



VALLEY
ACADEMY



Coyote News

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed., Principal



As we move into the month of March, I am excited to reflect on the journey we've shared so far and continue to look at the growth and success of our students. The past few months have been filled with incredible academic achievements. Each day I see children on campus thriving with the guidance of their teachers and support of our campus community. It is quite rewarding to see the progress that our students make each year.

As we enter the second half of the school year, we remain focused on helping our students grow academically, socially, and emotionally. The state AASA assessment is just around the corner for third through eighth grades, and we hope our students will test better than ever.

How You Can Support at Home:

Encourage daily reading: Continue fostering a love for reading at home by encouraging your child to read for at least 20 minutes each day. This will not only boost their comprehension skills but also build vocabulary and fluency.

Incorporate math in daily life: Help your child develop a love for math by involving them in everyday activities like measuring ingredients while cooking, counting change, or solving simple problems during errands.

Create a balanced routine: Ensure your child's routine includes a good balance of study time, play, and rest. A structured day helps children feel secure and focused on their learning.

The strength of our school community lies in the strong partnership between families and staff. We are committed to providing the best learning experience possible for every child, and we are grateful to have you alongside us on this journey. Let's continue to work together to make this school year a remarkable one!

I would also like to thank you for choosing Reid Traditional Schools' Valley Academy for your child's educational needs. We feel extremely fortunate to have the students and families we have in our school community. We are always interested in growing our Reid community, so if you have a friend, relative, or colleague who has children, please let them know about our school.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving this wonderful community. As your principal, I remain wholeheartedly dedicated to the success of every student, and I'm excited to continue this journey with you.

On behalf of my entire staff, we hope you will enjoy your spring break later in the month and come back ready to ensure a strong finish.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Brooks, M.Ed.

Upcoming Events

8th Grade Promotion Pictures March 4th - All 8th grade students will be photographed.

Read In March 5th - Guest Speakers will visit our K-8 classes to tell students a little about their careers in various fields and to read a short excerpt from a book.

Spirit Day March 6th - All students in grades PK-8 may celebrate their school spirit with wearing spirit day t-shirts.

Spring Festival March 7th from 11:00-3:00 p.m. - Come enjoy a celebration for the whole family.

Early Release March 13th at 12:15 p.m. - All students in K-8 dismiss early. End of 3rd Quarter.

Spring Break March 16th-20th-No School

Standardized Testing March 23rd-April 2nd

Report Cards March 25th - Students' work is assessed and report cards are sent home.

More Events Listed on Calendar Page

NEWS & UPDATES

8th Grade Pictures - Wednesday, March 4th Make This Your Moment To Shine!

This portrait will be included in the promotion certificate folio given out in May. All 8th grade students will be photographed whether or not they purchase pictures. Your child received picture packet information, so please check with your child and go over the dress code. You can order online at www.mylifetouch.com and create an account or login with the code EVTNBVSVN. Order forms were also sent home and are available in the office.



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Valley Academy's Read In is when

members from our community visit Valley Academy to discuss the importance of reading and how reading is important within their careers and lives. Each member will be joining a grade level on Thursday, March 5th for a short time in the morning. We welcome you to ask your child about the member from our community who joined their classes and what they learned.

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader." - Margaret Fuller



Valley Academy's Mario Kart Spring Festival

Join us on March 7th from 11 a.m.—3 p.m.

Buy early and save!

Pre-sale wristbands = \$15 per child

Pre-sale raffle tickets = 5 tickets for \$5

◆ Pre-sale order form is due 3/2 (cash or check only)

◆ Pre-sales in front of the office 3/3—3/5 from 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. (card reader available)



Friday, March 13th - Preschool dismisses at 11:30 a.m. and K-8 dismisses at 12:15 p.m.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Third Quarter Report Cards

The end of the third quarter is on March 13, 2026. Third quarter Report Cards assess students' work and will be sent home on Wednesday, March 25, 2026.



Valley Academy Receives National Recognition

Congratulations are once again owed to the Valley Academy family of parents, students, and staff. **We recently received national recognition from U.S. News for being a 2026 Arizona "Best Elementary School."** The U.S. News rankings show how well schools educate their students from all socioeconomic backgrounds with the goal of setting them up for success, based on state testing in Math and English Language Arts. At Reid Traditional Schools, we've always known our high academic and behavioral standards prepare students for a stellar future, but it's great to hear it from such a distinguished source as the U.S. News School Rankings. Your consistent, daily efforts have helped us achieve this high honor; keep up the great work!



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 Friday, March 13, 2026.

Spring Break is March 16-20, 2026

Our administration, teachers, and support staff wish you a wonderful, safe, and fun week off from school.

2025—2026 YEARBOOKS
FOR SALE

PURCHASE BY APRIL 22ND
PRICE: \$21 + TAX



SCAN OR VISIT
<http://www.treering.com/purchase?>

School Passcode:
1016827231844556

Valentine Overload of Cuteness!



Sloane B., Aaron H., and Atharv P. show off their Valentine Boxes.

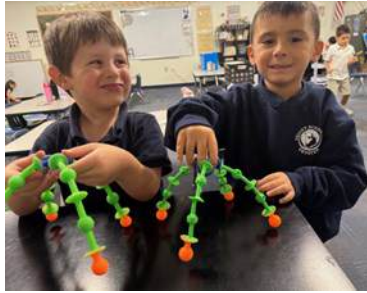
TOP 10 REASONS IT'S BEST FOR YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND SCHOOL **EVERY DAY**

1

Greater Social Development — Students develop social and emotional skills that benefit them throughout their lives. At Valley Academy, they are learning to interact with others, make friends, and build relationships with adults outside their family giving them the basis they need for their academic career.



Preschool friends, Vivian M. and Kylee D., give a sweet hug after exchanging Valentines.



Finley M. and Everett N. are sharing SQUIGZ and using STEM and imaginative play to interact.



Friends Vedant C., Ethan B., Aaron H., and Aadhav K.R. worked together to create a MAGNA-TILE tower during center time.



Preschool students Ethan G., Matija H., and Finley M. are building social-emotional development and essential motor skills when running with friends.



Sisira A., Araysha G., and Revaan P. have built a relationship with Miss Keely, classroom aide, who is interacting with them on the playground equipment.

2

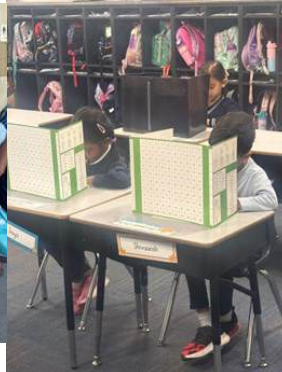
Routine and Structure — Attending school each and every day provides children with a sense of security. They are learning to follow rules and routines that give them balance outside their home and benefits their development.



A well structured classroom allows our Kindergarten students to thrive with their daily routines.



Students Jack M. and Grayson B.-T. are excited for a field trip, but they remain in a nice line following an everyday routine to get to and from the classroom.



Students learn the Spalding Method and test-taking skills to build routines that allow for less anxiety and acing it every time.



When students thrive in an environment outside the norm such as on a field trip, students are benefiting from the balance that regular routines with teachers and friends give them.



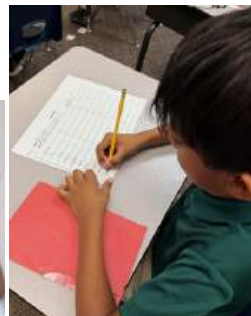
Daily Schedules keep our students on track and provide students with structure.

3

Better Academic Performance — Students' academic performance and test scores excel when students are present each day in the classroom. Teacher instruction provides our students with valuable lessons, and missing just one or two days can put them behind in the classroom.



In first grade, valuable lessons such as telling time, mathematical skills, counting coins, and even rules to learning spelling words all help students excel in their studies and give students the confidence to do well on tests.



Our first grade students display that presence each day instills the valuable lessons to read, spell, and write well with excellent penmanship that shows when taking tests. To the left, the student is showing what he has learned by doing his best on his spelling test and working hard to spell each word correctly. At the above right, first grade students are taking a dictation test that incorporates spelling, language skills, and penmanship.



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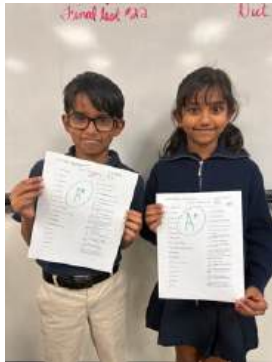
Increased Self-esteem — As students attend school regularly and continue to master new skills, they feel confident in what they have learned and also feel good about themselves.



Second grade students such as Ryot O., Lara G., Maxim D., Zayne O., Aster S., and Jolene L. are continuing to master math fact skills that allow them to complete math timed tests each week and move on to master higher skills in second grade, such as subtraction, multiplication, and division.



Increased Literacy Skills — A strong curriculum and regular attendance combine to give our students increased reading and literacy skills.



Third grade students Aarav T. and Saasha S. have both aced their reading vocabulary test. By being present each day, students are able to keep up with the daily reading material. Reading aloud in class enables them to obtain high scores on reading vocabulary tests.



In third grade students visit the library every sixth day in a rotation to brush up on literary skills or check out books. Pictured is Roger C. and Hunter K.



In third grade students like Samyra K. and Deetya V. are working on an assignment that includes highlighting text. This improves comprehension and reading efficiency using active engagement and identifying key concepts, allowing for focused review later.



Maya D.A., Reyaan C., and Daelyn Z.V. are working on daily grammar practice which helps with writing quality, grammatical accuracy, and sentence structure in third grade.



Class-wide Benefits — When all students are present each day, it benefits the class as a whole. Students are able to learn together and move forward as a class without interruption rather than lose valuable time on backtracking and review.



Students Klaudia M. and Leonela F. partner to study for a social studies test on the New England Colonies. Students in class daily are able to share notes and study materials.

Luka C. and Cody B. are working together on a probability experiment to explore how known probabilities work and how we can predict what is going to happen.



Sawyer R. and Jonathan H. are working in pairs on Narrative peer editing. If a student is absent, they miss this valuable opportunity to use their editing skills and to receive edits by their peers.



From left to right: Aeisha P., Deetya V., Aadarsh G., Niko C., Nirja R., Mauricio H.E., and Dhakshaya M.V. are working in groups on a science experiment that observes vascular plants by identifying the tubes that carry water, creating colored roses.



Sai Sourish A., Siddharth E., Aarvi G., and Mitakshi M. are working as a team to strategize.

Working in groups, fourth grade students are learning together to complete an assignment.

TOP 10 REASONS IT'S BEST FOR YOUR CHILD TO ATTEND SCHOOL **EVERY DAY**

7 An Emphasis on Education — Here at Valley Academy, education is our top priority, and our students learn that it is important to try to do their best.



Finley F. worked hard on her PowerPoint presentation on [Dear America a Light in the Storm.](#)



Sebastian A., above left, worked on making a spiral galaxy. Above right, Scarlett C.M. and Ava V. made the moon phases with Oreos, and to the left, Kaison S., Sai Prathik C., and Mason E. demonstrated the relationship of the sun, Earth, and moon in an activity.



Our fifth grade students understand the importance of quality work and try their best while having a love for their education.

8 A Shot at a Better Future — By sixth grade, high attendance leads to high academics, and at Valley Academy, our high standards and academics lead to an excelling future in High School.



Riley S., Lana O., and Chyles H. are working on division problems and demonstrate that they know all the answers to put on their answer sheet.



Each morning students are present and ready to begin the day as they write down their homework in their planners. This helps to keep them organized, helps prioritize assignments, and holds them accountable—all which preps them for high school.

9 And **10** Increased Preparedness leads to Good Habits That Last — In seventh and eighth grade, our students prepare for high school. Those who are in attendance each day master how to manage a rotation of five classes/teachers and how to keep up with assignments, so they are better prepared for tests and quizzes. Establishing a great attendance record will set your child up for success in their future school career.

Eighth grade students pictured to the right are Maya D., Aadhya N., Aviral G., Ayaan K., Amoolya H., Hank O., Twisha S., Eha S., Ipsa P., Dishna M., Deetya M., Chitrali M., and Mithra V.



Students display how attendance plays a vital role in their education when applying for high schools, especially if they are not your neighborhood school. At Valley Academy, we are a school of choice, and for our eighth-grade students, that means that they attend a wide range of high schools. Valley Academy students will challenge themselves and strive for honors classes once they get to high school and often maintain their honor roll statuses. The students pictured above all applied to the Paradise Valley CREST program (Center for Research, Engineering, Science, and Technology), and they were all accepted! CREST is a four-year Honors STEM program that is offered at Paradise Valley High School. They will study one of three disciplines in STEM: bioscience, computer science, or engineering. Only 50 students are accepted into each of the three categories of study each year. The enrollment process includes an application with recommendations and a submission of a personal video. Way to go, eighth-graders! We wish you an exciting next chapter of your lives.

Valley Academy seventh and eighth grades prepare our students with the necessary skills and knowledge that they need to succeed in high school. Hank O. was accepted and plans to attend Brophy College Preparatory, and Sofia N. was accepted and plans to attend Xavier College Preparatory in the Fall. Congratulations to you both. Let's take a dive to see how well you were prepared for the requirements to apply to these two schools.

To be accepted and admitted to Brophy, students are required to take an entrance exam, the High School Placement Test (HSPT). The test is a five-part test of quantitative, verbal, mathematics, reading, and language skills. The exam takes approximately 2.5 hours to complete and contains about 300 questions designed to see how well a student performs academically. In addition to the test, students applying will also complete a writing sample as well as a personal video.



To be accepted and admitted to Xavier, applicants have to submit an online application, provide academic records from sixth to seventh grades, provide a letter of recommendation, and include interviews and personal statements.

NEWS & UPDATES

VAPO — Meet our Valley Academy Parent Organization Committee Chairs, who help make events on our campus come alive!



Did you know that our parent organization, VAPO, plays a vital role at Valley Academy and that VAPO is the vehicle for parents to have a positive impact on their children's education?

Our parent organization is led by 12 council seats, and without our parents' help, things like Spirit Day Ice Cream, Caught Being Good, Spring Festival, Book Fairs, Turkey Trot, Field Day, Fundraisers, Promotion activities, 7th/8th grade Dances, etc. would not be possible. New elections will be held during the annual meeting in May, and new Governing Council terms begin in July. If being on the council isn't for you, please know that we ask our families to

volunteer 3 hours per month or 27 hours per school year to assist our council members with all the FUN things we do on campus. You can also help your child's teacher by helping grade papers, by chaperoning a field trip, or even by shopping or cooking for a staff luncheon. Stop by the office to pick up a VAPO Council Candidate Application or contact a council member or your child's teacher for more information about volunteering! Thank you for all you do and all the ways you help our school thrive!

Pictured: Mrs. Melissa O'Day, Mrs. Candy Ushakov, Mrs. Medha Basak, Mrs. Erica Billings, Mrs. Amy Sessler, Mrs. Vanessa Eckles, and Mrs. Karolina Morawa.
Not pictured: Mrs. Abby Bratlien-Adams and Mrs. Tami Heglie

March SHINE Recipients

Congratulations to the following students: Aryaman J., Katarina P., and Amaya R., from 5th grade. They were selected by their 5th 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



Math Counts Competition—Valley Academy's Math Counts math club meetings ended in December, but this past Valentine's Day, the 12 winners from the school competition competed at the Math Counts chapter competition.

This was a spectacular year for our club in that we had two firsts!

This was the first year one of our students made it to the countdown round. The countdown round is a face-off of the top ten scorers in the paper competition. These students answer very difficult math problems and have to push a buzzer first and have the correct answer two out of three times to get to the next competitor. The last competitor to get two out of three questions correct, is the winner. This is a very challenging round and when there are 87 competitors, it is hard to even get to the top ten. But this year, we had our first competitor get to this round- Ayaan K.! He scored sixth out of 87 competitors; it is hard to be in the countdown round! Congrats, Ayaan, for representing your school and doing so awesome!

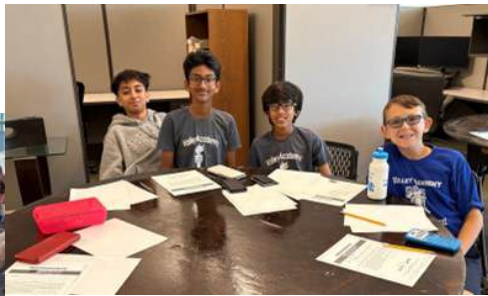
The next first for our club was winning 2nd place in the team competition. While our school is allowed to have 12 individual competitors at the chapter competition, we are only allowed to have one team of four. There were 9 teams competing and our team- Ayaan K., Siddhant S., Viraj J. and Nick U.- won second place!

It was a busy and mentally stimulating and thoroughly exciting day for the kiddos as they worked so hard and got to see some awesome results. Congrats to everyone who competed: Ajay K., Hansha M., Adhrit T., Vismay R., Ojas B., Shiven D., Aviral G. and Anish K. You all deserve a huge congratulations!



Pictured above are Valley Academy's 12 contestants starting the day.

Below is Ayaan K. competing in the Countdown round.



Valley Academy's team competitors getting ready to collaborate on the team competition.

Valley Academy's team competitors receiving their trophies.



Getting ready to do your taxes?

If you are an Arizona taxpayer, you can choose to send some of your tax dollars directly to our school.

When you choose to direct your **Arizona School Tax Credit** to our school, you are making a direct investment in our students—and the impact is real.

Supporting our sports teams, from uniforms and equipment to field trip transportation and tournament fees, tax credit donations make a tremendous difference.

Your contributions also help support:

- Extracurricular activities like sports, choir, arts, clubs, and NJHS
- Fees for referees and stipends for our incredible coaches
- Equipment, technology, and athletic gear
- Health, safety, and playground resources

You can make a MASSIVE difference—without it costing you a penny.

Arizona's tax credit program allows you to donate up to **\$400 (married) or \$200 (single)** and receive a full state tax credit.

The deadline is **April 15, 2026**. Every donation helps open doors for our students and supports the programs that make them soar.

[Click here](#) for more information.



Valley Academy's Spring Concert – Thank You!

A shoutout to all the amazing 1st thru 8th grade students who did such a tremendous job at the Spring Concert this year! It was an amazing collaborative effort involving so many people:

♪ The students of course, who worked so hard to prepare

♪ Many of our teachers who took care of a myriad behind-the-scenes details, and cheered their students on while they sang

♪ Our sound men, who did such a great job of making the best out of a tough situation involving blown speakers

♪ The parents who sent in props, helped their children practice, supported them by attending, and who volunteered in so many different ways








♪ Mrs. Brooks and Mrs. Breshears, who are always there, supporting, helping, and taking care of last-minute craziness that inevitably seems to happen

This would not be possible without all of you, and I'm grateful to have the privilege of working at such an awesome school!

-Mrs. Loveless



March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3	4 8th Grade Promotion Pictures Picture DAY 	5  Read In	6 Spirit Day	7 Spring Festival 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. 	
8	9	10 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.	11	12 Caught Being Good	13 7/8 Field Day Early Release Staff Development 12:15 Dismissal End of 3rd Quarter	14	
15	16	NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK March 17th - 21st					21
22	23	24	25  Report Cards Go Home	26  Barros Fundraiser Night	27 8th Grade Class Shirt Pictures 	28 Spring Festival Rain Date 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.	
29	Standardized Test Week		31 Honor Roll Ice Cream	1	2	3 No School Spring Day Recess 	4