



September 23, 2014 | Issue No. 4

In This Issue:

[Important Dates](#)

[Boosterthon](#)

[Club Registration](#)

[Basketball](#)

[Spirit Wear](#)

[Take Home](#)

[Readers](#)

Quick Links:

[Not Receiving
the AlertNews?](#)

[Update Your
MP Info](#)

[MP Invitation
Request](#)

[MantuaPTA.org](#)

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Important Upcoming Dates

September 15-24: Boosterthon Fundraiser

September 24: Fun Run for Boosterthon

September 29: Student Holiday - No School

September 30: Take Home Reading Volunteer Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

October 2: Restaurant Night at Flippin' Pizza, 4:00-9:00 p.m.

October 9: PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

October 13: Columbus Day - No School

Boosterthon is Here! Fun Run is THIS Wednesday!

The Fun Run is almost here! The Boosterthon fundraiser is the only true fundraising opportunity of the year, so this is the time to help us raise funds that pay for technology, teacher development, author visits, field trips, PTA programs and more! **Students will be asking for pledges through September 24th** to support their participation in the Fun Run. Show your support and help Mantua raise funds to aid programs, field trips, teacher development, materials, and technology for our school. So far, we have received 1,497 pledges from 48 states and 12 countries. Have you heard that if our school collects pledges from ALL 50 states that Vice Principal Amy Alley will be duct taped to a wall for everyone to see? We only need pledges from Alabama and South Dakota. Show your support and help Mantua raise much needed funds. Go to www.funrun.com to register and make pledges!

The Fun Run will be held on **Wednesday, September 24th** during the school day. All parents are welcome and encouraged to cheer on their children. Please check your child's Tuesday folder for more detailed information. We also need parent volunteers to help with the Fun Run. Please sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e45aea82f4-boosterthon>. Questions? Contact Meri Farling at merifarling@hotmail.com.

Deadline Extended for Club Registration!

We are extending enrollment for the following clubs until **THIS Friday, September 26th**: Chat 'n' Chew, FLEX, Kids Care Club, Raccoon Runners, and Yearbook Club. Sign up online now!

<https://memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2014-15ptasponsoredclubs>

Raccoon Runners: NEW Expanded Program

New this year – Two Teams: Raccoon Runners for Boys and Raccoon Runners for Girls

The Mantua Raccoon Runners is a positive youth development program for girls and boys in 3rd-6th grades. This program will empower young boys and girls to be true to themselves through lessons in positive body image, health and nutrition, and social awareness. This will all be done while we strengthen ourselves through various fitness activities as we train for a 5K run. Any student is eligible to participate.

The Raccoon Runners is an eight week program that will meet before school. **The Girls team will meet Monday and Wednesday mornings from 8:00-9:00 a.m. in the gym starting October 6th. The Boys team will meet on Tuesday and Friday mornings from 8:00-8:50 a.m. in the gym starting October 7th.** Both teams will start the mornings with some sort of physical activity. Exercise will consist of a variety of activities, such as yoga, boot camp, strength training and flexibility, and 5K conditioning. After our workout and stretch, the students will have a healthy snack while we cover our lesson for the day. There will be a new lesson each time we meet. Lessons will cover a variety of subjects including health and nutrition, safety, hygiene, emotions, team building, self-esteem, gratitude, and social issues.

At the end of the program, the Raccoon Runners will participate in Mantua's own Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning.

The registration deadline has been extended to Friday, September 26th. Raccoon Runners program information and a permission slip are at <http://mantuapta.org/documents/programs/rr/fall2014/raccoonrunners.pdf> and <http://mantuapta.org/documents/programs/rr/fall2014/permission.pdf>. Please contact Meri Farling at merifarling@hotmail.com with questions.

Parent and Student Information

Help us get a jump on the new year by completing the Student & Parent Info Form, which must be submitted by **Wednesday, October 15th** for edits to be reflected in the 2014-15 PTA Student Directory. You may delete or add information as you see appropriate for your family. The information you provide will be used for various school and PTA purposes, such as the aforementioned directory and the Alert News distribution list. The information will also be shared with PTA volunteers for PTA programs such as Chat'n'Chew or Raccoon Runners among others, in case they need to

contact you for any reason. Please note that the form must be finished before your child(ren) may participate in any PTA-sponsored activity—important PTA permission slips are contained within. Contact Paige Rushing at paigerushing@gmail.com if you have any questions! Go to <https://memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2014-15studentparentinfo> to complete your form!

Basketball at Mantua

Mantua PTA Basketball early registration will open on **Friday, September 19th** and close on October 5th. Late registration will be from October 6th-12th. Please register at www.mantuabasketball.org. The league is open to all 3rd-6th graders. Practices will begin the first week in December, and each team will practice once a week and play one game on weekends. Please visit www.mantuabasketball.org for more information.

Spirit Wear for Sale

The PTA Spirit Wear sale has begun! Order today. Choose from a variety of shirts, hoodies, sweat pants, and jackets; all in school colors. See sample items displayed in the school cafeteria. New items this year are jackets and polo shirts with an embroidered design. All other items have screen print design. Order today using using a paper order form found at <http://mantuapta.org/documents/fundraisers/spiritwear/order.xls> or online at <https://memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2014-15spiritstore>. Orders must be received by **October 10th** for items to be received by November 14th. Contact Katheen DeCarlo at kdecarlo@verizon.net with any questions.

Yearbook Club for 6th Graders

Hey 6th graders! Are you creative? Do you want to make an impact on YOUR yearbook? Join Yearbook Club and help with the layout of this year's yearbook! The club will begin to meet in October every other Tuesday after school through April. You can find information about the Yearbook Club at <https://memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2014-15ptasponsoredclubs>. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Prendergast at loripren@yahoo.com.

Take Home Readers Program

Attention all Take Home Reading volunteers! THR training is scheduled for **September 30th at 9:30 a.m.** in the Reading Room with Ms. Puckett. If you're interested in the THR program (grades K-1) but have not yet signed up, it's not too late! If you have any questions or would like to RSVP for the training, please contact Lori Recher at lorirecher@hotmail.com.

Restaurant Night is October 2nd

Mark your calendar for a family night out on **Thursday, October 2nd** at

Flippin' Pizza in the Turnpike Shopping Center, 4:00-9:00 p.m. hosted by the Mantua PTA. You can dine in or take out. Dinner will be delicious! Choose from a variety of 18" red pizza pies and white pizza pies, calzones, salads, garlic knots, and pepperoni bites. And, 50% of the evening's proceeds will go to the Mantua PTA! A flyer must be presented to earn credit. Look for it in the next Tuesday folder. Please plan to join us. It will be a family fun evening as we earn dough for the Mantua PTA. Buon appetito!

Counselor's Corner

Just One of the Kids (advertised by the Parent Resource Center)

Do you want to learn how to create an inclusive family when one of your children has a physical disability? Do you want your children to have fun, be responsible, make friends, and take acceptable risks – in short, to feel like “just one of the kids” – and want to make sure that the needs of the whole family are met, too? Join Kay Harris Kriegsman, Ph.D. and Sara Palmer, Ph.D. the authors of *Just One of the Kids* to learn how to raise children who are resilient and ready for adulthood.

Just One of the Kids was written by Kay Harris Kriegsman, Ph.D., a practicing psychologist, consultant on disability issues, and author of *Taking Charge; Teenagers Talk about Life and Physical Disabilities* and Sara Palmer, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Physical Medicine. She is also the coauthor of *Spinal Cord Injury: A Guide for Living*.

Kay Harris Kriegsman, Ph.D. and Sara Palmer, Ph.D. will share:

- key elements in preparing children for the future: responsibility, socialization, risk taking and experience
- ideas about how to balance the needs of children with and without disabilities
- ideas about how parents can meet their own needs while raising a family
- where to find support and resources

Tuesday, October 28th; 7:00 - 9:30 p.m., Woodson HS - Cafeteria A
Workshop: 7:00-8:30; Q & A session: 8:30-9:00; book sales: 9:00-9:30
[Register online now!](#)

Parents of Students in Grades 3–6

All new students to Fairfax County Public Schools that don't have a cognitive abilities test on file will be administered the CogAt test during the testing window of October 15th-October 24th.

If you are interested in the one-time retest for possible acceptance to AAP Center, please contact Eva Bousbouras at Vaitsa.Bousbouras@fcps.edu by **Friday, September 26th**.

Translators

Translators comprise another vital part of our outreach efforts. We want every Mantua ES family to feel included and connected—should families need to have a document translated into their native language, our volunteers are here to help!

- للحصول على نسخة مترجمة للغة العربية، نرجو الإتصال بالأخت بدرية كفالة على هذا الإيميل: bkafala@gmail.com. If you need to have a document translated into Arabic, please email bkafala@gmail.com.
- 如果你需要把文件翻译成中文，请联系冯敏。她的电子邮件是 mmfeng@hotmail.com。 If you need to have a document translated into Chinese, please email Min Feng.
- Если вам необходимо перевести документ на русский язык, пожалуйста обращайтесь к Анне Жердецкой или Виктору Жердецкому по электронной почте: hannaz74@gmail.com или ViktorZ@gmail.com. If you need to have a document translated into Russian, please contact Hanna Zhardzetskaya and Viktor Zhardzetski.
- 혹시 한국어로 번역된 자료가 필요하시면 좌승관씨에게 연락주세요 (skjwa7@gmail.com). If you need to have a document translated into Korean, please contact Seungkwan Jwa

Email Shoshi Kalderon at shoshi.kalderon@yahoo.com if you have any questions about or would like to volunteer as an ambassador or translator with Mantua ES's Community Building Network.