



# SCOTTSDALE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

## A Great Hearts Academy

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November 1, 2018

Dear High School Families,

This past month Scottsdale Prep celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> Homecoming week. During the week students participated in a variety of competitions, activities, and events to earn that ever-coveted extra R&R weekend. Between the singing (or in some cases yelling) of the fight-song, performing a dance, dressing in spirit wear, and attending several sporting events, it was a wonderful time to see students express and enjoy the spirit of the school. It is all the more appropriate that this spiritedness should occur during Homecoming week.

I love the idea in literature, philosophy, and in practice, of “home coming.” Whether it be Odysseus searching for Ithaca, Sydney Carton yearning for that “better rest,” or me going home at the end of the workday, this return home is rejuvenating. We find rest at home, and are often restless until we get there.

I think of the high school experience at SPA as one that prepares students to leave home. The experience hopefully shows them the necessity of maturity, of honesty, of responsibility, of virtues, and of joy. I want their time here to be filled with a spiritedness that loves the good things and wants to pursue them to the far reaches of the globe. And then, to come home to rest after their years of fighting the good fight.



My door is always open to you for ideas on how to better accomplish this. Thank you for partnering with us to discover the Truth, do the Good, and love the Beautiful.

Congratulations to the seniors for winning some extra Rest this quarter, and my thanks to all the students at SPA for their joyful spiritedness for their academic home.

Very best,

Brett Gilfillan, High School Assistant Headmaster