

# September

## NEWSLETTER

Mrs. Love, School Counselor

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### *Scholarship Information*

Throughout the school year, various scholarship opportunities will be posted online. A listing of outside scholarships will be updated as I receive notices of scholarships. Be sure to check the Scholarship portion of the [Galatia Guidance Page](#), scholarships will be added on the spreadsheet under appropriate monthly tabs.

### *Etiquette of Requesting Recommendations*

Whether it be for a job or scholarship, be thinking about who to ask to write you a letter of recommendation. It is common courtesy to allow your recommenders at least three weeks to prepare the letter.

Do not just ask the recommender at passing by, more than likely they will forget. Instead, send them an email or write a letter stating what the recommendation is for and the date you need the letter by.

Once you receive the letter, be sure to send the recommender a thank-you note.

### ▶ *Reminders*

- Seniors: Schedule time to complete FAFSA
- Check Guidance Google Classroom

### ▶ *Coming Up Soon*

#### October:

1<sup>st</sup> FAFSA Opens

9<sup>th</sup> No School

12<sup>th</sup> No School

14<sup>th</sup> Senior SAT

16<sup>th</sup> End of 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks

Starting in school year 2020-21, to receive a diploma from a public high school each senior must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA opens for 2021-2022 on October 1, 2020.

I have sent an email to all seniors to schedule a time in October to complete the FAFSA using [Google Forms](#). Parents are encouraged to come in during the scheduled time with their child to complete the FAFSA.

\* \* \* Parents when you arrive at Galatia High School you will need to wear a mask and have your temperature checked when entering the building.

Keep in mind, just because you may not qualify for Financial Aid you may need to complete the FAFSA for scholarships.

The header features a teal background with a subtle wood-grain pattern. Several colorful autumn leaves in shades of orange, red, and yellow are suspended by thin white strings, appearing to fall from the top. The word "September" is written in a large, white, cursive font, and "NEWSLETTER" is written below it in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

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### *Scholarship Essay Writing Tips*

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This is your chance to tell readers about **your personality, personal growth, values, and potential**. Ask yourself, “What **have I done** as a result of this thing that happened to me?” If the answer doesn’t show you doing something impressive and proactive, that’s totally normal and understandable—but it means that you probably shouldn’t write about that topic. Only write about it if the points are fundamental to understanding who you are and who you hope to become.

#### ***Stay Inspirational and Positive***

Even if you are writing about a tragic or sad time in your life, try to keep the tone positive and inspirational. Rather than writing about how you were negatively affected focus on your growth from the obstacle.

#### ***Reuse your essay!***

Many scholarships use the same essay prompts or ask questions that can be answered in the same way. You might be able to slightly change an existing essay, rather than writing a new one.

This might seem to be an obvious tip, but many applicants will make a mistake of simply not reading the directions. Be sure to follow the instructions and answer all the prompts.

#### ***Don’t forget to PROOFREAD!***

- Take a break, go back and read the essay a day later.
- Have someone you trust read and give input on your essay.

***“Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life.” – Steve Jobs.***