



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 5

December 2018



Dear Middle School Parents,

I hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving and the start of the holiday season. Mr. Gary Giordano and the National Junior Honor Society are hosting our annual Secret Sandy Toy Drive. Toys are distributed to families in need throughout Staten Island. **New and unwrapped toys** are being collected from now until December 14, 2018. We appreciate your kindness and generosity!

Our Box Top for Education program is well underway. NJHS members are collecting box tops regularly. I have attached an easy collection sheet for you. Thank you in advance for your participation.

National Junior Honor Society applications for new members are now available in my office room B217. An application and guidelines for entrance is included in this packet. NJHS accepts students in grades 6,7 and 8. I have arranged for students to obtain their community service hours here at school. Students who wish to earn their service hours at school must join our PAL after school program. NJHS will meet every Tuesday and Wednesday to work on community service projects during that time.

Following is our schedule for some important events during the month of December.

Date	Time	Event	Participants
December 10	Class 521 9:00- 9:30 Class 520 9:45 – 10:15 Class 522 11:15 – 11:45	Parents as Partners Fingerprints Workshop	Parents & Students
December 19	1:00 – 2:20 pm	In school Trip – Assembly presented by the Harlem Magic Masters Theme – Bullying Prevention & Drug Awareness	Students in grades 5 – 8
December 20	12:45 – 1:30 pm	Middle School Sweet Feast	Students in grades 5 – 8
December 20	9:20 am – 10:20 am	The Foreign Language Department Holiday Caroling	Students in grade 6
December 21	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<i>The Wonder Movie</i>	Students in grade 6

It was such a pleasure to see so many of you during our Fall Parent Teacher Conferences. I am so happy to hear you will be using Pupilpath.com for ongoing information about your child's academic progress. Login information was distributed last month. If you need any help using Pupilpath.com please email me at BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a joyous holiday season. School will be closed from December 24, 2018 until January 2, 2019. **Classes resume January 2, 2019.** If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (718) 815-0186 extension 22171 or BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,
BettyAnn Souffrin
Assistant Principal



What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – During this month students will continue reading, “Esperanza Rising,” by Pam Munoz Ryan. We will begin our non-fiction writing pieces tying in our “Historical Notes” and new found knowledge gained throughout the novel. Student will use research tools to learn more about the historical time period that takes place during “Esperanza Rising”.

Math – Students will use division patterns with decimals, divide decimals by whole numbers, estimate quotients, divide decimals by decimals, write zeros in the dividend, and problem solve using decimal operations. Students will also use variables to write expressions, use order of operations, simplify expressions, evaluate expressions, and extend tables by identifying patterns.

Science – Our 5th Grade Science students will be continuing their “variable investigations” through their experimentation with buoyancy and airplane basics. Students will be increasing their academic vocabulary along the way and will begin to analyze collected data with the intention of finding relationships that exist between independent and dependent variables. These relationships will be used to predict the outcome of future controlled experiments that are designed and conducted by the students. Our variable investigations will continue next month as we “fly” into Airplane Basics and create a timeline of aviation history.

Social Studies – During the month of December the students will examine what motivated European explorers to explore the western hemisphere. They will also identify the difficulties Columbus faced during his first voyage using a primary source.



Test/Projects Dates

- Dec 4th – Math Quiz
- Dec 14th – ELA Complex Text
- Dec. 14th – Math Exam: Decimal Division
- Dec 18th – Math Quiz
- Jan. 8th – Math Topic 8 Test on Numerical Expressions (Order of Operations)

Students are permitted to use their own notes and science folders during our Science tests, and students are urged every day to maintain their notes with competence and confidence to assure they have valuable resources filled with relevant information.

Social Studies packets will be completed and graded in class.



REMINDERS!

Come to Math class prepared with your math notebook, folder (with packets inside) and pencil daily and ready to learn. Math Winter Break packet due January 4th

Students are responsible for maintaining organized and complete Science notes and lab books to assure that they have accurate resources for the topics that we are exploring. Random notebook checks are conducted routinely. Students are welcome to come up to my room during their lunch period for my assistance in helping them with note taking and organization.

Parents will be invited to JOIN us in our Science Classroom on **Monday, December 10th** for a “**Parents as Partners**” workshop in which our science sleuths will collect and analyze the different types of fingerprints that we have among our group. The time schedule will be: **Class 521/9:00-9:30; Class 520/9:45-10:15; Class 522/ 11:15-11:45.** We hope to have you join us.

Please keep updated with daily Remind for math class. Be sure to have your child work on skills that we complete in class on ThinkCentral.com and Pearsonsuccesnet.com as needed.

Review world maps. Students should be able to identify continents and oceans on a blank world map.



Required Reading

ELA - *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan; Various non-fiction articles

Math – Go Math Ch. 5; Pearson Topic 7 & 8

Science – Students are reading the works and scientific findings of Sir Isaac Newton, Galileo Galilei, and Archimedes to understand the concepts surrounding laws of gravity and motion, pendulums, and how to use the displacement of water to find the density of an object.

School Closing


January 1st – Last day of Winter Break
January 21st – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The Petrides School



Grade 5

2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Math Quiz	5	6	7	8
9	10 Parents as Partners Science "Fingerprints Workshop" Class 521-9:00-9:30 Class 520-9:45-10:15 Class 522- 11:15-11:45	11	12	13	14 ELA Complex Text Math Exam: Decimal Division	15
16	17	18 Math Quiz Winter Concert 7:00pm	19 Bulling Assembly 1:00-2:20pm	20 Sweet Feast 12:45-1:30pm	21	22
23	24 No School Happy Holidays!	25 No School	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29
30	31 No School 					

Important Upcoming Dates:

- January 2nd – School resumes
- January 4th – Math Winter Break packet due
- January 21st – Schools Closed Martin Luther King Jr. day
- January 28th – Last day of second marking period