



November 2, 2018
Volume 26
Issue 9

A Weekly Newsletter
for Grand Traverse Academy
Families

Dates to remember

Friday, November 2 – ~~High School Zombie Night, 8:00-11:00 pm, GTA~~ **CANCELLED!**

Friday, November 9 – Family Movie Night, 6:30 pm, Small Gym

Monday, November 12 – Veterans Day Program, 8:00 am, Big Gym

Thursday, November 15 – Fill the Pantry Jeans Day (\$2 donation to wear jeans with a uniform shirt)

Would you recommend GTA?

According to a recent Nielsen survey, 92% of consumers believe recommendations from friends and family over all forms of advertising. That is especially true with something as personal and



significant as where you choose to send your children to school. If you're a Facebook user, you probably know that the 1-5-star rating system has been replaced with a simple yes or no recommendation. If you feel strongly about Grand Traverse Academy and would publicly recommend our school to others, we encourage you to go to the [GTA Facebook page](#) and click "yes." And if you're so inclined, feel free to write a brief review. Thank you for helping us spread the word!

GTA to be featured in special TV 9 & 10 weather segment

Eighth grade science students and several 3rd & 4th grade classes enjoyed a visit from TV 9 & 10 meteorologist Haleigh Vaughn last week. They thoroughly enjoyed her presentations and she was so impressed with their knowledge of the weather and the sophistication of their questions. Be sure to tune in to TV 9 & 10 on **Sunday, November 4 at 6:00 pm** to see a photo collage of her visit.

School is in session on Election Day



Although some schools have chosen to close on Election Day (next Tuesday, November 6), Grand Traverse Academy will be open for a full day of instruction.

Special Veterans Day program planned, veterans invited

Are you a veteran of the United States armed forces? Do you have a relative who has served our country in the military? Veterans in our GTA family and extended family are invited to a special school-wide Veterans Day observance on **Monday, November 12**. The celebration begins in the Big Gym at 8:00 am with muffins and coffee for guests, followed by a color guard visit, speakers and a band performance, and will culminate with an elementary parade in the south circle drive. Mark your calendars – you won't want to miss this very special event!

Upper Elementary classes participate in On the Ground program

On October 23 (Pay It Forward day), the classes of Mr.



Lazar, Ms. Layne, Mrs. Lazar, and Ms. Deegan went to Petobego State Game Area near Elk Rapids as part of the On the Ground Junior (OTG) program through Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC). The purpose of this program is to give back to Michigan's natural areas and to provide opportunities for future generations. All four classes, along with the help of parent chaperones, spent the day building 20 brush

piles to provide habitat for rabbits and grouse. They learned how to build a proper brush pile by putting large logs underneath and branches on top. As the branches break down, the logs will remain, leaving perching areas for grouse. After building the brush piles, the kids participated in three activities: archery, a hawks and pheasants game, and identification of waterfowl native to Michigan. It was a great day that was highlighted by many positive comments from the DNR biologists, MUCC staff, and bus drivers about the positive behaviors displayed by our students and the involvement of our parent chaperones. Check out a recap of their day's activities on the MUCC Blog [here](#).

College, university, armed services representatives visit GTA

Juniors and seniors are invited to meet with representatives from various colleges, universities and the armed services right here at school. This is a great way to learn about program offerings and ask questions during the post-secondary decision-making process. Students should look for sign-up sheets outside the Secondary office. Upcoming dates are as follows, with more to come:



Monday, November 5
Northern Michigan University



Thursday, November 8
Western Michigan University

A note from Family Council

Get ready for FriendsGiving. The GTA Cares student lunch pantry* helps feed many in our school community and helps students when they happen to forget a lunch. Our first Jeans Day helped fill the pantry...for a time...but there is always a need. Thursday, November 15 is the next Fill the Pantry Jeans Day, but we know the good hearts of our school community like to go above and beyond. Members of the GTA Family Council will be available every Friday in November to help collect food pantry items during carpool. So when your favorite items are 10 for \$10, get the 11th free, consider donating the 11th. When your favorite item is four for \$5, consider donating one or two. Cash donations are always welcome and provide items to make sandwiches



for hungry students. Let's fill the pantry twice over and give thanks for our friends.

The GTA Family Council

*Because this is a lunch pantry, perishable items, full-sized packaged goods or canned meats, fruits or vegetables **should not** be included. Suggested pantry donations include individual serving sizes of soups, macaroni & cheese, pasta meals, apple sauce or fruit, granola bars, and crackers & cheese/peanut butter – in short, nutritious items you would pack in your own child's lunch.

Thanks from the Humane Society

We received this sweet handwritten note from the staff at the Cherryland Humane Society to those who made dog chew toys on Pay It Forward Night:

Thank you all so much for the handmade dog toys! What fun they will have with them. – Laurel

Thank you so much for thinking of our dogs and their playtime needs! – Liz

Thank you so much for helping our animals have a happier stay at CHS! – Deane

Thank you for thinking of the animals! - Heidi

Thank you so much for the toys! Our dogs love them so far and we love your support and generosity! – Kelsey

You all are amazing! Thanks for making the dogs' days! Maybe next time you can make some for the cats! – Grace

Thank you so much for the toys! Our animals love them! – Tia

Family Council to host Movie Night

The GTA Family Council will screen "Incredibles 2" at the first Family Movie Night of the year. Mark your calendars for next **Friday, November 9 at 6:30 in the Small Gym**, and get ready



to follow the Parr family, as they try to restore the public trust in superheroes, only to discover a new challenge in the form of "the Underminer." The cost is \$10 per family and popcorn and water will be available for purchase – no outside snacks, please. Be sure to bring a blanket, beanbag chair or pillow for seating.

“Socktober” results are in!

Thanks to the support of our GTA families, Mrs.



Mroczkowski’s GEMS class collected 376 pairs of socks, 470 diapers and 23 packages of wipes in their Socktober event. They will be delivered to the Goodwill Inn to benefit those in

our community who are experiencing homelessness.

Mustangs gearing up for winter sports



The transition to cooler weather and falling leaves means that winter sports are right around the corner! Interested students should take note of the following information:

Sport	Registration Deadline	Season Start Date
Alpine Skiing – See registration information in the Athletic Office		
JH Girls’ Basketball – Season begins after Winter Break		

Easy ways to raise funds for GTA

Clip and place in the receptacle inside the Elementary entrance:



- ✓ Box Tops for Education Coupons (\$.10 per coupon clipped)
- ✓ Oleson’s Cash Register Receipts (\$.01 for every dollar you spend)

While these amounts may not seem like a lot, they add up very quickly. Participation is easy, does not cost anything extra and is very much appreciated! **Note that the most recent expiration date for Box Tops coupons was November 1.** Be sure to check your coupons before turning them in to be sure they are still valid.

Registration open for Elk University

High school students who are interested in working with



wildlife or just love the outdoors are invited to attend Elk University, a course offered at GTA in conjunction with the DNR. Students will participate in population surveys, a mock community meeting, and public outreach projects, gaining knowledge of and appreciation for Michigan’s elk herd. The course is just three sessions

long and meets on the following **Fridays from 12:30-2:00 pm in the Pink Hall: December 7 & 14 and January 11.** There is no cost to register but consistent attendance is important. Details and registration information are attached.

Ongoing events

Elementary Pizza Days – November 15, December 6 & 20, January 24, February 7 & 21, March 7 & 21, April 11 & 25, and May 9 & 23 (order forms with payment due the Tuesday before Pizza Day), \$1.50 per slice

Secondary Pizza Days – Every Tuesday (purchase tickets before school outside the Secondary office on Pizza Day), \$1.50 per slice

Secondary Taco Days – Every Thursday (purchase tickets before school outside the Secondary office on Taco Day), \$1.50 each

Bagel Sales – Every Wednesday at the Junction of the Elementary & Secondary Wings, \$1.50 each

School Tools Store Hours – Every Thursday, 7:50-8:25 am, Pink 3

Builders Club Meetings – First & Third Thursday of Every Month, 3:50-4:20 pm, MPR 4

Key Club Meetings – Every Thursday, 7:40 am, Bronze 2

Student-Run Credit Union Deposit Days – November 9, December 7, January 11, February 1, March 1, April 5 and May 3; 8:00-8:30 am, Elementary Lobby

Fill the Pantry Jeans Days – November 15, January 17, March 21, May 9