



Mantua PTA Alert News December 15, 2009

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Winter Break Closings

The Mantua Office will be closed during Winter Break 12/24 - 1/1.
Don't forget that school closes two hours early on the 23rd, at 1:35!

Lost and Found (but mostly Lost)

The Lost and Found is overflowing! There are many jackets, sweatshirts, and lunchboxes looking to return home. Please take the time to check for your belongings before the final bell ring of 2009 on December 23rd. All unclaimed items will be donated by Kids Care Club. Thank you and happy holidays!

Lost and Found, Part 2: Parents Lose Stuff, Too

After a performance in October, a **movie camera** was left in the music room.
A **digital camera** was left in the front office in November.
Please call the front office if you believe one of these might be yours. 703-645-6300.

Social Success Made Easy: Workshop Tonight, December 15th

*Don't miss this free workshop! Learn strategies and techniques to promote positive social skills. Cathi Cohen, creator of The Stepping Stones Social Skills Group Therapy Program will provide easy activities to use at home with students of **all levels**.*

[Download the
flier](#) <http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/documents/SocialSuccessMadeEasyflyer2.pdf>

For a complete list of all upcoming workshops and activities go to the PRC web site <http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/workshons.htm>. contact us by email prc@fcps.edu or phone

<http://www.fcps.edu/cco/prc/workshops.htm>, contact us by email prc@fcps.edu or phone 703-204-3941 or 703-204-3955 (Spanish).

The Mantua PTA Online Auction is coming!

The Auction committee has already been hard at work planning for this year's auction, and with your support it is going to be fantastic.

The annual on-line auction is one of the PTA's largest fundraisers, and all proceeds go to provide enrichment programs for our students.

In your Tuesday folder this week you should find a family donation sheet and a merchant donation form and letter. EVERYONE has something to contribute that would make a great auction item. Think about what *you* would like to see in the auction- chances are good, if you would bid on it, many others would also! Read over the information, and think what you could personally do to contribute, whether it comes from you, or you solicit an item from a neighborhood business. You could even purchase a special item in your holiday shopping journey.

Families may choose to donate a personal service (a custom birthday cake, babysitting, homemade dinner delivered, etc.), something from their own business (a basket of Creative Memories supplies, a free 1 hour Consultation for a service) something they own (two tickets to one game to the Redskins, Capitals, Wizards from their own season passes) or a gift certificate from a favorite retailer or restaurant. If you want to do something really exciting, but maybe a bit costly, invite neighbors to all go in on purchasing an item to donate together. Imagine what 5 or 10 families as a group could contribute? These are the items that will be hot come bidding time!

We would also like you to ask the businesses you frequent (dry cleaners, hair salons, day spas, stores) to donate an item or service. Any donation is tax-deductible, it provides advertising for the business, and it helps the community where they do business. In most cases, if you ask, they are happy to contribute!

The auction is coming soon- bidding starts on February 2nd, so we need those donations soon. With some thought and creativity we can have a lot of fun and do a lot of good for our school. Please help rustle up some exciting items for this year's auction!

Please contact Auction Chairperson Jackie O'Brien at JacMail5@cox.net with any questions.

Girl Scouts Collecting for The Pajama Program

6th Grade Girl Scout Troop 4908 is collecting pajamas for THE PAJAMA PROGRAM! Check this organization out at pajamaprogram.org. This is a 501(c)(3) charity that provides new pajamas and new books to needy children in foster homes who are waiting to be adopted. We would appreciate your contribution of a new, unwrapped pair of PJs for a boy or a girl ages infant to 17 years old. Contributions will be accepted until Friday December 18th. You can drop your PJs in the front lobby of the school in a box labeled PAJAMA PROGRAM - TROOP 4908. Thank You So Much!

Advanced Academics Referral Form, due Feb 5th (Grades 2-6)

Fairfax County Public Schools provides a continuum of advanced academic services for students. While some levels of these services are provided to all students, other students must be considered eligible through a school/district committee. If you wish to refer your child for consideration for these additional services, the deadline is February 5th for submitting the form to the Mantua office. More information and a link to the referral form is located at <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/qt>. If you wish to have a paper copy of the referral, please contact the school office. Please submit any questions to Eva Bousbouras (Vaitsa.Bousbouras@fcps.edu), Advanced Academics Resource Teacher at Mantua.

Important Events for December

12/17 Winter Strings Concert
12/23 Winter Sing-a-Long, 9:30am
12/23 2-HOUR EARLY RELEASE: Student Holiday
12/24 - 1/1 SCHOOL CLOSED: Winter Vacation

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org.
Submissions appreciated by the Friday before distribution.

For more information, please visit our website:

www.MantuaPTA.org

Sincerely,
Mantua Elementary School PTA



