



The Kuss Cougar

Matthew J Kuss Middle School

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Middle School**
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WELCOME TO OUR FIRST EDITION!

It is my pleasure to introduce the first edition of the Matthew J. Kuss Middle School newsletter. A school encompasses students, educators, families and the neighborhood community. We believe it is important for all of us to work together and share responsibility for student success. Conveying the many accomplishments of our students is an important part of any learning community. As you read of the wide range of learning activities and displays of achievement, realize that you are a vital element in the learning process. It is important that you participate as our students show what they have accomplished with your help. Come and enjoy the musical and acting talents of our students as they perform the musical *Oliver!* Our future scientists will be displaying their experiments at the yearly Science Fair. The support and participation of the entire school community guarantees continued student accomplishment as we prepare our students to become productive, contributing members of society.



-Nancy Mullen, Principal

Check us out on our website! Find out about after-school programs and upcoming events, and view a full calendar and other information about Kuss Middle School.

www.fallriverschools.org/kuss.cfm

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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Weds, 2/1	Parent Viewing of Science Fair Entries, 6-7:00 pm
Thurs, 2/2	Science Fair, 8 - 11:30 am
Fri, 2/3	KMS Drama Presents <i>Oliver!</i> , 7-10:00 pm
Sat, 2/4	KMS Drama Presents <i>Oliver!</i> , 7-10:00 pm
Sun, 2/5	KMS Drama Presents <i>Oliver!</i> , 2 - 5:00 pm
Tues, 2/7	Pick up Report Cards, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 6-8:00 pm
Weds, 2/8	Pick up Report Cards, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3:45-5:00 pm
Fri, 2/10	Valentine's Day Dance
Mon, 2/20 -Fri, 2/24	Winter Break
Fri, 3/2	BCC Career Day, 7th Grade



Scan Me!!

4th Annual Science Fair

On Thursday, February 2, Kuss Middle School will hold its Fourth Annual Science Fair. Eighth grade students will be showcasing projects on diverse topics ranging from effects of pollution on plant stomata to how the spin of a ball affects its trajectory to

color perception. Students created their own questions last year and have been busy researching and testing. We are very excited to draw on representatives from the community, the Fall River schools, and local colleges as our judges. Students will take

the top three projects to the Rensselear/BCC Regional Science Fair on March 10. Last year Alexia Hernandez from Kuss won second place in the state competition, we are looking forward to similar results this year!

It's Black History Month!

Complete a quiz for a chance to win a prize from Mrs. Mullen!
[Click here](#) on the website version of the newsletter.

THE LEARNING LINKS

www.Quizlet.com

A fun, interactive way to make online flashcards to quiz yourself, friends and family.

www.freerice.com

Feed the hungry by answering vocabulary questions and provided grains of rice for each correct answer!

thatquiz.org

A math test website that allows you to adjust the choose concepts and difficulty you need.

studyjams.scholastic.com/studyjams/index.htm

An interactive Science website that covers many topics with short movies, activities, and inventive music.

Tech Tip

Use **CTRL + F** in documents and on websites to find exact words and phrases fast! Great for editing and research!



**ELA MCAS
In March...
Be Prepared!
Believe...Achieve!**

Kuss News and Notes

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fallriverschools.ORG

Be Not Afraid of Greatness...

8th Grade is starting their study of Shakespearean Drama. With a school-wide focus on Keys to Literacy, the 8th Grade will continue to use top-down webs to present the connection between the essential questions and concept vocabulary.

What Do You Want To Be?

All 7th Grade students are travelling to Bristol Community College on Friday, March 2nd to participate in their annual Career Day. Students will have the opportunity to explore many different career options, such as computer science, engineering, and psychology.

Goll!

Students in 8A and 8C head to the Gym with Ms. Pereira on Tuesday, 1/31, to play soccer... speaking only Portuguese. The students will play against each other, learning Portuguese soccer terminology as they compete.

It's Epic...

7th Grade students will begin a unit about the Greeks, a yearly favorite. They will explore mythology, the origin of the Olympics, and the many city-states. They will also read *The Illiad*, the epic poem about the City of Troy.

KUSS CARES.

The Wellness Initiative at Kuss Middle School is a comprehensive approach to addressing the overall needs of students, families and the school community. Our mission is to integrate academics, health and social services to improve student learning, develop stronger families and create healthier communities.

Through the creation of collaborative partnerships with community based organizations, Kuss and its' partners share resources to enhance personal growth, professional experiences and extended learning opportunities for the whole school community.

Kuss' Wellness Initiative is sponsoring an after-school enrichment program on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. This program will run until the

beginning of June, 2012. Program activities include dance, sports, fine arts, culinary arts, student fitness, Math support, and Olympiad. These programs will be facilitated by Kuss teachers.

We have also partnered with the Family HealthCare Center at SSTAR to offer an exciting after-school enrichment program for girls, Tues. and Thurs., from 3:45-4:45p.m. "Girls on the Right Track" will be led by Dr. Holly Alexandre, MD, physician at SSTAR. The program is designed to address life skills needed to promote positive decisions, avoidance of risky behavior and channeling energy towards exercise. The culminating activity will be the girls running in the Thomas Giunta Memorial 5K Road Race on April 1, 2012.