



VALLEY
ACADEMY



Coyote News

From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Brooks, M. Ed. Principal



Dear Valley Academy Families,

Welcome to September! It has been wonderful to see our hallways filled with smiling faces, eager learners, and the excitement that comes with a new school year. Our students are settling into classroom routines, reconnecting with friends, and beginning new learning adventures.

I want to thank our teachers and staff for the care, preparation, and enthusiasm they bring to school each day. They are committed to creating classrooms where every child feels safe, valued, supported, and challenged to do their best.

September is an important month for building strong relationships and establishing positive habits for the year ahead. We encourage our students to come to school ready to learn, show kindness to others, ask questions, and take pride in their work. Families can support this effort by establishing consistent routines at home, encouraging regular attendance, and talking with children about what they are learning each day.

We also look forward to strengthening our partnership with families. Your involvement makes a meaningful difference in your child's success, and we hope you will take advantage of opportunities to connect with teachers, attend school events, volunteer three hours a month, and become involved in our school community.

As we begin this new year together, let's remember that every day brings an opportunity to learn something new, make a new friend, overcome a challenge, or celebrate a success. I am excited about all that our students will accomplish this year!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Here's to a September filled with learning, laughter, kindness, and growth.

My best,

Mrs. Victoria Brooks, M.Ed.
Principal

Upcoming Events

Picture Day Wednesday, September 2nd. All students K-8 will be photographed for the yearbook.

Preschool Picture Day Thursday, September 3rd.

Spirit Day Friday, September 4th. Beginning in September, all students may participate in Spirit Day the first Friday of each month by wearing their Spirit Day shirt. K-8 may purchase Ice Cream during lunch.

Labor Day Monday, September 7th. There is no school in observance of Labor Day.

Progress Reports Wednesday, September 9th. ParentVUE will have grades available to view.

Early Release/Staff Development Friday, September 18th. All students K-8 dismiss at 12:15 p.m. Preschool dismisses at 11:30 p.m. Teachers will participate in a Staff Development in-service.

More Information Listed on Last Page

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:

The "Move On When Reading" state policy, a result of the legislation in [A.R.S §15-701](#), [A.R.S §15-704](#), and [A.R.S §15-211](#) (as amended by [HB2026](#)) explains the requirements for pupil promotion, early literacy instruction, and accountability for student achievement in reading. It requires that a student not be promoted from third grade to fourth grade if he or she "does not demonstrate sufficient reading skills" on the state's third grade reading test in accordance with the statutes. For more info <https://www.azed.gov/mowr>

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 [Rights of Homeless Students](#).

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



In honor of September 11th, we would like to thank our first responders either in the Police or Fire Department, as well as our active or veteran military.

We appreciate your dedication to serving our community by protecting and providing care. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your service.

With grateful hearts,
Mrs. Victoria Brooks, M.Ed.
Principal

Meet the Staff at Valley Academy!

Administration & Office

Mrs. Brooks, M.Ed. - Principal
Mrs. Breshears, M.Ed. - Asst. Principal
Mrs. Lowery - Secretary
Ms. Uhlving - Office Manager
Mrs. Allen, RN - Health Office
Mrs. Huppert - Receptionist

Support Staff

Mr. Holt - Custodian
Mrs. Munoz - Custodian
Mrs. Schmidt - Food Service Mgr.
Mrs. Weston - Food Service Asst.

Preschool

Miss Burns
Miss Uhlving

Kindergarten

Miss Chapman
Mrs. Ford
Mrs. Johnson
Mrs. Sutaris

First Grade

Mrs. Briscoe
Mrs. Francisco
Mrs. Torta
Mrs. Zahariades

Second Grade

Mrs. Anil
Mrs. Carpenter
Mrs. Freeland
Mrs. Metza

Third Grade

Miss Huth
Mrs. Keely
Miss Magnusen
Mrs. Shankar

Fourth Grade

Mr. Beckham
Miss Hilgendorf
Mrs. Pace
Ms. Schambach

Fifth Grade

Mrs. Freeman
Mrs. Lewandowsky
Ms. Loreto

Sixth Grade

Mrs. Copper
Miss Gross
Mr. Smith

7th & 8th Grade

Miss Ekdahl
Mrs. Matangi
Mrs. Meyer
Ms. Rohr
Mrs. Simon

Special Area Teachers

Mrs. Dever - Library
Mrs. Ferris - World Languages
Mrs. Lander - Technology
Mrs. Loveless - Music
Coach Mims - P.E.
Mrs. Watkins - Art
Mrs. Carter - Speech
Mrs. Godina - Resource
Mrs. Calderon - Academic
Compliance Coordinator
Mrs. Kamat - Academic Tutor
Mrs. Rodriguez - Academic Tutor
Mr. Matangi - Band

Classroom Aides

Mrs. Cummings
Mrs. Fernando
Mrs. Gurram
Miss Handschug
Ms. Ibanez
Mrs. Jacob
Mrs. Karumuri
Miss Keely
Mrs. Robinson
Mrs. Talluru
Mrs. Tammana
Mrs. Tatavarti
Mrs. Vummentala

Coyote Club Aides

Mrs. Prasad -
Coordinator
Mrs. Huber
Miss Libby
Miss Olson
Miss Saunders
Mrs. Tangala
Mrs. Weickardt

Reminder: If your child needs medication while at school, a parent or guardian must bring the medication to the nurse's office and fill out a form. No medications should be in a student's backpack without specific permission. This includes over the counter medications and homeopathic medications as well.

I would also like to remind you that if your child has a fever that is 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, they will need to stay home from school until it has been 24 hours **without a fever** and **without the use of fever reducing medication** (acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, or aspirin). They will be sent home if brought to school too soon or if their temperature is over 100 degrees.

Donations of clothing, especially underwear, are needed in boys and girls' sizes 6-12. Thank you!

Mrs. Emily Allen, R. N.
Valley Academy Nurse



Parent ID Badges

are required and must be worn when on campus or you must get a sticker from the front office. If you still need to take your picture for a badge, please contact Mrs.

Dever to set up an appointment at JDever@ValleyAcademy.com.
Badges are \$5.00, exact cash or check.

Drop Off Is Not Permitted in the Front Parking Lot

Drop off in the front lot is still taking place. It is not an approved drop-off area. This is a huge safety concern, and we have tried to get all to comply. **Any student dropped off before school starts in the front lots will be issued a detention.** Even if you pull into an open spot and your children get out of the car. The parking spots are for parents who come all the way onto campus (parents walking children to class, Preschool families, and those parents with business on campus).

Please follow proper drop-off procedures on the west and east side of campus.

Respectfully,
Administration



Arizona Instruction

*After School Enrichment Classes & Clubs
begin the week of August 31, 2026.*

Spalding Parent Class Reminder

For parents who have signed up for the Parent Spalding course, classes will be held in the World Language room on the following Tuesdays: September 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd. No children permitted.

Picture Day for K-8 Grades Wednesday, September 2, 2026

All K-8 students will be photographed on picture day for the yearbook. If you would like to order pictures, please send in the order form on or before picture day, or you can order online at mylifetouch.com. Picture Day ID to use is EVTN9TSFF.

SAY CHEESE!



Picture Day for Preschool Is Thursday, September 3rd

Everyday is a Gift Photography only accepts exact cash (change will not be made) or check made out to

Lauren Sellards.

Online ordering is NOT available. Order forms and payment are due to your child's teacher before Preschool Picture Day. Late orders are difficult to process and will require **a \$10 additional charge.**

Please note that our preschoolers use a different company than our K-8 students use, they do not have retake picture day, and they must adhere to dress code.



Crochet Club

Create. Stitch. Relax. Repeat.

Registration Due By Sept. 16th

Starts Sept. 23rd

Wednesdays, 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

For 5th – 8th Grades

Friday, September 18th

EARLY DISMISSAL

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



Visit our

BOOK FAIR!



September 14th – 17th

Books will be available to purchase Sept. 15-17. Students may buy books during the week, and parents are invited to walk in daily from 2:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. On September 17th, the book fair will be open during school hours and throughout Family Fun Night. Family Fun Night is on Thursday, September 17th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Bring the whole family and enjoy an evening of food, music, fun, and community.



Arizona Department of Education
We have learned about two students who received a letter and Certificate of High Achievement from Tom Horne, Arizona State Superintendent of Schools. The letter congratulated them on being among the top 10 percent on a state standardized academic test. These two students, and perhaps more from Valley Academy, have shown commitment to excellence. Congratulations to Shiven D., 8th grade and Mithun S. in 5th grade.



Art Sixth graders recently enjoyed a lively art exercise where they balanced paper on their heads and drew without looking, discovering how spatial relationship and proportions work in unexpected ways! The activity brought lots of laughs while helping students think more carefully about dimensions and observation in their work. Left to right, front row: John B., Finley F., Ramannuza K. Second row: Katarina P., Sairam M. Third row: Hari P., and Mithun S.

— WELCOME —
BACK TO SCHOOL

September SHINE Recipients

Congratulations to the following students: Aryaan R., Mohammed A., Anika S., and Grace E., from kindergarten. They were selected by their kindergarten 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



GRADE LEVEL HIGHLIGHT – 7/8



Meet our 7th and 8th grade team; Mrs. Matangi (science), Miss Ekdahl (writing), Mrs. Meyer (literature), Mrs. Simon (history), and Ms. Rohr (math). In 7th and 8th grade, students will follow a class schedule and move between these five classes with individual blocks or periods. This prepares them for high school.

AASA Perfect Scores



These eighth-grade students all received perfect scores on their seventh-grade AASA state testing. We are so proud of their hard work and achievements.

From left to right is Nick U., Shiven D., Chaitra M., Nadhira D., Noah G., Saksham S., V. Nihal G., and Viraj J.



In seventh grade, students are learning about the Industrial Revolution. They did a simulation of what it was like to work on an assembly line and assembly line work vs. skilled laborers.



Another Perfect AASA Score!

Ojas B. scored a perfect score on his sixth-grade AASA state testing! Way to go, Ojas!



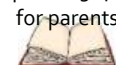
Yash S. is working to complete an activity to review concepts before the first Unit Test. Every unit in math includes review activities to help students review the learning concepts.



Welcome Baby Girl Matangi! Our eighth-grade teacher and our band instructor, Mr. and Mrs. Matangi, have welcomed a beautiful, healthy baby girl. Our newest future Valley Academy student and mom are both doing well. Both mom and dad are excited to get to know their family as now three!



September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Arizona Instruction Classes Begin	1  Spalding Parent Class 5:00 p.m.	2 Picture Day  Girls' Volleyball Game 4:30 p.m. MathCounts Begins $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$	3 Preschool Picture Day  Science Club Begins	4 Student Council Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m. Spirit Day 	5
6	7 No School Labor Day	8 VAPO Meeting 8:15 a.m.  Spalding Parent Class 5:00 p.m.	9  Girls' Volleyball Game 4:30 p.m. Progress Reports Available Online	10 Caught Being Good  Girls' Volleyball Game Hosting 4:30 p.m.	11 In Memory of 9/11 	12
13 Book Fair M-Th Open 2:15-4:00 for parents 	14 Girls' Volleyball AWAY Game 5:30 p.m. 	15  Spalding Parent Class 5:00 p.m.	16  Crochet Club Registration Due	17 Family Fun Night	18 Early Release AM Specials 12:15 Dismissal Staff Development	19
20	21 Morning Assembly 8:15 a.m.  Girls' Volleyball Game 4:30 p.m.	22  Girls' Volleyball AWAY Game 4:30 p.m. Spalding Parent Class 5:00 p.m.	23 Homeroom Parent Breakfast 8:15-9:00 a.m. KMPR  Crochet Club Begins	24 Board Meeting 6:15 p.m. Reid Offices	25	26
27	28	29	30			