

“It’s never too late – in fiction or in life – to revise.”

Nancy Thayer

Grey Matters

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The weather this past weekend was wonderful, and it is easy to see that June is finally here. With summer in the foreseeable future, please be reminded that the last day of school is June 25th with much to do between now and then!

As the difficult winter extended our school year longer than anticipated, there are a handful of students that are scheduled to leave for camp and family trips before the official conclusion of the school year. Parents and guardians, if this is the case in your family, please make sure your child communicates directly with his/her teachers as soon as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Moving on to the topic of safety, for those of us that have driven around the school at the beginning or the end of the school day know children are everywhere. While we all hope children will be cautious as they cross driveways and/or parking lots, it doesn’t always happen. Last week a student inadvertently rode into the parking lot between two parked cars and was accidentally struck by a third, moving car. Luckily, the driver of this vehicle was moving slowly, and the student was not seriously injured. I comment on this not to speak to the details of this specific incident but to call all of our attention to the need to be very careful.

Parents and guardians, please remind your children they need to be vigilant when entering any driveway or parking lot, whether on a bicycle or on foot. Drivers, please drive slowly. Every day we have 1000 students entering and leaving the building, and it is absolutely essential that this process is safe.

One of the goals of the RJG Social Studies department is to help student develop a better understanding of their role as an individuals within the larger community and to become active and responsible citizens. With that in mind, our Social Studies department, under the visionary leadership of Lynne Bover, has sponsored and brought Theatre Espresso to RJG. Theatre Espresso is a traveling theater group that performs historical dramas and brings history to life for students.

Beginning last Wednesday and concluding this coming Wednesday, each team at RJG will have attended a special performance where actors, staying within character, will interact and talk with our students about the legal and moral issues being presented within each historical drama.

Specifically, eighth graders will be viewing *The Nine Who Dared: Crisis in Little Rock* (This performance is approximately 75 minutes). The seventh graders will be viewing *Justice at War: Japanese Internment Camps* (This performance is approximately 60 minutes).

Having had the opportunity to see last week's performance, I was absolutely impressed with the quality of the performances, as well as the opportunity for students to reflect on the legal and moral issues raised by the plays through discussion; issues pertaining to human rights, justice, and the connection between history and contemporary issues. Should you have any further questions, please speak to the Social Studies teacher on your team. I appreciate your flexibility regarding any schedule changes.

I am proud to say that our students continue to be actively engaged in the democratic process. Last week, candidates for Student Council office participated in our primaries with close to 20 students running for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Please join me in congratulating our finalists: John Sabbey for Secretary, Samarth Gupta for Treasurer, Elton Tian for Vice President, and Annalise McDonald for President.

On behalf of the RJG faculty, I would like to thank all of the candidates for participating in the Student Council Primary elections. Everyone was impressed with the time, effort and energy that went into preparing speeches, campaigning, and creating and hanging posters. There were many strong candidates, giving our students some great choices for the four available positions.

This Friday, June 5, is the Acton Boxborough Regional High School Graduation which takes place in our backyard on Leary Field. From student rehearsals to finalizing the seating arrangements, the field will be a buzz of activities. Congratulations to the ABRHS seniors. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Have a good week,

Craig