



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 7

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:

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

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 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 – In March, we will present our persuasive essays and ask our classmates to sign our petitions. Students will have the opportunity to hear the ideas of their peers and assess their persuasive strategies. This will be followed by a Socratic Seminar on Lyddie, where groups will formulate their own questions and participate in student-led discussions about the themes in the text. Students will be asked to use accountable talk and active listening in their conversations about the book and its issues. Shortly after, we will delve into our testing unit and spend the remainder of the month reviewing and applying strategies to succeed on the ELA State exam in April.

Math – This month the students will investigate chance processes and develop, use and evaluate probability models. They will find probabilities of compound events using organized lists, tables, tree diagrams and simulation

Science – We begin our exploration of the unique biomes that make up our ecologically diverse planet. Each smaller focus group will become experts on a specific biome and will create presentations and research to turn key to the rest of the class as peer teachers. Projects expectations and success criteria will be presented to students as a timeline with a grading rubric.

Social Studies – This month our Social Studies Scholars will be concluding their study of the U.S. Constitution and will begin exploring the presidencies of our first 3 Presidents. We will also be starting Unit 4: A Nation Grows – Expansion and Reform 1800 - 1860 and conducting a mini-unit in preparation for the 2019 ELA State Exam focusing on Non-Fiction Reading/Writing. March 7th will be our annual Middle School Social Studies Fair!



Test/Projects Dates

- Mar 15th - Published Extended Response due
- Mar 1st – Social Studies Fair Project Due
- Mar 4th – Math Unit 5 Task (Class 720 & 721)
- Mar 5th – Math Unit 5 Task (Class 722)
- Mar 5th – Social Studies Test Review (All Classes)
- Mar 6th – ELA Lyddie Packet due
- Mar 6th – Social Studies Exam: Multiple Choice (Class 720 & 722)
- Mar 7th – Social Studies Fair (Borough President Hall of Science in A-Building)
- Mar 8th – Wordly Wise Test Lesson 5
- Mar 8th – Social Studies Exam: Multiple Choice & Essay (Class 721)
- Mar 8th – Social Studies Exam: Essay (Class 720 & 722)
- Mar 11th – Math Unit 5 Test (Class 720 & 721)
- Mar 12th – Math Unit 5 Test (Class 722)
- Mar 20th – Social Studies Mini Unit Test Prep Packet due
- Mar 21st – Science exam
- Mar 29th – Math Notebook Quiz



REMINDERS!

Students should be checking Google Classroom every night for Social Studies homework and school-wide reminders. Videos are being posted as studying resources.

March 7th is our Social Studies Fair at Borough President Hall of Science in A-Building.

The times to visit the fair are:

- 8:30-9:30 am: Families of Students in Grades 5 and 6
- 10:00-11:00am: Families of Students in Grade 7 and 8

There are many wonderful content rich Science videos produced by National Geographic Society and other organizations that provide rich information about every biome on our planet.

Required Reading



- ELA – Students will resume independent reading of self-selected texts.
- Math – Go Math Modules 12 and 13
- Buckle Down Unit 5: Lessons 24 and 25
- Science – Students are urged to use the school library home resources and their lunch periods with me to enrich their Biome research

Important Date

March 14th

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



SS Scholars of the Month

- Class 720: Keanna Lewis
- Class 721: Aly Hegazy
- Class 722: Pamela Rodriguez



Math Student of the Month:

- Class 720- Sofia Lesevic
- Class 721- Isabella Noble
- Class 722- Mickey Zaloom

The Petrides School

March

2019

Grade 7

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 Social Studies Fair Project Due	2
3	4 Math Unit 5 Task (Class 720 & 721)	5 Math Unit 5 Task (Class 722) Social Studies Exam Review Unit 3	6 ELA Lyddie packet due Social Studies Exam: Unit 3 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 ELA Wordly Wise Test Lesson 5 Social Studies Exam: Unit 3	9
10	11 Math Exam: Unit 5 (Class 720 & 721)	12 Math Exam: Unit 5 (Class 722)	13 Test Prep Academy 2:20-4:20pm	14 Early Dismissal 11:20am Parent Teacher Conferences 12:20-2:20pm 5:00-8:00pm	15	16
17	18	19	20 Social Studies Test Prep Packet due Test Prep Academy 2:20-4:20pm	21 Science Exam	22	23
24	25	26	27 Test Prep Academy 2:20-4:20pm	28	29 Math Notebook Quiz	30 / 31 / /

Important Upcoming Dates:

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