



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 7

OCTOBER 2019

Working Together for Student Success

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.

It is important that you return all forms distributed at the beginning of the school year, which includes blue/purple cards, lunch forms, family living permission etc.. Please submit all forms to your child's official class teacher or Ms. Patricia Harrigan if you have not already done so.

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. Our October Parents as Partners meetings will give you the opportunity for those types of experiences.

Grade	Date	Event	Time/Room
Grade 5	Tuesday October 22, 2019	Meet & Greet Ms. Troost to understand the Middle School Application Process	8:15 am Room B209
Grade 6	Wednesday October 23, 2019	Social Studies Timelines	Class 620 9:45 -10:15 Class 621 9:00 – 9:30 Class 622 8:15 – 8:45 Room B203
Grade 7	Monday October 28, 2019	ELA Publishing Party	Class 720 1:00 – 2:00 Class 721 8:30 – 9:30 Class 722 10:00 – 11:00 Room B213
Grade 8	Wednesday October 16, 2019	Meet & Greet Ms. Attal to discuss the High School Application Process	8:15 am Room B209
Grade 8	Thursday, October 24, 2019 Friday, October 25, 2019	Science LAB Diffusion Across the Membrane	October 24 th Class 820 1:15 – 2:20 Class 821 8:15 – 9:20 October 25 th Class 822 9:15 – 10:20

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 Thursday, October 31, 2019 we will be having a Middle School Halloween Party. This event will be held on the athletic field from 1:00 – 2:15pm. We will have DJ entertainment, candy, prizes and blow up rides for students. The cost will be \$10 per student. A permission slip will be forthcoming. I am happy to see so many families supporting our school uniform policy.

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.

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 first week of November. We have also implemented an ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE where official classes can earn paws points for 100% attendance daily.

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.

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, Middle School

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – In October, students will continue reading *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers. One focus is on the author’s use of structure to enhance meaning in the text. We will also analyze the themes that develop throughout the novel and gather text evidence to support our thematic essays. At the same time, we continue to learn narrative techniques that can be used to enhance our memoirs. Peer and self-assessment will prepare us to publish our memoirs at the end of the month.

Math – This month the students will learn to apply and extend their previous understanding of operations to add, subtract, multiply and divide rational numbers. They will also learn to solve real-world and mathematical problems involving the four operations with rational numbers

Science – We have been led by the NYC Urban Park Rangers along the trails of the SI Greenbelt, and have been introduced to some of the affects that human impact can have on our natural areas. We will continue this study as we become familiar with the Principles of Ecology in preparation for our 8th Grade Living Environment Regent next year.

Social Studies - This month our Social Studies Scholars will be exploring Native Americans, Early European Encounters, and Colonial Developments. We will be examining the complexity of indigenous cultures in North America prior to European exploration through a Google Slides group research project. Next, students will explore the impact of Columbus and participate in our first Socratic Seminar. We will also be analyzing the role that Africans and women had on the American colonies, and investigate the three colonial regions in America.



Test/Projects Dates

- Oct 1st – SS Google Project Indigenous Cultures Due
 - Oct 2nd – Science Academic Vocabulary Quiz
 - Oct 4th – ELA HW #3
 - Oct 10th – SS “The People v. Columbus” Socratic Seminar
 - Oct 11th – ELA HW #4
 - Oct 16th – Math Task: Unit 1
 - Oct 17th – ELA: Wordly Wise Test # 2
 - Oct 17th – SS Colonial region Quiz
 - Oct 18th – ELA: Published Memoir
 - Oct 21st - Math Test: Unit 1 – Class 721
 - Oct 23rd – Math Test Class 720 & 722
 - Oct 28th – Math Notebook Quiz
- Unit 1 Regents based Social Studies Test will be the first week of November



Required Reading

ELA – *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers will be read entirely in class. Students have self-selected independent reading books from the classroom library. They are required to read 20 minutes daily and record their activity in the Reading Log.

Math - Go Math Modules 1, 2, and 3; Buckle Down Unit 2: Lessons 1-6

Science – All reading materials are provided in class. Students are encouraged to pursue nonfiction science related articles on their own for personal enjoyment.

Social Studies - Article Readings for HW on Google Classroom; Classwork Packets



REMINDERS!

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

Students are required to have a SCIENCE FOLDER and a designated area for SCIENCE NOTES every day in class. Families are urged to encourage students to question how and why the world works around them. Questioning will help young scientists expand their knowledge.

All SS tests are aligned to the U.S. History and Government Regents and each will be administered over two days. This includes both multiple-choice and a thematic essay. All tests will have review sessions/sheets. Students should be checking Google Classroom daily for SS announcements, reminders, video clip reviews, and HW. If students would like to keep a S.S. textbook at home to study from, please let Mr. Giordano know. Students are encouraged to conduct their own research projects outside of school for SS extra credit and can design their own research questions. Finally, students will be visiting Wagner College as part of the College Access for All Middle School Initiative! The grade will be split in half for the trip and will only attend one day; please see the specific trip slip sent home with your child to know the date of the trip that he or she will be attending



Students of the Month

SOCIAL STUDIES

- 720: Arion Blakaj
- 721: Malvina Kolodziej
- 722: Pooja Perera

Math

- 720- Jason Consalvo
- 721- Alisa Pocesta
- 722- Alison Glaz

ELA

- 720: Matthew Agyin
- 721: Toni VanScott
- 722: Pujá Desilva

SCIENCE

- 720: Alan Koren
- 721: Richard Hardt
- 722: Abdul Koroma




SCHOOL CLOSING

- October 9th – No School Yom Kippur
- October 14th – No School Columbus Day

The Petrides School



Grade 7 2019

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1 SS Google Research Project	2 Science Academic Vocabulary Test	3	4 ELA HW #3	5
6	7	8	9 No School Yom Kippur	10 SS Columbus Socratic Seminar	11 ELA HW #4	12
13	14 No School Columbus Day	15	16 Math Task Unit 1	17 ELA: Wordly Wise Test # 2 SS Quiz: Colonial Regions	18 ELA: Published Memoir	19
20	21 Math Test: Unit 1 Class 721	22 Wagner Trip Class Class 720 & 721	23 Math Test: Unit 1 Class 720 & 722	24 Wagner Trip Class Class 722 & 721	25	26
27	28 Math Notebook Quiz Parents as Partners ELA Publishing Party Class 720: 1:00-2:00 Class 721: 8:30-9:30 Class 722: 10:00-11:00	29	30	31 Halloween Party 1:00-2:15pm 		

Important Upcoming Dates:

November 5th – No School Election Day
 November 8th – Picture day
 November 11th – No School Veterans Day
 November 28th -29th – No School Thanksgiving