



The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter
An EL Education Mentor
School*

9/22/17



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

Sixth Graders Build Crew



Inside

**Ornithologists and
Parent Crew 24!**

2

**XC Parent Meeting
& Black Plague!**

3

**Free Piano, Coyotes
Play Basketball &
Two PSAs...**

4

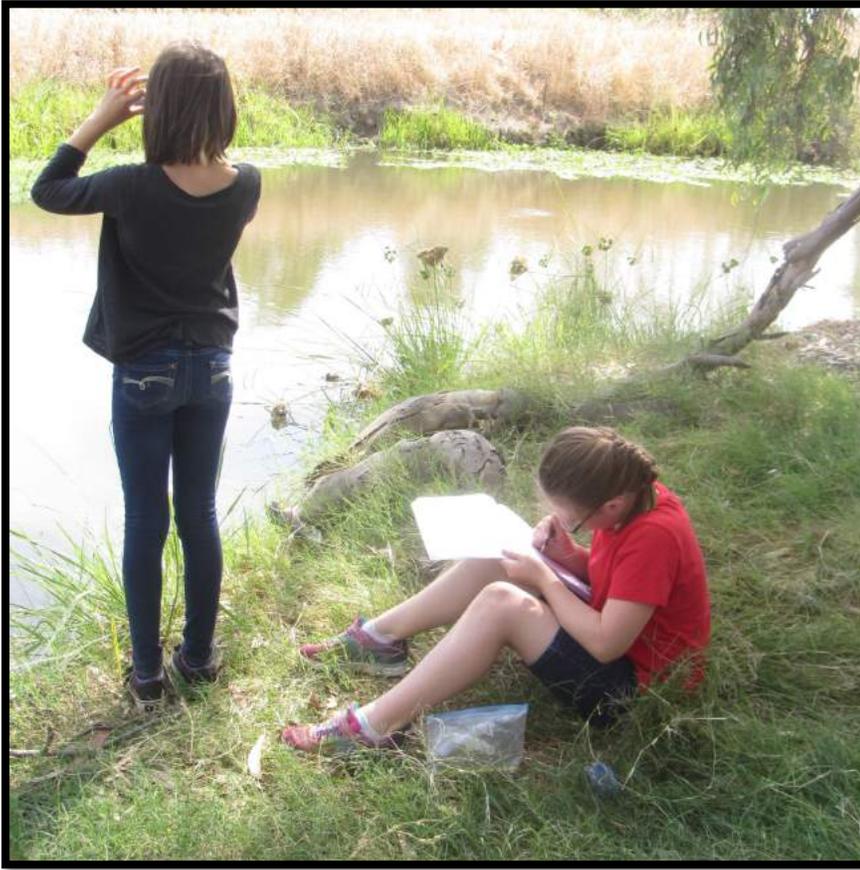
Crew 18 spent the day at the On Course Ropes Course last Thursday. The crew and compassion on display were beautiful to witness--kids cheering one another on, students working in teams to figure out tough challenges, communicating in groups and one-on-one with instructors. We followed the mantra, "challenge by choice" but made sure to push our selves out of our individual comfort zones--persevering through some super intense high-ropes challenges!

Every student showed great responsibility in staying safe and keeping the grounds better looking than when we arrived. Seventeen kids made it to the top of the 80' tree and Elissa (modeling the courage she expected to see in her kiddos) even jumped to the trapeze, 80 feet in the air!

It was a magnificent day--special thanks to our parent drivers and to Beth and Ryan for making it happen!



Fourth Graders Become Ornithologists!



The fourth grade had an excellent trip to Gray Lodge. Students learned from bird expert Lori, went on a short hike, did some bird observation, and took excellent notes on what they witnessed.

Students also played a game demonstrating how bird populations change depending on available resources, drew bird habitats, and enjoyed a food chain activity. This is the first of two visits to Gray Lodge, so students will be able to compare bird population and activity on separate visits.



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 past week 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 or Cameron Herzog at 530 263 3261 or via email at cameron969@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

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

Sports Info!

Upcoming...

Cross Country:

10/23 -12/15

Mandatory Parent Meeting for All XC Runners!

If your child is participating in the upcoming Cross Country Season, make sure to attend the mandatory parent meeting on October 3rd.

Date: Wed, Oct 3rd

Time: 3:15pm

Where: Staffroom

Why? Obtain the sports packet to register your athlete, learn about the practice schedule, understand expectations for team selection & participation and get a copy to the season Competition Meet Schedule!

Boys Volleyball: 10/23 – 12/15

Boys Basketball: 12/18 – 2/23

Girls Volleyball: 2/26 – 4/27

Track: 4/10 – 5/26



Dr. Eckerling Brings the Black Plague to Life in the 7th grade (in a good way!)

A big thanks to Dr. Eckerling for coming in and performing a dissection demonstration to both 7th grade classes earlier this month. Not only was it amazing to get to see and investigate intact organs with Dr. Eckerling's expert knowledge – but it also helped make this historic plague more relevant for students.

Dr. Eckerling's visit helped to give some context to the seventh grade Expedition, "Death Brings Rebirth." The focus is on the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and the Black Death.

That is the magic of expert visits to our classrooms! Student interest was piqued and there were more than a few bright eyes and smiling faces!

Dr. Eckerling brought in organs including a heart, lung and liver with associated structures. His talk focused on the effects of *Yersinia pestis*, aka the Black Plague, which accounted for the death of at least 1/3 of the European population between 1347 and 1353.

Mr. E 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 [aezell@gvcsd.us](mailto:aezzell@gvcsd.us)



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.

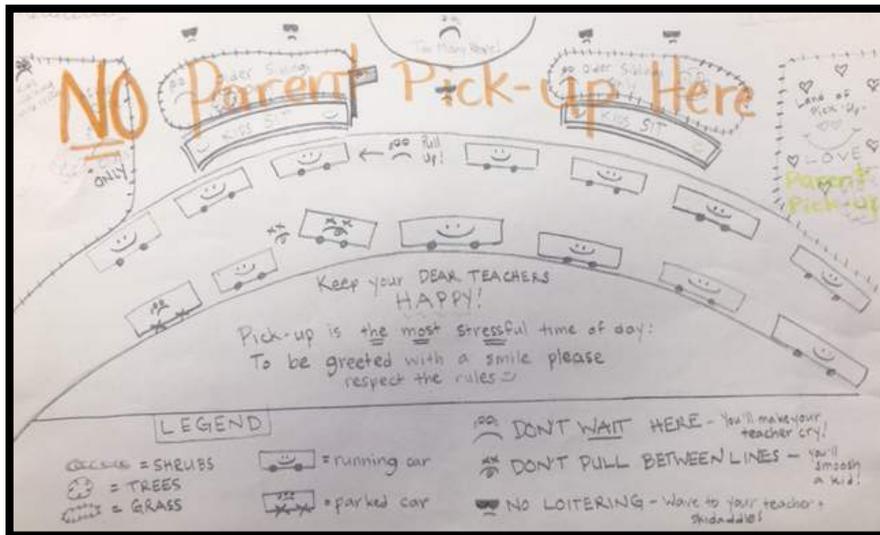
Go Coyotes!!!

Our Girls basketball season is off to a fantastic start! The team celebrated a big win earlier this week. More importantly, they played with sportsmanship and integrity, and proudly represented GVCS. Huge thanks Coaches Russ and Ted for all their dedication to the team.



It's a Map! It's a Way to Be Crew!

We all agree that Teachers should not also be Cal Trans workers, but until then... please help us out at pick-up in the front of the school by following these guidelines.



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 28th)

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

Mark Your Calendars!
November 3rd: Walk-a-thon!

Value Cards available in December!

May 12th: 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

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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