

December 10, 2019

Dear Upper School Families,

With only four short weeks' worth of classes before the January 17 end of the semester, there's been a great deal of activity and planning underway to round out the season.

Last week, PSAT scores came home with High School students. On Saturday, we enjoyed time with the 8th Graders reveling in Old English culture at the Folkmoot. Our Juniors are preparing diligently for their performance of [Much Ado About Nothing](#) in January, and Freshmen and 7th Graders are putting the finishing touches upon their pieces for the 12/19 [Winter Concert](#). A Spirit Night for all GHI families is being held tomorrow from 4:00-10:00 p.m. at Torchy's Tacos. Along with these events, nearly every grade has something exciting on the horizon to look forward to as we come back from the Winter Break. Keep an eye out for communications as upcoming events round the corner.

Your responses in our recent parent survey celebrated the curriculum and classical identity of our school. You also mentioned wishing to see more done to bring our student culture into a thriving state of joy, founded upon a deep sense of community between teachers and students. Along with the recent [refinement](#) of our approach to discipline, maintaining a robust offering of student opportunities like those mentioned above is key to bringing our school culture into maturity.

We always benefit from parent support in events such as these, so if you find yourself inclined and available to help in the planning or executing of student activities, please look for such avenues in our communications or reach out directly to the school to pitch in!

Warm regards,



Philip Althage
Headmaster, Upper School
Great Hearts Irving