



# The HOWL

Grass Valley Charter  
An EL Education Mentor  
School



5/4/18

“We are Crew, Not Passengers.”

## Better World Day at GVCS!

This past Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> was the first annual “Better World Day” hosted by EL Education. It is a national event where all EL schools are encouraged to showcase the good work happening everyday in our classrooms.

EL schools are committed to rigorous academics, building character and to creating high quality work – all in the name of making a positive impact on the world! It is the perfect answer to the age-old question heard in schools around the world, “Why do I need to know this?”

Students at GVCS certainly know the answer to that question! And below you will hear about just a few of the happenings on Friday are evidence of that claim.

Sue and Emma’s crews took their knowledge of healthy riparian habitats, their nascent sense of stewardship and their willingness to get dirty to create an art based advocacy mural representing Wolf Creek.

Students created a beautiful mural in the parking lot of the Gold Miner’s Inn, complete with native flora and fauna of Wolf Creek. Many folks passing by stopped to inquire and learned a whole lot about ways that they can be stewards of their watershed!

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This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year of this mural and has helped draw attention to the proposed Wolf Creek Parkway – which we are excited to announce the 1<sup>st</sup> mile of which opened this past weekend!

A big “thank you” to the folks at Gold Miner’s Inn for allowing our students to make the mural in the parking lot. Swing by and check it out!



But wait, there is more!

Elissa’s 6<sup>th</sup> graders are preparing to put their persuasive writing to the test and are going before the Grass Valley City Council to advocate for changing the way that tobacco companies advertise to appeal to youth. Way to go 6<sup>th</sup> grade! Stay posted for the outcome of their great work!

Rounding out last Friday was a series of celebrations in the Outdoor Science Garden spearheaded by the one and only Mr. Crosbie!

The geology wall is officially complete! Much gratitude to the Lawson family for their contributions of geological treasures and Kathy Dotson for her design skills! Students can now get hands on with geology for years to come!

Saving the bitter sweet for last, the staff participated in a dedication of a Native Plant Garden to the one and only Merry Byles Daly for her commitment to the Outdoor Science Garden.

Merry has been the driving force in the vision and creation of this amazing space to the benefit of all GVCS students. While Merry is retiring, we know that she will always have her roots deep in the ethos of GVCS and her impact will be seen for decades. And we will not be surprised to catch a glimpse of Merry in the garden, with her hands in the soil, and her passion pouring into the students for years to come. We love you Merry!



## **Crew 24** **Happenings!**

Crew 24 is our parent crew at GVCS!

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.

Past meetings have been spectacular! And have included learning more about the school district needs, and potential “GO” Bond from Mr. Martinez.

### **Stay Posted For Future Crew 24 Meetings!**

If you are curious about joining future Crew 24 gathering 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.

## Physics is Fun!

Lori and Karen's 2<sup>nd</sup> graders took a deep dive into physics experiments this past week.

On Wednesday GVCS students worked with high school students from Sierra Academy of Expeditionary Learning, on physics experiments. Our student were an authentic audience for these high schoolers, some of which were GVCS Alumni.



While on Friday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders headed to the 49er Fun Park to conduct their own experiments connecting their learning about Newton's Laws of Motion!



It's this Weekend! Time to get your Tickets to the...



## LOOKING FOR FUN? GOOD MUSIC? MAGIC?

At this year's Blue Marble we have 2 stages of pure fun!

**MAIN STAGE:** GVCS Kids Got Talent, Balloons with Bernard, Achilles Wheel Trio and Earles of Newtown

**JUBILEE PLAYHOUSE:** Wild Animals - Birds, Snakes & Bats, Magician Nick Federoff, Family Yoga, Dance & Drums with Samba Lua

We can't have all this fun without your help.  
Please sign up to volunteer and buy your tickets!

[bluemarblejubilee.org](http://bluemarblejubilee.org)



## Be in the Know!

- 5/12 – Blue Marble Jubilee at the Fairgrounds
- 5/18 – Alice in Wonderland 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance 6-8pm
- 5/25 – School in session (previously a snow make up day)
- 5/28 – No School Memorial Day
- 5/31 – Celebration of Learning (aka Open House)

## Road Closure this Tuesday!

Dear GVCS Families!

We were notified Friday evening of a road closure to take place this Tuesday. **This will greatly affect drop off and pick up on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.** Road construction on Tuesday will be closing HWY 174 from Hansen Way to Kidder Ave. That is the section of highway that runs parallel to our parking lot on Hwy 174. The illustration below shows what the traffic pattern will look like – **this Tuesday.** Expect delays. It might be messy. There will be a flagger from GV Public Works to assist with traffic. **Parking and walking to drop off & pick up your children on Tuesday might be a good idea!**



## Science Camp Counselors!

Do you have a GVCS Alumni (or another qualified student) who is currently a Junior or Senior in High School and is missing all the amazing experiences that students at GVCS have out in the world?

Do they have a hankering for outdoor education? Or have you seen a glimmer in their eye that shouts, “I want to be a teacher! I think...”

Now is their chance to become a 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science Camp Counselor from May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Mendocino Outdoor Science School! If so, please email Tracey and Elissa ([thockinson@gvsd.us](mailto:thockinson@gvsd.us) and [spencer@gvsd.us](mailto:spencer@gvsd.us))

## Foundation Focus

### Value Card Contest Winner!

**Congrats to Miss Cherie’s Crew for selling the most Value Cards! Not only did they sell 46 cards to raise funds to implement EL at GVCS, but they also won the opportunity to have an epic party! Nice job Crew 3!**

**Thank you to our 2<sup>nd</sup> place Crews – Miss Wendy & Miss Emma, both with 40 cards each.**

**In third place Miss Sue Muir’s Crew sold 36 cards! Big shout outs to the top selling students, who will each receive a special ice cream treat in their classroom for their efforts!**

**Jadon Castle Haley  
Whitney, Tyler & Cody  
Murphy  
Chase Littlejohn  
Amelia Weber  
Jayden Yokum**

**The contest has ended, but! It is not too late to return money, or unused cards. Remember that the cards are valid through December 2018, so there is still plenty of time to save!**

## 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