



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 6

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 be finishing our novel, *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*. We will also be finishing our Narrative on character traits. We will begin a short unit on poetry during this month, before a larger unit on non-fiction texts.

Math – Sixth graders will be working on expressions and equations. They will be solving an equation that involves finding the value of the unknown that makes the equation true. There is more than one way to solve an equation.

Science – For the month of December the students will begin learning about the Earth’s atmosphere and characteristics that make up each layer of Earth’s atmosphere. They will learn about atmospheric pressure, the ozone layer, reasons the ozone layer is being destroyed, and steps that have been taken to reduce destruction to the ozone layer.

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 3rd - Science Test: State of Matter
 Dec 6th - ELA Percy Jackson Vocabulary Quiz
 Dec 11th - Social Studies Test Early Humans
 Dec 13th - ELA Final Narrative Draft due
 Dec 17th - ELA Reading Comprehension Test
 Dec 18th - Math Quiz Chapter 4 & 15
 Dec 18th – Social Studies - Postcards from the Past project due
 In class Social Studies packets will be completed and graded.



REMINDERS!

Please join us for a Parents as Partners Math Mystery workshop on Thursday, Dec 19th: ... You and your child can wear your favorite holiday hat/ shirt.

- Class 622 @ 8:15-8:45
- Class 620 @ 9:00-9:39
- Class 621 @ 9:45-10:15

Students looking for books that relates to our Social Studies topic are encouraged to read “Lucy and Andy Neanderthal” by Jeffrey Brown or “The Boy of the Painted Cave” by Justin Denzel.

Required Reading

ELA – *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

Social Studies - Students should review notes and hand-outs to prepare for the next exam.



SCHOOL CLOSING

Dec 23rd – Jan 1st Winter Recess

The Petrides School



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3 Science Test: State of Matter	4	5	6 ELA Percy Jackson Vocabulary Quiz	7	
8	9	10	11 Social Studies Test Early Humans	12 Winter Concert 7:00pm	13 ELA Final Narrative Draft due	14	
15	16 Movie Trip Frozen 2	17 Picture Re-take Day ELA Reading Comprehension Test	18 Math Quiz Chapter 4 & 15 Social Studies "Postcards from the Past" project	19 Parents as Partners Math Mystery Class 620: 9:00-9:30 Class 621: 9:45-10:15 Class 622: 8:15-8:45	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 – Schools Closed: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 Jan 27th – End of Second Marking Period