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Mantua PTA News 2021, Issue 27

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March 23, 2021 | Issue 27

Important Dates

March 26 (Friday) - End of third grading period, two hour early release.
March 29 - April 2 - Spring Break, no school and school offices will be closed.
April 5 (Monday) - Teacher workday, student holiday, no school.

Mantua ES Hand Mural

We are creating a school wall mural to celebrate our students, teachers, staff and our community. Students can add as many handprint messages as they'd like. Below is the [link](#) to the Google Presentation which explains how all students (in-person and virtual) can add their own handprint messages! We will feature pictures of our mural on our PTA Facebook page as the messages grow!



<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1LcZKrUzjQx9NYLBSHZKklKcmCT1ZrY9v1oEplRc/edit?usp=sharing>

Discovery Garden Spring Clean-up

Spring is springing in the Mantua gardens, and we hope you'll join the Garden Committee for our semi-annual clean-up at the Discovery Gardens above the playground on **Saturday, April 3 from 10:00 am-noon!** There are a number of projects on the agenda from cleaning and weeding to some painting fun. Again, no gardening experience is necessary but all participants are required to wear masks. If you have your own shovels and gloves feel free to bring them along with your water bottles, too.



This is a family event and kids are more than welcome but parents are asked to stay with their children while we work.

Questions, contact Karin Hudson at garden@mantuapta.org



Mantua Virtual Book Fair

Our book fair is still open for you to stock up on new books, learning materials and gifts for your classroom libraries! Please visit and support the Mantua Elementary library!

https://www.bookwormcentral.com/school-online-store.php?id=00324020-DDCE-4FF5-9541-F78F3A71E167&pro_id=160&school_code=mantua

Mantua Parent Liaison Seeking New or Gently Used Clothing

Hello Mantua Families, Thank you for your continued and generous donations of food and other items through our Parent Liaison, Luis Uribe, to those Mantua families in need. A recent need he identified is children's clothing sized 8-16, primarily for boys. If during your spring clean out and return to school you find that you have pants, shirts, or other clothing to donate to Mantua please contact Luis at lauribegambo@fcps.edu to set up a time for donation drop off. Thank you!

Mantua Logo Masks

Need extra masks with your students heading back into school or sports? PTA has a limited number still available! Link below to purchase student and adult masks, delivery details emailed after purchase.



<https://mantuapta.memberhub.store/store>



Mantua's Got Talent!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED! The Mantua Music Department and the PTA are teaming up to bring this year's Talent Show to you virtually. Now is your time to shine! To enter your two minute act into the Talent Show, please click the registration link below. Registration form is due by **Wednesday, March 24**. After you register, your confirmation email will include instructions on how

to record and upload your video talent submission. **Videos will be due on Wednesday, April 7**. If you have any questions, you can email Anita Aberle at ACAberle@fcps.edu

<http://www.memberplanet.com/s/mantuaelementaryschoolpta/2021talentshow>

Girl Scout Spring Break Camp

Girl Scout Spring Break Screen Break, open to all girls, join us to explore Girl Scouts or continue on your Girl Scout Journey!



Register online <https://form.jotform.com/GSCNCMembership/spring-programs> and select "camp for a day"



Mantua Food Drive – Grade Level Competition!

The Mantua Food Drive aims to support families from our own neighborhood and school. Luis Uribe Gamboa, Mantua's fabulous parent liaison, started this incredible effort last spring. No donation is too small, so if you are able to grab a few cans or an extra box of cereal, every little bit helps. From **now until April 18th**, we are going to see which grade at Mantua ES can drop off the most food! The PTA will have a surprise for the teachers of the grade that collects the most food! Drop off is at 9214 Ponce Place (please leave donations outside of the garage door), just add a label to your donation to indicate your child's grade. Here is a list of items needed:

Oil -Flour -Tortilla Flour (Maseca) -Dry Beans, red, black etc. (No Cans Please!) -Rice -Pancake Flour -Pancake Syrup -Tomato Sauce for pasta -Mac & cheese -Spaghetti -Pasta (all kinds) -Canned Tomatoes -Canned Vegetables (green beans, carrots, mixed vegetables etc.) -Canned fruit -Snacks (energy bars, chips etc.) -Coffee -Sugar

ADVANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS (AAP)

SCREENING FOR SCHOOL-BASED (LEVEL II-III) SERVICES

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) offers a continuum of advanced academic services for all students in grades K-8. Learning experiences are designed to develop higher-level thinking through enrichment, acceleration, and extensions of the Program of Studies (POS). Teachers, administrators, and advanced academic resource teachers (AARTs) work together to provide the following levels of school-based services in each elementary school:

• **Critical and Creative Thinking Lessons, Grades K-6 (Level I)**

All students in kindergarten through grade six receive level I services which consist of model lessons that are designed to teach critical and creative thinking skills. The lessons are modeled in all classrooms by AARTs and the thinking strategies are then used throughout the year by classroom teachers and other teachers who work with students. Student responses to these model lessons are used as part of the identification process for AAP services. Parents may also practice the thinking strategies during family conversations and activities. A description of the nine critical and creative thinking strategies can be found at <https://www.fcps.edu/academics/elementary-school-academics-k-6/advanced-academics/critical-and-creative-thinking>.

• **Differentiated Lessons in Areas of Academic Strength, Grades K-6 (Level II)**

The AART collaborates with classroom teachers to provide additional challenge through lessons and resources that extend and enrich the POS.

• **Part-Time Advanced Academic Programs, Grades 3-6 (Level III)**

Students identified by a local school screening committee for part-time advanced academic services are challenged through models and strategies designed to extend and enrich the POS in the four core subject areas. Students receive direct instruction from the AART at the local school using curriculum from the AAP Curriculum and Resources to Support the Differentiated Framework. Students identified for Level III services continue to receive level III services through grade 6.

Screening for school-based services is done schoolwide in spring to determine services for the next school year. Parents or guardians may initiate the screening for school-based level III services by submitting the AAP School-Based Services Referral Form (available at

<https://www.fcps.edu/registration/advanced-academics-identification-and-placement/elementary-school/current-fcps> at the bottom of the page in Forms) to the Eva Bousbouras at ysbousbouras@fcps.edu prior to spring screening by Friday, May 7th. Multiple criteria are used to screen students for all levels of AAP services. Parents or guardians who submit a referral will be notified by Mantua Elementary School of their student's eligibility status by Friday, June 11, 2021.

If a parent or guardian wishes to appeal an ineligible decision, they may submit an appeal with new data for consideration by the local school screening committee. This new information should be submitted to Eva Bousbouras at ysbousbouras@fcps.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact Eva Bousbouras at ysbousbouras@fcps.edu.

Library Curbside Pick Up - Update

Library books that have been checked out will be left outside the main door bagged and labeled with students' last names and first initial. Books can be picked up between 8:30 and 3:30. We will no longer have pick up on Thursdays. Pick up will only be available on Mondays from 8:30-3:30. If this change presents difficulty for your family, please email Katie Marmol (kgmarmol@fcps.edu) or Michelle Hawk (mahawk@fcps.edu).



Please understand that this may change but we will do our best to inform you as soon as possible.

School Issued Laptop Help

If you are experiencing difficulties with your child's school issued laptop, please remember to refer to the self-help page and ticketing service.

Self-help page: <https://www.fcps.edu/return-school-technology-support-families>
Parent/Student Ticket Page: <https://itweb.fcps.edu/itsupport/>

How to Submit an Announcement to the PTA News



Please [complete this form](#) to have a Mantua ES- or Mantua PTA-related announcement placed in the weekly Mantua PTA News, on our [Facebook page](#) and/or on [MantuaPTA.org](#).

The form guides you through all the pieces of information we need to put out complete announcements.

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