



# The Michael J. Petrides School

## Middle School Newsletter Grade 8

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:BSouffrin@schools.nyc.gov).

Sincerely,  
BettyAnn Souffrin  
Assistant Principal



## What topics will the students learn today?

ELA – During the month of December students will continue analyzing how an author’s life affects their writing through Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Raven.” During this unit, students will also learn how to write an analytical essay based on Poe’s literary works.

Math – We have just finished observing systems of linear equations and inequalities. We will now explore how to factor expressions and observe quadratic equations. Graphic and algebraic methods will be used.

Science – This month the students will continue their study of the human body specifically the endocrine and reproductive systems. They will identify parts, describe functions and discuss various disorders/diseases associated with each system. We will conduct some of our mandated health lessons during this unit as well.

Social Studies – During the month of December the students will study all about the Progressive Era & U.S. Imperialism



### Test/Projects Dates

Dec 7<sup>th</sup> – ELA Wordly Wise exam #4  
 Dec 7<sup>th</sup> - US History Exam: DBQ essay  
 Dec 12<sup>th</sup> - Science Exam (Class 821)  
 Dec 13<sup>th</sup> - Science Exam (Class 820)  
 Dec 14<sup>th</sup> - Science Exam (Class 822)  
 Dec 17<sup>th</sup> – Math Exam: Factoring/Some Quadratics  
 Dec 18<sup>th</sup> - Math Exam: Factoring/Some Quadratic  
 Dec 19<sup>th</sup> – ELA Edgar Allen Poe Essay  
 Dec 21<sup>st</sup> - ELA Wordly Wise Test #5  
 Please check PupilPath.com for specific Science exam dates.



### REMINDERS!

Students should always be reviewing their Wordly Wise words to strengthen their vocabulary.

Remember to bring a sharpened pencil and a **graphing calculator** to Math class every day. .

Students can find examples of old Regents’ exams online as a study resource.

If you have not sent in your Sex Ed parent consent form for your child, please do so by December 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

### Required Reading



ELA – Edgar Allen Poe’s *The Raven*

Science – Textbook Chapters 20 – 23; Science World Articles; Trade Books

### School Closing

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

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## Grade 8

# 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 US History Exam ELA Wordly Wise Test #4	8
9	10	11	12 Science Exam (Class 821)	13 Science Exam (Class 820)	14 Science Exam (Class 822)	15
16	17 Math Exam: Factoring/Some Quadratics	18 Math Exam: Factoring/Some Quadratics Winter Concert 7:00pm	19 Bully Assembly 1:00-2:20pm ELA Edgar Allen Poe Essay	20 Sweet Feast 12:45-1:30pm	21 ELA Wordly Wise Test #5	22
23	24 No School Happy Holidays!	25 No School	26 No School	27 No School	28 No School	29
30	31 No School Happy New Year					

**Important Upcoming Dates:**

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