

East Middle Trivia Tournament

By: Ethan Melling

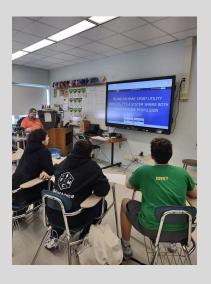
The 2025 East Middle Trivia
Tournament, hosted by Mr. Frank,
concluded on March 2nd, with "Team #5"
winning against "The Leftover
All-Stars." The winning team consisted
of Lucas Devine, Landon Fullone, and
Ethan Melling.

All of the teams in the competition competed fiercely to win. The first round was a wild card game to see who would make it through to the real tournament. The wild card round was played on February 4th; "Team #1" with



Easton Billi, Sean
Chen, and Ujesh
Gorsai played "We're
Not That Stupid" with
Caden Tymorek, Fox
Wasiela, and Lukas
Silwinski. The game
was won by "We're Not
That Stupid",
allowing them to move
into the tournament.
The next game was
played by "We're Not

That Stupid" and "[Insert Team
Name Here]" with
Kyle McLaren,
Lamar Bethany,
and Parker
O'Neil. The
competition was
elite but, in the
end, "[Insert
Team Name Here]"
pulled ahead,
advancing to the
semi-finals.



The second wild card game was played on Monday, February 10th, with



"The Quizzard of Oz"-a team with Gavin Felker, Ian Bader, and Richard Kahanick, Jr.- facing off against "Silly Kitties" with

Nora Cook, Grace Woods, and Zoey Bochenek. In the end, "The Quizzard of Oz" defeated "Silly Kitties."

On Tuesday, Feb 11th, the "Jeopardy Jesters" consisting of Owen Park, Deo Trinkle, and Rahman Hossain faced the "Leftover All-Stars" with Bella Lazewski, Fox Wasiela, and Nora Cook. In

the end, the "Leftover All-Stars" beat the "Jeopardy Jesters."

On Wednesday, Feb 12th, The "Three Musketeers" with Aiden Pounders, Zac Park, and Ian Crandall competed against "The Quizzard of Oz." Both teams played



hard but "The Quizzard of Oz" won, advancing to the semi-finals.
On Thursday, Feb 13,
"Team #5" with Lucas
Devine, Landon Fullone, and Ethan Melling
playing against "The
Smart Kids" with Quinton
McGee, Eli Osborne, and
Ryan Mangione. "Team #5"

won the game.

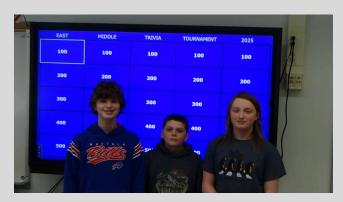
The semi-finals started on Tuesday, March 4th, "[Insert Team Name Here]" played "The Leftover All-Stars," with "The Leftover All-Stars" winning, allowing them to advance to the finals. The next game of the semi-finals was

"The Quizzard of Oz" against
"Team #5."
"Team #5" won, putting them in the finals as well.



The final game commenced on Wednesday, March 12th, with "Team #5" facing "The Leftover All-Stars." It was a very fierce competition and was very close coming into "Double Jeopardy;" however, by "Final Jeopardy," "Team #5" had a commanding lead. In the end, "Team #5" won the competition! The competition was very good; I almost thought we wouldn't win.

We hope Mr. Frank will continue to host these competitions, as they are very entertaining to participate in and watch!



Leftover All-Stars
Team #5

Ramadan and Eid

By: Aisha Nayel

As the light grey moon emerges shining up in the sky, starting in the chosen month from the 1st to the 30th, this marks the start of the holy month of Ramadan. All Muslims around the world prepare for another peaceful beginning, a chapter of fasting, being pleased, and cherishing others.

Understanding Ramadan and why it is a meaningful month:

Ramadan is the holiest month in Islam and it is observed by millions of Muslims around the world. This month holds mentality, gratitude, and patience in the ones who have issues and need help getting themselves together and having to learn self discipline. Ramadan is believed to be the month when the Quran (Islamic Holy Book) was revealed to Prophet Muhammed. This month is the most meaningful because it is the time for all Muslims to grow their relationship and strengths with Allah (God).

Why do Muslims fast? What is the meaning behind it? What is fasting?

Muslims fast primarily during this month. This shows as an act of worship. Fasting is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. The meaning behind fasting is to show submission to Allah (God). Fasting is where Muslims don't eat or drink from sunrise to sunset. During the time being, Muslims pray 5 times a day, do Zakat (Charity) and read the holy Quran (Holy Book).

All about Eid al-fitr and Eid al-adha:

Eid is one of the most significant celebrations in the Islamic calendar, marking the end of the holiest 30 days. For Muslims there are 2 types of eids, Eid al- Fitr and Eid al- Adha. Eid al-fitr is the Eid after Ramadan and this holiday celebrates the completion

of fasting, reflection and all cherish. Eid al-fitr lasts 1 day and during this day all Muslims go to Eid prayer. Muslims prepare treats and have family gatherings. Eid al-Adha is the celebration that occurs in the 12th month of the Islamic lunar calendar. Eid Al-Adha is where Muslims sacrifice to the families who can afford a large meal. They typically portion sheep, goat, cow etc. in which is called Qurbani (Animal sacrifices). Eid al-adha is more significant and important than Eid al-fitr for several particular reasons. This month marks the willingness of Prophet Ibrahim to sacrifice his son Ismail in obedience to God's command. This holiday also commits to the fifth pillar of Islam, Hajj. Eid al- Adha lasts 3 days more than Eid alfitr.

Spring Sports

By: Ariannah Hill

There are lots of spring sports available for all kids at East Middle School to try out for.

Modified baseball is coached by Mr. Kriegbaum. According to seventh grader Noah Blaszak, the team gets along well. In the most recent game, Noah made a diving catch. He said, "I flew like an airplane in the air and got the ball. It was a good feeling to make that catch, especially when you love the game."

Ms. Zurek is the coach of modified softball. Currently their record is 2-3. Coach Zurek said, "Lila F. is a great fielder that can play anywhere she is needed and has a great bat! Addison B. is a great infielder and has made some great plays at 2nd base with throwouts to 1st. Isabella I. has a great arm and skills as a catcher. She is always positive and has great communication skills with ensuring the rest of the players know the plays and outs. All the girls



try their best during every game and put forth

West Seneca East Middle great effort at each

contest."

In **track and field** there are a lot of events, such as different races going from the 100-meter dash to the 3,000-meter dash,

from the 100-meter dash to the 3,000-meter dash, hurdles, and field events including long jump, high jump, discus and shot put.

Mrs. Diez said, "Eric Johnson has produced varsity level times in the boys 100m, 400m and with his teammates Ryan Matter, Vinny Siciliano, and David Richard in the boys 4x100m. Susie Keane has trained hard and has also done well in the girl's 800m, 1500m and with her teammates Charli Fettes, Alexis Inglut, and Emily Leonard in the

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4x400m run. Ricky
Kahanick, Lucas Devine,
and Trinity Daugherty
have stepped up as
leaders to help run warm
up/stretches and have
been positive role models
for their teammates. We
have had many new
athletes to the team and
everyone shows up to each
practice ready to work
hard and put in their
best effort! Coach



Loughran, Coach Gregoire, and I have loved working with this amazing group

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of kids and are so proud of them."

Lacrosse-Boys and Girls modified

lacrosse is led by Coach Dolak and Coach Kieliszek. Their record is currently 4-0-1. The captains are Zoey Earsing, Scarlett Velez, Olivia Bavisotto & Ella Johnson. Goalie Nicole had 11 saves in the game against Frontier.

The coaches of boys
modified lacrosse are Mr.
Nicosia and Mr. Weiss.
They are currently
4-2.The captains are
Camden Frys & Camden
Ruschmann. According to
Deo Trinkle, "Everyone on
the team communicates
well."

Author Visit

By: Lucas Frank



East Middle was blessed with the visit by poet Jillian Hanesworth. She is the aunt of seventh grader, Alan Lewis and she was the Poet Laureate of Buffalo. First she taught us future authors how to write a haiku. A haiku is a Japanese poem of three lines with 5 syllables, 7 syllables, and 5 more syllables. We were allowed to go to the front of the group and read our haikus. Ms. Hanesworth told us to support each other by clapping us up to the front of the class and clapping us back to our seats.

After that, the students got to ask the author questions, like who her favorite poet is, if she ever gets self-conscious, and how she became a full-time writer. Then Ms. Hanesworth recited her poem "The Revolution Will Rhyme" for us.



Afterwards, students got to take pictures and hold her Emmy Award which she won for "Still Here," a poem about Buffalo and the Buffalo Bills.

Overall, it was an amazing experience.



Poet Jillian
Hanesworth and
her nephew,
Alan Lewis.



Equestrian

By:Zoey Earsing

Have you ever seen Olympic horses jumping 5 to 6 feet racing against the clock? This is an example of show jumping. This is a type of riding in equestrian sports. Equestrian is a sport involving both horse and rider. It is a very diverse sport with many types of riding styles.

Equestrian Disciplines

There are many equestrian disciplines.
Some are show jumping, hunter, English or
Western pleasure, dressage, eventing, reining, vaulting, polo, barrel racing, cross-country, rodeo, cutting, trail riding, saddleseat, English and

Western equitation, horse racing, and even more!
The most popular disciplines are dressage, show jumping, and reining.

Outfits and Gear

What you chose to ride in is important.
Every rider should wear boots, jeans or breeches and, of course, a helmet for most activities. Most equestrian centers require a helmet in order to ride. A helmet should be snug but not too snug.I would recommend getting an adjustable helmet. For clothing, I would recommend a tucked in shirt with a belt.

Proper riding wear is important for horses too. All horses should have a properly fitted saddle. All horses need a saddle pad under the saddle and, depending on your horse, a bounce pad or extra padding could be

added as well. The saddle pad should be off the horse's withers. The



horse's withers are where the neck and back meet together. All horses' withers are different, so that's why it is important to have a well-fitted saddle. A girth is also needed to keep the saddle in place. Western and English have different girths so they are put on differently. There are different types of saddles depending on what discipline you do for both English and Western. This is to make sure that both rider and horse are comfortable during riding. Some brands I would recommend

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are Ovation,
Weatherbeeta, and Dover
Saddlery carries some
good brands, as well as
their own.

Leasing/Owning Horses.

Horses deserve
proper care just as
humans do. Although
leasing and owning horses
sounds like fun, I would
not recommend leasing
until you are able to do
the following:

- Ride properly with good equitation-this means that you are able to ride with good posture, a stable leg and know ALL basic riding techniques.
- Know proper heath-a horse's normal temperature is 99.5 to 101.5 degrees in fahrenheit.
- Know basic behavior and signs of lameness or pain-horses are very social creatures.
 They always know when to give us a sign and it's our job to listen to them!
- Have shelter, food, bedding (like sawdust,) a turnout pasture and a proper place to ride with proper footing.
- Grooming brushes
- Blankets. This is optional, but I would recommend giving your horse an extra blanket for

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comfort. If you chose a blanket, I would recommend getting blankets for each season. I would also recommend WeatherBeeta for blankets.

Showing

Showing is one of my favorite parts of riding! Although it is expensive, it's a great thing to experience with your horse! Showing is a way I met some of my horsey friends that I still talk to! Most people show through a barn which is a way to get out of some fees. Some things that you need for showing are a jacket, gloves, proper boots, breeches, and a show shirt (depending on the event).

Some types of showing are:

- Showjumping
- Dressage
- English equation
- Western showmanship
- Eventing
- Saddle seat
- And many more!

There are different leagues you can show with like the IEA (Interscholastic Equestrian Association). These organizations are made for people who don't own horses or have the money to take lessons at a barn. IEA is one of the best ways to get into showing.

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Equitation

Equitation means the art and practice of horsemanship and horse riding. In other words, it's how you and your horse look together. For English, a rider should have

A good
example
of English
equitation



their heels pointed down in the stirrups, and their legs should be slightly behind the girth. English riders need to keep their shoulders back with a straight back and elbows at their side. Horses can feel you ride, so sitting up and tall can help keep your horse from going flat. For Western, it's all about sitting back and relaxing. The rider's legs should be hanging a little bit pointed down in the stirrups. The reins should be in one hand, shoulders should be relaxed, and the back should be straight.

<u>Horse Breeds, Coats and</u> <u>Measurements</u>

Have you ever been confused by the term chestnut horse or green horse? Like a dog or cat, horses have many different breeds and coat colors. When equestrians

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say they have a green horse, they are referring to an unbroke or untrained horse, not the horse's color.

Some horse coats include:

- Chestnut
- Bay
- Brown bay
- Cremello
- Gray
- Appaloosa
- Tobiano/Tobiano paint
- Palomino
- Red roan
- Blue roan
- Strawberry roan
- ANd many more! These are just the most

Horse coats



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common colors of horses.

Horses are measured by hands; for example, King Edward, a famous show jumping horse, is 16 HH (hands high.) Hands are about 4 inches and are counted in groups of four. For example 14, 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 15. A pony is up to 14.2 HH. A horse is over 15HH.

Just like dogs,
there are also many
breeds of horses. Some
breeds include quarter
horses, thoroughbreds,
American paint,
Friesians, Morgans,
saddle breeds, Arabian,
Shire, Hanoverian, and
many, many more.

How to get started

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Horse riding is a wonderful sport but it is very expensive and hard to get into. I would recommend googling places to ride near you. I would look into many businesses depending on what style of riding you would like to do as well. Keep in mind that all trainers are different and it took me a long time to find one that was best for me. Also know that when you start riding, you are going to fall off! It happens to every rider. Horses are unpredictable animals and I have never ridden a horse that has the same stride or personality as any other horse. I encourage you to ride as it is a great way to get outside, make new friends and bond with the horses you ride!

Paper Flowers

By: Bella Lazewski & Nora Cook

- 1. Cut a circle out of white construction paper.
- 2. Glue the circle to another piece of construction paper.
- 3. Cut out a flower shape with 8 petals out of pink, purple, or red construction paper.
- 4. Glue the flower shape onto the circle.
- 5. Cut out a smaller flower shape with 6 petals out of the same colored construction paper.

- 6. Glue the center of the smaller flower shape within the first.
- 7. When dry, fold the flower petals lengthwise slightly to make them stand out from the base piece of construction paper.



New York Landmarks

By: Rahman Hossain



Starting off with a classic: the Statue of Liberty! Now a completely different color from what it originally was due to oxidation of the copper, it truly is a sight to see. Putting on a layer of blue-green patina since 1876 and standing at a whopping 305 feet tall, this statue isn't like anything you've seen before!



Next stop is the One World Trade Center! This building was built on the spot where one of the Twin Towers previously stood, with the other Twin Tower's memorial not too far away from it. Standing at a staggering 1,776 feet tall, it

would be hard not to notice it, but with its reflective design, it's hard to look away! Also of note is the wonderful memorial beside it, the crystal clear water and names

of those lost on 9/11 engraved into the black granite slabs.

Central Park is a great place too, and with 39 million square feet of walking space, it truly is a wonderful place to experience a park setting in the middle of a city! Open practically all day, every day, there isn't a reason to miss this refuge of green in a brick and metal world!



10 Random Facts

By: Vsevolod Ludchenko

- 1. "The space between your eyebrows is called your glabella."
- 2. "The 1912 Olympics were the last time gold medals were actually solid gold. Since then, they have been silver medals with a gold plating."
- 3. "The temperature -40 °C is equal to -40 °F, and this number represents the only temperature that is the same in both Celsius and Fahrenheit."

- 4. "The unicorn is the national animal of Scotland."
- 5. "The official state question of New Mexico is 'red or green?', which refers to which type of chili sauce you'd like on your food."
- 6. "The three most-read books in the world today are believed to be <u>The Bible</u>, Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung, and Harry Potter."
- 7. "By 1955, forty-nine of the U.S. states agreed that state highways should have a white stripe down the middle between cars going in different directions. The lone holdout was Oregon, which believed that a yellow line was safer. Sixteen years later, the government

- mandated these white lines be
 painted yellow, because Oregon was
 right."
- 8. "The Great Fire of London in 1666 destroyed more than 13,500 homes and displaced more than 80,000 people, but amazingly only caused 6 deaths."
- 9. "Heart attacks are more likely to happen on a Monday compared to other days of the week."
- 10. "Before coming to the United States as a toy in the 1920's, the yo-yo was originally used in the Philippines as a weapon in the 16th century."

Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band The Album That Changed Music Forever

By: Ethan Melling

The year is 1966. Only a year prior, The Beatles had decided to stop touring and performing for audiences. With their album "Revolver" being released in the beginning of the same year, The Beatles began work on their next album, an album that would change the course of music.

1965 was a rough year for The Beatles. On multiple occasions they were chased out of venues and cities for

various reasons. Due to the multiple issues they were faced with, they decided to stop performing in front of audiences. Because of this, they had more time to spend in the studio. Not only that, they were also allowed to experiment with their style and sound. They decided to showcase their new style in their 1966 album "Revolver" which had a full orchestral

arrangement for the song "Eleanor Rigby," as well as reversed guitar solos and more. The album immediately was met with criticism, as they went from a doo-wop style to an avant-garde and psychedelic style.

Instead of listening to critics, who did not encourage this new rebellious and experimental style, they experimented even more. Paul McCartney, the bassist of the band, came up with a new idea. On the new album, instead of being themselves, they created their own alter egos that would represent different members of a new band. Inspired by The Beach Boys' "Pet Sounds" album, the Beatles returned to EMI

Studio's (now named Abbey Road Studios) to begin work on a new song, "Strawberry Fields Forever" written by John Lennon, the rhythm quitarist of the group, that was inspired by his childhood. Strawberry Fields is an orphanage located in Liverpool, where Lennon would often sneak in to play with the children. Paul then worked on his songs "When I'm

Sixty-Four" and "Penny Lane." The two songs are also about childhood.
"Strawberry Fields" and "Penny Lane" were released as singles in February of 1967 due to public demand for a new Beatles' song. The next song they recorded for the album is widely considered to be one of the greatest

songs ever created, "A Day in the Life", the closing track of Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. "A Day in the Life" is an art rock song with orchestral sections.

Other songs on the album include "Good Morning Good Morning", a Lennon song; "Lovely Rita," a Paul McCartney song; and "Being for the Benefit of Mr. Kite!," another Lennon song. "Good Morning Good Morning" wasn't well regarded by Lennon. He said, "It's a throwaway, a piece of garbage, I always thought". "Lovely Rita" is a song that Paul McCartney wrote after getting a

parking ticket from a meter maid named "Meta Davies." McCartney named the meter maid in the song Rita because "she looked like a Rita to me." "Being for the Benefit of Mr. Kite!" is a Lennon song which is heavily inspired by a circus poster for Pablo Fanque's circus. Much of the lyrics in the

song are copied directly from the poster. The song is very experimental and sounds straight out of an actual circus. Another Lennon song was also recorded at this time, "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds." This infamous song was inspired by John Lennon's son, Juilian, who had drawn a picture named "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds." The song's lyrics were also inspired by the "Alice in Wonderland" books. After this, they recorded another song by McCartney named "Fixing A Hole," a short song about McCartney's mind wandering often. The band also worked on another one of McCartney's songs, "Getting Better," which the band disliked. Around the same time as this, Paul also recorded "She's Leaving Home" an orchestral piece, quite different from their regular music. The song was based on a newspaper headline

on a girl named Melanie Coe, who had actually met Paul McCartney, despite him not remembering her. Coe has stated that the song's lyrics describing her leaving are not totally accurate.

In the same month, Paul McCartney wrote the intro to the album. The song introduces the members of the group as well as giving a short backstory of the group, stating "It was 20 years ago today." This song would fade into their track "With a Little Help from My Friends," a song that the drummer, Ringo Starr, sang, despite it not being written by him. The song is very upbeat

and is very popular with children. George Harrison, lead quitarist of the group, recorded a song named "Within You and Without You," influenced by Indian music. The song included sitars, tanpuras, dilrubas, and tablas. The song was very spiritual and aligned with Harrison's Hindu philosophies. The song was completed in April of 1967.

song was completed in April of 1967. The final song to be recorded, was "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band (Reprise)." The song follows the same beat and style as the opening track, but the lyrics are a symbolic farewell to the listeners, as if they actually sat through a whole show of the Sgt. Pepper Band. The song fades out into the real final track of the album, "A Day in the Life."

Before the album was released, they had to create an album cover. Pop artists Peter Blake and Jann Haworth had an idea for it, creating a cover with the band and a crowd of people behind them, as if they had just performed a concert for them. The pop artists gave all four of the band members the option to choose those who would appear on the cover. Some of the people who were included are Bob Dylan, Albert Einstein,



Karl Marx, Marilyn Monroe, Buddha, and Edgar Allan Poe. The back cover showed the four of them standing next to each other; however, Paul is standing backwards, while the others are facing the audience.

The album was released on May 26th, 1967, in the height of the famed "Summer of Love;" many of the songs on the album would become synonymous with the Summer of Love. American radio hosts and DJs interrupted their regular broadcasts to play the album from start to finish. The album was viewed as a success, and a great album by the masses; however, a few criticized it for it not sounding like their early doo-wop style of music. The album was also very popular in the later hippie counterculture movement of the late 60's and early 70's.

The album spiked interest in the "Paul is Dead" theory. The theory states that Paul was killed in a car accident early into the Beatles' musical career and that Paul was replaced by a fake. People point to many items on the album,

such as the front cover looking like a funeral for Paul, or the fact that Paul was facing backwards on the back cover. They also point to lyrics in "A Day in the Life." The beginning of the song's lyrics tell the story of John Lennon witnessing a car accident. Many mishear the lyrics saying that the character was from the house of Paul; however, the lyrics actually state that the character was from the House of Lords.

The Beatles continued to create music together until 1969, when they, unfortunately, broke up during the infamous Abbey Road Sessions.
Unfortunately, though they wanted to have a reunion, it would never happen, as John Lennon was murdered on December 8th, 1980. The Beatles' legacy still lives on to this day, with many still listening to their music, especially the Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band album. Their music is considered to be timeless and will continue to be listened to for the rest of time.

