

October
Volume 1, Issue 1

GATOR NEWSLETTER

Midterm Exam Schedule:

**Friday,
December 16th**
4th and 7th Exam
Periods

**Monday,
December 19th**
2nd and 5th Exam
Periods

**Tuesday,
December 20th**
3rd and 6th Exam
Periods

**Wednesday,
December 21st**
1st Exam Period

**Thursday,
December 22nd**
No School

Applause go to our students who earned A's and B's for the first quarter! I encourage all of our students to work hard during the second quarter and keep your grades as high as possible. Remember, it is the semester average that determines your grade, credits, and cumulative GPA. The semester average is calculated by averaging the numeric value of the two quarter grades.

Our fall sports season is quickly coming to a close. We are very proud of the accomplishments of our athletes this year and now look forward to the start of the winter season. I encourage students to show school spirit and support our teams by attending as many home events as possible. Also, I'd like to encourage our families to support the arts in our school by attending the winter performances of the school's band and the drama department. More news will be posted on our website about these and other important events.

This year there will be no school on Wednesday - Friday of Thanksgiving. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday!

Ric Mellin



Principal

September Athletes

Boys Cross Country

Travis Nichols

Girls Cross Country- Samantha Sodetz Football

Wesley Moore

Boys Golf

Ricky Valdez

Girls Golf

Jaycss Welker

Boys Swimming

Alex Long

Girls Swimming

Lexie Haqq

Volleyball

Daniella Smith

STUDENT OF THE MONTH
September:

**Taylor
Grybek**

The 2011 Swamp Fest will be held on November 4th, 5th, and 6th. The Swamp Fest will be held at the old Rec-center on 41 in Land O' Lakes, Florida. At the Swamp Fest you and your family can enjoy rides, games, entertainment, and vendor booths offering a variety of goods and services. Tickets are available at local schools for 12 dollars and at the event for 20 dollars. This is a great way to start November.

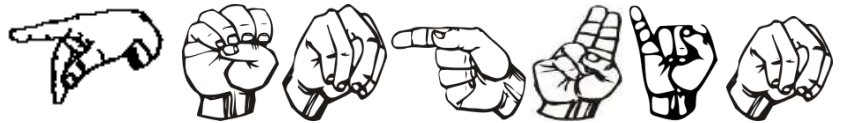
Fall Sports

Fall sports are off to an amazing start for the Land O' Lakes Gators. With an outstanding record for gator football it's a sure thing we'll be rushing to a winning season. Also with cross country sprinting to the lead, golf flying ahead with the birdies, and swim and dive lapping ahead of the other schools', fall sports for the Land O' Lake's Gators is looking like an unstoppable force of nature!



Fish Tales

Land O' Lakes and Sunlake High Schools' American Sign Language students are teaming up with the Florida Aquarium to present a friendlier program for its deaf and hard of hearing visitors. On the first Saturday of every month, select students will be interpreting various presentations with the animals at the aquarium. This partnership will benefit both the deaf and hearing impaired guests and the ASL students. This project will allow the ASL students to get a more hands-on learning experience.



Food For Thought

On October 6, 2010 the groundbreaking ceremony was held for the soon-to-be Culinary Arts Academy at Land O' Lakes High School. Fast forward 10 months and all the construction is finally complete! The official grand opening of the building took place on October 5, 2011 and had a few guest speakers including the superintendent Heather Fiorentino. The 18,000 square foot academy consists of two kitchens, a bake shop, a 60 seat college-style classroom, a café and a dining room. The building is equipped with the latest technology and equipment. There are cameras and hanging flat-screen televisions in every room so you can sit in the classroom while watching the teacher do a demonstration in one of the kitchens! There's even an ice sculpting room! The academy has two instructors: Chef Cooper and Chef Rigberg. Currently there are about 170 students taking advantage of the culinary academy and all it has to offer.

What is Your Fear?

That is the question Land O' Lakes Advanced Art students visually answered in the past few weeks. The art pieces are now on display in the media center where students can vote on their favorite pieces. Upon arrival, you will see a large divergence of fears such as fear of the dark to creepy crawly insects. Each student was encouraged to select the medium that would work best to communicate their fears and had to utilize the elements and principles of art as they created their images. We were aiming for the ability for you to be able to not only appreciate but relate to their art. We hope you enjoy the experience.

~Happy Halloween! From Ms. Smith
and her wonderful art students~



Band

The Gator Band is off to a fabulous start performing at halftimes and cheering for our varsity football team. A big shout out to welcome our new band director, Mr. Bosma. Mr. Bosma trains students to be the best they can be. Our group plays a variety of musical instruments from the low sound of the tuba, to the charming sound of the trumpet. Practices are Mondays from 3:00pm – 6:00pm and Thursdays 4:00pm-6:00pm and new members are always welcome. No experience playing an instrument, don't worry. Drop on by when you get a chance and see the band blast in action.



¡Hola Amigo!

This year at Land O' Lakes High School, Mrs. Cruikshank's students are participating in a collaborative project with students all the way from Colombia. This project, Compartiendo y Comunicandonos Aprenderemos Nuestras Culturas y Lenguaje, is a great example of a cultural and language exchange that is taking place in the United States. Students in Mrs. Cruikshank's class are using Epals in order to communicate with the students from Colombia. If you would like to view more information about this great student project and further your knowledge, please visit

http://www.epals.com/projects/info.aspx?divid=spotlight_main.

👑 HOMECOMING! 👑

This year Homecoming is finally here! The week every student can't seem to wait very long for. Prior to the homecoming game, students participate in spirit week which includes fun dress up days such as 80's day, pajama day, sports day, and our favorite; Blue and Gold day! With our Land O' Lake's Gators phenomenal scores this football season, we have no doubt that they will easily take down the Central High School Bears at the homecoming football game on October 28th. On the following day October 29th, the 2011-2012 Homecoming Dance will be held in the Land O' Lakes High School gym at 7:30 p.m.



Media's News

The month of October in the Media shines a spotlight on Fears & Mysteries. Students are encouraged to enter our Fear Writing Contest OR our Mysteries of Harris Burdick contest. Prizes will be awarded for each contest. Videos promoting the contests, as well as highlighting the fears of students and teachers, have been showing on the morning news throughout the month. Past news show videos can be found on LOLHS's website under "Morning Gator News Show."

The Fear Contest has students writing about their fears in either a poem or picture essay. Entry forms are available in the Media and the deadline is October 28th.

Our Mysteries of Harris Burdick Contest asks students choose one photo from the book *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* and write a short story (400-500 words) telling about what happened before and after whatever is going on in the picture. Pictures can be found on our school website under the Media Center link. Entries are due no later than October 31st. Winners will be announced November 4th. Top prize for the short story writing is a \$25 gift card to Barnes & Noble.

Stay tuned for more writing contests in the very near future! Coming up next... the Chomper Feed!

HOMECOMING COURT

9th Grade:

Mariana Vergara
Noah Randall

10th Grade:

Zahnay Gates
Raychel Leonardo
Andy Dowler
Shaheed Salmon

11th Grade:

Brooke Phillips
Brooke Gonzalez
Brittany Bolin
Jake Rawls
Stavi Garcia
Kyle O'Dea

12th Grade:

Emily Whitaker
Katie Fitzsimmons
Taylor Goldsborough
Molly Robinson
Wesley Moore
Nathan Spencer
Jackson Cannon
Nick Havlev

College Info

Searching For a Scholarship?
Try www.FASTWEB.com

FASFA (financial aid)
Sign up after Jan 1st
www.fafsa.ed.org

Financial Aid
www.collegeboard.org

Financial Aid includes:

- Grants
- Scholarships
- Work-study
- Loans(federal and private)



Open House
Saturday, Nov. 5,
2011



Open House
November 2, 2011

REGISTER FOR SAT/ACTs
TODAY!

www.collegeboard.org
www.act.org

Need help paying for fees? Do you
have free or reduced lunch?
If so please contact Ms. Kerwin at
(813) 794-9411

Guidance News

Greetings Gator Parents!

Guidance would like to communicate with you some of the fantastic opportunities we will have to share on various topics, lessons, and programs with your students throughout the school year.

During the first semester:

9th grade

High school expectations
Substance Abuse & Bullying
Career & College Exploration
Study Skills

10th grade

Academic Opportunities and Programs
Graduation Requirements/Academic History Review
Health Relationships/ Teen violence
Take the ACT Plan

11th Grade

Review Graduation Requirements, State University, Admissions, and
Bright Futures Scholarships.
College Entrance Exams
Academic History Review

12th Grade

College Application Process
Scholarship Information
Sign Graduation Contracts
College/ University Visits

All Grade Levels: Review students PSAT and/or ACT Plan results.
We are looking forward to the eventful school year ahead and working
closely with your children.
Please feel free to contact the guidance office at 794-9409 if you have
any questions.

The Guidance Staff,

Rebecca Gleaton – International Baccalaureate
Jeanene Camp – 12th Grade and 9th Grade A – G
Chandra Harlan – 11th Grade and 9th Grade H – Q
Lizette Ramos – 10th Grade and 9th Grade R – Z
Joan Kerwin – Career Specialist