



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 8

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 – Students will be reading a short story titled “The Most Dangerous Game” by Richard Connell. During this unit, students will be able to identify figurative language and its meaning in the context, identify foreshadowing clues, mood, tone, and theme. We will also look at the writing styles of authors and how we can apply it into our own narrative writing piece. Students will be expected to publish a non-fiction or fictional narrative with a theme. They should use literary devices such as figurative language, foreshadowing, flashbacks, mood, and tone in their own writing.

Math – Welcome back! In September we learned about polynomials and how to multiply and combine like terms. We will expand on these topics in October by learning to solve multistep equations and later factoring.

Science – Students will begin their study of cells. They will compare the 2 basic cell types and document their differences. They will identify and describe the organelles found in a cell. They will label the diagram of the plant and animal cell and identify the basic differences. They will utilize the compound light microscope to view various cells. They will predict how molecules will move across the cell membrane based on the presence of a concentration gradient. They will create their own slide and observe how different types of solutions affect the integrity of the animal cell.

Social Studies – During the month of October the students will be studying the Civil War.



Test/Projects Dates

- Oct 11th – History Test #2
- Oct 18th – ELA Wordly Wise #2
- Oct 22nd - Math Test
- Oct 23rd – ELA Short Story test
- Oct 31st – ELA Wordly Wise #3

A review will be given before each Math Test.

Please check www.pupilpath.com for exact dates of Science Quiz on Cell Parts and Science Exam on Chapters 7-8, as well as, classwork and labs.



REMINDERS!

Every other week, students receive Wordly Wise vocabulary words. They should be studying these words for 10 minutes a day. Strong vocabulary is key for stronger comprehension.

Please have a graphing calculator brought to school each day.... Texas Instruments models 83, 84, or 89. We will not be taking the Math State Exam. Instead, we will take the Common Core Algebra 1 Regents exam in June.

Students need one Science folder for lab portfolio; Pen or pencil required daily.

Please join us for a Parents as Partners Science Lab-Diffusion Across the Membrane Lab/Make your own slide of red onion cells on Thursday October 24th for Class 820: 1:15-2:20 & Class 821: 8:15-9:20; and Friday, October 25th for Class 822: 9:15- 10:20

Study US History notes for 15 minutes every day.

Please join us for a Meet & Greet on Wednesday Oct. 16th at 8:15am to discuss the High School application process with Ms. Attal.

Required Reading



ELA – Students should reread “The Lottery” and “The Most Dangerous Game” at home so they can have a better understanding. Students should also be reading their Close Reader texts every week.

Science – Chapters 7 & 8; Science World Magazine
Trade books

Social Studies - Handouts will be given during class that can be used as a reference when studying.




SCHOOL CLOSING

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

The Petrides School



Grade 8

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 No School Yom Kippur	10	11 History Test #2	12
13	14 No School Columbus Day	15	16 Meet & greet HS Application Process (Including SHSAT) 8:15am	17	18 ELA Wordly Wise #2	19
20	21	22 Math Test	23 ELA Short Story Test	24 Parents as Partners Science lab Class 820 - 1:15-2:20 Class 821- 8:15-9:20	25 Parents as Partners Science lab Class 822 9:15- 10:20	26
27	28	29	30	31 ELA Wordly Wise #3 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