



November 13, 2017 | Issue no. 13

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## Important Upcoming Dates

**November 15** (Wednesday): Thanksgiving Luncheon K-3. [For times, see schedule.](#) Check lost and found for any of your items.

**November 16** (Thursday): Thanksgiving Luncheon 4-6. [For times, see schedule.](#) Check lost and found for any of your items.

**November 17** (Friday): AAP Information Session, 3-4 pm, room 30.

**November 22** (Wednesday): Two Hour Early Release.

**November 30** (Thursday) : Deadline to apply to the Mantua Spelling Bee. Picture Make Up Day.

## AAP Parent Information Meeting at Mantua

An Advanced Academics Program Parent Information Meeting will be held at Mantua Elementary School on Friday, **November 17th from 3-4pm in room 30** (across from the library). The Advanced Academic Resource Teacher, Eva Bousbouras, and Mrs. Fernandez will provide information about levels of service at Mantua, as well as explain and answer questions about the screening processes for Level IV services. The meeting is open to parents of general education students in grade 2-6.

## Run for Rocky 2017

WOW Mantua Minions!!!! We raised \$37,000!!!!!! This money will go directly into our school THIS year, and it is truly incredible. We could not have done it without the support from our Family, Friends, and Community, so we truly say THANK YOU!!! Congratulations to Ms. Loach's class for winning the pizza and Popsicle party for bring in the most money. A special thank you to our sponsors: Judd|Mack Properties, Fairfax Dental Group, Trader Joe's, Annie & Sarah Harrington, and Merrifield Orthodontics for sponsoring our fabulous GRAND PRIZES! Congratulations to our Run for Rocky Raffle winners: Electric

Scooter - Sophie Ackermann Echo Dot - Matilda Keil Losch PS4 - Josephine Fitch iPad Mini - Natalie Leib.

## Mantua Book Fair

**SAVE THE DATE:** Mantua Book Fair coming soon!! The annual Mantua Book Fair is a fantastic fundraiser **for the Mantua School Library**- proceeds from this sale go directly to the library to purchase more books and technology for our children. It's the perfect place to purchase holiday gifts for your family and friends, while benefiting our school. Your child will have the opportunity to browse at the Book Fair one day in class and return to make purchases another day. Parents are invited to shop as well!

Hours are:

Monday, November 13 - 9:00 a.m.-5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, November 14 - 9:00 a.m.-7:45 p.m.

Wednesday, November 15 - 9:00 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

Thursday, November 16 - 9:00 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

Friday, November 17th - 9:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Please [visit this sign-up genius](#) link if you can help: "Waiting on this still" Please consider Book Donations: For Fort Bend Independent School District in Houston, Texas which was significantly affected by the nation's recent hurricanes.... Thank you! Please consider plastic grocery bag donations... this is a great recycling opportunity. Thank you! If you have any question, contact Chanda McCarthy at [chandaodo2@gmail.com](mailto:chandaodo2@gmail.com).

## Preview Night Human Growth and Development Lessons for 5th and 6th Graders

Beginning Friday, December 8th all 5th and 6th graders will be taking part in lessons on Human Growth and Development. The lessons will be taught in gender-separate groups by grade level teachers and specialists. The content is divided into 5 lessons and will be taught over 5 days. Any parent wishing to opt their child out of any or all of the lessons need to complete an opt-out form and return it to your child's teacher. A parent preview meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 16th, 2017 from 6:00-7:00pm** in the Lower Pod for parents to preview the materials and talk with school staff about the program.

## National PTA School of Excellence

Our PTA is participating in the National PTA School of

Excellence program, which grows partnerships between PTAs and schools to enrich the educational experience and overall well-being of all students. At a National PTA School of Excellence, families feel welcomed and empowered to support student success, and the PTA is a key partner for continuous school improvement. As part of the process, National PTA requests feedback from families at two points in the school year - the beginning and the end. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please take 5-10 minutes to reflect on your experiences on our online survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NJNHMDS>). This survey is completely anonymous. Your feedback will help National PTA generate a custom "Roadmap to Excellence" for us, with specific recommendations for improving our family-school partnership. Thank you for participating!

## FLE 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, non-punitive 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 were included in your child's 1st day folders and are available online for Elementary (K-6) <https://tinyurl.com/yak8sz5m>. 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 for Elementary (K-6) <https://tinyurl.com/yak8sz5m>. FLE grade level-specific lessons and media that FCPS has streaming rights for are available for parents online in FCPS 24-7 (Blackboard) Parent View <https://fcps.blackboard.com/>. Account information is available at your local school or online at <https://tinyurl.com/yak8sz5m>. 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 that is not streamed online are available for review at your child's school library. Due to copyright permissions, we are unable to stream all 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 and Physical Education Coordinator at [etpayne@fcps.edu](mailto:etpayne@fcps.edu).

## PTA Meeting Date Moved

Date for the next PTA meeting has been moved to Friday, December 8th @ 9:30 in cafeteria.

## Picture Make Up Day

Picture Make up day will be Thursday, **November 30, 2017** in the SACC room. The photographer will be here from around 10:00-1:30 (or when the last class is called).

If you want your child's picture re-taken please return the original pictures on retake day. Envelopes are in the front office for any students that were not here on the original picture day.

## 2018 Mantua Spelling Bee

Calling Grade 4 to 6 STUDENTS! MantuaPTA Invites you to the Mantua SPELLING BEE (Gr. 4 - Gr.6) Friday, February 23, 2018 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Mantua Cafeteria The Mantua champion will participate in the Fairfax County Spelling Bee on March 18, 2018. A Bee Basics Info Session will be given at 5:30 pm before the Bee.

**STUDENTS MUST REGISTER IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE  
HOW TO REGISTER**

STEP 1: Send a mail to [mantua.bee@gmail.com](mailto:mantua.bee@gmail.com)

STEP 2: Email your completed registration form to [mantua.bee@gmail.com](mailto:mantua.bee@gmail.com) or drop the form on the address mentioned in the email.

Official word lists and bee rules will be sent with confirmation of registration. Word lists are copyrighted by Scripps and cannot be posted online. **REGISTRATION CLOSES, November 30** Late registrations cannot be accepted Need more information? Questions, Susheela Ganesan : [mantua.bee@gmail.com](mailto:mantua.bee@gmail.com) (917) 940-3831

## National Geographic Bee

If you think you are a Geo-Genius or you'd like to be, please join us for the National Geographic Bee held at Mantua for 4th-6th graders after school on Tuesday, January 23rd. Contact Serena Chan ([serena.chan@gmail.com](mailto:serena.chan@gmail.com)) with your student's name and grade level, to receive competition rules and email updates. The National Geographic Bee is an annual competition organized by the National Geographic Society, designed to inspire and reward students' curiosity about the world. Students in grades four through eight (4-8) from 10,000 schools across the United States will compete in the 2018 National Geographic Bee for a chance to

win college scholarships and the glory of being the National Geographic Bee Champion. For more info: <http://nationalgeographic.org/bee>

## Fairfax County School Board to Discuss 2018–19 School Calendar Options at Upcoming Work Session on November 13

The Fairfax County School Board is scheduled to discuss three possible options to the 2018-19 Fairfax County Public Schools calendar at a work session on Monday, November 13. The calendars include several options for the first day of school in 2018 (August 22, 23, or 28), and a variety of options for the length of winter break and early release days.

The 2018-19 Standard School Year Calendar was developed with a focus on instruction and learning time for students, as well as improved professional development opportunities for staff. While teaching and learning was the priority, a multitude of factors were considered and balanced during the development of the calendar. [Three options were developed for further consideration.](#)

## Thank You Fairfax County Taxpayers! Statement from FCPS School Board Chair Jane Strauss on the Approval of the 2017 School Construction Bond

On behalf of the Fairfax County School Board, I want to convey our appreciation to the voters of Fairfax County who approved the 2017 Bond Referendum for school renovations and improvements. **More than 73 percent of those voting in the election on November 7 supported the \$315 million bond referendum.** We are grateful for the support shown for Fairfax County Public Schools and the 189,000 students who grow and thrive in our schools.

## Yearbook Sales

The 2017-2018 Yearbook is available for purchase. Order now to get the lowest price of the year (\$25).

<http://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1139775/Mantua-Elementary-School/>

## Funds2Orgs Fundraiser – Fundraiser for Woodson Senior Class

We know everyone hates the little fundraisers here and there, so this year we are COLLECTING SHOES (7500 pairs to be exact) to be donated to Funds2Orgs in hopes of raising \$3000. We will be collecting gently worn, used and new shoes from until **November 20**. This footwear provides an incredible economic boost by supporting micro enterprises in developing Nations like Haiti, Columbia, India and Tanzania. It is a win-win-win for the Cav Cruise, people in developing nations and YOU!! You get to empty out your closets, the Cav Cruise gets up to \$3000 and gets an amazing amount of shoes to help their cause! Please contact Robert Silkowitz at [Robert.Silkowitz@vertivco.com](mailto:Robert.Silkowitz@vertivco.com) or drop them in the bin in the front lobby of the school.

## We Need You! Mantua Volunteers

Volunteers help make Mantua the amazing school it is. Please click [here](#) to see how you can help! Be sure to click on the tabs at the top for different grade levels. We have opportunities in the classrooms and school-wide. Questions, contact Volunteer Coordinator Jenn Ros at [volunteering@mantuapta.org](mailto:volunteering@mantuapta.org).

## Fall Garden Wrap-up: Can you deliver leaf mulch for the Eco Teams and help us get the gardens ready for winter?

Hello GREEN MANTUA! The student-led Eco Teams are looking for assistance with getting our gardens ready for winter. We are looking for a volunteer or two to pick up leaf mulch, either bagged or loose, which will be purchased with our Eco Teams funds. (Better yet, if you know of a free source of leaf mulch, please let us know.) If you would also like to join us as we spread the mulch during recess, the help and guidance are always appreciated. Thank you! Ms. Sullivan, 5th Grade Teacher, Eco Teams [Sponsormasullivan@fcps.edu](mailto:Sponsormasullivan@fcps.edu)

## Subscribing and 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: <http://bit.ly/2cPDroA> so we can add you to our distribution list. If you do not have a valid email address 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!

## Shopping Online?

Anyone (parents, family and friends) who shops on Amazon can effortlessly earn money for Mantua ES by simply using a special Amazon link on Mantua PTA website. No sign-ups or codes required, no loyalty cards to manage - just click, shop, and watch the contributions to Mantua ES come in! Help us cast a wider net by sharing the links with friends and family. Go to <http://www.mantuapta.org> and click either Amazon or eScrip before beginning your shopping and these organizations will donate to our school.

## 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](mailto:bkafala@gmail.com). If you need to have a document translated into Arabic, please email [bkafala@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:hannaz74@gmail.com) или [ViktarZ@gmail.com](mailto:ViktarZ@gmail.com). If you need to have a document translated into Russian, please contact Hanna Zhardzetskaya and Viktar Zhardzetski.
- 혹시 한국어로 번역된 자료가 필요하시면 좌승관씨에게 연락주세요([cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org).) 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 [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org). If you need to have a document translated into Spanish, please contact Lisa Libby.

Email Lisa Libby at [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org) 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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