



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 5/6

October 2018



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.

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. I also truly value just sitting down with parents, sharing a cup of tea and hearing their feedback. Therefore, our October Parents as Partners meetings will give you the opportunity for those types of experiences.

Grade 8 **SIP & SHARE** with Ms. Attal on Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 8:15 am to discuss the HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCESS

GRADE 5 **SIP & SHARE** with Assistant Principal Souffrin on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 8:15 am to discuss the TRANSITION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL.

GRADE 6 **Science POP ROCKS SCIENCE LAB** with Ms. Palemine on Monday, October 22nd for Class 620 at 9:00 am. On Wednesday, October 24th for Class 621 at 8:15 am. And on Thursday, October 25th for Class 622 at 8:15 am.

GRADE 7 **NARRATIVE ESSAY PUBLISHING PARTY** with Ms. Rockefeller on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 Class 720 9:00 – 9:30am, Class 721 9:45 – 10:15 am, Class 722 10:30 – 11:00am

GRADE 8 **ONION CELL LAB** with Ms. Carrara, on Monday, October 29, 2018 Class 821 8:15 am, Class 822 9:30 am and Class 820 1:35 pm.

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE for students in grades 7 and 8 will be on October 24, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

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 Wednesday, October 31, 2018 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.

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.

Mark your calendars: There is no school on October 8, 2018 in observance of Columbus Day. The end of the first marking period is November 15, 2018. Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences are on November 28, 2018

A Note from the PTA:

We will host Pretzels for Panthers on Friday October 5, 2018. Pretzels are \$1

Family Movie night is October 5, 2018

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

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – During the month of October we will begin our fiction novel study of *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo. Together we will work on learning standards including using context clues to figure out unfamiliar words. We will also study character and settings and how we can compare and contrast them using evidence from text.

Math – This month we will continue to work through understanding the Number System. Our next topic for fifth grade is focused on operations with decimals. Our sixth graders will focus on properties and order of operations.

Science – This month the students will apply the laws of conservation of energy to energy transformations and identify how energy changes form. The students will also explain what renewable, non-renewable and alternative resources are. In addition, they will describe the advantages and disadvantages of using various energy sources..

Social Studies – During the month of October we will be studying the theme of history. Students will use packets and sentence starters to develop writing skills.



Test/Projects Dates

- Oct 3rd – Science: Energy quiz
- Oct 5th - ELA Vocabulary quiz: *Because of Winn Dixie* words 1-10
- Oct 5th – Social Studies exam
- Oct 10th – Science project due



REMINDERS!

As per our uniform policy **ALL** students are required to wear uniforms every day to school. The uniform policy consists of a light blue collared shirt and dark blue bottoms.

Please remember to study ELA vocabulary words nightly.

Required Reading

ELA – *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo



School Closing

October 8th
Columbus Day observed

The Petrides School



2018

Grade 5/6

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Science: Energy quiz	4	5 ELA Vocabulary quiz Social Studies exam	6
7	8 No School Columbus Day	9	10 Science project due	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Grade 5 Sip & Share <i>Transition To Middle School</i> 8:15am	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Halloween Party 1:00-2:15pm 			

Important Upcoming Dates:

End of First Marking – November 15th
Parent Teacher Conferences – November 28th