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Dear Glenallan Families,

I hope that the month of October has started well for you and your family members. We had an outstanding start to the school year! The month of September was filled with quality instruction and capitalizing on each “teachable moment.” The fifth grade teachers were engaging students in deep conversations about math concepts and how to interpret math data. Questions were related to real life and students were asked to use facts and mathematical evidence to defend their answers. It is essential that the 21st century learner understands how to think critically, analyze information for deeper understanding, and participate in conversations with not only their teachers but fellow students. In 2nd grade, students were working collaboratively in teams to solve addition and subtraction problems using hundreds charts. I was thrilled to hear them communicating with one another respectfully and problem solving. The ability to express ideas to solve a problem orally and through writing will be an essential skill that will contribute to their success now and in the future.

The month of October brings many exciting things to Glenallan. The staff and students are settled into their learning environments and focused on the mission of success for every Gator. We view our students as individual learners, who have different learning styles, interests, and academic strengths. It is important that we plan differentiated instruction that engages and excites them based on who they are and what they need. This instructional planning and delivery is based on several things that will take place this month. First, we hold our first data meetings focused on math achievement and just recently held our data meetings focused on reading achievement. Your child’s grade level team and several other staff members will examine the data that was compiled last school year and over the month of September. One of the data points that was examined during reading meetings, was the MAP-r score. This assessment measures reading comprehension and is one indicator of success on the reading section of the Maryland School Assessment. Please ask your third, fourth or fifth grade student about their MAP-r score, and what their goal is for the next time they take it. This data will help us to determine specific interventions to address areas of challenge as well as accelerate and enrich instruction in areas they are progressing in. What makes these days so effective is that it is many teachers coming to the table who know your students in different settings and have a variety of skills but the same vision, doing whatever it takes to ensure your child’s academic success. The high quality instruction at Glenallan is based on focusing on the diverse needs of learners and not a standard method of teaching. In just a month’s time it is impressive to see how well the teachers know your student both academically and socially. This is a clear result of the unique investment we as a community have in the Gators! I look forward to a great month and hope to see you at movie night or our Halloween celebrations! Thanks for your continued support and sending motivated and respectful learners to school everyday.

Respectfully,

Mr. Moran



**A School Where Character Counts**

Congratulations to those Students that earned Character Counts for the month of September, when we focused on the character trait **RESPONSIBILITY.**

Jeremia Pandiangan- Ms. Ziadi Gary Ndahendekire –Mrs. Treichler JT Thompson- Mrs. Frank

Angeleica Jimenez- Mrs. Navas Daniel Sanchez- Mrs. Beckett Edwin Santos Ortiz- Grotewold

Delphine E. Fonke- Ms. Yetter Catherine Le- Johnson Nile Lowther- Ms. Ali

Valery Lopez- Mrs. Ralph Fatima Guandique- Ms. Davies Niklas Carlson- Mrs. Lozzi

Tiffany Ntondji- Ms. Gottshall Daniel Nicholas- Ms. Rodriguez Bloosom Jean- Ms. Langrock

Michael Lie- Mrs. Correa Maggie Nguyen- Ms. Edhegard Gabriela Blanco Reyes- Mr. Cord

Ana Smith-Mrs. Mayer Maria Escobar-Sical- Mrs. Billings Anthony Reyes- Ms. Defrehn

Jeanne Ngo- Mr. Leitzel Josh Buendia- Ms. Hubbard Dina Kamil- Ms. Jameson



***One School, One Community, One Goal……….The Success of Every Glenallan Gator***

We are a united, multi-cultural community of students, families, and educators committed to cultivating a love of learning, developing the character of great people and empowering children with the knowledge and skills to become productive citizens in the 21st century.

***Gator Gazette***

***October 2012***

### Glenallan Elementary School

**“*Where Gators Go Above and Beyond”***

