Michael J. Petrides School



The Paw Print Cub Edition

October/November 2026

Meet the Team

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This year, our school is proud to announce the return of our elementary school newspaper club for its second year! Following the incredible success of last year, where students thoroughly enjoyed every moment of creating and sharing content, a group of students is back together to bring you school news, stories, jokes, and drawings. We are all so excited to continue building on what we started! We can't wait to interview teachers, write about school events, and share fun facts with everyone. The members of the newspaper want to extend a huge thank you to our amazing principal, Mr. Tabbitas, for making it possible for us to continue this program. We also want to thank Mrs. Wilson and Ms. Duffy for continuing as our faculty advisors and editors, guiding us to do our best work. Here's to another fantastic year for our school newspaper!

Meet the Team



Hi, I'm Gracelyn Ke.I'm in 3rd grade.My favorite food is sushi. My favorite hobby is playing legos and crocheting. One thing I like about Petrides is gym and STEM club. They are both my favorite so I chose both.

Hi my name is Ilayda. I'm in 3rd grade. My favorite food is ramen. I like to jump rope. One thing I like about Petrides is all the teachers because they are so nice.





My name is Sofia. I am in third grade. My favorite food is pork chops and rice. My favorite hobby is soccer for Petrides. My favorite thing about Petrides is that the teachers are kind.

Hi my name is Alysa and I am in third grade. My favorite is rice with chicken and dumplings. My favorite hobbies are arts and crafts and playing with slime. My favorite thing about Petrides is learning and being able to have fun.

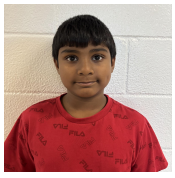




Hi! My name is Abigail, and I'm in 4th grade. My favorite food is ravioli which is very much like pasta. My favorite hobby is Math. My favorite thing about Petrides is that every day, we just do work, work, and more work! I just love that feeling! Last thing is that when we go outside, in school, we talk and have fun!

Hello my name is Seth Destajo and I am currently in 4th grade. This is my second year in the Newspaper Club Cub Edition! My favorite food is chicken teriyaki and my favorite drink to go with it is either sparkling water or just regular water. Also my favorite hobby is to read Diary of a Wimpy Kid or I Survived. The thing that I like the most about Petrides is that the teachers are nice and that the school supports breast cancer.





Hi! My name is Brian and I am in the third grade. My favorite hobby is to ride my bike. My favorite drink is coca cola, but I also like Spite. My favorite food is mozzarella sticks…extra cheesy! My favorite thing about Petrides is the library!

Hi! My name is Marie. I'm 8 years old. I am in third grade. My favorite subject is math. My favorite food is dumplings. I also like ASMR. *Hashtag ASMR. Hashtag dumplings.* I also like painting my nails. LOVE ! BYE!





Hi! My name is Nimah and I am in third grade. My favorite food is eggs with sardines. My favorite hobbies are drawing and singing. I am really good at it. My favorite thing about Petrides is that we get to have a Halloween party for the kids. Our school is Prek-12 so our parents don't have to worry about changing our schools!

Hi! My name is Alianna and I am in fourth grade.This is my second year in the Newspaper Club! I am eight years old and I am turning nine in November, and I have 3 sisters. My favorite food is Cowboy steak with green beans and my favorite drink is Fanta orange. My favorite colors are baby blue and light pink, and my favorite animal is a dog.





Hi! My name is Ashlynn and I'm in fifth grade. I love dogs and gymnastics. I enjoy writing .My favorite thing about Petrides is all the teachers that help you learn and all the clubs. I am so happy to be in the newspaper club again.

Hi! My name is Winona Christensen, and I am in 5th grade. This is my 2nd year in The Paw-Print Cub Edition. I love this newspaper club with all my heart, and can't wait to get further into the year, making tons and tons of newspapers. I love making homemade pizza, along with alfredo chicken that my aunt makes. (Chef's kiss) My favorite hobbies are ice skating, crocheting, and DUH, writing! My favorite thing about Petrides is this newspaper club, and more! Thank you so much Mrs.Wilson and Ms.Duffy ; Bye!





Hello! My name is Yasmin Buschmann and I am in fifth grade. My favorite thing to do is to crochet. My favorite food is my grandmother's rice and peas. My favorite thing about Petrides is the wonderful teachers here. I am so excited to be in the elementary newspaper club and I look forward to being an editor here.

Hello, it is me, Daniel Selby again. I am in fourth grade now! My favorite food is french fries, specifically McDonald's french fries. My favorite hobby is playing soccer. My favorite thing about Petrides is recess or maybe lunch.That will be all. For now…





Hi! My name is Elsa Wang and I was in Newspaper last year. I'm in fourth grade and my favorite food is probably pizza. My favorite dessert is ice cream. My favorite hobby is making loom bracelets and playing rhythm games. My favorite thing about Petrides are the fun subjects such as art and gym. I also like a lot of songs.

Hi! My name is Amelia and I am in third grade. My favorite food is meatballs, and my favorite hobby is singing songs and making bracelets. I love Petrides because it's very big, very cool and because it is very rare that you can get into Petrides.





Hi! This is Lithuli Wijenayakage and you probably remember me as the former newspaper club student. I don't really have a favorite food, because they are all mid for me. My favorite hobbies are reading and jump roping. I also like to write and play the viola, though I only started a month ago. And my favorite thing about Petrides is that they have fun after school programs like newspaper and UAU and Community Services and soon, Bonus, My favorite singer is Michael Jackson. I hope you have a **WONDERFUL** day!

Hi! My name is Ms. Duffy and I have been a teacher at Petrides for 7 years. I love teaching students how use creativity in their writing. My favorite thing about Petrides is the Fourth Grade Family! I love to read and go for walks when the weather is nice. My favorite food is my mom's meatballs!





Hi! I'm Mrs. Wilson and I have been the librarian at Petrides for 26 years. I enjoy sharing my love of reading with my students. I also enjoy crocheting and going to Disney. I have a dog named Atlas and a cat named Jon Snow My favorite color is purple and my favorite food is sushi.

Teacher Spotlight

By: Ilayda Ceteler, Marie Dioum, and Alianna Mora



This month we picked a special teacher for teacher spotlight and we want you to guess who it is. We will give you some clues on who it is!

This teacher has been a teaching for 8 years. Before this teacher started teaching she was a paraprofessional. Over the years, she has taught two grades; first grade and third grade. She likes 3rd grade more because it's easier to form relationships with third graders, and she thinks they are more independent.

This teacher thinks that the best part of teaching is meeting new students, watching them grow and making connections. If this teacher wasn't a teacher she would be a lawyer because its a cool job, and it includes fighting for justice.

This teacher's favorite thing about Petrides is that the school shows a welcoming sense of community. One fun fact about this teacher is that she went to dancing school,she also played on a softball team.

Alright everybody it is time to reveille the teacher for teacher spotlight! The teacher is…. MRS. CAPECE!! Thank you Mrs. Capece for giving us some of your time! We really appreciated it.

Thanksgiving

By: Ilayda Ceteler, Abigail de los Angeles and Amelia Zaslavskaya-Rosado

Have you ever wanted to know facts about Thanksgiving? Did you know that Pilgrims are very famous because they were part of the very first harvest celebration in America that inspired Thanksgiving today?

Since the Pilgrim days, Thanksgiving traditions have changed and every family does something a little different. Here are some of our traditions.

Ilayda's family traditions:

I eat turkey with rice and a side of salad. I love when we play games like cards and Uno. We tell jokes and eat dessert. Sometimes we eat chips, tacos and pizza.

Amelia's family traditions:

I usually go to my grandparents house and play lots of card games. This is what I usually have for food: I have turkey and lots of meat and my mom makes delicious apple pie while I watch the Macy's Thanksgiving day parade.

Abigail's family traditions:

I eat turkey, rice, chicken, beans and pasta. I also play dominos and UNO.

Thanksgiving is a wonderful holiday spent with family and friends. Everyone's traditions are different, but wonderful!



We Asked, You Answered

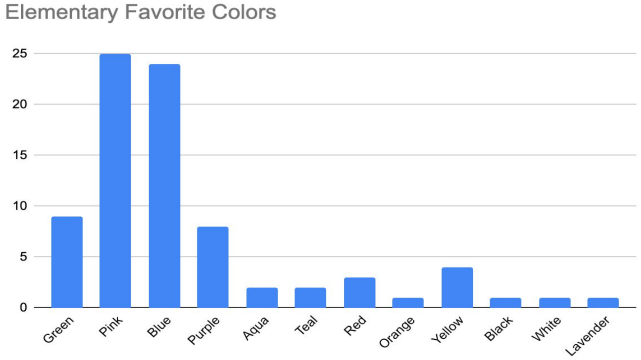
By: Brian Fernando and Alianna Mora

Hi! We're the elementary newspaper club, and today we're talking about everyone's favorite colors! We surveyed most of the school to find out which colors people love the most, and we got a ton of responses!

Here are the results: Green kicked things off with 9 votes. Pink took the top spot with an amazing 25 votes! Blue was a super close second with 24 votes—just one vote behind pink! Next up is purple with 8 votes, which is pretty great. Aqua and teal each received 2 votes (2%), red received 3 votes (3%), and orange got 1 vote (1%). Yellow brought in 4 votes (4%), while black, white, and lavender each got 1 vote.

In conclusion, pink took 1st place, blue came in 2nd place, and green placed 3rd!

Thank you to everyone who answered our questions about all the beautiful colors of the rainbow! We hope all of our readers have a fantastic day!



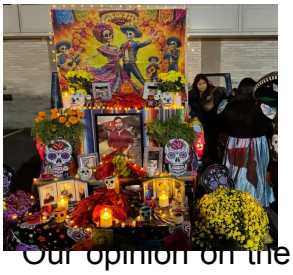
Trunk or Treat

By: Sofia Bobe, Seth Destajo, Alisa Li, Alianna Mora and Daniel Selby

Every year the PTA does a wonderful job preparing for Trunk or Treat! Trunk or Treat is basically Petrides own little Halloween party.The way Trunk or treat works is that parents decorate their car trunks and add a bowl of candy right in the middle! It's in between the K building and the Library. There is also a haunted library where there are scary decorations, smoke dispensers and a bunch of scary costumes that people are dressed in.







Our opinion on the Trunk or Treat is that it is non-scary and very fun! It's very surprising that there are scare actors that are not really scary. There was a costume contest and it was very fun. A man on stilts won the costume contest and the car decorated for the Day of the Dead won the car contest. The costumes were so good and there were a lot of ghost faces.What did you think of Trunk or Treat.

We want to thank our PTA for hosting these events for us and for working so hard for the children of Petrides! We can't wait until next year!

Current Events

Veteran's Day

By: Nimah Adebayo, Sofia Bobe, Marie Dioum, and Lithuli Wijenayakage

Do you know what Veterans Day is? You probably have heard of it, but do you know how it started, why we celebrate it, or what traditions people follow on this special day? Keep reading to find out!

Why and When Was It Created?

Veterans Day was created to honor the brave service members who served in the military and protected our country. On November 11, 1918, major fighting in World War I ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as Armistice Day. Later, in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower officially changed the name to Veterans Day to honor all American veterans, living or passed.

What Traditions Do We Have on This Day?

On Veterans Day, communities across the nation hold events to thank veterans for their service. For example, Staten Island hosts a parade each year to honor local heroes, and our school holds a parade as well!

Veterans Day vs. Memorial Day: What's the Difference?

Many people confuse Veterans Day and Memorial Day because both honor military members, but they have different purposes! Memorial Day (celebrated in May) specifically honors service members who lost their lives in the line of duty. Veterans Day (celebrated in November) honors all military veterans, especially living veterans who served in peace or war.

A Special Hero to the Panthers

Our school community remembers Staff Sergeant Michael H. Ollis, a courageous soldier and hero from Staten Island who gave his life to save a fellow service member. Both Veterans Day and Memorial Day are meaningful times for Panthers to honor his bravery and sacrifice.

We hope you enjoyed learning about Veterans Day and why it matters so much. Claws out, Panthers, and have a paw-tastic day!





Staff Sergeant Michael H. Ollis



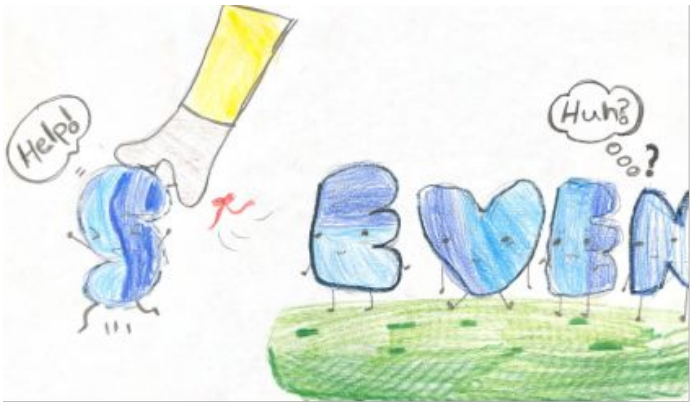
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

Joke of the Month

By: Abigail De Los Angeles, Gracelyn Ke, Alisa Li and Elsa Wang

How do you make 7 even?







Answer: Take away the S.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER WORD SEARCH

By Ilayda Ceteler & Graccelyn Ke

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AUTUMN ACORN APPLEPIE BLACKCAT BAT CANDYCORN HALLOWEEN HAUNTED	GHOST JACK-O-LANTERN PARADE PIE PUMPKINS THANKFUL THANKSGIVING TURKEY