



Michael J. Petrides School

# Middle School Newsletter



## GRADE 5

## APRIL 2019

*Working Together for Student Success*

Dear Middle School Parents,

As the saying goes “no winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.” I am anxiously waiting for the warm weather to return!

I am very proud of all the students who took advantage of our Wednesday afternoon and evening Test Prep Academy. Classes were full with children eager and happy to be here! Regents Test Prep Academy will begin in May. More detailed information will be forthcoming.

Our New York State ELA Assessment is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2, 2019 and Wednesday, April 3, 2019. I encourage all students to get a good night’s sleep prior to test days, enjoy a healthy breakfast and come to school with sharpened number two pencils. **Also, don’t forget to wear your glasses, if needed** and RELAX. As our T-shirts say, KEEP CALM AND PANTHER ON!! Your child’s schedule will change slightly during testing days. On exam days (stated above) they will report to their official class teacher for period 1. They will be dismissed from that room at the conclusion of their testing. They will then proceed to regularly scheduled classes.

The New York State Math Assessment is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2019 and Thursday, May 2, 2019.

The end of the third marking period is **April 11, 2019**.

I am very pleased with the number of students who chose to become members of our National Junior Honor Society. Students will be notified of their acceptance on **April 5, 2019**. Our ceremony will be held on **Thursday, April 18, 2019** at 9:30 am. Parents and families of continuing and newly inducted NJHS members are invited to attend.

Our PAL @ Petrides Program is collaborating with our kitchen staff to present a parent engagement activity on **Wednesday, April 10, 2019** at 9:00 am until 9:40 am. You will be sampling the healthy snacks offered to your children during PAL, discussing the cooking program and learning about healthy snack options. Please sign in at the B building main desk upon your arrival.

Our seventh grade students will be participating in a Socratic Seminar on **April 16, 2019** according to the following schedule and you are invited to attend.

Class 720 8:15 am – 8:45 am  
Class 721 10:30 am – 11:00 am  
Class 722 9:45 am – 10:15 am

Our eighth grade students will be participating in a Rat Dissection Lab on **April 30, 2019 and May 1, 2019** according to the following schedule and you are invited to attend.

Class 820 8:15 – 9:30 am – May 1<sup>st</sup>  
Class 821 1:00 – 2:20 pm – April 30<sup>th</sup>  
Class 822 8:15 – 9:30 am – April 30<sup>th</sup>

Our eighth grade students will have an assembly on **April 16, 2019**. The presentation will be “Holocaust Survivor’s Story Assembly with Shira Stoll.”

Preparations for end of year ceremonies and celebrations are well underway. The eighth grade end of year letter outlining dates and costs is attached to this newsletter. Along with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade end of year letter is a behavior contract. This contract will be reviewed with your child at school. You should go over this contract at home and both you and your child must sign it. The first payment for 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities is due on **April 11, 2019**.

Please take note that spring recess starts on **Friday, April 19, 2019**. Students return to school on **Monday, April 29, 2019**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 718.815.0186 extension 22171 or [BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov).

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin

## What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – Now is the time! Students are confident and ready to take on the NY State ELA exam on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will be moving onto our study of the non-fiction genre by focusing on biographies. Students will be writing a report of information during writing workshop. We will also be working on composing autobiographies.

Math – During the month of April the students will review the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math standards they learned this year in preparation for the NY State Math exam on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Science – Students have begun their “Science Fair Exposition Projects” and will continue to work on them throughout April to meet the May 13<sup>th</sup> deadline. Within class we will work through the steps of the Scientific Method as we build our understanding of forms of energy. The students will explore the science of ecology and how use of energy resources impact the world around us.

Social Studies - Students will examine how the natural geography of North America led to the development of the thirteen American colonies. Students will be able to identify the characteristics of the 3 colonial regions as well as compare and contrast the colonial regions.



### Test/Projects Dates

Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> – NY State ELA exam  
 Apr 8<sup>th</sup> – Math Quiz  
 Apr 12<sup>th</sup> – ELA Complex Text  
 Apr 15<sup>th</sup> – Math Quiz  
 Apr 15<sup>th</sup> – Science Fair Expo packets due (progress check in)  
 Apr 30<sup>th</sup> – In class completion of the Rachel Carson Timeline (Ecology) Report

### Required Reading



ELA – *Promises to Keep* by Sharon Robinson; Various non-fiction articles; *Teammates* by Peter Golenbock  
 Math – Coach book, Buckle Down and packets that will be handed out.  
 Science – All material will be provided in class including the Rachel Carson biography and the Con Edison Energy Efficiency Skill books.

### Important Date

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> – NY State ELA Exam**  
**April 11<sup>th</sup> – End of Third Marking Period**  
**April 19<sup>th</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup> – No School Spring Recess**



### REMINDERS!

The NY Statewide Math exam will be administered on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please come prepared with two No. 2 pencils.

Please come to ELA class prepared with a pencil and materials. Students are required to have an independent reading book at their assigned level at all times. We are running low on supplies, please bring in Lysol wipes, looseleaf, post its and tissues. Thank you!

Keep updated daily on the REMIND app. Come prepared daily with Math work and pencils.

Students will be given an in-class packet that will contain various readings and worksheets, which will be graded as classwork. Student is responsible for bringing packets to class. Packets should be kept safely in a folder.

The Science fair Exposition is a student led work and even though it's tempting to “takeover” as a form of assisting children, please let their personal work be celebrated.

May 14<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Fair Exposition. Times to be announced.

# The Petrides School

# April



# 2019

# Grade 5

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <b>NYS ELA Exam</b>	3 <b>NYS ELA Exam</b>	4	5	6
7	8 Math Quiz	9	10 PAL Parent Engagement 9:00-9:40am	11 End of Third Marking Period	12 ELA Complex Test	13
14	15 Math Quiz Science Fair Project "Check In"	16	17	18	19 <b>No School Spring Recess</b>	20
21	22 <b>No School Spring Recess</b>	23 <b>No School Spring Recess</b>	24 <b>No School Spring Recess</b>	25 <b>No School Spring Recess</b>	26 <b>No School Spring Recess</b>	27
28	29	30 Science Rachel Carson Timeline Project (Completed in Class)				

**Important Upcoming Dates:**  
 May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> – NY State Math Exam  
 May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Report Cards Distributed  
 May 9<sup>th</sup> – Street Fair: Parent Teachers Conferences  
 May 27<sup>th</sup> – No School: Memorial Day