



Mantua PTA Alert News

January 11, 2005

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, Jan. 14

Last day for Talent Show applications

Tuesday, Jan. 18

New Dangers in a New Age Seminar, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 25

Kids Care Club Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 26

Yearbook Order Forms Due

Monday-Tuesday, Jan. 31-Feb. 1

Teacher Work Days, No School

Kids Care Club

Many have been asking how we can help with the recent Tsunami disaster. The Kids Care Club is working on a few ideas and will let you know very soon. We are looking into doing something for the immediate relief efforts underway now, and then work on a longer term project to help a specific group in one of the affected countries, e.g., a school, orphanage, etc. Please let me know if you have any ideas and would like to help. Thanks. Jennifer Cooper, jal-cooper@aol.com or 703-426-2490.

Talent Show

Get your applications in now for the 5th annual Share to Care Talent Show, Saturday, February 12, at 6:30 p.m. Registration online is easy at Mantuapta.org or fill out a form and place it in the box in the office. Forms will be accepted through Friday, January 14. Auditions are being scheduled for January 18, 19, and 24. Looking forward to another great show!

Next Meeting

The Kids Care Club will meet after school on Tuesday, January 25.

Seminar: New Dangers in a New Age

Willow Springs ES counselor Mary Davenport will be at Mantua on Tuesday, January 18, with a program to help parents learn how to monitor and protect their children (and themselves) from the constant bombardment of the many kinds of media. Ms. Davenport has done research on media sources and their effects on children. Her presentation will look at the effects of the internet, instant messaging and chat rooms, video games, movies and videos, music, and advertising can have. The results can be harmful to children, and are often at odds with the lessons we try to teach them. There will be an opportunity to discuss issues and solutions. Please join us for a lively, thought-provoking, and informative seminar sponsored by the Mantua PTA. It will be in the library, Tuesday, January 18, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Reflections

Congratulations to the Mantua students who placed in the Reflections Council level of judging! These students created works of art, photography, and literature to the theme, "A Different Kind of Hero...!"

- Outstanding Interpretation - Sarah Smoot**, 1st grade
- Award of Merit - Josh Smoot & Mari Berger, 3rd grade
- Award of Excellence - Johannah Gehman, 6th grade

** Sarah Smoot's (Outstanding Interpretation) entry will move to the District judging level. Entries at this level compete against those of 8 other clusters, including Arlington County and Alexandria City.

Great job to all students who participated!

Citizenship Project 2005:

Respect -- Everyone's Responsibility

The Mantua and Virginia PTAs are committed to promoting a sense of citizenship and responsibility in the lives of our children -- tomorrow's leaders. In support of that commitment, here's an opportunity for sixth graders to compose an essay for entry into a state-wide competition for children in grades 6 - 12.

The theme is "Respect... It's Everyone's Responsibility." Instructions and an entry form are available on the PTA home page, www.MantuaPTA.org. Entries are due by February 1, 2005.

This theme is a great and timely one, *even for children who haven't yet reached sixth grade*. It's a topic for each family to think about and discuss.

Principal's Coffee

Please join us on Tuesday, January 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the school library for a special Principal's Coffee. Mrs. Fernandez will be discussing how to help your child transition to middle school. Guidance counselors from Frost Middle School and Luther Jackson Middle School will be on hand to answer your questions about how to help your child make this important change. Please contact Corinne Habel at 703-246-9210 or chabel1@cox.net if you would like to join us. We hope to see you there.

Alert News Contributions

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

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