



The HOWL

*Grace Valley Charter
An EL Education Mentor
School*



12/10/18

“We are Crew, Not Passengers.”

Fish & Wildlife Commission Hears from GVCS 5th Graders

Last Tuesday night, students from Sue Muir and Lindsey Ward’s 5th grade classes stood up in front of the Nevada County Fish and Wildlife Commission and presented their work as fourth graders.

The students had been invited to come and present the culminating projects associated with their Bills and Gills Expedition.

Students eloquently shared the work that they did in their classrooms, their field experiences and their actions as stewards of our watershed, which included creating signage for our school as well as Tinloy Street transfer station and the chalk art mural in the Holiday Inn Parking Lot.

While all of this was exciting to witness (it was a beautiful example of the promise of GVCS & EL, in essence – strong academics & strong character, in service of doing good in the world) it was awesome to see these 10 and 11 year olds create and deliver a wonderful presentation to an authentic audience.

In offering my congratulations to Sue and Lindsey – it was clear that they were exceeding proud – and blown away, by these students as well.

Oh, and on top of it,

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these students along with Sue Muir, worked a grant application into their proposal in order to help keep these profound experiences alive and well for our 4th graders this school year. Way to go and change the world a bit at a time!

Interested in Getting a Taste of the College Experience?

The Academic Talent Search (ATS) offers 4th-9th graders exciting summer courses at Sacramento State that you pick for yourself! Choose from classes like, "All the World's a Stage", "Escape Room Math", "Robotics", "Video Game Development", and many others.

At ATS, you can spend your summer doing what you love, take classes on a university campus, and make new friends who share your interests and passion for learning!

To join these interactive and hands-on classes, you need to take the ATS Qualifying Exam. The test only takes an hour and there is no pass or fail, so there's no need to stress! You **MUST** take the test to apply for classes, but you don't have to apply if you change your mind. **The Qualifying Exam will be offered at Grass Valley Charter School on February 8, 2019 at 9:00am.**

For more information, please contact Elissa Spencer at 273-8723 ext. 222 or espencer@gvcsd.us

Additional details and financial aid information can be found on the ATS website at www.csus.edu/coe/ats

Middle School Transported to Hollywood!

The GVCS Multi Purpose Room was transformed into a rendition of 1920's Hollywood this past Friday night for our first, "Middle School Only", dance of the school year! Student Council did a stellar job of bringing this theme to life! Students were looking sharp at this semi formal shindig - kudos to our awesome student DJs, Zach & Faith.



Ever Wonder Where Indiana Jones Went to School?



Well, after seeing our 6th graders in action, I have a sneaking suspicion that it was a school much like GVCS. As a kick off to their Expedition, “Were Not Old, Were Ancient,” both 6th grade crews took to an archeological dig on school grounds. Facilitated by the amazing Tracey Hockinson, the space was marked off in quadrants, where groups of students used the tools of archeologists to find artifacts of a “past civilization.” Working in pairs,



students unearthed artifacts with care, utilizing trowels and brushes. Leaving the artifacts in place, and documenting what they found, the class then identified patterns to make educated guesses as to the cultural norms of this civilization! Among the lessons learned by students was the real world application of qualities like collaboration and precision – not to mention that archeologists base their theories of past civilizations upon the artifacts that they find.

Pennies for People and Pets of Paradise – Perfection!

Thank you to all who participated in our fundraiser for those people and pets impacted by the Paradise Fire. As always, the GVCS community did an amazing job of rallying as a crew to support our local and neighboring community. A total of \$1,825.53 as well as 12 giant boxes of pet food and goodies were collected and have been donated to those in need.

Lost & Found!

Nope, not talking about kids, puppies, staff members, or volunteers with the local Search and Rescue! We are talking about the HUGE pile of stuff left scattered about the school by students. **Could one of those students be YOUR child?** We are not naming names, but it is entirely possible. Seriously, it is looking like a mash up of Gap for Kids, Patagonia and Justice in there right now. So before you commit to that new jacket for Christmas for your kiddo, take a peek in the lost and found and see if the old one is in there!

True or false...? There are jackets, there are hats, there are water bottles, there are lunch boxes, there are shoes. All True!

Come and get it as **we will be donating the lot to the Thrift Store on 12/21/18!**

Sports Updates!

Girls Volleyball:

12/11 at 7 Hills, 8th at 6:30pm
 12/13 at Mt. Saint Mary's,
 8th at 4pm, 7th at 5pm
 12/18 – 20 at NU, Final Tournament

For more info,

Contact Coach Russ at
russyokon@msn.com

Boys Basketball:

12/17 - 2/22

Paperwork available in the
Front Office this week –
Wednesday!

Boys Volleyball:

2/25 - 4/26

Track:

4/8 – 5/24

Contact Mr. E with Qs

aezell@gvsd.us

Outside of a Dog a Book is a Man's Best Friend...

And while inside of a dog, it may be too dark to read – it does not mean that books are not a great holiday gift! And new this year, our awesome Library staff, Susan and Ruth, will be hosting a **Holiday Book Fair - 12/10 -12/13** from 8:15am – 3:30pm and 12/14 from 8:15am – 1:00pm.

This is a great time for students and parents to buy gifts for family, friends and teachers – while raising money for the school library!

Food Access Saturday

Food Access Saturday is every second Saturday from 10:00am – 12:00pm at the Interfaith Food Ministry (440 Henderson Street, Grass Valley). Upcoming dates are: 12/8, 1/12, 2/9, 3/9, 4/13. Food Access Saturday is a partnership between United Way and Interfaith Food Ministry, for more information call 274 – 8111 or 273 – 8132.

Snazzy/Ugly Sweater Day

Bust out those special holiday themed sweaters for the Annual GVCS **Snazzy/Ugly Sweater Spirit Day 12/21!**

Dates! Be In The Know!

12/21 – Donation Day Parade/Snazzy Sweater Spirit Day
12/22 -1/6 – Winter Break
1/21 – MLK Day, No School
1/28-2/1 – Student Led Conferences, Min. Days all Week

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



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