

*“In order to compose, all you need to do is remember a tune
that no one else has thought of.”*

Robert Schumann

Grey Matters

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I hope everyone had a restful and relaxing Thanksgiving holiday. It is always wonderful to have an opportunity to pause and reflect on our blessings and spend time with our loved ones. The absence of snow would have been a nice bonus but I guess our good weather luck had to end eventually.

Last Wednesday, RJG held its annual Thanksgiving Assembly. It was our first opportunity this year to bring the entire school together in one place, to bring to light the talents of our students, and to share in the spirit of Thanksgiving. Under the direction of Mr. Mark Hickey, the 7th and 8th grade bands played a great rendition of *Beach Boys On Stage*, *In The Mood* as well as the perennial “Hey” song. In addition, Mr. Specian led the 7th and 8th grade chorus’ through a wonderful performance of *Haida* and *What I Did For love*. The highlight of the event was a speech co-written and co-presented by Claire Wright and Emily Holmes on the spirit of Thanksgiving. The maturity, intellect, and school spirit of RJG students continues to impress me. It was an outstanding day.

A few weeks ago, I addressed the issue of overcrowded buses and the need to limit students catching a ride to a friend’s house, to music lessons, etc. I also mentioned that we will no longer be able to approve bus passes for extra riders on any of the Boxborough buses as they have reached their maximum capacity. Parents and guardians, please remember that if you want your child to ride on a Boxborough bus to which he or she is not assigned, you will need to arrange for alternate transportation. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

At the beginning of the school year, the teachers reminded all students that they should not bring valuable items such as iPods, large amounts of cash, jewelry, etc. to school. None of these items are necessary at school. If students choose to bring such belongings, please be aware that students are advised to keep them in their lockers.

That being said, there is a flaw in our locker security system. While the lockers are relatively secure, there are students who use a "Super Secret" method of manipulating their lockers so that it opens without needing to use the combination. While it may surprise some of these students, everyone else uses the same super secret method effectively leaving their locker wide open. Parents and guardians, please encourage your children not to bring valuables to school and to keep their lockers truly locked.

With Thanksgiving behind us, we have a solid month of relatively uninterrupted time before the winter holiday. The second term has begun and we are prepared for a lot of teaching and learning to happen before the next break. Let's get going!