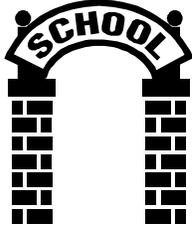


Southeast Parent News

September and October 2003



We welcome everyone back to another fabulous year at Southeast

Elementary School. This year our theme is T.E.A.M. "Together Everyone Achieves More." We look forward to this new school year with you.



SCHOOL REMINDERS

- ◆ Absent Students: Please use our direct Attendance line: 423-2793.
- ◆ Students with Early Dismissal: Please send in a note if possible. The parent/adult must "sign out" the student in the office.
- ◆ Students Going Home with Another Student: Please use the Green Bus Form. This gives the bus drivers the information they need to safely transport our students to a different destination.

Southeast Elementary School Receives National Environmental Award

Southeast Elementary School received a national award on September 17 for its outstanding environmental work. Southeast is piloting the national Green Flag Program, which works with schools to teach kids a hands-on approach to solving environmental health problems before they start. Southeast is one of the nation's first schools to take part in this proactive program, which will be launched this week at schools throughout the country. The

Southeast Green Thumbs Club received the highest-level Green Flag Award for its outstanding recycling work.

Southeast was presented its award at a ceremony held at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. State Senator Donald Williams presented the Green Flag Award and a legislative citation honoring Southeast. Also in attendance was State Representative Denise Merrill, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Schimmel, Principal Norma Fisher-Doiron, Teacher Mickey Maheu, Town Recycling Officer Virginia Walton, and Green Flag Committee Member Dermot Pelletier representing Southeast. That afternoon, a ceremony was held at Southeast School. The Green Flag Award was presented to the Green Thumbs Club for their environmental work within the school and community. The school was honored to have Mayor Betsy Patterson, Town Manager Marty Berliner, Director of Maintenance Jim Gaudreau, and Dr. Schimmel in attendance at this ceremony.

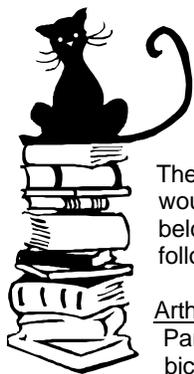
What Is the Green Flag Program? Lois Gibbs, the activist and housewife, who 25 years ago, battled toxic wastes in Love Canal, New York, and won, founded the Green Flag Program. "There are many school programs that teach young people about the environment, the Green Flags Program is the first that teaches them how the environment effects their health," said Gibbs. "In this program, students learn how to prevent environmental health problems before they start."

Through the Green Flag Program, students become detectives, proactively investigating potential environmental hazards, such as pesticide spraying, toxic cleaning products, and mold, and stopping them before they become a problem. The program encourages students to work with teachers, administrators, facilities people, parents, businesses and community members to



ensure that their school environment is safe and healthy for kids. Gibbs was inspired to create the Green Flag Program after the *Child Proofing Our Communities Campaign*, which she founded, reported that in hundreds of schools across country, children were experiencing environmental hazards that were making them sick. "One after another, we heard horror stories of kids sick with rashes, asthma, or worse," said Gibbs.

When it became clear that many of these problems could be prevented, Gibbs decided to start a program to teach school communities to take precautions.



Stories for Southeast The Gift That Keeps on Giving

The Southeast Elementary School PTO would like to thank the individuals below for their purchase of the following books for our school library:

Arthur's New Puppy... thank you to Miss Parker for teaching me to ride a bicycle... from Katherine Ouimette;

- Fields of Fury: The American Civil War... in remembrance of my grandfather who was a WWII veteran ... from Lukas Miniutti;
- Mission to Mars... in memory of "Mama," our beloved turkey... from Evelyn Flaherty;
- The Hardy Boys: The Secret of the Lost Tunnel... to Mrs. Latino... thanks for helping to make Evan's last year at Southeast both successful and positive... from Evan Fulton and Family;
- The Hardy Boys: The Sting of the Scorpion... in honor of Mickey Maheu, Mansfield's Teacher of the Year 2004... Ellen and Eric Goldberg;
- The Survival Guide for Kids with LD (Learning Difficulties)... in honor of Mickey and Bernie Maheu on becoming grandparents... Ellen and Eric Goldberg;
- Who's That Knocking on Christmas Eve?... to Mrs. Roy... thanks for a great year... from Ethan Fulton and Family.

If you are interested in purchasing a book for our library, please contact Mickey Maheu for information.



REMINDERS TO PARENTS

Please do not send children to school with Gameboys or hand held games. The school cannot be responsible for their loss or damage. Thank you _____ for your help.



Please check both _____ the PTO Bulletin Board near the _____ Gym and the Community Bulletin Board outside of the office for news and happenings.

FROM THE GREEN THUMBS CLUB



The Green Thumbs Club is collecting the following items for recycling:

- old cell phones,
- dry cell batteries,
- worn out athletic footwear (no metal cleats),
- and used toner and inkjet cartridges from your home or office.

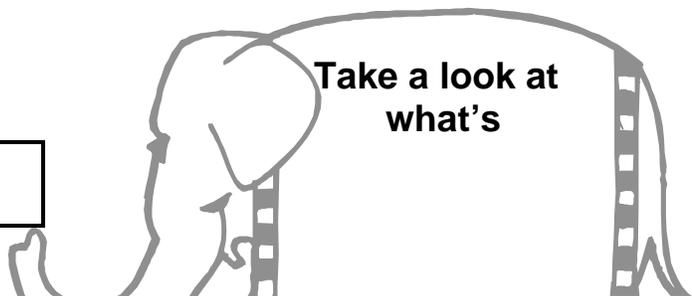
Collection boxes for the cell phones, batteries, and athletic footwear are located in the hallway between the kitchen and the all-purpose room. The toner and inkjet cartridges can be brought to the computer lab or sent to Mickey Maheu's room.



PTO FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Just a quick note to let you know that the company sponsoring the Wrapping Paper Fundraiser has donated \$500 worth of books to the school - just for initiating the fundraiser. Each grade received books. We at the school are very appreciative.

Take a look at
what's



**happening for
the months of
September and
October**

All events at Southeast unless stated otherwise.

September

Rosh Hashanah starts Friday, Sept. 26

CMT Make-up Testing Thursday, Sept. 26
Through Oct. 4th

October

Board of Education Thursday, October 23
Meeting 7:30 p.m. Council Chambers,
Town Hall

Photo Day Friday, Oct. 3

PAC Meeting Monday, Oct. 6
6:00 p.m.

PTO Meeting Monday, Oct. 6
7:00 p.m.

Mad Science After Monday, Oct. 6
School Program begins

Yom Kippur Monday, Oct. 6

Southeast Carnival Saturday, Oct. 11

No School Monday, October 13
Columbus Day

No School Tuesday, October 14
Common Curriculum Day

Enrichment Team Meeting Thursday, Oct. 16

Enrichment Clusters Friday, Oct. 17
Begin

Board of Education Thursday, October 23
Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, Town
Hall

Halloween Friday, October 31

CONGRATULATIONS

MICKEY MAHEU

**Has been chosen Mansfield's
Teacher of the Year**

And

**Mickey is a Semi-finalist for the
Connecticut Teacher of the Year.**

GOOD LUCK MICKEY!

In pursuit for Finalist!

