



The Michael J. Petrides School Middle School Newsletter Grade 7/8

DECEMBER 2017



Dear Parents of students in grades 5 – 8,

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. Toys are being collected from now until December 13, 2017. We appreciate your kindness and generosity!

Our Box Top for Education program is well underway. NJHS members are collecting box tops regularly. I have attached an easy collection sheet for you. Thank you in advance for your participation.

National Junior Honor Society applications for new members are now available in my office, room B217. 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 Wednesday and work on community service projects during that time.

With the excitement of the upcoming holiday celebrations, we have a packed December calendar. The following **Parents as Partners** events are scheduled:

Class 555 will host “Snowman Math” on December 18, 2017 at 10:30 am

Grade 6 students will host a Publishing Party on December 18, 2017

Class 620 – 8:45 am – 9:15am

Class 621 – 12:45 am – 1:15 am

Class 622 – 10:00 am – 10:30am

Our High School Humanities Academy will be hosting our annual College Fair for seventh grade students on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at 7:00pm in the student cafeteria. Seventh graders will complete a “College Access for All” activity when at the fair. Parents are invited to attend a College meeting presented by Ms. Carol Dennison, our school’s college advisor at that time.

We will have a performance by the Harlem Magic Masters (a basketball entertainment group) on Friday December 15, 2017. On Tuesday December 19, 2017 we will have a Jazz presentation by The Temple of the Arts. A permission slip for all December activities with more detailed information will be forthcoming.

Our annual Winter Concert for students in grades 6 – 8 is scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 2017 and our Holiday Fair is December 8, 2017.

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 Mr. Doctor at ADoctor@schools.nyc.gov.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a joyous holiday season. School will be closed from December 25, 2017 until January 1, 2018. **Classes resume January 2, 2018.** If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (718) 815-0186 extension 22171 or BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin
Assistant Principal, Middle School

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – In December we will begin reading our next novel *The Outsiders* by S.E.Hinton. We will focus on gathering evidence to understand the setting and the theme of the text.

Math – This month the students will expand their understanding of equivalent expressions as they apply the properties of operations to write expressions in both standard and factored form. The students will also use variables to represent qualities in real-world or mathematical problems and construct simple equations to solve problems by reasoning about the quantities.

Science – The students will begin their study of the cell during the month of December. They will identify and label the parts of the cell and describe how all parts work together to maintain homeostasis. The students will also explain the differences between passive and active transport and they will perform lab experiments using the microscope. The students will also be investigating diffusion and osmosis.

Social Studies – During the month of December we will be studying the Industrial Revolution. The students will analyze Primary Source information related to America in the late 1800's and early 1900's.



Test/Projects Dates

Dec 1st – Social Studies exam
 Dec 7th – Math quiz: one-step equations
 Dec 8th – ELA Wordly Wise test #6
 Dec 19th – Math Exam: Multi-step equations
 Dec 22nd – ELA Wordly Wise test #7

See www.pupilpath.com for Science vocabulary quiz and Ecology exam dates.



REMINDERS!

Please bring money (\$18) and permission slip for our Movie Trip to see Wonder.

Students should be reading for at least 20 minutes every night to increase their stamina and comprehension. Readthoery.org is a great resource for students to use.

Please remember to bring in sharpened pencils and calculators to Math class every day!



Required Reading

ELA – *The Outsiders* by S.E Hinton; At-home: Independent reading book
 Science – Textbook: Chapter 7-9; Science World magazines

School Closing

Dec 25th – Jan 1st
Winter Recess

School resumes January 2nd, 2018





The Petrides School



Grade 7/8

2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Social Studies exam	2
3	4	5	6 Movie Trip Annual College Fair 7:00pm	7 Math quiz: One-step equations	8 ELA Wordly Wise test #6 Holiday Fair	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Harlem Magic Masters performance	16
17	18	19 Math Exam: Multi-step equations Assembly Temple of the Arts	20	21	22 ELA Wordly Wise test #7	23
24 /31	25 No School  H A P P Y	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29 No School 	30

Important Upcoming Dates:

January 2nd - School resumes
January 15th - No School: Martin Luther King Jr. day
January 29th - End of 2nd Marking Period