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# Mantua PTA News 2019, Issue 28

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# MANTUA PTA NEWS

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March 19, 2019 | Issue 28

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## Important Upcoming Dates

**March 21** (Thursday): Heritage and Literacy Night, 6-8pm.

**March 23** (Saturday): Mantua Talent Show, 5-9pm, gym.

**March 27** (Wednesday): Parent Education Session, 7pm.

**March 29** (Friday): The Princess Who Had No Name, 7pm.

**March 30** (Saturday): The Princess Who Had No Name, 2pm.

## FCPS Family Engagement Survey

The FCPS Family Engagement Survey will be administered to all parents from **March 24-April 12, 2019**. The purpose of the survey is to provide data to inform the Strategic Plan goal of Caring Culture: *FCPS employees will demonstrate cultural responsiveness when supporting families, students, and other staff*. Results of the 2019 survey will be considered baseline, and it is anticipated that another Family Engagement survey will be administered in two years. Eight language translations of the survey will be made available, including Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Korean, Spanish, Urdu, and Vietnamese. Parents will receive an email from FCPS about the survey, which they will be able to complete on most electronic devices, including smartphones.

Paper copies and at-school access for parents will be made available as needed by contacting Nick Rousos, Assistant Principal, at Mantua ES at [nbrousos@fcps.edu](mailto:nbrousos@fcps.edu).



## Heritage & Literacy Night

Thursday, March 21, 2019 from 6 pm to 8 pm Location- Mantua Elementary School Gym.

- Heritage Night is 6:00pm - 7:00pm in the gym
- Literacy Night is from 7:00pm – 8:00pm and the classrooms will be open for you to come in with your student to look at some of their recent work.

Person to Contact- Luis Uribe Gamboa-

Parent Liaison email- [lauribegamboa@fcps.edu](mailto:lauribegamboa@fcps.edu) tel. (703)645-6405

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## Talent Show 2019

Mantua Talent Show **Saturday, March 23rd,**

5:00-9:00 PM Mantua Gym

Come out and support your friends!

Tickets are \$3 at the door Pizza and snacks will be for sale




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## Frozen Treats



The weather is warming up and some students want to bring frozen treats to share with their class for their birthday. The school is not prepared to store frozen treats. If you wish to bring frozen treats for your child's birthday, please pack them in a cooler and be sure the cooler is labeled with your name. Please coordinate with your student's teacher any time you are bringing in birthday treats.

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## The Princess Who Had No Name!

Mantua ES Drama Club is proud to present our Spring performance - The Princess Who Had No Name! This season's play brings us to a wonderful land of make believe... a girl falls asleep and wakes up in a fairy tale land full of all your favorite characters! And oh what fun she has!!

Join us **Friday, March 29** at 7pm and **Saturday, March 30** at 2pm (doors open 30 minutes prior to show start)! Tickets are on sale at the door (\$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for students).

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## Communication to Parents and Students about the Momo Challenge and Digital Citizenship Resources

*In Fairfax County schools, county agencies and families are working together to create an environment where children and youth can safely learn, work, and play. Similar to our message containing information about the 13 Reasons Why NETFLIX program and the Blue Whale Challenge, we are sending this communication to alert you to a recent rise in new games and social media challenges that encourage young people to participate in harmful behavior.*

*One example of this is a potentially harmful game called the “Momo Challenge” that has reportedly been posted on different social media platforms to include WhatsApp and assigns players a series of progressively more intense tasks, to include self-harm. It is important to note that the Momo Challenge is a hoax that has received a significant amount of media attention.*

*This hoax has been seen across the United States in recent months, targeting primarily elementary aged children. Vigilant parents and guardians in Fairfax County have also reported seeing information about the Momo Challenge or similar games on their children’s phones and have alerted school authorities.*

*Please talk to your child about this type of internet hoax, and check his or her phone or other device for signs of an app or communications with anyone telling them to do specific tasks. This provides an excellent opportunity to remind your child of best practices for internet safety and digital citizenship:*

- *Remind your child information shared on social media is not always true and how quickly misinformation can create a panic online.*
- *Children should never engage in conversations with strangers online.*
- *Be aware of the sites and apps your children are using and know their usernames and passwords.*
- *Turn off suggested autoplay on videos to stop children from viewing content they have not selected, and you have not approved.*
- *If appropriate, tell your children that Momo is not real and will not hurt them.*
- *Encourage open dialogue with them around any concerns.*

*FCPS has additional resources available on this website: <https://www.fcps.edu/node/32086>. If you have concerns about your child, please contact your school counselor. Please be aware that a number of mental health resources are available, including Fairfax County Public School resources: School Counseling Services at 571-423- 4420, School Psychology Services at 571-423-4250, and School Social Work Services at 571-423-4300 and Fairfax County resources: Crisis Link Hotline at 703-527-4077, Merrifield Emergency Services 703-573-5679 (available 24/7) or Entry and Referral during business hours at 703-383-8500. The Fairfax County Police Department non-emergency number is 703-691-2131.*

*More information about the Momo Challenge and other internet challenges or hoaxes is available at these links:*

- *An article from the Ohio Department of Education contains talking points*

to use when speaking with your child:

**<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/News/Know-Momo-and-her-Deadly-Challenge-to-our-Youth>**

- An article from Common Sense Media about online challenges: **<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/viral-youtube-challenges-internet-stunts-popular-with-kids>**

## Contact

**School Counseling Services** 571-423-4420

**School Psychology Services** 571-423-4250

**School Social Work Services** 571-423-4300

## Ba Ba Ba BINGO!! Next FRIDAY, 22 March!!

Frost Family BINGO Night is Friday, March 22nd from 7-9pm in the Frost MS Cafeteria. Doors open 6:30pm

ORDER NOW - SAVE \$\$ - Online pre-sale of Bingo cards, food packages and raffle tickets- you'll have a pre-packed envelope waiting for you in the express line. On-line sales end WED, 20 MAR, 9pm. PRICES GO UP AT THE DOOR!

If you are a business owner or a family that is interested in donating a prize, please contact Bingo Coordinator, Monica Cameron at [monica.cameron@cox.net](mailto:monica.cameron@cox.net) or 703-608-1289.

Use this link to volunteer and donate baked goods for the event:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E45AEA9238-frost1>

SAVE \$\$ and use this link to pre-pay Bingo cards, food and raffle tickets.

<https://squareup.com/store/frostspiritstore>

## Parent Education Session March 27th 7PM



Rachel Bailey will be back!

Raising Resilience: Helping Children Handle Life's Inevitable Obstacles

In this workshop, you'll learn the qualities that differentiate resilient children from those who crumble in the face of adversity. You'll also learn what to say and do to help your child handle challenges as they occur... and simple, realistic

strategies that will improve your child's overall resilience.

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## SAVE THE DATE Mantua Spring Fling!

The Spring Fling will be held **Saturday, April 27th from 11am - 3pm**. Join us for bounce houses, jousting, a velcro wall, tons of games with prizes, snacks, pizza, popcorn, a dunk tank, the ever popular Cake Walk, our Silent Auction, and our Mantua Marketplace!

More info will be posted in the coming weeks on how to volunteer your time to help make this event a success!



MANTUA SPRING FLING

## The Mantua Spring Fling Silent Auction Committee Needs Your Help!

The committee is seeking exciting donated items for the Spring Fling Silent Auction! We are looking for vacation/beach house stays, sports and theater tickets, restaurant gift cards and other special items. If you have something you would like to donate, all proceeds go directly back into our school, please contact the Spring Fling Silent Auction Committee chair, Emily Mosso, at [mossoem@gmail.com](mailto:mossoem@gmail.com) Thank you!

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## GLOBALPlus Spring Break Culinary Camp

Kids in Grades 2-5 can explore the world through language, culture, and cooking this Spring Break. During the morning session, children will have French, German, or Spanish language and culture lessons. In the afternoon session, children will learn to cook an assortment of international foods. Parents can choose the morning session only, afternoon session only, or the full day camp.

Dates: Monday, April 15 - Friday, April 19

Cost: Morning Session only (9am-12pm) \$249 Afternoon Session only (12:30pm-3:30pm) \$279 Full Day (9am-3:30pm) \$499 10% sibling discount available

Location: Plum Center, 6815 Edsall Rd., Springfield, VA 22151

Register at <http://bit.ly/GLOBALPlus> and click on "Spring Break Camps" from "Classes Offered In" menu on left, or call 703-658-1201 Questions? Contact Susie Eister at [globalplus@mantuapta.org](mailto:globalplus@mantuapta.org)

<http://mantuapta.org/documents/dtf/2018-19/flyers/geninfo/gpsb.pdf>

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## Fairfax County Elementary and Middle School Science Fair

The 6th Annual Fairfax County Elementary and Middle School Science & Engineering (FCSE) Fair will take place on **Saturday May 11, 2019** at George Mason University. <https://www.fcsefair.com> The FCSE fair will accept projects in the areas of Life & Earth Sciences and Physical Sciences & Engineering.

The divisions are:

Division I (grades 1-3)

Division II (grades 4-5)

Division III (grades 6–8) Students are encouraged to begin working on their projects now so that sufficient time is allowed for planning, data gathering, and final presentation of results.

Students are expected to keep a journal documenting the progress of their investigation. Students must prepare a trifold poster board of their project for the fair. Rules & Guidelines can be found at [https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/d54dde\\_7bfe491853294c92b4c088b054153cfc.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/d54dde_7bfe491853294c92b4c088b054153cfc.pdf) The FCSE fair has several requirements in advance of project start and submission this year, including a checklist, research plan/project summary, and an approval form. The FCSE fair will be following the rules of Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF); more information about Intel ISEF is available at: <http://student.societyforscience.org/intel-isef>. All projects that require additional approvals must have forms submitted to [mantuasciencefair@gmail.com](mailto:mantuasciencefair@gmail.com) and Ms. Sullivan (5th grade AAP teacher) before starting on such projects. If there are more interested students than available slots allotted to Mantua (which we will find out in early April), we will have to decide which projects will go to the fair based on scientific merit. Please email [mantuasciencefair@gmail.com](mailto:mantuasciencefair@gmail.com) if your child is interested in participating in the science fair. Please indicate:

- Child's name:
- Child's grade:
- Child's teacher:
- Child's interested project area:

- Child's proposed project topic (if known):

Additional paperwork as noted above will be necessary prior to enrolling in the county science fair. Project registration occurs in late March-early April. Cost is typically \$120 divided evenly by all school participants.

## 19th Annual Raccoon Run

The Annual Raccoon Run is a 5K Race and Mile Fun Run. **Saturday, May 11 at 8am.** Join the Kids Care Club, Rocky, the community and Mantua's own Raccoon Runners for this annual event to benefit Inova *Life with Cancer*.



Details and Registration: [www.raccoonrun.org](http://www.raccoonrun.org) or contact Jennifer Lewis-Cooper, [jalcooper@aol.com](mailto:jalcooper@aol.com), 703.966.8304



### Attendance email and Form

Submitting a student absence, reporting any transportation or dismissal changes has never been easier thanks to the online attendance form!

Submit any of these changes using the online attendance form or the email [MantuaElem.Attendance@fcps.edu](mailto:MantuaElem.Attendance@fcps.edu).

## You're Invited to the PTA Listening Tour

Research shows that parent engagement in school and at home helps students succeed. Fairfax County Council PTA is working to increase opportunities for parents to become active in their children's school communities.

Parents and caregivers are invited to share their thoughts and experiences during one of four upcoming listening sessions hosted by Fairfax County Council PTA.

Your voice matters. Please join us for small group discussions 7-9 p.m. on Mondays at the following schools:

- **Apr 1**                      **Marshall HS**



There is no cost to attend. For questions contact Stella Pekarsky,  
[vp.outreach@fccpta.org](mailto:vp.outreach@fccpta.org).

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## **Camp at The Fieldhouse**

Fieldhouse camp is a great way to keep kids active throughout the summer. They provide a safe and enjoyable place for parents to leave their children during the day while they work. Kids will have the opportunity to try a new sport or continue playing the ones they love. Camps are for kids ages 4-14 years old and run from 9a-5p.

<http://mantuapta.org/documents/dtf/2018-19/flyers/geninfo/fieldhouse.pdf>

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## **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 the Amazon link before beginning your shopping and Amazon will donate to our school. The link is located in the upper right corner of PTA website and also further down under "passive fundraising".

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## **New this year: Looking to buy a Chromebook?**

New this year! Looking to buy a Chromebook? Dell will donate 5% of your purchase to Mantua Elementary, plus free shipping and price match guarantee! Just use this special link: [www.dell.com/MantuaPTA](http://www.dell.com/MantuaPTA)

<http://www.mantuapta.org/documents/dtf/2018-19/flyers/fundraisers/passive/dell.pdf>

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## **Reminder About Early Dismissals**

As shared in the first day folders, children will not be called out of class for early dismissal after 3:40pm and cannot be released to anyone other than a parent unless that person is on the emergency care card. The exception to the emergency care card requirement would be a release authorized by the

parent through an email to [MantuaElem.Attendance@fcps.edu](mailto:MantuaElem.Attendance@fcps.edu) received prior to 1pm that day. For “play dates” email or notes from parents of both the visitor and the host will be required for students planning to go home with a friend or neighbor after school. Students without corresponding email or notes will follow their typical dismissal plan.

There is a new direct email link on the Mantua ES Website for reporting dismissals and absences to <https://mantuaes.fcps.edu/attendance-form>

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## 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 كفالة على هذا الإيميل: [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org). If you need to have a document translated into Arabic, please email [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org).
- Если вам необходимо перевести документ на русский язык, пожалуйста обращайтесь к Анне Жердецкой или Виктору Жердецкому по электронной почте: [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org) или [cbn@mantuapta.org](mailto:cbn@mantuapta.org). If you need to have a document translated into Russian, please contact Hanna Zhardzetskaya and Viktor 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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9107 Horner Court, Fairfax, VA 22031 | Main Office: 703-645-6300

Attendance: 703-645-6363 | Web | PTA Web | Twitter

Submit an Announcement

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