**Hawk's Nest**

**Holiday Class Celebrations!**

Holiday Class Celebrations will be on Thursday, December 21. Please take note of the time for your child’s grade level. Times are firm. If you plan to attend, please plan accordingly. Park in the side visitor lot or at the park next door. Arrive early to sign in with your ID. We will begin signing visitors in 15 minutes prior to each scheduled celebration. Thank you!

- **Kindergarten & ESE:** 11:30-12:00
- **Grades 1 & 4:** 12:15-12:45
- **Grades 2, 3 & 5:** 1:00-1:30

**Thank You For Your Generosity!**

We would like to say thank you to our parents, students, faculty, and staff for your generous donations to our annual Toy Drive here at Valrico Elementary. Once again our Valrico families have demonstrated their generosity by supporting those less fortunate during this holiday season. Over 100 students have benefitted from your kindness! Thank you for helping to make a difference in our school community!

**Enjoy Your Winter Break!**

_The Sunshine State of Mind_ is at an all time high at Valrico! As we wrap up the first half of the school year, our shining students & teachers are celebrating all the sunsational learning they’ve accomplished. We’re ready to surf into a winter break filled with ocean air & sunny skies. We will keep riding the waves when students return to school on Monday, January 8th.
We are excited to announce that Delilah Campanelli will advance to the state level of competition for the PTA Reflections contest. Delilah was one of ten submissions that were selected to represent Valrico Elementary in the contest at the district level. We wish Delilah all the best and will post more Reflections updates as they become available. A special thank you to our art specialist, Mrs. Jackson, for partnering with PTA to organize the Reflections Program at Valrico.

We are so excited for the 8th HABSE Black History Brain Bowl which will be held in early 2024. The initial rounds will be January 30 - February 1 at various sites and the playoffs will be February 24, 2024 at Blake High School. Our VES Participants are: Jaziah Acevedo, Ada Annis, Avery Autrey, Brooklyn Boone, Nariah Cox-Bohn, Isaiah Cuadrado, Arianna Fickey, Matthew Garcia, Keely Hines, Domani Joseph, Minnah Mahmoud, Isabella Martinez, Emmy McDonough, Rohan McCaskell, Bella Medina, Mya Metziere, Olivia Navarro, Caleb Neely, Abigail Paz, Liliana Pelillo, Silvia Restrepo-Ceron, Nicole Rosete, & Ava Smith.

Valrico Elementary is pleased to announce that we will be offering Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year. We will be accepting 10 VPK children to join our iPEEPS classroom for a wonderfully inclusive and adaptive educational experience. The class size will remain small and instruction will be provided by a certified teacher. Seats are limited and will be assigned based on a “prioritized” wait list. There is no fee for the 3 hour VPK time frame (time frame will be determined). Extended day options are available for an additional fee. Applications will be available mid January. Call VES at 744-6777 to be put on our waiting list!

**Attendance Recognition**

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

- E Hawks: Mrs. Cowart 93%
- Kindergarten: Mrs. Queen 96.3%
- First Grade: Mrs. Bone 96.9%
- Second Grade: Ms. Olivares 97.2%
- Third Grade: Mrs. Scaglione 98.6% *
- Fourth Grade: Mrs. Rudd 97.9%
- Fifth Grade: Mrs. Ashley 97.2%

* This class had the highest monthly attendance.

Kindergarten Roundup is an event for incoming Kindergarten students for the 2024-2025 school year. This will be an informative meeting of what to expect as your child enters Kindergarten. The date will be announced as we wait on the district to determine roundup scheduling throughout the district. The following documents are required to be brought in to complete the registration prior to the start of the 2024-2025 school year:

- Parent/Guardian ID
- Certified copy of your child’s birth certificate
- Florida Physical Form
- Up-to-date Immunization Record
- 2 forms of Proof of Residence (utility bill, lease/purchase of home)

DATE TBD

Keep on the lookout for updates!

Is Your Child Missing an Item?

All items in our Lost & Found will be on display outside the gates on December 21. If your child is missing something, be sure to check out these tables at dismissal. Unclaimed items will be donated. ***Please label all of your children’s belongings in order to help us return lost items to them in the future.*** Thank you!
Friday, January 19th

It’s almost class, chorus, morning show crew, safety patrol, and other group picture time here at Valrico! Please make sure that your child is dressed and ready for this memory making opportunity. We will send order forms home about a week before picture day. If purchasing pictures, students **MUST** bring their order form with them to school on picture day. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing those smiling faces!!

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**ATTENTION 4th GRADE PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

Please view the following link for information regarding Valrico Elementary School’s participation in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

https://share.peachjar.com/flyers/2594078/

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**Progress Monitoring 2 Scores**

Students and parents can access PM2 scores through the district’s report card website at [https://reportcards.sdhc.k12.fl.us](https://reportcards.sdhc.k12.fl.us). Families can call the Report Card Support Line at (813) 840-7388 for technical assistance. Scores available for all grade levels.

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**Join the Transportation Team!**

With over 90,000 students reliant on us to provide access to education, our transportation employees play a critical role in ensuring that our students start their school day on time and prepared. By bringing your "A" game every day, you will be an important part of the iconic symbol of public education - the yellow school bus. We are looking for reliable, passionate, and committed individuals who share our values and understand the important role they play in our students’ lives. We are Hillsborough Strong and believe that our daily actions have the power to make a big difference in the lives of our students.

Questions? Call the Transportation Employment Line at: (813) 982-5521

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**FLOWER檔案**

**Employment Opportunities**

- **Full Benefits**
- **$18.05/hour Plus Bonuses**
- **Flexible Schedules**
- **Paid Training**
- **Guaranteed 7 hours or more**

**Questions? Call the Transportation Employment Line at:** (813) 982-5521

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**NO SCHOOL**

- **Monday, January 15, 2024**
- **Friday, February 16, 2024**
- **Monday, March 4, 2024**
Welcome Back! Students Return

Retro Spirit Shirt Day

Chorus Practice
12:55—2:00
SAC 1:20
Virtual

Extended Learning Program (ELP) invites sent out to eligible students

ELP Registration Deadline for eligible students

PTA Jubilee
Ticket Pre-Sales begin this week

Chorus Practice
12:55—2:00
PTA
6:00 Virtual
meet.google.com/smf-edlp-hx

PTA 6:00 Virtual

Report Cards Available Online

Spirit Night
5:00—8:00

Terrific Kids Student Recognition

Superhero Spirit Day

December’s highest participant count for Chick-fil-A Spirit Night was Mrs. Lorentzen’s class! They won an ice cream party courtesy of Chick-fil-A!