



Michael J. Petrides School

# Middle School Newsletter



## GRADE 6

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

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](mailto:BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov).

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin  
Assistant Principal

PTA News:

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

Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p m.

The PTA wishes everyone a restful winter break February 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>.

## What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – This month the students will continue to analyze the decade of the 1960’s through different pieces of non-fiction texts. Each week the students will have a new topic from the 1960’s and dissect the article to gather important information. We will work on different reading skills and stress the importance of annotations when reading the article. The students will fill out a non-fiction organizer for each article read in order to collect the information for future usage. Each student is given state test questions at the end of each topic. This will all lead to an Informative Essay on one of the topics of their choosing from the 1960’s when we come back from Winter Break.

Math – Sixth graders will be working on geometry. They will be solving real world and mathematical problems involving area, surface area and volume.

Science – This month the students will learn how solar heating and water vapor in the atmosphere affect weather. They will also learn how clouds, hail and sleet form and how air masses take on the condition of temperature and humidity from the location over which they form.

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 7<sup>th</sup> – ELA: Non-Fiction Test  
 Feb 7<sup>th</sup> - Social Studies test: Fertile Crescent and Mesopotamia  
 Feb 11<sup>th</sup> – Science Quiz: Weather  
 Feb 12<sup>th</sup> - Math Test: Chapter 18  
 Feb 25<sup>th</sup> – ELA Midwinter Recess Packet due  
 Feb 27<sup>th</sup> – ELA Non-fiction Informative Essay topic due

### Required Reading

ELA – Non-Fiction Articles provided in class



### SCHOOL CLOSING

Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Midwinter Recess



### REMINDERS!

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

Middle School Social Studies Fair Projects due March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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

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.


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

# The Petrides School



# February 2020

## Grade 6

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 S.S. Fair Team Workshop 2:30-4:30pm	7 ELA: Non-Fiction Test Socials Studies Test “Gimme a Pizza your Heart” Fundraiser	8
9 PTA Sweetheart Dance 2:00-5:00pm	10	11 Science Quiz: Weather Report Cards Distributed	12 Math Test: Chapter 18	13 “Spotlight Fight” 12:45-2:15pm ELA Midwinter Recess Packet handed out	14  Valentine’s Day Movie 1:00-2:20pm	15
16	17 <b>No School Midwinter Recess</b>	18 <b>No School Midwinter Recess</b>	19 <b>No School Midwinter Recess</b>	20 <b>No School Midwinter Recess</b>	21 <b>No School Midwinter Recess</b>	22
23	24	25 ELA Midwinter Recess Packet due	26	27 ELA Non-fiction Informative Essay topic due	28	29

### Important Upcoming Dates:

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> - 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 5<sup>th</sup> - Parent Teachers Conferences**

**March 6<sup>th</sup> - Spring School Picture Day**

**March 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> - NY State ELA Exam**

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> - NY State Math Exam**