



Mantua PTA Alert News

September 14, 2004

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, 9/14
9:30am & 7:00pm
Principal's Coffee

Wednesday, 9/22
Back to School Night
Grades K—3

Wednesday, 9/28
Back to School Night
Grades 4—6

Principal's Coffee



The first principal's coffee for the year will be at the home of Corinne Habel on Tuesday, September 14th at 9:30 am and in the school cafeteria at 7 pm. The coffees will be a welcome for new parents, but all parents are welcome. Limited child-minding will be available during the morning session. Korean and Spanish translators will be on hand at both events. Please RSVP to Corinne at 703-246-9210 or chabel1@cox.net.

SALLY FOSTER IS IN FULL SWING!!!

This year's Sally Foster fundraiser is in full swing now. Please remember that every item you buy or sell contributes 50% to Mantua. This money helps pay for many extras designed to enhance your child's elementary school experience. We have already received our first generous orders! We can't wait to receive yours.

Don't forget to register on SallyFoster.com. To encourage you to register, we will place the name of every child registered at SallyFoster.com into a hat and pick a lucky winner. The winner will receive a fun prize!

While you're planning your Sally Foster sales strategy, don't forget to visit our Mantua alumni. Our old friends will thank you for ensuring that they didn't miss their opportunity to order Sally Foster this year. (Just a reminder that we strongly discourage door-to-door selling to strangers.)

Please return your order forms by September 29. You will receive your order on either November 1 or 2, during your parent teacher conferences.

Thank you for supporting Mantua by buying Sally Foster. Email us with any questions.

Lynn Richmond lynnrichmond95@cox.net
Jeannine Davies at j9d Davies@cox.net

Recent Highlights from Mrs. Fernandez

- On Monday, August 30th, Mantua staff attended an all-day retreat at the Springfield Country Club. Staff members were engaged in games and activities that worked on team building and wellness. Many thanks to a private donor who allowed the administration to welcome our staff back in style!
- On Tuesday, September 7th, we opened our doors to approximately 900 students with smiling faces eager to spend time in their new classrooms and excited about learning!
- We were honored on the first day of school to welcome special visitors! Dr. Jack Dale, Superintendent, Mrs. Kathy Smith, School Board Chairperson, and Mrs. Janet Oleszek, School Board Member at Large, toured Mantua. Dr. Dale greeted fourth graders in the cafeteria, observed a videoconference between a 1-2 classroom here at Mantua and a second grade class at Canterbury Woods, observed students dancing in music classes, and interacted with a number of sixth grade classrooms. Dr. Dale's visit attracted numerous news stations and newspaper reporters who joined us on the tour of Mantua.
- On Friday, September 10th, we began and ended our day with two wonderful events provided by the PTA. The Staff Breakfast and the Ice Cream Social were both lovely opportunities for parents and staff members to get acquainted. Many thanks to the parent organizers for making both events so successful!

On-line Auction

This Fall, the Mantua PTA will host an Online Auction. It will feature hundreds of fabulous items donated from businesses, parents and our incredible faculty.

Please be a part of one of our major fundraisers of the year by serving on the Auction Committee and/or generously donating to the Auction (parent donation forms will be coming home soon in the Tuesday folders).

There will be an auction meeting on **Thursday, September 23rd at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Faye Henris. If you would like to be a member of the Auction Committee (even if you cannot attend this meeting), please contact Faye Henris at faye@henrisff.com or 703-280-1080 or Carole Thomas at caroleandjay@aol.com or 703-978-6159).

Mantua T-shirts

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER MANTUA T-SHIRTS!!!!

Orders are due tomorrow – **Wednesday, September 15th**. Return order forms and checks in your Tuesday folder or to the box marked "Spiritwear" in the school's office. Please write checks out to Mantua PTA. **NO CASH!** Questions?

Email Beth Rivelis at Rivelis@cox.net.

A Note from the Office

For security reasons, no one is allowed in classrooms after 4:15 p.m.! If a student has forgotten his/her homework they will have to call a classmate.

If your child is going home with a friend, both parents have to notify the office. If permission is not received by both parents then each child is to go to their normal destinations after school. Only under extreme circumstances will the office call for permission.

Alert News Contributions

Send via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org or contact Mary Rustick at 703-591-7160.

Thanks to Jeriann Stone Mikesh and Donna Konigsberg for copying and distributing the Alert News.

FROM THE CAFETERIA STAFF:

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!!

The cafeteria staff looks forward to serving many wonderful lunches this year. Please be sure to check the Breakfast and Lunch menu in your child's Tuesday folder at the beginning of each month.

Also, as a reminder, lunch cards are available for each student. This is an easy way for students to pay for lunch. Cards are kept in the cafeteria accessible to the students. Just send in a check (any amount) to your child's teacher (made payable to Mantua Cafeteria) and credit will be added to your child's account. The card works just like a debit card so it is important to keep a balance sufficient for your child to purchase lunch. When the account gets low, your child will receive a sticker or a hand stamp as a reminder more money is needed in the account. It's a great system and works well.

For those interested, breakfast is also available every morning starting at 8:30am. We are excited about another great year at Mantua. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Thank you, Esmerelda and the Food Service Staff.

KIDS CARE CLUB NEWS

Hard to believe another year has started!! The Kids Care Club will be in full swing soon.

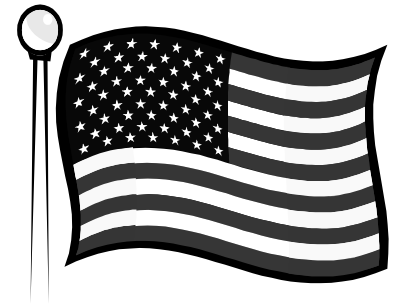
For those who are new, the KIDS CARE CLUB is a community service organization for all students in K-6. Fun projects that help others are organized, planned, advertised and carried out by the students. Meetings are held about once a month after school. Parent volunteers are encouraged to attend the meeting and events.

Past projects sponsored by the students include food and clothing collections, November leaf raking for our senior neighbors, the February Share to Care Talent show, and the May 5K and Mile Raccoon Run. All these and more have helped to make a difference in our school, neighborhood and community as well as help the children become aware of what they can do to help others.

The Kids Care Club is a fun way to be involved in our school and community.

Look for more information in your Tuesday folders and Alert News. Our first meeting will be in a couple of weeks to help plan our first project -- collecting donations of NEW winter clothing items (socks, scarves, glove and hats) for children in our local shelters.

Any questions, please contact Jennifer Cooper at jalcooper@aol.com or 703-426-2490.



Girl Scouts

It's never too late to join Girl Scouts! Being a Daisy (K and/or 1st grade) or a Brownie (1st, 2nd and 3rd grade) is not a requirement for becoming a Junior Girl Scout in 4th, 5th or 6th grade. In fact, a new fourth-grade Junior troop is looking for more girls. The troop will meet twice a month on Fridays after school. Get a feel for what fun Girl Scouts can be by attending a Junior badge workshop after school on Friday, Sept. 17 in the cafeteria.

Contact Jeriann Mikesh at 703-204-9404 or Mom@PrincessBrienne.com, for more information and to sign up for the workshop.

Cub Scouts

Parents with boys in grades 1-5, are you interested in spending more time with your boys doing fun things like camping, singing, and lots of other fun activities?

Boys, are you interested in spending more time with your parents showing them how you can develop more leadership, character, and citizenship skills?

Join Cub Scout Pack 1533 for "Join Scouting Night" on September 30th in the Mantua cafeteria starting at 7:30 p.m.

We will have a table set up at Back To School Night Sep 22 & 28.

For more information contact Mel Yudkin at 703-641-8779 or yudkin@cox.net or Craig Oliver at 703-280-0239.

Hands On Science Fall Session

SPECTRAFUN

Registration forms for the Fall Session of HOS (bright yellow) are in today's Tuesday folder, 9/14. Classes are filled on a first come, first served basis. So register as soon as possible... Don't wait until the due date of Friday, September 24.

For those of you who are new, Hands On Science is a very popular science enrichment program that stimulates scientific awareness and understanding through the fun of active involvement in experiments, games, projects, and hands on materials that go home with the children. The program is funded in part by the National Science Foundation.

Come join in the fun! If you have questions, contact Randi Kirkland at randi_kirkland@yahoo.com or (703) 208-2262.

Hands On Science Leaders Needed

K-1 and 2-3 Classes

Additional leaders for HOS fall session classes are needed for SPECTRAFUN, the physics of color and light. You do not need a science-related background. Just bring your enthusiasm to share! All training, detailed lesson plans, and materials are provided. You pick the day and time that is best for you. Classes are one hour and are held either immediately before or after school. We have multiple classes at each level, with a maximum of eleven students per class. Classes will start the week of October 25 and run for eight weeks. Leaders are compensated, too. If you think you might be interested in helping with this great program, please contact Randi Kirkland as soon as possible at randi_kirkland@yahoo.com or (703)208-2262.

Quarterly PTA Newsletter

The Back to School issue of the PTA Newsletter is posted on the Mantua PTA web site. Go to www.MantuaPTA.org, and click Newsletter.