

January 17, 2006

Did you check the lost and found yet? Just a reminder: all items will be donated at the

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end of February. Have a good week! PTA

YEARBOOK: All yearbook orders are due by Wednesday, February 1st. The cost of the yearbook is \$15. Please put your check or cash in an envelope which has the following information on the front: Student Name, Teacher Name, Number of Yearbooks, and Davtime Telephone Number. All checks need to be made out to IRVIN SIMON PHOTOGRAPHERS. At the end of the year there will be a very limited number of yearbooks sold for \$20 so please send your money in before February 1st to be guaranteed a book.

KIDS CARE CLUB: Please help Rebecca Wassel, a fifth grader working towards her Bronze Award as a Junior Girl Scout by donating any new or gently used clothing (size 0-3 months or 3-6 months) or infant blankets (no wool please) to the infants at the Virginia Hospital Center. There is a donation box set up in the front school entrance or they can be dropped off at 9303 Kittery Court. Donations will be accepted through Feb. 1st.

TALENT SHOW auditions are Tuesday and Wednesday. If you have any questions please contact Patti Taheri at mptaheri@cox.net or Donna McGrath at dsm721@cox.net. The show is on February 11th. New this year is a visual arts portion of the program. Please look in your Tuesday folder for information regarding this neat addition. Any questions, please contact Kirsten Sarlo at ksarlo@aol.com.

FLEX (Foreign Language Classes) are now forming for Winter/Spring. The 10-week session will begin the week of February 6. Applications were sent out in last Tuesday's folder and are due this Friday, January 20th. Please be sure to include payment along with your registration form and leave in PTA mailbox marked FLEX. New this session is a Parent/Caregiver & Child Sign Language Class for grades K-1. For those students who missed their last Spanish class last Monday (January /9), Mr. Ballivian welcomes them to makeup the class during any Monday afternoon class in the second session (beginning Feb. 6).

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Halstead at 703-503-5175 or pajusihalstead@cox.net.

Please see the other side for more Alert News

Woodson Pyramid Art Show

The Art Show is January 19 at Frost Middle School from 6:00 - 8:30. The following students will have works of art in the show:

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Grace Do, James Kim, Robby Moles, Rebecca McCloskey, Caroline Fisher, Tristan Pagkalinawan, Katie Cox, Melissa Coyne, Christian Hughes, Maggie Cullather, Noah Hochberg, Hannah Pho, Shaokyi Yangdon, Rebecca Baldinelli, Hannah Pham, Jason Durek, Sloane Palmer, Kate Maines, Matt Bendus, Gracie Smoot, Justin Joo, Daniel Robinson, Keiran Snow, Rachel Warnock, Billy Pavord, Nicole Choi, Josiah Day, Karen Ilana Nisenoff, Dylan Jeremiah, Cal Cary, Nina Lukow, Tara Rooney, Aibigail Lucas, Eli Smolen, Chris Nguyen, and Matan Widowsky.

Congratulations to you all!

Make Recycling your New Year's Resolution!

Recycle your old printer cartridges, cell phones, PDAs and laptops.

It's easy to do! Just bring your used ink jet or laser cartridges, cell phones, laptops or PDAs from home or work and place them in the gray rubber maid container in the front lobby of Mantua school.

Raise Funds for our School! Thanks to all of you that have been participating, we've earned over \$500 dollars in 2005. Let's earn even more during 2006!

Check at Your Work Too! Do you work for a hospital, printer or CPA? These businesses print a lot and may not have a recycling program already. Is your office replacing their cell phones? Ask for them - they may be happy to have them recycled!

Or, if you use more than 6 laser cartridges a month, I could help you set up a program at your home or office. Sponsoring a cartridge recycling program will cost nothing (well - a little time, a box or two, and shipping tape) and Mantua receives the funds directly! Interested? If you have any questions please c all me, Karen Pollard at 703-280-5854 (h), 703-308-3948 (wk) or send an e-mail at pollard.karen@epa.gov.



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Gifted and Talented Center Referral Deadline Approaching

The Gifted and Talented Center (GTC) Program provides full-time academic placement for highly gifted students in grades three through eight. Teachers follow a curriculum framework to differentiate the depth, breadth and pace of instruction based on the FCPS Program of Studies. Students work with academic peers in all core subject areas. The eligibility is determined by the central selection committee. Parents of students currently enrolled in grades two through six may request to have their students screened for admission to the GTC Program. In order to initiate the screening process, parents must submit the GTC Referral Form to Melinda Matson, Mantua's GT Specialist, by 3:30 PM on Wednesday, February 1, 2006. The form and additional information about the GT screening process and GT services can be found at the GT web site at http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt. Parents with questions may contact Mrs. Matson at (703) 703-645-6300.

Woodson HS Renovation Update

This is a VERY important issue for all of us who have or will have students at Woodson. Please keep informed about it. There are some key issues that the Woodson PTA would like resolved, and they will affect your children. School Board Members Tessie Wilson (Braddock district), Kaye Kory (Mason District), Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence District), Cathy Belter (Springfield District) and Janet Oleszek (at-large) Steve Hunt (at-large); Dean Tistadt head of FCPS Facilities Department, and PTSA representatives from most schools in the Woodson pyramid attended a meeting regarding the renovation of Woodson on January 10. Recovering classrooms that are currently used by the Department of Instructional Technology (DIT) was one of the main issues discussed. Woodson is projected to be overcrowded by the year 2011. The PTSA feels that that space needs to be used for classroooms for our students.

For further information go to <u>www.wtwoodsonptsa.org</u>

Alert News Contributions

Send items via email to alertnews@mantuapta.org. Submissions are appreciated by the Friday before distribution. www.mantuapta.org

Application Process for Elementary Magnet Schools

The following information will explain the 2006-2007 magnet school application and lottery process for Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences and for Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences.

Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences offers an interdisciplinary, concept-based instructional program with an added emphasis on technology, science, math, and the arts. Bailey's resources include a technology lab, a science discovery lab, an electronic music lab, a performing arts theater, a math exploratorium, a fine arts studio, and a communications center consisting of a television studio with video production capabilities. Resource teachers staff the resource areas and collaborate with classroom teachers to coordinate and integrate learning activities.

Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences offers an interdisciplinary, concept-based instructional program with an added emphasis on fine and performing arts, science, and technology. A science specialist, a technology resource teacher, and additional art classes provide opportunities for all students to enhance their learning. The arts team includes music, art, drama, and film studies teachers. Resource teachers collaborate with classroom teachers to coordinate and integrate learning activities with classroom instruction.

To be eligible to apply, a student must be on or above grade level in language arts and math and demonstrate positive interpersonal and school behavior. Applications will be screened for eligibility, and a lottery will be conducted in mid-March.

Applications are available at your child's school. They are also be located at the following web sites, <u>http://</u> www.fcps.edu/DIS/OEIAS/magnet.htm http://

www.fcps.edu/HuntersWoodsES, and http://www.fcps.edu/ BaileysES . Parents must complete the appropriate school application and return the form to the Office of Elementary Instruction at Lacey Center. Applications must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2006.

If you have questions regarding the Bailey's Elementary School magnet program, please

contact Jean Frey, principal, or Marjorie McCarthy, magnet program liaison, at 703-575-6836. If you have questions regarding the Hunters Woods Elementary School magnet program, please contact Olivia Toatley, principal, or Diane Beers, parent liaison, at 703-262-7405.

If you have questions regarding the application process, please call the magnet information line, Office of Elementary Instruction, Lacey Center, at 703-846-8740.