

“Aaeeyaaayaaayaaa....”

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Grey Matters

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The early taste of summer made this recent string of rainy days seem all the more dreary. For many of us, the rain brought the inevitable cancellations of weekend soccer and softball games. Hopefully, the warm weather predicted for the middle of this week will stick around so we can get all the make-up games in.

Last week, the students and staff of RJG completed the last round of MCAS testing and except for a few make-up sessions, we are done for the year. The students did a great job maintaining a respectful and quiet testing environment. I would like to thank the entire staff of RJG for making everything work so well with special acknowledgement to Megan Hatt, Debbie Kelloway, Rhonda Tibbetts, Janet Rodero, Caroline O'Brien, Margaret Gibbs, Heidi Porten, Marcia Charter, and Brigitte Seeley (TRC) for organizing this monumental task.

I hope everyone was able to see last week's Spring Band Concert. It was a wonderful performance. I want to make special mention of Chris Baird, Brass Ensemble Director, who I neglected to mention last week. From watching this group perform, it was easy to see how Chris' tutelage led the Ensemble to receive the Gold Medal at this year's MICCA competition.

An exciting thing about the RJG community is our talented student body. Not only do we have grand musicians, we also have outstanding vocalists. Don't miss the Spring Chorus concert this Tuesday night at 7:30PM. Bob Specian, our Choral Director and music teacher, has been working with our talented 7th and 8th graders all year and this concert promises to be an outstanding show.

For those of you who have been in the building over the last few days, the campaign signs have been hard to miss and the upcoming Student Council elections are scheduled for Wednesday, May 23. The students' enthusiasm as they get involved in this process is exciting to watch. Being a member of the student government is a wonderful opportunity to experience a leadership role and to have a voice in improving the communal experience for all members of the RJG community. Parents and guardians; please encourage your child to learn about the candidates and make decisions not on friendship but on who they believe will do the best job. I also need to ask your assistance regarding a few incidents of negative campaigning and vandalism. RJG is and has always been a supportive and respectful community. Please help us reinforce the expectation of appropriate behavior.

We are very excited about the RJG end of the year trips on June 19th. Kimball's Farm will be the destination for grade 7 students and Canobie Lake Park for 8th graders. If you would like to learn more about the specific locations, information can be found on the websites below:

- Kimball's Farm - <http://www.kimballfarm.com>
- Canobie Lake Park - <http://www.canobie.com>

We have less than a month left to the end of the year and RJG is as busy as ever. Important information regarding end of the year field trips will be coming soon. Students are working hard but should be encouraged to stay intrinsically motivated right through to the end of the year. Summer vacation is almost here.

Have a good week.

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