



Mantua PTA Alert News

March 19, 2013



Thank You for a Wonderful Carnival!

A big "thanks" to everyone who helped make the Carnival such a huge success this year! It takes so many volunteers and countless hours of planning to put on the Carnival, and everyone who had any part in it is greatly appreciated. Kudos to the dynamic duo of Julie Lifland and Kerry Hogg! They did an amazing job with their team. Thank you to the dedicated committee chairs: Paige Rushing, Aly Neuhauser, Meri Farling, Nicole Armstrong, Jane Love, Deanna Firth-Freemyer, Karen Gaughan, Adele Galen, Chrissy Boylan, Avril Donat, Michelle Collins, and Lesley McKnight. Thank you to all the Class Carnival Representatives, booth volunteers, cakewalk bakers (more than 300 plates of goodies/cakes and lots of very happy kids!), and set up and break down crew. Special thanks to those who went above and beyond with banner making, baking multiple items, supplying prize bags, offering extra help with set up and break down, providing last minute supplies, and volunteering additional hours beyond an hour per child's class. Also, thanks to the Mantua staff including all the teachers with booths in their classrooms, the teachers and other staff who volunteered their time to help before and during the Carnival, the good sports who sat in the dunk tank, the front office staff and administration for all their assistance, and the custodians and cafeteria staff. Lastly, thank you to the PTA board for your support of the Carnival. Everyone came together in a wonderful way this year to make the Carnival a fabulous and memorable event.

Please Complete the Carnival Survey

Please take a moment to fill out our very short, anonymous survey about your Carnival experience this year. After all, one of the ideas we got from last year's survey was to offer the party incentive for the class with the most volunteers, and that made a HUGE difference in volunteerism this year! We'd love to hear what other ideas you have to share! Click [HERE](#) to begin - you don't have to register on the website to complete the survey. Thank you!

Deadline for Spring Enrichment Courses is THIS Wednesday!

Information on spring classes came home in last week's Tuesday folders. If you have misplaced yours, click [HERE](#). We have a variety of classes to choose from including: Robotics, Pottery,

Yoga, Tennis, Girls' Voices, MusilQ and Drama. Robotics and MuslQ have online registration, while the others all require paper registration. Please hurry - registration deadline is this Wednesday, **March 20th**. Any questions, please contact [Shannon Murphy](#).

Come Watch Mantua Faculty Play Basketball

The big game between Mantua ES staff and Camelot ES staff is scheduled for Friday, **April 12th** at 7:00 p.m. at Woodson High School. Presale tickets will be \$3 and \$5 at the door for both students and parents. Come show your Mantua pride! Look for more information on presale tickets after Spring Break!

Save the Date: 13th Annual Raccoon Run is May 11th

Plan to be a part of the best neighborhood and community race in Fairfax County! Join the Mantua Elementary School Kids Care Club for the 13th annual Raccoon 5K and 1-mile Fun Run on Saturday, **May 11th**. The Fun Run begins at 8:00 a.m. and the 5K at 8:30 a.m. All proceeds benefit Life with Cancer. For more information, visit www.raccoonrun.org or contact [Jennifer Lewis-Cooper](#) or [Amy Smith](#).

Cake Decorating Contest

Mantua Spring Carnival continued our tradition of a cake decorating contest with over 20 yummy entries. The theme was "Future's So Bright" and we had all kinds of interpretations, including a rainbow, a Chewbacca, a sunflower, a graduating Rocky Raccoon, and a galaxy. See photos of the winning cakes this week in the display case or by clicking [HERE](#). The competition was pretty fierce but in the end, we could only have 3 winners in each category. The 2nd and 3rd place winners received Five Below gift cards, and 1st place winners received a pizza party for their class, donated by Papa Johns. Congratulations to all the winners:

Kindergarten-3rd grade

1st: Ashia Omair; 2nd: Eli Lemieux; 3rd: Julia Peeler

4th-6th grade

1st: Caroline Boylan; 2nd: Sage Boucher; 3rd: William Dittman

7th grade - Adult

1st: Monica Brenner; 2nd: Susan Brown; 3rd: Jack Lemieux

Thank you to all the adults and kids who volunteered and judged. If you have any questions about the contest, please contact [Lesley McKnight](#).

Destination Imagination Teams Are Winners!

Congratulations to all the Mantua students who participated in Destination Imagination's Regional Tournament held in Winchester, VA on Saturday, March 9th. Participants spanned grades from Kindergarteners to 5th graders. Out of the 6 teams that participated, 4 teams competed. **All 4 competing teams achieved 1st or 2nd place and all advance to the next level of competition.** The State tournament will be held on April 13th in Cozet, VA.

Congratulations Dlers!

COMPETING TEAMS:

Amazingly Energetic Artists - Sarah Hasson, Sophia Labys and Eden Lankford

CarCraft - Zachre Andrews, Daniel Lee, and Zachary Wagner

Conserving Girls - Nichole Choe, Amity Pitigala, and Suruthikha Vijay

M.T. Brains - Ben Harris, Eli Harris, Alex Klein, Jack Klein, Walter Kowalski, Jay Sorkin, and Neil Sorkin

NON COMPETING TEAMS:

Friendly Fish - Benjamin Hall, Cooper Krupnik, Audrey Reese, Diya Selvan, Kristina Swamihathan, Valli Swaminathan

JAC JES - Jimmy Brady, Amelia Ehlers, Colin Cunningham, Joselyn Limbago, Ellen Wang Andera, Samuel Gavilan

PTA Reflections Program Awards

The PTA would like to congratulate the following students who received awards and recognition at the District level of the PTA Arts Reflection program:

Outstanding Achievement

Visual Arts: Amelia Kim; **Literature:** Anna Kim; **Dance Choreography:** Jolie Tran.

Honorable Mention

Literature: Zachre Andrews, Amartya Banerjee, Conner Tadlock, Sarah Tadlock; **Photography:** Catherine Tadlock, Sarah Tadlock, Conner Tadlock; **Visual Arts:** Lucy Clarke, Yarden Moses.

Congratulations to all of you! The theme for the 2013-14 PTA Arts Reflection program is "Believe, Dream, Inspire." Start thinking now about how you can create art around this theme for the fall entry! If you have any questions, please contact [Lori Prendergast](#).

Odyssey of the Mind Team Winners

One of Mantua's Odyssey of the Mind teams placed second overall in the Odyssey of the Mind Regional Tournament on Saturday, March 9th. Their 2nd place award was in the NOVA North Region 9 competition, Division 1A for Problem 3 - ARTchitecture: The Musical.

The Mantua team included the following 4th and 5th graders: Ritvik Annadi, William Dittmann, Tal Kalderon, Sarah Livingston, Samhitha Reddy, Akash Seenuthoju, and Jason Xu. Congratulations to the team!

In addition, two Mantua students - Jenna and Justin Mangis - participated on a team from Frost Middle School. This team came in 1st place and will continue on to the state competition.

Money for Mantua Through Recycling

Bring in used ink jet or laser printer cartridges, cell phones, laptops, or PDAs from home or work and place them in the gray Rubbermaid container in the front lobby of Mantua Elementary. You can also include any accessories like chargers, extra batteries, cases, headsets, etc. Mantua Elementary earns money for recycling all of the items through the Cartridges For Kids program. When you are green, Mantua earns some green!

Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Warren's Maternity Leave:

March 18-March 22nd will be Mrs. Warren's last week at Mantua. We would like to welcome Mr. Matthews, her long-term substitute, who will be joining us after Spring Break. Mr. Matthews is a certified School Counselor and will work with grades 4-6 until the end of the year during Mrs. Warren's leave. If you have any questions or concerns, you may email Mr. Matthews at mwmatthews@fcps.edu. Mrs. Warren will return in the fall.

Mantua's Peer Mediation Program:

Each year Mantua selects 10-15 students to be trained on conflict resolution as part of the Peer Mediation Program. These students are available to help resolve student to student conflicts. We currently have 12 6th grade mediators trained and ready to help. Based on an application process and teacher recommendation, we have begun to train 12 additional 5th grade students to take over next year when the 6th graders graduate. These students also attended the Annual Peer Mediation Conference at George Mason University on March 13th where they attended workshops and met other Elementary Mediators from all over Northern Virginia. Students, parents, or teachers may refer students to Mediation as needed. Please email [Susan Kim](#) or [Michael Matthews](#) for more information or to make a referral.

Available Parent Workshops:

Building Independence Workshop: This workshop is intended for parents of students with the low incidence disabilities of Autism, Intellectual Disabilities or Physical Disabilities.

Topics covered will include:

- * Developing a plan to build independent functioning at home
- * Strategies to teach children to be independent
- * Developing and implementing activity schedules

Two sessions will be offered on Wednesday, **March 20th**:

10:00-11:30 a.m.; Gatehouse Administrative Center, Rooms 3050/3051, 8115 Gatehouse Rd., Falls Church, VA 22042

7:00-8:30 p.m.; Leis Administrative Center, Multipurpose Room, 7423 Camp Alger Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042

To register, contact Liane Sprunk at 571-423-4110 or LSprunk@fcps.edu. For questions, contact Tina Wilkerson at 571-423-4110 or TWilkerson@fcps.edu. Download flier and registration information at: <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/sei/ABA>.

Important Upcoming Events

Wednesday, March 20: Registration Deadline for Enrichment Programs

Monday, March 25-Friday, March 29: **School Closed** for Spring Break

Friday, April 12: Mantua Faculty Basketball Game

Thursday, April 18: Mantua Literacy Night

Be a Host Family for a Foreign Exchange Student

Have you considered sharing your family and your life with a foreign exchange student? Most FCPS high Schools, including Woodson, support the AFS exchange program. The students typically enroll as high school juniors. They speak English well, and have their own health insurance, and spending money. By welcoming them into your family and your life, you can share America with them and they will share their culture with you and your children. Students come from all over the world - you have the ability to choose boy or girl and the country or region from which they come. If you are interested in learning more about hosting an AFS exchange student, please contact Kristin Driscoll at 703-273-8240 or drikr01@yahoo.com. You can also go to www.afsusa.org for details.

Frost Family Festival

6th Grade Families: FROST FAMILY FESTIVAL is coming Thursday, **March 21st** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This open house is a fun event and a great way for rising 7th graders to get familiar with Frost Middle School. There will be school tours, class demos, spirit wear, a pizza dinner, and much more to keep parents and children entertained. Make sure to get your tickets early. The last day to pre-order tickets is Friday, March 15th. Contact Joan Fisher at joanmkf@aol.com with questions.

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org.

Submissions **MUST** be received by the Friday before distribution in order to be included.

如果您需要一份中文的曼图亚小学校园新闻周刊，请联系潘红女士。电话：703-939-

3403 电子信箱：hpan.home@gmail.com.

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는분은 크리스티씨께 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 choichristie@yahoo.com.

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor email Ana Castelan a acastelan25@gmail.com.

2012-13 FCPS & PTA Calendar at a Glance [HERE](#)
Mantua Parent Handbook [HERE](#)

Stay informed all year long by visiting our website: www.MantuaPTA.org

Are you on Facebook? Stay informed by joining us: [HERE](#)

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

