


VALLEY
 A C A D E M Y


Coyote News

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed., Principal



Welcome Back! It is always exciting beginning a new school year with wonderful community at Valley Academy including our staff, parents, and students. I look forward to another fabulous school year.

The school year has started off well with some changes in staff, technology, and a new last name for the principal. The faces in the front office staff may have changed a bit, but all are as friendly and helpful as ever. Our new student management system will be functioning fully soon and will bring much benefit to our staff and families alike.

Lastly, you may have also heard from your child that I have changed my last name to Brooks. I know it might be hard to remember since I have been on campus for over 21 years as Mrs. Wilber, but the students seem to be getting used to it quite well.

All in all, change is good, and we are well underway to another successful year here at Valley Academy. In addition, you may have heard that we are celebrating our 25th year of excellence in educating children. We are excited to hit this milestone and proud of all we have accomplished together. Look for more exciting information about our 25th year in future months.

As always, our goal at Valley is to ensure that our campus is safe and running efficiently. In order for it to be safe and efficient, everyone must follow the school's safety practices including our preferred drop off and pick up procedures. Here are some important suggestions that will make traffic flow safely and smoothly so that everyone's day can continue with ease.

- Give yourself plenty of time to follow the correct drop-off and pick-up procedures.
- If you need to park in a spot, please select one around the sides of campus or drive around to the east side of campus to safely enter the front lot from the east/ exit side of campus.
- Never enter campus using the east "exit only" driveway on Rose Garden Lane. It is for exiting traffic only!
- When traveling on Rose Garden Lane, please do not drop your students off before or after the crosswalk. Drive around the horseshoe to drop them off.
- Be cautious when entering the campus. Children are present and therefore you must drive at a slow speed using great caution and care.

Valley Academy continually strives for the safest campus possible, and that requires your help. Thank you for supporting our school and our student safety procedures.

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed., Principal

Upcoming Events

Spirit Day

Friday, September 6th All students in grades K-8 may participate in monthly ice cream to celebrate Spirit Day.

Morning Assembly

Monday, September 9th & 23rd Students in grades 1-6 are acknowledged for their classroom achievements

Early Release/Staff Development

Friday, September 20th All students K-8 dismiss at 12:15 p.m. Preschool dismisses at 12:30 p.m. Teachers will participate in a Staff Development in-service.

More Information Listed on Last Page

1st Grade News

Give a Warm Welcome to...

Hello Valley Families!

I am so thrilled to be joining Valley Academy this year as a first grade teacher! This is my second year in education, and I will begin my Masters Program in Elementary Education in September. It is my goal to instill excellence in my students that surpasses expectations. I believe every child is able to achieve high standards in education with the help of their teachers and family.

I am getting married in November, and will soon be known as Mrs. Bedolla! If you see me outside of school, you might catch me at a Starbucks, playing the clarinet, or hiking!

Let's have a wonderful school year!

Miss Leppa

And now, a word from our Government ...

As a public school, Valley Academy is asked to make our families aware of certain state and governmental notices. Here they are, in a nutshell:

AZ HB2732-stipulates that 3rd grade students who obtain a score on the reading portion of the AzMERIT test that demonstrates the pupil is reading far below the third grade level may not be promoted from the third grade.

Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) – Parents are allowed to inspect school records and have an expectation of privacy in educational matters. Reid Traditional Schools does not share directory information for commercial purposes. For more information on FERPA rights, check out the Other Services area of our website, or ask the school office for assistance.

IRS Form 990 - A copy of the school's non-profit tax return is available in the school office upon request.

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) – The school has been inspected for asbestos and certified to be asbestos free. The required AHERA Management Plan and inspection materials are available in the school office.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) – Students with disabilities are entitled to a copy of procedural safeguards. For more information, check out the Other Services section of Valley Academy's website, or ask the school office for assistance.

McKinney-Vento Act – Special guidelines on the enrollment and education of homeless children are outlined in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. For more information, see www.ed.gov.

Get to know our teachers! All our teachers' profiles are available in the front office for your review.

Welcome to our 4th grade team a former Valley Academy student!

My name is Daniel Beckham. This is my sixth year teaching. I have taught fourth grade every year at a charter school that is similar in philosophy and expectations. Valley Academy is home to me as I was a student here for my entire elementary education. My graduating class was the first to attend Valley Academy from kindergarten through eighth grade. I was born and raised here in Phoenix and have spent my entire life living in Arizona. I graduated from Northern Arizona University with a degree in International Relations and then received my teaching certification from Rio Salado. When I am not in the classroom, I enjoy hiking, swimming, traveling, and attending hockey and soccer games. I am thrilled to be joining the Valley Academy team and coming back to where it all started, for me, in education.

K-8 Early Drop Off at 7:30 a.m. In an effort to minimize traffic on campus in the morning between 7:45 and 8:05 a.m. we have offered some extended time for free early drop off. This helps alleviate the congestion coming on and leaving campus just as school is about to start. Please take advantage of the early drop off when you can.

Thank you for doing all you can to help ensure that Valley Academy is a safe and successful school.

Mrs. Browne, M.Ed., Assistant Principal

Meet the Staff at Valley Academy!

Administration & Office

Mrs. Mitchell, M.Ed.- CEO
Mrs. Brooks, M.Ed.- Principal
Mrs. Browne, M.Ed.- Asst. Principal
Mrs. Lowery - Secretary
Ms. Uhlving - Office Manager
Mrs. Allen, RN- Health Office
Mrs. Grimm - Receptionist

Support Staff

Mr. Carlson - Custodian
Mrs. Munoz - Custodian
Mrs. Schmidt - Food Service Mgr.
Mrs. Wilkins -Food Service Asst.

Preschool

Mrs. White
Mrs. McCartney

Kindergarten

Mrs. Johnson
Mrs. Pearson
Mrs. Sutaris
Mrs. Trotter

First Grade

Ms. Jubb
Miss Leppa
Ms. Schambach
Mrs. Winemiller

Second Grade

Mrs. Calderon
Mrs. Carpenter
Miss Dessenberger
Mrs. Freeland

Third Grade

Mrs. Ford
Mrs. Keely
Mrs. Nuttall
Mrs. Willis

Fourth Grade

Mr. Beckham
Miss Gross
Mrs. Pace
Ms. Ray

Fifth Grade

Mrs. Breshears
Mrs. Freeman
Mrs. Lewandowsky

Sixth Grade

Mrs. Copper
Mrs. Licano
Mr. Smith

7th & 8th Grade

Ms. Brasher
Mr. De La Cruz
Mr. Hayo
Mrs. Rohr
Mrs. Simon

Special Area Teachers

Mrs. Watkins - Art
Mr. Robinson - Technology
Mrs. Loveless - World Languages
Ms. DiModugno - Library
Mrs. Wright - Music
Coach Mims - P.E.
Mrs. Starayeva - Resource
Mrs. Mendoza - Speech
Mrs. Ekdahl - Academic Tutor

Coyote Club Aides

Mrs. Wilkins, Coordinator
Mrs. Vazquez, Coordinator
Mrs. Carr
Miss Cortes
Mrs. Hickman
Miss Petrovich
Miss Ray
Miss Saunders
Mr. Wagner

Classroom Aides

Mrs. Baczynski
Miss Breshears
Mrs. Cummings
Mrs. Davolas
Mrs. Dever
Mrs. Dinesh
Mrs. Ferris
Mrs. George
Mrs. Kamat
Mrs. Robinson
Mrs. Vazquez
Mrs. Vuppala
Mrs. Webner



The 2nd grade team welcomes back a former Valley Academy student!

Hello!

My name is Rachel Dessenberger, and this is my first year teaching 2nd grade at Valley Academy. While it is my first year teaching, this is not my first year *at* our school. Last year, I was a preschool aide in Ms. Crabtree's class, as well as coach of Valley Academy's best team, the cheer team! This year, I am also coaching cheer throughout our football and basketball seasons. Before that, I was a student here at Valley Academy, from kindergarten through eighth grade! When I am not in my classroom or in the gym coaching, I am either painting murals, playing with my pets, or travelling abroad to new places. I am very excited for this year and know it is going to be great!





September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 No School Labor Day	3	4	5	6 Spirit Day Student Council Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	7
8 DIBELS Testing	9 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Caught Being Good	11	12	13 Skate Night 5-7:30 p.m.	14
15	16	17	18 Picture Day	19 Preschool Pictures	20 Early Release AM Specials 12:15 Dismissal Staff Development	21
22 VAPO Book Fair All Week	23 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.	24	25	26 Family Fun Night Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.	27	28
29	30					