



The Michael J. Petrides School Middle School Newsletter Grade 8 January 2018



"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year." Ralph Waldo Emerson

Dear Middle School Parents,

Welcome back and best wishes for a wonderful new year. I hope 2018 brings you nothing but good things. We certainly have some exciting things planned for January! Our second annual Holiday Classic was a big success as was the educational/entertaining performance by Temple of the Arts and the Harlem Magic Masters! The children had lots of fun and it was certainly the perfect way to enjoy the holiday season.

The Middle School teachers have scheduled the following opportunities for you to visit and spend some time with us during the month of January. Please note the dates here:

Grade	Class	Date	Time/Period	Parents as Partners Workshop
7	720	January 23, 2018	10:30 – 11:00 am	Rise Up Investigating through the Lens of Hamilton the Musical
7	721	January 23, 2018	9:45 – 10:15 am	Rise Up Investigation through the Lens of Hamilton the Musical
7	722	January 23, 2018	8:15 – 8:45 am	Rise Up Investigation through the Lens of Hamilton the Musical
8	820	January 10, 2018	8:30 – 9:30 am	Microscope Stations
8	821	January 8, 2018	8:30 – 9:30 am	Microscope Stations
8	822	January 8, 2018	1:15 – 2:20 pm	Microscope Stations

The College Access for All Initiative is continuing this year at Petrides. Our seventh graders have had a college visit to Wagner College and completed the first of their lessons. On January 11, 2018 the seventh grade students will attend "The College Fair" presented by our Humanities Academy.

As per our new school uniform policy, **ALL** students are required to wear uniforms every day to school. The uniform policy consists of light blue top and navy blue bottoms. Middle school students can wear Petrides Phys Ed uniforms on Phys Ed days or ANY SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR. Uniforms can 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. You may also purchase a school uniform at any local store that carries school uniform wear.

National Junior Honor Society applications are available in my office. The application deadline is Friday, March 2, 2018. Students in grades 6, 7 and 8 are encouraged to apply. Students can earn community service hours during our PAL after school program. National Junior Honor Society will be running as a club after school on Wednesday of each week. I am so proud of the work they did during the months of November and December. NJHS students raised enough funds to create large food baskets with Shoprite gift cards for five needy families in our community!

We are continuing our Box Top for Education collection. Attached you will find an easy collection sheet.

There are still seats available to students in grades 6 – 8 for our PAL after school program. We offer at least one hour per day of **tutoring** in Math and ELA by our licensed middle school teachers and one hour of **homework help** each day by our licensed middle school teachers. We also offer middle school basketball (girls, boys and JV teams), step, cooking, track, robotics and much more! I strongly encourage all families to join PAL after school and take advantage of this free service provided. Please contact me directly to arrange the tutoring or homework help to meet your child's needs.

The end of the second marking period is January 29, 2018. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at any time at (718) 815-0186 extension 22717 or BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

Ms. BettyAnn Souffrin
Assistant Principal

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – This month we will be reading *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck. As we read this text we will analyze the theme development. The students will also be able to analyze how the characters and dialogue provoke major decisions. At the end of this unit each student will write a thematic essay.

Math – We have just finished learning about the properties of quadratic equations. We will now explore different functions such as exponential and square root.

Science – The students will begin their study of genetics in the month of January and continue it until the end of February. They will study how cells divide, how chromosomes copy themselves, and how traits are passed down from one generation to the next. The students will then predict genetic combinations using Punnett Squares, and they will describe the structure of DNA and how it works.

Social Studies – During the month of January the students will finish the American Civil War. They will study the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution. They will also understand the condition of life in the South during reconstruction.



Test/Projects Dates

Jan 11th – US History exam: Multiple Choice

Jan 12th – ELA exam: Wordly Wise # 5

Jan 12th – US History exam: Essay

Jan 22nd – 23rd – Math Exam #6

Jan 25th -29th – US History Diorama Project

Jan 26th – ELA Exam: Wordly Wise # 6

See www.pupilpath.com for specific Science exam dates.



REMINDERS!

Students can purchase their own copy of the book *Of Mice and Men*.

Please join us for Parents as Partners Microscope Station lab during the following times:

Monday Jan 8th - Class 822 - 8:30-9:30am

Monday Jan 8th – Class 821 - 1:15-2:20pm

Wednesday Jan 10th - Class 820 - 8:30-9:30am

Required Reading



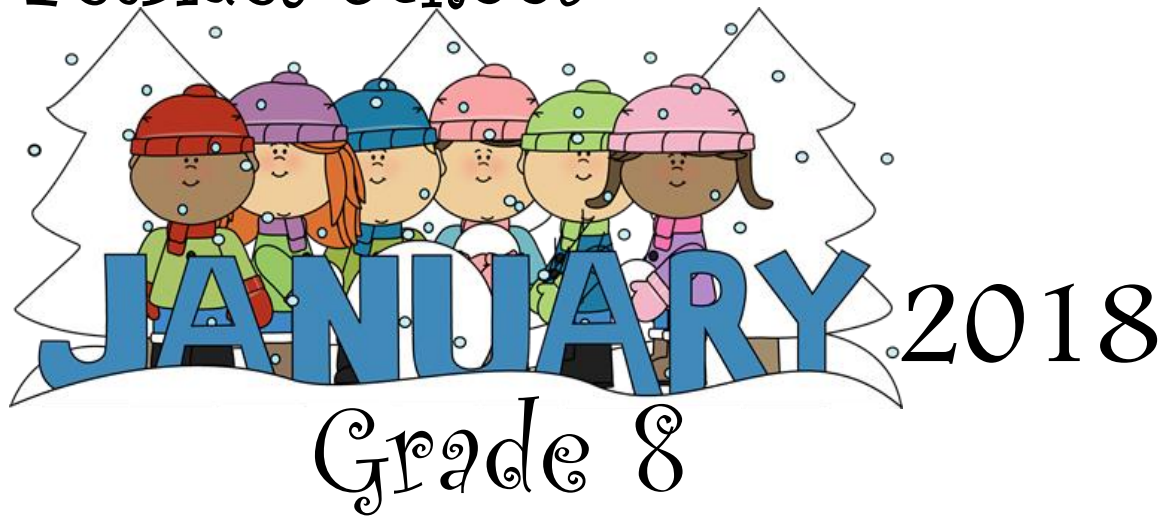
ELA – *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

Science – Textbook Chapters 10, 11, and 12;
Science World Magazine articles

School Closing

January 15th – Schools Closed
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The Petrides School



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Parents as Partners "Microscope Station" Class 822-8:30-9:30am Class 821-1:15-2:20pm	9	10 Parents as Partners "Microscope Station" Class 820-8:30-9:30am	11 US History exam: Multiple Choice	12 ELA exam: Wordly Wise # 5 US History exam: Essay	13
14	15 School Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Math Exam #6	23 Math Exam #6	24	25 US History Diorama Project	26 ELA Exam: Wordly Wise # 6 US History Diorama Project	27
28	29 US History Diorama Project End of 2 nd Marking period	30	31			

Important Upcoming Dates:

February 16th through 23rd - Winter Recess
February 26th - School resumes