



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 6

October 2017



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.

The students look great in their school uniforms. 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.

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. I am happy to announce our first Parents as Partners event for this school year is "***The People vs. Columbus.***" Grade 7 Parents are invited to see their children explore the role that Africans and woman had on the American Colonies according to the following schedule:

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Class 722: 8:15-8:45am Class 721: 9:45-10:15am Class 720: 10:30–11:00am

I would also like to invite the parents of 5th graders for a **Sip & Share** to talk with the 5th grade team of teachers and myself about curriculum, their transition to Middle School and any concerns you may have on **Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 8:50am.**

An 8th grade **Sip & Share** has been scheduled for **Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 8:15am.** You will be able to talk with the 8th grade team of teachers and myself about curriculum and the many events and exams on schedule this year for your child. I will also like to discuss **The High School Application Process** and our shadowing program with you. **I have enclosed documentation attached to this newsletter for your reference.**

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 Monday, October 30, 2017 we will be having a Middle School Halloween Dance. This event will be held in the student cafeteria from 2:30 until 4 pm. A permission slip will be forthcoming.

Our National Junior Honor Society will be selling candy bracelets and necklaces during the month of October to support Sugarland, Texas. Our school has worked with the school district of Sugarland, Texas during the 2016-2017 school year. Members of this district came to visit our Middle School last year and worked as our learning partners. We would love to use the funds raised to help them rebuild after the devastating Hurricane.

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 month of October.

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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 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.

Your child received their activation code for a NYC Schools account in their backpack. This account is a new way of accessing key information about your child's progress. Some available features are NYS Standardized test scores and reports, attendance and grades.

Mark your calendars: There is no school on October 9th, 2017 in observance of Columbus Day. The end of the first marking period is November 3rd, 2017. Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences are on November 15th and November 16th, 2017.

A Note from the PTA:

Join us at our next PTA meeting on October 18, 2017 at 7pm

Chocolate Sales ends October 16th. Please send chocolate sale money clearly marked ATTN: PTA.

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

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin
Assistant Principal

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – We will read the novel *Wonder* by RJ Palacio and make inferences about characters and point of view. We will complete a student thought organizer and connect the novel to standards and finding evidence/support. We will then begin the novel *The Lightning Thief* by Rich Riordan. The students will review notes, findings, and summaries. The students will then make comparative statements and theme: i.e.: connections, friendship/courage.

Math – This month the students will be working on the number system topic. They will learn the division of fractions and extending the notation of numbers to the system of rational numbers, which include negative numbers.

Science – The students in class 620 will apply the law of conservation of energy to energy transformations: identifying how energy changes form. They will also describe the advantages and disadvantages of using various energy sources. The students in Class 621 and 622 will finish their Energy chapter and begin learning about the states of matter and how the motion of particles help explain the phases of matter as well as changes from one phase to another.

Social Studies – During the month of October the students will learn about Egypt, Sumeria and early civilization



Test/Projects Dates

Oct 2nd – Math Quiz: Chapter 3
 Oct 11th – Math Quiz: Chapter 5
 Oct 12th – Science exam: Energy (All classes)
 Oct 13th – ELA Complex Text article assessment
 Oct 17th – Math Quiz: Chapter 6
 Oct 26th – Math Quiz: Chapter 7 & 8



REMINDERS!

As per our uniform policy **ALL** students are required to wear uniforms every day to school. The uniform policy consists of a light blue collared shirt and dark blue bottoms.

All Math classwork and homework are due the day of the quiz.

Students should be reading at least 20 minutes every night.

Please bring in *Scholastics News* slip and money if you haven't already done so.

Required Reading



ELA – *Wonder* by RJ Palacio; *The Lightning Thief* by Rich Riordan; Informational Article:

Math – Textbook/eBook: Ch. 5, 6, 7 & 8

Science – Class 620: Textbook Ch. 2-Energy; Science article: Solar plane. Class 621 & 622 Textbook Ch. 4-States of Matter

Social Studies – *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair; *How the Other Half Lives* by Jacob Riis

School Closing

October 9
Columbus Day observed

The Petrides School



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2 Math Quiz: Chapter 3	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 No School Columbus Day	10	11 Math Quiz: Chapter 5	12 Science exam: Energy (All classes)	13 ELA Complex Text assessment	14
15	16	17 Math Quiz: Chapter 6	18 PTA Meeting 7:00pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Math Quiz: Chapter 7 & 8	27	28
29	30 Halloween Dance 2:30-4:30	31				

Important Upcoming Dates:

End of First Marking - November 3rd
Parent Teacher Conferences - Nov. 15th and 16th

