



Michael J. Petrides School

# Middle School Newsletter



## GRADE 5

## OCTOBER 2019

*Working Together for Student Success*

Dear Middle School Parents,

I am happy to say we can put another smooth school opening in the books! I hope you took the opportunity to meet your child's teachers at our annual Back to School event. I have included our teacher information sheet in this newsletter for your easy reference. It has been a joy to see the fresh faces of September. I am looking forward to a fantastic year with this remarkable group of middle school students.

It is important that you return all forms distributed at the beginning of the school year, which includes blue/purple cards, lunch forms, family living permission etc.. Please submit all forms to your child's official class teacher or Ms. Patricia Harrigan if you have not already done so.

An important school wide goal is to continue our partnerships with parents during this school year and to have open lines of communication. This partnership has been recognized as being paramount to the success of our students. I believe opening our classrooms and inviting parents to experience our innovative learning activities with their children is informative and fun. Our October Parents as Partners meetings will give you the opportunity for those types of experiences.

Grade	Date	Event	Time/Room
Grade 5	Tuesday October 22, 2019	Meet & Greet Ms. Troost to understand the Middle School Application Process	8:15 am Room B209
Grade 6	Wednesday October 23, 2019	Social Studies Timelines	Class 620 9:45 -10:15 Class 621 9:00 – 9:30 Class 622 8:15 – 8:45 Room B203
Grade 7	Monday October 28, 2019	ELA Publishing Party	Class 721 8:30 – 9:30 Class 722 10:00 – 11:00 Class 720 1:00 – 2:00 Room B213
Grade 8	Wednesday October 16, 2019	Meet & Greet Ms. Attal to discuss the High School Application Process	8:15 am Room B209
Grade 8	Thursday, October 24, 2019 Friday, October 25, 2019	Science LAB Diffusion Across the Membrane	October 24 <sup>th</sup> Class 820 1:15 – 2:20 Class 821 8:15 – 9:20 October 25 <sup>th</sup> Class 822 9:15 – 10:20

Socialization is paramount in the life of an adolescent. Sociologists have noted its importance for a long time. "In order to build gratifying human relationships, it is vital that children learn and have the opportunity to practice social skills considered appropriate." We are happily planning some social activities to celebrate Halloween in middle school! On Thursday, October 31, 2019 we will be having a Middle School Halloween Party. This event will be held on the athletic field from 1:00 – 2:15pm. We will have DJ entertainment, candy, prizes and blow up rides for students. The cost will be \$10 per student. A permission slip will be forthcoming. I am happy to see so many families supporting our school uniform policy.

As per our school uniform policy, ALL students are required to wear uniforms every day to school. The uniform policy consists of a light blue top with navy blue bottoms, a school physical education uniform, or school spirit wear. I will continue to have incentives for students in compliance with the uniform policy. I will also continue to use the "Citywide Standards of Intervention and Discipline Measures" if a student is not in compliance. The infraction code is B02 – "Failing to wear the required school uniform (applies only to students in grades 6 – 12 in schools that have adopted a school uniform policy and whose parents have not secured an exemption.) Students not in compliance with the school uniform policy will receive a warning letter as a courtesy.

Petrides PAWS Points Tracker sheets were explained and distributed to all middle school students. Students can earn points for PAWS behavior throughout the month. Our reward token store will be open during the first week of November. We have also implemented an ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE where official classes can earn paws points for 100% attendance daily.

Our PAL after school program is well underway. I am excited to see so many students in attendance! In order for students to participate in our free after school program, they must complete a PAL application. Applications are available online at [petridesschool.com](http://petridesschool.com) or in my office. The program runs from 2:30 to 6:00 daily and students can attend only part time if desired.

Pupilpath.com is an online resource to keep track of assignments and your child's progress at school. Pupilpath is up and running for students and parents in grade 5 - 8. If you need login information, feel free to contact me at (718) 815-0186 extension 22171 or [BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov).

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at [BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov) or at (718)815-0186 extension 22171.

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin  
Assistant Principal, Middle School

## What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – Students will be reading the novel, “The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane,” by Kate DiCamillo. Our learning intentions for the month will focus on quoting accurately from a text to support our thinking and make inferences. We will study characters to determine how they change over time. Students will become experts at utilizing the skill of comparing and contrasting. Students will work in a writer’s workshop to publish narratives.

Math – This month the students will be adding and subtracting decimals, estimating sums and differences, and solving multi-step problems. They will then begin multiplication with whole numbers and decimals.

Science – We are on our way as OBSERVANT young scientists and this month we will be applying our abilities to closely examine and research how and why things happen to the INTERTIDAL ZONES of our coastal areas. Students will engage in hands-on and minds-on investigations throughout our unit.

Social Studies - Students will be examining the five themes of geography to determine how geography influences the development of a country or region.



### Test/Projects Dates

- Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> – Science Vocabulary Test (Open notebook)
- Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – Math Test
- Oct 10<sup>th</sup> – In-class Science enrichment class with the NYC Wildfire Rangers: Deer Awareness Program
- Oct 17<sup>th</sup> – Math Quiz
- Oct 18<sup>th</sup> – SS: 5 themes of geography test
- Oct 25<sup>th</sup> – Math Test
- Oct 28<sup>th</sup> - ELA Complex Text

ELA Homework due every Friday!



### REMINDERS!

Please join “Remind” for important announcements and updates!

Remember to come to ELA class with all materials and a pencil. Be responsible with your copy of “Edward!” It will travel back and forth to school daily.

Please come prepared to Math class daily with pencils, notebooks and folders.

Students are required to have a SCIENCE FOLDER and a designated area for SCIENCE NOTES every day in class. Families are encouraged to explore the coastlines around Staten Island together. Which Mollusk shells can you find?

Students should bring their SS notebook and folder to class daily and complete all homework in a timely manner. Students are encouraged to examine and explore world maps as well as country and city maps to better their understanding of geography.

**Please join us for a Meet & Greet with Ms. Troost to discuss the Middle School Application Process on Tuesday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:15am.**

Please send in the *Scholastic News* slip and money if you haven’t already done so.



### Required Reading

ELA – *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo; Daily Language Wordly Wise; Independent reading books

Math – Ready Unit 1 Lesson 7: Add & subtract Decimals; Lessons 5 & 8: Multiply Decimals

Science – All reading materials are provided in class.

Social Studies –Students should review class notes and worksheets in their folders.




### SCHOOL CLOSING

**October 9<sup>th</sup> – No School Yom Kippur**  
**October 14<sup>th</sup> – No School Columbus Day**

# The Petrides School



## Grade 5

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Science Vocabulary Test (Open notebook)	4 Math Test ELA Homework	5
6	7	8	9 <b>No School Yom Kippur</b>	10 Science In-Class Deer Awareness Program	11 ELA Homework	12
13	14 <b>No School Columbus Day</b>	15	16	17 Math Quiz	18 ELA Homework Social Studies Test Geography	19
20	21	22 Meet & Greet Middle School Application Process Ms. Troost 8:15am	23	24	25 ELA Homework Math test	26
27	28 ELA Complex Text	29	30	31 Halloween Party 1:00-2:15pm 		

### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

November 5<sup>th</sup> – No School Election Day  
 November 8<sup>th</sup> – Picture day  
 November 11<sup>th</sup> – No School Veterans Day  
 November 28<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> – No School Thanksgiving