



VALLEY  
ACADEMY



April 2025

# Coyote News

## From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed., Principal



It was nice seeing some of you at the spring festival this year. It was a beautiful day, and it was great to have so many of our community enjoying the campus. As a reminder, it is part of Valley Academy's philosophy that all parents volunteer a minimum of three hours each month. This instills a strong connection between school and home and helps with strengthening our school community. I hope that you take this policy seriously, as we need your help in maintaining our events and traditions. If you need direction in how to help, please either email me directly or email VAPO. We would love to get you started.

Spring has arrived, and with spring comes the very important state assessments. Through the week of March 31<sup>st</sup> our campus will be closed to visitors until 11:30 a.m. for state testing. AASA will take place in grades 3 – 8. We would appreciate it if you would make a conscious effort to please provide your children with a nutritious breakfast each day and have them to school on time every day. It is also important for them to get a good night's rest and to understand the importance of these tests. We will begin testing at 8:30 a.m. and keep all the students in the classroom until 11:30 a.m. Once testing has begun, students will not be permitted to enter the class, so please have them here on time. If you need to schedule a doctor's or dentist appointment, please schedule them in the afternoon. Your cooperation in these matters is greatly appreciated. I wish you all a wonderful spring and a strong, academically focused end to the school year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed., Principal

## Upcoming Events

**Arizona Academic Standards Assessments** March 31<sup>st</sup>—April 4<sup>th</sup>

**Spirit Day** Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> — All students in grades PreK-8 may celebrate their school spirit with wearing spirit day t-shirts.

**No School** Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> — Spring Day Recess

**Progress Reports** Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> — Students' work is assessed and reports are available to view on your ParentVUE.

**School Board Meeting** Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, Reid Office (14841 N. Black Canyon Freeway) - School Board meetings are open to the public, and parents are welcome to attend.

**Early Release** Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> — Students in PreK will release at 11:30 a.m. and K-8 will release at 12:15 p.m. Teachers will participate in a Staff Development day.

**More Events Listed on Last Page**

# NEWS & UPDATES



## "SPRING INTO MUSIC" Valley Academy's Spring Concert

Tuesday, February 25 was a beautiful evening of great weather, great food, and great music! Debuting their glockenspiels and bucket drums, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades did an amazing job, and their singing of Billy Joel's "Vienna" capped off their performance. Every grade level did a fantastic job, and I'm so proud of all the hard work they put in this school year to prepare. Thank you

parents, for coming out to support your students. Your involvement in their musical education is so appreciated!

Keep on singing,

Mrs. Loveless



Above are eighth-grade students on glockenspiels and below are seventh-grade students Diya D., Wesley M., Maya D., Manasvi K., Rayhan A., Adisha P., Saanchi N., Sara M., Abby V., Laveena K., Eli J., Jensen B., Ella C., Elijah G., Jonathan S. (leading), Gabe U., Ayaan K., Ernie B., Gurshaan S., and Mani K.



Left to right are eighth-grade students Arnav M., Rakshan U., Jaikarthick M.V., Ryaan M., Isaac R., Nabil S., Evan N., Sophia S., Anabelle G., Phong P., Elyanna N. (leading), Abigail Z., and Neha D. on bucket drums. Fifth-grade students are pictured below.



Above are our first-grade students.

Third grade is to the right.





# NEWS & UPDATES

**Spring Festival Special Event** is always a fun-filled Saturday for the whole family. Bounce houses, rides, and a petting zoo are just some of the fun things they enjoyed.



Having fun on a ride are Ernie B., Preston M., Joseph G. (former student), Yousef H., Noah G., and Donovan S.



Lana O. and Aria F. enjoy the festival.

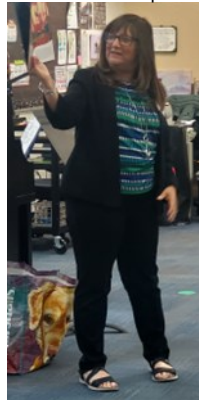


Valley Academy Cheer performed at the festival. Pictured are cheerleaders Akshara S., Lyra J., Abby V., Malorie B., Ovyia M.S., Vanessa B., and Genesis N.

**Our annual Read-In** guests included various readers from our community. Published authors Mrs. Kendra Cuzick, a children's author who advocates reading for young children, and Ms. Vikki Lyn Smith, an author and teacher, came to share some of their favorite books with students. A race car driver, Mr. Rick Webb; a nurse, Mrs. Elizabeth Rivera; a paramedic, Mr. Drew Freeman; an engineer, Mr. James Smith; and Mr. Michael Davis in Robotics were also invited and made the morning very exciting. Additionally, Ms. Ashley Bunch, former advance press lead for the Office of the Vice President of the United States, spoke about her profession and the impact of lifelong reading. A special 'Thank You' to Mrs. Dever, Librarian, for her hard work to put the Read-In together and to our Student Council members, who assisted with the event by greeting and guiding our guests. Below are pictures from the event.



Mrs. Kendra Cuzick, pictured above, read to our second-grade students, and Ms. Vikki Lyn Smith, to the right, read to first-grade students.



Fifth-grade students enjoy looking at Mr. Rick Webb's race car after he shared his selection to read, [Racing to Greatness](#).



Mrs. Elizabeth Rivera read to our kindergarten students.



Mr. Drew Freeman read to our third and fourth-grade students and is pictured with Hank O.



Mr. James Smith, pictured to the right, had a presentation for our sixth-grade students.



Ms. Ashley Bunch had a presentation for our eighth-grade students.



# NEWS & UPDATES

## Why Reading Matters

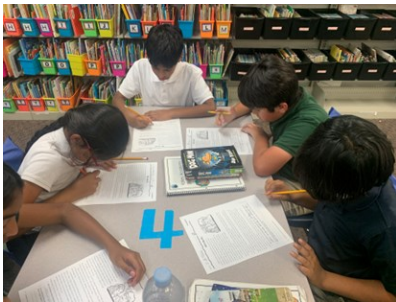
Reading helps to  
IMPROVE student  
concentration.

Reading helps to  
DEVELOP language  
skills.

Reading helps students  
to DO BETTER in all  
subjects.

Reading fosters  
CURIOSITY about the  
world we live in.

Mrs. Dever, our school librarian, assists students in finding books to read for pleasure or for book reports.



Students work on reading comprehension while in Library.



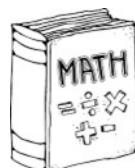
Students Snigdha K., Vanshika K., and Nehan N. enjoy free-reading time when in the Library.

Ashrith M. leads a literature discussion with his classmates Phong P., Ashton D., Luka K., and Bronsen F.

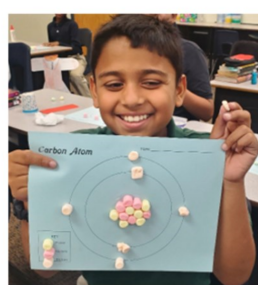


## Math Counts State Competition

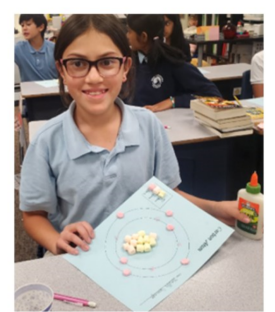
On Saturday, March 22, 2025, students from all over Arizona gathered at Brophy College Preparatory to compete in the Math Counts State competition. The event was by invitation only and was based on students' performance in the February Chapter competitions. Ryann M. in 8<sup>th</sup> grade was the only student from Valley Academy invited to compete in the competition. Congratulations Ryaan for doing so well in the Chapter competition that you got to represent Valley at the State competition. We are super proud of you!



**Fifth Grade News**—The fifth grade always has fun with science. We made a cell in a bag, blood soup in a bag, moon phases from Oreos, and a carbon atom from marshmallows. Creating a hands-on activity with each unit provides support for the unit concepts and gives the students a creative outlet. Our projects don't always involve food! We constructed a lung in a bottle and watched a balloon expand due to a chemical reaction between vinegar and baking soda. Any day we can "play" with science is a good day!



Pictured to the left is Om P. and to the right is Abrielle E.



Pictured to the left is Hanishka T. and to the right is Dhanush N.





# NEWS & UPDATES

## April SHINE Recipients

Congratulations to the following students: Emma P., Ishani N., and Anshel V., from sixth grade. They were selected by their 6th 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



## Arizona Academic Standards Assessments (AASA)

March 31st – April 4th  
Testing will take place on campus for grades 3-8.  
Please have your child to school on time every day.

Friday, April 18th  
Spring Day Recess

No School!

**S**HINING **H**ARDWORKING **I**NDIVIDUAL AND **N**OBLE **E**XAMPLE

## 30 Years of Arizona Charter Schools

The Arizona Charter School Association recently celebrated 30 years of charters in Arizona. Valley Academy was recognized as one of the pioneers in Arizona charter education. Receiving the honor are VA Assistant Principal Mrs. Breshears, Reid Traditional Schools CEO Ms. Mitchell, and VA Principal Mrs. Brooks.



## Messages From Home

Reserve space in the Valley Academy Yearbook for a message from YOU to your child.

Messages should be encouraging, uplifting, and positive in nature. A limited number of messages will be printed, so they will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the designated spaces are filled.

**The deadline for submitting and paying for messages is Thursday, April 17, 2025.**

## Yearbooks for Sale

Price: \$21.00 + tax (\$22.81)

Scan below or visit [Treering.com](http://Treering.com)

Passcode: 1016827231844556

Purchase by April 18th



Progress Reports will be available to view on ParentVUE Wednesday, April 23rd.







**EARLY DISMISSAL**

Friday, April 25th

PreK dismisses at 11:30 a.m.  
K-8 dismiss at 12:15 p.m.

# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	31 Arizona Academic Standards Assessments	1 Honor Roll Ice Cream  Basketball Game Valley Academy 4:30 p.m.	2	3 7/8 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.  Basketball Game Valley Academy 4:30 p.m.	4 Spirit Day 7/8 Dance 6-8 p.m.	5
6	7	8 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.  Caught Being Good  Basketball Game Stepping Stones 4:30 p.m.	9	10  Basketball Game Adams Traditional 4:30 p.m.	11	12
13	14 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.  Basketball Game Dream City Christian 4:30 p.m.	15	16  Basketball Game Valley Academy 4:30 p.m.	17 Messages From Home Due  Yearbook Orders Due	18 Spring Day Recess No School	19
20	21  Basketball Game Imagine @ Camelback ARCH 4:30 p.m.	22	23  Progress Reports	24  Board Meeting 6:15 p.m.	25 Early Release 12:15 p.m.  Staff Development	26
27	28  S C H O L A S T I C   B O O K   F A I R	29  Basketball Game Valley Academy 4:30 p.m.	30	 Basketball Game Valley Academy 4:30 p.m.  Family Fun Night	Spirit Day	