Students Debate New Cell Phone Rules

By Jessie Guan

Years and years go by, and students go from elementary school to middle school. When they get older each year, they need to protect themselves by contacting their parents when they are away from home. At this point, parents need to spend some money to get a cell phone for their kids.

A phone can help young people contact family members and friends, but they could also form negative habits in class. Some students try to sneak and go online on their phone during class time, which distracts them from learning. In other ways, a cell phone is beneficial because students could use it for homework and other studying strategies. Thus, there are both positive and negative traits about cell phones.

Rong Lin W. from class 741 said, “Cell phones should not be allowed in school because it’s distracting students from learning when the teacher is teaching.”

She added, students might end up copying other people’s answers instead of getting the point of the lessons.

In the other hand, Kayla M. from class 742 said, “It could be used for education purposes and also for students to contact their parents away from home.”

However, Rong Lin explained educational purposes can be fulfilled by using laptops and other technology besides cellphones, and you could still contact your parents after school on a pay phone.

Continued on Page 3

Ceramics Club Offers Fun Opportunity

By Kayla Ma

Ceramics club is a really fun club that many students enjoy after school on Wednesdays. One hundred students signed up, so it is separated into 3 groups: A, B, and C. It only meets once a month for each group.

Anyone in this school is allowed to attend, but they have to fill out a form first and then give it to Mrs. Rosenblum, the ceramics teacher.

Students make many items like cups, bowls, pots, plates, animals and sculptures. In addition, there are many things you can bring home for gifts to your friends or family.

This program also helps students improve on their skills in art and helps them in the future if they want to get into an art high school.

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Seward Park a Chinatown Retreat
By Kevin Lin

Seward Park in Chinatown is a very fun place to hang out. It is a public park and playground in the Lower East Side of the New York City borough of Manhattan, north of East Broadway, east of Essex Street. There are sprinklers, a volleyball court, playgrounds, basketball courts, swing sets, and even a library. Lots of elderly people hang out there. Lots of young people run around the place. People ride bikes and chat with one another very often. The park is full of trees and plants. There are squirrels and pigeons too.

Robin Z. from class 741 stated, “Seward Park is a really good place because at the library people kind of like talk with each other; also you can hang out there.”

The park is named for William Henry Seward, a United States senator from New York who served from 1841-1861. The park opened on October 17, 1903, and it was reconstructed in the 1930’s and 1940’s.

Check Out Kevin’s Video

Check It Out!

Seward Park Library Offers Hangout Opportunities
By Qui Lin

More people should go to the Seward Park Library. It is a public library located at 192 East Broadway in Chinatown. It opened its doors on November 11, 1909.

There are four floors located inside of this place; the first floor is where the check-out and the teens’ room are. Also on the first floor there are sofas where kids and teenagers can read comics. On the second floor, kids under 13 years of age go to make a reservation for a computer and read books. On the third floor, it’s super quiet because you are not permitted to speak loudly. The environment is clean because you are not allowed to drink or eat in the library. When the weather is hot, there is air conditioning. When the weather is cold, there is heat to keep people warm.

Seward Park Library is a good place for kids and teenagers to be in because the people can do many activities.

Kevin L. from 741 stated, “There are books for people to read; there are also computers for researches and playing games.”

The library is open from Monday to Saturday; it opens every day at 10 except for Monday. On Monday, it opens at 11 and closes at 7. On Tuesday and Thursday, it closes at 8. On Wednesday, it also closes at 7. On Friday and Saturday, it closes at 5.

Phoniness by Policie

Use of Force by Police

by Kristopher Nunez

Drone Technology Sparks Thoughts of Future
By Jackson Soules

My little brother, Harrison, got a drone for his birthday. He was excited to fly it all around the city taking pictures and turning heads.

Drones are unmanned flying machines that can range from the size of the palm of your hand to the size of a man or bigger.

The popularity of drones has caused some controversy over whether they can be dangerous to our privacy and possibly our lives.

Kris N. from class 742 said, “I am pretty sure one day they will become a part of our society.” He continued, “Drones could be a great way to advance warfare. Just imagine having drones saving lives.” It is Kris’s hope that drones could limit the amount of military deaths making the world a much less violent place.

According to a recent articel in the Huffington Post, “The U.S. drone program under President Barack Obama reached its fifth anniversary...having tallied up an estimated death toll of at least 2,400 people.” This number includes terrorists and some civilians, but not American military personnel.

But drones have more than military uses.

Asher from 741 stated, “If drones could help, probably sending letters or packages are the best they could do.” This shows that our future in delivery and shipping may take a huge leap and relieve workers of their long hours and brutal trips form door to door. But none of this matters to Harrison. He is just absorbed with the new technology and the high flying machine as many people are.

Cell Phones, From Page 1

Aarya A. from class 741 commented, “I think [a cellphone] should be allowed in school because students could take advantage of it for responsibility skills, and not everyone is able to get a phone and do those processes.”

When Michael Bloomberg was mayor, cell phones were banned in all New York City schools. As of January of this year, Mayor Bill de Blasio has given permission for principals to allow students to bring cell phones to school. Our principal in Simon Baruch MS 104, Mr. Macri, still creates a set of policies that does not allow students to use cell phones during class. As part of these policies, students have to shut their phone down before school starts, and they are not allowed to use cell phones during class time. If a phone rings during class, the teacher would take it away and keep it for the day. If students are playing games on their phone during class time, it would be taken away.

Ceramics Club, From Page 1

Mrs. Rosenblum said, “Well, they really can do anything. A lot of students make little things—just little sculptures and gifts for their friends. But another really fun thing we do is that I teach how to make things on the pottery wheel, so it gets really messy and they make things that are basically kind of round. They can make faces and cups.”

When you are taking regular ceramics class, students don’t use the pottery wheel.

Aarya A. from class 741, said, “Last year we learn to make pots and many more. We learn new ways to making stuff.”

Some may not think that attending ceramics club really benefits them because they are not interested. But overall, a variety of people like being in ceramics club.

Send your thoughts to editor@simonbaruchpride.com.
I think that cleaning the ocean is really important. People need to think of new ways to clean the ocean so that the animals won’t be endangered. -Grace L.

Well, I live in Peter Cooper Village which is part of Stuy Town, and I know that you have to be a resident to go ice-skating. You have to be accompanied with someone from Stuy Town and Peter Cooper Village, PCVST. So this wonderful experience that I do personally enjoy, is not open to everyone and I know that could be a problem for some people. -Grace A.

I agree too. People need to watch what they throw into the rivers and ocean. That pollution can harm the animals in the ocean. -Piper S.

I wonder how people can raise awareness about manatees and show people how they are being effected. Maybe that could change how many deaths are being caused if people who like boating will be safer and change the waters they are boating in. -Trinity R.

NOTE: Forum posts are not edited for grammar or spelling.