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Mark Your Calendars for the Book Fair

The annual Mantua Book Fair will be held in the school library with hundreds of titles from Bookworm Plantation, both fiction and non-fiction for all ages, preschool to adult. Teacher wish lists will be available should you want to donate books to your child's classroom. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the school library. Also, don't forget to check our librarian's wish list to donate a book to the library in your child's name.

Friday, November 14 - 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Monday, November 17 - 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, November 18 - 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. **Extended Hours!!**

Wednesday, November 19 - 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday, November 20 - 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday, November 21 - 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Mantua Basketball Evaluations

Basketball evaluations will be held *this weekend*, November 8 and 9. All players must show up to be able to participate. (Emergency? Illness? Please contact Rob Mead at rob-mead@cox.net.) Here is the schedule:

- 3rd and 4th Grade Boys: Saturday Nov 8, 8:30 am. It is not necessary to come exactly at 8:30 as we have almost 80 boys to evaluate. *Please arrive between 8:30 - 9:30.*
- 5th and 6th Grade Boys: Saturday Nov 8, **12:00 noon** for those whose last name begins with **A-L** and *1:00 p.m. for the rest.* With almost 100 boys in this age group, we hope that having staggered arrival times will help reduce waits, but you need not stick to these times rigidly.
- 3rd and 4th Grade Girls: Sunday Nov 9, 1:00 p.m.
- 5th and 6th Grade Girls: Sunday Nov 9, 3:00 p.m.

We will be selling Mantua basketball sweatshirts, sweat-pants, and long sleeve T-Shirts in new colors this year. Check them out while at the player evaluations.

We look forward to another great year!

Rob Mead, League Commissioner

Etiquette and Cotillion for 6th-8th Graders

Dance and etiquette instructor Barbara Hinkle will teach a nine-lesson, 15-hour class in etiquette, table manners, and dance -- all starting in February at the Mantua Swim and Racquet Club. For more information and a registration form please see www.mantuapta.org/info/CotillionForMantua.pdf.

From Mrs. Fernandez -- Last Week's Highlights

- Mr. Tim Harazin, our new Distance Learning Teacher, has begun working with the sixth grade SCA representatives to prepare them to participate in the Sixth Annual United Nations Student Conference on Human Rights. This year's theme is *Education for All*. The all-day videoconference will be at the Hall of States in Washington, DC.
- A garden club volunteer came by to plant some new flowers in our garden!
- On Wednesday, Dr. Cecy Krill, our Cluster III Coordinator, visited our distance learning center and toured the school.
- Ms. Goodrich and Ms. Kruse-McConville's classes went on a field trip to Cox Farms.
- Third grade students have been busy writing letters to American soldiers serving in Iraq.
- On Friday, we had our Mantua Spirit Parade. Our upper grade students wore masks representing fictional characters while lower grade students focused on masks illustrating nursery rhymes. Class parties were also held in the afternoon.

Raccoon Run Planning Meeting

What?!! you may ask. The 2004 Raccoon Run isn't scheduled until May -- May 8. to be exact! So why have a meeting so early?? **Because**, we want this event, the 4th Annual Raccoon Run, sponsored by the Kids Care Club, to be the biggest and best yet!! We are hoping to solicit sponsors for the race prior to the holidays, so they can be included in our advertisements, brochures, and flyers, giving them much more exposure. Plus the earlier we start, the easier and better the race will be! For those families that are new to Mantua, this is a great event for a great cause! The Kids Care Club raises money for Life with Cancer in memory of our beloved 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Roberta Romano, who died from cancer in Dec 2000, by having a 5K Race and Mile Fun Run. This will be our 4th annual race, and as is our tradition, it will be held on the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend -- this year on May 8, 2004. If you or your company would like to be a sponsor, please let us know. Additionally, many volunteers are needed prior to and on race day. We hope you will consider being a part -- come check it out on Wednesday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the Mantua Library. Can't make the meeting? That's okay, contact Jennifer Cooper at j-cooper@aol.com or 730-426-2490 to say you'll help!!

Seminar: Effectiveness of Standardized Testing

The effectiveness of standardized testing is the topic of a seminar sponsored by the National Academies' Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Internship Program. The 90-minute event, which is free and open to the public, begins at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7, in Room 100 of the National Academies' Keck Center, 500 Fifth St. N.W., Washington, DC. See www7.national-academies.org/internship/Events.html.

A Time for Spirit

The Community Spirit Committee needs volunteers to research and plan its many hoped-for activities! We will get you started, but there's too much for us to do, so we need your help. The following activities are being considered: Washington Capitols games, Cannons Baseball, ice skating, skiing, and roller skating. These types of events are a fun way to get to know other Mantua families and raise community spirit. **But they can't happen if we can't get your help!** Please contact Julia Margulies at margfam2@aol.com or 703-978-7156.