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# mantua pta newsletter

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March 29, 2022 | Issue 30

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## Important Upcoming Dates

**Tuesday, March 29** - Kindergarten Orientation Parent Meeting at 6:30 PM, Virtual

**Thursday, March 31** - End of 3rd Quarter; 2 Hour Early Release, 2:05 PM dismissal. Kindergarten Orientation for Children at 3:15 PM, Mantua ES

**Friday, April 1** - No School for Students, Teacher Workday.

**Monday - Friday, April 4 to 8** - No School, Spring Break, School Offices will be closed.

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## **Kindergarten Orientation Spring 2022**

All Upcoming Kindergarten Parents,

Mantua will be holding a virtual Kindergarten Orientation meeting for parents to learn about their child's upcoming school year! The virtual meeting will be held **today, Tuesday, March 29th from 6:30pm-7:30pm**. The Kindergarten team will provide an informative video as well as be there to answer any questions you may have.

Parents will be emailed the link to the session. If you have not begun the registration process, we do not have an email on file. Please reach out to Mergie Kakouris, Student Registrar, at [MBKakouris@fcps.edu](mailto:MBKakouris@fcps.edu) or 703-645-6300, to register and receive the link to the Virtual Orientation.

Additionally, we would like to welcome your child to their own in-person Kindergarten Orientation on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:15-4:15pm at Mantua Elementary. At this time, your child will be welcomed by our kindergarten

teachers, tour the school, and enjoy some fun activities. While your child is with the kindergarten teachers, parents may meet outside on Mantua's playground for a PTA Meet and Greet and an opportunity to sign up for their ParentVue account.

The Kindergarten Team looks forward to seeing you and your child!

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## **Yearbook Sales**

The 2022 yearbook is sold through the company's online portal. The information and link can be found on the [FCPS Mantua school web page](#) and in the All Parent Schoology Course.

The last day to order is **April 15**.



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## **Mark Your Calendar's for our FIRST Read-A-Thon!**

The Mantua Elementary PTA is hosting our FIRST EVER Read-A-Thon from April 18-29. Students will be encouraged to dive into those books and read as much as they can over that "almost" 2-week period. Whether they are reading on their own at home, reading picture books, being read to, or reading at school, all those minutes count! Each student will have their own donation and minute-tracking page online, and we encourage parents to help them log their minutes each day. Oh and of course, there will be prizes!! More information will be coming soon, but we thank you in advance for supporting our final fundraiser of the school year and encouraging our children to read!

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## **SOL Test Dates**

- Friday, April 29 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading
  - Wednesday, May 4 – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading
  - Friday, May 6 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading
  - Tuesday, May 10 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science
  - Wednesday, May 11 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading
  - Friday, May 13 – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math
  - Tuesday, May 17 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Math
  - Wednesday, May 18 – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math
  - Friday, May 20 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math
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## **Volunteers Needed to Help Mantua ES Art**



This is your opportunity to give back to the school. We need volunteers to sign up for the Spring (April/May) to help out in the Mantua Art Room. [Click the link](#) to sign up, THERE ARE STILL SLOTS OPEN. No experience necessary! We need help cutting paper, refilling glue bottles, framing artwork, hanging artwork, cutting burlap, string and more! You may help either

teacher, no matter who your child has. We have many different time slots to choose from, all we ask is that you check in with the front office when you arrive.

Thank you so much for your time, we appreciate it!

~Mrs. Shirley, Mr. Lorenzi, and Mrs. Rozycki~

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4AA9AC22A6FF2-mantua5>

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## **Advanced Academics Program (AAP) information**

Please visit the AAP webpage on [fcps.edu](https://www.fcps.edu) for information on timelines and Level I-IV using this [link](#).

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## **Interventions at Mantua**

In recent PTA meetings we have shared the interventions that are taking place at Mantua this year. The [Mantua's ESSER/SIIP 2021-22 at Glance](#) describes our work to support student academic achievement and wellness. Our ESSER leads are listed below.

Academic Leads: Jane Dunfee and Lisa Dreyfus

Wellness Leads: Lindsay Mueller and Emily Tilman

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## **FCPS Tutoring**

FCPS is excited to share a new resource that will soon be available to students to support learning. All FCPS students will have unlimited access to online tutoring support services through Tutor.com at no cost. Students can connect online any time, and in most subjects for as long as they need. Tutoring is focused instruction provided to students in a one-on-one format through voice or text chat. Tutors will focus on developing students' strengths and capabilities in reading, mathematics, or other specified subjects. Tutoring services may be accessed before, during, or after school hours and/or on weekends through a link in Schoology. All tutors must pass a rigorous application process including an extensive background check. No personal information is shared between a student and tutor. All sessions are recorded and transcripts are available for review by teachers and parents/guardians.

**Students will automatically have access to the Tutor.com tutoring service unless a parent/guardian submits an opt-out request.** Watch for an email soon that will include the online tutoring services notice and opt-out information. For additional information, visit our [online tutoring services website](#).

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## 6th Grade Promotion and Party Planning



Save The Date: **Thursday, June 9th** will be the 6th Grade Promotion and Party. More details to come! Planning and preparation is underway. We are still looking for a few key volunteers to complete our Party team including co-chairs. Please check the sign up link for available roles. Thank you to those

that have volunteered to date!

Email Kristina Clarke at [president@mantuapta.org](mailto:president@mantuapta.org) with any questions.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4baeab2ca02-6thgrade>

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### Clothing Donations for Ukrainian Refugees

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, more than three million residents of Ukraine have fled the country due to the Russian invasion. More than two million people arrived in neighboring Poland. As the crisis escalates, the number of refugees increases. They need our help!

A campaign responding to this unprecedented crisis is underway in the Mantua community.

**The Mantua Kids Care Club placed bins in the Elementary School lobby we hope to fill with donations. We seek donations of:**

- **new or gently-used coats**
- **new blankets**
- **new pairs of sweat socks or new heavy socks**
- **new gloves**

Please bring any donations by **April 15th**.

Items will be boxed and secured for shipping soon after. Thank you for considering donating and supporting those at this critical time. If you have any questions, contact Christine Rene at [crenester@gmail.com](mailto:crenester@gmail.com).

For more information and a list of other donation locations throughout the community, please visit <https://novaregion.org/1546/Helping-Ukraine>.

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### Discovery Garden Spring Clean-Up & Garden Updates Volunteers Needed

**Saturday, April 23**

The gardens are a great addition to the school and keeping them maintained is an on-going effort requiring many hands. A HUGE thanks to the families who joined us over the



challenging past two years to keep them going! To ensure continued success of these spaces for the students and the community we now need to grow our in-person volunteer network. We have plenty of opportunities for parents to be involved at different levels of experience and time commitment. Not being a green thumb is ok!

Questions, contact [gardens@mantuapta.org](mailto:gardens@mantuapta.org).

Also, join the Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/724714344530932/>



## Mantua PTA 2022-2023

The PTA needs YOU! It is time to pass on the torch to a new set of leaders to pave the way in support of our admin/teachers/staff and ultimately to the benefit of those tiny humans we send through those school doors each day. We need new volunteers to step up in leadership roles to continue this important tradition of partnering with admin/teachers/staff to continue helping make Mantua an elementary school that we are all so proud of and is highly sought after for the reputation it deserves. Vacant position descriptions are available [here](#). Contact Kathy Timberlake at [kathy.timberlake@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.timberlake@gmail.com) for more information.

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## Premier AC Soccer Tryouts

Love Soccer? Want to try playing travel soccer? PREMIER AC soccer club is hosting rolling try outs this month. Boys practice Tuesday and Thursdays, Girls practice Monday and Wednesdays. If you have further questions, please reach out to [Sarah.smith8103@gmail.com](mailto:Sarah.smith8103@gmail.com)

To register visit <https://forms.gle/P5hEea3k8ggbmjLx7>



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## Visitors Welcome

The most updated guidance from FCPS indicates that we can welcome visitors and volunteers. Our Visitor Management System is back up and running in the main office. Visitors who will be engaging with students will need to check-in using this system. Please know that the Visitor Management System requires that visitors have their licenses when checking in. Our teachers may begin to solicit parent volunteers through their parent communication.

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## Family Resource Center

Supporting Early Learners: Growing the Caregiver's Toolbox: A Webinar Series for PreK-2 Families

- 4/22/22: Supporting Healthy Habits & Routines in Early Learners
- 5/20/22: Growing through Tough Moments in Early Learners

There are so many ways children learn and develop throughout early childhood. Relationships, habits, and even challenges can become rich opportunities to teach and foster lifelong learning and skills for our children. Learn more about how self-regulation, executive functioning, and routines can help your children learn and develop. [Register for Supporting Early Learners: Growing the Caregiver's Toolbox: A Webinar for PreK-2 Families](#)

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## **WT Woodson 5K for the Trevor Project**

W.T. Woodson High School is hosting a 5K Race/Walk and Fun Run to raise awareness and money for The Trevor Project. At Woodson, we have an extremely diverse student population. In raising money for the Trevor Project, we hope to support their mission to further mental health awareness for all students. This is a community 5K and Fun Run for students at Woodson High School, families, friends, and community members. The race is organized by students, and will take place on Saturday, April 30.

Price: \$25.00 Race Fee + \$2.45 SignUp Fee

Registration: Price increases to \$35.00 after April 15, 2022

Registration is here: <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Fairfax/WTWoodson5k>

Flier: <https://mantuapta.org/documents/df/2021-22/flyers/woodson-5k.jpg>

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## **2022-2023 Kindergarten Survey**

Mantua ES needs your help in projecting the Kindergarten enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year. Virginia Law, section 22.1-254, requires children who will reach their fifth birthday on or before September 30, 2022, to be enrolled in Kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year unless the parent or guardian notifies the school in writing that they do not wish the child to attend school until the following year.

If you have a child who will be five years old on or before September 30, 2022, please complete [this form](#) and return it **no later than March 31, 2022**. If any of your neighbors have children who will be eligible for Kindergarten, please share this information with them, as we are especially interested in reaching those Mantua families who do not have children currently attending school.

The information on this survey will help the school plan for adequate facilities and personnel for the 2022-2023 school year. **Please email the completed form to Mergie Kakouris at [mbkakouris@fcps.edu](mailto:mbkakouris@fcps.edu)**. We thank you in advance for returning the form **no later than March 31, 2022**.

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## **COVID Vaccination Status**

You may wish to voluntarily share your child's COVID-19 vaccination information with Mantua ES. However, we do not require your child's vaccination information and no school employee will ask for your child's

vaccination status. If you would like to provide us with your child's vaccination status, please bring your child's COVID-19 vaccination card or a photocopy of the card to Ms. Kakouris in the front office. COVID-19 vaccination documentation contains Protected Health Information and should not be emailed.

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## Seventh Grade Immunization Requirements

Effective July 1, 2021 all students entering 7th grade will be required to receive one dose of each of the following immunizations prior to the beginning of school: Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis booster (Tdap) given at age 7 or older, and Meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) given at age 10 or older. Seventh grade students cannot begin school in August without proper Tdap and Meningococcal documentation.



Acceptable documentation to submit to Mantua ES can be one of the following:

1. An immunization record showing the month, day, and year the immunization(s) was given.
2. A note on a healthcare provider's letterhead stating the month, day, and year the immunization(s) was given.
3. A healthcare provider's written statement of a permanent or temporary medical exemption for a student who cannot receive the immunization due to medical reasons.
4. A notarized Religious Exemption Form, which is available online at: [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/health\\_medical/certificate\\_religious\\_exemption.pdf](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/health_medical/certificate_religious_exemption.pdf)

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## Children Ages 5-11 Now Eligible to VaxUP!

Children ages 5-11 are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. FCPS is collaborating with the Fairfax County Health Department, Inova, and the Virginia Chapter of the American Association of Pediatricians to offer community-wide access to vaccines as soon as possible. Vaccines are expected to be available at mass vaccination sites really soon. Check with your local pharmacy or pediatrician for appointment availability. Up-to-date information about vaccination opportunities will be available on our website.



In the meantime, you may have questions about the vaccine. We talked with local pediatricians to answer some of the most common questions. First, we asked how the vaccine works and about its safety. Hear what they have to say in this [short video](#).

- [Return to School - COVID-19 Vaccination for Children Ages 5-11](#)

- **[Message from the Superintendent](#)**
- **[FCPS Nov. 3 newsletter](#)**

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## **NEW! 2022-2023 School Year Calendar**

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### **Join the PTA!**

Please visit our webpage at [MantuaPTA.org](http://MantuaPTA.org) and click **JOIN PTA NOW!** Dues are \$20 per family and get you discounts on PTA sponsored clubs. Our dues fully support our free programs so that every penny of our fundraisers goes right back into the classrooms. Follow us on Facebook to get the inside scoop on all our events and programs - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MantuaPTA/> - Can't wait to get started!



Any changes in dismissal transportation need to be requested by emailing the Mantua Attendance ([Mantuaelem.attendance@fcps.edu](mailto:Mantuaelem.attendance@fcps.edu)) by 11:00am, so the office has time to relay that change to the classroom teacher. No early dismissals will be permitted after 3:30pm.

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### **Visitors Welcome**

The most updated guidance from FCPS indicates that we can welcome visitors and volunteers. Our Visitor Management System is back up and running in the main office. Visitors who will be engaging with students will need to check-in using this system. Please know that the Visitor Management System requires that visitors have their licenses when checking in. Our teachers may begin to solicit parent volunteers through their parent communication.

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### **How to Submit an Announcement to the PTA News**

Please [complete this form](#) to have a Mantua ES- or Mantua PTA-related announcement placed in the weekly Mantua PTA News, on our [Facebook page](#) and/or on [MantuaPTA.org](http://MantuaPTA.org).



The form guides you through all the pieces of information we need to put out complete announcements.