



# SOUTHEAST NEWS

## October - November 2014

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

To Our Southeast Community;

I hope your school year is off to an exciting start. I would like to welcome back our 155 returning families, and would also like to welcome 29 new families to our school. The beginning of the school year always marks a refreshing start for teachers and students, alike, and gives us all a new reason to dream. Everyone has returned feeling refreshed and energized. Students are adjusting well to the challenges of a new grade, or a new teacher and new expectations.



There are a few curricular changes that I wanted to share with you. Our third and fourth grade classrooms are implementing an updated version of the Bridges Math Program this year. Kindergarten through second grade implemented this new program last year and will continue to implement it this year. The teachers are also continuing to implement the units designed to teach the CT Core Standards. They have been working hard over the past three years to implement grade appropriate units in all content areas.

Many of you know that we have been searching for our next school psychologist. I have good news to share that the search has concluded. It is my pleasure to announce that we have hired Mr. John Murch as our school psychologist. Mr. Murch comes to us with a varied array of experiences at all grade levels, but most recently from Windham Technical High School. We think his calm demeanor and genuine care and concern for people will be evident from the moment he steps foot into Southeast on October 6. Please stop by, and welcome him to our Southeast family.

I hope to see you at the PTO Carnival or our Savory Samples event in the upcoming weeks.

Warm regards,  
Lauren Rodriguez

**New Phone Number**  
**423-2793**



Attendance Line.....ext. 1  
Nurse.....ext. 2  
Kitchen.....ext. 3  
Staff Directory (teacher's voicemail)....ext. 5  
Office.....dial 0

### Calendar of Events

#### September

Sept. 27... SE Carnival & Silent Auction

Fall  
Into  
Fun  
at the School  
Carnival!



#### October

Oct. 2..... 6:00-7:30 PM - Savory Samples International Potluck Dinner



Oct. 6..... 9:15 AM - PTO Meeting  
3:00-7:00 PM- VNA Flu Clinic at MMS POTLUCK DINNER

Oct. 7..... Fire Prevention Day



Oct. 8..... 1<sup>st</sup> Gr. Field Trip to Buell's Orchard (9:45-1:15)

Oct. 13..... **NO SCHOOL** - Columbus Day

Oct. 14..... **NO SCHOOL** - Staff Professional Development

Oct. 15..... 4<sup>th</sup> Gr. Field Trip to Florence Griswold Museum

Oct. 29..... 4th Gr. Field Trip to Pequot Museum

Oct. 31..... Halloween



#### November

Nov. 2..... Daylight Savings Time ends - fall back 1 hour

CHANGE YOUR CLOCK

Nov 3..... 6:30 PM - PTO Meeting



Nov. 4..... Picture Retakes

CHANGE YOUR BATTERY

Nov. 6..... 6:30 PM - Family Literacy Night

Nov. 10..... **NO SCHOOL** - Staff Professional Development

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



Nov. 24..... 12:45 Early Closing / **NO PRESCHOOL CLASSES**  
2 - 5 PM- Parent Teacher Conferences (by appt.)

Nov. 25..... 12:45 Early Closing / **NO PRESCHOOL CLASSES**  
6 - 8 PM- Parent Teacher Conferences (by appt.)

Nov. 26..... 12:45 Early Closing / **NO PRESCHOOL CLASSES**

Nov. 27..... **NO SCHOOL** Thanksgiving Day



Nov. 28..... **NO SCHOOL** Thanksgiving Holiday

Attendance Line/Nurse: 423-2793 ext. 2 Please call by 9:00 AM if your child will be absent or tardy.

# WELCOME

We are thrilled to announce that Mr. John Murch will be joining us as Southeast's new School Psychologist. Mr. Murch will begin on Monday, October 6th. Please see Mrs. Rodriguez's letter on the front page of this newsletter for more information about him.

Welcome to Mrs. Richelle Strimple - Southeast's new Special Education Instructional Assistant. After years of family rearing for two former Southeast students, and years of substitute teaching, Mrs. Strimple is joining us to provide support for special education students. We feel lucky to have her skills and talents at our school.

## Fall Carnival and Silent Auction



**September 27th 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, Face and Nail Painting, Maple Cotton Candy, Mansfield Fire Truck, Bake Sale, and Food by Tacos La Rosa. Fundraisers for the Fisher Family will include a lemonade stand and spin art station. Demi Strong bracelets will also be available for purchase.

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 the PTO Officers, as well as Patty Braithwaite, Cyndi Wells, Simona Augyte, Noreen Halbrooks, and Ron Mott, for their hard work in coordinating the carnival and auction.

**Rain or Shine**

**Come Join the Fun! We hope to see you there!**



## Great News for Parents of English Language Learners!

Our Southeast School website has a translator for many languages. Just go to the website, scroll down to the bottom right and "Select a Language".

[www.mansfieldct.gov/southeast](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/southeast)

Free English lessons for adults are available at the public library and at EO Smith High School. For more information go to this website:

[www.vrabe.com/content/mansfield.asp](http://www.vrabe.com/content/mansfield.asp)

## Help Our English Language Learners! WE NEED YOU!



Diane Hutton, our Spanish and English Language Learners teacher, is searching for a parent who would work from home to create daily graphics of our lunch menu. Our non-English speakers need to be able to see the pictures of the menu items so that they can make their lunch choices for the day.

**Volunteer Job:** Look at the menu for the day. Determine the lunch choices. Search Google Images (or other site of your choosing) to find a close picture of the choice. Cut and paste onto a PowerPoint or Word document and email it in. Complete the next week of the menu and submit the Friday before.

Can you help — even if it is for a couple weeks? If so, please contact [diane.hutton@mansfieldct.org](mailto:diane.hutton@mansfieldct.org) or call 860-423-2793, extension 7680.



## 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 on Fridays after school until 4:45. Registration is required. If you have any questions, please contact:

[Betsy.Parker@mansfieldct.org](mailto:Betsy.Parker@mansfieldct.org)  
[Diane.Hutton@mansfieldct.org](mailto:Diane.Hutton@mansfieldct.org)

## Save the Date: Oct. 2nd Savory Samples at Southeast



The school will be looking very festive and the tables will be set for a wonderful evening of sampling very unique, delicious recipes from countries around the world. Over 100 Southeast family members and staff came together last year to enjoy generous helpings of savory foods from more than 30 different nations. It was truly a tribute to the diversity of our Southeast family!

## Biomes Aquarium Enrichment Program



Hello Southeast families! I am very excited for my first major project as a UCONN intern at Southeast School. Starting October 2nd I will be coordinating the Biomes Aquarium Enrichment Program in the enrichment classroom. The 20-gallon saltwater aquarium will be at Southeast until November 4th. Each week the sea life will change and every class will

have the opportunity to visit and participate in hands-on interactions with the new creatures. Some of the creatures that will be visiting Southeast are:

**Week 1:** Echinoderms- sea star, sea urchin, sea cucumber

**Week 2:** Crustaceans- spider crab, barnacle, shore shrimp

**Week 3:** Mollusks- periwinkle, oyster, quahog

**Week 4:** Fish- striped minnow, puffer fish, flounder

For more information please contact me at [silverman-ja@mansfieldct.org](mailto:silverman-ja@mansfieldct.org). You can also contact Enrichment Teacher, Susan Irvine at [susan.irvine@mansfieldct.org](mailto:susan.irvine@mansfieldct.org). Visit the Biomes website at [www.biomecenter.com/aquarium-programs](http://www.biomecenter.com/aquarium-programs).

## Parent Volunteer Needed

Mr. Hendricks is looking to work with one parent to help bring left-over lost and found clothes to WAIM, the Windham Area Interfaith Ministry, a non-profit organization that assists Windham area residents who are in need of assistance. This would involve bringing a bag or two of clothes to Willimantic during a weekday morning. If you are interested, please let Mr. Hendricks know by sending an email to [james.hendricks@mansfieldct.org](mailto:james.hendricks@mansfieldct.org).



## Take Home Notices Go Electronic

Southeast is going "paperless" beginning Friday, Sept. 26th. 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.



## Meet the UCONN Grad Interns

Hello and welcome back to another year! We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves. We are this year's graduate interns from the University of Connecticut's Neag School of Education. All of us are studying to become elementary school teachers. This is our last year at UCONN, and we are all working on getting our Master's degrees. We look forward to meeting all of the great students and staff here at Southeast and becoming a part of such an incredible school.



### Writer's Workshop (Kaytlyn and Christina):

This year, we will be working with students in kindergarten, first, and second grade focusing on Writer's Workshop. Throughout Writer's Workshop we will be implementing Lucy Calkins writing instruction to create lifelong writers. Our goals are to have every student publish a piece of writing they are proud of and to foster a love of writing in our students.

### Enrichment (Julie):

This year I will be working with the enrichment teacher, Sue Irvine. I will be helping to run some really exciting enrichment projects such as a month-long marine biology unit for all students starting in a few weeks. I will also be helping various grades with intervention for students at all levels. I am excited to work with so many great teachers and students this year.



# THE SCHOOL NURSE BULLETIN

## OCTOBER 2014



Stephanie G. Knutson, MSN, RN, Education Consultant for School Nursing

### Overview of Non-polio enteroviruses

Non-polio enteroviruses are very common viruses. They cause about 10 to 15 million infections in the United States each year. Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) is one of many non-polio enteroviruses.

Anyone can get infected with non-polio enteroviruses. But infants, children, and teenagers are more likely to get infected and become sick. That's because they do not yet have immunity (protection) from previous exposures to the viruses.

Most people who get infected with non-polio enteroviruses do not get sick. Or, they may have mild illness, like the common cold. However, in rare instances, some people can get sick and have serious complications. Similar to the common flu, infants and people with weakened immune systems may be more susceptible to experience such complications. Good hygiene practices should be exercised to prevent the spread of germs to these vulnerable populations.

You can get infected with non-polio enteroviruses by having close contact with an infected person. You can also get infected by touching objects or surfaces that have the virus on them then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.

There is no specific treatment for non-polio enterovirus infection. People with mild illness caused by non-polio enterovirus infection typically only need symptom treatment. They usually recover completely. However, some illnesses caused by non-polio enteroviruses can be severe enough to require hospitalization.

In the United States, people are more likely to get infected with non-polio enteroviruses in the summer and fall.

For additional information on non-polio enteroviruses, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/ev-d68.html>.

**Keep Your Child from Getting and Spreading ENTEROVIRUS D68**

- Avoid close contact with sick people
- Cover your coughs & sneezes
- Wash your hands often with unwashed hands
- Clean & disinfect surfaces
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Stay home when you're sick

www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/EVD68/

### Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ Overview of Non-polio Enteroviruses.
- ◆ Immunization Grace Periods and Waivers.
- ◆ Letter to Connecticut School Nurses from Massachusetts Division of Health Professions Licensure: Fieldtrips.

# SOUTHEAST PTO

Parents and Teachers Working Together to Support the Southeast Community

## Mission Statement

The Southeast PTO has many opportunities for families and staff to collaborate on initiatives throughout the school year. Each family and staff member is a part of the PTO and we welcome and need as much involvement as possible.

## Upcoming Events

Sat. 9/27 10-3 P.M. Fall Carnival and Silent Auction

10/3 Jeannine Fundraisers due

10/6 - 9:15 A.M. PTO coffee hour , Room 3 (young children welcome).

11/1- Fisher Family Fundraiser Event (stay tuned)

## Contact

### Co-Presidents

Erin Clark and Erin Christopher

### Co-Secretaries

Lena Rossi and Jennifer Mott

### Treasurer

Amy Dunstan

We want and need to hear from you. If you have an item to be brought to our attention, please e-mail:

southeastschool.pto@gmail.com so we can add it to the meeting agenda.

## PTO News and Updates

To kick off the school year, the PTO **sponsored an ice cream social**. Look for what the PTO sponsors each month in upcoming newsletters!



We have begun selling **Demi Strong bracelets** to raise money for the Fisher Family Fund. During the Social and the Open House, we were able to raise \$833. If you would like to purchase a bracelet, they will be for sale at our school carnival.

Attention future scientists! Don't forget to sign your child up for the **after-school science program**. Sue Harrington will teach 4 sessions focusing on Paleontology, the study of life long ago. The program for grades 3 and 4 will meet on Tuesdays, October 7, 21, 28 and November 4 from 3:30-5:00. Grades 1 and 2 sessions are already full. Some scholarships are available if requested.

A new morning **PTO coffee hour** begins in October! We are very excited to offer this opportunity to meet at a time that may work better for some parents in our Southeast community. Please join us in **Room 3 on Monday, October 6 at 9:15 a.m.** Young Children are welcome to come with you! Bring a travel mug and fill up at school!

**Student Directories** should be available by the end of October. We are excited about this new resource!

**Coming November 4th-** Please visit the **PTO's Election Day Bake Sale** at the Mansfield Library. All proceeds to benefit your PTO. Donations for the sale can be dropped off in the school office.

Thank you to Patty Braithwaite for organizing our school pictures in September. Thank you to Erin Ballou for organizing our Jeannine fundraiser!

Thank you to all of those who organized and volunteered at our back-to-school ice cream social! What a nice evening to visit and enjoy our families!

## PTO Involvement

### 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. We now have a Facebook page as well! Search Southeast Elementary School PTO and like our page so that you can stay connected.



## Here is a list of Silent Auction Items!

Please join us this Saturday 9/27 at the SE Fall Carnival for our Silent Auction. 10 am-2 pm on the blacktop. Below is a partial listing of available items to bid on. Spread the word, invite your friends and family, this is a major fundraiser for our school.

**Classroom Baskets:** baking materials, playground games and activities, Spa, Pet supplies, - Science Boredom Busters, Arts and crafts, Birthday, Getting Ready for Winter, UCONN Huskies

**Southeast Experiences:** a bike ride with Miss Parker, a family picnic with Ms. Rodriguez, school spirit bag, priority parking per month

**Additional items include:**

-Mansfield Community Center 3 month individual membership, Mansfield Academy of Dance \$25 gift certificate, 2 tickets to Beardsley Zoo , Skating lessons at Bolton Ice Palace, 4 passes to Bounce-U, 2 tickets to Project Oceanology, art supplies from the Lily Pad, passes to Quassy Amusement Park, \$50 gift certificate to Jorgensen, passes to Old Sturbridge Village, gift certificates to local grocery stores including Stop and Shop and BJ's, gift certificates to local eateries including Nita's, Dog Lane Cafe, Ablebee's, Asian Bistro, Angellino's, Bagel One, Mooyah's and MORE....

2 adult ski passes to Mohawk Mt., 1 year membership to Super Future Fitness, family ticket to Cedar Ledge Tree Farm, dentistry and orthodontic care baskets from Dr. Calef and Storrs Family Dentistry, XC or snowshoe equipment rentals at EMS, Avon gift basket, violin, cello and voice lessons from Suzuki teachers and parents, cooler on wheels from True Value, local artwork, dumpster rental from Willimantic Waste Co., baked goods and soups

gift certificates for massages, manicures, haircuts from local businesses, pet supplies from local veterinary services including Green Valley and East Brook Animal Hospital, AND MORE.....