

# 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 12, 2025.

## INDIVIDUALS

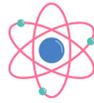
### 3rd Grade

**Adalynn Swartz**  
*Mrs. Coffey*  
**Maryn Mitchum**  
*Mrs. Lorentzen*  
**Trey McLafferty**  
*Mrs. Coffey*  
**Rosalie Darner**  
*Mrs. Kubler*



### 4th Grade

**-Henry Tanner**  
*Mrs. Brocato*  
**-Zoey Comer**  
*Mr. Jackson*  
**-Penelope Maclin**  
*Mrs. Brocato*  
**-Carson Pulcifer**  
*Mr. Jackson*



### 5th Grade

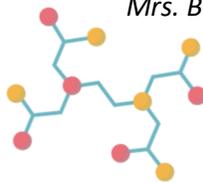
**-Zoey Santiago-Colon**  
*Mr. Jackson*  
**-Gabriel Hernandez-Perez**  
*Mrs. Young*  
**-Jase Smith**  
*Mr. Jackson*  
**-Andrew Pareja**  
*Mr. Jackson*



## GROUPS

### 3rd Grade:

**-Jaxon Fowler & Audreigh Guerrero**  
*Mrs. Lorentzen*  
**-Eva-Figuero-Garcia & Riley Mobley**  
*Mrs. Lorentzen & Mrs. Coffey*



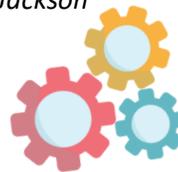
### 4th Grade:

**-Allison Rhine & Liam Watson**  
*Mrs. Brocato*



### 5th Grade:

**-Luke Pulcifer & Yamiel DeJesus**  
*Mr. Jackson*



# Parent Teacher Conferences

Our Spring conference night will be held on *February 20th from 3:00-8:00 p.m.* Parent-Teacher Conferences are an important opportunity to 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 Conference options. You can also request a conference. We encourage parent involvement! Thank you!



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

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Van Ayres

**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  
[www.hillsboroughschools.org/valrico](http://www.hillsboroughschools.org/valrico)

**Attendance Matters**  
*Make every day count!*  
School success starts with attendance!

# Florida VPK

Valrico Elementary is pleased to announce that we will be offering Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten for the 2025-2026 school year. We will be accepting 20 VPK children to join our ESE PEEPS 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 district mandated points system/waitlist. 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. **Registration forms will be available on Monday, February 3rd, 2025. Parents/Guardians must come in person to the office to complete and submit the form. Families who will be offered a seat will be notified via phone call on Friday, March 28, 2025.**

VPK children must be four by September 1, 2025 and be eligible (for the first time) to enter kindergarten in the Fall of 2026.

READY FOR  
**KINDERGARTEN**  
WITH READY FREDDY™

**February 24, 2025**  
**@ 4:30 PM**



Please join us on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 4:30PM in our Multipurpose Room for our Ready for Kindergarten event! Ready for Kindergarten is for families of students entering Kindergarten in the 2025-2026 school year. This informative meeting will go over what to expect as your child enters Kindergarten and introduce families to School Administration, Kindergarten Teachers, and other school support staff. The following documents are required to be brought in to complete the registration prior to the start of the 2025-2026 school year:

- ◆ Parent/Guardian ID
- ◆ Your child's birth certificate
- ◆ Two (2) forms showing Proof of Residence (valid State ID with current address, mortgage statement, purchase agreement, homestead exemption, a current utility bill, or current lease/rental agreement)
- ◆ Florida Physical Form
- ◆ Up-to-date Immunization Record

We look forward to meeting our incoming Valrico Hawks!

**DON'T FORGET!**

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

- Instruction begins **promptly at 7:40AM**. Please ensure that your student has enough time to get to class and be *in their homeroom seat at 7:40*. Students that are not in their homeroom at 7:40 will be marked tardy.
- If your student is tardy, a parent or guardian must escort them inside the building to sign in at the front office.
- Early sign outs **end at 1:15**.
- If you need to change your child's dismissal plan for the day, please send a note or call to let us know **no later than 1:15**. This helps to ensure that we are able to get your child to the requested dismissal destination.
- There are no other early release days until our last day of school on May 30, 2025. Dismissal is at 1:55 daily.

Thanks for your cooperation!

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

PLEASE LIMIT BIRTHDAY TREATS TO ONE ITEM PER STUDENT. ALL TREATS MUST BE STORE BOUGHT, INDIVIDUALLY PORTIONED (NO SHEET CAKES), AND HAVE AN INGREDIENTS LABEL. WE CANNOT ACCEPT GOODIE BAGS, BALLOONS, DRINKS, CANDLES, OR ANY OTHER DELIVERIES.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

**SAC**  
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is inviting you to nominate new members for the 2025-2026 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. Miranda by March 10 at [Bernice.Miranda@hcps.net](mailto:Bernice.Miranda@hcps.net).

scan for all things PTA!



Jubilee Tickets!  
Facebook!  
Instagram!  
Email Us!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

VALRICO ELEMENTARY

# JUBILEE

4PM-7PM

**INCLUDED IN ARMBAND PRICE:**

- ACCESS TO INFLATABLE SLIDES
- OBSTACLE COURSES
- JUMBO LAWN GAMES
- CARNIVAL GAMES & PRIZES
- FACE PAINTING
- BALLOON ARTIST
- MUSIC & DANCING
- CAKE WALK
- GLITTER TATOOS
- TEMPORARY TATOOS
- HAIR CHALK /COLOR
- SACK RACES
- HULA HOOPS
- COOKIES
- POPCORN
- WATER
- FUN WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

**PTA MEMBERS: \$10**  
**NON- MEMBERS: \$13**  
**AT THE DOOR: \$15**

PARENTS ARE FREE! CHILDREN 3 & UNDER ARE FREE!



**AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

- PARADISE SNOW CONES
- SILENT AUCTION 4:00PM-6:30PM

**CARNIVAL FOOD**

**CASH ONLY**

- PIZZA: \$2
- HOT DOGS \$1
- NACHOS \$1
- SOFT PRETZEL: \$1
- SODA: \$1
- WATER, POPCORN & COOKIE: FREE

February 11

**Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night!**

Reminder!  
Due to hurricanes Helene & Milton, there *is* school on February 14th and 17th!

HAPPY Valentine's Day!

## SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES WEEK

FEBRUARY 3-7

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our students, staff, and families, EVERY day!

KRISTEN CALDWELL, SOCIAL WORKER  
CHRISTY OLIVER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR  
MARIA ARZOLA, PSYCHOLOGIST



**IMPORTANT**

STATE FAIR

YES IS OPEN  
Friday, February 14  
Fair Day

**IMPORTANT**

PRESIDENT'S DAY

YES IS OPEN  
Monday, February 17  
President's Day

**IMPORTANT**

FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

YES IS CLOSED  
Monday, March 3  
Festival Day

**RACE FOR EDUCATION 2025**

Join HCPS at our 4th Annual Race for Education 5K on Saturday, April 12, 2025, as we move to improve mental and physical wellness while celebrating and supporting our students, teachers, and school district initiatives.

Runners and walkers of all ages and fitness levels, come out for a fun-filled race down North Boulevard and over the Hillsborough River. There will be giveaways, snacks, refreshments, student performances, and music to amp up our runners as they race through downtown.

To register visit [www.runsignup.com/Race/FL/Tampa/HEF5K](http://www.runsignup.com/Race/FL/Tampa/HEF5K)

**Kiwanis TERRIFIC KIDS**

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

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JANUARY TERRIFIC KIDS!**

Teachers recognize one student from each class every month in honor of positive character traits. The character trait is **Resilience**. "Getting back up when something gets you down"

Zoraia Turner	Jaseri Johnson	Easton Nething	Lazaro Rodriguez Jauregu
Lukas Reyes Vento	Lincoln Bockelman	Adalyn Swartz	Quentin Coney
Camilla Koovakada	Logan Grimaldi	Xaerion Henry	Nathalia Felipe Carmona
Enzo Cruz	Nikolai Jovanovic	Brekyn Golczynski	Charlotte Witzler
Aria Patram	Noemy Biondolillo	Carter Sweat	Liam Gamsky Hust
Griezmann Castillo Lopez	Amalia Velazquez	Reagan Mosley	Ilima Masri
Michael Brown	Korah Cole	Antonella Machado Salazar	Carson Way
Kaiyah Vinson	Truly Dandy	Taylor Combs	Iree Lugo
La'Mayah Lane	Rosalee Moore	Roderick VanCanon	Marco Ortega
Julie Caldwell			Chevy Gaab





# February



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>School Support Services Week</b> February 3 - 7, 2025 →						
 Groundhog Day	Grades 4 & 5 Chorus Practice 1:55—3:00 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 Art Club 1:55—3:00 p.m. SAC Meeting Virtual @ 2:20	Grades 4 & 5 Drumming Hawk Practice 1:55-3:00	REPORT CARDS AVAILABLE ONLINE	 HAPPY 100 <sup>TH</sup> Day of School	PTA Executive Board Meeting @ 9:45  LIGHTNING/NHL SPIRIT DAY	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Grades 4 & 5 Chorus Practice 1:55—3:00 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 Art Club 1:55—3:00 p.m.	 PTA Chick-fil-A Spirit Night 5:00—8:00 Grades 4 & 5 Drumming Hawk Practice 1:55-3:00	 STEM Fair @ The Convention Center for Applicable Students	Kindergarten Field Trip Last Day! PTA Jubilee Pre-Sale ENDS TODAY	 4-H Public Speaking Competition for Grades 4 & 5 Class Winners  HAPPY Valentine's DAY RED, PINK, OR HEARTS SPIRIT DAY	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Quarter 3 Progress Alerts sent home with students this week →	SCHOOL IS OPEN Gasparilla Pizza Spirit Day OPEN to CLOSE Jeremiah's Spirit Night 3:00—8:00  Grades 4 & 5 Chorus Practice 1:55—3:00 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 Art Club 1:55—3:00 p.m.	PreK/VPK Field Trip Gr. 4 Onsite Field Trip Grades 4 & 5 Drumming Hawk Practice 1:55-3:00		Conference Night 3:00-8:00 PM Lost & Found Items on Display	 ANIMAL PRINT SPIRIT DAY	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
	READY FOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION EVENT @ 4:30PM IN THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM  Grades 4 & 5 Chorus Practice 1:55—3:00 p.m. Grades 4 & 5 Art Club 1:55—3:00 p.m.	Grades 4 & 5 Drumming Hawk Practice 1:55-3:00	 March Newsletter posted on website		 PTA Jubilee 4:00PM—7:00PM  VES SPIRIT SHIRT DAY	