

American Prep-West Valley 1: 801-839-3613 / Website @ <https://westvalley1.americanprep.org/>

Calendar *New dates added

- Every Wednesday 4th-6th Show-What-You-Know Assembly @ 8:15 am. Parents are always welcome!
- Every Thursday K-3rd Show-What-You-Know Assembly @ 8:15 am. Parents are always welcome!

- Tuesday, October 1 Sistema Group 1 Instrument Showcase @ 6:00 – Sistema Parents invited
- Wednesday, October 2 1st Grade Parent Event: “Teach Your Child to Read” 2-2:30pm
- Friday, October 4 Friday APA School Spirit Day
- Friday, October 4 12:15/12:35 Dismissal Day – Grading Day – No Sistema or Clubs
- Tuesday, October 8 1st-3rd Grade Field Trips *Volunteer Opportunity*
- Tuesday, October 8 Sistema Group 2 Instrument Showcase @ 6:00 – Sistema Parents invited
- Tuesday, October 8 Parent Empowerment Zoom-Suicide Prevention-7 pm.
- Thursday, October 10 4th-6th Grade Field Trips *Volunteer Opportunity*
- Friday, October 11 End of 1st Term – Report cards come home – Friday Clubs
- October 14-18 Fall Break – No School

Looking ahead to Term 2:

- Monday, October 21 Term 2 Begins
- Tuesday, October 22 12:15/12:35 Dismissal Day – Staff Professional Development
- Wednesday, October 23 School Picture Day
- **Friday, October 25*** **Free Adult English Classes Begin. Fridays @ 2:30-3:25**
- Tuesday, October 29 Sistema Group 3 Instrument Showcase @ 6:00 – Sistema Parents invited
- Monday, November 4 WV1 Veterans Day Program 1pm
- Wed/Thurs, November 6 & 7 Parent-Teacher Conferences 3-8pm (Signups will come after Fall Break)
- Friday, November 8 No School for Students

Hello American Prep-West Valley 1 Families!

October Builder Theme: I Am a Builder When I Demonstrate Integrity

“Integrity is choosing courage over comfort; choosing what is right over what is fun, fast, or easy; and choosing to practice our values rather than simply professing them.”

–Brené Brown

We look forward to this October month where we will be talking about and focusing on the important character trait of integrity. As I was previewing this week’s Character Development video about the treasure of integrity, I was struck by the quote that Ms. Jackson shared. “Integrity is choosing courage over comfort; choosing what is right over what is fun, fast, or easy; and choosing to practice our values rather than simply professing them.” What a thought-provoking definition of integrity! As builders, we strive to choose integrity!

12:15/12:35 Early Dismissal Day This Friday – Instructions for New Pickup Drivers

This Friday will be our first all-school early dismissal day. (Kindergarten parents started their year with 12:15 dismissals—so they are already pros—but it is a first time for many families!) A few reminders. If someone different than normal will be picking up your student, please thoroughly explain the rules and procedures of carpool:

- Make sure they know there is no parking and walking onto campus to meet a student—they need to stay in the car and follow the carpool pattern. Explain what lane they will follow and what they will do. Trust me on this...carpool isn’t the time to test anybody’s affinity for suspense and adventure.
- Tell your pickup driver that all cars must have a pick-up tag displayed to enter the parking lot. THEN REMEMBER TO GIVE THEM A PICK-UP TAG! (Come to the office before Friday if you need more.)
- 1st dismissal cars should arrive no later than 12:25.

- 2nd dismissal cars (pink, green or 2nd dismissal orange tags) will wait until 12:30 or until directed by a staff member to enter the parking lot. Please tell your 2nd dismissal pickup driver to not come early. They will be turned away—and that is confusing and frustrating. Many parents pull off to the side of Crystal to wait until the parking lot is open for 2nd dismissal. Encourage your driver to join that line if they are early.
- Lastly, remember to tell them there is no left turn into the parking lot during dismissal time. This causes congestion that prevents cars from leaving the parking lot—so that is a no go.

If you love and care about the person doing you the grand favor of picking your child up—be KIND. Be CONSIDERATE. Ensure they aren't tempted to disown you by thoroughly preparing them to be successful at this somewhat daunting task!

Preparing for Veterans Day

We love celebrating Veterans Day at American Prep—and our students are busy preparing for this special event coming up at the beginning of November. We hope you will join us in the celebration! Here are the things you will want to participate in and/or be aware of:

- **Veterans Day Reception & Assembly: *Monday, November 4, 12:15pm welcome reception, and 1:00pm assembly.*** At this special program, we honor and recognize the veterans of all the branches of our military. Each grade 1st-6th participates, preparing and performing special music numbers, poetry, speeches and special presentations for our honored veterans and their guests. **Your ticket into this special assembly is to INVITE a veteran to come.** Friends, family, neighbors—if you know a veteran, please invite them! And then accompany them! If you haven't experienced this event, FIND a VETERAN and ask them to come. They will appreciate your invitation and you will love the experience! If you ARE a veteran, please, please arrange your schedule to come! We would be so honored to have you attend. If our veterans are able to stay to visit in a classroom after the assembly, we always love that.
- **Honoring Veterans Essay Contest:** This annual essay contest is open to any 4th-6th grade student who would like to submit an essay. Three finalists will be chosen—and these three students will present their essays at the Veterans Day assembly. Details can be found at the end of the newsletter. (Note: All of our 5th graders participate as this essay is part of their writing curriculum.) ***Interested students should submit their essays to their homeroom teacher by Thursday, October 14.***
- **“My American Duty” Presentation:** Auditions for this special presentation will be held early next week. If your 4th-6th grade student is interested in auditioning, please encourage them to sign up this week and they will be given a part to practice and memorize for their audition. The signup sheet will be on the door of the main office.

- **Veterans Honor Wall:** Do you have a veteran neighbor, friend or family member that you want to honor for their service? Let us include them on our 2024 Veterans Honor Wall! This is where we fill the main hallway with photos of honored veterans special to our staff and students. It's quick and easy. Use the link or QR code to enter their info into the google form and upload an image of them. If you have any trouble with the form, you can also email your photo to Mrs. Leavitt @ lleavitt@apamail.org. If you shared photos last year, we have saved them and will put them up!



<https://forms.gle/UwDWicP6LRNS1b9dA>

Lunch Ordering Open—October thru May!

Lunches can be ordered online through May. Remember that all school meals must be pre-ordered. Our sack lunches are prepared off-site and we only receive enough meals for those who have placed an order.

- Go to <https://apalunch.h1.hotlunchonline.net/> to place your order
- [Detailed ordering instructions](#)

5th & 6th Grade Ambassador Events –Thank You!

This past month, both 5th and 6th grade enjoyed an afternoon of fun and learning with the character development team! Thank you to the parent volunteers who came and helped make these events a success.

6th grade had a blast at their “Take Flight” Ambassador event. They got to learn how to be the pilot of their own lives! They went to places like Hawaii, Italy, France, Rio de Janeiro, and Kansas learning great skills to become successful in life! Thank you, 6th graders for taking flight aboard APA Airways! Don't forget the world is in your hands!

5th grade's "Welcome Aboard the APA FriendSHIP" event was so much fun! 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 for this great event.

District Parent Information (Week 4 of 4)

District Parent and Family Engagement Policy

American Prep recognizes that parent and family engagement is key to student achievement. We provide many opportunities for parents and family members to participate in, and stay informed of, their student's academic achievement. American Preparatory Academy trains staff annually during pre-service and teacher academy on how to communicate, build meaningful connections, and otherwise involve parents/families and the school. These topics are reinforced during professional development opportunities throughout the year as needed.

Additional details regarding Parent and Family Engagement are available in the annual Parent-Student Handbooks (PSHB) which are distributed annually, posted on the school websites, and available in Spanish at our West Valley campuses. For the full District Parent and Family Engagement Policy, please refer to this [link](#) on the Policy page of the americanprep.org website.

School Parent and Family Engagement Policies

School Parent Involvement Policies vary slightly by campus and are located within the Parent-Student Handbooks <https://www.americanprep.org/parent-student-handbooks/>. These Handbooks are distributed annually to parents and are now accessible on the APA website under the Parent Library drop-down tab. West Valley Parent-Student Handbooks will be available in Spanish.

Professional Qualifications

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.

Mandated Assessments and Opt-Outs


American Preparatory recognizes that Standardized Testing is an essential tool for measuring student learning and teacher success. The data obtained from these assessments may be utilized by teachers and administrators to review student academic progress, plan instruction, and share with students and parents. Summative assessments allow for data to be used in public reporting about school quality. Parent's may opt-out of most state standardized tests by submitting a Parental Exclusion form to the Academic Director. You can learn more about the state assessments administered at American Prep and find the testing schedules for your student's campus by following this link: <https://www.americanprep.org/state-assessments/>.

In Case You Missed It...

Link to the livestream recording of our WV1 reading of the Constitution: <https://vimeo.com/event/4556726>

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- **Field Trip Chaperones:** Teachers will be reaching out to let you know of their chaperone needs. Remember you **MUST** have completed your fingerprinting with HR to help with a field trip. ***Please do not ask to attend the field trip unless you are coming as a chaperone and please do not bring younger children.*** You will want to be focused on the students you are in charge of.

- **Friday Club Day-Parent Volunteers to assist at Club Pickup time:** If your student participates in a club on Friday, could you volunteer to help direct and assist other parents during club checkout and pickup time? This would be from about 4:10-4:40. Thanks to those who have already volunteered! We could use about 8 more helpful parents for this busy time. Sign up here!
 <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0445ACA92DA0F49-51904267-volunteering>

Volunteering at APA (Every week!)

If you have volunteer hours for Term 1, please get them reported so we can include them in your Term 1 volunteer hours update that will come home with report cards! This link and QR code to report hours will be at the end of every newsletter.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScyME4JvB0ENKw80X_DuYQ7WhqbQWr3mj9f7Oenj2NadSk1Q/viewform





Opportunity for 4th-6th Grade Students!

American Preparatory Academy's
Annual Veterans Day Essay Contest

Students—we challenge you to take this opportunity to express your appreciation to our country's veterans and showcase your writing skill and talent. Three winners will be chosen to present their essay at this year's Veterans Day Assembly on Monday, November 4, 2024.

Essay Contest Guidelines

To participate in the 2024 Veterans Day Essay Contest for APA-WV1:

- Be a 4th-6th grade student at American Preparatory Academy-West Valley 1
- Write an original essay picking from one of the topics below
- Submit only one essay per person
- Submit your typed essay to your teacher on or before **Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024 @ 4:00 pm.** You can share this as a google doc also.

Essay Topics

- **A tribute to our nation's veterans.** This may include:
 - o Why I am grateful for our nation's veterans...
 - o I enjoy many freedoms because of our veterans...
 - o Ordinary citizens can honor a veteran by...
 - o Why I feel it is important we celebrate Veterans Day...
- **A tribute to a special veteran**
 - o Write your essay about a veteran who has special significance to you. You may include photos if you have them. In your introduction and conclusion, include a tribute to all veterans.

Judging Criteria

Entries will be judged by APA Administration. Judging criteria will include:

- Power of the message in the essay
- Clarity of thought and expression
- Correct spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Ability of the essay to be modified to a speech

Remember: Submit your essay by Thursday, October 10 by 4:00pm.

BE A PART OF SOMETHING GREAT!