

December 18, 2019

Dear Upper School Families,

The final weeks before our much-anticipated Winter Break have been filled with joy. Our halls are filled with the lovely voices of the seventh and ninth grade students practicing for their [Winter Concert](#) tomorrow evening, conversations about plans for the holidays, and a spirit of gratitude.

We especially appreciate the kindness shown by our community of parents. Thank you to Tony Nguyen and Steve and Lien Nguyen for providing lunch for our teachers last Friday and this Monday! From the annual Cookie Exchange, in which families brought an array of delicious baked goods, to the Christmas decorations that adorn the building, the faculty and staff have felt your generosity and love. We also want to thank all the parents participating in the Snowflake Fund. Visit our [Facebook page](#) to read how your donations are making a difference.

We have much to look forward to upon our return on January 6. The eleventh-grade Drama class will perform [Much Ado About Nothing](#) at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, January 10 and at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 11. Mark your calendars and [purchase your ticket!](#) Our second quarter, beginning on January 17, will start strong with events such as World Cultures Day, tours, and our third Acculturation Week. Stay tuned for a monthly calendar with more information!

Until then, we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We hope you travel safe, enjoy time with family and friends, and find all the rest and peace you need.

Warm regards,



Philip Althage
Headmaster, Upper School
Great Hearts Irving