



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 7

November 2018



Dear Middle School Parents,

I hope everyone had a very Happy Halloween. Our annual Halloween dance was a big success thanks to your support. The end of the first marking period is approaching on November 15, 2018. Parents should be checking PupilPath.com to view their child's academic progress. I am happy to reprint login information for any parent in need. Please email me at any time and the login information will be sent home in your child's backpack.

I want to thank all of the fifth grade parents who joined me for a Sip & Share last month. Your feedback is instrumental in making our school the best!

The Middle School teachers and I would like to open our classroom doors and invite you to Parents as Partners classroom workshops. Following is the schedule for November:

Mr. DelRe will host a workshop where you will do a math task on systems of equations with your **8th grade** child on **Monday, November 26, 2018**. (Class 820 at 8:15am, Class 821 at 9:45am and Class 822 at 9:00am)

Ms. Diario will host a workshop where you will do a math task with your **7th grade** child on **Thursday, November 15, 2018**. (Class 720 at 9:00am, Class 721 at 10:30am and Class 722 at 8:15am)

Ms. Brancaccio will host a Publishing Party for **6th grade** parents and students on **Thursday, November 15, 2018**. (Class 620 at 9:45am, Class 621 at 9:00am and Class 622 at 1:45pm)

Ms. Kruesi will host a workshop where you will do a math task with your **5th grade** child on **Thursday, November 15, 2018**. (Class 520 at 9:00am, Class 521 at 9:45am and Class 522 at 8:15am)

All parents are invited to join us on **Wednesday, November 28, 2018** for **PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**. Conferences are from 12:20 until 2:20pm and then again from 5:00 – 8:00pm.

I want to encourage students in grades **6 through 8** to join our school's chapter of **The National Junior Honor Society**. The complete application for students is attached to this newsletter. Please take note that we are providing community service opportunities for students after school with Ms. Calimano every Tuesday and Wednesday. The students involved in these sessions are making a wonderful difference in our Staten Island Community. Some of the current eighth grade members that work with Ms. Calimano are visiting Clove Lakes Nursing Home on November 7, 2018 to work on a Thanksgiving craft with seniors. Our seventh grade members are organizing the BOX TOP campaign. Please use the attached Box Top collection sheet and send in your box tops!

Our Eighth grade students will be visiting historic Philadelphia on Thursday, November 8, 2018. Please send in permission slip and Money to Ms. Pat Harrigan ASAP.

Our Fifth grade students will have an in-school trip on November 20, 2018. They will see a presentation from the Wildlife Unit of the New York City Parks department about Deer Awareness. A permission slip will be forthcoming.

Our Seventh grade students will experience a two part in-school trip during the month of November. They will see a presentation from the New York City Parks Department about Ecology: How humans affect the environment. They will also have an outdoor experience guided by the Parks department and Ms. McDonald on our campus. A permission slip will be forthcoming.

The NJHS students will be conducting a THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE for needy families in our community. Please send in all NON PERISHABLES starting November 5th until November 16th. The flyer is attached.

Students are looking fantastic 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 and navy blue bottom. Middle school, students can wear Petrides Phys Ed uniforms on Phys Ed days. All uniforms must be ordered online at josephsportny@yahoo.com. **The telephone number is 347 - 768 - 2049.** Uniforms will be delivered to school and distributed by Mr. Michael Duffy.

Please note that there is no school for students on:

November 6, 2018 ELECTION DAY

November 12, 2018 VETERANS DAY

November 22 and 23 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

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 – In November, students will learn how to analyze the development of themes over the course of a text. They will choose one central idea in Monster and write a thematic essay using textual evidence to support their analysis of the theme. After moving through all of the steps in the writing process, students will eventually peer assess, self-assess and publish their essays.

Math – This month the students will learn to analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems.

Science – We have begun our “Focus Groups” in Science and will be working in our groups to become experts on designated Environmental Issues that presently concern us globally and locally. Students will work together to research their topics, to gather relevant data, to collect evidence to support their ideas/claims regarding the issue. The groups will present their published data, written research, and their informational posters to the rest of the class to teach that content to them. Through peer teaching, students elevate their understanding of how human actions impact the natural world around them.

Social Studies – This month our Social Studies Scholars will be concluding their Unit 1 study with their first Regents based test, which will consist of multiple choice and thematic essays. We will also be working on a document-based informational writing task focused on the themes of wealth, power, and morality that were influenced by exploration and colonization. Finally we will launch Unit 2, The Road to Independence and begin by investigating the French and Indian War and Colonial Response to Taxation.



Test/Projects Dates

- Nov 2nd - Social Studies: Three Colonial Regions Quiz
- Nov 7th – Math Quiz: Unit 2 (Class 721)
- Nov 8th - Math Quiz Unit 2 (Class 720 & 722)
- Nov 13th - SS: Unit 1 Multiple Choice (all Classes); Essay (Class 721)
- Nov 14th - Science Exam: Academic Vocabulary
- Nov 14th - Social Studies: Unit 1 Essay (Class 720 & 722)
- Nov 19th - Math Task Unit 2 (Class 720 & 721)
- Nov 20th – ELA Wordly Wise test # 2
- Nov 20th – Math Task Unit 2 (Class 722)
- Nov 21st – ELA Thematic Essay Draft
- Nov 28th – Math Exam: Unit 2 (Class 721)
- Nov 29th – Math Exam Unit 2 (All Classes)

Our Environmental Issue Focus Groups will be working on a variety of tasks that directly relate to their topic, and enable them to gain an “expert level” of understanding that they will then share with the rest of the class. As a cooperative group of active learners and doers, the students will work together following a checklist to assure completion of all components of their tasks.



REMINDERS!

Students should continue reading twenty minutes each night from their independent reading books. Once finished, they will return the book to the classroom library and make another choice. Weekly responses are due every Friday. Refer to the list of independent reading prompts.

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

On **November 15 and 16** the NYC Parks Urban Park Rangers will be enriching our curriculum with an informative **ECOLOGY** program to our classroom. They will then take us into the field for an exploration hike in the SI Greenbelt on **November 29 and 30**. Details to will be forthcoming.

Email is the best way to contact Ms. McDonald and we welcome your communications. Her email address is cmcdonald2@schools.nyc.gov. Students are urged to keep an eye on the changing of season, and to share their findings and wonderings with their families. ENJOY!!

Students should come to Math class prepared with a pencil and a calculator every day. Please join us for a Parents as Partners Math Task on Thurs. Nov 15th – Class 720: 9:00-9:30, Class 721: 10:30-11:00, Class 722: 8:15-8:45.

Required Reading



ELA – We will finish Monster by Walter Dean Myers and begin our second novel, A Long Walk to Water, by Linda Sue Park.. Nonfiction articles related to the topic of each novel will accompany our reading.

Math – Go Math Modules 4 & 5; Buckle Down Unit 2: Lessons 7-10

Science - Students will be URGED to continue researching their Focus Group topic beyond our set time together. Students can use the school library during lunch, can use our Science room during open lunch periods, and can continue independent research on their topic at home. Resources will be provided in class for use during scheduled class periods.

School Closing

- Nov 6th – Election Day
- Nov 12th – Veteran’s Day
- Nov 22nd & 23rd – Thanksgiving Recess

SS Scholars of the Month

- Class 720: Jesse Lefurge
- Class 721: Kathleen Discalo
- Class 722: Isabella Burmaster

Math Student of the Month:

- Class 720- Jose Perez
- Class 721- Eliana Minenna
- Class 722- Mia Coello

The Petrides School

NOVEMBER

Grade 7

2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Independent Reading Response #17, 18, 19 Social Studies Quiz: Colonial Regions	3
4	5	6 No School 	7 Math Quiz: Unit 2 (Class 721)	8 Math quiz: Unit 2 (Class 720 & 722) Social Studies Unit 1 test review	9 Picture Day Independent Reading Response #20, 21, 22 Social Studies Unit 1 test review	10
11	12 No School 	13 Social Studies Unit 1 exam: Multiple Choice (All Classes) Social Studies Unit 1 exam: Essay (Class 721)	14 Science Exam: Academic Vocabulary Social Studies Unit 1 Exam: Essay (Class 720 & 722)	15 Parents as Partners Math Task Class 720-9:00-9:30 Class 721-10:30-11:00 Class 722-8:15-8:45 Ecology Program: Science Outreach (Parks Dept) End of First Marking Period	16 Independent Reading Response #23, 24, 25 Ecology Program: Science Outreach (Parks Dept)	17
18	19 Math Task: Unit 2 (Class 720 & 721)	20 Wordly Wise Test # 2 Math Task: Unit 2 (Class 722)	21 ELA Thematic Essay Draft	22 No School 	23 No School 	24
25	26	27 Report Cards Distributed	28 Math Exam: Unit 2 (Class 721) Early Dismissal 11:20am Parent-Teachers Conferences 12:20-2:20pm 5:00-8:00pm	29 Math Exam: Unit 2 (All Class) Ecology Program Science Field Study (Parks Dept)	30 Ecology Program Science Field Study (Parks Dept)	

Important Upcoming Dates:

December 24 – January 1
Winter Recess