



SOUTHEAST NEWS

October - November 2013

Southeast Elementary School, 134 Warrenville Rd., Mansfield Center, CT 06250 423-1611

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This school year is off to a fantastic start. The children have adjusted to the new expectations of their teachers and grade levels, and have already begun to bond with their classmates. I have had the pleasure of getting to know many of the children by name, and am happy to be greeted with warm hellos or a brief hug each day.



Fall is an exciting time at Southeast. We are looking forward to several events that are familiar, and some new ones as well. The first event is our Fall Carnival on Sept. 28th. (see article below for details) Senora Hutton, along with several other SE teachers have organized an international pot luck dinner called "Savory Samples." The event takes place on Oct. 22. Finally, there are 2 new events that I am hosting for the SE community. The first is a discussion about last year's 3rd/4th grade CMT score results. This will be held from 6:30 - 7:00 pm on Oct. 7th in room 22 prior to the PTO meeting. The other is an event on Oct. 17th where several of our talented strings players will perform classical music. After that, we will brainstorm ideas as a whole school community to include in a new school vision statement. I will be facilitating the process and would appreciate everyone who has an interest in helping define our future goals at SE to join us for this very special event.

I am especially excited for the fall this year. The leaf changes in New England are breathtaking. I enjoy hiking and hope to spend some time with my children on the beautiful Mansfield trails. I hope you get to spend some time enjoying the fall foliage with your families, as well.

Fondly,
Lauren Rodriguez, Principal

Fall Carnival and Silent Auction

September 28th 10:00-3:00
Silent Auction ends at 2:00



Come one, come all! Bring your friends! Lots of games and prizes, Bounce House, Cake Walk, Smoothie Station, Bella the Clown, Face Painting, Henna Art, Cotton Candy, Balloon Sculpture, Mansfield Fire Truck, Bake Sale, and Food by Tacos de Rosa. Our Silent Auction offers gift baskets, one-of-a-kind handmade items, gift certificates for goods and services from local businesses, and so much more.

The PTO organizes this event and all of the money raised goes to the PTO's General Fund which pays for enrichment programs, healthy snacks for nutrition month, running club, student scholarships and more.

We would like to thank Erin Christopher, Mary Palmer, Patty Braithwaite and Jean Johnson for their hard work in coordinating the carnival and auction.

Calendar of Events

September

Sept. 28th... 10:00-3:00 Southeast Carnival and Silent Auction

October

Oct. 7..... 7:00 PM- PTO Meeting

Oct. 8..... Fire Prevention and Safety Education Day



Oct. 11..... 4th Gr. Field Trip to Pequot Museum

Oct. 14..... **NO SCHOOL** - Columbus Day

Oct. 15..... **NO SCHOOL** - Professional Development Day

Oct. 17..... 6:30 PM- Creating a School Vision

Oct. 21..... Trestle Tree arrives at Southeast



Oct. 22..... 6:00 PM- Savory Samples International Dinner **POTLUCK DINNER**

Oct. 30..... 4th Gr. Field Trip to Florence Griswold Museum

Oct. 31..... Halloween



November

Nov. 1..... Gr. 2 Field Trip to Old Sturbridge Village



Nov. 3..... Daylight Savings Time Ends- fall back 1 hour

Nov. 8..... 11:00-1:00 Picture Retake Day

Nov. 11..... **NO SCHOOL** - Veterans' Day



Nov. 12..... **NO SCHOOL** - Professional Day for Teachers

Nov. 22..... Progress Reports go home

Nov. 25..... **12:45 PM Early Dismissal**

6:00-8:00 PM- Parent/Teacher conferences (by appt.)

Nov. 26..... **12:45 PM Early Dismissal**

2:00-5:00 PM- Parent/Teacher conferences (by appt.)

Nov. 27..... **12:45 PM Early Dismissal - NO Preschool Classes**

Nov. 28..... **NO SCHOOL** - Thanksgiving Day



Nov. 29..... **NO SCHOOL** - Thanksgiving Holiday

Take Home Notices go Electronic



This is the last week that paper notices will be sent home with students. We will go "paperless" beginning Oct. 4th. Only time-sensitive notices, urgent notices, and fundraisers will be sent home in paper form.

If your family requires a paper copy of all notices and you have not yet notified us, please let us know as soon as possible.

Attendance Line/Nurse: 423-2793 Please call by 9:00 AM if your child will be absent or tardy



Savory Samples at Southeast School

(formerly known as International Potluck Dinner)

October 22, 2012 6:00 PM

Everyone is cordially invited to attend "Savory Samples at SE School" to be held on Tuesday, Oct. 22nd at 6PM. Each family is asked to bring a prepared dish to share. It should be a food that is typical of your ethnic background. Also, it would be appreciated if you would write the name of the food you are bringing and the country of origin of the recipe.

We hope to see lots of families on this special night. It should be a great opportunity to meet other families and to celebrate our heritage. The event will take place in the All Purpose Room at our school.

We need to know how many people will be attending. Please contact Diane Hutton at huttondm@mansfieldct.org.

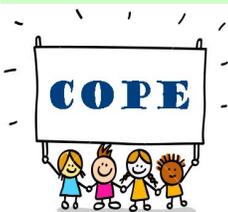
Southeast Running Club Fall 2013

3rd and 4th Grade



This club is a 10 week training program that enables kids to complete approximately 12 1/2 miles by running incremental distances each week. As we work to reach our long term goal of 25 miles, third and fourth graders will develop life-long fitness skills, a feeling of accomplishment and self confidence. Because the program is individualized for all ability levels, all kids can participate and be successful.

This club meets after school until 4:45. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy.Parker@mansfieldct.org or Diane.Hutton@mansfieldct.org



Mansfield Youth Services would like to invite your child to participate in **COPE**, a positive youth development program for kids who have experienced changes such as a divorce, death in the family, a school transition, parent who is away (such as for military deployment), or who may need help making friends.

UConn Students will be available once a week during lunchtime to mentor any interested students.

This program is open to students in grades 1-4. If you have any questions regarding this program, or would like to have your child enrolled, feel free to contact Kate Bohannan at 429-3318 or email BohannanKM@mansfieldct.org

Notes to Teachers

When sending notes to teachers for parent pick-up, etc. please make sure that the paper you write the note on is large enough to be found by the teacher. Tiny scraps of paper are often overlooked or get lost.

For your convenience, we've put a generic form on our website. You may find it handy to use.



Southeast Schoolwide Enrichment Team Schedule of Meetings 2013-2014

Members of the Schoolwide Enrichment Team meet to discuss ways to bring enrichment activities, such as the Science Fair, Math Night, assemblies, residencies, guest speakers and enrichment clusters to all Southeast students. Anyone from the Southeast School community is welcome to join the Enrichment Team. Our current team includes a few parents, several teachers and an administrator.

The following dates have been scheduled for Schoolwide Enrichment Team Meetings. I hope these days and times are convenient. We will have meetings in the morning of the third* Tuesday of the month in the enrichment room (Room 22) from 8:15-8:40. Your children can come to school with you and read or do other quiet activities until buses arrive. If you are interested in participating in these meetings please let me know or just come to our next meeting. Thank you. Susan Irvine-Enrichment Teacher

Susan.Irvine@mansfieldct.org 423-1611 Ext. 122

Tues. Sept. 17th	*Tues., Feb. 25th
*Tues., Oct. 22nd	Tues., Mar. 18th
Tues., Nov. 19th	*Tues., Apr. 22nd
Tues., Dec. 17th	Tues., May 20th
Tues., Jan. 21st	

*When there are conflicts, SET Meeting will be held on the



Meet Miss Vaz!



Congratulations to all of our parents, guardians, students and staff on a fabulous first month of school! I can't *boolieve* it's already October. J I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Jillian Vaz and I am this year's Schoolwide Enrichment Intern alongside the fantastic, Sue Irvine. I am currently a graduate student in the University of Connecticut's Neag School of Education, pursuing a master's degree in Elementary Education. When I am not busy in school as both a teacher and student, I love to run, go to the beach and of course, cheer on my fellow Huskies! Last year I had a wonderful experience student teaching first grade in Killingly, CT and I am excited to begin exploring other grades.

During the course of the 2013-2014 school year, I will be working one-on-one with students, as well as in small groups and as a whole class, to provide your children with a variety of learning opportunities. I am thrilled to be a part of the Southeast community and am looking forward to working closely and creatively with all of the teachers and students in the school. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at vazjl@mansfieldct.org, or my internship supervisor, Sue Irvine at irvinesb@mansfieldct.org.



Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Labels for Education

These can be brought in throughout the school year. Last year we purchased recess equipment and a bench for the playground. For more information email Patti Jajliardo at: jajliardo@sbcglobal.net

We will be making our first Box Tops for Education & Labels for Education submission on November 1st. Please get as many labels in as you can by Friday, October 25th.

DISTRIBUTING BIRTHDAY INVITATIONS

Occasionally, students want to invite other students to non-school sponsored parties and wish to hand out their invitations at school. This process creates a variety of problems. Therefore, we have established the general practice that invitations may not be distributed at school.



We have compiled a directory of addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for your child's class. We will only share the information you provided to us at the beginning of the school year. Directories are available for your child's class by request only. We ask that you please be mindful of privacy and do not share anyone's contact information without permission.

Snack Time



Please don't forget to pack a snack for your child. Snack time is part of most classroom routines.

Children are encouraged to bring healthy snacks such as fruit, vegetables, juice, etc. in non-breakable containers.

Snacks are not supplied by the teachers or the school.

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

The weather is changing and temperatures are dropping. Dressing your child appropriately for the weather is important. Students will be sent outdoors for recess, weather permitting. It is important for the students to go out in the fresh air and exercise.



As fall turns to winter, please be sure your child has a winter coat, gloves or mittens and hat. For your child's comfort please include boots, snow pants and an extra pair of dry socks when there is snow on the ground.

Thank you for your extra effort .



Flu Clinic Offered by VNA East Monday, September 30th

VNA East will offer SEASONAL Flu immunizations (flu shots & flu mist) for Mansfield Public School students and their families again this year. Consent forms and vaccine information forms are available at the VNA East, Inc. Website: www.vnaeast.org and will be available the day of the clinic.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine as soon as vaccine is available this fall.

www.cdc.gov/flu

Where: Mansfield Middle School Cafeteria

When: Monday September 30th from 3:00-6:30pm

Insurances accepted: Medicare B, Anthem, Aetna and ConnecticutCare. Bring your insurance cards.

Cost without insurance: Flu Shot \$30, FluMist \$35 (Cash or check)

Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Be Flu Smart.....

This time of year, it's important to brush up on the symptoms of Influenza, and what you can do to safeguard yourselves and your families.



Influenza is a viral infection that can make you feel very sick. It is generally spread from infected droplets in coughs or sneezes.

Symptoms generally come on suddenly and include: fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headaches, and fatigue. (some people may also experience vomiting and diarrhea. This is more common in children than adults).

The best treatment for the flu is prevention. Unless contraindicated, individuals should receive a flu vaccination each year during the fall. Generally, flu season peaks from March to November. It's also important to wash your hands regularly, eat healthy foods, get plenty of rest, and avoid exposure to those that may be sick.

There are antiviral medications that may shorten the duration of the flu and lessen the severity of the symptoms. If you have flu like symptoms, you should contact your health care professional to discuss your options.

Go to www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/index.htm to find out more information.

**Any questions regarding
return to school after illness,
call our school nurse**

Ingrid Hanka, R.N.

423-2793

Health Room/Attendance Line

What does the PTO do?

If you are a parent at Southeast Elementary School, you are **already a member** of the PTO.

We **fundraise** to pay for things like field trips, assemblies, books, technology, playground supplies, enrichment programs, 4th Grade Moving on Ceremony, healthy snack and much more!

We **volunteer** in classrooms to read aloud, lend an extra hand or share an expertise.

We **serve on committees** to help plan and organize functions, carry out our mission statement and goals.

We **attend and help out** at events like the Fall Carnival and Fun in Our Own Backyard.

We **appreciate and support** our school staff through funding programs, buying supplies and holding special events.

Upcoming PTO Events:

October 4: Jeannine Catalog Fundraiser **orders due**

October 7: **CMT Discussion** with Mrs. Rodriguez (6:30-7:00 p.m.) **PTO Meeting** (7-8:30 p.m.)

November 4: **PTO Meeting** (7-8:30 p.m.)

November 25-27: **Bake Sale, Butter Braids & UCONN Book Fair**

How can I get involved?

We can always use help with fundraising and events. The more volunteers we have; the lighter the load for everyone.

We do not need only money. We need you! What is your talent? What do you love? Please share it with our school and our children!

You do not need to come to PTO meetings to volunteer at our school! Sign up for e-Alerts and the Southeast PTO e-mail to stay informed & involved.

Q & A with Mrs. Rodriguez

Q. What are your special talent?

A. I play piano and softball.

Q. What is your favorite word?

A. I like lots of different words, but today it is SWANKY!

Q. What is your idea of happiness?

A. Reading an old or new story to my children, Angelique and Matt.

Q. What is your favorite food?

A. I love sugar snap peas!

Q. What talent would you like to have?

A. I would like to love to run. I am hoping that the Mileage/Running Club can help me!

Q. What are you afraid of?

A. I have a 12 year old green iguana that used to be a classroom pet many years ago. I was very scared of her when I first met her, but quickly learned how to take good care of her.

Q. Red Sox or Yankees?

A. Yankees! (since I was born). My favorite player has always been Don Mattingly, but Derek Jeter and Mariano Rivera also top my list.

Q. What is your favorite thing about Southeast School?

A. How everyone helps and supports each other!