



October 6, 2015 | Issue No. 5

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Important Upcoming Dates

October 7: Restaurant Night: Dickey's Barbecue Pit
October 8: Picture Day
October 9: Mantua Basketball - Last Day for Early Registration
October 9: No School, Student Holiday
October 12: No School, Student Holiday
October 15: PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Library
October 23: Family Fun Night - Pokemon & Cards & Games Night
October 23: Spirit Wear Deadline
October 23: Reflections Contest Deadline
October 30: Fall Spirit Parade, 9:30 a.m.
October 30: 2-Hour Early Release

Picture Day is THIS Thursday

Fall Picture Day is **Thursday, October 8th** in the Gym. Look for order forms in student's Tuesday folder this week.

Restaurant Night THIS Wednesday

Join Mantua ES friends and family for our first Restaurant Night of the year! Dine or take out on **Wednesday, October 7th** at Dickey's Barbecue Pit at 2750 Galloway Road and 15% of the proceeds will be donated to the Mantua PTA. You can call ahead at (703) 207-0077 to place your order and avoid the lines. We hope to see you there!

Family Life Education Instructional Program Information

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) provides a comprehensive, sequential Family Life Education (FLE) program for students in grades kindergarten through grade twelve. Instruction is seen as a partnership among parents and guardians, the school, and the community in supporting the learning essential to the development of strong families, positive relationships, and a healthy community.

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of all or part of the Family Life Education program. Students who are opted out are provided with age-appropriate nonpunitive alternative health instruction, and every effort is made to foster respect for family choices. If you wish to opt your child out of all or part of FLE for this school year, opt out forms will be included in your child's Tuesday Folder and are available online at www.fcps.edu/is/hpe/fle.shtml. Please fill in the opt-out form and

return it to your child's school prior to Family Life Education instruction.

Detailed grade-level program descriptions are available online at www.fcps.edu/is/hpe/fle.shtml. FLE grade level-specific lessons are available to parents online in FCPS 24-7 (Blackboard) Parent View. Parents/guardians will need the new SIS account to access FCPS 24-7. Account information is available at your local school or online at www.fcps.edu/is/instructionaltechnology/247help/parents.shtml. Grade level-specific lessons are also available at the Fairfax County Regional Library in the City of Fairfax (this location does not have media). Grade level-specific lessons and media are also available for review at your child's school library. Due to copyright permissions, we are unable to stream media online.

Program questions may be addressed at your child's school or by contacting Instructional Services at (571) 423-4550 or by contacting Elizabeth Payne, Health Physical Education Coordinator at etpayne@fcps.edu.

Run for Rocky

Thank you very much for all of your support with our Run for Rocky Fundraiser. It was a great success! We have collected over \$39,350 in donations. Amazing! We are looking forward to toilet-papering Mrs. Fernandez, Ms. Alley, and Mr. Rousos at the Spirit Parade on October 30th. In addition, for every \$500 earned by his/her class teacher gets his/her name in the "teacher only" raffle one time. This raffle will also take place at the Spirit Parade.

Thank you to Judy Wonus and Faye Henris "TEAM WONUS" for helping the Mantua PTA outfit the entire student body as well as every member of the faculty in Run for Rocky T-shirts! And, thank you to the sponsors of our prizes: Anne and Sarah Harrington, Long & Foster Realtors (2-night stay at Great Wolf Lodge), Cathy Pongmalai, Frankly Real Estate (Xbox One), Merrifield Orthodontics (iPad Mini) and Jennifer Danko, Long & Foster Realtors (Flicker Scooter.)

This fundraiser would not have been possible without the hard work of Meri Farlin, Chanda McCarthy, Lisa Libby, Paige Rushing, and Suzette Xenos. We appreciate all that you do!

On Monday morning, we held our final Super Hero Raffle of the fundraiser. The winners are:

- Flicker scooter - Spencer Rushing
- iPad Mini - Sean Cranford
- Xbox One - Tristan Kooc
- 2-Night stay at Great Wolf Lodge - Evan Middleton

Mantua PTA Basketball Registration

Mantua PTA Basketball Registration is now open. Go to www.mantuabasketball.org. Open to all 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. Early registration closes **Friday, October 9th**. Visit the website for frequently asked questions and answers.

Library Corner

Barnes & Noble will be sponsoring an evening event with author Rick Riordan at Woodson High School this week! In order to attend the event, children and parent

must purchase Riordan's newest book, [The Sword of Summer](#), at the Fair Lakes Barnes & Noble (12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive Fairfax, VA 22033) on **Tuesday, October 6th**. Barnes & Noble will open their doors at 7:00 in the morning, and over 1,000 books will be available. At that time, bracelets will also be distributed that must be worn to enter the event at Woodson on **Thursday, October 8th**. If you have any questions, please contact the Barnes & Noble Fair Lakes store at (703) 278-0300.

Last Chance: FLEX (Foreign Language Experience) Fall Classes

This is the last week to enroll in FLEX Language Classes at Mantua! Don't miss the chance to sign up for one of the remaining spots. Mantua PTA organizes language classes through FCPS's Foreign Language Experience (FLEX) program. FLEX is developed especially for elementary school children, who are at the optimal age for learning another language. Students are encouraged to study basic vocabulary and phrases through stories, games, activities, and music. Mantua students are invited to enroll in one-hour language classes held before or after school. The Fall Session begins in October and continues for 15 weeks. The tuition cost is \$199 and includes materials and instruction. New this year: Siblings of enrolled participants receive a 10% discount!

This fall we are excited to offer the classes below.

- Chinese Level 1 for grades K-3
- Chinese Level 2 for grades 1-6
- German Level 1 for grades 2-6
- Spanish Level 1 for grades 1-4

For links to the classes, visit the Mantua PTA site at www.mantuapta.org/programs.html. Have questions? Is there another language you would like to see offered through the FLEX program? Contact Susanne Fitch at swunner@yahoo.com.

Box Tops October Contest

October is Pizza-for-Box-Tops Month! During the month of October (from Thursday, October 1 through Friday, October 30), the class that submits the most Box Tops will earn a great pizza party! Make sure your Box Tops are in-date (not expired), not damaged, and in a bag CLEARLY marked with your teacher's name. If you have any questions, please contact Yoshiko Barzdukas at danius@cox.net. Start collecting now, and submit in October!

Spirit Wear

We've got spirit, yes, we do. We've got spirit... How 'bout you? The new Mantua spirit wear collection for the 2015-16 school year is now on sale. Show your school spirit and order some items today! See samples of t-shirts, performance shirts, tie dye shirts, sweat jackets and pants, pajama pants, and a fleece jacket displayed in the school cafeteria. In addition to the traditional design, a Rocky the Raccoon t-shirt is also available this year for a limited time. Order forms were sent home in Tuesday folders and can be returned with payment to the PTA mailbox, but if you prefer to shop online then please visit

www.memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2015-16spiritstore. The deadline for all orders is **Friday, October 23rd** for delivery to be made by November 20th. Show your school spirit. Order today! Please contact Kathleen DeCarlo at kdecarlo@verizon.net with any questions.

National PTA Reflections Contest

Let your imagination fly and unleash your inner artist! Choreograph a dance, produce a film, write a poem or story, compose a song, take a picture or create a piece of visual art and tell us what the theme: "Let Your Imagination Fly" means to you. The entry deadline is **Friday, October 23rd**.

Entries should represent students' unique creativity—adults are welcome to encourage students but are asked not to assist in any way with their interpretation of the theme or artistic expression. Families can support their children's participation by creating time and space for students to work on their entries, providing encouragement and needed materials and volunteering to support the Reflections. Please email Karen Cheng at cheng703@gmail.com for more information or to answer any questions that you may have about this program.

Enter the National PTA Reflections Theme Search Contest for 2016–17 Year

Opportunity to enter to create next year's National PTA Reflections Theme. One exceptional concept may be chosen to inspire thousands of students across the nation and in American schools overseas to create original works of art in dance, film, literature, music, photography and visual arts.

The Theme Search Contest Winner receives \$100 and recognition at the Annual National PTA Convention. Please email Karen Cheng at cheng703@gmail.com for more information or to answer any questions that you may have about entering your child's theme. Entries are due by October 23rd.

Mantua Student Directory

Advertise in the Mantua Directory! Please go to this link for all information and to submit your payment electronically:

www.memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2015-16membershipandsupport. Prices start as low as \$50! Or for more information please email monika.brenner@dhs.gov. The auction for the back cover will conclude on **October 16th**, and all ads will be requested shortly thereafter. Thank you for your support!

Technology at Mantua ES

Find information about technology programs Mantua students have access to on the Parent page of the school web site: www.fcps.edu/MantuaES/parents.html. In particular, you can find information about Dreambox and Wixie. There is also a student homepage link there that you can click on that gives easy access to many web resources for students.

Receiving or Unsubscribing from the Alert News

Mantua PTA distributes paper copies of the Alert News to all families for the first month of school only. If you aren't receiving your copy by email, complete this form: www.memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/alertnewsdi so we can add you to our distribution list. If you do not have a valid email address or access to a computer, you will continue to receive the newsletter in each week's Tuesday Folder.

If your student has graduated and/or you have moved away from the Mantua ES community, you can help us to maintain a current distribution list by unsubscribing from the Alert News list. It is as simple as clicking on the word "unsubscribe" at the very bottom of this newsletter. Thank you for your assistance!

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.
- Если вам необходимо перевести документ на русский язык, пожалуйста обращайтесь к Анне Жердецкой или Виктору Жердецкому по электронной почте: hannaz74@gmail.com или ViktarZ@gmail.com. If you need to have a document translated into Russian, please contact Hannaz Zhardzetskaya and Viktar Zhardzetski.
- 혹시 한국어로 번역된 자료가 필요하시면 좌승관씨에게 연락주세요 (lisa.a.libby@gmail.com.) If you need to have a document translated into Korean, please contact Lisa Libby.
- Para obtener una copia en Espanol favor de contactar a Lisa Libby at lisa.a.libby@gmail.com. If you need to have a document translated into Spanish, please contact Lisa Libby.

Email Lisa Libby at lisa.a.libby@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to volunteer as an ambassador or translator with Mantua ES's Community Building Network.

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