



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 5

FEBRUARY 2020

Working Together for Student Success

Dear Middle School Parents,

Wow! The saying is certainly true. “Time flies when you are having fun.” Half of the school year is behind us already. February marks the beginning of the third marking period.

Our Middle School Social Studies department will be hosting our annual Social Studies Fair. Projects are for extra credit in grades 5,6, 7 and 8. The theme for this year’s projects is “Breaking Barriers in History.” The teachers will also have after school sessions for groups to work with their guidance. A separate permission slip for both has been distributed to students. Social Studies Fair Projects are due to teachers on March 2, 2020. Invitations for The Middle School Social Studies Fair will be forthcoming.

Please send in **BOX TOPS** to show how much you **LOVE** your school. Box Tops help us buy books and items for students to use in classrooms. Attached you will find a box top collection sheet.

The week of February 10, 2020 – February 14, 2020 is *Respect for All* week. Our student government is hosting a week full of activities.

Monday, February 10	Anti-Bullying pledges signed in classes WEAR PURPLE (ANTI-BULLYING)
Tuesday, February 11	Random Acts of Kindness WEAR YELLOW(KINDNESS AND FRIENDSHIP)
Wednesday, February 12	WEAR BLUE FOR RESPECT FOR ALL
Thursday, February 13	Hearts of encouragement slogans distributed to students WEAR RED (LOVE)
Friday, February 14	Rose Fundraiser for St. Jude and No One Sits Alone Day in the Cafeteria WEAR RAINBOW (OUR DIFFERENCES MAKE US SPECIAL)

Our Middle School students are **VERY EXCITED** to show off their talents in the “**SPOTLIGHT FIGHT.**” The Middle School Talent Show will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2020 from 12:45 until 2:15pm. Attached you will find a permission slip for students with ticket price of \$3. This money will be in support of Habitat for Humanity (a cause near and dear to The Petrides School.) Parents are welcome to attend this event. You will also find a ticket order form for parents, family and friends attached.

We will be celebrating Valentine’s Day in true middle school style. On Friday, February 14, 2020 from 1:00 – 2:20 pm we will be having a “**Happily Ever Afternoon.**” We will be watching the movie “Shrek Forever After.” Students will be provided a snack pack with a special Valentine’s Day treat. The permission slip for the “Happily Ever Afternoon” is attached.

Take Advantage of Our After-School Activities through the PAL program.....

Our **National Junior Honor Society** students have been working hard this year. They have visited Clove Lakes Nursing Home, organized the Box Top campaign and did volunteer gift wrapping in the Staten Island Mall. National Junior Honor Society applications are available in my office. Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 are encouraged to apply. Students can earn community service hours during our PAL after school program. After school participation is not mandatory but those students who work on the community service projects after school go on trips to culminate each endeavor.

Mr. David Olah and Mr. Brian Ruppert are pleased to announce that Petrides will have a **Middle School Wrestling Team!** Wrestling is an excellent sport that helps mold young boys and girls into men and women. The sport requires dedication and patience, but it teaches lessons your child will carry with them for the rest of their lives. Wrestling is also a sport that can lead to many opportunities, including scholarships. Coach Olah and Coach Ruppert have a goal. The middle school wrestling program will serve as a farm team for our high school wrestling program. Petrides will be a wrestling powerhouse! I hope you will join them in teaching your children the sport of wrestling.

We organized a **Middle School Bowling League** for students in collaboration with our PAL after school program. Bowlers meet at Rabs Country Lanes. The program started on Monday, January 13, 2020. Bowling will be every Tuesday for eight weeks. Bowling is open to students who would like to participate. There is a coach assigned to teach your child technique on every pair of lanes. The cost is \$60. PAL and Petrides will offset the additional lane fees.

If you have any questions about the above-mentioned information, feel free to contact me at (718) 815-0186 extension 22171 or BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin
Assistant Principal

PTA News:

Friday February 7th: Pretzels for our Panthers, only \$1 for a delicious pretzel.

Sunday, February 9th from 2pm-5pm invite your sweetheart and dress to impress for the PTA Sweetheart Dance in our Cafeteria. Games, DJ, catered food and a professional photographer will be available. If any student would like to volunteer for service hours please let us know.

Please join us for the next PTA meeting Wednesday, February 12th at 6:30p m.

The PTA wishes everyone a restful winter break February 17th – 21st.

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – This month we will be completing our “*Esperanza Rising*” unit. Our focus remains on becoming historical fiction experts! Our work with citing text evidence and character study brings us to focus on how characters change over time. Students will also focus heavily on determining a supporting theme found in a text. Students are well into writing their non-fiction writing pieces where they have the ability to teach others something new!

Math – Students will interpret fractions as division, solve problems involving fraction multiplication and division, collect data with fraction measurements and create a line plot and interpret numerical expressions.

Science – Students continue their investigation of how energy is transferred and transformed. Through controlled experiments, students analyze and determine how independent variables impact dependent variable and how everyday occurrences can be explained.

Social Studies – Students will continue to identify the characteristics of a civilization by studying the achievements and contributions of the early river civilizations such as ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt.



Test/Projects Dates

Feb 7th – Math Quiz
 Feb 10th – Math Cumulative Test
 Feb 11th – Science Test: Energy Transfer and Transformation (open notebook)
 Feb 12th – Math Quiz (Class 521 & 522)
 Feb 13th – Math Quiz (Class 520)
 Feb 14th - ELA Published non-fiction writing piece due
 Feb 25th - ELA Complex text
 Feb 27th – Math Quiz
 Feb 28th – Math Midwinter Recess Packet due
 Social Studies packets will be completed and graded in class.



REMINDERS!

Please come to ELA class prepared with 3 sharpened pencils.

Check REMIND daily for important announcements.

Please encourage students to use their “NESTWATCH” notepads to take notes about any Red-Tailed Hawk activity they see on Petrides campus.

There will be a Social Studies Fair afterschool teamwork session on Thurs. Feb 6th from 2:30-4:30. (Transportation is not provided).

Middle School Social Studies Fair Projects are due March 2nd.

Our Middle School Social Studies Fair is scheduled for March 3rd, Borough President's Hall of Science, A-Building. 8:30-9:30-Parents of Grades 5 & 8 are invited for project viewing; 9:30-10:30-Parents of Grades 6 & 7 are invited for project viewing

Students should review Social Studies notes and handouts to prepare for the next exam.

Reminder: Extra credit will be award to students that are able to complete a Social Studies Fair project. Please see Mrs. Bailey to have your topic approved.

Required Reading



ELA – *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan; various non-fiction articles supporting *Esperanza Rising*; various non-fiction articles pertaining to each student’s writing piece

Math – Eureka Module 4, begin Module 5; GoMath Ch. 7 & 8; Ready Workbook Unit 2

Science – All required reading is provided in class however students are encouraged to read about “real world” science in the news on their own.



SCHOOL CLOSING

Feb 17th – 21st Midwinter Recess

The Petrides School



February 2020

Grade 5

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 S.S. Fair Team Workshop 2:30-4:30pm	7 "Gimme a Pizza your Heart" Fundraiser Math Quiz	8
9 PTA Sweetheart Dance 2:00-5:00pm	10 Math Test: Cumulative	11 Science Test: Energy Transfer and Transformation (open notebook) Report Cards Distributed	12 Math Quiz (Class 521 & 522)	13 Math Quiz (Class 520) "Spotlight Fight" 12:45-2:15pm	14 ELA Nonfiction Essay Final Copy due Valentine's Day Movie 1:00-2:20pm	15
16	17 No School Midwinter Recess	18 No School Midwinter Recess	19 No School Midwinter Recess	20 No School Midwinter Recess	21 No School Midwinter Recess	22
23	24	25 ELA Complex Text	26	27 Math Quiz	28 Math Midwinter Recess Packet due	29

Important Upcoming Dates:

March 3rd - S.S. Fair-Borough President's Hall of Science A-Building;
8:30- 9:30-Grades 5 & 8; 9:30-10:30-Grades 6 & 7

March 5th – Parent Teachers Conferences

March 6th - Spring School Picture Day

March 25th – 26th – NY State ELA Exam

April 22nd - 23rd – NY State Math Exam