# From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed. Principal



Dear Parents,

I hope you had a happy Thanksgiving and enjoyed the extra time with your families. We have just three short weeks until winter break. Please do not forget the importance of keeping your child focused on academics and continuing to work with them over the winter break by having them read and practice their math skills daily.

As this year concludes, I would like to thank the VAPO council and all our parents who continue to support our school and are committed to the traditional education and values we have established. Reid Traditional Schools' Valley Academy is an excellent school. We have again been awarded an "A" by the Department of Education and are

proud of our students and staff's work to maintain such a standard of excellence. At Valley, we continue to provide a well-rounded education to the children who attend here so they not only receive rigorous instruction, but also enjoy special area classes each day. I am proud to be an administrator here and work with such a quality, caring staff and superior group of students. As I walk the campus and see our students' parents, I continue to feel gratitude for the connected community we have here. It is what I value most. Thank you to all who are a part of this special campus. Together we are accomplishing great things.

I wish you all a warm and wonderful winter break and a safe and happy New Year.

My Best,

Mrs. Victoria Brooks, M. Ed.

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Winter Band Concert** Tuesday, December 5th, Band will be performing at 5:30 p.m. Early Release/End of 2nd

**Quarter** Friday, December 22nd. Preschool dismisses at 11:30 a.m. K-8 Holiday parties will take place in their classrooms. K-8 students will dismiss at 12:15 p.m. There is NO P.M. COYOTE CLUB.

Winter Break December 25th through January 8th, School resumes Tuesday, January 9th.

More Events Listed on Calendar Page

# **December SHINE Recipients**



Mrs. Breshears, M. Ed. Assistant Principal

Congratulations to the following students: Vanshika K., Katarina P., Leksha Shree R., and Arjun N. from 3rd grade. They were selected by their 3rd 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!

# **NEWS & UPDATES**

# **A Musical Evening to Remember**

Valley Academy's November 7th vocal concert held this year was highly anticipated. First through eighth grade students gave a wonderful performance that was a delight to everyone! A huge thanks to Mrs. Ferris for the hours of help she gave, to Mrs. Simon and NJHS for the assistance they provided, to many others who helped in one way or another, and to all you parents who patiently listened to your children sing the SAME songs over and over at home and then supported them at the performance as well! Your kids are a joy to teach!

- Mrs. Loveless, Music Teacher



To the left is Kyleigh A. on guitar and 7th Grade singing.



To the bottom left is Mrs.
Loveless and to the bottom right is Amoolya H., both on piano.

## AZ State Fair Art Winners

On Monday, November 13th, eight students were recognized and were presented with the ribbons they won competing against students from across the state at the AZ State Fair Art Competition. Congratulations on ART well done!



From left to right: Amy J., Hari P., Valeria C.M., Mansvi S., Saisha R., Surya K.N., and Elina B.. Meha M. was not present for the photo but also won a ribbon for her artwork.

# Valley Academy's Toy Drive Sponsored by NJHS

# TO BENEFIT CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE



We are looking for donations of new and unwrapped toys or gift cards for ages 0-21.

Now through December 8th!

The class that donates the most toys wins a pizza party.

Wish List: <a href="https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/">https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/</a>
OISWRTXZT9T8



Now that it is cold and flu season, our school nurse would like to remind our families that your children need to be fever free for 24 hours before they can return to school. Also, <u>all</u> medications must be checked in with the school nurse and given at the nurse's office. Students may not carry any medications on them or in their backpacks. Thank you for helping to keep students healthy.

# ARIZONA INSTRUCTION AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLASSES AND CLUBS

ARIZONA INSTRUCTION AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT CLUBS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE SECOND SEMESTER!

Classes will resume the week of January 9th and run through April 26th. Clubs are filled on a first come first served basis.

Parents can now register and pay online on the secure website at:

https://arizonainstruction-valley.jumbula.com/#/home



**Turkey Trot 2023** was a success! Thank you to Mr. Smith, one of our VAPO council members, who headed up the Turkey Trot this year and to Coach Mims, who assisted on the microphone, making it a grand event heading into the holiday season. This year we started with the kindergarten teachers getting out on the field to race against one another, which seemed to prompt the moms to join in. The dads then had a chance to race also, and what a crowd we had! Thanks to all who raced and came to join us for this fun event. It's clear that both students and parents enjoyed the event this year!



To the left are our dads enjoying a good race and to the right is Mr. Smith, our VAPO Athletics council member.





Below are our kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Breshears, and Miss Olson, along with several moms, enjoying a race against one another. At the right are Mrs. Sessler, our VAPO President; Mr. Smith, VAPO Athletics; and Mrs. Gorman, VAPO Event Fundraising.





## **NEWS & UPDATES**

# Be our guest

#### **MOVIE NIGHT**

Wednesday, December 13th at 5:30 p.m. Valley Academy MPR \$3.00 gets you in the door and one free bag of popcorn.

Children in 3rd grade and younger must have a parent/guardian with them. Parents of 4th—8th graders must sign students in and out if not staying.

# Classroom Holiday Parties and Early Release Day **December 22, 2023**

All K-8 classes will participate in Holiday parties in their classrooms.

Parents and Adults are only \$1.00

### Some things to remember:

- 1. Photo ID's or visitor badges must be worn while on campus.
- 2. According to our school policy, small children, siblings (both younger and alumni), and friends are not allowed on campus while visiting classroom parties.
- 3. Homeroom Parents who are ordering pizza for delivery, please give money envelopes to the front desk, including orders that you owe tip on. Chances are that the pizza will arrive before you do, and we don't want the delivery drivers waiting.
- 3. All students in K-8 will dismiss at 12:15 p.m.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22nd As a reminder, there will be no P.M. Covote Club on Friday. December 22nd. Classes for K-8 grades will dismiss at 12:15 p.m. and ALL students must be picked up on time through drive through pick up, walk up pick up, or by walking across the street. The campus will be closed following dismissal, so it is important that you be on time. Please remember that the office is not a pick up zone, and to eliminate an abundance of parents and students in the office, students are to dismiss in the appropriate areas.



## **SPIRIT WEEK!**

### December 18th—22nd

Monday—Crazy Sock Day

Tuesday—Jersey/Sport Team Day

Wednesday—Bring a Stuffed Friend to School Day

Thursday—Wear Your Sweatshirt to School Day









Pay \$1 a day to your homeroom teacher to participate. Participate in all 5 days or just one—either way, it'll be fun!



Wishing you and your family a wonderful Winter Break!

December 25, 2023—January 8, 2024

School resumes January 9, 2024

## **NEWS & UPDATES**

# MIDDLE SCHOOL



To the far left is Yasmin H. and Carter P., both proud they voted.

Pictured at the bottom are Michelle B., Aubrey B., and Aqsa A. who are in the voting booths.



From left to right is Mr. Bauer (Literature), Ms. Rohr (Math), Mrs. Simon (Social Studies), Mrs. Matangi (Science), and Miss Ekdahl (Writing).

Even though it's not an election year, the students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies still learn the voting process and how to vote! All students registered to vote, got voter ID cards, and learned how Arizona's voting process works. Then the students chose who went on their ballot for different offices. We have candidates like Talyor Swift and Kermit the Frog. It was a fun day!

Below are Kireeti G. and Riki G. in the voting booths, and to the right is Ben U. turning in his ballot.



In Mr. Bauer's Literature class, 8<sup>th</sup> graders chose scenes from Shakespeare and rewrote them into another setting, such as the Old West, the 1950s, etc. Then, the students performed the scenes in class. They had groups do Shakespeare in the Old West, on the Titanic, with Minions, on a pirate ship, as Peppa Pig, from the movie Scream, etc. Pictured below are some of the students performing for their class.

Bottom left performing Titanic is Michelle B., Jeytra R., Ben U., and Advitaa D. Bottom right is Adeline H., Aqsa A., Aubrey B., and Marcel G.V. performing Western Macbeth.

Students in Ms. Rohr's Math class play Connect Four to review for a Functions test.









# December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Spirit Day	2
3	4	Band Concert 5:30 p.m.	6	Spelling Bee 1:30 p.m.	8 Toy Drive Ends	9
10	Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.  Board Meeting 6:15 p.m. Reid Offices	VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Caught Being Good NJAHS Induction Ceremony 3:30	Movie Night 5:30 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18 S P I	19 R I T W E	20	21	Early Release 12:15 Dismissal Class Parties NO PM COYOTE CLUB End of 2nd Qtr.	23
24/31	25	26 WINTER I	PREAK NO	SCHOOL	29	Winter Break Dec. 25th—Jan. 8th School will resume on Tuesday, January 9th.



# January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		WINTER	BREAK NO	SCHOO		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	No School Staff Development	School Resumes AZ Instruction Classes Begin			Spirit Day	
			Report Cards Go Home			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	No School MLK Day	VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Caught Being Good	Honor Roll Ice Cream			
21	22	23	24	Board Meeting 6:15 p.m. Reid Offices	Fun Run	27
28	29	30	31			
		TALENT SHOW AUDITIONS PK—3rd Grade 3:30 p.m.	tatent show auditions 4th—8th Grade 3:30 p.m.			