



The HOWL

*Grass Valley Charter
An EL Education Mentor
School*

9/16/19



“We are Crew, Not Passengers.”

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Go Take a Hike!

Crew 17 took their education to new heights last week!

Sometimes venturing as high as 7,550 feet – where they pitched tents and stayed awhile. The days were cool and the nights were frigid! They even had an opportunity to have a snowball fight – in September! Students

traversed craggy terrain carrying all their belongings on their backs. Dropping in at the Grouse Ridge Lookout parking area, Mr. York’s adventurous crew hiked into



Glacier Lake where they stayed a few nights. They then packed up and headed to the Five Lakes Basin and then pointed their hiking boots in the direction of Island Lake to be picked up, delivered to school and treated to a celebratory

pizza lunch for their efforts. Students spent the week before planning meals, gathering supplies, and getting coached on how to properly pack a backpack. They also figured out how to assemble a backpacking tent – a useful skill if you’re backpacking and you want to stay in a tent.

6th Grade to Lassen National Park

Most people don't know this about me but I'm a National Park Ranger in 7 of our National Parks. Well, okay, I'm not an "actual" park ranger but I have been deputized as an honorary park ranger through an official ceremony in those 7 parks. The National Park Junior Ranger program is an official ranger ceremony isn't it? So maybe I use the words "deputized" and "Park Ranger" a little loosely. Just because the National Park system advertises their junior ranger program for kids up to 12 years old doesn't mean adults can't participate too. Besides, some of the pages you have to complete are really hard! Anyhow, the point is there's no shame in grown adult men standing shoulder to shoulder (or almost shoulder) with children receiving a Junior Ranger patch while reciting the Junior Ranger pledge. Oh wait, no. The real point of this whole entry was to mention the 6th grade crews are headed to Lassen National Park this week! As part of their current expedition, the 6th grade will head to Lassen's steaming fumaroles, jagged peaks, and maybe even make their way to Bumpass Hell (and back)!



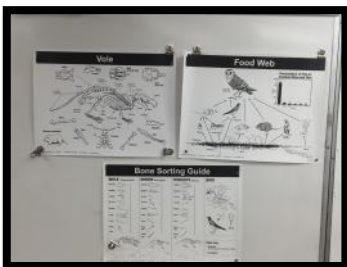
Lions, Tigers, and Bears!

Last week the kindergarteners celebrated Bears Night Out! Crews 5 & 6 made bear masks, expedition bags, went out "hunting" for bears, had s'mores and then snuggled in to get a great night of sleep in the MPR. As the kids used craftsmanship in painting their masks and designing their bags, it's Ms. Suzanne and Ms. Siobhan (along with a lot of parents that helped) that are the unsung heroes of the night. Speaking as a dad that has spent a few nights in the MPR with almost fifty kids – no sleep happened that night.



Owl Pellets

It's not just a vomited ball of an undigested skeletal system from a previous meal – it's an owl pellet, and it's chock-full of all sorts of good stuff. Sue's crew took over the science lab last week and used precision tools, attention to detail, and science journals to carve their way through owl pellets. Students carefully cleaned bones and used keys to identify what bird, rodent, or small varmint they were discovering.



Into the Woods, 2.0!

Grass Valley Charter School Volunteer Reward Program The only way GVCS can offer the amazing programs and adventures our kids love so much is with the help and full support of all our families. Quite literally, GVCS cannot do what it does without volunteers in and out of the classroom... from helping with your child(ren)'s crew to supporting school-wide fundraisers and events. Starting in September, as you complete your commitment of a minimum of 10 hours of volunteer service, you will have a chance to win great prizes! How Does It Work?

#1. You Can Earn Crew Tickets

- Every month, each volunteer earns a chance to win the monthly prize by supporting their child(ren)'s crew
- Each adult volunteer (mom, dad, grandparent, guardian, etc.) will earn 1 Crew ticket to the drawing for that month by completing a teacher identified task or request
 - o Look for requests from your child(ren)'s teacher(s) which may include: fieldwork support, Friday folders, help with Library time, reading groups, sending in a requested snack or craft supplies, at home work or tasks, etc.
- A maximum of 1 Crew ticket per month, per volunteer can be earned (regardless of number of children enrolled). Of course, you are encouraged and welcome to volunteer more!
- In addition to the monthly prizes, all tickets earned will be entered into the End of the Year Grand Prize drawing

#2. You Can Earn Community Tickets

- Volunteers will earn Community tickets for supporting school-wide events & activities (Walk-athon, Blue Marble Jubilee, Value Card, Community Building events, Garden work days, Crew 24 Rep, Foundation membership, Sports Coach, etc.)
 - A maximum of 1 Community ticket per volunteer, per month can be earned
 - Community tickets will be entered into monthly drawings in the month in which the event/activity occurs, unless otherwise specified
 - As with Crew tickets, Community tickets will also be entered in the Grand Prize drawing
- The *Fine Print*** • Tickets will be recorded electronically in each classroom or by the event organizers – you don't have to worry about turning anything in for inclusion in these drawings • Each volunteer can earn a maximum of 2 tickets per month • Monthly winner will be announced no later than the 15th of the following month • Grand Prize drawing will take place in the final week of the school year Final Note – if you are looking for a way to support your crew(s) and have a special skill or expertise, check with your teacher(s) for ideas on how to earn that monthly ticket in a truly impactful way. OUR MONTHLY PRIZE FOR SEPTEMBER WILL BE A \$25 GIFT CARD TO STARBUCKS (all monthly prizes will be of this nature and in this value range) List of Community Ticket Opportunities Crew 24 Representative – earn 1 ticket per meeting attended inclusive of follow up work GVCS Foundation member – earn 1 ticket per meeting attended inclusive of follow up work After School Club Leader or Coach– earn 1 ticket per month for activity around the entity Walk-athon shift - earn 1 ticket Walk-a-thon prep work - earn 1 ticket Value Card prep work - earn 1 ticket Blue Marble Jubilee prep - earn 1 ticket Blue Marble Jubilee event shift - earn 1 ticket Box Tops Helper - earn 1 ticket Friday Fundraiser Helper (Popsicles or Hot Cocoa) - earn 1 ticket Middle School Dance Setup and Chaperone opportunities – each event - earn 1 ticket Teacher Appreciation Week work - earn 1 ticket Talent Show work - earn 1 ticket

Sports Updates!

Cross Country

8/19 – 10/11

Coach Curry
rcurry@gvsd.us

Girls Basketball

10/14 – 12/13

Boys Basketball

12/16 – 2/21

Girls Volleyball

2/24 – 4/24

Track

4/6 – 5/24

Mountain Biking Club:

New to MTB Club Parent Meeting and Bike Tune Up, 9/10 at 5pm, GVCS Staff Room.

First Ride, 9/17.

Contact Mr. E with Sports Qs

aezell@gvsd.us

Mountain Bike Club

First ride is 9/17.

If you have questions, please contact Coach Tanya (redwood_coast@sbcglobal.net) and Coach Mitch (mitch@sfdirtlab.com)

Dates! Be In The Know!

9/17 – Picture Day

10/4 – Walk –a–thon (pick up & drop off at Fairgrounds)

10/10 – Math Night

10/21-10/25 – Fall Break

11/1 – Staff Professional Development, No School

11/3 – Clocks get set back 1 hour

11/11 – Veteran’s Day, No School

11/18 – 11/22 – Middle School Intensives

11/27 – 11/29 – Thanksgiving Break

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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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