



Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter



GRADE 8

APRIL 2019

Working Together for Student Success

Dear Middle School Parents,

As the saying goes “no winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.” I am anxiously waiting for the warm weather to return!

I am very proud of all the students who took advantage of our Wednesday afternoon and evening Test Prep Academy. Classes were full with children eager and happy to be here! Regents Test Prep Academy will begin in May. More detailed information will be forthcoming.

Our New York State ELA Assessment is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2, 2019 and Wednesday, April 3, 2019. I encourage all students to get a good night’s sleep prior to test days, enjoy a healthy breakfast and come to school with sharpened number two pencils. **Also, don’t forget to wear your glasses, if needed** and RELAX. As our T-shirts say, KEEP CALM AND PANTHER ON!! Your child’s schedule will change slightly during testing days. On exam days (stated above) they will report to their official class teacher for period 1. They will be dismissed from that room at the conclusion of their testing. They will then proceed to regularly scheduled classes.

The New York State Math Assessment is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2019 and Thursday, May 2, 2019.

The end of the third marking period is **April 11, 2019**.

I am very pleased with the number of students who chose to become members of our National Junior Honor Society. Students will be notified of their acceptance on **April 5, 2019**. Our ceremony will be held on **Thursday, April 18, 2019** at 9:30 am. Parents and families of continuing and newly inducted NJHS members are invited to attend.

Our PAL @ Petrides Program is collaborating with our kitchen staff to present a parent engagement activity on **Wednesday, April 10, 2019** at 9:00 am until 9:40 am. You will be sampling the healthy snacks offered to your children during PAL, discussing the cooking program and learning about healthy snack options. Please sign in at the B building main desk upon your arrival.

Our seventh grade students will be participating in a Socratic Seminar on **April 16, 2019** according to the following schedule and you are invited to attend.

Class 720 8:15 am – 8:45 am
Class 721 10:30 am – 11:00 am
Class 722 9:45 am – 10:15 am

Our eighth grade students will be participating in a Rat Dissection Lab on **April 30, 2019 and May 1, 2019** according to the following schedule and you are invited to attend.

Class 820 8:15 – 9:30 am – May 1st
Class 821 1:00 – 2:20 pm – April 30th
Class 822 8:15 – 9:30 am – April 30th

Our eighth grade students will have an assembly on **April 16, 2019**. The presentation will be “Holocaust Survivor’s Story Assembly with Shira Stoll.”

Preparations for end of year ceremonies and celebrations are well underway. The eighth grade end of year letter outlining dates and costs is attached to this newsletter. Along with the 8th grade end of year letter is a behavior contract. This contract will be reviewed with your child at school. You should go over this contract at home and both you and your child must sign it. The first payment for 8th grade activities is due on **April 11, 2019**.

Please take note that spring recess starts on **Friday, April 19, 2019**. Students return to school on **Monday, April 29, 2019**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 718.815.0186 extension 22171 or BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

BettyAnn Souffrin

What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – During the month of April the students will be participating in book clubs by reading books based on events during the Holocaust. Students are expected to independently read, take notes, and participate within their small groups.

Math – We are finishing the topic of Absolute Value and Explicit/Recursive rule. Sometime in April, we will be finished with the Algebra 1 curriculum. After learning all the standards we will begin to review all material since September.

Science – Students will complete their study of genetics in April. They will learn about the techniques forensic scientists use to analyze DNA. They will debate if GMOs are safe to eat and investigate why GMOs are banned in some countries but not in USA.

Social Studies – During the month of April the students will learn about the Cold War, the Vietnam War and Civil Rights.



Test/Projects Dates

Apr 2nd & 3rd – NY State ELA exam
 Apr 9th – Science Exam: Ch. 14 & 15 (Class 821 & 822)
 Apr 11th – Science exam: Ch. 14 & 15 (Class 820)
 Apr 12th – US History Exam
 Apr 15th – Math Exam
 Apr 16th – Math Exam
 Apr 29th - ELA Google Slides Show Project
 Apr 30th – ELA Book Clubs due



REMINDERS!

Your child should be reading on a daily basis. They can read news articles, novels, short stories, and/or magazine articles.

*If you would like to purchase any of the Holocaust books for ELA, your child will receive extra credit towards one of their lowest test grades.

Study your Science notes every day!

Bring **Graphing Calculators** to Math class each day!

The Algebra 1 Regent exam will be June 19 @ 1:15pm.

The US History Regent exam will be June 18 @ 9:15am.

The Living Environment Regent exam will be June 18 @ 1:15pm.

Google “NYS Algebra I, Living Environment, and US History Regents and practice exams” for additional study material. Study your notes 15 minutes a day to help prepare for all of the Regents exam.

Please join us for a “Parents as Partners: Rat Dissection Lab” on the following days:

Tuesday April 30th, Class 822-8:15-9:30am

Tuesday April 30th, Class 821-1:00-2:20m

Wednesday May 1st -Class 820-8:15-9:30am

Required Reading



ELA – Book Club books: *Night*, *Someone Named Eva* and *Hiding to Survive**

Science – Textbook Ch. 14 & 15; Science World Articles

US History – Various DBQ Articles

Important Dates

April 2nd & 3rd – NY State ELA Exam

April 11th – End of Third Marking Period

April 19th through 26th – No School Spring Recess

The Petrides School

April

Grade 8



2019

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2 NYS ELA Exam	3 NYS ELA Exam	4	5	6
7	8	9 Science Exam: Ch. 14 & 15 (Class 821 & 822)	10 PAL Parent Engagement 9:00-9:40am	11 Science exam: Ch. 14 & 15 (Class 820) End of Third Marking Period	12 US History Exam	13
14	15 Math Exam	16 Holocaust Survivors Story Assembly With Shira Stoll 8:30-10:00am Math Exam	17	18 National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony 9:30am	19 No School Spring Recess	20
21	22 No School Spring Recess	23 No School Spring Recess	24 No School Spring Recess	25 No School Spring Recess	26 No School Spring Recess	27
28	29 ELA Google Slides Show Project	30 Parents as Partners "Rat Lab" Class 822-8:15-9:30am Class 821-1:00-2:20pm ELA Book Clubs due	5/1 Parents as Partners "Rat Lab" Class 820 8:15-9:30am			

Important Upcoming Dates:

- May 1st & 2nd – NY State Math Exam
- May 3rd – Report Cards Distributed
- May 9th – Street Fair: Parent Teachers Conferences
- May 21st – 8th Grade trip to Rocking Horse Ranch
- May 27th – No School: Memorial Day