



GARDEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Richard Marotta, Ph. D., Headmaster

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Thoughts for the Week

By *Richard Marotta, Ph.D., Headmaster*



Each year at this time, our school engages in a celebration of spirit and community. All grades gather in the gym for a Pep Rally, which celebrates Garden's basketball teams. There are shooting contests, an appearance by the Griffin, mock games, and an enormous amount of enthusiasm, screaming and great fun. Following the Pep Rally are double-header basketball games and then Pasta Night.

Throughout the day, you can feel the excitement rise as energy begins to build for the Rally, the games and the Pasta Night. What I love about this day is that the entire school community participates as one and shares in the spirit that is Garden School.

Events and celebrations, such as today's, strike at the heart of our school as a community that learns, plays and celebrates together. It also allows for all of our students to interact with other, cheer each other on and bond in ways that only members of a strong and tight-knit community can. The enthusiasm during the Pep Rally is phenomenal. Three and four-year-olds cheer on the older students as they go through the ritual of playing mock-games. To see a four year-old cheer for a seventeen year-old by name affirms the spirit and the oneness of our community.

All successful rituals end in a communal meal, which is why Pasta Night always occurs on this day. As a fund-raiser for the Senior class' prom, it is always successful. As a community event, touching all of us as learners, sharers in the same mission and lovers of our school, it is amazing. To see parents, children, relatives, grandparents, teachers, trustees, administrators, alumni and more all together eating, laughing and talking shapes an emblem of our school.

Today we are all together, sharing in the vision that is Garden School. For ninety-four years, families have supported and partaken in our community; they has nurtured it, sustained it and celebrated it. Today is a day to reaffirm our belief and commitment to Garden School. And yes, mangia!