

VALRICO ELEMENTARY



HAWK'S NEST NEWS

Aloha! May 6-10

It's Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week!

Let's show them our love and appreciation all week long! We want to celebrate the amazing educators, staff, paras, nurses, custodians, food team, and administration who make our school a **paradise** for learning!

Here are some ideas:

- MONDAY** "Awesome Aloha!" - Create a tropical-themed picture, note, or poem.
- TUESDAY** "Sunshine Surprise" - Make or bring something yellow to brighten their day. Like a craft, a snack, or a small gift.
- WEDNESDAY** "Sweet Tropical Breeze" - Bring them a sweet tropical treat or drink.
- THURSDAY** "Island of Thanks" - Bring in a few supplies they may still need.
- FRIDAY** "Tropical Treats" - Bring a gift card to their favorite store or restaurant.

Valrico PTA® everychild.onevoice.®

you are
making a
difference
every day.

PTA
everychild.onevoice.

THANK YOU, PTA!

We would like to recognize all of our families that have supported the Valrico PTA! Thank you for all you do to provide our students with the best opportunities & curriculum resources possible! Special recognition to our PTA Executive Board: *Cassy Timken, Kourtney Geary, and Michele Purner* for the many hours they dedicate to making a difference!

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 Ayers

Tricia Simonsen
Principal

Michelle Vick
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>

Every day
COUNTS!
School success starts
with attendance

Dates to Remember for Testing:

4/24 & 4/25: VPK STAR Testing

5/1: FAST ELA Testing - Grade 3

5/2: FAST ELA Testing - Grades 4 & 5

5/3: FAST ELA Make-Up Testing -
Grades 3, 4, 5

5/7: FAST Math Testing - Grades 4 & 5

5/8: FAST Math Testing - Grade 3

5/10: FAST Math Make-Up Testing -
Grades 3, 4, 5

5/14: SSA (Statewide Science Assessment) -
Grade 5

5/15: SSA Make-Up Testing - Grade 5

Tips for Successful Testing Experience:

- Please ensure your child arrives to school on time.
- Safeguard sleep: Make sure your child gets enough sleep the night before the assessment.
- Plan for a well-balanced and healthy breakfast.
- Visualize a positive outcome: Attitude affects test scores. Think positively and don't embrace failure.
- Stay positive: Your child can be influenced by your reaction to testing time.
- Give him or her positive send-off in the morning.
- Don't Stress: Our stress can spill over to our children.

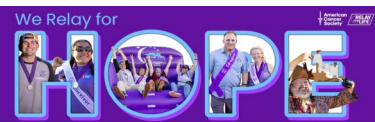
Take a deep breath, go with the flow.
Just do your best and
show what you know!

RELAY FOR LIFE

CELEBRATE. REMEMBER. FIGHT BACK.



Come join us as we celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against cancer. VES will be participating in Relay for Life on **May 3rd**, from 6:00PM—12:00AM. Our Valrico Singing Stars will be performing in the Opening Ceremony. The event will be held at The Strawberry Festival Fairgrounds located at 303 Berryfest Drive, in Plant City. Hope to see you



**Planning a Move?
Not Returning for
the 2024-2025
School Year?**



We need to know! If your family is planning a move before the end of the school year *or* you know that your child will not be attending Valrico Elementary School next year, please contact our office as soon as possible. Thank you!

HUGE SHOUT OUT TO COOPER FERNANDES

On April 4th, fourth grader, **Cooper Fernandes**, went up against all 4th grade Finalists in Hillsborough County and came in 3rd place at the 4H Speaking Competition with his speech "How To Spice Up Your Cooking". Way to go, Cooper! That is quite an accomplishment!



Friday, May 3rd

**SCHOOL LUNCH
HERO DAY**

Manager-Diane Kelley
Production Coordinator—Beatriz Carithers
SNS Staff—Dora Aveillas, Christine Borruso,
Diana Cherkaski, Bonnie DeBlasse, Gladys Macias,
Blanca Pagan, Brenda Riggall, Jaynis Vega



Is your child missing an item?

All items in our Lost & Found will be on display outside the cafeteria on **May 15**. Please encourage your students to look for their lost items after their lunch period. **This will be the last Lost & Found for the 2023-2024 School Year.** Any unclaimed items will be donated.



Thank you Nurses
Diane,
Gina,
& Erica!

NATIONAL
**SCHOOL
NURSE DAY**

Wednesday, May 8th

Kiwanis Terrific Kids

In recognition of demonstrating
a positive attitude,
good character,
and responsible citizenship.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR APRIL TERRIFIC KIDS!

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

April's character trait is Patience. ("Waiting until later, for what you want now.")

Copeland Gaab	Olivia Kyte	Amberlyn Norgaard	Aniyah Ramirez
Malachi Zebbron	Jesuareilys Cruz-Matos	Dakota Wallace	Caelyn Nole
Rosai McKinley	Reign Wilson	Kayla McKenna	Brianna Bolanos
Sadie Chickdel	Trey McLafferty	Jordyn Purner	Damian Stone-Grant
Giovanni Green	Nathan Pierre	Skylar Basham	Ella Erskine
Addison Caldwell	Aylin Morales-Avila	Isabella Borruso	
Sofia Diaz	Charlotte Figueroa	Aubrey Clark	
Rijash Shah	Audreigh Guererro	Quentin Coney	
Anay Cruz	Kaysen Tucker	Hetsi Patel	
Brennan Tenney	Magnus Kluj	Anna Guevara	
Bailey Martz	Nahla Martin	Dalton Nething	

May's Character Trait



Attendance Recognition

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

E Hawks: Mrs. Duval	95.9%
Kindergarten: Mrs. Koch	95.4%
First Grade: Mrs. Hannaford	*97.5%
Second Grade: Mrs. Gladbach	95%
Third Grade: Mrs. Kubler	96.2%
Fourth Grade: Mrs. Rudd	97.3%
Fifth Grade: Mrs. Dabney	96.6%

* This class had the highest monthly attendance.

Florida VPK AT Hillsborough County PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Hillsborough County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life

Hillsborough County Public Schools is offering a FREE educational Summer VPK program for children entering Kindergarten in 2024!

Plan now to take advantage of the FREE 30-day **summer** 2024 program at a Hillsborough County Public Schools campus near you.
Give your child a jump start into kindergarten!

Child may not have previously attended a VPK Program during the school year.

Summer 2024 dates: June 3 – July 24, 2024

Monday–Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Monday–Wednesday- July 1-3, no school July 4 and July 5

Locations: Ballast Point, Bing, Buckhorn, Hammond, Hunter's Green, Jackson, Lamb, McDonald, Mitchell, Morgan Woods, Mort, Oak Grove, Robinson, Summerfield, Thompson, Wimauma

Register NOW in two steps!

- 1) Go to elchc.org to start the registration process and apply for the REQUIRED Certificate of Eligibility (COE).
- 2) Bring your certificate to the VPK school to finalize the process and secure a summer VPK seat at that site.

To apply online, parents will need the following:

- An active email address
- A digital copy of proof of your child's date of birth and proof of your Florida residency
- Access to a printer to print out your VPK Certificate of Eligibility (COE)

Child must be 5 years old or turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024.

VPK questions?
Call our VPK Hotline
(813) 272-4516

Ready Freddy
wants to help
YOU get ready for
Kindergarten!

Visit readyfreddy.org
for free tips and ideas!



Valrico PTA Corner

PTA General Meeting
May 6th 6-6:30pm

Join the virtual meeting:
meet.google.com/kry-mctq-nqo

Please show your love to our
awesome Teachers & Staff during
Appreciation Week May 6-10!



Thank You
to all of our
Volunteers this year!

What a fun, tropical year it's been!
Thank you to all who helped out.
We couldn't do it without you!



Follow PTA on Facebook
<https://tinyurl.com/2p8kmdxj>

Join us for
Skate Night

Thursday

May 9th 5-7pm

FREE
FOR PTA
STUDENTS
\$10
FOR NON
MEMBERS

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

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May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>April's highest participant count for Chick-fil-A Spirit Night was Mrs. Gladbach's class! They won an ice cream party courtesy of Chick-fil-A!</p> 			<p>1</p> <p>7:40 FAST Testing Gr. 3 (Reading)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:40 FAST Testing Gr. 4 & 5(Reading)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY 7:40 FAST Makeup Testing Gr. 3,4, & 5(Reading)</p> <p>Relay for Life @ The Strawberry Festival Grounds, 6pm-12am (Valrico Singing Stars to Perform)</p> <p>Neon Spirit Day</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p>  <p>Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week</p>  <p>MAY 6 - 10: See details in newsletter.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Early Release Day!</p> <p>PTA General Meeting 6:00PM</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:40 FAST Testing Gr. 4 & 5(Math)</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY Thank you Nurses Diane, Gina & Erica!</p> <p>7:40 FAST Testing Gr. 3 (Math)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>PTA Skate Night 5:00-7:00</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>FAST Makeup Testing Gr. 3, 4, & 5 (Math)</p> <p>Favorite Sport Spirit Day</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Early Release Day!</p>	<p>14</p> <p>SSA Testing Grade 5 (Science)</p>  <p>PTA Spirit Night 5:00—8:00</p>	<p>15</p> <p>SSA Makeup Testing Grade 5 (Science)</p> <p>Final Lost & Found Items on Display **Unclaimed items will be donated.**</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Gr. 5 Trip to Universal Studios 7:45am-6:30pm Chaperone Meeting @ 7:10am</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Camo Spirit Day in honor of Armed Forces Day</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>ARMED FORCES DAY</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Early Release Day!</p> <p>VPK/Peeps Graduation 9:00</p> <p>PTA Pre-Ordered Yearbooks Distributed to Students</p>	<p>21</p> <p>May 21 & 22 LAST CHANCE! *LIMITED QUANTITIES* PTA Yearbooks will be sold in the Guidance Suite WHILE SUPPLIES LAST 7:10-7:40 \$30 CASH ONLY</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Gr. 5 Field Day 8:30 - 10:00</p> <p>Last Day to Pay for Lost Books or Request Refund for Found Books</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:10 High School Seniors (Former VES Students) Graduation Celebration</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Gr. 5 Clap Out - 11:10 *Gr. 5 families to enter front gate between 10:50 & 11:00 with pink pass</p> <p>Last Day of School Dismissal at 11:25am</p> <p>VES Spirit Day</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>  <p>memorial DAY</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Final Newsletter posted online</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	