

GCA's *Newsletter*

APRIL 2017						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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Editor's Note

Hi y'all!

Thank you for picking up this edition! We hope that you liked the cover. We didn't receive that many articles this time around, so instead, the following pages show the different stages of the artwork. We hope that you enjoy viewing them!

I'd like to thank Dwayne B. for contributing to the newsletter! I don't think we would've been able to have a newsletter without him.

Have a good day!

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Just kidding. We have more articles for you to enjoy.

**Happy April Fool's Day!
Lea V.**



Passport to Your Future!

**Georgia Cyber Academy's Senior Prom
at Infinite Energy Arena (Gwinnett Center)**

June 2nd, 7pm-11pm

Are you a GCA high school student who needs help?
Want to be tutored four days a week in your weakest subject?

Come to National Honors Society Peer Tutoring!!!

Tuesdays 3-4 p.m.

<https://lms.k12.com/lms/go/classConnect/PJ3JAJCJMJVJAJ0-5JMJGJCJ2JHJD-P-R-D929G9N9B9G9I9T9HJIJOJMJR-HJ9J3KUJ3JF9B-V-3-W-P-P-E-O9IJGJPJ8JQ-IJP-7JJJQJ0JBIDJR-5-3-I99-V-29U91-3-W-09H9N9>

Wednesdays 8:30-9:30 a.m.

<https://lms.k12.com/lms/go/classConnect/PJ3JAJCJMJVJAJ0-5JMJGJCJ2JHJD-P-R-D929G9N9B9F9N9T9HJIJOJMJR-HJ9J3KUJ3JF9B-V-3-W-P-P-E-O9IJGJPJ8JQ-IJP-7JJJQJ0JBIDJR-5-3-I99-V-29U91-3-W-09H9N9>

Thursdays 8:00-9:00

<https://lms.k12.com/lms/go/classConnect/PJ3JAJCJMJVJAJ0-5JMJGJCJ2JHJD-P-R-D929G9N9C9D9F9T9HJIJOJMJR-HJ9J3KUJ3JF9B-V-3-W-P-P-E-O9IJGJPJ8JQ-IJP-7JJJQJ0JBIDJR-5-3-I99-V-29U91-3-W-09H9N9>

Fridays 11:00-12:00

<https://lms.k12.com/lms/go/classConnect/PJ3JAJCJMJVJAJ0-5JMJGJCJ2JHJD-P-R-D929G9N9C9M9M9T9HJIJOJMJR-HJ9J3KUJ3JF9B-V-3-W-P-P-E-O9IJGJPJ8JQ-IJP-7JJJQJ0JBIDJR-5-3-I99-V-29U91-3-W-09H9N9>

Students are provided a tutor on a first come first serve basis

The Weekly Juice

- Do you like contests with prizes? Do you love reading or writing? Are you searching for a way to get more involved in the GCA student community?
- Then check out the Weekly Juice Newspaper publication! We have monthly contests, tons of articles, are almost completely run by a team of GCA students, and we encourage student submissions!



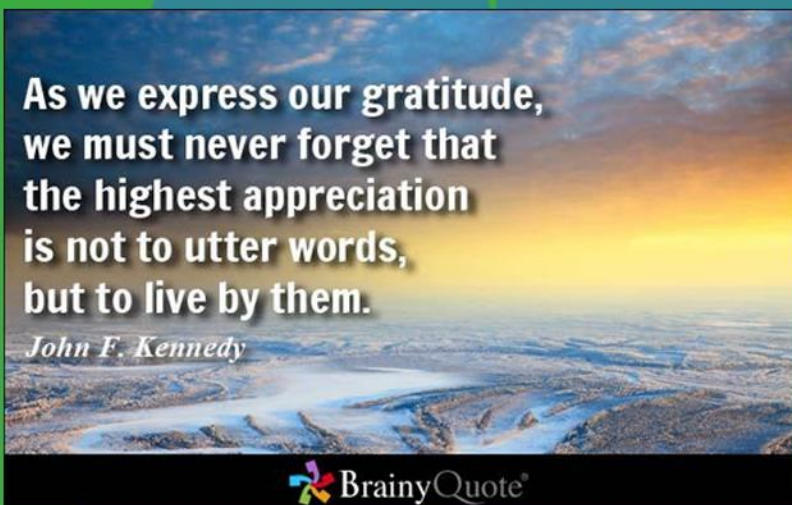
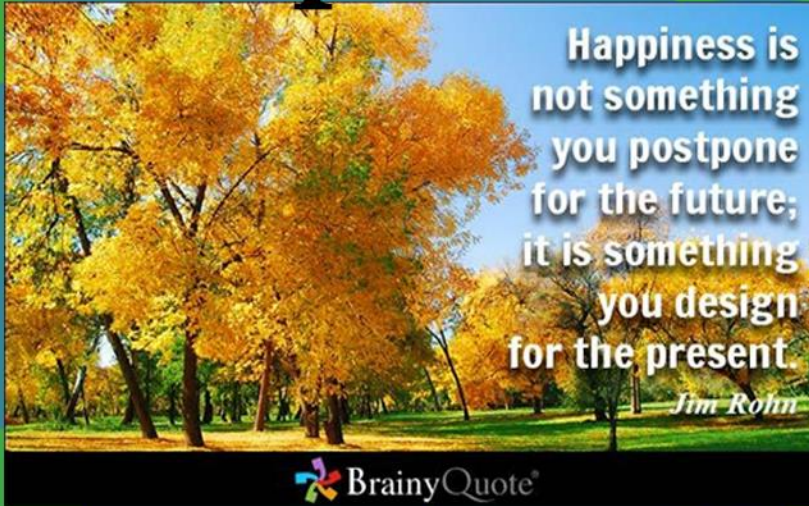
- You can read all of the Weekly Juice articles over at: <https://gcaweeklyjuice.wordpress.com/>
- To submit an article, create an account (no worries, it only takes a minute) and submit over at: <https://greensubmissions.com/574/the-weekly-juice/index.php>

- The Weekly Juice has plenty of categories for you to write or read from! Just a couple of our columns are:
 - Creative Corner
 - Editorials
 - Entertainment
 - National News
 - STEM News
 - And a bunch more!

- Even better, the Weekly Juice allows, and even encourages, for students to submit their own writing! Our editors are just waiting for your awesome writing to be submitted, so that other students can read it!
- The main guide, is that we ask all students to be school appropriate in their writings. You have complete creative freedom for what you write!
- Articles are sent to an editor and edited as we see necessary, and then head to publication after submission, for GCA to enjoy.



Inspirational Quotes



“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”
Helen Keller

Jokes of the Month

Q: Where is a rabbit's favorite place to eat?

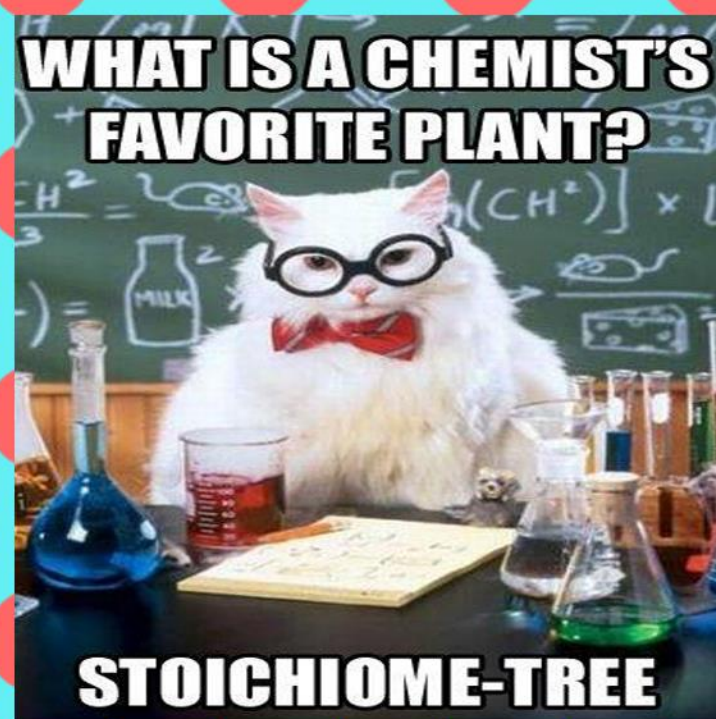
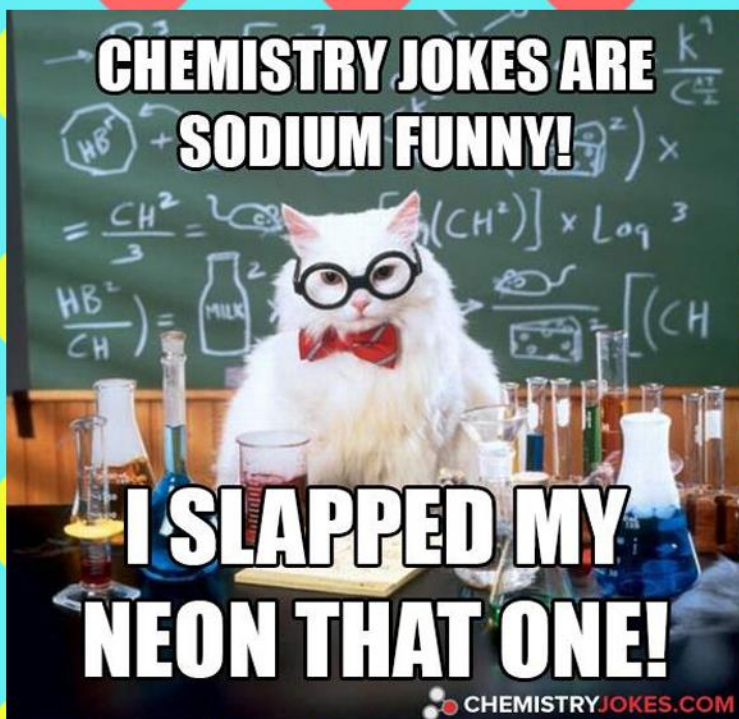
A: IHO^P

Q: What did the carrot say to the rabbit?

A: "Do you want to grab a bite?"

Q: What season is it when you are on a trampoline?

A: Spring-time!



Advice Column

One of the hardest things about improving your life is -unsurprisingly- actually doing it. It's easier to wait around for something to miraculously change your life, saying, "Oh, I'll do it when I get the motivation." Here's the thing: don't rely on motivation to start, keep, and complete any project, ever. Motivation is fleeting, at best, but whatever you're trying to accomplish can't be.

Of course, the way to improve your life (or yourself) and achieve your goals is to put aside those IDITs (I'll Do It Tomorrow) and start on them today. This can be difficult but a really good way to accomplish your goals.

While it may seem like one of those annoying things that everyone's saying, changing your habits actually works and is not nearly as hard as it seems either. So many people complain about changing habits when they try to suddenly devote two hours to the gym, write three thousand words a day, or save up three hundred dollars.

The biggest secret to changing your habits is this: start small. It sounds simple, but so many people just gloss over it. Take that goal and work up to it. Go for a short walk to the mailbox and back after lunch. Write fifty words a day. Save up a dollar. Break down a goal so you can't fail, not without deliberately trying to fail. After that, start slowly, keyword slowly, increasing your activity towards your goal. Carry a small weight with you on your walk. Add an extra fifty words to your daily writing word count. Save up three dollars.

Another way to start those habits is to link them to an existing one. If you want to start flossing more, do it after you brush your teeth. Do a pushup after you change the channel. Draw a shape when you sit down at your desk. Integrate the habit to automatically follow one that you already have.

Additionally, instead of trying to stop doing a negative habit, replace it with something else. This gives you something else to focus on, which can be a lot more helpful. Instead of stop chewing your nails, braid a small section of your hair. Instead of no longer slouching, pull your shoulders back.

Of course, remember why you're changing this habit! That's probably the biggest motivator in changing a habit. Hopefully, these tips have made accomplishing goals easier for you! Remember to focus on consistency, and the habits will become ingrained in your daily life. Good luck!

DIY Colorful Cacti Soaps

Hello everyone!

As spring is finally here, I wanted to find a bright and colorful craft for this month. Sometimes, soap making can seem intimidating, but no worries with this easy recipe! These cacti bring just the right dose of color and fun for this season. Perfect for washing your hands or for giving as a gift, just put them in a cute plastic bag and tie with a ribbon! Pretty sharp idea, huh? (Get it!?)

For this DIY project, you will need the following materials:

- White melt-and-pour soap
- Soap colorants
- Essential oils or soap scents of your choice
- Cactus cookie cutter
- Spray bottle with rubbing alcohol
- Silicone or metal loaf pan (Silicone is much easier to use, but use what you have.)
- Microwave-safe bowl
- Spoon and knife



DIY Colorful Cacti Soaps

Step 1: Begin by cutting your soap into 1" chunks. Microwave 1-2 cups of soap (depending on the size of your pan and how thick you want your finished soap to be) in 15 second increments until just melted.

Step 2: Add your essential oils or scent and a few drops of your desired soap colorant. Mix well to combine and then pour into your mold*.

*If you use a metal pan, you can place a piece of parchment paper in the bottom of the pan before pouring in your soap to ease the removal process.

Step 3: Spritz with the rubbing alcohol to remove any air bubbles. Let sit for 1 hour to harden.

Step 4: Once hard, use the cookie cutter to cut out your cacti soaps. If you use a metal pan instead of a silicone pan, you will need a small offset spatula to remove the soap from the pan before cutting it.

Don't throw away the scraps; they can be melted down again and reused for another project! I hope you enjoy using your soap!



Music in Our Lives

On February 13, 2017, BTS, an internationally popular kpop group, released *Spring Day*, a repackaged album of *Wings*. Along with the previous group, subgroup, and solo tracks of *Wings*, the new album added onto the existing fictional plot and the messages to the fans. The individuality and the storytelling of the members produced another album with a wide range of styles and topics.

While a few of the songs revolve around the stereotypical story, majority of the songs serve as carriers of personal stories, thoughts, and messages. "Intro: Boy Meets Evil," "Blood, Sweat, and Tears," and "Spring Day" focus on the typical love story you'd hear on the radio nowadays: the protagonist gets caught up in a controlling love, and even when the relationship is supposedly over, the main character continues to miss his lover and hate the relationship as well. The plot works well in all genres, so it's no surprise that it shows up in this album. The story is soon dismissed as more b-tracks are introduced, most of them heartwarming, sweet, and upbeat. "Begin," "Mama," and "First Love" are signs of gratitude to the family and inspirations that have supported the band to this day; "Two! Three! (Still Wishing for Better Days)" and "Outro: Wings" serve as personal messages to their fans; and "Not Today" and "Cypher Pt. 4" best showcases the pride in their work. However, this isn't to say there aren't any songs that address some somber realities. "Lie" and "Lost" addresses feelings of despair and hopelessness while pursuing a life, and "Am I Wrong" directly attacks today's political scene. Overall, *Spring Day* offers a variety of messages and stories that is bound to be appealing.

Since there are a variety of stories, there is bound to be some variation in style, though similar melodies persist. Most of the songs have the typical formula in kpop and resembles techno music. For most of the album, the group rap and belt out notes with a techno melody and beat in the background, and the bass drops occasionally throughout the album. However, some members add their own twist in their solos. "First Love" primarily focuses on the piano and later introduces a chorus of string instruments, bringing a sense of orchestral music. One of the members raps along to swing music in "Mama." Additionally, "Lie" starts off with an intriguing strings intro before starting an acoustic guitar melody that continues to play throughout the song. While the songs have some common elements, the members put in their own touch to create diversity.

While the album overall is good, it does have a few plausible downfalls. Depending on who you favor in the group, you'll either feel ecstatic or disappointed when the entire group participates in a song. BTS tends to struggle with line distribution within songs, and *Spring Day* is no exception. While the rap line has a mostly even distribution, the vocal line clearly has some favoritism going on in the works. For example, "Blood, Sweat, and Tears" is notoriously known for having one member sing about one and half lines, and his vocals are drowned out by another member's high note. Another problem may be the variety itself. If you have a persistent taste and want to stick with it, then you may need to go through the album yourself to find what works for you. While the album excels in some aspects, it may fall short for others.

Overall, *Spring Day* is an enjoyable album that exposes its listeners to various stories and styles. While it does have its quirks, the album does offer many options for those with various tastes. If you're new to the kpop scene, this album is probably a good starting point to have a sense of what kpop is all about. Whether you're looking for a love song with a techno tune or blast to the past, *Spring Day* got you covered.

Rainy but Snazzy

Rain trickled down Raina's bedroom window on a Saturday morning. Under normal circumstances, she would've stared out the window and relaxed to the sound of rain, or perhaps she would've finished up the dusty puzzle. Four exams could really wreck someone's ideal weekend. Raina sighed and continued to pore over the second textbook.

Raina was so engrossed into her work she hardly noticed her idiot neighbor's squeals outside her window. That was until said idiot neighbor began throwing pebbles at it. Groaning at the noise, she tried her best to re-focus on her books. "RAINA!" Plunk. Plunk. "RAAIINNAA!!"

"Please, not now..." she groaned under her breath. Then, a toad-sized rock came hurtling through the closed window. Gr. "Dude!" Raina yelled through the new hole in her shattered window. "What do you think you're doing?!"

Raiden smiled when Raina appeared at the window. "Finally, I got your attention!"

Raina rolled her eyes. "What do you want?"

Raiden motioned to the outdoors. "Come outside!"

"No."

"It's worth it!"

"I need to study," Raina snapped. "Besides, I don't want pneumonia or whatever."

Raiden pouted and began to walk away. "Fine. You'll know where to find me anyway."

After much thought Raina gave into Raiden's antics. She got into her bright yellow raincoat and hopped outside, only not to find him outside..

"OVER HERE!" Raiden called out from his open garage, flailing his arms vigorously.

Raina stomped towards him, her socks sopping wet. "What did you want?" With a smug smile on his face he spun in a circle. "Look at my snazzy new raincoat!"

She deadpanned. "You've got to be kidding me.

"No, I'm not. It's new."

"What was the point in coming here?!" Before Raina could stomp outside with her flustered self, Raiden snatched her wrist.

He turned her to see his smile. "De-stress, study maniac. Get sick with me in the rain." Raina angrily revolted, reminding him lightning was expected. Raiden's smile only grew. "Even better then."

Raina huffed when Raiden began to run in the rain. While watching him prance like an idiot, however, the edges of Raina's lips turned upward. "Maybe I'll play around," Rain muttered. She joined Raiden, who smiled upon seeing her. "Only for a few minutes!" she exclaimed.

"A few minutes," Raiden winked.

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"That wasn't a few minutes," Raiden said. He sneezed into another tissue and buried himself deeper into his blanket.

"I shouldn't have gone with you yesterday," Raina muttered. She scooted closer to Raiden as the cartoons played out in front of them. "But you were right. It was totally worth it."



# Editor's Note

**Hello y'all!**

**By the time you're reading this, Spring Break is either getting started, or it just ended. Either way, I hope it was, is, or will be exactly how you wanted it. We've all worked considerably hard these past few weeks, so why not relax? Anyways, thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter!**

**Whether you're kicking off your shoes or getting back into the swing of things, we hope that this edition brightened your day.**

**I'd like to thank the following participants:**

**Dwayne B.**

**Geena R.**

**Laurie V.**

**Malihah K.**

**Mandi D.**

**Raven H.**

**I wouldn't be able to make this fantastic newsletter without you!**

**Have a good day!**

**Lea V.**

# Contact Us



**Interested in what we do?  
E-mail us at [gca.askthecouncil@gmail](mailto:gca.askthecouncil@gmail.com)  
We'll happily answer any questions you  
have.**

**Have a Facebook account?  
Send a friend request to GCAHS Student  
Council, and we'll update you about the  
student council**

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