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CREATED BY THE NEWSLETTER AND MEDIA STAFF

ISSUE 46

# EDITION

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# C O N T E N T S

latest ppc update AND MORE	PAGE 1	JULY Crossword	PAGE 8
game insights discord <b>CHANGES</b>	PAGE 2	caption the IMAGE	PAGE 9
who is the translations TEAM?	PAGE 3	guess the Location	PAGE 10
what's in a <b>NAME?</b>	PAGE 5	NEWSLETTER STAFF BIOS	PAGE 11
JUNE STAFF Statistics	PAGE 7		

# LATEST PPC UPDATE AND MORE! BY: XUMBREON

As the warmth of June starts to reveal itself and the school year comes to a close, one might find themselves playing on Mineplex more and more. What better way to kick off the summer than with a PPC update?

That is right, you read correctly! On June 3rd, all PPC users got to experience what the month of June had to offer with some brand new features. There were a plethora of new additions including 3 monthly shard bombs, triple jumping in lobbies, and an in-game chat icon. Furthermore, you can meet fellow subscribers and make new friends with the all-new PPC community.

The June PPC, "Bakers Delight", has many things to offer, so make sure you check it out. If you don't have PPC and you are itching to receive these perks, head over to www.mineplex.com/powerplayclub to subscribe!

Though, PPC members were not the only Mineplex players to get a taste of a new update. Plenty of bugs were fixed, and game amplifiers received brand new features. The amplifier NPC has been added to the Arcade lobby, and /thank rewards have increased from 5 to 15 treasure shards for both parties. What are you waiting for? Come in-game to check it out!

The full update changelog can be found here: www.mineplex.com/threads/ppc-amps-update-6-03-19.45146



# GAME INSIGHTS DISCORD CHANGES! BY: SOPHIE\_OGRADY, DEMOTD

The Game Insights discord, now known as Community Insights, recently underwent several changes to become a feedback hub for Mineplex. With this, the Ideas and Game Insights teams are working under the same roof, ensuring efficient communication to achieve ideal outcomes for the community. The discord will expand its focus past only games in order to acquire more feedback on a variety of features around the network. To further understand these changes, the Newsletter Team had the privilege to ask the Game Insights leads, DanielW231 and xVanessa about the changes.

#### Why has GI gone through these changes?

Daniel: "We underwent these changes in the hopes of creating a community-oriented feedback 'hub' of sorts, including the GI, Ideas and Feedback team all in the one discord. We've transitioned from the heavily game-centered discord into a place where other feedback on other areas of the network can be heard. By having these teams together under one roof, we will greatly increase efficiency and effectiveness in order to allow the community as a collective to produce the highest quality feedback and updates for the network."

Vanessa: "We wanted to make the team more efficient and change the way the system works so that production can get the most use out of the team. We also wanted to try and increase communication between Community Management and all of our subteams as we are all working towards the same goal, making Mineplex the best it can be and giving community members a voice.'

What is the most beneficial aspect of these changes in your opinion? Daniel: "Having the GI discord incorporate more general feedback channels to allow us to expand past focusing on game-specific suggestions and changes, but to start producing feedback and suggested updates for a larger range of features on the network."

Vanessa: "Being more efficient is always a positive in my eyes. With these changes it also gives GI members more work which I know they have been looking for. But I think the most beneficial aspect is communication. GI became a Community Management subteam a little over a year ago and before these changes there was little to no internal communication between the teams. While I know some people preferred the previous system, hopefully this new one will allow for a better workflow for everyone involved."

#### How do you see these changes influencing players to be more involved with GI?

Daniel: "Already we've seen a large increase of members present in our discord and we're hoping this number keeps rising, allowing more people to provide their feedback and have discussions with other like-minded individuals."

Vanessa: "Players were already quite involved with the GI process and I don't think these changes, change too much of that. They can already participate in discussions and collaborate with GI members on update and post patch documents. With these updates we just hoped to create a more organized system of creating the documents."

#### What is the foreseeable future of GI looking like?

Daniel: "Pretty exciting, hopefully a game update soon..." Vanessa: "Since all of the major changes are done we're creating/updating our update documents for whenever production needs them."



### WHO IS THE TRANSLATIONS TEAM? BY: SVEN

"Translation is not a matter of words only: it is a matter of making intelligible a whole culture." - Anthony Burgess

When the Mineplex Bedrock Server first launched, the only language available to play in was English and served well to its US-dominated player base at the time. Since then, however, the Mineplex Bedrock community has grown exponentially and expanded geographically to a plethora of different countries all over the world. As a result, the Translations Team (TT) was established to meet the ever-changing linguistic needs of the Mineplex community and strides continue to be made to ensure the server is as accessible in as many languages as possible.

But what does this team do, exactly, and why would one consider joining it? I spoke with some members of the Translation Team to find out.

For Nicodami, a Mineplex community member and a French translator on the team, much of the work translators do is collaborative with other translators of the same language working together, all while having a lot of fun:

Nicodami: "With the help of the other members of the French team, we are in charge of making the bedrock server more accessible to European Francophones. Every so often, we receive 'strings' which are phrases of text we need to translate. We usually get a few weeks to translate them all before they are sent live on the Bedrock server. In between these periods of translation, considering there cannot be an update on a weekly basis with new content, I usually hang out in the TT chats with the other team members! A lot of banter takes place there, in addition to some intensive cookie eating! ;)."

As a manager of TT, community member TobiGoro discusses the caveats of responsibilities that are integral as a supervisor overseeing the team:

**TobiGoro:** "My work varies quite a lot. I do most of the fabulous behind the scenes work that is necessary for this team to function and develop in the best way possible! Whenever we finish a project, Lili and I cover the activity level of our individual members whilst making sure that everyone has fulfilled their reasonable quotas as well as dealing with the bad cookies who failed at the latter. With this, we are also constantly working on making the experience of being on the team one of the best. This includes, but is definitely not limited to; brainstorming new event ideas, creating neat and easily available documents for the members and engaging with our members as much as possible."

So TT does more than just translate words and phrases, but what keeps these members around? What is their favourite part about the team?

For Nicodami, the friendships that he has been able to make with people from all over the world is uniquely special and constitutes as one of his favourite memories on Mineplex:



### WHO IS THE TRANSLATIONS TEAM? BY: SVEN

Nicodami: "It is such a rewarding experience to get to interact with people living all around the world on a daily basis. We frequently have discussions about our different cultural backgrounds, the news in our countries, etc. I would say these chats we have are one of my best memories on the team as they are very interesting for someone interested in international understanding, and they usually turn out to be very funny!"

Conversely, TobiGoro finds incredible value in collaborating with people from different cultural backgrounds and lifestyles than their own and seeing their translations be applied to the server:

**TobiGoro:** "My favorite part is, without a doubt, the multicultural aspect of being on a translations team, specifically because we are all translating a topic we all appreciate. Being able to discuss different aspects of your culture such as education systems, food, family traditions and whatnot is simply amazing. The fact that I can share and discuss said topics is really interesting as it is not necessarily something everyone gets to do, and I find myself very privileged to be able to do that on a daily basis. Recently, a member of our team was on a trip to Germany, and they discovered this chocolate cookie called "Knoppers" and posted a picture of these. A good amount of members ended up commenting on the matter with "omg they're so good", "Knoppers in the US when" and I literally could not help but smile. It is a persistent joke on our team at this point, and I just find it incredibly funny. It has great potential of becoming our trademark at some point."

It seems as though the TT is unique from other teams here on Mineplex, so I have learned. I was intrigued and finally asked whether they would recommend joining the team and here is what they had to say:

**TobiGoro:** "Heck. Yes. If you know a language aside from English and you see it below the "Open Applications" header, you should totally apply right now. Do not even consider reading further than this, you should just apply now. Jokes aside, you should really consider applying for the team - we are always looking for new members, and we would love to have you on here! If you would like to incorporate a part of your culture on to the Mineplex Network, you should not even be hesitating, now is your time to shine!"

Nicodami: "I would definitely recommend everyone to apply if they can speak one of the languages in need for new translators. TT truly is a great team to be in, at the heart of Mineplex's international community. The workload is very easy to cope with, and you might even get some really cool perks you might not suspect because of it! If you are interested in allowing hundreds or even thousands of non-English speakers to play on the server through sharing your bilingual knowledge and hang out in a really chill and cool environment, you know what to do!"

The Translations Team is currently looking for Japanese, Russian, Croatian and Portuguese (EU) translators! If you are bilingual and have a passion for languages, then this is the team for you. Head over to www.mineplex.com/translations to apply!

A big thank you to Lili, TobiGoro and Nicodami for their contributions to this article. **PAGE FOUR** 

# WHAT'S IN A NAME? BY: ARJUN

Have you ever seen some players around that were quite active in the community and wondered how they came up with their username and the significance behind it? Well, this article is for you! Mineplex is home to thousands of players filled with original usernames so, we decided to go around the community and find some of the most original and interesting origins behind their Minecraft username.

In this article, we interviewed community members ChampSky37, BarfCraft100, and Smaland47 along with two staff members, Epicbuilder435 and hazeae24!

**ChampSky37:** "I got my username "ChampSky37" a few years back, and it looks pretty nooby if you look at it in the lobbies or games, but I like that feel in a username. The username itself is divided up by 3 parts, "Champ", "Sky", and "37". "Champ" was one of my very first usernames when I first got into PC games and website games that you could make accounts for and save your progress. It also stuck with me since most players call me "Champ" anyways, making me grow attached to that nickname in a way. "Sky" is actually my real life nickname that I am called on a day to day basis. Finally, "37" has always been my lucky number as far as I can remember. The earliest visual memory I have relating to the number dates back to about 4th grade when we picked numbers in gym class to decide who would take the first turn to pick teammates for dodgeball. Since I was a team captain, I got to pick a number 1-100 to decide if I would pick first or second, and I chose 37."

**Epicbuilder435:** "When I first got Minecraft, my friend and I were thinking about a Minecraft username that would suit me. At the time, I was a builder and enjoyed building all the time. That inspired me to chose "epicbuilder" because I thought I was pretty good at building (I wasn't). As for the numbers, they were pretty random. I've always liked having 3 numbers after names so I chose those 3 to represent my amazing name. I haven't changed it because I hope to keep it and continue repping my 12-year-self's name."

**BarfCraft100:** "When I was very young, I was setting up my Minecraft account with my sister, and I used to play a lot of "cracked Minecraft" before where my username was poop100. When I attempted to create my official Minecraft account, the username was already taken, so we later tried fart100 and poop50. My sister suggested something silly, like 'Barf' and add 'Craft' since it's related to Minecraft. We added the number 100 because I really wanted a number in my name!"



# WHAT'S IN A NAME? BY: ARJUN

hazeae24: "I didn't make my name... my mother did. Yes, the gamer mom who occasionally crashes events and my meetings made hazeae24 a reality. My name is divided into three parts: "haze", "ae", and "24". When I was a child, my dad would always call me "Haze", so the nickname has stuck with me ever since then. When my mom created my personal Minecraft account back in 2012, she included "haze" in the username so that it wasn't too revealing of my actual name (Hailey) but still personal. The "ae" part of my name actually come from my initials — sorry, not giving that info out today! Lastly, the 24 is significant of my birthday: July 24th! Even though my name may seem a bit nooby or doesn't make sense, it encompasses who I am. Thank you to my mom for making my account and not letting 12 year old me ruin my gaming career by giving myself a cringey name."

Smaland47: "While it's not a regular occurrence, I sometimes get asked about my username. It's a country in Sweden, which gets people asking if I'm Swedish. I'm not. I first started using this username while looking for a username on Club Penguin when my age was in the single digits. Having no ideas, I turned to my mom for help. She would often go on trips to IKEA, and would take my sister and me along, where she'd stick us at the IKEA kids play place...Småland. The username... was my mom's suggestion. The previous one was spongebob. I disagreed with spongebob as a username. And here we are. The 47 is a random number that got picked up along the way, due to Smaland by itself being taken on Minecraft."

When we see a username in a Mineplex game or lobby, we never truly realize the potential significance behind each username and these stories illustrated that.

A huge thanks to ChampSky37, Epicbuilder435, BarfCraft100, hazeae24, and Smaland47 for sharing the inspiration and significance behind their Minecraft usernames!



# JUNE STAFF STATISTICS! BY: HUSKIEALS

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

#### **Promotions:**

#### Java Trainee

June 1 - Eclipciz, darkmeen, Wolfayy June 8 - AceSJus, PieOrPi June 22 - AppleFTW, Arcrean, DeMotD, iDaimyo, n8wes, Notserrp, OverlySalted, Tours, xOeuf

#### **Bedrock Trainee**

June 1 - Hypelexity, MrAwoo June 8 - CertainScroll34, FlamingKnight08, xailiabro June 22 - ShqdyyMC

#### Java Mod

June 2 - SkarmMines June 9 - StephenCries June 17 - Eat June <u>2</u>2 - Evgeen, Glamourized, hazl

Bedrock Mod June 2 - Paradise Luxur

Java Senior Mod June 1 - Iukafin, SoulHardy (Quality Assurance) June 7 - reallytired (Quality Assurance) June 21 - CaptainPigmans (Clans Management) June 22 - florence, wixco, xFrazer, ZTB (Social Media) June 23 - Doctar (Forum Ninja)

#### **1 Year Milestones:**

June 2 - \_H2O June 2 - worldcom June 9 - reallytired June 23 - Augend June 23 - Joiined June 23 - PandaFyre

2 Year Milestones: June 6 - anuenue June 28 - Flaym

**3 Year Milestones:** June 17 - Look\_Dan June 24 - NaiculS

4 Year Milestones: June 5 - millenium200

#### **Resignations:**

June 7 - DarkNinja2004X June 7 - worldcom June 7 - TeaSpiller (Quality Assurance) June 13 - Stxne (Quality Assurance) June 20 - ScrompLord June 30 - Jadguar June 30 - Dudeguy (Social Media)



# **CROSSWORD!** BY: AGLTHREE

Looking for something to do now that summer's on its way? A crossword is a perfect way to idly pass time while soaking up the warm summer sun! Despite their reputation for being tricky, crosswords are fun puzzles to take on if you are up for a challenge. The objective of a crossword is to use the clues in order to fill out the entire puzzle. Each clue has a number and runs across or down; the corresponding word is labeled with the same number as the clue and will either run across the board or down, depending on which column the clue is located in. Use these clues to fill out the entire board! The theme of this month's crossword is Mineplex, so each clue leads to a Mineplex-related word. If you know the server well and want to ponder upon some tricky riddles, this would be a great activity for you!

The crossword can be found below, so get a pencil and your Mineplex trivia knowledge, and dive right in! For those who want to see if they correctly solved the puzzle, the answer key will be released on July 26th in a forum post by the author of this article, so keep your eyes peeled for that!



Full sized image for printing out: https://i.imgur.com/IFm99kl.png

### PAGE EIGHT

# CAPTION THE IMAGE! BY: SSNIP

With summer in full swing, boredom is surely beginning to weigh on you. What better than to entertain yourself than with another Caption the Image? Take a peek at the image below and think of a hilarious, serious, or random caption that goes along with it. Then, submit your one of a kind piece through the link provided below. In next month's edition, you just might find your imaginative caption featured for all to see! Are you up to the challenge?

Here is the image you will be captioning this month.



Please submit your responses here. https://forms.gle/vFeUnt9pySQtyKc86

As always, here are some of the captions provided by our readers from last month's article and the image they captioned.



FabianTruck: "Looked cute, might blow up your house later." RedditCredit: "Yes, I've dabbled in the world of building before, what of it?" Bluebadger11: "So how do I tame it, do I just walk up close and pet it?"



# **GUESS THE LOCATION!** BY: FLAWSOME

The launch of a Newsletter every month entails new and exciting articles for your entertainment and another way to extend your knowledge about the ongoings happening around the server. But that's not all that the Newsletter has to offer! Each new release opens yet another opportunity for you to win two Mythical Chests by participating in the Newsletter's monthly game: Guess the Location!

The task is simple: below, you will find an image taken somewhere in the Mineplex lobby and it is your job to guess its location! Submit your answer in the form provided for a chance to be one of our three winners in next month's Newsletter. The better your description, the higher your chances of winning!

Do you know where this image was taken?



Submit your answer here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdMIezOanRLMEBJrRaEhp3xhf5iEQXrg\_ccPgV30LddOw6Lfg/viewform

Lastly, congratulations to our winners for last month: Blang MCCharity Nicodami



# NEWSLETTER STAFF BIOS



Tortelett: Hi I made the pdf this month.



**Enunciated:** Hello! I'm Enunciated, one of the managers for the Newsletter. I'm currently a Sr.Moderator who is on a variety of teams including the Newsletter. Outside of Mineplex, I enjoy biking, hanging out with friends, and swimming. I'm always up for meeting new people and love playing games such as Overwatch or Destiny in my free time & can usually be found in Nano Games, so don't be afraid to say hi!



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, editor, and team co-lead for the newsletter!



**Emiliee:** Hey, my name is Emilie! I'm a Mineplex Titan and a writer for the Newsletter. I'm also a previous Social Media Sr.Mod. Outside of Mineplex, I am a psychology major on a pre-med track. I am currently a research assistant researching new anxiety treatment methods as well! Hope you enjoy this issue!



HuskieALS: Hey! I'm Huskie and am a Sr.Mod on Staff Management! I'm also also the Mentoring and Documents Manager for StM. 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!

flawsome: I'm a writer for this thing called the Mineplex Newsletter, don't know if you've heard of it but I heard it's pretty cool. I also love dogs and food... and that's about it. Party! xo

Spoiler: Hi! I'm Spoiler, a writer and editor for Mineplex's newsletter program. As a senior in high school, I'm officially enrolled at Stony Brook University although I'm not really sure what I'll be pursuing, but I will be starting in the Fall.

AGLThree: Hola! I'm AGLThree and I am a writer and editor for the Newsletter! I'm currently a Sr. Mod on Recruitment and am on two subteams, including Newsletter. Outside of Mineplex, I enjoy chilling with my dog and my family, as well as watching Netflix, reading, writing, and going on walks or runs. If you see me around on the network, feel free to say hi!

### PAGE ELEVEN

# NEWSLETTER STAFF BIOS



**xUmbreon:** Hello! I'm Umbreon, but feel free to call me Alex. I'm currently a Sr. Mod on the Staff Management team. When I'm not on Mineplex, I'm usually playing tennis, hanging out with friends, playing Pokemon, or playing with my two cats. Feel free to say hi whenever you see me! :)



Arjun: Yo! I'm Arjun and I'm a Moderator here on Mineplex. I spend most of my time playing games on the server and dedicating my efforts to my subteams; RA, RP, NL, and Gl. I'm a pretty competitive player who's always down to play some games, so if you ever see me around and wanna play some PvP games let me know!

**DeMotD:** Hi there! My name is DeMotD and I'm currently a Mineplex trainee! I am a part of the Newsletter team as an editor and writer. You can usually find me moderating lobbies or grinding Cake Wars! In my free time, I like to play a lot of Destiny and Beat Saber. Feel free to say hi to me if you ever find me in game!

Sven: Bonjour everyone! My name is Sven and I am a moderator here on Mineplex. When I am not busy writing and editing articles, you can catch me hanging out in Lobby 1 or sweating in an intense game of Super Smash Mobs. Anywho, I hope you enjoy this month's issue!

Shaiym: Hello gamers! I'm Shaiym and I'm a writer for the Newsletter. I'm currently a Moderator here on Mineplex, as well as a member of IT, EA, and RP. You'll most likely see me playing some Nano Games on the network or discussing ideas on the forums. If you see me around, don't be afraid to say hi!

Sophie\_OGrady: I'm an editor for the newsletter, a member of the Game Insights team and an ex-staff member! You can find me around the forums and chatting on the discord.

Ξ.

Iscariot: I wrote this bio in unicorn tears. It is now pretty.

### PAGE TWELVE