



The Michael J. Petrides School

Middle School Newsletter Grade 8

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 Wednesday, 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 learn about complex literacy elements such as Irony, foreshadowing, mood, tone and allusions. The students are then expected to use these elements in their narrative writing piece.

Math – We just finished learning to multiply and combine like terms of various polynomials. We will now learn how to solve equations in one variable and two variables. We will also focus on solving inequalities.

Science – This month the students will begin their study of cells. They will review the organelles and describe their jobs. They will observe cells under the microscope. The students will predict molecular movement across a membrane. They will label the chemical equivalent of photosynthesis and respiration and will compare and contrast them. The students will also perform various lab experiments.

Social Studies – During the month of October the students will be studying Early American Government and working on Regents Based question in preparation for the US History & Government Regents exam in June.



Test/Projects Dates

- Oct 1st - Science exam: Unit 1 (Class 820, 821)
- Oct 2nd - Science exam: Unit 1 (Class 822)
- Oct 12th – ELA: Wordly Wise Test #2
- Oct 12th – US History exam
- Oct 15th - Math exam #2: Solving equalities and inequalities
- Oct 19th - American History exam
- Oct 22nd - ELA Published Narrative due this week
- Oct 26th – ELA: Wordly Wise Test #3



REMINDERS!

Graphing calculators will be needed for Math class and is required for the Algebra I Common Core Regents exam this year. The following models are acceptable: Texas Instruments TI83, TI84 or TI89. Please see me if you have any questions on the model.

The students will be taking the Algebra 1 Regents exam in June. They will not be taking the 8th grade NY State Math exam.

Please join us for a “Parents as Partners” Onion Cell Lab. Class 820-1:35pm, Class 821-8:15am, Class 822-9:30am.

Keep track of notes and handouts for US History studying purposes.



Required Reading

ELA – *The Most Dangerous Game* by Richard Connell, *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson

Science – Textbook: Chapters 7-9, Science World articles, Trade books

School Closing

October 8


Columbus Day observed

The Petrides School



Grade 8

2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Science exam Unit 1 (Class 820, 821)	2 Science exam Unit 1 (Class 822)	3	4	5	6
7	8 No School Columbus Day	9 Sip & Share <i>High School Application Process</i> 8:15am	10	11	12 Wordly Wise Test #2 US History exam	13
14	15 Math exam Solving Equalities & Inequalities	16	17	18	19 American History exam	20
21	22 ELA Published Narrative due this week	23	24 High School Open House 7:00pm	25	26 Wordly Wise Test #3	27
28	29 "Parents as Partners" Onion Cell Lab Class 820- 1:35pm Class 821-8:15am Class 822-9:30am	30	31 Halloween Party 1:00-2:15pm 			

Important Upcoming Dates:

End of First Marking – November 15th
Parent Teacher Conferences – November 28th