



American Prep-West Valley 1 Campus Newsletter August 28, 2023

Website @ <https://westvalley1.americanprep.org/>

Upcoming Calendar Items:

Every Wednesday	4th-6th Show-What-You-Know Assembly @ 8:15 am. Parents always welcome!
Every Thursday	K-3rd Show-What-You-Know Assembly @ 8:15 am. Parents always welcome!
Thursday, Aug 31	6th Grade Ambassador Event 12:25-2:50 (Parent volunteers appreciated!)
Friday, Sept 1	Spirit Day! Students can wear their APA Spirit Wear.
Monday, Sept 4	Labor Day / No school
Thursday, Sept 7	6th Grade Sandwich Making Service Project
Friday, Sept 8	Spirit Day! Students can wear their APA Spirit Wear.
Friday, Sept 8	"Lights On" Family/Community Event 3:30-5:30pm (Parent volunteer opportunities!)
Tuesday, Sept 12	Parent Empowerment Zoom 7-8pm (Internet and Cell Phone Safety)
Saturday, Sept 16	WVC's "My Hometown" Day of Service at our school. 8am-12 noon.
Sunday, Sept 17	Constitution Day
Tuesday, Sept 19	Reading the Constitution Day-Live Broadcast (WV1 @ 11am)
Tuesday, Sept 19	StemFest Free Family Night 4-8pm at Mountain America Expo Center
Wednesday, Sept 20	5th/6th Grade StemFest Field Trip
September 25-29	College Week! (Activities w/ the Character Development team)
Tuesday, Oct 3	4 th -6 th Grade Field Trips (Parent volunteer opportunity!)
Friday, Oct 6	Early Dismissal 12:15/12:35 (Grading Day)
Friday, Oct 6	Spirit Day! Students can wear their APA Spirit Wear.
October 9-13	White Ribbon Week (CD team leads activities on making healthy choices activities)
Tuesday, Oct 10	Parent Empowerment Zoom 7-8pm (Suicide Prevention)
Friday, October 13	End of 1st Term / Spirit Day
October 16-20	Fall Break / No School

Hello American Prep-West Valley 1 Families!

We have ten school days under our belt, and it is so clear that it is going to be a standout year at West Valley1! Your students are wonderful. Thank you for sharing them with us. They are working hard and thinking hard, attentive in their classes and ready to learn! They are stretching themselves to do hard things and we see their confidence and capabilities growing with each day. We are excited that each of you will be scheduling a two hour visit to the classroom during this first term to watch these amazing students in action.

Be sure to bring your families to "Lights On" on Friday, Sept 8. We will be celebrating 15 YEARS of West Valley 1! Aside from the many things to do—discovering community resources available to you, signing up for Friday Clubs, enjoying free food and free fun—aside from all that, it is such a great time to meet other parents in our APA community! The following week, we are thrilled to have our families and staff partner with WVC's "My Hometown" for a morning of service at our school! What a meaningful start to this memorable 15th year!



Spirit Days and Spirit Wear

Spirit Days are fun. On Spirit Days, students can wear spirit wear—their APA logoed t-shirts or sweatshirts. These tops are worn with the regular uniform pants or skirts. Please keep in mind this is not required—it is just optional fun that the students and staff enjoy! Students are always okay to wear their regular uniform on any day of the week. This year, Spirit Days will generally be on the first and third Friday of each month. But in September they will be on the 1st and 2nd Fridays. Spirit wear can be purchased on the APA online store. Currently, there are some styles available for only \$5—a great price! <https://www.americanprep.org/product-category/spirit-wear/>

Employment Opportunity at WV2

Parents - we need your help! We have a critical need for a food service employee in West Valley. Do you know someone who is interested in working part-time to help feed our students? We pay starting \$14.51 per hour up to \$16 per hour and employees work 5 hours per day (approx 8:30am-1:30pm). Bilingual preferred.

Email questions to lunch@apamail.org.

Live Broadcast: Reading the Constitution

The tradition of reading the Constitution as a school community continues this year. From 9am-2pm on September 19, there will be a reading done hourly at one of the APA campuses. Our West Valley 1 time is scheduled for 11:00 am. Students, staff and community members and leaders participate as readers. As part of our 15 year celebration, we would also like to include parents—representing our diverse cultures and the year you joined the APA family. If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Mrs. Leavitt at lleavitt@apamail.org.

Carpool Tip of the Week

We sometimes have to remind ourselves, during those first few astonishing days of carpool pickup, that, in reality, more than 95% of our parents are doing it right—perfectly and politely and patiently. You know the rules and follow the rules, you post your tag, you don't cut the line, you don't make left turns into the parking lot, you are courteous to the staff helping at carpool—you are doing it right! If you are in that 95% club—THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! If you are not part of that group yet—jump on in! Join the carpool majority! We hope you recognize the steady improvement that we've made together since the first day of school! Way to go team! It is starting to look...beautiful.

This particular tip is for parents picking up at 1st dismissal:

Fact: School dismissal time is 3:25/2:25.

Fact: The bell rings and the students are dismissed from class.

Fact: It takes a few minutes (2-3) for them to exit the building and walk to their pickup spots.

Fact: It takes about 5 minutes before the line of cars even starts to move.

So if you are short on time and don't want to wait in a parked line of cars, don't arrive earlier, arrive later. Plan your arrival to be between 3:30 and 3:40. The line will already be moving and your wait time will be significantly shorter. Just be sure to arrive before 3:45. At 3:45, the 2nd dismissal cars will start entering the parking lot to wait for their students' 3:50 dismissal time. After 3:45, you'll be waiting in a parked line again.

6th Grade Ambassador Event on Thursday

We are excited to announce our first ambassador event for our 6th graders. It's August 31st, Thursday, from 12:25pm to 2:50pm. The 6th graders will "Take Flight" on APA Airways and learn how to be the pilot of their own lives! They will go places like Hawaii, Italy, France, Rio de Janeiro, and Kansas learning great skills to become successful in life! If you would like to volunteer, we would love to have you! Please contact Ms. Jamie Jackson at jjackson@apamail.org. 6th grade parents—please remember to enter the parking lot after 2:45 on Thursday as you will be picking your students up during 2nd dismissal. Thank you!



5th Grade Ambassador Event - Success!

“Welcome Aboard the APA FriendSHIP” last Thursday with the 5th graders was a success! Students were able to practice and master very important skills about being a true friend. How to write a thank you note, meet and greet, navigate a reception line and ask intelligent questions were some of the lessons taught during this event. Thank you to all parents for your support by making sure your student could attend this event. Can't wait for the next one!

Parent/Student Handbook Highlight: Reading University

(P.41 in your hard copy. Also always available on the website under Parent Resources- <https://www.americanprep.org/parent-resources/>)

RU (Reading University) is APA's independent reading program. Independent reading has been shown to be a defining indicator in a student's lifetime academic success. It is our goal to create enthusiasm in students to read independently. We want our students to enjoy reading as entertainment, and also be able to read for information and to experience high quality literature. Students who complete a K-6 education at American Preparatory Academy will have read 180 books through the Reading University program!

RU Guidelines:

- Students should read independently or with a parent for 20+ minutes daily.
- Students read a specified number of books each term from the Reading University book list and according to their grade level requirements:
 - o Kindergarten – 8 books per term
 - o 1st Grade – 8 books per term
 - o 2nd Grade – 6 books per term
 - o 3rd Grade – 5 books per term
 - o 4th Grade – 3 books per term
 - o 5th Grade – 3 books per term
 - o 6th Grade – 3 books per term
- Books read are recorded on the “RU log” that will be provided by the teacher. This will be turned in each term for an RU grade. The report card grade for RU will reflect the number of books read and reported by the student each term.
- The RU book list can be found on our campus website under the dropdown “Resources” - Reading University.
<https://westvalley1.americanprep.org/>
- Students can check out books from the classroom library (these are all books from the RU list) or can get books from the local library using the Reading University book list.
- Students in all grades may count books that have been read to them outside of school. (Books read to students IN school do not qualify for RU.)
- Students may read books from the RU list at their grade level, one grade level below their level, or at any level above their grade level. Teachers can make modifications to this guideline as needed.
- Students are allowed to choose one book NOT on the RU list each term to count towards their RU total for the term.
- Students may re-read a book for credit, but not during the same school year.
- RU guidelines are adapted based on feedback from Parent Surveys.
- Students who meet their RU goals each term can participate in the “RU Store”.



Professional Qualifications (Week 1 of 4)

Our parent surveys consistently express confidence and overwhelming satisfaction with our teachers at American Prep. In accordance with state regulation, all APA teachers are licensed through one of three licensing paths: Professional, Associates and LEA specific. Parents are welcome at any time to request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers including: 1) whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction or whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; 2) the baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree; and 3) whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

How to Report “Donations”

Many parents wonder how to translate a “donation” into volunteer hours. Here’s a simple guide.

- Consider how many hours you would work to pay for that donation
- Consider the time you spent shopping, preparing, delivering etc.
- Add those up and report those as your volunteer hours!

Report Your Volunteer Hours and Donations (Included every week)

Thank you for your volunteer hours and donations! Please use this link to report them. It is included on the back of your carpool tag as well. Even if you’ve reached your 20 hours, please continue to report any additional hours. THANK YOU!

<https://forms.gle/WEMFz3JjkSc535Lb8>





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