



VALLEY
ACADEMY



Coyote News

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed. Principal



Parent Teacher Conferences are this month. This is a great opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress with your child's teacher. Children do better in school when their parents are involved in their education. Conferences are one way to get involved. We encourage you to schedule an in-person conference through the provided [Sign-Up Genius link](#). So make parent/teacher conferences a priority and take the following steps to ensure you and your child get the most out of them.

Before the conference:

- Talk with your child: Find out his or her favorite subjects or activities, and ask if there are any concerns he or she would like you to discuss with the teacher.
- Review assignments: Are there some areas where your child really shines and others that might need a little extra work? Discuss both strengths and weaknesses with the teacher.
- Check whether your child should attend: In most cases, the conferences are strictly between the parents and the teachers, so you'll probably need to make childcare arrangements.

The day of the conference:

- Be on time: The conference schedule is tight and teachers need all parents to be on time. If something comes up, notify the teacher as soon as possible. Try to reschedule, even if it has to be a telephone conference.
- Remember that conferences are brief: A typical parent/teacher conference lasts 15-20 minutes. If you need additional time, ask for a follow-up session.
- Keep an open mind: Some parents get angry when teachers discuss trouble spots. Remember these conferences are meant to help you understand your child's school performance. Working together with the teacher will help your child succeed.

Afterward:

- Tell your child: After the conference, meet with your child and discuss the teacher's comments. Remember to praise all the things your child is doing well and pass along the teacher's compliments. If you need to, talk about areas that you and the teacher will be working on to help your child improve.
- Follow up: In the days that follow, let your child's teacher know that you are following through on what was discussed, and that you'd like to hear how things are progressing in the classroom.

Remember that at Valley Academy, parental involvement is welcomed and encouraged through the year. Feel free to schedule a phone or in-person conference any time you think there is a need.

Mrs. Victoria Brooks, M.Ed.

Principal

Upcoming Events

Spirit Day Friday, October 6th. All students may participate in Spirit Day the first Friday of each month by wearing their Spirit Day shirt. For grades K-8, ice cream is available at lunch for purchase or prepaid ticket.

No School Monday, October 9th. No school in honor of Columbus Day.

Report Cards Wednesday, October 11th. Students' work is assessed and grades are also available online to view using ParentVUE.

Early Release/Parent Teacher Conferences Thursday and Friday, October 19th—20th. Preschool dismisses at 11:30 a.m. and all students K-8 dismiss at 12:15 p.m. for parent/teacher conferences.

More Information Listed on Last Page

For more information, please visit our website at www.ValleyAcademy.com

In commemoration of September 11th, Valley Academy held a special morning assembly in recognition of those members of our community who are first responders either in the Police or Fire Department. We recognized them for their dedication to serving our community.



From left to right: Firefighter Backus, Engineer Cannon, Principal Brooks, Firefighter Freeman, Asst. Principal Breshears, Captain Johnson, Fire Captain Roberts

We appreciate their dedication in serving on the front lines by protecting our community. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your service.

Below is Mrs. Simon, our 7th/8th Grade History teacher, who is leading our assembly with a tribute to 9/11. To the right, Mrs. Loveless led us in song.



Far left is Kashvi R., President of NJHS, 8th Grade. Students Daelyn Z.V., Maya D.A., and Lakshmi P. are respectfully listening to our 9/11 Assembly.

Meet the staff at Valley Academy who are ALUMNI!



"Working for Valley was an easy choice to make. Regardless of whether you are a teacher, student, or parent, you are welcomed and treated as family. The administration and teachers at this school go above and beyond to ensure the best possible education for all students. I believe strongly in the traditional education Valley offers and I could not see myself working anywhere else. "

- Miss Webb, 2nd Grade teacher



"I chose to come back and work at Valley because of the quality of education offered. Valley Academy provided me with a strong educational foundation that allowed me to go further in my educational pursuits. I want to be able to continue that legacy as a teacher at this school."

- Mr. Beckham, 4th Grade teacher

Providing a Traditional Foundation for the Future

"I wanted to work at Valley because of the family feeling you get when you are here. Valley Academy also does an amazing job at making each student feel welcomed and appreciated! Personally, I love the traditional style of teaching and believe it is important to use in schools. Becoming a teacher here has been a real "full circle moment" for me and I feel so happy being a part of the Valley Academy community."

- Miss Breshears,
Kindergarten teacher

HELLO kindergarten



Meet the staff at Valley Academy who are ALUMNI!

"It is such a joy to come back to the elementary school that I attended. I started with Valley Academy back in 1995 when the doors first opened in first grade.

When looking where I wanted to teach after college, I knew it had to be with a Reid school.

The structure, family feeling, responsibility to community, and higher respect for education is what brought me back.

I felt just as safe expressing my thoughts and learning new skills in 1999 as I do today being a 3rd grade teacher.

It is a warm feeling to know that Valley was family to me then and has welcomed me back now."

-Miss Magnusen, 3rd Grade teacher

THIRD
Third grade
GRADE



Back row left to right is Dhatri K., Arjun N., Ava V., and Sairam M.

Front row left to right is Vanesa B., Avery H., Anika M., Ritwik (Kirti Sai) C.



"When I was a Valley Academy student, I understood the importance of a school that offered a solid academic education. I had seen the difference between Valley's standards and other schools' standards first hand. As an adult attending college, I realized that I still valued the traditional, academic standards that Valley offered and that I wanted to teach here. I was fortunate to receive a job

offer from Valley, and I happily began my teaching career here in 2006."

- Miss Gross, 6th Grade teacher

• hello •
SIXTH
GRADE

"I feel incredibly lucky to be able to teach what I do, and as someone who went through the curriculum, I knew how I wanted to approach Valley's traditional style of education to a generation of students who have different experiences than I did. Valley has a unique approach to middle school education in that we have a dedicated writing class; the opportunity to be able to share my skillset, experience, and passion for writing is unique to this institution. At one point I was inspired by my teachers in this very building to think critically, and I can only hope I give some of the same inspiration to my students now."

- Miss Ekdahl, 7/8 Writing teacher



Five Years or More...Let's Dive into our Years of Experience

Working at Valley Academy is more than a daytime job. Working here means a spirit of friendship and family, a culture that brings us together with a sense of value in what we teach or do, relationships built and students we often see come back time and time again, parents we know when they are visiting on campus, and a love for this community that we call Valley Academy!

Let's dive into the years of experience that our staff has put in. If you notice, staff might be displaying a Pin of Service and below are what they are and what they represent. Named below are those who have celebrated an anniversary between the start of the year and the month of October!

We are proud to be here serving our students, whether we are administration, teachers, or support staff!

Our 5 or More Years of Service Pin

Mrs. Julie Ford, 3rd Grade teacher—5 years
Mrs. Susan Sutaris, Kindergarten teacher—5 years
Mrs. Melody Grimm, Receptionist—5 years
Mrs. Jessica Dever, Librarian—5 years
Ms. Kim Rohr, 7th/8th Grade Math teacher—5 years
Miss Adrianna Breshears, Kindergarten teacher—5 years

Mrs. Heather Loveless, Music—6 years
Ms. Tami Loreto, 3rd Grade teacher—7 years
Mrs. Lisa Carpenter, 2nd Grade teacher—8 years
Miss Haley Magnusen, 3rd Grade teacher, 9 years



Our 10 or More Years of Service Pin

Mr. Josh Bauer, 7th/8th Grade Literature teacher—10 years
Mrs. Angela Copper, 6th Grade teacher—11 years
Mrs. Michelle Simon, 7th/8th Grade History teacher—11 years
Mrs. Vicki Lowery, Principal's Secretary—11 years
Mrs. Kathy Wilkins, Food Service Asst.—12 years



Our 15 or More Years of Service Pin

Mrs. Terri Lander, Technology—15 years
Ms. Stacy Schambach, 1st Grade teacher—15 years
Mr. Dell Mims, PE—15 years
Ms. Leah Ray, 4th Grade teacher—15 years
Mrs. Sheryl Watkins, Art—15 years
Mrs. Andrea Johnson, Kindergarten teacher—15 years



Beyond 15!

Mrs. Janet Robinson, Kindergarten aide—16 years
Mrs. Beth Lewandowsky, 5th Grade teacher—16 years
Mrs. Kris Schmidt, Food Service Mgr.—16 years
Mrs. Valerie Freeman, 5th Grade teacher—16 years

Mr. Ed Smith, 6th Grade teacher—17 years
Miss Elaine Gross, 6th Grade teacher—17 years
Mrs. Kristy Keely, 3rd Grade teacher—17 years

Mrs. Carol Breshears, M.Ed., Assistant Principal—19 years
Mrs. Brenda Cummings, 4th/5th Grade aide—19 years

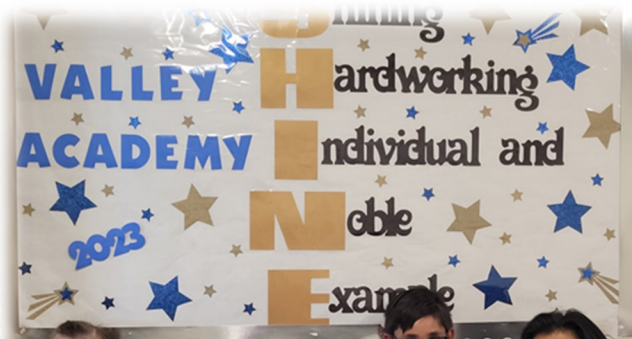
Ms. Jeannine Uhling, Office Manager—21 years
Mrs. Terrie Calderon, Academic Compliance Coordinator, 21 years

Mrs. Victoria Brooks, M.Ed., Principal—25 years

Mrs. Veronica Freeland, 2nd Grade teacher—28 yrs.



September & October SHINE Recipients



Congratulations to the following students: Mckaylee S., Isabella M., Pranavya G., and Vyom S., from kindergarten and Soham B., Minahil F., Ayini T., and Tanisha G.S. from 1st grade. They were selected by their kindergarten and 1st grade teachers as their classes' "SHINE" recipients this month! SHINE stands for Successful, Hardworking, Individual, and Noble Example. I am so thankful to them for being shining examples for others to follow. This is a special award and I am so proud of them. Way to go, students!

Mrs. Breshears, M. Ed.
Assistant Principal
Valley Academy

News from the Art Room!

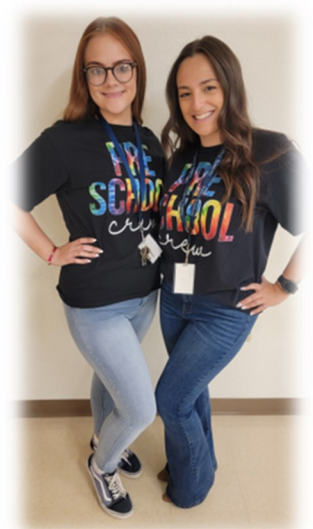


All nine students competing at the Arizona State Fair Student Art Competition and Exhibit won ribbons this year. They competed against many other schools in the state. Hari P., Mansvi S., Amy J., and Malachi Mims won First Place ribbons. Saisha R., Elina B., and Valeria C. M. won Second Place ribbons. Meha M. and Surya K.N. won Third Place ribbons. We are so happy for them! When visiting the fair this month, stop by and admire a job well done and the beautiful artwork that is on display.

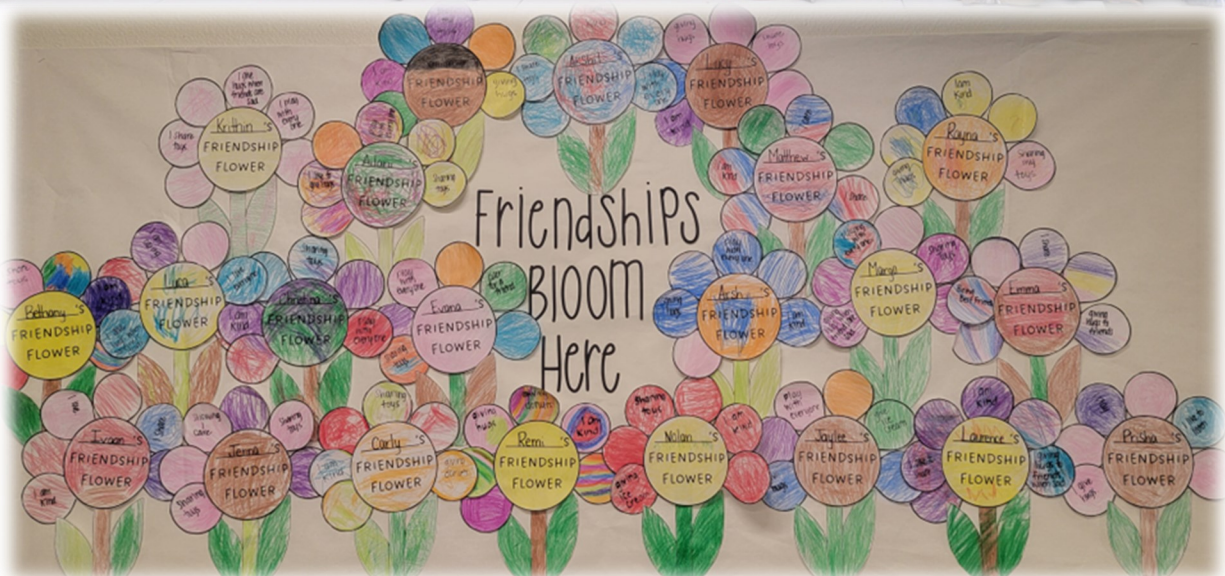
OUR FEATURED GRADE LEVELS



"In preschool we are learning a new letter and number each week accompanied by a fun and informative theme! So far, we have gone through letters A to F and the numbers 0 to 6. Outside of this, we complete extra activities and crafts and read stories that provide the students with more knowledge on our letter and number focuses, as well as our themes. We are also working on building up our fine and gross motor skills! We are excited for a great year full of learning!"



Meet our Preschool Team of Teachers, Miss Burns and Miss Uhlving!



OUR FEATURED GRADE LEVELS

Welcome to Kindergarten

In extended day, the kindergarten classes have been learning about how fruits and vegetables grow and get from farm to table. They have learned about seeds, how produce grows on farms, the difference between fruits and vegetables, healthy eating habits, and vocabulary relating to farms, crops, and produce. They had lots of fun tasting the different fruits and vegetables.



Below is Merrick J. from Mrs. Sutaris' class



Above is Aria K. from Miss Olson's class.



Students from Mrs. Johnson's class show off beautiful projects.



Students from Miss Olson's class show off beautiful rainbow projects.



Above is Mckaylee S. from Mrs. Sutaris' class.

Top Row from Left to Right: Charlee F., Kashvi R., Emma M., Yasmin H., Maci M., Mia P., Sarah M., Hailey E. Bottom Row from Left to Right: Chinmayi A., Aqsa A., Sienna P., Amoolya H., Brooke B.

Serving Up Success



The 2023 season kicked off with an air of determination and a hunger for success. Our volleyball team came together with a strong focus on improving skills, strategies, and most importantly, forging bonds that transcend the court. Although we love to win, the main goal this season was for the players to grow as individuals and as a team. Each player has different strengths, and it was exciting to see each player grow in their skills and cheer for their teammates' growth and accomplishments. In volleyball, there is no substitute for teamwork, and our team has truly embodied this philosophy. Players have worked together to set up the perfect plays,

showing off their impressive understanding of the game. The unity displayed by our team is not just limited to the game itself. We've seen them support each other on the court and in the classroom, pushing each other to be the best versions of themselves. Whether it's lifting spirits during tough losses or celebrating hard-fought victories, our volleyball family has demonstrated unparalleled camaraderie. From thrilling come-from-behind victories to dominating rival matches, we've experienced some unforgettable moments. We encourage you all to continue supporting our volleyball team as they continue their quest for excellence. Your cheers and positive energy from the sidelines mean the world to our players. We can't wait to see what the future holds for this incredible group of athletes.



Meet the Student Council Elected Officers

We are pleased to announce this year's Student Council officers! Thank you to all who participated in this year's Student Council campaign. The speeches and posters were amazing this year! Mrs. Simon, Mrs. Ferris, Mrs. Lander, and Miss Webb are looking forward to working with this amazing group of talented and hard-working students who already have some great ideas for this school year!

President: Michelle B. (8th grade)

Vice President: Charlee F. (8th grade)

Secretary: Surya K.N. (6th grade)

Treasurer: Aubrey B. (8th grade)

Historian: Danica B. (7th grade)



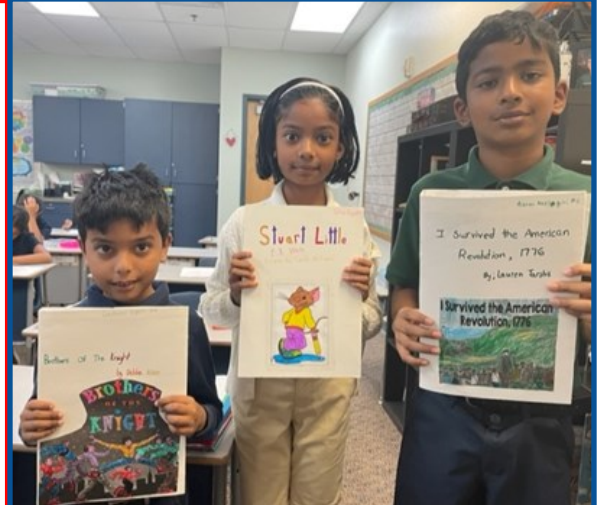


Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are October 19th & 20th; this will also coincide with our Early Release Days. Our students dismiss both days at 12:15 p.m. in order to accommodate our conferences. Preschool classes dismiss at 11:30 a.m.

Please visit our school website, <http://www.ValleyAcademy.com> to set an appointment for your conference by using the Sign-Up Genius button on the homepage. From there, select your child's teacher and a conference date and time that is most convenient for you.

All parents with children in grades K-6 are required to attend a conference. For parents with children in grades 7 and 8, conferences are on an "invitation only" basis or by parent request.



Pictured above is Goutham R., Isha R., and Aarav N. showing off their narrative book report jackets.
Great job, 3rd graders!

Reminder:
Early Release Day!

**Thursday, October 19th &
Friday, October 20th**

Preschool dismisses at 11:30 a.m.

K-8 dismisses at 12:15 p.m.

Reminder!

**No School
on October 9th**



Little Masters

Students from Valley Academy often share their trophies with us to display in the office. Students like Ramannuza K. win in tournaments at Phoenix Chess Academy. Great job and very impressive.



**School Picture
Retake Day
Wednesday,
October 25th.**

Logoed Sweatshirts Will be on Sale Again



Valley Academy logoed navy blue sweatshirts that can be worn year-round and in the classrooms will be available to order in the coming months. Crash Sports will

have them available for sale on their website, www.CrashSports.org from November 1st—7th, December 1st-7th, and again in January when Spirit Shirts go on sale again.

1st Quarter ends Friday, October 6th.

Report Cards go home Wednesday, October 11th.

It has been brought to our attention...

Honeywell, our neighboring business on the corner of 19th Avenue and Rose Garden Lane, has asked that if our parents are cutting through their parking lot to avoid the street light, to please wait at the light patiently instead.

It has also been brought to our attention that several cars have been seen exiting the horseshoe that goes around campus through the 'Enter Only.' Please be sure to always follow the correct flow of traffic.

Thank you for your cooperation.



October 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| 1 | 2 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m. | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Spirit Day End of 1st Quarter | 7 |
| 8 | 9 No School Columbus Day | 10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Caught Being Good | 11 Report Cards Sent Home | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m. | 17 Honor Roll Ice Cream | 18 | 19 Early Release 12:15 Dismissal Parent/ Teacher Conferences | 20 Early Release 12:15 Dismissal Parent/ Teacher Conferences | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Picture Retakes | 26 Board Meeting 6:15 p.m. Reid Offices | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |