



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 8

March 2018

Dear Middle School Parents,

Happy March! We will continue our box top campaign during March. Please use the attached collection sheet and submit all box tops to my office or the main office. I thank you in advance for your participation. Please be advised that **SLIME** is not permitted at school. It is a distraction to the learning environment, sticks to hair and leaves a mess on student desks. Any slime in school will be confiscated.

Our *TEST PREP ACADEMY* for students in grades 5 – 8 will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6 – 8 pm. There will be one hour for English Language Arts and one hour dedicated for Math instruction. Following are the dates and times of the classes. I strongly encourage all students to participate in test prep sessions offered at our school.

March 6, 2018

March 13, 2018

March 20, 2018

March 27, 2018

April 17, 2018 – MATH ONLY

April 24, 2018 – MATH ONLY

The New York State ELA test is scheduled for April 11th and 12th, 2018. The New York State Math test is scheduled for May 1st and May 2nd, 2018.

I am super excited about our Annual Middle School Social Studies Fair on March 9, 2018 at the newly renovated Hall of Science in Building A on our campus. Attached is the Parent visiting schedule:

Parents of students in Grades 5 and 6 – 8:30 am until 9:30 am

Parents of students in Grades 7 and 8 – 10:00 am until 11:00 am

National Junior Honor Society applications are due on Friday, March 2, 2018. I am so excited about the work this group has done during the after school program this year. They will continue their civic efforts every Wednesday from 2:20–4:30 pm.

Spring Parents Teacher Conferences will be conducted during the month of March. Conference dates and times are:

Evening Conferences will be held on March 14, 2018 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Afternoon Conferences will be held on March 15, 2018 from 12:20 – 2:20 pm

Thursday, March 15, 2018 IS A HALF-DAY OF SCHOOL. DISMISSAL FOR ALL STUDENTS IS 11:20am.

Our 5th and 6th grade students have been invited to Snug Harbor Cultural Center to see a production of *Into the Woods* on Friday, March 23, 2018. The permission slip is attached.

We have prepared the eighth grade end of year letter and dues. All information will be distributed in classes and will be posted on our school website.

Our First Annual Spring Soccer Classic will be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 from 1:00 – 2:20 pm. A permission slip will be forthcoming.

How lucky are we to be in Petrides? I think we are very lucky! We are certainly lucky to have such a wonderful parent group and PTA. The PTA does many fundraisers for our school. The money raised at those fundraisers has been used to buy the beautiful laptops and laptop carts that your children are using in our middle school classrooms. One of the biggest PTA fundraisers is the Night of Chances Auction. I would like to donate a basket of lottery tickets to share the luck that we have. **I am asking middle school families to donate lottery tickets for this basket.** It will be prominently displayed and labeled at the auction. You could also send a dollar or two and we will be happy to purchase the lotto tickets for the basket. Please send all donations to the attention of Patricia Harrigan or BettyAnn Souffrin in a labeled envelope. I thank you, in advance for your generosity. Your children will certainly benefit from this.

There is no school for students on March 30, 2018. School resumes on April 9, 2018. If you have any questions about the above information, feel free to contact me at BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov or (718) 815 – 0186 extension 22171

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin

Assistant Principal

A Note from our PTA:

Please join us for Family Bowling on March 25, 2018 at Showplace Bowling Center from 1:00 – 3:00pm. The cost is \$15 per person. There will be two games of bowling. pizza. raffles and a bake sale.



What topics will the students learn today?

ELA –During the month of March we will focus on preparing for the NY State ELA exam. Our curriculum will focus on reading and annotating a text for the test along with answering multiple choice questions, short responses, and an essay for paired passages.

Math – We are currently learning how to identify the domain and range of functions, in particular quadratic functions. We will next explore how to graph and identify absolute value functions. The graphing calculator will be used as a tool to help us graph the functions on graph paper more effectively.

Science – The students will complete their study of genetics and begin their study of evolution in the month of March. They will perform a laboratory experiment encompassing all the material learned in chapter 13 and 14. They will describe how scientists modify DNA, analyze DNA and use it in solving crimes. They will then apply their knowledge of DNA to the mechanisms of evolution.

Social Studies – The students will understand life during the Gilded Age. They will learn how muckrakers will expose the ills of society. They will also learn how imperialism will fuel our



Test/Projects Dates

Mar 1st – Social Studies Fair Project due (Optional)

Mar 2nd – ELA Reading comprehension exam

Mar 9th - ELA Reading comprehension exam

Mar 9th – Science quiz: Ch. 12-14

Mar 13th – Math quiz #6

Mar 14th – US History exam: Multiple Choice

Mar 16th – US History exam: Essay

Mar 16th - ELA Reading comprehension exam

Mar 23rd - ELA Reading comprehension exam



REMINDERS!

Students should be reading every day and studying their vocabulary words in preparation for the NYS ELA exam in April.

Please bring in graphing calculators to Math class every day! **Graphing Calculators are required for the Algebra I Common Core Regents exam.** The following models are acceptable: Texas Instruments TI83, TI84 or TI89. Please see me if you have any questions on the model.

Please see www.pupilpath.com for updates on grades projects and exams.

The NY State ELA Exam is April 11th and 12th. The NY State Math exam is May 1st and 2nd.

Required Reading

ELA – Students should be reading daily at home

Science – Textbook Chapters 13-15 and 16-19



School Closing

March 30th through April 6

Spring Recess



The Petrides School

March 2018

Grade 8

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Social Studies Fair Project due (Optional)	2 ELA Reading comprehension exam NJHS Applications due	3
4	5	6 Test Prep Academy ELA 6:00-8:00pm	7	8	9 ELA Reading comprehension exam Science quiz: Ch. 12-14 Social Studies Fair (Optional) Grade 5 & 6- 8:30-9:30am Grades 7 & 8- 10:00-11:00am	10
11	12	13 Math quiz #6 Test Prep Academy ELA 6:00-8:00pm	14 US History exam: Multiple Choice Parent/Teacher Conferences 5:00-8:00pm	15 Early Dismissal 11:20am Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:20-2:20pm	16 US History exam: Essay ELA Reading comprehension exam	17
18	19	20 Test Prep Academy ELA 6:00-8:00pm	21	22	23 ELA Reading comprehension exam	24
25	26	27 Test Prep Academy ELA 6:00-8:00pm	28 Spring Classic 1:00-2:20pm	29	30 No School Good Friday	31

Important Upcoming Dates

March 30th – April 6th: Spring Recess
 April 9th - School resumes
 April 11th – 12th: NY State ELA Exam
 May 1st – 2nd – NY State Math exam