



REID TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS' Valley Academy



Hello and Happy Holidays!

I hope you had a happy Thanksgiving and enjoyed the extra time with your family. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy holiday season. I would also like to thank VAPO and all of our many parent volunteers who continue to help make Valley Academy the great community that it is. I know you have made the choice to send your child to Valley Academy and I am so happy that you have.

As December arrives, we have just three quick weeks until the winter break. Students sometimes get anxious looking towards the break, so please help us by keeping them focused on their school work and encouraging good behavior. Also, please do not forget the importance of keeping your child's skills sharp by having them read and practice their math facts while school is on break.

Along with my staff, we wish you a safe and wonderfully blessed New Year.

I look forward to your return January 6, 2014.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs. Wilber, M.Ed.

Winter Break Schedule

Early Release 12:15 p.m.

December 20, 2013

(No Coyote Club P.M. Session)

No School

December 23, 2013- January 3, 2014

School Resumes: January 6, 2014

Board Meeting

The Board of Directors meets on the fourth Thursday of each month unless otherwise posted. All regular meetings are open to the public, and parents are welcome to attend. Board Meetings are held at the Reid Traditional Schools conference room at 14841 N. Black Canyon Highway. If you wish to contact members of the Board, you may send a letter to the school or leave a message at the Reid Traditional Schools office, (623)478-2344.

December/January Edition

Volume 18: Issue 4

CONTACT US

1520 W. Rose Garden Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85027

www.ValleyAcademy.com
Office (623) 516-7747

Reception Desk:	ext. 101
Attendance:	ext. 108
Nurse:	ext. 105
Principal/Asst. Principal:	ext. 115
Business Issues:	ext. 116
Parent Room (VAPO):	ext. 308

IMPORTANT DATES

December 2013

- 5 Spelling Bee
- 6 Spirit Day
- 9 Morning Assembly
- 10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.
Messages From Home deadline
- 12 Winter Concert 5:30 & 7:15 p.m.
North Hills Church
- 13 Student Council Clothing &
Food Drive ends
- 17 Band Concert 7:00 p.m.
- 18 VAPO hosted Luncheon
- 19 Caught Being Good Give-away
- 20 Early Release 12:15 p.m.
NO P.M. COYOTE CLUB

January 2014

- 6 School Resumes
- 7 DIBELS Testing begins
- 8 Report Cards go home
- 10 Spirit Day
- 14 Honor Roll Ice Cream
- 16 Caught Being Good Give-away
- 17 7/8 Grade Assembly 8:15 a.m.
Early Release 12:15 p.m.
- 19 Family Fun Night at The Phoenix Suns
- 20 No School MLK Day
- 22 100th day of School
- 23 Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. District Office

School Information Page

Arizona Instruction After School Enrichment Class News...

Dance, Drama & Jr. Cheer will perform at the winter concert on Thursday, December 12th! Dance & Cheer will also perform at the Spring Festival in March and Drama students will showcase their acting talents in their annual play scheduled for April 25th! The play is entitled, "Character Matters" and everyone is welcome to attend this performance!

It's not too late to sign up for after school enrichment classes. Second semester registration will begin on Monday, December 16th and classes start again after winter break! If you are interested in participating in any of the enrichment classes, please pick up enrollment forms in the front office.

Dance - Mondays Jr. Sports & Jr. Cheer -
Art & Crafts - Wednesday

Tuesdays-Drawing,
Drama Club - Thursdays

On behalf of the Arizona Instruction Staff... Happy Holidays!

If you haven't "liked" Reid Traditional Schools on Facebook yet, here's what you've missed seeing:

- ◆ Our smiling Principals with their "report card" with an "A" from the Arizona Department of Education
- ◆ A touching giant flag-shaped Thank You card from Painted Rock Academy's 7th and 8th grades to homeless veterans.
- ◆ Valley Academy's student council putting their creativity to work on posters for the Clothing and Food Drive.

Don't miss out on the fun and timely updates Reid Traditional Schools makes about both schools. Then, when you see a post that makes you proud of your school, be sure to "share" it on Facebook. – It's okay to brag!



Holiday Concert

Save the date! Friday, December 12th at North Hills Church on 19th Avenue, south of Greenway.

1st - 3rd grade will be performing from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

4th - 8th grade will be performing from 7:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Please help your child(ren) memorize the lyrics. The lyrics for both shows have been sent home and are available on the website under Mrs. Wright's homework helpers. Donations will be accepted at the door. If you are willing to help with the concerts, please contact Mrs. Wright at cwright@valleyacademy.com or (623) 516-7747 ext. 419.

Winter Band Concert

Valley Academy Band has a rich musical program filled with many aspiring young musicians, featuring the Beginning Band and the Advanced Band. The band will perform its winter concert at 7:00 p.m. December 17th in the M.P.R. The band students need to report to the band room at 6:30 p.m. for warm-up and tuning. Please join us for our first performance of the year. The band students have been working really hard!

December Early Release Day

December 20th is an early release day.

Lunch will not be served on this day. Munchies may be available during classroom parties.

Early release hours are:

Kindergarten-8th grade: 8:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

No Preschool on December 20th

January Early Release Day

January 17th is an early release day. Lunches are served to grades 1-6 on early release days.

Early release hours are:

Kindergarten-8th grade: 8:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Student Page



Buzzzzzz! Have you heard?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is soon approaching!

This is a big event and volunteers are needed, for set-up in the M.P.R., judging, supervision of the Spelling Bee participants

before the bee and help with clean up. Please contact Mrs. McMahon at 623-516-7747 ext. 528 or via email at cmcmahon@valleyacademy.com if you are interested in earning volunteer hours for this great event!

Your help is always needed and greatly appreciated!

Mrs. McMahon

LIBRARY NEWS

Valley Academy has a wonderful library designed to meet the needs of our student body for book reports, academic projects, and leisure reading. Although classes take place in the library during normal school hours, we invite parents to open library accounts and enjoy the library during parent hours: 7:45-8:00 A.M. and 3:30-4:00 P.M. We look forward to serving you!

YEARBOOK NEWS

Order forms for 'Messages From Home' have been distributed to all students both in paper form and Alerts to parent email accounts. Please follow the directions carefully, so we can expedite your submitted messages.

A limited number of messages will be accepted due to space limitations. **Final deadline to submit your 'Messages From Home' is December 10, 2013 – no exceptions.** Thank you in advance for your participation in this yearbook tradition!

Order forms for purchasing a yearbook for your child (ren) will be distributed in early January. Be looking for them!

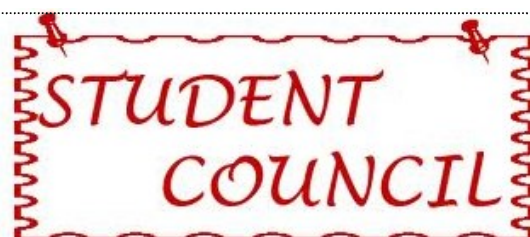
Mrs. Keely, Mrs. Gan, Advisors



The National Jr. Art Honor Society begins at Valley Academy on January 14th (after our winter break). This national group is dedicated to helping students develop as artists and to use their art to serve their school and

community. We meet on Tuesdays (except the first Tuesday of the month) from 3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. It is a fun group with purpose! Interested students should return their permission slips to the Art Room.

Mrs. Watkins, Advisor



Attention all Valley Academy Families! The Student Council needs your help!

We are collecting new and gently used clothing, new toys, and canned food for our annual Salvation Army Drive! Please search through your closets and help those in need this holiday season. Winter clothes are preferred, but everything will be accepted. Send all donated clothes, gloves, hats, blankets etc. to school with your child and give them to their homeroom teacher. The class with the most clothes donated wins a special prize! This clothing drive ends on December 13th so get your donations in as soon as possible! Everything will be donated to the Salvation Army. In another few weeks we will also be collecting canned goods and new toys for our Adopt a Family charity drive. Stay tuned for more information on that soon!

Thanks for all your support!

Miss Cunningham, Mrs. Licano, Mrs. Simon, Advisors

VAPO-The Parent Organization of Valley Academy

The Volunteer Family for the Month of October 2013 was the **Snyder Family**. To earn this honor the Snyder family volunteered 49 hours! Congratulations and thank you so much for your dedication! We love families like you! The following families volunteered over 25 hours:

Nuttall*	25.25
Evans*	30.50
Laswell*	32.00
Smith	33.25
Brock*	39.50
Mathur*	41.50
Snyder*	49.00

*Denotes VAPO Council Board member 2013-14

Reminder to all Parents: Please remember when you are completing the volunteer forms you must include both first and last names of your child and yourself. Please remember to *print* legibly.

Spirit Day Shirts - Order forms will be available in January and DUE January 13th. Be sure to check out the NEW COLOR : **ORANGE!**

Dear Valley Parents,

As we wrap up one year and open 2014 in this newsletter, I wanted to take a quick moment and tell you that you are why this school is great! You made the choice and the sacrifice to drive your child to and from school every day. You sign the green sheets or planners and are aware of your child's homework. You are an involved parent. Thank you!

Please continue to be involved and consider helping out wherever you can. You can volunteer from home, on campus, and at night or on the weekends. Please help your homeroom parent out. Donate to the class basket for the Spring Festival. Participate in all the great activities that this school offers as time allows. Help us make this school the best it can be! We can't do it without you! Happy New Year,

Mrs. Nuttall

VAPO President Valley Communication audranut@gmail.com 623-261-7204

The Staff Appreciation Committee is asking for volunteers to help prepare and serve a Mexican-themed lunch for the entire Valley Academy Staff on Wednesday, December 18th between 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

If you would like to participate either with preparing/purchasing food, setting up, serving, or cleaning up, please go to www.signupgenius.com. You do not need to have an account to participate. Simply type in tamaradevans@gmail.com and choose the "**December Staff Luncheon.**" You will be able to pick the food item(s) of your choice and/or time to assist with the event. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Evans at [602-799-6593](tel:602-799-6593). Thank you!

Thank you to all who helped in planning and running this year's Turkey Trot. This event would never be possible without all of the wonderful family and friends of our Valley Academy students who volunteer their time to help make this event work. Along with the many volunteers that make this possible, there are some teachers and staff that deserve some added recognition for their role in making the Turkey Trot possible over the last several years: Mrs. Quijada, Coach Crow, Coach Mims, Mrs. McIver, and Mrs. Johnson.

If you enjoyed this event in the past and would like to consider planning for it next year, please contact me to talk about it. I will be vacating my VAPO seat for the next school year as my youngest moves on to high school.

Thank you all for everything that you do!

Mr. Harford

VAPO Boosters / Athletics

602-619-7896

rick.harford@gmail.com

VAPO-The Parent Organization of Valley Academy

Norterra Earn and Learn Program

With the support of our wonderful families, our school has kept the first place in this program. A big thank you to all of you. The program is still on until December 31, 2013, so please continue to submit your receipts at shopandlog.com/norterra. Since the holiday season is here, please be on the look out for more holiday activities at Shops at Norterra.



eScrip

Valley Parents-If you shop at Safeway and have not yet renewed/ registered your Safeway cards, please do so at www.escrip.com A percentage of your purchase will be automatically contributed to the school. This is also a great way for our out-of-state relatives to support Valley Academy.

Talent Show Committee would like to thank all those who participated and all the parents, teachers, and administration who helped and volunteered!

Cookie Dough Fundraiser: Cookie dough is a big fundraiser for our school, and we are happy to inform you that we raised nearly \$11,000 this year towards the purchase of audio visual equipment.

We still have some items for sale from the catalog. If you are interested in buying more, please check the freezer in the VAPO room. Pick your choice and leave the check/cash in my mail box (Meghna Mathur). Each tub is \$12.

Thank you for all your support.



The next 8th Grade Committee Meeting is Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at Mrs. Brock's house.

Want to be in on planning details? This is the meeting where we will be dividing up duties like centerpieces, rental organizer, and much more. T-Shirt and themes will be discussed. The 8th graders will be submitting their t-shirt design ideas after winter break. Don't forget to ask your eighth grader about the t-shirt form that will be sent

home the first week in December. Please contact Mrs. Brock for house address: 602-571-1179 or jennybrock@cox.net.

VAPO-The Parent Organization of Valley Academy

Spring Festival Information:

Spring Festival Art Contest: Calling all students! We need your help in designing a logo for this year's **Jungle Jazz Safari Festival**. Please turn in all entries by December 10, 2013. The Spring Festival is Saturday, March 1, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Spring Festival Meetings:

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Thursday, January 23, 2014

Thursday, February 6, 2014

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

All meetings are held at 8:30 a.m. in the VAPO room. There is a lot to do and all are welcome and needed. If you have ideas on how you can help, contact Mrs. Combs at jodykay5@gmail.com.

We are always looking for more volunteers. This should come as no surprise to you. As a VAPO Council we are looking for volunteers to help clean, organize and gather age appropriate toys for our playroom in the Parent Room. We need someone who loves a label maker and wants to make this room more accessible to children under the age of five. We are also looking for help with sorting donated clothes for used uniforms. We need volunteers to monthly take the lost and found from the MPR to the VAPO Parent room and donate the items from the previous month. Are you able to help? Contact Mrs. Nuttall if you are able at audranut@gmail.com or call 623-261-7204.



Box Tops for Education Leaders

We'd like to thank families for participating in box tops and labels for education. Please continue to collect and submit the Box Tops, Labels for Education, and Prang Power UPC labels. We have monthly leaders, and at the end of the school year the classes that collect the most labels will win the parties.

A small effort from all of us goes a long way to help our school. We love our Valley parents! Below is a list of top class collectors for October and the school year.

Monthly Leaders-October

- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| 1. Mrs. Henry | 751 |
| 2. Miss Gross | 512 |
| 3. Mrs. Vig | 274 |
| 4. Ms. Schambach | 271 |
| 5. Mrs. Calderon | 265 |

Top Leaders


- | | |
|-------------------|------|
| 1. Mrs. Keely | 2128 |
| 2. Mrs. Henry | 1467 |
| 3. Ms. Schambach | 869 |
| 4. Mrs. Calderon | 711 |
| 5. Mrs. Trotter | 694 |
| 6. Mrs. Freeland | 658 |
| 7. Mrs. Breshears | 628 |
| 8. Mrs. Mettes | 528 |
| 9. Mrs. Douthitt | 525 |
| 10. Miss Gross | 512 |



December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 <div>  <p>Spelling Bee Grades 4-8</p> </div>	6 <div>Spirit Day</div>	7
8	9 <div>Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.</div>	10 <div>VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.</div>	11	12 <div>Winter Concert No. Hills Church 5:30 & 7:15 p.m.</div>	13	14
15	16	17 <div>Band Concert 7:00 p.m.</div>	18 <div>VAPO hosted Luncheon For Staff</div>	19 <div>Caught Being Good</div>	20 <div> Classroom Parties 11:15-12:15 Early Release 12:15 Dismissal End of 2nd Quarter </div>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
No School Winter Break—January 5th						
29	30	31				

January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
<div>No School</div> <div>Winter Break–January 5th</div>						
5	6 School resumes	7	8 Report Cards Go Home	9	10 Spirit Day	11
<div>DIBELS Testing Tuesday through Monday</div> 						
12	13	14 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m. Honor Roll Ice Cream	15	16 Caught Being Good	17 7/8 Grade Assembly 8:15 a.m. Early Release 12:15 Dismissal Staff Development	18
19 Family Fun Night at the Phoenix Suns	20 No School MLK Day	21	22 100 th day of School	23 School Board Meeting 6:00 p.m. District Office	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	