



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 5

DECEMBER 2019

Working Together for Student Success

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 13, 2019. We appreciate your kindness and generosity!

Attendance and punctuality are paramount to the success of a student. Our *Middle School Attendance Battle Royale* (an attendance incentive) is well underway. Official classes earn a battle pass every day they have 100% attendance. Each class to earn 35 battle passes will have a pizza party. 70 battle passes earns an ice cream party, 105 earns a taco party and 140 earns a McDonald's party. Following are the results as of Nov 25, 2019.

Class 520 – 15 days	Class 620 – 13 days	Class 720 – 13 days	Class 820 – 8 days
Class 521 – 15 days	Class 621 – 17 days	Class 721 – 22 days	Class 821 – 12 days
Class 522 – 13 days	Class 622 – 16 days	Class 722 – 14 days	Class 822 – 4 days

Our Box Top for Education program is underway. NJHS members are collecting box tops regularly. I have attached an easy collection sheet for you. This may be our last chance to CLIP & SAVE as the box top program is becoming electronic. If you are holding onto box tops, SEND THEM IN quickly before they will no longer be accepted. Thank you in advance for your participation.

National Junior Honor Society applications for new members are now available in my office room B217 and on our website www.petridesschool.com. 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.

Our Middle School students will be taking a trip to the movies on Monday, December 16, 2019 to see *Frozen 2!* Attached you will find the permission slip.

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

Date	Time	Event	Participants
December 18	Class 520 1:00 - 1:30 Class 521 10:30 – 11:00 Class 522 9:00 – 9:30	Parents as Partners Math Task	Parents & Students
December 19	Class 620 9:00 – 9:30 Class 621 9:45 – 10:15 Class 622 8:15 – 8:45	Parents as Partners Math Mystery	Parents and Students

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.

Picture re-take day is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17, 2019. Please send in all unwanted pictures on re-take day.

The Italian Club will be hosting a “Mangia La Pizza Giorno” on Friday December 13th to raise money for our international trip to Italy. They will be selling pizza for \$2.50 per slice and drinks for \$1.00 each.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a joyous holiday season. School will be closed from December 24, 2019 until January 2, 2020. **Classes resume January 2, 2020.** If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (718) 815-0186 extension 22171 or BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

A Note from our PTA....

The PTA would like to thank all those who participated in our “Bowling for the Panthers” event and a special thanks to the teachers and staff that came along with their families to make this event extra special!

Don’t miss our Holiday sale on December 6th, where you can pick up some holiday gifts for your loved ones!

December 6th is our Pretzel for the Panthers day! Only \$1 for a delicious pretzel!

Don’t forget to get your Dave & Buster’s power card! Money due Monday December 9th. This is a great way to go play during the holiday break, while helping to support your school!

Please join us for the next PTA meeting on Wednesday December 18th at 6:30pm. We will discuss an exciting opportunity for our students to volunteer with the office of Steven Matteo our councilman and get community service hours during the winter break.

Thank you,
Antoinette Molinare Middle School PTA VP

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – In December, we will begin our second novel, *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan. We will be focusing on the genre of historical fiction. Students will be studying the historical time period in which the story takes place. Students will be working in a writing workshop to publish non-fiction pieces.

Math – Students will continue to multiply decimal fractions, convert units of measure when solving multi-steps problems, divide with whole numbers and decimal fractions with multi-step problems. We will begin Module 3- Equivalent fractions, add and subtract fractions.

Science – Variables! Variables! Variables! Students are learning how to identify and analyze the relationship between independent and dependent variables within a controlled experiment. Together they will record data and begin to recognize how the independent variable (x) affects the dependent variable (y) and be able to show that relationship in different graphs.

Social Studies – Students will identify and define the main characteristics of the Paleolithic Era and Neolithic Era and then be able to describe the Neolithic Revolution as a pivotal turning point in human history. Students will analyze and explain the effects of the Neolithic Revolution on the human race.



Test/Projects Dates

Dec 6th – Math Quiz
 Dec 11th – ELA Wordly Wise Test
 Dec 12th – Science Variable Test (Open notebook)
 Dec 13th – Social Studies Test: Early Humans
 Dec 17th – Math Test Class 520 & 521
 Dec 18th – Math Test Class 522
 Dec 19th – ELA Complex Text



REMINDERS!

Stay active on pupil path! Check remind daily!

Please come prepared to Math Class ready to learn with your workbook, notebook, folder and pencil. Please join us for a Parents as Partners Math Workshop on Thursday Dec 19th – Class 520: 1:00-1:30. Class 521: 10:30-11:00, Class 522: 9:00-9:30.

Please encourage students to always come to class prepared with a pen or pencil, their Science folders and their Science notebooks.

Required Reading



ELA – *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan, Independent Reading self-selected books, 20 minutes daily; various non-fiction articles

Math – Eureka Module 2 Lessons 16-29, Begin Module 3; GoMath Ch. 1 and Ch. 6

Science – Required reading is provided in class. Students are always encouraged to bring in and share with the class any current events or “things they’ve done with their families” that relate to Science.



SCHOOL CLOSING

Dec 23rd – Jan 1st Winter Recess

The Petrides School



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Math Quiz	7
8	9	10	11 ELA Wordly Wise Quiz	12 Science Test Variables (open book) Winter Concert 7:00pm	13 Social Studies Test: Early Humans	14
15	16 Movie Trip Frozen	17 Picture Re-take Day Math Test Class 520 & 521	18 Math Test Class 522 Parents as Partners Math Task Class 520: 1:00-1:30 Class 521: 10:30-11:00 Class 522: 9:00-9:30	19 ELA Complex Text	20	21
22	23 Winter Recess	24 Winter Recess	25 Winter Recess	26 Winter Recess	27 Winter Recess	28
29	30 Winter Recess	31 Winter Recess	happy holidays!			

Important Upcoming Dates:

Jan 2nd, 2020 – Classes resume
Jan 20th, 2020 – Schools Closed: Martin Luther King Jr. Day