



January 16, 2018 | Issue no. 21

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## Important Upcoming Dates

**January 17** (Wednesday): 5th and 6th Grade Winter Strings Concert, 7pm.

**January 18** (Thursday): Rising 7th Grade Orientation, Frost MS, 5pm (Snow Date 1/24).

**January 22** (Monday): PTA Parent Education Night, 7pm, Library.

**January 23/24**: 4th grade parent preview of Human Growth & Development.

**January 24**: Rising 7th Grade Orientation, Luther Jackson MS.

**January 25**: TWO-HOUR EARLY RELEASE: School ends at 2:05pm.

**January 26/29**: SCHOOL CLOSED: Student Holiday

## Lost and Found

All items left in the lost and found at the end of the 2nd quarter will be donated charity. If your student is missing a lunch box, water bottle, coat, sweater or any other article, please find time to check the lost and found before it is donated on 1/29/18.

All items brought to school by your students should be labeled with at least their last name. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara in the front office.

## A Pediatrician on Parenting Seminar

Join us for our next Parent Education Seminar on **Monday, January 22 at 7 pm in the Library**. Mantua parent and Children's National Medical Center pediatrician Jessica Lazerov, M.D., will give a presentation on "Embracing Imperfect: A Pediatrician Mom's Perspective on Parenting in 2017," covering topics such as: technology, screens, and social media; having "the Talk" with your child; common behavior problems; and plenty of time for your questions. No RSVP necessary! Bring a friend. For

more information, contact Mantua Parent Ed coordinator Kathy Phillips, [kathyphysics@hotmail.com](mailto:kathyphysics@hotmail.com).

## Yearbook photos due by January 31

Basketball team photos, raccoon runners, kids care club, and boy and girl scouts photos are due to Ms. Dunfee by 1/31/18 if you want them to be included in this year's yearbook. Coaches can send them directly to her at [pjdunfee@fcps.edu](mailto:pjdunfee@fcps.edu).

## Submit an essay to the VA PTA Citizenship Essay Contest!

This year's theme is "What does it mean to dream big?" Students K-12 are invited to participate. Submissions are due to the NOVA District PTA via email ([novadd@vapta.org](mailto:novadd@vapta.org)) no later than **Thursday, February 1, 2018**. Full details and instructions can be found [here](#).

## New Global Plus Chinese Class for Grades 1-3

Last Chance to Register! New GLOBAL PLUS Chinese Class for Grades 1-3 The Mantua PTA offers extracurricular world language classes through FCPS's GLOBAL PLUS Language Program. The goal of the GLOBAL PLUS program is to offer high quality language classes to elementary students when they are at the optimal age for language acquisition. The GLOBAL PLUS curriculum delivers a strong focus on communication. This focus will provide children with skills to establish meaningful connections as they become GLOBAL citizens of our diverse yet interconnected world. Registration is currently underway for Chinese for Grades 1-3. The class starts January 24 and runs for 10 weeks. Sibling discounts are available. Call 703-658-1201. GPO3110-0003: Chinese for Grades 1-3, Wednesdays after school starting on 1/24. Go to <http://bit.ly/GLOBALPlus> to register. Have questions? Contact Susanne Fitch, PTA Representative, at [globalplus@mantuapta.org](mailto:globalplus@mantuapta.org).

## Nominating Committee

The Mantua PTA Executive Board is in need of 3 PTA Members to serve on the Nominating Committee to put forth the new slate of Executive Board Members for the 2018-2019 school year. We need to elect this Nominating Committee at our February 8th PTA Meeting (you do not need to be present at this meeting to be a member of the committee, though it is encouraged.) The slate needs to be announced at our April meeting and the membership will vote on the slate at our final meeting in late May. If you would like to be a part of this important committee or have

questions, please contact Sam Leiber at [president@mantuapta.org](mailto:president@mantuapta.org). This is a volunteer commitment that will last approximately 1 month and is not very time consuming (especially if you already know some Mantua parents that would be perfect for the PTA Executive Board!)

## Mantua Students Seeking Used Binoculars

Mantua is creating a class set of binoculars so that students can head outside at any time to observe birds and other wildlife. We have an enjoyable amount of species variety not only on our own grounds but also in the meadow and stream, Crook Branch, just south of the playground. This class set of binoculars will be housed in the Mantua Library and available for checkout by ANY class at ANY time! Binoculars in any condition will be a wonderful addition to our collection. Molte grazie. Questions? Please contact Eco Teams Sponsor, Ms. Michele Sullivan ([masullivan@feps.edu](mailto:masullivan@feps.edu)). Also, we will be happy to provide a receipt for your binoculars donation. Thank you! To learn more about the fantastic progress made by our Eco Teams and Eco-School Committee here at Mantua, please check out our website! <https://www.greenmantua.org>

## Restaurant Night – Flippin Pizza

Up to 50% of proceeds from orders at Flippin Pizza on Main Street on **January 30 from 4-8pm** go to Mantua PTA to support the school and thereby your kids. For more information <http://www.mantuapta.org/documents/fundraisers/restaurantnights/2017-18/flippinpizza.pdf>

## Family Fun Night Skating Postponed

The Family Fun Night Skating Event scheduled for Friday, January 19th has been postponed. New date to be announced shortly. Stay tuned.

## Yearbook Sales

The 2017-2018 Yearbook is available for purchase. Order now to get the lowest price of the year (\$25). <http://www.jostens.com/apps/store/customer/1139775/Mantua-Elementary-School/>

## We Need You! Mantua Volunteers

Volunteers help make Mantua the amazing school it is. Please click [here](#) to see how you can help! Be sure to click on the tabs at the top for different grade levels. We have opportunities in the classrooms and school-wide. Questions, contact Volunteer Coordinator Jenn Ros at [volunteering@mantuapta.org](mailto:volunteering@mantuapta.org).

## Lacross Registration Open

Annandale Youth Lacrosse (AYL), a feeder program for Woodson High School, has opened registration for the spring lacrosse season. The AYL boys/girls programs have a great mix of experienced and beginning players grades K-8th. Teams are divided according to skill level to ensure the optimum amount of competition and allows each player develop their skills. The season runs March - June with practices twice a week and boys games on Saturday/girls games on Sunday. All head coaches are members of Northern Virginia Lacrosse League (NVLL) and participate in the Positive Coaching Alliance. We will be holding pre-season **clinics on Saturday mornings, indoors, starting January 20th** to the beginning of the season (March). If your kids have interest and want to try it out, please register and let them attend the clinics to see if they enjoy it, without commitment (payment not required at registration). New players are encouraged and trial equipment provided. Please feel free to reach out to Kathryn Mathias with any questions [mathias.kathryn@gmail.com](mailto:mathias.kathryn@gmail.com). [Registration details here.](#)

## Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Plans; Make Arrangements Now in Case of an Unforeseen Schedule Change

Cold and wintry weather is on its way! Due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, it may be necessary to close schools for the entire day, to open schools late, or to close early.

Parents are urged to make arrangements now for the care of their children when schedule changes are made (and to provide for the rare situation when it is necessary to close an individual school because of a power failure or other circumstances). Children should know where to go if a parent will not be home.

FCPS has several schedules set up to deal with inclement weather; these are put into effect when conditions threaten the safety of students and staff members:

- Keep schools closed.
- Open two hours late.
- Close two hours early.

When Fairfax County Public Schools has a schedule change (closing or delay) due to inclement weather or other emergencies, [the information is communicated in several ways as soon as the decision is made.](#)

Note: The official [@FCPSnews Twitter](#) account (with blue checkmark) is generally the first and fastest mode of communication during emergency weather closings. Other communication channels will be updated as quickly as possible including email, text, website, other social media, and news stations. Please be aware, due to the large volume of emails sent, there will likely to be a lag between the time a FCPS Twitter alert is posted and receipt of an email in your inbox.

Video: Learn How Inclement Weather Closing Decisions Are Made

Ever wonder how FCPS administrators decide to close or delay school due to inclement weather? [Watch this video for an explanation and answers to some common questions.](#)

## Fun, Free Math Enrichment Program – Girls And Math Encouragement (GAMEOn)

Thurs 1/18/18, 6:45 p.m., Oakton Library (Meeting Room 2), 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton, VA 22124.

GAMEOn (Girls And Math Encouragement) is a free math program designed to help increase 4th, 5th, and 6th grade girls' interest and confidence in math. 3rd grade girls who are advanced in math may also enjoy participating. In GAMEOn sessions, enthusiastic high school and middle school student volunteers guide participants through fun math enrichment activities! Participants can sign up by Wednesday 1/17/18 in the Sign-Up Sheet <https://tinyurl.com/GAMEOnJanuary2018>

Questions: contact Kyle Gatesman, USA Math Olympiad Qualifier, TJ High School Senior and Varsity Math Team Officer, MIT PRIMES Math Researcher, [kylegatesman@gmail.com](mailto:kylegatesman@gmail.com)

## Shopping Online?

Anyone (parents, family and friends) who shops on Amazon can effortlessly earn money for Mantua ES by simply using a special Amazon link on Mantua PTA website. No sign-ups or codes required, no loyalty cards to manage - just click, shop, and watch the contributions to Mantua ES come in! Help us cast a wider net by sharing the links with friends and family. Go to <http://www.mantuapta.org> and click either Amazon or eScrip before beginning your shopping and these organizations will donate to our school.

## Translators

Translators comprise another vital part of our outreach efforts. We want every Mantua ES family to feel included and connected

—should families need to have a document translated into their native language, our volunteers are here to help!

- للحصول على نسخة مترجمة للغة العربية، نرجو الإتصال بالأخت بدرية للإيميل كفالة على هذا الإيميل: [bkafala@gmail.com](mailto:bkafala@gmail.com). If you need to have a document translated into Arabic, please email [bkafala@gmail.com](mailto:bkafala@gmail.com).
- Если вам необходимо перевести документ на русский язык, пожалуйста обращайтесь к Анне Жердецкой или Виктору Жердецкому по электронной почте: [hannaz74@gmail.com](mailto:hannaz74@gmail.com) или [ViktarZ@gmail.com](mailto:ViktarZ@gmail.com). If you need to have a document translated into Russian, please contact Hanna Zhardzetskaya and Viktar Zhardzetski.
- 혹시 한국어로 번역된 자료가 필요하시면 좌승관씨에게 연락주세요([cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org).) If you need to have a document translated into Korean, please contact Lisa Libby.
- Para obtener una copia en Espanol favor de contactar a Lisa Libby at [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org). If you need to have a document translated into Spanish, please contact Lisa Libby.

Email Lisa Libby at [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org) if you have any questions or would like to volunteer as an ambassador or translator with Mantua ES's Community Building Network.

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