

Hawk Happenings

Volume XXVIII Issue 10 December 12, 2023



Why should students take AP classes?

Sara Fitzgerald - 12

AP, standing for advanced placement, classes are a step above honors classes. A student wanting a more challenging and faster-paced learning environment would want to consider taking these classes.

Hailey Quinn, a current AP student of Biology, United States History, and Language Composition, believes that she has always needed to take them. She likes the more challenging and faster aspects of the classes. Hailey decided to take the classes last February, and she is planning on attending Susquehanna University.

Hannah Kristiniak, a current AP student of United States History and Language Composition, said Mr. Buggy automatically signed her up for APUSH, and it gave her the confidence to handle the rigorous coursework. She had Mrs. Texter for PS English in 10th grade and she was encouraged to move up to AP Lang because of her strong skills. She is grateful for the encouragement from her teachers, and she did not have the confidence to choose these classes on her own. Hannah enjoys taking a college class in high school to earn credit, she enjoys the challenging work, and she likes that she is never bored. She is currently looking into Kutztown University. She wanted to take these classes because she wanted to further her education and because she wanted to be more prepared for college.

Madison Reading, a current AP student of United States History, wanted to challenge herself and believed that Mr. Buggy was a big push for her. She most enjoys the arguments and the debates. She likes being able to use her voice and being opinionated. Madison is undecided as to where she is going to college. She is interested in the University of South Carolina and Pace University in New York City. She wants to challenge herself and she is enjoying the bonus of college credit.

Cadence Jalbert, a former student of AP United States History, and Language Composition, and a current student of AP Government and Literature, enjoys the fast-paced work, the challenging aspects, and never being bored in her classes. She loves the freedom the teachers give the students because they are good students.

These four students give different perspectives on the good and bad of taking an AP class. They each have different experiences but overall the students enjoy their classes and the demanding classwork. Each of these classes offers an AP test for college credit or dual enrollment. A student can earn credits towards college prematurely by taking these types of classes. College Board runs the test and the courses, giving the requirements for each class.

Students balance high school and work

Madison Redding - 10

A small majority of Hamburg Area High School students have an after school job. As high school students it can be stressful balancing work and school because some students have a schedule that runs 6 am all the way to 10 pm. Some high school students have extracurriculars after school as well. Walden University.com they state that working can teach students the difference between working and earning. They can teach students management skills and help students stay out of trouble and keep a structure in and out of school. Walden University also states they help students build confidence for future careers.

According to Walden University there are negatives that come with having a job in high school. This includes hurting academic achievements and taking away free time for homework and sports. Having a job while in high school can also install negative outlooks of work and careers.

Skylynn Binder, a 11th grade student at Hamburg Area High School, worked at Candy's Homemade Ice cream shop in Shoemakersville. She stated that there are both positives and negatives of working. She said, "positives are money to spend and save as I please." Her negatives were, "It was hard to resist overspending, work took away time for homework and my extracurriculars it was not easy for me." She then replied that "it would be 100% easier if I didn't have to have a job while in school."

Genevieve Arena, a junior at HAHS, also works at Candy's Homemade Ice Cream Shop. She said that the positives with working are having an, "independent source of income and a negative is less freetime and less time for school work." Genevieve said that it is hard for her to balance both work and school.

HAHS offers ASVAB testing

Bella Byers - 11

ASVAB is a three hour standardized test, like the PSAT, used for a graduation Act 158 requirement and to get into the military. Juniors and seniors took this voluntary test on October 20 in the LGI.

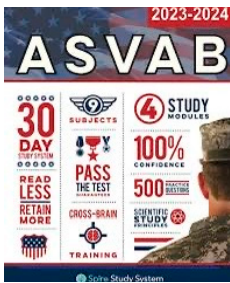
Junior Thomas Teles stated, "I think ASVAB went really well and it was really easy for me." The LGI was a great place to test because of the seats and mini desktops. Even though there was limited space to do work, it was a comfortable area to work in. Teles says he took ASVAB hoping to be in the Navy one day.

Senior Catrina Feltenberger says, "ASVAB went well. I would prefer it to be in the library for a much comfier space." Cat took ASVAB as a graduation requirement and because she might go into the Military.

I, Bella Byers, also took ASVAB and I agree that ASVAB went very well. I wish we had the testing in the library for a comfier environment. I took ASVAB hoping to be in the Air Force or Marines one day.

The ASVAB testing is to determine student's strengths and weaknesses. It has 10 subjects on the test to complete. There are study guides online to help understand the questions to practice. The mandatory score needed to enlist and to meet graduation Act 158 requirements is 31.

For more information about ASVAB go to <https://www.goarmy.com/how-to-join/steps/asvab.html>



Student Spotlight - Kaitlyn Mengel

Kaeli Cox - 11

Kaitlyn Mengel is a junior at Hamburg Area High School. She is involved in field hockey where she plays defense and occasionally lower mid, and track and field where she throws shot put, discus, and javelin.

Katie has a favorite class that she most looks forward to, and shared, "My favorite class of the day is American Cultures with Mr. Kline. He keeps every-one entertained and engaged, and since it's in the middle of my day, I am re-energized for the remainder of my classes." Katie is in Mr. Kline's fifth period PS American Cultures class. Some of the entertaining elements Katie is referring to are turn and talks, buzzer trivia, reenactments and demonstrations of famous events, and more. These activities help Katie participate and be focused on the topic she is learning.

While American Cultures is Katie's favorite class, her favorite subject overall is Science. She said, "I think I am relatively the best at any type of Science. I've always been drawn to Forensics specifically, but I'm naturally good at Science in general." Katie shows how students' favorite classes do not have to determine their favorite subject in school.

Outside of school, Katie likes to engage in some of her favorite hobbies. She recommended, "I like to hang out with my friends outside of school. I also like to listen to music because it distracts me from school stress." Katie shares how while she may enjoy some parts of school, it is still a very stressful part of life. Her favorite activities outside of school also show how some students like to spend their free time and relax.

Katie also plays field hockey. She shared, "I love field hockey because I love the game itself and I love being able to create bonds with my teammates and playing with them." She also does track. She said, "As for track, I love the combination of individuality and teamwork. I also love cheering on my friends."

The final fun fact about Katie includes her favorite movie. She shared, "My favorite movie is Tangled, and I don't necessarily have a specific reason as to why. It's always been my go-to and has always been my comfort movie. I'll forever argue it's the best Disney movie." Disney movies are very popular and students often associate a certain one as their comfort movie. Katie's pick is a great one and students can agree with her reasoning for picking it.

NHS Sells Yuda Bands

LeeAnn Mills - 12

For the past week, NHS has been promoting and selling bracelets called Yuda bands. The service project was decided by Julia Bucheit, president of NHS, as she remembers when NHS sponsored another student before. Each band was sold for \$10, at football games and lunches, and if a student chose to, they could have their picture taken. The money collected all goes toward a 14-year-old girl named Moreblessing who lives in Zimbabwe! The NHS members chose to sponsor Moreblessing initially due to her picture, where she is holding up two peace signs. Once the members heard her story, they wanted to help her.

Moreblessing is the oldest child of her family and a sibling to one brother and two sisters. Her family struggles to pay for rent, food, clothes, and school. Moreblessing likes the color red and wants to become a nurse in the future. In Zimbabwe where she lives, only seven years of free education are given, not enough to become a nurse.

To help fund her education, Hamburg's NHS reached out to Yuda bands and started selling. Yudabands.org describes their bracelets as "leather and coconut shell bracelets, handmade in Guatemala."

Mrs. Bucheit, the advisor of NHS, said, "I really like this service project because it is about youth empowering youth - students here at Hamburg Area High School helping a girl in Zimbabwe get a high school education so that she can achieve her dream of becoming a nurse. The youth of our country are fortunate enough to have access to 13 years of free public education which is not the case in Zimbabwe where only the first seven years are free. Anything beyond that, families have to pay for themselves. The money raised through the sale of Yuda Bands helps to pay for school fees for the youth in developing countries."

"Maybe we can't change the whole world but we can change Moreblessing's!"

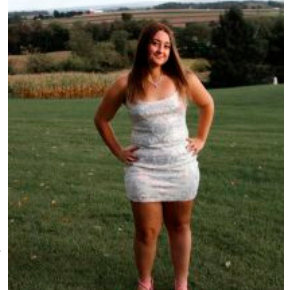
Never Let Me Go Book Review

Morgan Lutz - 10

Never Let Me Go, written by Kazuo Ishiguro, is a haunting and thought-provoking novel that delves into themes of love, identity, and the human condition. Set in a dystopian alternate reality, the story follows Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy, three friends who grew up together in Hailsham, in secluded English boarding school. As they navigate their way through childhood and into adulthood, they come to realize that their time at school is far from ordinary. Ishiguro's storytelling ties together many ideas of friendship, sacrifice, and the profound questions surrounding what it means to be human.

Kazuo Ishiguro, born on November 8, 1954, is a British novelist of Japanese descent. He is widely acclaimed for his unique writing style and his ability to explore complex themes with subtlety and emotional depth. Ishiguro's works often blend elements of science fiction, historical fiction, and literary fiction, and he is known for his introspective narratives. His notable works include The Remains of the Day, which won the Man Booker Prize in 1989, and Never Let Me Go, which was shortlisted for the same prize and adapted into a critically acclaimed film.

Many people would enjoy Ishiguro's book but specifically fans of dystopian fiction will find Ishiguro's unique take on the genre intriguing. Overall, I really enjoyed reading the book Never Let Me Go, and I would recommend it to many different people because I feel as though it can impact people in many different ways.



HASD community celebrate birthdays differently

Bella Kenyel - 9

Birthdays are a special day where people get together and celebrate the person who was born on that day. Many people celebrate their birthdays differently. For example, some people may eat another type of food other than cake, or they just spend time with their family or by themselves.

One student, Mia “Mika” Owens, says that they celebrate their birthday by going out somewhere, like to the movies or the mall, with their family and close friends. Mika always eats cookies instead of cake for their birthday, but if their family did bring cake, it is usually a butter cake. For this year on their birthday, they do not want anything; they just want to go and hang out with their friends and family. Mika likes their birthday, but does not care for it too much. They were born on July 22.

A second student, Autumn Maurer, says that on her birthday she likes to go out to dinner with her family and friends. Her favorite thing to eat on her birthday is sushi, and for this year Autumn would like to get a record player because she thinks they are cool. Autumn’s opinion on her birthday is that it is just another day of getting a year older than the year before. She was born February 2.

A third student, Jayden Henry, says that he eats cake, opens presents, and has sleepovers with his friends. On his birthdays, he also eats candy, tacos, and spinach dip. For his birthday this year, Jayden wants Etsy gift cards and Mangas. When Jayden was celebrating his birthday, he used to celebrate it with his dad, but now he mostly celebrates his birthday with his mom. Jayden says that he deeply cares about his birthday, and that each year it goes wrong due to an unexpected family situation. He was born on October 29.

A fourth student, Carice Hoppes, usually hangs out with her family and friends and goes to places with them of where she wants to go. For Carice’s birthday, she eats whatever she wants, as long as the food is reasonable. Carice does not know what she wants for her birthday yet. She is usually excited for her birthday, but there are usually unexpected family situations that ruin the moment. After a few minutes, everything goes back to normal and everyone’s happy again, and Carice’s birthday still continues. Carice was born on August 13.

A fifth student, Michael “Serafina” Long, says that he likes to go out to Dave and Busters or Dorney Park with one of his friends. The food on Micheal’s birthday depends on his mood for the type of food he is having. For Micheal, he does not take gifts from others, but he does give gifts. Micheal wishes he was born on March 17 (Saint Patrick’s Day) because he is always unlucky. The people that he celebrates his birthday with are his family members and his girlfriend Carlee “Charlie” Cortes. Micheal was born on March 18.

A sixth person, Carlee “Charlie” Cortes who goes to Fleetwood Area High School, celebrates her birthday by going out with friends and eating cake and any other thing that is sweet. Like Carice, Charlie is not sure she wants for her birthday. The people that Charlie likes to hang out with on birthday are her boyfriend Micheal, her friends, and her family. She does not like her birthday because it reminds her that she is getting older. Charlie was born on August 8.

The last person, who is part of the HAHS staff is Mrs. McCarthy, who was born on September 16, 1973. On her birthday, her family usually has cake and presents ready for her. Sometimes she goes out to a place to eat or does a favorite activity of hers; it depends on the year. Mrs. McCarthy’s favorite foods on her birthday are anything that is Italian: stuffed shells, pasta, etc. For this year on Mrs. McCarthy’s birthday, the present she would like to have is a surprise. The surprise could be someone else making a reservation at a restaurant or taking her to a place when they both have time. Mrs. McCarthy likes to hang out with her family and friends on her birthday. Mrs. McCarthy thinks that it is great to celebrate people’s birthdays in general because it is a big deal for both moms and their children, especially because of the mom’s physical sacrifice to carry them for nine months.

Some people also celebrate their birthdays outside of their dates due to their schedule being busy because of their job or just having something more important to do. Which is why some other people celebrate their birthdays after a few days or weeks, or months, notably for instructors. For example, when Mrs. McCarthy and Miss Heckman took a trip in June as an early birthday present because teachers or other job positions cannot afford missing a day of school just for vacation.

Students experience Tourette Syndrome

LeeAnn Mills - 12

According to Mayo Clinic, Tourette Syndrome “involves repetitive movements or unwanted sounds (tics) that can’t be easily controlled.” Tics can present themselves in phrases, words, and sudden movements. Someone sitting across from a person with Tourette Syndrome may not even realize these movements as they can be very discrete. Mayo Clinic also states that males are three times more likely to develop Tourette syndrome than females. There is no cure, only treatment for this condition as it is a genetic condition. Often times people diagnosed with Tourette Syndrome are also diagnosed with other conditions such as anxiety, OCD, and depression.

Having Tourette Syndrome as a young student can have many different challenges. A study done by the Tourette Association of America in collaboration with the Division of Human Development and Disabilities of America found that students with the condition are more likely to have an IEP, report school problems, repeat a grade, have decreased academic performance, and encounter bullying. The condition can interfere with the ability to learn in different ways. The repetitive tics can be a physical barrier between the student and the teacher, and misinformation can isolate students from educators and other students.

A student with Tourette Syndrome may cough repeatedly, tap on their desk, or display other distracting and typical bad behaviors. However, causing a stir purely to be annoying is never the intention. Tourette Syndrome causes students’ bodies to move forcefully, beyond their control. Stress and lack of focus can also induce tics.

It may be obvious that tics can make life and learning difficult for high schoolers, but it also affects socialization. Due to the lack of information and knowledge about the topic of Tourette Syndrome, students with the disorder can feel lonely and detached from their peers and classmates. It is important that students accept and include their peers no matter the differences they may have.

For more information visit,
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>
<https://www.mayoclinic.org>
<https://tourette.org>



The Awakening inspires feminism through generations

Hailey Quinn - 11

The Awakening by Kate Chopin was originally published in 1899. It centers on Enda Pontiller, a 28 year old married woman and mother, who struggles to find independence and freedom in her life.

The novel opens with Enda on vacation with her husband and two children at a resort on Grand Isle. She spends most of her time hanging out with her friends Adèle Ratignolle, the ideal mother and wife, and Robert Lebrun, a man known for being flirtatious. Throughout the summer, Edna and Robert fall in love with each other, and Edna realizes that she desires independence from her husband and children, for no fault of their own. Robert, realizing that their relationship can never come to anything, leaves for Mexico in search of a business venture. In truth, he was looking for distance from Edna in order to subdue his feelings for her.

After returning to New Orleans after summer vacation, Edna begins to reassess her priorities. Society tells her to care for her home and children, but Edna instead opts for pursuing her passions and personal happiness. She defies societal traditions of motherhood and womanhood and begins to take an active role in her own happiness. With her husband away on a trip, and her children off with their grandmother, Edna is free to live her life for herself and how she wants to. Edna is enjoying her current lifestyle, but what happens when Robert returns and society begins to push back?

The Awakening is one of the earlier novels that depicts women’s issues and their struggles within an oppressive society. The role and duty of women was to marry, have children, and care for said children. Edna depicts any woman who desires a different life; a life that they can live for themselves, not for society. Chopin’s novel is considered a significant work of early feminism that has generated widely mixed reactions throughout history.

Mrs. Texter teaches The Awakening in her AP Language and Composition class. She states that she teaches the book because, “The Awakening makes a strong comment on what it means to be a woman without a lot of good options; Chopin brings a female perspective to the discussion of the American Dream. The AP Lit exam frequently names The Awakening as an option to cover, so this gets students thinking and it might be a title they see again.”

She also believes that the feminist theme throughout the book is important, stating, “AP Lang students need to learn about and form their own opinions about issues in contemporary American society. I want students to be challenged with ideas from a variety of authors with a variety of perspectives.” The Awakening offers a unique female perspective on society and the issues that many women face. It was a bold and chancy move for Chopin to publish such a controversial novel at the time, but it gave a view into the minds of many women, even if they never acted on their desires as Edna had.

There are still mixed opinions on the novel today, including in Mrs. Texter’s classes. She comments on the differing opinions, saying, “even if students don’t enjoy reading The Awakening, they do usually enjoy the conversations that happen in class while we are reading the novel. There are a lot of big ideas covered in Chopin’s text and even though the book is 120 years old, those issues still apply to our modern lives.”

Regardless of one’s opinion of the novel, it cannot be denied that The Awakening clearly depicts the struggle of women in an oppressive, patriarchal society. Though Edna is a complex character with deep emotional struggles that can be difficult to understand, Chopin does a fantastic job in depicting feminist ideas in a captivating novel about defying societal norms through love, independence, and personal happiness.



Student Spotlight: Hannah Kristiniak

Madison Redding - 11

Hannah Kristiniak is a Junior at Hamburg Area High School, who recently just turned 16 years old. She lives with her step mom Amanda, her father and two brothers, Josh and Caiden, who attend/attended HAHS. Hannah is known around the school for her academics. She is taking AP United States history with Mr. Kline and AP language and composition with Mrs. Texter as well as Honors Geometry with Mrs. Geske. Hannah is the treasurer of the junior class. Hannah also helps tutor in Mrs Herman’s class. If students could describe Hannah in three words, they would say, caring, thoughtful, and smart.



Hannah enjoys listening to music especially Taylor Swift and specifically her Reputation album. Hannah actually has a playlist that is eight hours long of just her songs. She also enjoys reading, writing, and gardening. She enjoys her time at Hamburg. She exclaimed, “I like the social interaction with friends and peers, as most people do, but I love the process of learning new information, expanding my knowledge, and growing my academic skills.” She said picking her favorite subject would be hard because she finds most things interesting and appealing to learn about. She really enjoys math and history though. Specific courses she has taken at Hamburg that are her favorite are algebra, biology, civics, and APUSH. Hannah plans to possibly go to Kutztown and get a career in education. She wants to be a teacher because, “I love understanding and being able to explain it and reteach which is why I want to be a teacher.”

Attend the Java Jam on 12/14 from 6:30 to 8:30

Adviser: Mrs. Terri McCarthy-Wright; Editor in Chief: Hannah Kristiniak; Issue Layout Editor: Bethany Stuffle; Writers: Tia Adam, Koa Binder, Isabella Byers, Alaena Cox, Brielle Cox, Kaeli Cox, Grace Cromyak, Harley Davis, Sara Fitzgerald, Izzy Forte, Lilly Gibson, Izzie Gonzales, Elaina Hess, Bella Kenyel, Molly Krick, Hannah Kristiniak, Morgan Lutz, LeeAnn Mills, Riley Mohn, Landon Poullos, Hailey Quinn, Madison Redding, Dakota Schneider, Chloe Stitzel, Bethany Stuffle, Deja Wagner-Wakefield; Hawk Happenings is a weekly publication created by the students in the Publications class at Hamburg Area High School. It is distributed free of charge throughout the Hamburg Area High School community. A PDF is available at <https://www.hasdhawks.org/domain/181> and an online version at www.hawkhappenings.org. The opinions in this newspaper represent those of the student writers and do not represent the opinions of the faculty, staff, administration, or school board of the Hamburg Area School District. HH is a member of the Pennsylvania School Press Association (PSPA), the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA), and Quill and Scroll. If you have any questions or comments regarding anything that appears in its pages, or if you would like to sponsor our paper with a donation, please contact Terri McCarthy, Hawk Happenings, Hamburg Area High School, Windsor Street, Hamburg, PA, 19526. Our email address is termcc@hasdhawks.org and our phone number is 610-562-3861, x2327.

Christmas Break: Half Day Dec 22 No School Dec 25 thru Jan 1