



THE FULLER FALCON

Fuller Middle School Newsletter

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From the Principal's Desk: We are excited to announce that we have received two wonderful contributions toward the priorities of our school, Literacy and technology. Mr. Maynard wrote a grant to the Mott Foundation on behalf of our school, and we were awarded a check totaling \$15,000! The check has been received already. In addition, one of our parents anonymously donated \$1,500 in cash to be used toward Literacy and professional development. We appreciate this wonderful and generous gesture from our parents.

Kelian Roche, eight grade student, has been selected to represent Framingham in Project 351. Project 351 is Gov. Deval Patrick's administration's new program aimed at encouraging students to serve in their communities. When Sara Hamerla, Kelian's teacher, read a news article last month about Project 351, which will gather one middle school student from every district as part of Patrick's inaugural celebration, she knew who should represent Framingham. "She's an honor student, she has values. She helps other students with their homework and welcomes new students to feel comfortable in the school." "I feel proud of myself," Roche said of her nomination. "I'm honored to represent my school and my town."

Here is the link to the MetroWest daily news article.

<http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/highlight/x198684501/Framingham-girl-looks-forward-to-Project-351>

NEW INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC INSTRUCTOR NAMED

We are pleased to introduce **Mr. Andrew Jasinski** as our new music teacher. Mr. Jasinski comes from Reading, Pennsylvania where has worked with students in elementary, middle and high school. He has participated in a number of ensembles including band, chorus, orchestra, jazz groups, and show choirs. His experience also extends to participating in musicals and as an instructor in a competitive high school marching band. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Music. We are very pleased to have Mr. Jasinski join our Fuller staff and excited about the new direction of the music program here at Fuller.

LITERACY AND LEARNING

We have had grade level assemblies with students to discuss how *they are investing in their own learning*. We will go over the following areas in the assemblies, *your job as a student – how do you manage your own learning – why is it important to do your school work – where do you get help – why do we give you so many tests – and the importance of literacy and math*. We plan to conference with students so they can partner with us in managing their own learning and self improvement.

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We will be honoring students every month for a variety of achievements as recommended by their teams. We had a number of students recognized at the Turkey Trot and a new list will appear in the next newsletter for the December honorees. The award is named “**WE NOTICED**”.

PTO

We extend our appreciation to the parents who attended our **PTO meeting** here last evening at 7 pm and to our teachers for their informative presentations. The agenda included teacher presentations from the 3 grade levels about major projects and a presentation about the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) tests that the students will be taking in the next few weeks.

NAEP

Fuller has been selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (**NAEP**). NAEP is given by the U.S. Department of Education to 90 of our eighth grade students. The results are published in a report called The Nation’s Report Card. We are scheduled to administer it on February 2.

« Le Journal Français », contributed by Mrs. Brush

As a culminating project in our 7th Grade French class, our students experienced the culture of France as they enjoyed authentic French cuisine “au café”. *Bien sur*, they had to order and converse in French throughout their meal! All students did exceptionally well.

Our event would have never been such a great success without the help of parent volunteers. Along with the many food contributions, our 7th grade French class would

like to take this opportunity to thank; Ms. Mullaly, Ms. Herscovici, Ms. Crossland, and Ms. O'Callaghan who was solely responsible for making amazing crêpes.

Our 8th grade French class had voted to perform a Fashion show in the auditorium on January 12. Due to a snow day, this has been rescheduled for tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. They have been working feverishly for weeks in order to develop a theme and compose an arrangement that illustrates their unique styles. *Sans doute, La Mode* will be thoroughly entertaining. It is a “must see!”

Compassion, character building, authenticity, and leadership are sometimes rare qualities in a young person's life. As teachers, we sometimes have the fortunate opportunity to witness students who make these thoughtful choices and it is important to recognize them for their “random acts of kindness.” I would like to acknowledge Nicole Burkett, Eustaquio Dones, Stephanie Bitsoli, Macia Pinkwas, Jaeda Rose, and Diana Eduoard for their exceptional character. As we all well know, how we deal with a particular situation could possibly have great influence over another person's life.

PURPLE TEAM NEWS

The students on the Purple Team are working hard in all academic areas. In Math, students recently wrapped up a unit on probability. They created posters, played games, and participated in stations to help them understand basic probability. They are currently learning about the divisibility rules. Did you know you can tell if a number is divisible by 2 by looking at the last digit? If it is a 2,4,6,8, or 0 the number is divisible by two. Students will also be learning about fractions, factors, multiples, and prime numbers. There are many hands-on projects and cool activities we will be doing in class to learn about these topics. In Science, students are learning about genetics. Do you know brown eyes are dominant over blue eyes? Students are using Punnett squares to find out what happens when genes are crossed. This is also connected to Math because they are practicing percentages too! Right now, they are using Spongebob Squarepants to learn about genes! In Language Arts, students are writing news articles about their vacation. They are also participating in literature circles to read short stories about teen immigrants. Many students have been able to connect to these stories and share stories about their families in the small groups. The teachers on the Purple Team believe it is important to recognize students for outstanding effort, attitude, citizenship, and teamwork. We have dedicated a bulletin board to recognize such students who go above and beyond each day. Our star students at this time are: Jesus Garcia, Alicia Garland, and Tanisha Cancel. As we all know winter weather is hitting us full blast! If you are looking for a way to stay toasty and warm consider buying a Fuller Falcon Scarf. The Purple Team will be selling the scarves at lunch. They are blue and white fleece scarves. Students may purchase the scarves for \$5.00. Keep your special Fuller Falcon warm this winter!

Upcoming Events:

- Basketball teams are alive and well! Each middle school will be fielding a team to compete with each other. Please check the schedule.
- Fuller is hosting the IMLEM math competition (about 120 students) on Thursday, January 20th.
- Jade Team Science class to visit Genzyme: January 21
- Fuller Musical "Bye, Bye Birdie": Thursday, January 27th and Friday January 28th at 7 pm, Saturday, January 29th at 5:30 pm
- 8th Grade Medieval Museum: Wednesday, February 9
- Fuller Variety Show: Friday, February 11

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