

Glacier Gryphon

Volume 2, Issue 3

November, 2011

Special dates

of interest:

- Explore/Plan Benchmark testing, (grades 9-11) Nov. 2, 8:30-11:30AM
- ASB Night Hike Nov. 10
- ASB Food Bank Distribution 11/15 SDA Church 9AM
- Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser Thurs, Nov 17 Location: TBD
- Fresno City College Advisor onsite for FAQ's Nov. 30, 4PM

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PLAN / EXPLORE Benchmark Tests On Wednesday, Nov. 2!

The question is often asked:

"What's a benchmark test?"

From Webster's, we find:

...a standardized problem or test that serves as a basis for evaluation or comparison.

GHS has made a switch from the NWEA benchmark test to the EXPLORE and PLAN tests, which are subsidiaries of the well-known ACT college entrance exam.

The desired advantage of utilizing the new tests is

that they will better reflect college readiness, and provide early intervention in areas that need improvement.

Feedback of this type is very important at GHS, especially as teachers try to tailor personalized learning plans for specific student needs over several years of progression.

The EXPLORE and PLAN tests are named differently solely based upon grade level-

9 (EXPL) / 10-11 (PLAN)

***Seniors don't test!**

College Course or Course Area	ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks			ACT Score
	Test	EXPLORE Score	PLAN Score	
English Composition	English	13	15	18
Social Sciences	Reading	15	17	21
College Algebra	Mathematics	17	19	22
Biology	Science	20	21	24

See how the tests show progress over time?

Kingsburg Schedule (GHS Portable):

9th graders test 8:15am to 12pm
10th/11th graders test 12:30-3:30pm

Oakhurst Schedule:

Testing begins at 8:30 and runs till 11:30. Classes ordinarily scheduled during this time period will be re-scheduled as follows:

Geometry	12:30-1:30
Algebra 2	12:30-1:30
Biology	1:30-2:30
Algebra 1	regular time

ASB Night Hike 11/10

A full-moon night hike is planned for the evening of Thurs, Nov. 11, weather and roads permitting. Carpools will depart the Oakhurst campus parking lot at 6pm, and are expected to return by 10pm (Nov.11 is a holiday, so sleep in).

The final destination is the top of Fresno Dome- a moderate trail of approximately one mile each way. On a clear night, the view is spectacular. As mentioned, there will be a full moon, but since there are drop-offs, headlamps are recommended, especially for the summit area.



Howl like a wolf if you want to...

College and Financial Aid Information Night (Juniors, Seniors and Parents)

This workshop is designed to answer questions regarding the Community College system and Financial Aid.

Juniors, Seniors, and parents are encouraged to attend this once a year informational meeting.

When?

4 PM, November 30

Where?

GHS Oakhurst Campus



Achtung! College Prepsters!



*November is a big month for Seniors. All college applications are available starting this month, and if you are planning on applying to a State University or a UC School, the application deadline is **NOVEMBER 30th**.*

***SENIORS:** make it your priority to apply to a college of your choice this month. All applications are available on your school's website. For a list of college websites, see the *College and Career Packet* (available with your charter teacher).*

Important Dates:

Nov 1- All Community College, State University and UC applications are available online.
Nov 4- ACT deadline for Dec 10 Test
Nov 8- SAT deadline for Dec 3 Test
Nov 30- CSU and UC college applications due!
Nov 30- 11th and 12th Info Night @ GHSC Oakhurst at 4pm



No, it's not the Statue of Liberty– but it's from the same place...



At press time, a student trip to England and France is in the works–

While travel isn't inexpensive, it is a great way to get an education in other cultures while expanding one's perspective of culture back at home.

An informational orientation meeting will be held on Friday Oct. 28 at 3 PM at the Oakhurst campus.

Enrollment reserves your place for \$95– and locks your rate before Nov 1. It is recommended that you verify with Mr. Boe before enrolling, that the trip has enough signups to happen.

To view the tour itself: <http://www.eftours.com/educational-tours/tour-detail.aspx?code=EAG>

To enroll online: <http://www.eftours.com/preview-tour.aspx?gt=1122383>

Bruce Boe can be reached at (559) 642-1422 ext 31

Silk Painting Underway Ornaments On the Way

Irina Buca is currently conducting a Silk Painting workshop within the Art Department. The Wednesday workshop series started October 26th and lasts for several weeks. A separate Christmas Ornament workshop begins next Thursday, Nov 3rd. There is still time to participate if others would like to sign up. Currently, there are approximately 7 students taking part in the silk workshop.

Free Parent/Teen Workshops in Oakhurst:

Staying Connected with your Teen

Sponsored by Madera County Child Abuse Prevention Council
Improve family management practices and strengthen family bonds.

Five Week Series

Mondays from 6:30– 8:30 at First Baptist Church, High School Road
Upcoming meeting topics:

- Oct 31: Family Meetings, Parenting Styles, Family Decision Making and Problem Solving
- Nov. 7: Communication and Conflict Management
- Nov. 14: Teen Involvement in Family, Trust Building,, Consequences, Negotiating

Fall Pumpkin Centerpiece Workshop

Where: Kingsburg Glacier Portable

When: Wednesday November 16th
at 1pm

Space is Limited.

Please contact Mrs. Souza by Nov 10th
if you plan on attending.
msouza.ghs@gmail.com

Bowling Party at Freeway Lanes in Selma

Date: Friday December 2nd

Time: 12pm-3pm

Location: Freeway Lanes

Address: 8265 E Dinuba Selma, CA 93662

Phone number: [559-896-2211](tel:559-896-2211)

Cost: \$10

(covers Bowling, Shoes, Pizza and Drinks)

*RSVP to Mrs. Garcia or Mrs. Souza

FRESNO PACIFIC “Encounter”

High school students
attend classes,
spend a night in dorms,
and meet faculty and students
during Fresno Pacific’s
“Encounter”
scheduled for
November 10-11th

Information may be
obtained by calling
559-453-2039
or register online at:
<http://experienceFPU.com>



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Home of the Gryphons

Students interested in competing in Academic Decathlon should quickly contact either Mr. Boe (642-1422 x31) or Ms. Garcia (897-2321) for information and study materials.



Countywide competition takes place in February. Last year's team was the first ever entry from GHS, and it placed 3rd out of eight teams– narrowly missing 2nd place. Teams consist of 6-9 members from all GPA's.

Individuals may earn medals within specific subject areas.



Unda De Sea... Unda De Sea... 

Last month's trip to the Monterey Bay Aquarium was a great success. Those stout enough to endure the 4:30 AM rendezvous time were rewarded with a very informative, yet relaxed, field trip. The day started with a private lesson and interactive lab session, featuring "touchy-feely" experiences with creatures from the local Monterey Bay underwater kelp forest. Next, the group wandered the regular exhibits– which included specially featured seahorses, jellyfish, and the Great (5') White shark. After wrapping up the aquarium tour, the group took part in pizza and a

spirited game of volleyball at Lover's Point Beach:



It should be noted that, despite the name given to the location, no new romantic pairings resulted from our visit– according to the most recent GHS gossip mill.

*Field Trips are great occasions
to make new fashion statements...*