



# The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter  
An EL Education Mentor  
School*

10/13/17



**“We are crew, not passengers.”  
– Kurt Hahn**

## Fall Break For Fabulous 5<sup>th</sup> Graders!



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OK. It's the first Saturday morning of Fall Break, and you're in 5th grade. Time to hang out and play some video games, watch Saturday morning cartoons, head out to soccer practice, torture your big sister, or maybe just eat seven bowls of cereal. Or perhaps it's time to leave for New York or Australia. But not if you are these amazing Crew 15 and 16 students!

Lily, Hannah, Caroline, Connor, Regan, Kaya, and Alexa took their stewardship the extra mile over Fall break! After spending lots of class time studying native plants and artfully illustrating native plants they had raised in our garden, these fine citizens volunteered at the California Native Plant Society's annual Fall Plant Sale on Saturday. As compassionate stewards of the earth, they let the world at large, and the folks shopping at the North Star House, know all about the importance of native plants, and how kids can plant them, propagate them, and know their value in an ecosystem. They also were ambassadors for our fabulous GVCS garden.

Soon the plants they raised will be going back to be planted at Bridgeport and Empire Mine State Parks. Hooray for service and stewardship!



## Introducing... Concentrated Intensives!

This past week was slated for Middle School Intensives! A time where students dive deeply into a selected area of study ranging from French cooking, to mountain biking or Rube Goldberg inspired exploration of physics.

With the tragic local fires and resulting school cancellation, our Intensive Teachers persevered, displayed ingenuity and offered what I have named, "Concentrated Intensives!" Over the next several weeks we will share some of their adventures in the HOWL!

## Mountain Biking in a Time of Fire?

Faced with unhealthy local air quality, the MTB intensive got creative in order to meet our course goals of skill development and heart rate training fundamentals!

On Wednesday, students designed and built several features to support skill development: ranging from ramps, drop offs, table-tops and teeter-totters!

Thursday the skies were a bit clearer which allowed for some low level activity on the field under the tutelage of the NU MTB Coaching staff. Students honed

their skills in the areas of bike-body separation, turning, braking, shifting, drops and roll-downs! Huge thanks go out to Coach Evan and Coach Mike as well as Shannon, who made the day awesome!

With some course objectives still to be met, the whole crew headed to the South Yuba Club to learn more about their individualized heart rate zones via a spin class with GVCS parent, Kathy Dotson. Not only did Kathy tucker out a group of middle school boys (no easy task!), students got a chance to learn about intervals, pace and so on. Thank you Kathy!

Fortunately by Friday, we were clear to ride so we took to the trails around the Harmony Ridge area. Students who helped to build the Hoot Trail last year especially enjoyed experiencing their handiwork!



## Announcing... Crew 24!

We are Crew! **The parent crew** that is!

The Parent Leadership Group is transforming into **Crew 24** to reflect the value of our entire parent community as an integral part of our school. It will be a reference point for families to interact, organize, participate and contribute to further enrich our school community.

**Our first Crew meeting this was amazing! Thank you to all how participated.**

**Feel like you missed out? Well if so, it is not too late to still join Crew 24!**

If you are curious about joining future Crew 24 meetings, or just curious, contact Olivia Prichett at 530 470 3404 or via email at [oprichett@gvsd.us](mailto:oprichett@gvsd.us) or Cameron Herzog at 530 263 3261 or via email at [cameron969@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cameron969@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

**We look forward to you being part of Crew 24!**

## Sports Info!

### Upcoming...

#### Boys Volleyball:

10/23 – 12/15

#### First Practice

**Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
in the Scotten Gym  
from 6:00-8:00 pm.

**Contact Coach Gabe**  
(530) 913 - 6965 or  
**Coach Shannon**

(530) – 913 – 5979 for  
more information.

#### Cross Country:

10/23 -12/15

**Contact Coach Regina**  
for more information  
at [rcurry@gvvsd.us](mailto:rcurry@gvvsd.us)

#### Boys Basketball:

12/18 – 2/23

#### Girls Volleyball:

2/26 – 4/27

#### Track:

4/10 – 5/26



Those Shoes  
Are Made for  
Walkin' ...

## Walkathon, November 3<sup>rd</sup>!

Pledge sheets will be coming home soon. A shade structure for our lunch area is rumored to be the focus! You can go to <http://pledgestar.com/gvcs> to set up for online donations.

#### **Walkathon Tidbits:**

1. Drop off at Fairgrounds is 8:30am at Gate 4 (best to walk them in)
2. Walkathon ends at 11:45am
3. Pickup begins at 11:45am at our tarp near Gate 4, please come to the tarp.
4. Lunch is NOT provided
5. Family picnic begins at 11:45 (bring a lunch & eat with your children if you like)
6. Water bottles for kiddos are a MUST AND put name on the water bottle!
7. Snacks for kiddos will be provided.
8. Families are welcome to stay & walk (9-11am)
9. Have your child wear appropriate clothes (layers since the morning is chilly)
10. Walking shoes are a MUST!
11. To pick up your child, you must sign him/her out from their teacher.
12. After Care kiddos will be transported back to the school.

## Last Call!! Mr. E (still?) Doesn't Play Piano...

But if you do, or if you are interested in learning, the school has a donated Wurlitzer piano looking for a good home! Please Email Mr. E at [aezzell@gvcsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvcsd.us)



## Those Kids are Outta this World...

"Space, The Final Frontier" Expedition had an amazing day of fieldwork to outer space! Err, wait, nope our insurance does not cover that... So! Instead students took over the Mission Control at the Powerhouse Science Museum. Wendy & Lisa's little Micronauts defied gravity by building satellites, exploring space features and of course, conducting space launches!



## Kids Love GVCS & We Love Them – Especially at 8:15am!

I love starting my day greeting our students! Bright eyed and bushy tailed, or groggy and half awake – they are amazing! But, students arriving before 8:15 have no supervision. Please help us with an 8:15 drop off.

## Community Resources!

Middle School girls and their mother, grandmothers, etc are invited to attend a Mother / Daughter Circle Group focused on promoting a healthy and sustaining bond between mothers and daughters during the transitional years from girlhood to young womanhood. Mondays, November 6, 13, 20 & 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 - 7:15pm. This free event will be held at the Ready Springs School Library and hosted by Sharyn Turner R.N. and Mary Jo Sweeny R.N. Sponsored by Nevada County Superintendent of Schools. RSVP by calling (530) 432 - 1118

## A Strong Foundation

Looking for a good way to participate and have an impact at your child(ren)'s school? Serving as a GVCS Foundation Board Member just might be the ticket.

### What's required, you may wonder...?

An inquiring and open mind!

The desire to make decisions about fundraising dollars that will impact our kids and our school!

A full heart to embrace fun and make a difference!

Attend monthly meetings from August – June (4th Thursday of the month, 3:30pm in the Staff room – Next one is coming up on September 28<sup>th</sup>)

The Foundation is currently open for new Board Members and seeking to fill the officer positions of Secretary and Treasurer.

Indicate your interest on the Parent Interest Form or just email [foundation@grassvalleycharterschool.org](mailto:foundation@grassvalleycharterschool.org)

**Mark Your Calendars!**  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>: Walk-a-thon!

Value Cards available in December!

May 12<sup>th</sup>: Blue Marble Jubilee

## An Expanded View of Student Achievement

At GVCS we have an expanded vision of student achievement. We believe that when a student graduates from our school, that they should be well on their way to becoming an effective and productive citizen, who not only envisions a better world, but possesses the tools to help create that world.

As students culminate their education, be it after college or vocational school, we know that their success is not solely dependent upon their test scores, but on the quality of their work and the quality of their character.

As such, at GVCS we consider student achievement to have three dimensions: Mastery of Academic Skills and Content, High – Quality Work, and Character.

We hope that you have found evidence of our commitment to these dimensions of student achievement in the previous pages.



## Grass Valley Charter School

225 South Auburn Street  
Grass Valley , Ca95945

[www.grassvalleycharter.org](http://www.grassvalleycharter.org)



## Our Design Principles

The Primacy of Self – Discovery  
The Having of Wonderful Ideas  
The Responsibility for Learning  
Empathy and Caring  
Success and Failure  
Collaboration and Competition  
Diversity and Inclusion  
The Natural World  
Solitude and Reflection  
Service and Compassion