



October 21, 2014 | Issue No. 8

Important Upcoming Dates

- October 23: [MATHCOUNTS Meeting](#), 7:30-9:00 p.m.
- October 24: Pokemon/Trading Card Family Fun Night, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- October 24: Box Tops Contest Ends
- October 24: Deadline to Order *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* Book
- October 27: Raising Resilient Children Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- October 30: Deadline to Register for AMC 8 Math Competition
- October 31: Fall Spirit Parade, 9:30 a.m.
- October 31: Deadline for Wish Fund Submissions, 12:00 noon
- October 31: First Grading Period Ends/2-hour Early Release

Dismissal Information

At Mantua we have a pass system established for when your student is not going home from school by the usual method. This system is set up to safeguard your children. Please email mantuaesattendance@fcps.edu so that we can issue the appropriate pass. If your child is going home with a friend or bringing a friend home, we need to hear from both families. This information needs to reach the front office by 1:00 p.m. daily.

It is also helpful to let the office know early in the day if your child is being picked up early. Many students have varied schedules and it can be time consuming to have to find them when you arrive. Knowing ahead of time will enable us to make sure you are not late for your appointment. Please feel free to copy the teacher on any emails you send.

Recent KIT Message

On October 17, 2014 Fairfax County Public Schools sent out a KIT message about Ebola Facts and Procedures. If you did not receive the KIT message and would like a copy of the letter, please stop by the office to pick one up. If you would like to receive KIT messages, you will need to contact Ms. Kakouris.

In This Issue:

- [Important Dates](#)
- [Family Fun Night](#)
- [Help: MP Admin](#)
- [Box Tops Contest](#)
- [Student Directory](#)
- [MATHCOUNTS](#)

Quick Links:

- [Not Receiving the AlertNews?](#)
- [Update Your MP Info](#)
- [MP Invitation Request](#)
- [MantuaPTA.org](#)

Compiled by:

[Amy Halstead,](#)
[AlertNews Editor](#)

Family Fun Night THIS Friday: Pokemon & Other Trading Cards

Join us for Mantua's annual PTA Family Fun Pokemon and Other Trading Cards Game Night this **Friday, October 24th, 7:00-9:00 p.m.** in the school cafeteria. Pack up your Pokemon cards or other trading cards and bring them for an evening of card trading and game playing with friends. If you are new to Pokemon then learn how to play the game with our expert game guide, Tim Foley and his staff. There is no fee to attend, however children must be accompanied by an adult. Find information at <http://www.mantuapta.org/documents/familyfun/2014-15/pokemon.pdf> or contact Kathleen DeCarlo at kdecarlo@verizon.net with any questions.

Box Tops Contest Ends THIS Friday

The Box Top contest is on! Spread the word! The classroom that turns in the most Box Tops by **Friday, October 24th** will win a pizza party! Pink Box Tops can be found on participating products like General Mills cereal, Betty Crocker baking mixes, Ziploc and Hefty bags, Scott paper products, and more. Have your kids inspect all product packaging (preferably once you are done with it) for Box Top opportunities. Clip the Box Tops and send them in to school with your child in a ziploc bag with his/her teacher's name on it. Your child can give the box tops to his/her teacher or put them in the Box Tops box in the school foyer. During the first week of October, a Box Tops Goal Poster will be posted at school so that the kids can watch their class earning grow! Need more fun and more opportunities to earn Bonus Box Tops? Check out the Box Top website at BTFE.com (and try for a chance to win 5,000 Box Tops for Mantua!) If you have any questions, please contact Adrienne Sullivan at Asullivan10@verizon.net.

The Directory is Coming!

Advertise in the Mantua Student Directory for as little as \$50. We are working on this project full steam ahead, so please go to the following link to get more information on advertising:

<https://memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/rockysponsors>.

Because every penny counts, you don't need to be a business to be seen in the upcoming Directory. For as little as \$25 you can submit a special message for your special student in the Directory Just think how excited they will be! Go to this link for more information:

<https://memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2014-15membershipandsupport>. Please contact Monika Brenner

at monika.brenner@dhs.gov for any questions.

PTA Wish Fund

The application period for Wish Fund proposals will open on **Wednesday, October 15th**. This fund, new this year, has been created to

1. allow teachers/staff and PTA members the opportunity to have projects funded that are not currently within the budget,
2. enrich our children's school experience further by financially supporting important projects, opportunities, technology, and needed material items, and
3. give PTA members the ability to give input on how PTA monies earned through fundraisers shall be spent.

Other schools have used wish funds/grants in the past to purchase items like iPads, Nooks, library resources, field trips, document cameras, benches, and more. Applications are available online at <http://mantuapta.org/documents/wishfundprop.pdf>. The deadline for applications to be submitted is **12:00 noon on Friday, October 31st**. Please contact Wish Fund Chair, Teresa Lemair at teresalemair@aol.com with any questions.

Wish Fund Committee Members Needed!

The Mantua PTA's newly-created Wish Fund will help fund proposals that will further enrich our children's educational experience. The Wish Fund Committee will review applications and meet to create a proposal for how funds will be allocated to Wish Fund projects. That proposal will be put forth at the November PTA meeting for voting. We are looking for 10-12 PTA members to join the committee, which is being chaired by Teresa LeMair. If you are interested in being a committee member, please contact Teresa at teresalemair@aol.com by October 31st. If more than 12 members indicate interest, a lottery will be held to determine the final committee.

Room Parents Needed

Thank you to the many wonderful parents who signed up to be Mantua Room Parents this year! You will be getting more information about the job soon. We are still in need of Room Parents for the following classes: Mr. Wilson, Cruz, Graap, Chong, Deixler, Cajati, and Andersen. Room Parents are very important as they are organizers of volunteers for the classroom, facilitators of some information between teacher, families and the PTA, and supporters to the teacher and volunteer coordinator. The job does not take up too much time, and all of it may be done outside of the classroom. If you are willing to be the Room Parent for one of the above classes, please contact Teresa at teresalemair@aol.com ASAP. Thank you for your consideration!

MATHCOUNTS at Mantua

Mantua alumnae Eli Lifland and Abhishek Bhargava, juniors at TJHSST, are running a MATHCOUNTS program for 6th graders at Mantua. MATHCOUNTS is a national program that involves improving your math skills and representing your school in competition. More details will be given at the first MATHCOUNTS meeting **THIS Thursday, October 23rd at 7:30 p.m.** at Mantua ES. The meeting will be held in Room 243, Mr. Bloch's room. The weekly meetings will last approximately 1 1/2 hours and will be spent learning how to solve math problems similar to those that will appear in the actual competition. Please contact Eli at uvafan173@gmail.com or Julie Lifland at julielifland@yahoo.com if you have questions. You can find out more about MATHCOUNTS at mathcounts.org.

Raising Resilient Children

What is resiliency and why is it important? Resiliency is the inner strength to deal competently and successfully, day after day, with challenges and demands that one might encounter. All youth have a capacity for resiliency that can grow or decline over time. Schools, families, and communities have an opportunity to create and support the conditions needed to foster resiliency in our youth. Please join the Mantua Student Services Team for a discussion on how we can build and support a community of resilient children. Please meet on **Monday, October 27th, 9:30-10:30 a.m.** in the Reading Room. You can find more information [HERE](#). Do you have topic suggestions for future Parent-Education Workshops? If so, please email Sally Meyer at meyersal97@gmail.com.

Volunteer MemberPlanet Administrator Needed

Interested in becoming more involved in PTA activities? The PTA is in need of a Volunteer Administrator for all activities related to our MemberPlanet site. The PTA uses MemberPlanet to send out our weekly Alert News emails, to collect registrations for PTA programs, to collect data for our annual directory, and so much more. This position is an integral part of the PTA Communications Team which includes our webmaster, Facebook administrator, Alert News editor and database coordinator. If you are interested or would like to learn more about the position, please contact Paige Rushing at paigerushing@gmail.com.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Pre-Orders

Attention Diary of a Wimpy Kid fans: the deadline for pre-ordering your copy of Book #9 - The Long Haul – is **Friday, October 24th**. For an electronic copy of the order form, please contact Lori Recher at lorirecher@hotmail.com.

AMC 8 Mathematics Competition

The AMC 8 Mathematics Competition is a challenging 40-minute, 25-question middle school math test that is the first in a series of qualifiers culminating in the U.S. Math Olympiad. Interested 6th graders are invited to take the test at Mantua on **Tuesday, November 18th** in Room M-4. Pre-registration is necessary. If you have not already signed up, you can do so until **Thursday, October 30th** on the [Mantua PTA Academic Competitions Page](#). Please contact Haydee Cooper at haydee.cooper@gmail.com with any questions.

Woodson Cares: Promoting Mental Health and Wellness

Woodson Pyramid parents are invited to join a discussion with two national experts on teen mental health, coping, and resiliency. The discussion will be held on **Wednesday, October 22nd** at 7:00 p.m. in the Woodson High School auditorium. Dr. Scott Poland is a founding member of the National Emergency Assistance team for the National Association of School Psychologists and serves as the Prevention Director for the American Association of Suicidology. Richard Lieberman coordinated the Youth Suicide Prevention Program for the Los Angeles Unified School District for 25 years.

Thank you to Our Friends of Rocky!

Thanks to all who made a “Friends of Rocky” Donation – the PTA appreciates your support!

Platinum Level

Tracey Relyea

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.

Mantua Elementary School PTA
9107 Horner Court | Fairfax, Virginia 22031

[Add us to your address book](#)

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you prefer not to receive future emails from us | [Privacy Policy](#)

powered by [memberplanet](#)