



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 7

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

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.

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin
Assistant Principal

PTA News:

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

Sunday, February 9th 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 12th at 6:30p m.

The PTA wishes everyone a restful winter break February 17th – 21st.

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – In ELA, we will embark on our third novel study using Julius Lester’s Day of Tears. This is a book about the people who were affected by the largest slave auction in American history. Students will continue annotation strategies that lead to an in-depth understanding of the text. We will examine the impact of word choice and figurative language on mood. Supplemental readings about slavery will be used to provide historical context for the novel.

Math – This month students will use measures of center and measures of variability for numerical data from random samples to draw informal comparative inferences about two populations.

Science – Students take their knowledge of ecology to a microscope level as we begin our unit on CELLS. Students will differentiate between plant and animal cells and begin to understand how cells repair, reproduce, and work together in systems accomplishing specific tasks.

Social Studies - This month our Social Studies Scholars will be exploring the ratification of the Constitution and formation of a new American government and nation. We will also be unraveling Hamilton’s economic plan, the presidencies of George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, and Louisiana Purchase. The unit will conclude with a performance-based assessment with students investigating why people create, structure, and change governments.



Test/Projects Dates

Feb 5th – Science Test: Energy flow in Ecosystems
 Feb 11th – Math Quiz: Unit 5 (Class 721)
 Feb 12th – Math Quiz: Unit 5 (Class 720 & 722)
 Feb 24th & 25th – Social Studies review: Unit 3 Test
 Feb 24th - ELA Midwinter break packet due
 Feb 26th – SS Test: Unit 3 MC (Class 720 & 721)
 Feb 26th – Math Midwinter Break packet due
 Feb 27th – SS Test: Unit 3 MC (Class 722)
 Feb 27th – SS Test: Unit 3DBQ Response (Class 720 & 721)
 Feb 28th – SS Test: Unit 3 DBQ Response (Class 722)



REMINDERS!

Students should be checking Google Classroom every night for Social Studies homework and school-wide reminders. Videos are being posted as studying resources.

Students are encouraged to participate in our optional middle school Social Studies Fair for extra credit! This year’s theme is “Breaking Barriers in History”. We will be hosting an after school social studies session for students to work on their projects with their social studies teachers on Feb 6th from 2:30-4:30pm

Middle School Social Studies Fair Projects due March 2nd.

Our Middle School Social Studies Fair is tentatively 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.

Please encourage students to use their “NESTWATCH” notepads to take notes about any Red-Tailed Hawk activity they see on Petrides campus.

By the end of February, students should have completed exercises for lessons 1-8 in their Wordly Wise workbook.

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



Students of the Month

SOCIAL STUDIES

720: Adam Nachet
 721: Patricia Schron
 722: Baseer Jolaoluwa

MATH

720: Rayeka Rahman
 721: Imani Carter
 722: Pooja Perera

ELA

720: Gordon Chen
 721: Melanie Haskell
 722: Alison Glaz

SCIENCE

720: Ryan Huang
 721: Toni Vanscott
 722: GineshSivadasan



SCHOOL CLOSING

Feb 17th – 21st Midwinter Recess



Required Reading

ELA - February Complex Text Day of Tears Independent Reading- student's choice


Math - Go Math Modules 10 and 11; Buckle Down Unit 5: Lessons 26-31

Science – All required reading is provided in class however students are encouraged to explore Science News, Chem Matters and other Science journals on their own.

The Petrides School

February 2020

Grade 7

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Science Test Energy flow in Ecosystems	6 S.S. Fair Team Workshop 2:30-4:30pm	7 ELA HW #1 “Gimme a Pizza your Heart” Fundraiser	8
9 PTA Sweetheart Dance 2:00-5:00pm	10	11 Math Quiz: Unit 5 (Class 721) Report Cards Distributed	12 Math Quiz: Unit 5 (Class 720 & 722)	13 “Spotlight Fight” 12:45-2:15pm	14  ELA HW #2 Valentine’s Day Movie 1:00-2:20pm	15
16	17 No School Midwinter Recess	18 No School Midwinter Recess	19 No School Midwinter Recess	20 No School Midwinter Recess	21 No School Midwinter Recess	22
23	24 ELA Midwinter break packet due Social Studies review: Unit 3	25 Social Studies review: Unit 3	26 Math Midwinter Break packet due SS Test: Unit 3 MC (Class 720 & 721)	27 SS Test: Unit 3 MC (Class 722) SS Test: Unit 3 Essay (Class 720 & 721)	28 Social Studies Test: Unit 3 Essay (Class 722)	29

Important Upcoming Dates:

March 3rd - 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 5th – Parent Teachers Conferences

March 6th - Spring School Picture Day

March 25th – 26th – NY State ELA Exam

April 22nd - 23rd – NY State Math Exam