

Mantua PTA Alert News

October 23, 2007

This week's PDF version of the Alert News is available at the Mantua PTA web site, www.MantuaPTA.org. Please be sure to use the address AlertNews@MantuaPTA.org when submitting items to the Alert News.

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1. **CLINIC REQUEST:** The clinic will no longer keep clothing for emergencies. If you have a young child at Mantua, you are encouraged to keep a change of clothing in their backpack. Please contact Ms. Lindholm by stopping in the Clinic or by e-mail at Neita.Lindholm@fairfaxcounty.gov.

2. **Parent reminders:** Students should arrive no earlier than 8:40 a.m. There is no teacher supervision for students until 8:50 a.m. School dismissal begins at 3:35 on Tues. through Friday. Parents, if you need to have your child dismissed early, please make arrangements ahead of time so that your child can be sent to the office for dismissal. Teacher instruction is occurring until 3:30 and students leaving early does have an impact on the classroom since it is our policy to have students travel with buddies. If your child has a prearranged afternoon appointment it would be to your advantage to make arrangements to pick up your child prior to 3:00 p.m.. Traffic congestion becomes an issue since busses and Kiss and Ride traffic begin arriving a little after 3:00p.m.

3. **PRACTICE Lockdown and Evacuation Drill**
Scheduled for Wednesday, 10/24/07 approximately 9:30 a.m.
Rain date: Friday, 10/26/07 approximately 9:30 a.m.
A letter went home on 10/16 explaining this drill.
If you should come to school between 9:30 and approximately 10:30 to pick up your child for an appointment, you will not be allowed inside of the building. We ask that you plan accordingly to avoid any delays.

4. **Room Parents Needed**
Please help you child's teacher by volunteering in the classroom. There are a number of classrooms that do not have a room parent. If your child is in the class, please sign up for this job. To become the room parent, e-mail Kandy Barham at cbarham@cox.net . Thank you for volunteering. The following classrooms do not have a room parent for this school year:

Pry, Rynbrandt, Knodel, Tomhave, Davis, Zimmerman, Cecere, Temple, Hartwell, Blanchard, Bench, Leonard, Walrath, Ballard-Smith, Garneski, Cajati, Borrelli, Rutherford, Sottolano, Mr. Wilson, Kruse-McConville, Grice, Andersen, Boyd, and Malc.

5. Mantua Basketball Spiritwear

The Mantua Basketball program is currently taking orders for their spiritwear (sweatshirts, mesh shorts, long sleeve T's and sweatpants). Please turn in your order forms and checks to the Mantua Basketball mailbox at school no later than WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST.

If you didn't pick up an order form at the basketball evaluations, you can send an email to Leslie Schiesl at Lschiesl@lycos.com to get one sent to you. This is not related to the team shirts that all players will receive as part of their registration. None of these items are required to participate -- just to wear around and show your school spirit!!

6. Please continue to send in those membership envelopes for the Mantua PTA! With your support, the PTA has funded and contributed funds for computers, software, library resources, musical instruments, stage sound equipment, and cultural/educational assemblies. The PTA sponsors the basketball program, book fair, spring carnival, Mad Science, foreign and sign language programs, fine arts festival, and volunteer programs. The PTA also produces the Yearbook, a weekly Alert News, and the Mantua School directory. **All families with at least one PTA member receive a Mantua School directory.** Send in cash or write a check to "Mantua PTA" for \$14 for a family membership or \$7 for a single membership. Include "PTA Membership," member(s) name(s), your child's name, and his/her class on the envelope. You may also mail your check to:

PTA Membership
9335 Tovito Drive
Fairfax, VA 22031
THANK YOU!
Donna Stelling McGrath, PTA Membership

7. Mantua Basketball Make-up Evaluations are this **Thursday at 6pm** . If you missed the evaluations last weekend, please stop by the gym at 6pm on Thursday, October 25.

8. Chess Club Needs Parent Volunteers Let's keep this popular club running! Parent volunteers are needed to share hosting this club for 4th - 6th graders for one hour after school. I am happy to host it once or twice a month, on Monday afternoons starting in November. Perhaps other chess club parents can spare a little time...and make a big difference for our budding strategists! Please contact Jeanne Won at 703-280-1981 or email raywon4all@msn.com . Thanks!

9. You're Invited!
USGS Open House 2007

Dig the Earth? Discover Our Science!

Explore more than 125 years of earth science at the U.S. Geological Survey Open House on Saturday, November 3, 2007. Exhibits, demonstrations, hands-on activities and live entertainment will introduce the whole family to the wonders of science.

Talk to world-class USGS scientists and learn about earthquakes, volcanoes, water quality, climate change, invasive species, and mapping the Earth. See alligators, pan for gold and check out simulated hurricanes. Experience earth science in 3-D, create paintings using fish and take a trek through time looking at fascinating fossils. Great resource materials are available for teachers.

Admission and parking are free. Food and beverages for sale.
Most activities indoors—Event will take place rain or shine.

Where: USGS National Center
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20192
When: Saturday, November 3, 2007
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For more information and directions to the USGS National Center, please visit our website:
http://www.usgs.gov/homepage/science_features/open_house/

10. **PTA Draft Directory Now Available for Validation** The PTA's Student Directory will soon be published and printed! Here's a chance to check your children's entries and let us know if there are mistakes. A pdf version of the Directory is now available on the PTA web site, at www.mantuapta.org/pdocs/ . The ID is mantuuser and the password is raccoon. If you find any errors, please use the Parent Database -- there's a tab across the top of the home page, www.mantuapta.org -- to make your change! But hurry. We need to hear about your changes by November 2 -- the Directory goes to press shortly thereafter!

11. **Make A Difference Day**

On Saturday, October 27, Girl Scouts at Mantua will be conducting a food drive scavenger hunt to collect food for the local food bank. Girls will have a list of specific food items and will be coming to your door between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Please consider helping the Girl Scouts at Mantua make a difference in our community. The food drive is sponsored by Junior Girl Scout Troop 4333. If you would like to contribute or if you have any questions, call Elizabeth Johnson, 703-383-1412 or e-mail at elizabeth.johnson@usdoj.gov.

12. **Advertise in the Mantua Student Directory**

Advertise your business in the Mantua Student Directory to be published in October. Half page ads run \$200 and whole page ads run \$400. We are also running a silent bid for the coveted back cover of the directory. Please contact Mary Townley for more information on advertising: metownley@aol.com

13. **The Reflections Program LAST CHANCE TO ENTER!!**

Here is your chance to express your creativity. This year's theme is **I can make a difference by...** Choose from the following categories: art, musical composition, literature, visual arts, photography or dance choreography (no licensed characters please). If you would like to download an information packet or an application when you are ready to submit your entry, just visit:

http://www.fcpta.org/reflections/docs_2007_2008/2007_08_entryFormpdf You may also pick an entry form up at the parent information table in the school lobby. Drop off your entry with application to your teacher or in the box marked "Reflections" in the school office.

The deadline for this program is **THIS FRIDAY** , October 26th . Selected awardees' entries will be submitted to the next level to be judged along with other schools.

Please contact Elizabeth McPhilomy at dutchboy3911@msn.com

<p>Information on Unsubscribing</p> <p>This email version of the Alert News is available to all Mantua families. If you do NOT want to receive the Alert via email, please use our Parent Database to modify your listing: Go to the PTA web site at www.MantuaPTA.org , and click the "Parent Database" tab.</p>	<p>Miss an Issue?</p> <p>If you don't receive your regular email Alert News by the end of Tuesday of any school week, drop a line to alertnews@mantuapta.org , and we'll forward you a new copy.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>Alert News Contributions</p> <p>Send via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org.</p>
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