

VALRICO ELEMENTARY

HAWK'S NEST
NEWS

Congratulations to all students who participated in the *Valrico S.T.E.M. Fair this year!* We know all of you spent a great deal of time and energy on your projects!

We would also like to recognize some outstanding projects that will be representing Valrico at the Hillsborough County School District S.T.E.M. Fair on February 7, 2024. (* denotes students who participated virtually and will not attend in person)

INDIVIDUALS

3rd Grade

Penelope Machlin*

Mrs. Kubler

Lianna Rodriguez

Mrs. Coffey

Henry Tanner

Mrs. Lorentzen

Roderick Van Canon*

Mrs. Young

4th Grade

-Skylar Basham

-Luke Pulcifer

Mr. Jackson

5th Grade

-Caleb Neely*

-Nadia Mbaigoto

-Mya Metzriere

GROUPS

3rd Grade:

-Delilah Campanelli &

Sarah Chickadel

Mrs. Lorentzen

4th Grade:

-Yamiel DeJesus &

Andrew Pareja

Mr. Jackson

-Zoe Santiago-Colon &

Jase Smith

Mr. Jackson

5th Grade:

**-Claire Georgi, Nicole Rosete,
Kylee Sonnenberg, & Lexie Ward**

Mrs. Ashley

**-Nariah Cox-Bohn, Sofia Machado,
Bella Medina, & Emma Toth**

Mrs. Ashley

**-Jayline Baltazar*, Siyona Dudhia*,
Gabriella Lima*, & Adela Nolasco ***

Mrs. Ashley

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**

Van Ayres

**Tricia Simonsen
Principal****Michelle Vick
Assistant Principal**

Hillsborough County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life



Our spring 2023-2024 school year conference night will be held on **February 15 from 3:00-8:00 p.m.** Parent-Teacher Conferences are an important opportunity where we can sit down and discuss your child's progress in school. Please be on the look out in your child's agenda for additional information from the teacher regarding In-Person or Virtual Conference Options. You can also request a conference. We encourage parent involvement! *Thank you!*

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

Every day
COUNTS!

School success starts
with attendance



Attendance Recognition

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

E Hawks:	Mrs. Wiebler	93.6%
Kindergarten:	Mrs. Graser	92.7%
First Grade:	Mrs. Pyka	93.4%
Second Grade:	Mrs. Gladbach	95.2%
Third Grade:	Mrs. Miranda	93.1%
Fourth Grade:	Mrs. Abraham	93.8%
Fifth Grade:	Mr. McClellan	95%*

*This class had the highest monthly attendance.



Our Kindergarten event for incoming Kindergarten students (2024-2025 Registration School Year) will be on February 26, 2024. The program will begin promptly at 4:30PM in our Cafeteria. This will be an informative meeting of what to expect as your child enters Kindergarten. 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)

Can't wait to see you there!

We are so excited for the 8th HABSE Black History Brain Bowl Preliminary Rounds on January 31 at Brandon High School. Our VES Participants are: Ada Annis, Brooklyn Boone, Keely Hines, Mya Metzriere, & Caleb Neely. Good luck Hawks!



Student Bus Ridership Cards

HCPS Transportation has begun "rolling out" Student Ridership ID Cards! These cards, equipped with RFID technology, will serve as an efficient and secure method to monitor student bus ridership. By downloading the mobile app or logging in to the Here Comes the Bus website, a parent can see where their child's bus is located and when their child has scanned on and off the bus. A parent cannot see any information on other children. RFID Cards are encrypted and contain a unique ID number that is associated with a student rider in the backend database. To opt out, simply notify the bus driver and students can turn their Ridership Card in to the driver.



For more information, visit: www.hillsboroughschools.org/herecomesthebus



PANORAMA EDUCATION

Parents of 4th and 5th graders, please visit www.hillsboroughschools.org/valrico under "News" to read about the upcoming Panorama Education Survey. The survey will ask students to self-reflect on their social skills, school climate and culture, and sense of belonging. If you have any questions, please e-mail Christy.Oliver@hcps.net. Thank you!

Florida VPK 2024-2025 School Year



READY FREDDY wants every child to be ready for Kindergarten!

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. There is no fee for the VPK time frame (7:40-12:00). Extended day options are available for an additional fee. **Stop in to fill out an application now-March 8th.** Seats are limited and will be assigned based on a "prioritized" wait list. Families will be notified in mid to late March if their child has been accepted.

Valrico PTA Corner

JUBILEE

4 TO 7PM

presale pricing ends 2/2

Friday, February 23rd

PRESALE ARMBAND PRICES:
 PTA Members: \$10 per student
 Non-PTA Members: \$12 per student
ARMBAND PRICE AT THE DOOR: \$15
 Parents FREE • Children 3 and under FREE

CONTACT PTA TO SPONSOR, DONATE, OR VOLUNTEER AT JUBILEE!

PTA store: valricoelementary.memberhub.com Email: ValricoPTABoard@gmail.com

- \$1 Food-Cash Only
- Inflatable Slides & Obstacle Courses
- Games & Prizes
- Face Painters
- Balloon Artists
- Silent Auction
- Cake Walk & More!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JANUARY TERRIFIC KIDS!

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

January's character trait is **Knowledge** ("Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.")

Avery Doeren	Terran Rice	Antonella Machado-Salazar	Tahlia Butler
Amir Rodriguez	Yerai Baltazar	Ellee Radcliffe	Ava Guerrero
Phillip Borruso	Hailey Claxton	Liam Watson	Siyona Dudhia
Kaizen Sessions	Maya Brown	Zion Vasquez	Vivienne Lobello
Mila Jackson	Dahlia Stone-Grant	Kennedy Cobb	Jaelynn Nation
Olivia Martin	Brekyn Golczynski	Zoey Comer	Alima Baktybekova
Julian Mollman	Allie Hastings	Michael Smith	Jacob Jaimes
Jace Michel	Blaise Hall	Rose Annis	Aiden Amaro
Skyler Dodson	Jesi Cruz	Yareli Maldonado	Trenton Bottoms
Victoria Gonzalez Leon	Durban Tilbury	Zoe Santiago Colon	

February's Character Trait



Irish 31's CHEERS to Public Service

What Is It?

Since 2018, Irish 31's iCare Foundation (501c3) and the Cheers to Public Service initiative have recognized 1,816 educators working tirelessly in our Hillsborough and Pasco county school districts. Of those 1,816 teachers nominated and publicly recognized by the iCare Foundation, 125 have been awarded with \$1,000 each, for a total giveback to date of \$125,000!

How Does It Work?

A typical Cheers to Public Service awards cycle consists of three phases – Nominations, Voting, and Winner Selection – and runs from January through May.

Where Can I Nominate An I.R.I.S.H. (Influential, Reliable, Impassioned, Selfless, Humble) Teacher?

We invite the community to help us identify world-class educators by visiting irish31.com/cheers and nominating a teacher that has impacted their life, or the life of a loved one.



NOMINATE A
TEACHER



A's for Andy's

January 24 - 31, 2024

Present a screenshot of your virtual report card to receive your free custard treat!

Requirements

- All A's, B's, S's and/ or E's
- No behavior indicators where applicable

Bloomington
2124 Bloomington Ave
Behind Chick-Fil-A

Riverview
14385 US Hwy 301 S
301 & Paseo Al Mar



No voucher necessary. Must present report card at time of redemption. Student must be present to redeem.
Not valid with any other offer. No cash value.

NO SCHOOL

-Friday, February 16, 2024
-Monday, March 4, 2024
-Monday, March 11, 2024
through
Friday, March 15, 2024

February

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>January's highest participant count for Chick-fil-A Spirit Night was Mrs. Dittebrand's class! They won an ice cream party courtesy of Chick-fil-A!</p>				<p>1</p> <p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 4 & 5</p>	<p>2</p> <p>PTA Jubilee Ticket Pre-Sales End</p> <p>Spirit Day-Wear Red to Support American Heart Association</p>	3
4	<p>5</p> <p>Early Release Day!</p> <p>5TH GRADE FUNDRAISING BEGINS</p> <p>Art Club 12:55-2:00 Chorus Practice 12:55—2:00</p>	6	7	8	9	10
			<p>Drumming Hawks 1:55-3:00</p> <p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 4 & 5</p>	<p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 2 (Reading) Gr. 2 & 4</p>	<p>Animal Print Spirit Day</p>	
11	<p>12</p> <p>Early Release Day!</p> <p>Art Club 12:55-2:00 Chorus Practice 12:55—2:00</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Gr. 3 Field Trip</p> <p> Spirit Night 5:00—8:00</p>	<p>14</p> <p> Drumming Hawks 1:55-3:00 (ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 4 & 5</p>	<p>15</p> <p>5TH GRADE FUNDRAISING ENDS</p> <p>Conference Night 3:00-8:00 p.m.</p> <p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 2 (Reading) Gr. 2 & 4</p>	<p>16</p> <p></p>	17
18	<p>19</p> <p>Early Release Day!</p> <p>Art Club-Last Day for the School Year 12:55-2:00 Chorus Practice 12:55—2:00 (Chorus will resume 3/18) SAC 1:20 Virtual FINAL MEETING</p>	20	21	22	23	24
		<p>NAEP Testing for Select 4th Graders</p>	<p>Drumming Hawks-Last Day for the School Year</p> <p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 4 & 5</p>	<p>Gr. 4 Field Trip (Onsite)</p> <p> SPIRIT NIGHT 3:00—8:00</p> <p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 2 (Reading) Gr. 2 & 4</p>	<p>Terrific Kids Student Recognition</p> <p> PTA Jubilee 4 - 7 p.m. VES Spirit Day</p>	
25	<p>26</p> <p>Early Release Day!</p>	27	28	29		
		<p>Relay for Life Coin Drive Begins</p>	<p>District STEM Fair for School Finalists @ Tampa Convention Center (Virtual finalists do not attend.) March Parent Newsletter posted</p> <p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 4 & 5</p>	<p>ELP 1:55-3:15 (Math) Gr. 2 (Reading) Gr. 2 & 4</p>		