

Grades 5-8 Parent Newsletter

February 2018

P.S. /I.S. 208

Ms. Ilyssa Mandell, A.P.

imandel@schools.nyc.gov (please email me for questions or concerns)

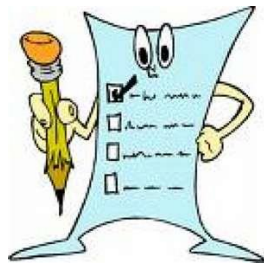
PS/IS 208 Mission Statement

To prepare the leaders of tomorrow by building a nested community of learners where every participant is fully engaged in document based questions, performance oriented tasks, accountable talk, inquiry based skills and scientific research strategies; as well as creating a nurturing learning environment via sound instructional practices, shared consent and differentiated learning.

Additionally, we will empower children to become self-sufficient and responsible. At P.S. /I.S. 208 we will create lifelong learners and children who are proficient in the art of Sciences and the science of the Arts

Dates to remember

February 2	Meadow Farms Fundraiser kick off	All grades
February 6	Parent Roundabout	
February 7	African American Read in Day	All grades
February 8		All parents invited
February 9	End of 2 nd marking period	All grades
February 9	Red Day for Heart Disease Awareness	All grades
February 12	Respect for all week	All grades
February 14	Torch Assembly Period 2	Grades 3-5
	Torch Assembly Period 4	Grades 6-8
February 15	Torch Assembly period 5	Grades K-2
February 16	Lunar New Year	School closed
February 19-23	Winter recess- School closed	
February 26	Students return to school	All grades
February 28	Jersey Day	8 th grade students
February 27	Tolerance day	
February 28	Trip to the MET	Class 501



Parent Engagement

Surveys

It is that time once again. Please be on the lookout for the Parent Engagement Surveys to arrive. They will be here in February. Parents must come and pick up the survey for grades K-5. We are asking that every parent fill out their survey and have a voice in how our school is looked at by the city and beyond.

P.S./I.S. 208's Instructional Agenda focuses on Summarizing, Questioning and Vocabulary. We are working very hard as a school to make sure that all students master these skills and we ask that you work with your children at home to assure that we are all working towards the **same goal**.

Assistant Principal Positive Pupil Praise Award

For this month, I will be focusing on students who get the most points for Class Dojo. These students:

- Help others
- Complete tasks
- Follow directions
- Show school spirit
- Work hard



- Are in uniform
- Think critically

Phia Dennis	603	Amadou Lemons	603
Jamie Christie	702	Sebastian Weiss	702
Brielle Joseph	501	Protik Ahmed	501
Malik Blake	804	Deondre Hugh	804
Naomi Ibrahim	803	Michael Pinckney	803
Malik Blake	804	Deondre Hugh	804
Clarrisa Guerrero	604	Dillon Robertson	604
Zaharia Hoque	502	Zachary Jackson	502
Simardeep Kaur	602	Brandon McCall	602
Sachs Cruz Tillery	701	Nicholas Rivas	701
Destiny McAllister	801	Zulfiquar Tapadoa	801
Marissa Michel	802	Dikinds Exis	802
Huda Mahmood	803	Kendrick Allonce	803
Elyse Joseph	601	Krish Kumar	601
Emily Chandler	703	Justin Henley	703
Madison Rodriguez	503	Rodney Heaven	503

Keep up the great work!



ENGAGEMENT

Character Trait of the Month: Honesty

Country of the Month: Egypt U.S. State of the Month: California



TESTING DATES:

Grades 3–8 English Language Arts	April 11-12
Grades 3–8 Mathematics	May 2-3

Certain students in class 821 will be invited to take the Integrated Algebra and Earth Science Regents in June. If you have questions about this, you can email me at imandel@schools.nyc.gov for information.

Seniors

FYI: Looking forward

June 8- Senior BBQ

June 14- Middle school awards night

June 25- Senior Trip

June 6- Prom: The Inn at New Hyde Park

June 19- Commencement Ceremony (school Auditorium)

Promotional criteria

Please be on the lookout for ***Promotion in doubt letters*** for all grades. Any student who received a Level 1 on either their Math or ELA exam last year will be receiving a promotion in doubt letter.

In order for students in the 8th grade to be promoted to the next grade, they must pass ***all subjects***. If your child does not pass ***1 or more*** subjects, they will be assigned to a summer school site. They will not be permitted to walk at graduation and they must attend summer school every day in order to be promoted. As of right now, there are a large percentage of students who are failing subjects because of homework and projects. If they received a Level 1 on either of the state tests, they will be required to take the class over and retake the exam. If they fail the course only, they will have to take the course over in summer school.

If your child falls into any of these categories, you will be scheduled for a meeting with your child's teacher.

Students in the 8th grade who have shown patterns of not wearing uniform or have shown negative behavior that warrants a meeting with Dr. Philemy or myself, may be excluded from senior activities at the Principals discretion as per the Chancellors regulations.



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***Wear Red Day*** to show awareness for heart disease on February 9, 2018**Internet Safety**

*Internet safety and education is an important topic that is being discussed in our school. Students are making bad decisions when it comes to the use of technology.*

*Please talk to you children about the importance of the appropriate use of technology and internet safety. For more information, you can visit [cybersafety.com](http://cybersafety.com)*

**FYI:**

- When it comes to school uniform, we are calling on all parents to support us in our efforts to enforce the uniform policy. A lot of students in the upper grades are coming to school wearing articles of clothing not included in the uniform or out of the uniform colors. Please make sure that your children are leaving the house dressed appropriately for school.
- Cell phones are becoming a problem. Students are keeping them out and phones are ringing during the school day. The policy states that if any cell phone is seen, it will be taken and a parent will have to come up to get it. Students that have cell phones should keep them in their lockers at all times.
- School is not open to students or parents until 7:40am.
- Lost and Found is in the school cafeteria. Parents will be able to pick up lost and found items on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am-9:15am. Please see Mr. Hunter for details.
- Parents are not permitted anywhere in the building without an appointment. All visitors must sign in at the security desk and enter and exit at the front entrance only! All Visitors must also have a sticker that identifies them as a visitor.
- If you have an issue and would like for someone to contact you, PS/IS 208 protocol states that you must see Mr. Hunter first to fill out an intake form.

**Suggested reading for Parents:**

***“Brainstorm” The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain***

***By: Daniel J. Siegel, M.D.***

*In this book, the author offers a road map for understanding the adolescent mind that will help families to not only survive this time, but also thrive the tween/ teen years and beyond.*

**For Our Annual Torch Ceremonies, Grades K-8 can wear CHILLY gear (penguin) or Black and white  
We are celebrating CHILLY the penguin and invite all students to wear his colors!**

