

# The Sangster Source

November Issue

November 17, 2011

## PTA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! I can't believe we are already into the holiday season. I hope you get to enjoy that turkey lunch at school with your child!

Did your children have fun during the Race for Education? I saw lots of smiling faces as the children walked, ran, and sprinted around the track. I heard there were groups of students dancing the Macarena too. We completed our Race and I would like to report that it was very successful. Pledges and donations brought in over \$26,000. I want to thank Linda Whitestone and Jan Swicord for donating their time to plan and implement the Race this year. All of their efforts paid off! Thank you to Paul MacKinnon for keeping the music going all day. And lastly, THANK-YOU to all the students

and their families for donating their time and pledges to the event. It would not be successful without everyone pulling together.

I hope you had a chance to stop by the ice-cream social on Tuesday. Thank-you to Karen Layser for planning that fun event. Watch for



Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

more upcoming Family Fun events.

There were 42 entries submitted to the Reflections Program this year and a thank-you goes out to Menne Dodd for taking the lead on that National PTA program. This is a wonderful Art program and the submissions can be viewed in the cafeteria.

Our school directory will be here soon and I'd like to thank Karen Ray, Denise Rosensteel, and Lora Mote for putting the data together, printing, and running the art contest for the cover. Remember if you are a PTA, you will receive a free directory.

The Fairfax County Council of PTAs has requested that our PTA discuss putting surveillance cameras in the high schools. This topic is on the school board agenda and they are looking for parent input. We will be discussing this during our next PTA meeting on December 1st. In the mean time, I will post any background information that I can find for us to consider.

**Monica Grose**  
PTA President

**Sangster Elementary**  
**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
everychild.onevoice.

### Dates to Remember

Monday, November 21st  
Thanksgiving Breakfast  
For teachers

Wednesday, November  
23rd  
2-hour Early Release

Thursday and Friday  
November 24th– 25th  
NO SCHOOL  
Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, December 1st  
7:00 pm—Room R4  
PTA Meeting



### PTA Officers

**President**  
Monica Grose  
monicagrose@verizon.net

**Vice President**  
Linda Whitestone  
lbwhitstone@cox.net

**Secretary**  
Carol Ochs  
cochs153va@verizon.net

**Treasurer**  
Michelle Nocerito  
mnocerito@aol.com

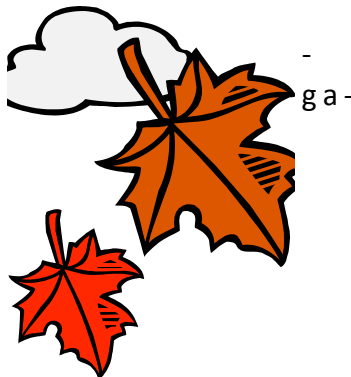
## A Season for Thanksgiving

The weather has turned cooler and the leaves have changed color and are falling – bringing forth the time-honored tradition of raking leaves! This season also brings about a wonderful community feeling of thankfulness and giving. The Sangster community certainly has a plethora of things to be thankful for – beginning with an outstanding group of students to work with each and every day! In addition, we enjoy outstanding parent support!

The end of the first quarter is here and our parent conferences are just about complete and report cards will be sent home soon. We normally have 96-98% parent participation and this year is no exception. There is no question that parent participation and student

achievement are directly linked, and our school's achievement rates certainly show that.

We are gearing up for the annual days long | a



Everyone must take time to sit and watch the leaves turn.

~Elizabeth Lawrence

known as the Thanksgiving lunches. The children look forward to sharing lunch with their parents, friends and teachers – we hope that everyone will make an effort to attend. We realize that schedules are hectic

for everyone and getting away for a school lunch is not easy. Almost every child has a parent or relative present for lunch and for those who are alone, staff members fill in as surrogate family members for the day but it is never the same to the child. I hope everyone is able to attend with their child (ren) on their scheduled lunch date. Information has been sent home with each class' day and time. Please call the office for any other information that is need. Tickets need to be pre-ordered using cash – we want to make sure we order enough turkey for everyone!

We hope that your Thanksgiving has a crowded table with family and friends, fun and laughter as we all celebrate everything we have to be thankful for... enjoy your feast!



## IT'S BASH THE TRASH! AT SANGSTER

Wednesday, December 14th  
Grades K-3 from 9:15-10 am  
Grades 4-6 from 10:00-10:45 am



# A NOTE FROM YOUR PTA VICE PRESIDENT

Thanksgiving...a perfect time to offer our thanks for so many things at Sangster. First, a great big thank you goes out to everyone who participated in this year's PTA fundraiser, the Race for Education. We simplified the process, gave parents and students more choices, and raised an incredible amount of money that will benefit our school. We are a lucky community and our students will benefit greatly from your generosity. Another thanks goes out to everyone who came on Race Day and supported the runners, walkers, joggers and dancers. You see, that was the student's part of this fundraising effort, the running, so they had a lot to be proud of and seeing their faces around that track was beautiful. They were so excited to have a role in helping their school and to be a part of our efforts. Way to go parents AND students!

Sangster held another annual fall event, the Book Fair! Along with that, the PTA held the annual Ice Cream Social in the cafeteria to provide sugar and extra energy for all of our Book Fair shoppers. It was a fun event and we appreciate Karen Layser and the Family Fun Committee for all of their efforts supporting the Ice Cream Social. The Hospitality Committee is also very busy, hosting the annual Thanksgiving Breakfast for the Sangster faculty and staff. This is our way of showing them how thankful we are for everything they do. Thank you Robyn Enderle and all of those volunteers for providing wonderful food for this special event.

Are you looking to help out with the PTA and not sure what you'd like to do? We still have a lot of vacancies on our committees and can always use more volunteers. Sometimes it's a simple task that only takes a few minutes of your time, but may lighten the load for someone else. Have a look at the committees on our website and contact the committee chairman. They would love to have your help!

During Thanksgiving, we are all quick to say an extra thanks to our teachers, our friends, and even our service providers. How about if we say an extra thank you to our children? What would happen if all of us gave an extra hug and told our children that we were thankful for them? Give it a try...

Linda Whitestone

Sangster PTA

## Did you happen to visit Sangster on Veteran's Day?

It was the incredible site of patriotic colors, symbols and guest speakers. We were fortunate to have The Military Spousal Group arrange a flag raising ceremony for the students to see. We also had a huge flag hung in the entryway and lots of smaller, student-colored flags decorating the walls of our school. We really appreciate the Military Spouses Group for coordinating these special things for our students on Veteran's Day.



## Sangster Elementary School

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Sangster PTA



# Thanksgiving



## General Mills Box Tops for Education



Box tops first submission was Nov 1st.

We submitted almost 175,000 box tops!

That is almost 1750.00!

Our goal is \$4000.00.

Next submission date will be in February. Box Tops are found on most General Mills cereals products, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Yoplait yogurts, Huggies, Kleenex, Hefty, Ziploc, Green Giant and other everyday products. Just look for the box top symbol and clip the coupon (be sure and check expiration date). For each Box Top turned in, our school will receive \$.10 to be used for instruction and learning! Please turn in all Box Tops to your child's homeroom teacher.

## Redesigned FCPS Website Is Now Live

FCPS has launched a completely redesigned school system website (<http://www.fcps.edu>). There are several changes in the new site that have improved navigation and make the site more user-friendly. Bookmarks that you have created for quick access to your favorite pages on the old site **will no longer work**. Here are some helpful tips for navigating the new site:

- The most-searched-for information will be available by clicking the maroon buttons at the top of the page, making it easier to find the information you are looking for as a parent, student, employee, or community member.
- Some of the most frequently visited pages are now available through one click on the left side of the home page.
- The A-Z site index is available on every page in the top right corner.
- Click on Quick Links, also on the home page, to find links to other popular pages.

Also, if you are using printed materials with a Fairfax County Public Schools URL or link, some of those links may not work on the new website. Go to [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu) and click on one of the tabs at the top of the page to access more information and **make new bookmarks** for the pages you frequently visit.