



Michael J. Petrides School

# Middle School Newsletter



## GRADE 5

## MARCH 2019

*Working Together for Student Success*

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.

Our *TEST PREP ACADEMY* for students in grades 5 – 8 will be held according to the following schedule:

<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>ELA and Math – Wednesday 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 from 2:20 – 4:20 pm</b>
<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>ELA and Math – Wednesday 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm</b>
<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>ELA and Math – Wednesday 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 from 2:20 – 4:20 pm</b>
<b>Grade 8</b>	<b>ELA – Wednesday 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27 from 2:20 – 4:20 pm</b>

The New York State ELA test is scheduled for April 2 and April 3, 2019. The New York State Math test is scheduled for May 1 and May 2, 2019.

I am super excited about our Annual **Middle School Social Studies Fair** on **Thursday, March 7, 2019** 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 were due on Friday, February 22, 2019. I am so excited about the work this group has done during the after school program this year. Ms. Calimano will continue to meet with NJHS candidates from 2:20 – 4:30 as per the following schedule. Each group is involved in their own civic endeavor. All hours are counted for their community service. NJHS Grade 8 candidates meet every Wednesday, NJHS Grade 7 candidates meet every Thursday, and NJHS Grade 6 candidates meet every Friday

**Middle School Bowling** Spring Session will begin on April 9, 2019. The cost for participation is \$60. Please complete the attached application and return it with payment to Ms. Patricia Harrigan or Mr. Keith Dragonetti. Bowlers should meet at Rab’s Country Lanes on Tuesday afternoons at 3:45 pm. Students bowl two games of league play. Pick up is approximately 5:15 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, 2019 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm**

**Afternoon Conferences will be held on March 14, 2019 from 12:20 – 2:20 pm**

**Thursday, March 14, 2019 IS A HALF-DAY OF SCHOOL. DISMISSAL FOR ALL STUDENTS IS 11:20 am.**

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. .

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 Ms. Patricia Harrigan or Ms. BettyAnn Souffrin in a labeled envelope. I thank you, in advance for your generosity. Your children will certainly benefit from this.

Any questions about the above information, feel free to contact me at [BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov) or (718) 815 – 0186 extension 22171.

*A Note from our PTA:*

Join us for our next PTA meeting Weds March 13 at 7pm. Our annual Night of Chances is Friday March 29. Doors open at 6:30pm. Get your ticket bundles now! Save the Date for our annual Bowling with the Panthers on Sunday April 7

Sincerely,

Ms. BettyAnn Souffrin  
Assistant Principal, Middle School

## What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – Students will continue reading the novel, “Maniac Magee,” by Jerry Spinelli. Our focus will remain on discovering themes and providing specific text evidence to support our thinking. We will begin our preparation for the ELA exam.

Math – This month the students will identify and classify polygons, triangles, quadrilaterals and three-dimensional figures. They will also use unit cubes to find volume. The students will then begin units of measure.

Science – We are engaged in our study of ENERGY this month, exploring how energy changes and is transferred as it changes from a potential to a kinetic state. Students learn about renewable and non-renewable resources and the impact that their use has on our environment and alternate sustainable forms of energy are researched.

Social Studies – Students will continue to read *Hudson* by Janice Weaver to examine the difficulties Hudson had to face in each of his voyages. Students will identify the impact his voyage had on the European and North American continents and decide how history should remember Hudson.



### Test/Projects Dates

- Mar 1<sup>st</sup> – Social Studies Fair project due
- Mar 5<sup>th</sup> - ELA *Maniac Magee* Vocabulary Test
- Mar 7<sup>th</sup> - Social Studies Fair (Borough President Hall of Science in A-Building)
- Mar 12<sup>th</sup> – Math Exam: Volume
- Mar 15<sup>th</sup> - Complex Text
- Mar 18<sup>th</sup> - Science Exam: Energy
- Mar 21<sup>st</sup> – Math Cumulative Exam

In class Social Studies Packets will be completed and graded. Students will take vocabulary quizzes using their packets.

The Con Edison Smart Kids program includes skill based activities and assessments that will be completed in class.



### REMINDERS!

Please complete your parent survey for the Con Edison program and enjoy installing the energy efficient appliances that were gifted to your family!

Please come to ELA class prepared with a pencil and materials every day.

Students should review Social Studies notes and handouts to prepare for the next exam and complete all packet work.



### Required Reading

ELA – *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli; Various Test Prep Book; Previous NYS ELA Exams  
 Math – Pearson Topic 12, 15 & GoMath Ch. 11; Pearson Topic 13, 14, & GoMath Ch. 10

Science – *My Side of the Mountain* by Jean Craighead; students are encouraged to deepen their understanding of the natural resources on our planet by independently reading informative texts, articles and relevant websites.

Social Studies – *Hudson* by Janice Weaver

### Important Date

March 14<sup>th</sup>

- **Early Dismissal - 11:20am**
- **Parent Teacher Conferences – 12:20-2:20pm and 5:00-8:00pm**

The Petrides School

# March

2019

## Grade 5

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Social Studies Fair Project due	2
3	4	5 ELA <i>Maniac Magee</i> Vocabulary Test	6 Test Prep Academy 2:20-4:20pm	7 Social Studies Fair Grades 5 & 6 8:30-9:30 am Grades 7 & 8 10:00-11:00am	8	9
10	11	12 Math Exam: Volume	13 Test Prep Academy 2:20-4:20pm	14 <b>Early Dismissal 11:20am</b> <b>Parent Teacher Conferences 12:20-2:20pm</b> <b>5:00-8:00pm</b>	15 ELA Complex Text	16
17	18 Science Exam: Energy	19	20 Test Prep Academy 2:20-4:20pm	21 Math Cumulative Exam	22	23
24	25	26	27 Test Prep Academy 2:20-4:20pm	28	29	30 / 31 /

**Important Upcoming Dates:**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> – New York State ELA Exam  
 April 11<sup>th</sup> – End of Third Marking Period  
 April 18<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards Distributed  
 April 19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> – Spring Recess