



The HOWL

Grass Valley Charter
An EL Education Mentor
School

10/27/17



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

Annual Walk-A-Thon, this Friday!

When & Where: This Friday – November 3rd! Drop off at the Nevada County Fairgrounds at 8:30am at Gate 4 (please walk them in). Pick Up at 11:45am near Gate 4, students must be signed out with their teacher.

Purpose: Build community! Family picnic begins at 11:45 am. And of course to financially support the good work happening at GVCS and our ability to make dreams into a reality! Past dreams realized due to the Foundation include the Outdoor Learning Center, the Climbing Wall and the Science Lab!

Awards: Medals and Prizes for Most Laps Walked, Most \$\$ Collect and MORE, including “Pie the Principal”

The Parent ‘To Do List’

Help your Child get sponsors - Use PledgeStar (<http://pledgestar.com/gvcs>) and/or the Green sponsor sheet that came home. This year PledgeStar can now use your personal contacts to automatically send sponsor requests via email or TEXT MESSAGE! Grow your sponsor success and use this safe and simple tool.

Volunteer – Sign up at <http://signup.com/go/ZMYutMq>
This event NEEDS you – sign up for a shift and/or to bring a snack item. With less than a week to go, there are many fun shifts that need to be filled AND some missing snack items that are still needed.



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Fall is in the Air

This week 4th graders went for a walk in the beautiful Fall weather, and stopped at Memorial Park to write some Fall Poetry. Students took the time to connect to the natural world, and think about Stewardship.

Untitled

When the leaves of Fire fall, its brother element Water whispers the formula of Life and Peace.

This realm of wonder has evolved us into what we are now.

We may destroy our world if we won't care for all of Mother Nature's beauty.

The season is named Fall for a reason.

Without the four elements of life, Fall and the world would not be the same.

As the four elements all have a part to play, as Water helps to grow the roots of the tree stronger,

Fire's aura turns the leaves their fiery color.

Earth is there for the trees to stick in the ground so they don't fall over in the strong wind.

And last but not, least Air, Air blows the leaves of the trees and across the ground of the Earth.

By Shane



Now that is a Good Trick! And Treat?

A reminder that on **Tuesday, Oct 31st** – yep, Halloween - GVCS will have a **half day** of school with student pick-up at 12:30pm.

And! (This is the Trick and Treat part...) that on **Wednesday, November 1st** – **there is no school** for students as it is a staff professional development day.

Crew 24 Happenings!

Crew 24 is our parent crew at GVCS! As such it reflects the value of our entire parent community and is an integral part of our school! But it needs your voice!

It is also a reference point for families to interact, organize, participate and contribute to further enrich our school community.

How?

Crew 24 hosts events & chats to educate, inform and collect feedback.

A big “thank you” to Crosbie for hosting the October meeting in our Outdoor Learning Center!

Next up! Former GVCS Principal, Brian Martinez – now GVSD Assistant Superintendent!

Please join us on Thursday, November 16th from 3:15 – 4:15 in the computer lab with Mr. Martinez.

If you are curious about joining future Crew 24 gathering contact Olivia Prichett at 530 470 3404 or via email at oprichett@gvcsd.us or Cameron Herzog at 530 263 3261 or via email at cameron969@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

Sports Info!

Happening Now!

Boys Volleyball:

10/23 – 12/15

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@gvsd.us

Upcoming...

Boys Basketball:

12/18 – 2/23

Girls Volleyball:

2/26 – 4/27

Track:

4/10 – 5/26

Local Author Speaks to Importance of Multiple Drafts

What gets both Ms. Susan, our wonderful librarian, and a group of 5th graders excited? Books! And authors of books!

This past week "Last Star Burning" author, Caitlin Sangster, stopped by to share her debut novel with Crew 16 during their library time. During her time with our 5th graders, she spoke about her writing process and the importance of multiple drafts. This is especially relevant for GVCS student as they work through their editing process in their work with Writer's Workshop. Not to mention that as an EL School, our definition of student achievement is inclusive of high quality work.

Ms. Sangster's family has roots at GVCS. We are so thrilled and thankful that alumni families think of us when they have something valuable to share with our students.

It was a treat to interact with a professional!

Anyone else in our GVCS community have

connections to a published writer who is willing to speak to students?

We love to learn from experts! If so please drop a line to Cynthia at cgrapel@gvsd.us



Looking for Something Scary this Halloween?!

How do you feel about small, dark spaces underground? Does spelunking, or cave exploration raise the hair on the back of your neck? Well, both Wendy & Lisa's Crews dove into their Adventure Benchmark experience with gusto

as they wriggled, squeezed and crawled their way through California Caverns. Students demonstrated GVCS character traits of Courage, Compassion and a (bed)rock solid Spirit of Adventure! What a treat!



GVCS Cross Country Represents!

With over 40 students participating in Cross Country and half of our students medaling in the Lyman Gilmore Invitational this past week, the Coyotes were out in force! **Our next meet will be Thursday, November 2nd at Seven Hills.** First race is 3:30 sharp! Come on out and support our student athletes!



GVCS Staff go to “EL University”

It is no coincidence that GVCS has rockin’ teachers – they are passionate, work super hard, bring their “A” game every day and hold high expectations for their students. But that is not all, just as they expect students to grow, they walk that walk themselves – both via professional development in house, and offsite.

Walking the walk this past week, five GVCS teachers, our Instructional Guide, Mr. Maddock and Mr. E attended the annual EL Education National Conference. We attended Master Classes taught by EL staff, our peers from other schools and academia “Friends of EL.” Topics ranged from Student Engaged Assessment, Dimensions of Student Achievement, Coaching Teachers, High Quality Work, Critical Thinking, Character Education, Social Justice and so much more.

This is a truly inspiring conference, one that always highlights the relevance of our work through the welcoming of newly “Credentialed” schools to the fold (GVCS was the first credentialed school in the network), and celebrating outstanding teachers via the Klinginstien Award (Past GVCS Recipient, Merry Byles - Daly).

Perhaps most profound is the tradition of hearing from students of EL schools directly in the opening and closing ceremony. This year several alumni of EL schools spoke to the network of 1,200 educators about the ways that their education has prepared them for amazing accomplishments in their young adulthood.

Kudos to 5th grade teacher Maggie, and Assistant Principal Mr. E, for presenting their own Master Classes!

A Strong Foundation

GVCS is all about growth, empowerment and making the world a better place. As a parent, do you share our vision of school improvement and are you willing to do some of the work?

Looking for a good way to participate and have an impact at your child(ren)'s school?

What's on the plate you may ask?

Exploration of playground renovation

Targeted & streamlined communication between the Foundation & our parent community

Or...? The GVCS Foundation is seeking more parents to join this fun and engaging group.

Sound like your cup of tea?

Join us in the staff room at the next scheduled Foundation meeting on **Thursday, December 7th at 3:30pm** (no meeting in Nov. due to Thanksgiving Holiday)

For questions, email foundation@grassvalleycharter.org

See everyone at Friday's Walk-a-thon!

Mark your calendars for the Blue Marble Jubilee on May 12th!

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
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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