

# VALRICO ELEMENTARY



## HAWK'S NEST NEWS

### Celebrate Literacy Week Bookmark Contest Winners



Congratulations to the following students for their amazing 1st place bookmark creations. Way to go Hawks!

- ◆ Pre-K/E-Hawks—Valkyrie Colindres (Mrs. Cowart's Class)
- ◆ K—Maya Brown (Mrs. Douglas' Class)
- ◆ 1st—Jesiarelys Cruz Matos (Mrs. McLafferty's Class)
- ◆ 2nd—Lorelai Ferenczy (Mrs. Wynn's Class)
- ◆ 3rd—Skylar Vanvaerenbergh (Mrs. Coffey's Class)
- ◆ 4th—Mya Metzriere (Mrs. Daugherty's Class)
- ◆ 5th—Helen de la Osa Lopez (Mrs. Devine-Martin's Class)



### Ready for Kindergarten Event



**\*Please share this information with your friends and neighbors.**

Please join us for our Ready for Kindergarten Event on **Monday, April 3rd at 5:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room / Cafeteria**

to register your incoming kindergarten student(s) for the 2023-2024 school year. This is an informative meeting of what to expect as your child enters Kindergarten.

**\*\*Please park in the back of the school. The program begins promptly at 5:00 p.m.\*\***

The required documents needed to your child for kindergarten:

- Certified copy of your child's birth certificate
- Up-to-date Immunization Record
- 2 forms of Proof of Residence (utility bill, lease/purchase of home)
- Social Security Card
- Florida Physical form
- Parental/Guardian ID

These are required to complete the registration process prior to the start of the 2023-2024 school year. If you do not have all the paperwork by April 3rd, we still encourage you to come to the Ready for Kindergarten Event with the paperwork you do have. We can add to your child's file when you complete any outstanding items.

#### School Board

- Nadia T. Combs, Chair
- Henry "Shake" Washington, Vice Chair
- Lynn L. Gray
- Stacy A. Hahn, Ph.D.
- Karen Perez
- Patricia "Patti" Rendon
- Jessica Vaughn

#### Superintendent of Schools

Addison G. Davis

#### Tricia Simonsen

Principal

#### Heather Bisesto

Assistant Principal



**Hillsborough County**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Preparing Students for Life

Valrico Elementary School  
609 S. Miller Road  
Valrico, FL 33594  
(813) 744-6777  
<https://hillsboroughschools.org/valrico>



# FLORIDA 4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING PROGRAM WINNERS

The Florida 4-H Public Speaking Program is a school enrichment curriculum in public speaking for Grades 4 & 5. The program is a partnership with the Florida 4-H Foundation and Florida Power & Light Company. Students write and deliver a public speech between 2-3 minutes in length on any topic. Here are the winners for the Florida 4-H Speeches and their topics. First place winners in each grade level will go to the district competition.

## Grade 4:

**First Place**—Ava Smith—

“Why Big Brothers Are the Best”

**Second Place**—Angel Serrano—

“If You Could Only Eat One Food For Life, What Would It Be?”

**Third Place**—Julio Estupinan—

“The Life of Cristiano Ronaldo”



## Grade 5:

**First Place**—Isabelle Rothmann—

“Marine Population: The Problem Only We Can Solve”

**Second Place**—Bruce Waggoner—

“Ways To Improve Your Sleep”

**Third Place**—Gabriel DeJesus—

“The DeJesus Family Challenges Rainbow River”

### Some of our other 4th and 5th grade students who participated:

Jaziah Acevedo, Astrid Van Canon, Ashlyn Wallace, Keelyn Hines, & Del Masker



## RELAY FOR LIFE COIN DRIVE

We will have a Coin Drive for Relay for Life to raise funds for cancer research from February 28 – March 9. All students are encouraged to bring coins for a Boys vs. Girls friendly competition. Collections will be taken each morning in the courtyard from 7:10-7:40am. If our goal of \$750 is met, we will celebrate schoolwide with a Crazy Hat Day on Friday, March 10.

**Thank you for supporting this great cause!**

## Picture Day *Smile*

**Spring Individual Photos are on Friday, March 3rd. Every child will be photographed on this day. A few weeks later, pictures will be sent home to preview with an option to buy or return the package. No need to pre-pay!**

### Valrico Art Studio News

Delilah Campanelli's (2nd Grade) artwork will represent VES at the Florida State Fair! You can visit the fair exhibit from Feb. 10-Feb. 21.

Appleonia Baldwin (3rd Grade) and Kylee Sonnenberg (4th Grade) will both be representing VES at the Elementary Fine Arts Festival at the Straz Center for the Arts. Student artwork will be on display from Feb. 28-March 1.

Zoe Santiago Colon (3rd Grade) was selected to have her artwork displayed in the lobby of the HCPS Administrative Office (ROSSAC) for Youth Art Month. Student selections will be on display during the month of March.

Valrico  
**PTA Corner**

**JUBILEE**  
Friday, February 24th  
4 to 7pm • Armbands \$15 at the Door

**SKIP THE LINE!  
SCAN TO PURCHASE  
ARMBANDS!**

**Follow PTA on Facebook**  
for updates on Jubilee, Spirit Nights,  
Yearbooks, School Events, etc.  
<https://tinyurl.com/2p8kmdxj>

PTA store: [valricoelementary.memberhub.com](http://valricoelementary.memberhub.com) Email: [ValricoPTABoard@gmail.com](mailto:ValricoPTABoard@gmail.com)



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FEBRUARY TERRIFIC KIDS!

Teachers recognize one student from each class every month in honor of positive character traits.

February's character trait is Respect. ("Showing others they are important by what you say and do.")

Valkyrie Colindres	Jack Kyte	Deacon Owens	Khari Hardeman
Shanaya Hedau	Alex Estevez	Nikki Vu	Riley Smith
Anaya Hedau	Alex Hendley	Taryn Wells	Fredis Solis-Martinez
Cecilia Lobello	Aaron Narvaez	Kendall Traynham	Ethan Vu
Samuel Stewart	Jeffrey Perez	Sean Timken	Christian Machado Salazar
Brennan Tenney	Zoey Comer	Jackson Sanderfur	Ella Erskine
Anay Cruz Gonzalez	Carson Pulcifer	Xavier Anderson	Peighton Pless
Adalynn Swartz	Jazlynn Sosa-Toro	Dylan Pless	
Sofia Gutierrez-Guerra	Aiden Pierre	Anahi Romero	
Hayden Purner	Nayeli Silvestre	Vincent Trujillo	
Marcus Guardado	Jase Smith	Anna Joseph	



## ATTENDANCE RECOGNITION

The following classes (by grade level) had the highest attendance percentage for the month of *January*:

E Hawks: Mrs. Wiebler	94%
Kindergarten: Mrs. Douglas	97%
First Grade: Mrs. Swartzlander	97%
Second Grade: Mrs. Gladbach	96%
Third Grade: Mrs. Lorentzen*	98%
Fourth Grade: Ms. Hall	97%
Fifth Grade: Mrs. Hinson	97%

\*This class had the highest monthly attendance.

### March's Character Trait:

MARCH 2023 | GECKO  
**FORGIVENESS**  
Deciding that someone who has wronged you doesn't have to pay



### Is your child missing an item?

All items in our Lost & Found will be on display outside the cafeteria on **March 9**. Any items not claimed will be donated before we leave for Spring Break.













If your child is missing an item, please remind & encourage them to check these tables when they go to lunch. Thank you!

**SAC**  
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is inviting you to nominate new members for the 2023-2024 school year. The purpose of SAC is to assist the principal in the development, implementation, and monitoring of the School Improvement Plan (SIP). If you would like to contribute to the success of our school and students by serving on SAC, or would like to nominate someone to serve, please email Mrs. Swartzlander by March 10: [Tina.Swartzlander@hcps.net](mailto:Tina.Swartzlander@hcps.net).

# MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
		Relay for Life Coin Drive Begins	1 Fine Arts Festival @ Straz Center - 6:30 p.m. ELP 1:55-3:15 (Reading) Gr. K-5	2 ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 1, 3, 4, 5	3 PTA Executive Board Meeting 9:00  Spring Individual Pictures Dress Your Best Spirit Day or Strawberry Spirit Day	4	
5	6 	7	8 STEM Fair Awards (Virtual) 6:30 p.m. FINAL ELP (Reading) 1:55-3:15 Gr. K-5	9 Relay Coin Drive Ends Lost & Found on Display  BEEF UBRADY'S Spirit Night 5:00-8:00  Rita's 4:00-8:00 FINAL ELP (Math) 1:55-3:15 Gr. 1, 3, 4, 5	10 Crazy Hat Spirit Day	11	
12 Daylight Savings Time Begins 						17 	18
19	20 Students Return Welcome Back! BUY YOUR Yearbook PTA Yearbook Final Sale Begins  Early Release Day!	21  PTA Spirit Night 5:00-8:00	22	23 5th Grade Yearbook Ads Due	24 End of 3rd Grading Period College Spirit Day	25	
26	27  Early Release Day!	28 Florida 4-H Speech Competition District Semi-Finals (Virtual) 5:00-7:00 p.m.	29 April Parent Newsletter posted online	30	31 Terrific Kids Student Recognition PTA Yearbook Final Sale Ends Wear Blue—School Colors or for Autism Awareness		