieves
again with me please please please i
miss you please please please please.
please. please. please. please i m iss
syou so mcuhh please plelase. im
begiging you pleaess"

xLeopard -> MyLostSoul: "Happy valentines Colton!! When we first started talking, what, 5 years ago? I never would have guessed we'd end up hanging out every day after work watching terrible Nicolas Cage movies and joking about oats, but here we are. And I could not be happier with how we've chosen to spend our time together, because even though it's dumb it's spent with you <3"

Thank you to everyone who participated and I wish that this Valentine's day will bring you love and joy.



Caption the Bedrock Image

By WinteryOsprey38

For the month of February, we decided to revive Caption the Image! Being something we haven't seen for many months, we have decided to add a twist and feature a Bedrock image. Following the holiday season, many of us have returned to school for the New Year, so we have picked an image representing a common school experience for millions of students worldwide.

It has been a long morning at school, you've been craving some pizza, and now you're waiting patiently in line at the cafeteria. You have been standing in this spot for what seems like weeks and empty

stomachs growling around you. Perhaps you will finally be able to eat soon? Hopefully, your lunch will be worth the wait...

This image was taken in Creative Housing - credit goes to JustJvkeW for providing us with this excellent build.

Three lucky winners will receive their choice of either 2 Mythical Chests (Java) or an Imperial Chest (Bedrock).

If you can think of a clever caption, submit your answer here for a chance to win!
<https://forms.gle/j7gzbu1vH3b5VRxE8>

December Staff Statistics

By chhase

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.

Bedrock Trainee

January 14: Respectab1e

Java Moderator

January 18: BroActually, Pangaea_

Administrator

January 20: Marzie (Community Management),
qaslip (Quality Assurance)

Resignations

December 31: ReyBot (Clans Management)

January 7: Arjun (Recruitment)

January 8: Islendingurinn (Recruitment Admin)

January 15: Baloo (Clans Management),
Timmi6790 (Developer)

January 20: EmmaLie (Community
Management & Social Media Admin)

January 21: Arshaad_73 (Builder)

January 23: danb76

January 31: unrelease (Builder)

1 Year Milestones

January 22, 2022: Looof

2 Year Milestones

January 9, 2021: BloodOfTheKings,
Bob16077777

January 15, 2021: Mappable

3 Year Milestones

January 18, 2020: chhase, Dacuments

5 Year Milestones

January 5, 2018: Tylarr

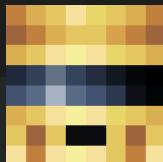
6 Year Milestones

January 6, 2017: FairestLordHarry

Meet the Team



ddgifer: Hey y'all, I am ddgolfer and I am the Newsletter Lead! I hope you all enjoyed this month's edition!



Tortelett: feburative pdf making noises

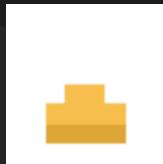


Sophie_OGrady: I edt the nl.

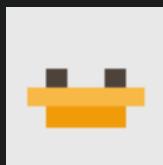
Meet the Team



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

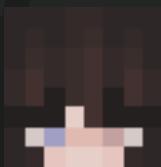


chhase: goose admin, editor, and staff statistics writer



Looof: Bustdowns on it let's play freeze tag (tag you it)

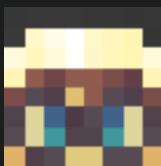
Meet the Team



maevestarbaby: hii i'm maeve, a uni student as well as a mineplex sr moderator and writer for the newsletter!



WinteryOsprey38: Hey, I'm WinteryOsprey38! I'm a writer for the Newsletter and a big lover of sushi



TheBlueComet: Howdy! I am Comet! I do Build Team things