



GARDNERTOWN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY NEWS LETTER



JANUARY 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear GLA families,

Happy New Year, Gardnertown Families. I hope that you had an enjoyable holiday season with loved ones. On January 5th, we welcomed our Pre-K-5 leaders back to the building. It was such a pleasure to see the beautiful faces return to school. As we embark on the final six months of the school year, we ask that you continue to support learning at home. The goal at Gardnertown Leadership Academy is to have our leaders grow academically and socially. The partnership between school and home is critical to the success of our young leaders. ***How can you help?***

Foster a "Leadership" Mindset: Encourage your child to take ownership of their morning and evening routines. When they manage their own backpack or organize their folders, they are practicing the independence we value at the Academy.

Daily Reading Habits: Spending just 15–20 minutes reading with your child each night makes a world of difference. Ask them questions about the characters or what they think might happen next to build critical thinking skills.

Prioritize Attendance: Every day counts! Being in the classroom consistently ensures your leader doesn't miss out on collaborative projects and key foundational lessons.

Celebrate Small Wins: Growth isn't just about grades. Praise your child when you see them show kindness, solve a problem peacefully, or try again after a mistake.

Stay Connected: Check your child's folder daily and keep an eye on our digital communication channels. Knowing what's happening in the classroom helps you start meaningful conversations about their day.

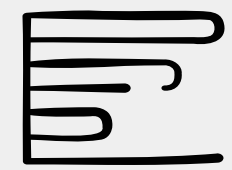
"Together, we are not just teaching students; we are nurturing the future leaders of our community. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership."

Sincerely,

Principal Dottin

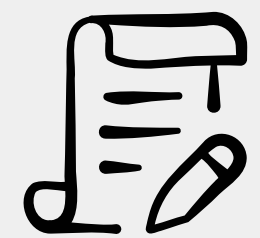


UPCOMING EVENTS



5TH GRADE MATH MEET

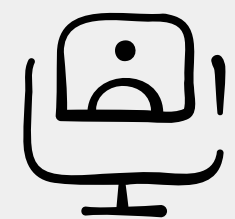
JANUARY 14, 2026



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

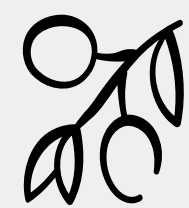
JANUARY 19, 2026

DISTRICT CLOSED



GLA PICTURE RETAKES

JANUARY 21, 2026



SOARING LEADERS ASSEMBLY

JANUARY 22, 2026



MORNING COFFEE WITH ADMIN

PARENT SESSION

JANUARY 29, 2026

10 AM IN GLA CAFETERIA



A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear Gardnertown Families,

Happy New Year! As we begin 2026, we also begin the second half of our school year; a time when many students have settled into routines and begin to flourish academically. This is a wonderful opportunity to set new goals and build on the progress already made.

Families can help support this momentum at home by encouraging reflection. Instead of asking, "What did you learn today?" try asking your child to share *three* things they learned. This simple shift helps students strengthen retention and reflect more deeply on their learning.

Additionally, students in grades 3–5 will participate in their first computer-based simulation test on **January 27th**. This experience will allow students to become familiar with the testing platform and tools in preparation for the New York State assessments in the spring.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Warmly,
Mrs. Claro
Assistant Principal





OUR JANUARY FOCUS: LEADERSHIP



This month, our school wide focus is on leadership. Students are learning that leadership looks like responsibility, respect, kindness, and using their voice to make positive choices. Families can support this by encouraging goal setting, accountability, and reflection at home.



Join Us for Coffee with GLA Admin



We warmly invite you to **Coffee with Admin** on **Thursday, January 29th at 10:00 a.m. in the cafeteria**. This is a relaxed, friendly opportunity to connect with the school leaders, share your thoughts, and ask questions. We'll discuss important academic updates and explore ways we can work together to support your child's growth and success. We hope to see you there!

