

*"A mother is not a person to lean on but a person to make leaning unnecessary."*

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# Grey Matters

Volume 2

May 9 – 13, 2005

Number 32

Happy belated Mother's Day! I hope all of the AB Moms were treated with breakfast in bed and were able to enjoy a relaxing and lovely day. While the weather wasn't spectacular, at least everyone had a chance to get out without getting soaked!

Attention 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents, if you have a request with regards to your child's placement for next year, you may pick up a placement request form at the Junior High Office. These forms are due back to the office by May 20.

Last Friday night, we held our last 7<sup>th</sup> grade dance of the year. In recognition of their near completion of the year, the 7<sup>th</sup> graders were able to enjoy the privilege of their first night dance. With almost 200 in attendance, fun was had by all. Thanks to staff members Gabrielle Berberian, Kellie Carter, Chris Mohn, John Duclos, Maureen Lin, Melanie Scalice, and Heather Pochatek, as well as parents Jan Couch, Bonnie Masserang, Lea Ritterova, Eve Frasier-Corp and community members Jim Goodemote and Leo Gower for donating their time and energy to make this dance safe and successful.

Under the guidance of Advisors Kellie Carter and Gabrielle Berberian, the Student Council created and implemented our 2005 Tsunami Relief Walk-a-thon. With donations from the Welch corporation and Puma, the entire school participated in this two day event. Taking the concept of community service to heart, the amazing student of RJG collected over \$8,000 dollars in donations!!!! Families of Acton and Boxborough, you should be proud of your children's maturity, energy, and dedication to make this event happen. Two students, Emily Siegel and Alex Diorio deserve special recognition for bringing this idea to our school. They did most of the initial leg work to make this great idea come to fruition.

This high level of achievement can also be found in the World Language Department. Of the over 100,000 students who take the United States National Spanish and French Exams, RJG showed again that we are the cream of the crop. 51 RJG Spanish students scored in the top 10% on the Exam while 4 RJG French students scored in the top 8%. Congratulations to the great students of RJG and the World Language teachers for creating such an outstanding program.

While it is a couple weeks away (the weeks of May 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>), the conclusion of the "MCAS Season" is just around the corner. Grade 7 students will take the English Language Arts Language and Literature, Math, and History and Social Science tests, while grade 8 students tackle the Math and Science tests. Please continue to help us make the day successful by being sure that all students are well rested, have had a good breakfast, and arrive on time. RJG students have always performed extremely well in the MCAS, and I am confident that they will do so again.

The end of the year is a busy time at RJ Grey. We have final exams, obligations to return books and other school materials, and the social activities. This year, the grades will be participating in separate activities on the last full day of school, June 22nd. The 7th grade will have a "field day" complete with a dunk tank (for teachers), relays, art activities, music, a student variety show, and much more. This will give the 7th graders a day to spend together with their friends before the summer begins.

The 8th grade class will go to The Thoreau Outdoor Center in Concord. We will have use of both swimming pools (with life guards) and the athletic fields, as well as the buildings. Students will have the opportunity to celebrate the end of their junior high career and the beginning of high school.

As we have more information about the cost and other details, we will pass them along to the students and parents/guardians. We will send out a request for parent/guardian volunteers for the day of these events through Jan Couch, our PTSO Co-Chair. We are excited about these events and hope that all students are able to attend. Please contact Assistant Principal, Carolyn Imperato, with any questions.