



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 7

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. Rockfeller 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 the students will read *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers. Throughout this reading we will analyze how elements of the story interact and determine how the themes develop over the course of the text. We will work on narrative writing, focusing on the use of descriptive language and sensory detail.

Math – This month the students will learn to apply and extend their previous understanding of operations to add, subtract, multiply and divide rational numbers. They will also learn to solve real-world and mathematical problems involving the four operations with rational numbers.

Science – Our seventh grade students will be deepening their understanding of how living and nonliving things make up ecosystems on our planet. Relationships between the factors and how they impact the survival and integrity of an ecosystem will be realized through research, experimentation, collaborative critical discussions and readings.

Social Studies – This month our Social Studies Scholar will be exploring Native Americans, Early European Encounters and Colonial Developments. We will be examining the complexity of indigenous cultures in North America prior to European exploration through a Google Slides group research project. Next, students will explore the impact of Columbus and participate in a class court case entitled “The People vs. Columbus, et al.”, analyze the role that Africans and women had on the American colonies, and investigate the three colonial regions in America. We will also be visiting Wagner College as part of the College Access for All Middle School Initiatives.



Test/Projects Dates

- Oct 3rd - SS Group Project
- Oct 5th – ELA Reading Response #8, 9, 10
- Oct 10th – Science variables exam (Open Notebook)
- Oct 12th - ELA Reading Responses #11, 12, 13
- Oct 12th - SS: “The People vs. Columbus” Trial
- Oct 15th - Math Task Unit 1(Class 720 & 721)
- Oct 16th - Math Task Unit 1(Class 722)
- Oct 17th – Science Academic vocabulary exam (Open Notebook)
- Oct 18th – ELA Narrative Writing piece due
- Oct 19th - Math Notebook quiz
- Oct 23rd - Math Exam Unit 1(Class 720)
- Oct 23rd - SS Quiz: Three Colonial Regions
- Oct 24th - Math Exam Unit 1(All Classes)



Required Reading

ELA – In-class: *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers. At home: Independent reading books chosen from our classroom library.
 Math – All Class notes; GoMath textbook Modules 1, 2 & 3;
 Social Studies – Article readings for HW on Google Classroom; Classwork Packets

School Closing

October 8th
 Columbus Day observed



SS Scholars of the Month

Class 720: Joseph Scotto
 Class 721: Eliana Minenna
 Class 722: Joana Junaid



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.

Students should come prepared to Math class with a sharpened pencil and a calculator every day!

Student should write independent reading responses in their ELA homework notebooks and submit notebooks every Friday.

Please join us for our “Parents as Partners” Narrative Essay Publishing Party on October 24th. Class 720: 9:00-9:30; Class 721: 9:45-10:15; Class 722: 10:30-11:00.

Students are always encouraged to DIG DEEPER into topics we are studying in Science class by researching the internet or reading books about those topics. All mandatory reading is provided to students in class. A seventh grade Science binder is kept in our classroom filled with copies of our class notes, homework assignments, tasks and tests for student use. Please register for our Class “REMIND” App. On your smartphone enter the number 81010 and then text the message @k2dfa7

All SS tests are aligned to US History & Government Regents and will be two days this year. This includes both a multiple choice and thematic essay. All tests will have review sessions/sheets. Students should be checking Google Classroom daily for announcements, reminders, video clip reviews and HW for Social Studies class. If students would like to keep a SS textbook at home to study from, Please let Mr. G know. Students are encouraged to conduct their own research projects outside of school for extra credit and can design their own research questions.

The Petrides School



October

2018

Grade 7

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 SS Group Project	4	5 ELA Reading Responses #8, 9, 10	6
7	8 No School Columbus Day	9	10 Science exam: Variables (Open Notebook)	11	12 ELA Reading Responses #11, 12, 13 SS: The People V. Columbus Trial	13
14	15 Math Task Unit 1 (Class 720 & 721)	16 Math Task Unit 1 (Class 722)	17 Science exam: Academic Vocabulary (Open Notebook)	18 ELA Narrative Writing piece due	19 Math Notebook quiz	20
21	22	23 Math Exam Unit 1 (Class 720) SS Quiz: Three Colonial Regions	24 Parents as Partners Narrative Essay Publishing Party Class 720: 9:00-9:30 Class 721: 9:45-10:15 Class 722: 10:30-11:00 Math Exam Unit 1 (All Classes) High School Open House 7:00pm	25	26 ELA Reading Responses #14, 15, 16	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