



Connections

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR GRAND TRAVERSE ACADEMY FAMILIES

Dates to remember

Now through Thursday, March 9 – 2023-24 Open Enrollment Period

Thursday, January 12 – Fill the Pantry Jeans Day 

Friday, January 13 – Elementary Band Winter Concert, 6:30 pm, Big Gym

Tuesday-Thursday, January 17-19 – Secondary First Semester Exams

Wednesday, January 18 - Half Day for Secondary Students Only

Thursday, January 19 – Half Day for All Students

Friday, January 20 – NO SCHOOL FOR ALL STUDENTS (end of first semester)

Friday, January 20 – Family Council Ice Skating Event, Centre ICE, 11:30 am-1:00 pm (watch for details!)

If you have friends or family members who are interested in learning more about Grand Traverse Academy for their children, please invite them to contact Amy Truesdell at (231) 995-0665 or enrollment@mygta.us to reserve their spot at one of these meetings. Individual tours with a school leader are also available by appointment.

Mighty Mustangs Preschool enrolling now

Grand Traverse Academy's Mighty Mustangs Preschool is a licensed, tuition-based program created especially for 3-5-year-olds. Through fun, hands-on activities, children develop the confidence, creativity and critical thinking skills that prepare them for success in kindergarten and beyond. Full- and half-day sessions are available and parents may choose two, three or five mornings or days per week. For more information or to apply for enrollment, visit the Mighty Mustangs [Preschool webpage](#). Please feel free to share this information with other parents of preschool-aged children!



Enrollment Information Meetings planned

Grand Traverse Academy's Open Enrollment period for the 2023-24 school year has begun and **continues through Thursday, March 9**. Several Enrollment Information Meetings are planned, as shown below. Each includes a brief presentation, time for Q & A and a tour of our facilities.

Enrollment Information Meetings		
Day	Date	Time
Wednesday	January 11	9:30 am
Thursday	January 24	6:00 pm
Tuesday	January 26	9:30 am
Thursday	February 2	6:00 pm
Wednesday	February 8	6:00 pm
Monday	February 13	9:30 am
Thursday	February 23	9:30 am
Thursday	March 2	6:00 pm
Monday	March 6	9:30 am

First semester exams planned, shortened week for all students

Students in grades 7-12 will have **first semester exams on January 17-19**. Monday and Tuesday will be review days, with some classes beginning their exams on Tuesday (teachers will let students know if this is the case). Wednesday will be a half day for *secondary students only*. High school students will be dismissed at 12:05 and junior high at 12:10; they will report to their usual carpool location.

Thursday will be a half day for *all students*, with students reporting to carpool at the same times and locations as a Friday. There is no school for all Students on Friday.

See the attached exam schedule for the week's details for secondary students.

Secondary Students of the Month chosen

Congratulations to the following students, who were named Students of the Month for November for their demonstration of the character trait of **Professional Work Habits**:

Saul Ross, grade 7, is the son of Beth and Jason Vivian.



He is involved in the Big Brothers-Big Sisters program and is interested in economics, architecture and the Roman Empire. Saul wants to become fluent in two foreign languages and visit Russia. After graduation, he hopes to attend Michigan Technological University, eventually obtaining a doctorate in

civil engineering. Saul also aspires to become fluent in two foreign languages and visit Russia.

Claire Dennis, grade 8, is the daughter of Adam and Michelle Dennis.



She plays basketball, volleyball and softball and volunteers at her church on Sundays. Goals include becoming a member of the National Honor Society and participating in some school clubs. Claire hopes to finish the year with all A's and no missing assignments. She is interested in animals and wants to

volunteer at an animal shelter.

Maxwell Hobbs, grade 9, is the son of Anne Yambor and Sam Hobbs.



As a member of the National Junior Honor Society, he does a lot of volunteer work – mostly with the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Maxwell also participates in the after-school powerlifting group and participates in the Jazz Band. He enjoys hunting, fishing and spending time outdoors. Maxwell

is looking forward to learning how to drive and getting his license. His aspirations include graduating with a 3.8 GPA or higher and pursuing a career in engineering.

Adela Ruiz Pino, grade 10, is a foreign exchange student



and the daughter of Adela Pino and Salvador Ruiz. Her host parents are Brian and Ann Tschirhart. A sports enthusiast, she participated on the volleyball team and currently plays on the JV basketball team. At home in Spain she plays tennis. Adela's interests also include reading. When she returns to Spain, she would like to attend a

“bachillerato” (optional additional years of high school) and focus on math and physics before attending the university in Seville. Adela also hopes to do volunteer work in Africa.

Winter soccer is back!

Elementary and Secondary soccer is back and drop-in



sessions for grades 6-12 will begin on January 7. This is a wonderful opportunity to promote healthy living, develop a love for this exciting sport and build

relationships. It also helps us to grow our high school co-op soccer team with TC Christian and St. Francis schools. The cost is \$10 per session and a waiver form for a parent signature will be available at the door.

Dates and times are as follows.

Grades 6-12 Drop-In Soccer Dates	Time
January 7	12:00-2:00 pm
January 21	12:00-2:00 pm
January 28	12:00-2:00 pm
February 4	12:00-2:00 pm
February 11	12:00-2:00 pm
March 4	12:00-2:00 pm
March 11	12:00-2:00 pm

School absences or late arrivals

If your child will be late for school or absent for the day, please notify the office by 8:30 am. Parents will be called to verify any unexcused absences after that time.

Elementary 995-0665 / Secondary 932-6038

Adult drop-in soccer sessions offered

For those parents who may be interested in having some fun playing soccer over the winter, **Justin Lazar**, Upper Elementary teacher and assistant high school soccer coach, is offering adult drop-in soccer on Saturdays. Sessions will take place from 4:00-6:00 pm in the Big Gym on the following dates: January 7, 21 & 28; February 4 & 11; and March 4 & 11. If possible, please bring both a light- and a dark-colored shirt for splitting into teams. Questions may be directed to Justin at lazarj@mygta.us.



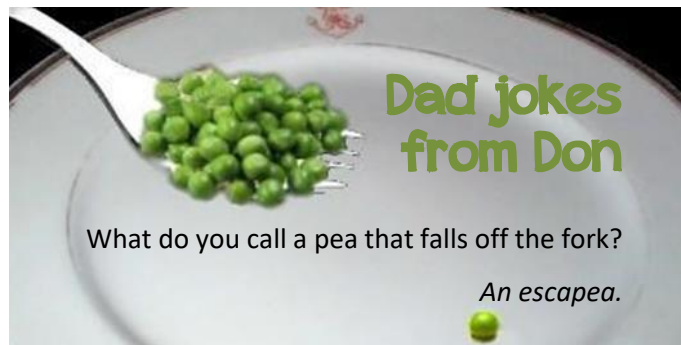
GTA water bottles for sale

Did you know that drinking water can improve memory and help focus our attention? That's why we encourage students to bring a water bottle to school each day to stay hydrated! Water bottle fillers are located throughout the school for refills. And right now, 27-ounce easy grip water bottles with the GTA logo are available for sale in either office for just \$3 each. Parents may buy them too, to promote our school wherever you go!



Yearbook class accepting ads

Do you own a business and want to show your support for GTA? Yearbook advertising also gives your business exposure to GTA families, as they tend to look at the books often. Now is the time to place an ad in the 2023 Secondary yearbook! Prices are as follows: Business card size \$45, ¼ page \$65, ½ page \$150, full page \$300. If interested, contact **Reed Hudson**, editor-in-chief, at hudsonr23@mygta.us. He'll be happy to answer your questions and get your business in front of our Secondary students and their parents!



Ski & Snowboard School offered

The annual Kiwanis Club/Record-Eagle Ski & Snowboard School at Traverse City's Mt. Holiday begins on Tuesday, January 10 for students in grades 1-9. Details, including dates, cost and a link to register, are attached to this newsletter. Questions should be directed to Mt. Holiday at the phone number or email address provided.

Ongoing events

Med Club Muffin Sales (Secondary) – Every Monday from 7:45-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multi-Purpose Room

Sophomore Class Bagel Sales – Every Wednesday from 7:40-8:00 am, \$2.00 each for several varieties, Multipurpose Room 4 and the Intention Room (Mrs. VanHouzen's office)

Elementary Pizza Days – Every other Wednesday, as follows: January 11 & 25, February 8 & 22, March 8 & 22, April 12 & 26 and May 10 & 24 (order and pay by the preceding Monday using forms sent home on off weeks), \$1.50 per slice of pepperoni or cheese

Secondary Pizza Days – Every Thursday (order and pay by Tuesdays using forms provided in Advisory classrooms), \$1.50 per slice of cheese or pepperoni

NHS Elementary Doughnut Sales – Every Friday in the Intention Room (at the entrance to the Elementary Wing), 7:50-8:05 am, \$1 each for several varieties

NHS Secondary Doughnut Sales – Every Friday in Multipurpose Rooms 1 & 2, 7:40-8:00 am, \$1 each for several varieties

Secondary Beverage Sales – Monday-Thursday at Lunch in Bronze 1, \$1.50 each for Snapple fruit drinks

Fill the Pantry Jeans Days – Thursdays: January 12, March 23, May 25 (\$2 per person to wear jeans with a uniform top)

GTA Secondary School Exams

January 17-19, 2023

First Semester Exams

Monday, January 16: Exam Review

Tuesday, January 17: Exam Review/Exams Begin

(Most classes will review, some will begin their exam. Teachers have communicated the schedule with students.)

Wednesday, January 18: Half Day of Exams*

High School

8:05-9:00	1st Hour
9:05-10:00	2nd Hour
10:05-11:00	3rd Hour
11:05-12:05	4th Hour

Junior High

8:05-9:05	1st Hour
9:10-10:10	2nd Hour
10:15-11:15	3rd Hour
11:20-12:10	Advisory/Exam Make-up

Thursday, January 19: Half Day of Exams**

High School

8:05-9:00	7th Hour
9:05-10:00	8th Hour
10:05-11:00	9th Hour
11:05-12:05	Advisory/Exam Make-up

Junior High

8:05-9:05	7th Hour
9:10-10:10	8th Hour
10:15-11:15	9th Hour
11:20-12:10	Advisory/Exam Make-up

January 20: No School for any students

Semester Break- Enjoy and be safe!

See you on Monday, January 23rd.

*In the event of a snow day on Wednesday, Wednesday's exams will take place on Monday, January 23rd during regular class time.

**In the event of a snow day on Thursday, Thursday's exams will take place on Monday during regular class time. In the unlikely event of a snow day on Wednesday *and* Thursday, Wednesday exams will be Monday and Thursday's exams will be Tuesday.



Kiwanis Club / TC Record Eagle Ski & Snowboard School

Lessons held at Mt. Holiday Ski & Recreation Area, 3100 Holiday Rd, Traverse City, MI 49686

All Lesson Times are: 6-8pm

<u>Ski Lessons</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Snowboard Lessons</u>	<u>Grades</u>
January 10, 11, 12	K-1	January 10, 11, 12	1-2
January 17, 18, 19	K-1	January 17, 18, 19	1-2
January 24, 25, 26	2-8	January 24, 25, 26	3-9
January 31, Feb. 1, 2	2-8	January 31, Feb. 1, 2	3-9
February 7, 8, 9	2-8	February 7, 8, 9	3-9
February 14, 15, 16	2-8	February 14, 15, 16	3-9
February 21, 22, 23	K-1	February 21, 22, 23	1-2

Cost of the Lessons are:

\$42 per 3-Day Session

Cost of Rental Equipment (if needed)

\$15

To Register Click on the LINK: <https://mt-holiday.com/ski-snowboard/>

Payment is collected on the online registration using credit or debit card.

Questions regarding Ski & Snowboard School, contact Mt. Holiday at 231-938-2500 or email: skischool@mtholiday.org

To Bring/Wear: Warm Coat, gloves, hat and Helmet (if available). A helmet will be provided if you don't have one for your child.



REGISTER NOW

