



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 7

December 2018



Dear Middle School Parents,

I hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving and the start of the holiday season. Mr. Gary Giordano and the National Junior Honor Society are hosting our annual Secret Sandy Toy Drive. Toys are distributed to families in need throughout Staten Island. **New and unwrapped toys** are being collected from now until December 14, 2018. We appreciate your kindness and generosity!

Our Box Top for Education program is well underway. NJHS members are collecting box tops regularly. I have attached an easy collection sheet for you. Thank you in advance for your participation.

National Junior Honor Society applications for new members are now available in my office room B217. An application and guidelines for entrance is included in this packet. NJHS accepts students in grades 6,7 and 8. I have arranged for students to obtain their community service hours here at school. Students who wish to earn their service hours at school must join our PAL after school program. NJHS will meet every Tuesday and Wednesday to work on community service projects during that time.

Following is our schedule for some important events during the month of December.

Date	Time	Event	Participants
December 10	Class 521 9:00- 9:30 Class 520 9:45 – 10:15 Class 522 11:15 – 11:45	Parents as Partners Fingerprints Workshop	Parents & Students
December 19	1:00 – 2:20 pm	In school Trip – Assembly presented by the Harlem Magic Masters Theme – Bullying Prevention & Drug Awareness	Students in grades 5 – 8
December 20	12:45 – 1:30 pm	Middle School Sweet Feast	Students in grades 5 – 8
December 20	9:20 am – 10:20 am	The Foreign Language Department Holiday Caroling	Students in grade 6
December 21	9:00 am – 11:00 am	<i>The Wonder Movie</i>	Students in grade 6

It was such a pleasure to see so many of you during our Fall Parent Teacher Conferences. I am so happy to hear you will be using Pupilpath.com for ongoing information about your child's academic progress. Login information was distributed last month. If you need any help using Pupilpath.com please email me at BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a joyous holiday season. School will be closed from December 24, 2018 until January 2, 2019. **Classes resume January 2, 2019.** If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (718) 815-0186 extension 22171 or BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,
BettyAnn Souffrin
Assistant Principal



What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – Students will read [A Long Walk to Water](#) and analyze how setting shapes characters throughout the story. They will collect textual evidence as they read to use in our next writing assignment, a five-paragraph response to literature. Students will analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters in the text. We will read non-fiction articles that accompany the novel to gain a better understanding of the unique culture described in the book.

Math – This month the students will solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.

Science – Our 7th Grade Science students have been working in Focus Groups to gain an in depth understanding of a specific Environmental Issue that they have been assigned. These are issues that impact us both locally and internationally. Students team up with their group members to collect data, explore possible solutions, and to create a trifold demonstration board pertaining to their topic. Groups will be presenting their group reports in the format of an interactive oral presentation from which the other groups will take notes and become knowledgeable of the issue through peer teaching. Focus Group presentations will be conducted on both Wednesday December 19, and Thursday December 20th during regularly scheduled classes. The overall goal of our projects is for students to gain firsthand knowledge of the importance of human guidance in maintaining the existence of our earth’s biodiversity so as to assure the vitality of ecological areas.

Social Studies – This month our Social Studies Scholars will be exploring Unit 2, The Road to Independence and will investigate the French and Indian War, Colonial Response to Taxation, Cause/Effects of the Revolution, key battles of the war, and Declaration of Independence. This will lead to our study of "Hamilton, An American Musical" connected to the people, events, and ideas of the time.



Test/Projects Dates

- Dec 7th - ELA Independent Reading Response #4-6
- Dec 11th – ELA Wordly Wise Test #3
- Dec 14th - Social Studies quiz: Causes of Revolution/Colonial Response to Taxation
- Dec 14th - ELA: Independent Reading Response #7-9
- Dec 17th – Math Quiz: Unit 3 Class 720 & 721
- Dec 18th – Math Quiz: Unit 3 Class 722
- Dec 19th & 20th – Science: Environmental Issue Focus Group Presentations
- Dec 21st - Independent Reading Response #10-12

Water for South Sudan project for ELA to be completed over the holiday break.

Students are permitted to use their own Science notes and folders during our Science tests, and students are urged every day to maintain their notes with competence and confidence to assure they have valuable resources filled with relevant information. Test and quiz dates TBA.



REMINDERS!

Students should be reading 20-30 minutes each day and writing three independent reading responses per week in their homework notebooks.

Students should be checking Google Classroom every night for S.S. homework and school-wide reminders. Videos are being posted as studying resources. Students are also encouraged to conduct their own research projects outside of school for extra credit and can design their own research questions.

Students are responsible for maintaining organized and complete Science notes and lab books to assure that they have accurate resources for the topics that we are exploring. Random notebook checks are conducted routinely. Students are welcome to come up to my room during their lunch period for my assistance in helping them with note taking and organization.

School Closing

January 1st – Last day of Winter Break
 January 21st – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Required Reading



ELA – [A Long Walk to Water](#) by Linda Sue Park; “The Lost Boys of Sudan”; Independent Reading Text

Math – Go Math Modules 6 and 7

Buckle Down Unit 3: Lesson 11-15

Science - Students are reading the works and scientific findings from a wide range of historical and modern-day scientists in both printed materials and on the internet based on their own research. Students are urged to continue their research with their groups during lunch periods (they are welcome to come to the science room), or at home outside of school. All sources must be recorded for reference.



SS Scholars of the Month

Class 720: Ahmed Mohamed
 Class 721: Luciana Struthers
 Class 722: Erika Volshteyn



Math Student of the Month:


Class 720- Keanna Lewis
 Class 721- Colleen O’Connor
 Class 722- Isabella Burmaster

The Petrides School



2018

Grade 7

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 ELA Independent Reading Response #4-6	8
9	10	11 ELA Wordly Wise Test #3	12	13	14 Social Studies quiz: Causes of Revolution/ Colonial Response to Taxation ELA: Independent Reading Response #7-9	15
16	17 Math Quiz: Unit 3 (Class 720 & 721)	18 Math Quiz: Unit 3 (Class 722) Winter Concert 7:00pm	19 Science Environmental Issues Presentation Bully Assembly 1:00-2:20pm	20 Science Environmental Issues Presentation Sweet Feast 12:45-1:30pm	21 ELA Independent Reading Response #10-12	22
23	24 No School Happy Holidays!	25 No School	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29
30	31 No School 					

Important Upcoming Dates:

January 2nd – School resumes
 January 21st – Schools Closed Martin Luther King Jr. day
 January 28th – Last day of second marking period