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Fifty Service Learning Activities

Since Mantua is celebrating our 50th anniversary this year, we are challenging our school to participate in 50 service-learning activities throughout the year. Many activities have already been accomplished including classes hosting senior citizens for a Thanksgiving celebration, and classes making crafts for children at St. Jude's Hospital. We know that many of your children participate in scouts, Kids Care Club, etc. that provide lots of services and contributions to the community. Please let us know of any community services/learning activities that your children may be involved in. Please send this information to one of our counselors, Allison Warren at sawarren@fcps.edu or Teresa McConnel at Teresa.McConnel@fcps.edu. *Please note Mrs. Warren's (formerly Ms. Curran) new email address above.

March PTA Meeting This Thursday

Mantua's general monthly PTA meeting will be held this Thursday, March 8, at 7 p.m. in the library. During that time the board will discuss all pertinent PTA-related information.

Mr. Malc's Thursday Discussion Postponed

The presentation by Mr. Malc, scheduled for Thursday before the PTA meeting, has been postponed until Thursday, April 12.

Family Life Education Parent Preview

Parent viewing night for FLE (Family Life Education) will take place in the cafeteria on Tuesday, March 6, at 7 pm. Parents of all 5th and 6th grade students are invited to view the upcoming FLE material before classes begin.

Family Fun Lego Night

Mantua PTA is hosting the annual Family Fun Lego Night on Friday, March 9, from

7 to 9 p.m. in the cafeteria. Join your friends for an evening of Legofun. Brian Meny, of Brixalot, Inc., will bring thousands of Legos and Duplos, and lead the group in building. There is no cost to attend. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Kathleen DeCarlo at kdecarlo@verizon.net with questions.

Mrs. Boyd's Class Wins Box Tops Contest

Mrs. Boyd's class has won this spring Box Tops contest by collecting 2,427 labels. More than 9,930 Box Tops labels, and 3,415 Labels for Education points were collected during this contest. So far this year, Mantua has earned more than \$2,000 from label collections. Thanks to all who have contributed. Even though the latest contest has ended labels are still being collected.

Mantua Carnival Cake Decorating Contest

Enter Mantua's Carnival Cake Decorating Contest! Great prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in three age categories: grades K-3, grades 4-6, and grade 7-adult. New this year, first place cakes will be entered in the silent auction! Judging begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 23. Contest cakes can be dropped off at Kiss & Ride on Friday, March 23, from 8:30 to 9 a.m., or in the school cafeteria between 3:45 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Cakes must reflect this year's 50th Birthday theme, and should be decorated by children, not parents. The type of cake must be labeled (i.e. yellow cake with chocolate frosting). Many of our students have food allergies; therefore if possible, please include a list of ingredients with each cake. All contest cakes will be used for the cakewalk or silent auction. Cakes and plates cannot be returned. Contact Lesley McKnight, the cakewalk and decorating contest committee chair, at Lesley.McKnight@verizon.net, with any questions.

Mantua Carnival Poster Contest

The Mantua carnival is sponsoring a poster contest as its first event. Encourage your child's creativity for a chance to win a Five Below gift card. Each entry, which should be on poster board measuring 14"x22", must be a student's original work. Posters need to include the Mantua's 50th birthday carnival theme, as well as the carnival date and time (March 24, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.). Entries must be placed in the poster contest box in the front office by Friday, March 9, at 1 p.m. Students may only submit one poster. Make sure your child's name, grade, teacher and homeroom number are written on the back. Posters will be judged on the use of the

carnival theme and creativity. Winners will be announced on GMM. Contact Michelle Collins at mmarcollins@gmail.com with questions.

Colonial Day

Volunteers are still needed to help out with the fourth grade's Colonial Day on March 16. There are before school, half-day, and over-lunch shifts. If you can spare a few hours, or the whole day, please volunteer [HERE](#).

A \$27 fee is required per student. Please send a check, made payable to Mantua Elementary School with your child's name and teacher noted. Contact Kristin Driscoll at drikro1@yahoo.com with questions.

Girls on the Run

Mantua's Girls on the Run's spring season begins March 12. Sessions take place immediately after school on Mondays and Wednesdays. Important dates:

Mar 12 - Spring 2012 Program Begins

May 20 - GOTR 5K

May 25 - Spring 2012 Program Ends

Contact Robert Silkowitz at Robert.Silkowitz@emerson.com with questions.

Important Upcoming Events

Tuesday, March 6: Family Life Education (5th and 6th grade) Parent Preview

Thursday, March 8: PTA Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 9: Family Fun Night, 7 p.m.

Monday, March 12: Girls on the Run program begins

Friday, March 16: Fourth grade's Colonial Day

Friday, March 24: Spring Carnival, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Frost Family Festival

The Frost Family Festival is Thursday, March 15. This is a great opportunity for rising 7th graders and their parents to learn more about Frost Middle School. Tour the school, see in-class demonstrations, and meet faculty and staff. Pizza and drinks are available for purchase. Contact Regina Printz at rrprintz@hotmail.com or 703-503-8208 for more information.

W.T. Woodson 5K Run/Walk

The 3rd annual W.T. Woodson 5K benefitting Autism Speaks will be held April 14 at 10 a.m. There is a \$15 entrance fee. For more information about the race, which is open to all runners and walkers, contact Samantha Hill at smhill1@fcps.edu. Registration forms can be found on the Woodson homepage at <http://www.fcps.edu/woodsonhs/>

Fairfax County Council of PTAs Best Practices Workshop

Fairfax County Council of PTAs will be holding its general membership meeting and PTA Best Practices Workshop on Tuesday, March 27, from 7- 9 p.m. The roundtable discussion will cover best practices for running elementary, middle, and high school PTAs. The meeting will be at the FCPS Gatehouse Administration Center I, in the Gatehouse Café on the first floor, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042.

Elementary school topics to be covered include:

- Membership retention and growth (parent, faculty, staff, community)
- Volunteer recruitment, coordination, e-tools, and recognitions
- Working with the school administration and faculty
- Planning the PTA calendar
- Writing a PTA agenda; running an effective PTA meeting
- Community events; corporate partnerships
- Fundraising ideas to support PTA programs and student enrichment
- International night; language translations for PTA programs

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org.

Submissions MUST be received by the Friday before distribution in order to be included.

如果您需要一份中文的曼图亚小学校园新闻周刊，请联系雷晓春女士。电话：703-425-1097

电子信箱：sabrina.lei@yahoo.com

한국어로 번역된 뉴스를 받아보시기 원하시는 분은 크리스티 씨에게 연락주세요. 전화 703-865-8065, 이메일 choichristie@yahoo.com.

Nếu quý vị muốn nhận tin tức "the Alert News" được dịch ra tiếng Việt , xin liên lạc sonha60@hotmail.com

Si desea recibir una copia de esta informacion en Espanol, porfavor llame Gabriella Numbela a 703-573-6375 or e-mail a ganumbela@hotmail.com.

For more information, please visit our website:

www.MantuaPTA.org

Sincerely,

Mantua Elementary School PTA

