

*"Say yes when nobody asked."*  
Lao proverb

# Grey Matters

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While the weather may feel more like early spring, it is December and winter is knocking on the door. For many kids, parents, and staff, the impending holiday season can lead to a predictably high level of stress. Please remember that there are many sources of support available. If you or someone you know is becoming overwhelmed, please let us know. Our counseling staff is available to help directly and/or to provide referrals to local agencies for support.

Some of you may receive interim reports this week. As I always say, an interim report does not necessarily mean a failing grade and sometimes, an interim report can be sent home to communicate good news! In general, however, interim reports are typically sent home mid-term when changes in behavior or performance need to be communicated. Should you receive an interim report, and have related questions, please contact the classroom teacher directly.

Providing our families with relevant resources and additional educational support is a priority. In this regard, I wanted you to be aware that starting in January, we will be offering monthly Parent Forums on a range of educational topics: Adolescent Development, Homework, School Discipline, and Stress Management. Additional information about these discussion forums will come out in January and we look forward to your participation.

We are sixteen weeks into the school year and the year 2006 is coming to an end. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the staff, students, and parents for making this first half of the school year so successful. I hope that everyone has a restful holiday break and enjoys the opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

I look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.

Craig Hardimon  
Principal  
R.J. Grey Jr. High  
16 Charter Rd.  
Acton, MA 01720

<http://ab.mec.edu/rjweb/index.html>