

The Sangster Source

A newsletter from the Sangster PTA

DECEMBER ISSUE
Dec. 10, 2012

PTA NOTES AND NEWS

The calendar says December, but the temperatures say otherwise – at least on some days. But rest assured, it is December, and Winter Break is just around the corner! Before that happens, we have lots of activities and celebrations to keep the students and parents busy this month. We have already had a visiting author, Cynthia Lord, come to Sangster this month, your students will soon enjoy their classroom winter parties, and the chorus and hand bell ensemble will provide a concert. It's a busy time at our school!

"... we have lots of activities and celebrations to keep the students and parents busy this month."

A very big THANK YOU goes out to all of our wonderful volunteers who helped serve, clean, and count tickets and money during Thanksgiving lunches for the students and their families. It was a great week with a lot of smiles and proud Sangster students. We had even more volunteers working at the Book Fair that the children enjoyed after their Thanksgiving lunches. The students were busy browsing and shopping with their family and guests. We appreciate the many hours of work it took to make it a great week!

The Sangster generosity continued with

relief efforts for Hurricane Sandy victims in New Jersey. With your donations, we were able to fill an entire moving truck with items like clothing, shoes, diapers, gifts and pet treats. That truck was a welcome sight to the shelter in New Jersey, and we appreciate your participation in that effort. Having the donations

in the school's front entryway was especially important, because the students were able to see the project, ask questions and participate by turning in the donated items to each

box. Thank you for your support of this important project.

If you have any shopping to do this month, don't forget about our Amazon link on the [PTA Web site](#). Sangster gets a percentage of the sales, so as you're filling that shopping cart, know that a portion of your transaction will benefit our school.

Whether staying at home during the Winter Break or enjoying some travel days, stay safe, happy and healthy. We wish everyone Happy Holidays and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Sangster Elementary
PTA[®]
everychild.onevoice.



[Sangster Elementary School](#)

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Dates To Remember

Monday, Dec. 24–Monday, Jan. 1
Winter Break

Thursday, Jan. 3
PTA Meeting, 7 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 21
Student Holiday

Friday, Jan. 25
Second Grading Period Ends

Monday, Jan. 28–Tuesday, Jan. 29
Student Holidays

Thursday, Feb. 7
PTA Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 8
Grade 2-6 Level IV Referrals Due

Monday, Feb. 18
Student Holiday

Monday, March 25–Friday, March 29
Spring Break

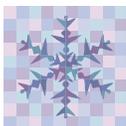


Sangster Fundraising Opportunities

Did you know that you can support Sangster with your everyday purchases? Check out these easy ways to help your school!

- **Shop with Amazon:** Find the Amazon link on the [Sangster PTA home page](#) (sangsterpta.org) under "Useful School Links." Raise money for Sangster just by buying items on Amazon!
- **Sally Foster:** Simply use Sangster's fundraising code (504034) at checkout, and Sangster will receive 40% of the proceeds. It's a great way to stock up on holiday supplies and help your school. See page 2 for more information.

"An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't."
Anatole France



Season's Greetings!

As the weather begins to turn cold, the excitement of winter break begins to build in the school. This time of year is always fun for the entire school community. It begins with a brilliant turnout for our annual Thanksgiving lunches and continues with 4th grade's Colonial Day. We look forward to fun-filled days of learning of course but also classroom celebrations. Many families will be traveling this holiday season and throughout the winter for a variety of reasons. Family vacations are certainly very valuable and a wonderful time, and we appreciate those families who have notified us of their students' absences – please know that we do not ask teachers to provide work for students who take

extended trips. Instruction is based off of the mastering of skills, and the timeframe can change based on how students respond to instruction; moreover, most instruction needs to be in the classroom. We ask that students who go on extended trips continue to read nightly and keep a trip journal – this keeps them actively involved with literacy skills. To reinforce math skills, review basic addition, subtraction and multiplication facts. For lower-grade students, have them help count out money when paying in cash or have them make change. Encourage upper-grade students to spend wisely – give them a set amount of money and have them budget for their wants. Most certainly, we want them to enjoy the quality time with their families. During the school day, if you are checking

your student out early, please remember that you must sign him/her out before 3:30 – thank you!

Students' last day of school before the Winter Break is Friday, Dec. 21, which is a full day of school. Students will return on Wednesday, Jan. 2. Sangster's main office will be closed during the winter break.

As we get closer to the dark, cold days of winter, please pay close attention to the weather – if there is a chance of snow or ice, watch your local news for school closings and delays.

We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season filled with lots of family, friends and good fun! Best wishes and Happy Holidays!

More Sangster Fundraising Opportunities

- **Collect Box Tops:** Cut out box tops from selected products, and turn them in to your child's teacher.
- **My Coke Rewards:** Purchase Coke products and enter codes online.
- **Giant/Safeway:** Go to the store's Web site, enter your loyalty card number, and designate Sangster as your school of choice. You can also e-mail your bonus card numbers to Ms. Jankovich at ALJankovich@fcps.edu.

Sally Foster Is Back

Sally Foster is back at Sangster, but she is bringing all of the good and leaving out the hassle. No more forms. No more pressure. Simply order online and let Sally come right to you — or your friends' or family's — door.

- Go to www.SallyFoster.com and click **Support a Fundraiser**.
- Click the **Support a School or Group** radio button, then **Continue**.
- Type **504034** in the **School/Group Account Number** box, then **Continue**.
- Confirm **Sangster Elementary School**, then **Continue**.

Have your order shipped directly to you. Shipping is free for orders more than \$50 and just \$3.95 for orders less than \$50.

Sangster receives 40% of the proceeds from every order that uses our code. So please encourage friends, family and colleagues to shop Sally Foster and help us earn dollars for our school.

Volunteers Still Needed!

Sangster continues to need family support to make all our wonderful activities run smoothly throughout the year. We can't continue all of these great activities without your participation. Please complete our [online volunteer form](#) by accessing sangster.pta.org and then clicking **Join/Volunteer**, then **Volunteer Form**. It takes less than one minute to complete! Thanks for supporting your school!

2012-13 REFLECTIONS PROGRAM: "THE MAGIC OF A MOMENT"

Ramona Morrow, President of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs (FCCPTA), says that FCCPTA values Reflections as the most important program in which our students can participate. We feel the program allows students to express their most creative inner thoughts through their individualized talents.

SANGSTER ELEMENTARY RESULTS OF PARTICIPANTS

Visual Arts and Photography was judged by Ms. Charla Wilkerson, an artist with The Workhouse Arts Center's Visual Arts Department.

Photography

- Charles N., 1st – Special Artist, Title: Magical Fireworks
- Zoe G., 1st – Primary, Title: The Perfect Colors
- Zoe G., 2nd – Primary, Title: The Moon is Magic to Me
- Alexander R., 3rd – Primary, Title: Green Turns to Red
- Dylan F., 1st – Intermediate, Title: Two Ducks In One Lake
- Catherine N., 2nd – Intermediate, Title: Magic of a Double Rainbow
- Mallory A., 3rd – Intermediate, Title: Imagination Soaring
- Ashtyn S., 1st – Middle, Title: Semper Fi Homecoming
- Katie P., 2nd – Middle, Title: Beautiful Bright Leaves

Visual Arts

- Charles N., 1st – Special Artist, Title: My Magic of a Moment at Disney World
- Ethan G., 2nd – Special Artist, Title: The Cycle of a Butterfly
- Karina N., 1st – Primary, Title: Young Girl Petting a Dolphin
- Kealani N., 2nd – Primary, Title: When We Celebrate
- Lauren G., 3rd – Primary, Title: Magic of a Moment Fireworks
- Sydney D., 1st – Intermediate, Title: The Magic of Landing an Axel
- Elijah W., 2nd – Intermediate, Title: When You Open a Book
- Sarah C., 3rd – Intermediate, Title: The World Gaining Color Again
- Chloe S., 1st – Middle, Title: A New Day
- Joshua Y., 2nd – Middle, Title: The Magic of a Moment

Is The Turning of Autumn

- Sarah E., 3rd – Middle, Title: The Magic of Nature

Dance Choreography

Dance Choreography was judged by Ms. Christine Legowik, a dance instructor with the with The Workhouse Arts Center's Education Department.

- Serena S., 1st – Primary, Title: Moments of a Lifetime
- Victoria W., 1st – Intermediate, Title: Live While We're Young

Musical Composition

Musical Composition was judged by John-David Sayle, a musical instructor with The Workhouse Arts Center's Education Department.

- Zoe G., 1st – Primary, Title: Magic, Magic, Magic
- Lauren G., 2nd – Primary, Title: Magic is so Cool!
- Kayla R., 1st – Intermediate, Title: Up and Away
- Ryan M., 2nd – Intermediate, Title: Walking Down Pike Street
- Ariana R., 3rd – Intermediate, Title: Mystery Tears

Literature

Literature was judged by Mr. Mark Bibbee, Principal at Cherry Run Elementary School.

- Charles N., 1st – Special Artist, Title: My Magic of a Moment at Legoland
- Lauren G., 1st – Primary, Title: I Love Magic
- Catherine N., 1st – Intermediate, Title: My Magic of a Moment
- Adam G., 2nd – Intermediate, Title: Magical Soccer Moment
- Adam G., 3rd – Intermediate, Title: Magic

The Sangster PTA Reflections Committee would like to thank and congratulate each participant for their beautiful entries in this wonderful program. Contact Reflections@SangsterPTA.org with questions or for more information.

PTA Officers

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