



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 7

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 begin our second novel, *A Long Walk to Water*, by Linda Sue Park. Our focus for this unit is on the effect of setting on character. Students will gather and analyze evidence about the influence of culture, time and place on the protagonists in the novel. This work will prepare them for our third major writing piece, the response to literature.

Math – This month the students will solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.

Science – We are **SCIENCE CITIZENS!** Students are being driven by their own high interest topic to build a deeper understanding of the science in the world around them. Together we recognize how human impact shapes and impacts the natural community that we are a part of and we begin to expand our knowledge to other world biomes. Students use the cycles of energy (nitrogen, carbon, etc.) as a gauge to determine the balance and health of each biome.

Social Studies -This month our Social Studies Scholars will be exploring Unit 2, *The Road to Independence* and will investigate the French and Indian War, Colonial Response to Taxation, Cause/Effects of the Revolution, key battles of the war, and Declaration of Independence. This will lead to our study of "Hamilton, An American Musical" connected to the people, events, and ideas of the time.



Test/Projects Dates

Dec 2th - ELA Thematic Essay Due
 Dec 11th – Science Test
 Dec 12th – ELA Wordly Wise Test on Lessons 1-4
 Dec 17th – Math Quiz: Unit 3 (Class 721)
 Dec 18th: Social Studies quiz: Causes of Revolution / Colonial Response to Taxation
 Dec 18th – Math Quiz: Unit 3(Class 720 and 722)

 Jan 3rd: Social Studies-Declaration of Independence
 Break Up Letter Project due



Students of the Month

SOCIAL STUDIES

720: Reyeka Rahman
 721: Calla Chow DeGeorge
 722: James Sahadi

MATH

720: Gordon Chen
 721- Samara Morales
 722- Abdul Koroma

ELA

720: Luke LeFurge
 721: Alisa Pocesta
 722: Kimora Mitchell

SCIENCE

720: Joseph Castellanos
 721: Melanie Haskel
 722: Pooja Perera



SCHOOL CLOSING

Dec 23rd – Jan 1st Winter Recess



REMINDERS!

Students should be checking Google Classroom every night for S.S. homework and school-wide reminders. Videos are being posted as studying resources. Students are encouraged to conduct their own SS research projects outside of school for extra credit and can design their own research questions.

Book Club meets every Monday at lunch in Room 213. All Middle Schoolers are welcome to attend. Once a month, members of the book club visit kindergarten and first grade classrooms to read picture books to the younger students.

Students should come to Math class prepared with a pencil and a calculator every day.

Students are provided with all reading in Science class. They are strongly encouraged to independently research on the internet and in printed Science journals topics and current events that personally interest them. Students are invited to share their findings with their class.

Families are encouraged to visit our Petrides Billion Oyster Project sites at the National Lighthouse Museum and the Alice Austen House. We are helping to restore the oyster reefs of Staten Island!

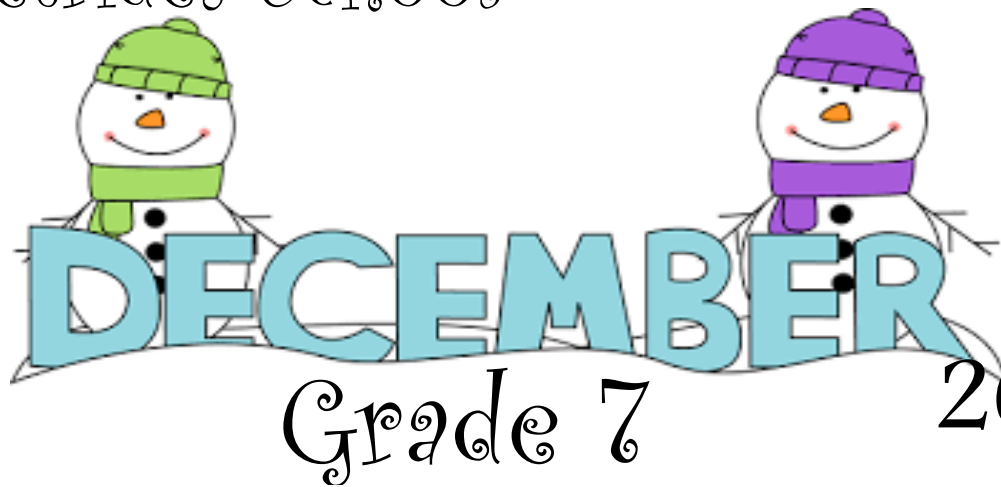


Required Reading

ELA – Independent Reading self-selected books, 20 minutes daily, continue to log in your reading log.

Math – Go Math Modules 6 and 7 Buckle Down Unit 3: Lesson 11-1

The Petrides School



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
1	2 ELA Thematic Essay due	3	4	5 Snug Harbor Trip Lantern Festival	6 ELA Homework #10	7	
8	9	10	11 Science Test	12 ELA Wordly Wise Test Lessons 1-4 Winter Concert 7:00pm	13 ELA Homework #11	14	
15	16 Movie Trip Frozen 2	17 Picture Re-take Day Math Quiz: Unit 3 (Class 721)	18 Math Quiz: Unit 3 (Class 720 & 722) Social Studies Quiz: Causes of Revolution / Colonial Response to Taxation	19	20 ELA Homework #12	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					

Important Upcoming Dates:

Jan 2nd, 2020 – Classes resume
 Jan 20th – Schools Closed: Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 Jan 27th – End of Second Marking Period