



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 8

MARCH 2020

Working Together for Student Success

Dear Middle School Parents,

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at this week's Parent Teacher Conferences. Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 5, 2020. Afternoon conferences are from 12:20 pm until 2:20 pm and evening conferences are from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm. ***Please note Thursday, March 5, 2020 is a half day for students. Dismissal is at 11:20am.***

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.

Our **TEST PREP ACADEMY** for students in grades 5 – 8 will be held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from **7:00 am – 8:00 am** on the following dates:

Thursday, March 5

Wednesday, March 11 and Thursday, March 12

Wednesday, March 18 and Thursday, March 19

Wednesday, April 1 and Thursday, April 2

Wednesday, April 8

The New York State ELA test is scheduled for March 25 and March 26. The New York State Math test is scheduled for April 21 and April 22, 2020.

National Junior Honor Society applications were due on Friday, February 28, 2020. I am so excited about the work this group has done during the after-school program this year. Mr. Giordano will meet with NJHS candidates from 2:20 – 4:30 on Thursdays after school. Students can continue their commitment to community service during that time.

Students in grades 5, 6 and 7 have been invited to attend a College Fair at Citifield on April 1, 2020. Following the College Fair we will see the New York Mets take on the Philadelphia Phillies. Permission slips have been distributed to students and attached to this newsletter.

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. I have attached a copy here for parents to review.

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

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – Students will be preparing for the NYS ELA Exam by critically thinking about nonfiction and fictional reading passages while annotating and answering comprehension questions. During this month, students will also be participating in book clubs by reading books based on events during the Holocaust. Students are expected to independently read, take notes, and participate within their small groups.

Math – We have just finished analyzing quadratic equations. We will now begin to explore piecewise graphs of linear, quadratic and absolute value functions. Piecewise graphs will build upon previous functions. We will also be analyzing geometric and arithmetic sequences to identify patterns in numbers.

Science – Students will delve into the topic of genetics for the month of March. They will learn about Gregor Mendel and his work with pea plants and apply this knowledge to complete Punnett squares predicting possible offspring outcome. Students will identify DNA as the hereditary material in every cell. They will describe its structure. They will explain how it replicates. They will be able to describe how the code in the DNA molecule results in the production of a protein. They will analyze samples of DNA to identify mutations and will be able to determine if the mutation causes a genetic defect by comparing sample sequences.

Social Studies – During the month of March the students will continue studying the Civil Rights Movement and all aspects of the Cold War.



Test/Projects Dates

Mar 2nd – Social Studies Fair project due
 Mar 2nd - Science vocabulary quiz this week.
 Mar 3rd – Math Quiz
 Mar 3rd, 10th & 17th – ELA Complex Text Assessment
 March 19th - Quiz; tentative. Check pupil path for updates
 Mar 25th & 26th - NYS ELA Standardized Test
 Living Environment Exam will be the 1st week of April (after the ELA exam). Please see Pupil Path for exact Living Environment exam/quiz dates.



REMINDERS!

The New York State Standardized Test in ELA will be administered on Wed Mar 25th and Thurs Mar 26, 2020. Please come prepared with 2 No. 2 pencils.

Please join us for a Parents as Partners Science Lab: Rat Dissection,

- Class 820: Thurs Mar 5th – @ 10:30-11:20am (Dismissal is at 11:20am for Parent/Teacher Conferences)
- Class 821: Thurs Mar 5th @ 8:15-9:30am
- Class 822: Wed Mar 4th @ 8:15-9:20am

Be sure to study US History notes for 15 minutes a night. Continue annotating Math class notes on a daily basis. TI graphing calculators must be brought to school daily.

Regents' exams are administered on the following dates:

- Living Environment Wed. June 17th 1:15pm
- US History & Gov't Thurs. June 18th 9:15am
- Algebra 1 Exam June 18th 1:15 pm

Visit <https://www.nysedregents.org> to study Regents questions for all Regents exams.

The Common Core Regent Exam is just around the corner. Some extra tools to help review: Book: Barron's Regent Review Common Core Algebra 1; Websites: jmap.org, Khan Academy

Required Reading



ELA – Various books based on events during the Holocaust will be distributed in class
 Science – Textbook Chapters 12-15
 Science World magazine

The Petrides School



Grade 8

2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2 Social Studies Fair Projects due Science Vocabulary Quiz this week	3 Social Studies Fair Gr 5&8: 8:30-9:30 Gr 6&7: 9:30-10:30 Math Quiz Complex Test Assessment	4 Parents as Partners "Rat Lab" Class 822-8:15-9:20am	5 Test Prep Academy 7:00-8:00am Early Dismissal 11:20am Parent Teacher Conferences 12:20-2:20pm 5:00-8:00pm Parents as Partners "Rat Lab" Class 820-10:30-11:20am Class 821-8:15-9:30am	6 Spring Picture Day	7
8	9	10 Complex Test Assessment	11 Test Prep Academy 7:00-8:00am	12 Test Prep Academy 7:00-8:00am	13 Social Studies Test	14
15	16	17 Complex Test Assessment	18 Test Prep Academy 7:00-8:00am	19 Test Prep Academy 7:00-8:00am Math Quiz (Tentative-check Pupilpath)	20	21
22	23	24	25 NYS ELA Standardized Test	26 NYS ELA Standardized Test	27	28
29	30	31				

Important Upcoming Dates:

April 9th – 17th Spring Recess
April 21st – 22nd NYS Math Exam