



Nazareth School

September 28, 2018

Dear Parents:

Last Friday was the mid-point of the 1st Quarter. While I hope that you were able to review your children's grades on Gradelink, the teachers have also prepared mid-quarter reports that you can review. This is an important time for you and your children to review the goals that you set for the academic quarter. Some things to consider are:

- Are your study routines providing positive support for the completion of homework and the review of class lessons? Is there a plan in place for your child to consistently turn in his/her work?
- Are the organizing tools -- binders, planners, study guides, highlighters, sticky notes – being used efficiently to support student learning?
- If achievement is coming easily, is it time to consider enrichment activities or the pursuit of supplemental activities through Accelerated Reader or other web-based programs such as Kahn Academy?
- If meeting achievement goals is a challenge, what resources can be employed to make learning more efficient and effective?
- Is this a good time for you or your child (especially middle school children) to discuss achievement goals with the student's teacher?

Please sign one of the Progress Reports and return it in the Family Envelope on Monday. Know that the teachers are available to respond to your concerns and to assist you in planning for your child's success.

Next week as we begin the month of October, we celebrate our Core Value of Hospitality. I think our new families would agree that their children have been welcomed to the Nazareth Community with joy and enthusiasm by their classmates. But the Core Value of Hospitality extends beyond the welcome. Theologian Henri Nouwen in his book, *Reaching Out*, states that historically hospitality is a virtue with deep Biblical roots. In a school setting, these roots secure an environment in which individuals can freely and safely develop their skills and talents and learn to share them with others. As Christians, we are called to share our own talents and affirm those of others. In your family discussions this month, you may want to foster conversations in which your children can identify how they are developing and sharing their talents in their classrooms and in their personal lives.

A family and religious tradition associated with October -- the recitation of the Rosary – will be part of our lives in the coming month. During morning assembly, we will recite a decade of the Rosary; on days during which we do not meet in assembly, students will pray the Rosary in their classrooms. During your times of family prayer consider participating in this beautiful devotion to our Blessed Mother.

Next Friday we will celebrate our Fall Family Picnic. Thank you to Brian (our Grillmaster) and Kristen Foss for organizing this event. If you are able to volunteer to help prepare, serve and/or clean up, your assistance will help make this annual event a wonderful success! To volunteer, please contact Mr. or Mrs. Foss or the school office.

Blessings,

Dr. Colleen Mauricio
Principal