



American Prep-West Valley 1 Campus Newsletter January 15, 2021

CALENDAR	
Monday, Jan 18	No School—Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tuesday, Jan 19	12:15 Dismissal Day (Staff Prof. Development) 12:15-12:35 pickup
Tuesday, Jan 19-26*	UCA Governing Board Meeting 7-9 pm. * Date change
Jan 20-22	Classroom spelling bees for 1 st -3 rd
Friday, Jan 22	Midterm Work Deadline
Tuesday, Jan 26	School Spelling Bees. 1 st -3 rd @ 8:30 / 4 th -6 th @ 9:40
Monday, Feb 1	Reading University Logs for Term 3 due
Thursday, Feb 4	5 th Grade Ambassador “Western Round Up” Event 12:15-2:45
Wednesday, Feb 3	Spirit Wear Store during Carpool! *
Friday, Feb 5	1 st Friday! Spirit Day! Wear your APA spirit wear!
Friday, Feb 5	Term 3 Work Deadline
Friday, Feb 5	12:15 Dismissal Day (Grading Day) 12:15-12:35 pickup
Thursday, Feb 11	6 th Grade Ambassador “Western Round Up” Event 12:15-2:45
Friday, Feb 12	End of Term 3 / Report Cards come home
Feb 15-19	No School—Mid Winter Break
	*New additions to this newsletter calendar list
Electronic calendar can be accessed on the website @ http://westvalley1.americanprep.org/ Facebook page: https://facebook.com/americanprepWV/	

January Builder Theme:

I am a builder when I think positive thoughts about myself and others.

"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change the way you think about it." This phrase is one many of us are familiar with! It is a great way to remind ourselves that changing the way we think about something can have a big impact in our lives. Learning to analyze and improve our thinking and our self-talk will help us all to direct our lives in a positive path.

This week we continue to work on teaching students how to change their thoughts, to choose their thoughts, and to pay attention to their “self-talk”. Next month, we will talk about how our words follow our thoughts and reflect what we are thinking, for good or for ill. We must first focus on having positive thoughts, which will then lead to positive words, and then to positive actions. Join us in this worthy endeavor of improving our thoughts and developing reasoned responses! We are excited about the opportunity to focus specifically on thinking positive thoughts about ourselves and others throughout the month of January!



Reminder about Coats and Boots

Please be sure your student has a coat with them each day! The weather is currently too cold for wearing just a sweater or sweatshirt outside and your students *are* going outside for recess daily. We have had so little snow that boots haven't been needed often, but just a reminder that if students bring snow boots to wear outside, they should have their black shoes to change into for wearing inside. If girls choose to wear dress boots as part of their uniform, they must be all black—like their shoes.

Carpool Update

It was satisfying to watch carpool run smoother and smoother each day last week after implementing the changes in the article below. THANK YOU to everyone for your help in making it work. Here are some standout observations:

- The first two days of our carpool tweaks definitely identified the newsletter readers from the newsletter non-readers, lol. Thank you for being a newsletter reader!
- Students *must* know their carpool numbers! All students—even if they walk home and even if they are part of the afterschool program—need to know their carpool number.
- Mrs. Leavitt and Ms. Gamez have been quizzing them on their carpool numbers at lunch time and will continue to do so this week. (They are earning tickets for class prizes.)
- You must have your pink or green, current year carpool tag visible during carpool. If you don't have your current carpool tag, please contact the front office for a replacement.
- About morning carpool—using the full length of the curb is only helpful if every car pulls all the way forward before dropping off their students. Students can enter through any door from 7:50-8:15. Also, if at all possible, please stay in the car. It is fastest when the driver doesn't get out.
- Afternoon carpool—thank you West Valley City for grading the shoulder and trimming back the weeds and making it perfectly possible to use the shoulder as a lane for the 300-500 green team! With this additional “lane” be sure that you are trying to stay as far right as possible (both pinks and greens) so we are still allowing space for non-APA cars in the neighborhood to travel east.
- If you are picking up greens AND pinks, please email Ms. Gamez so we can get your carpool students in the same color so they are waiting on the same side of the school for you.
- Please don't walk up to get your students. If your students have walking passes, please park on a side street and let them walk off campus to meet you. If they don't have walking passes, please use the regular carpool process to pick them up.
- There is no left turn into the parking lot during carpool times. It might seem like an amazing idea to beat the carpool line...but it is a bad idea. A very bad idea. It blocks the road for exiting parents and makes the parents waiting in line incredulous and a little crazy. No left turns.
- We actually don't have procedures in place to help people shortcut the carpool process—***except one***: volunteer to take numbers like the parent you've seen doing it for many months. (She has *way more* than her 20 hours of volunteer time and would be happy to turn this opportunity over to someone new!) Your number is listed first on the carpool list



(because you get to put it there) and you are given a reserved parking spot in the staff parking lot so you can make a quick getaway. Please email Mrs. Leavitt if you would like to take this volunteer opportunity for a few weeks or a few months or just one day a week—it takes only about 15-20 minutes a day (depending on how fast you walk.)

The carpool information below is the same as last week, included again just in case you missed it.

Changes to Carpool Procedures (Week 2 of 2)

We will be introducing some changes to carpool next week. Please read through this information and share it with anyone who drops off or picks up your students.

Morning Carpool:

- **Same:** Doors open for students at 7:50 am. Students dropped off between 7:30-7:50 will remain outside with a staff member until the doors are opened. There is no supervision before 7:30.
- **Same:** In the morning there is just one line of traffic. Stay to the right and follow the line to the curb.
- **Different:** Pull forward as far as you can before stopping—even *past the cross walk*.
- **Same:** Have your students ready to get out of the car quickly as soon as you are stopped on the curb. *Please do not wait to get closer to a particular door*. Just unload where you stop.
- **Same:** Students can use whichever door is closest to where they're dropped off. After 8:15, students will need to enter through the main door.
- **Same:** Unless you have business in the school, please do not park or walk your student in. Never drop your student off in the parking lot. They are safest dropped off at the curb.
- **Different:** If you do have business in the school, please use the *south crosswalk*. The main crosswalk will not be used during either morning or afternoon carpool.

Afternoon Carpool:

- **Same:** Afternoon carpool has two lines. 1-299s have pink carpool tags and pull into the left lane. 300-599s have green carpool tags and pull into the right lane.
- **Same:** All cars picking up must have their 2021 APA carpool tag posted. Throw out your old tags and get/use your new ones.
- **Same:** Share tags with all drivers that will be picking up your student. **Hint:** Take a picture of your carpool tag with your phone so that, in an emergency, you will at least have that to share.
- **Different:** When students come out of the building, they will watch for their car in a *designated area by carpool number*. When they see their car pull up, they can walk to it.
- **Same:** Your students need to know what their carpool number is.
- **Different:** If a student is slow to come to their car, staff will call out carpool numbers—not names. Please let your children know what their jobs are—watching and listening. ☺
- **Different:** We will be working with teachers on a fun incentive for students who are *doing their jobs* of watching for their car and waiting in the correct spot. You might come up with an incentive too—like, for example, five minutes of game time *with you* if they *save you time* by being at the car door within 30 seconds of you pulling up to the curb. A win for



everyone!

- **Same:** Dismissal time is 3:25...but *pick up time is between 3:25-3:45 pm.* (2:25-2:45 on early days.) **Hint: Your wait time will be much shorter if you plan to come towards the end of the pickup time instead of at the beginning.**

Virtual Judges Needed for Charter District Science Fair (Week 3 of 3)

We have six finalists who will be moving on to the Charter District Science Fair! ***Our campus has been asked to provide 2 volunteer judges to help with virtual judging for the Charter District Fair on February 5 from 10 am – 1 pm.*** If you are interested in judging, please contact Mrs. Leavitt (lleavitt@apamail.org) and she will share the registration information.

Early Checkouts—Reminder and Update (Week 3 of 3)

Just a reminder that absences, tardies AND early checkouts are all recorded and tracked. We teach bell-to-bell and your student is missing out on content and learning—even in the last few minutes of the day. To help minimize disruption to the learning happening during the end of the day, we have updated our Parent-Student regarding early checkouts. ***No checkouts will be made during the last 25 minutes of school.*** If it is absolutely essential that you pick up your student early, please be sure you arrive at the school prior to 3:00pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays or 2:00 pm on Wednesdays or Thursdays. Students will not be checked out after that time.

Need ALMA Grading Program Help?

Are you checking your student's grades weekly? Please call or email Mrs. Melanie Ferlo (mferlo@apamail.org) or Ms. Brenna Wiscombe (bwiscombe@apamail.org) in the Academic Office if you need help with the ALMA grading program.

Volunteer Update!

Thank you to all the parents who are creatively finding ways to contribute to the school! You have donated your used uniforms, provided supplies for culminating activities, cut and glued and colored, donated to your teacher's treasure box, judged for science fair, graded papers, attended "virtual" meetings and viewed videos, chaperoned for field trips, taken numbers for carpool—all of these things have been a great benefit to the school and should be reported on the volunteer form (link below!) So far, we've had 339.5 hours reported...but we know there are far more happening! Please don't be shy! These numbers help us to show our parent involvement when we are qualifying for grants—so please be sure to report yours!

Reporting Your Volunteer Hours



Please use this google form link or scan the QR code to report your volunteer hours:
<https://forms.gle/BM4czREG5qKbiPicA>



Report Your
Volunteer Hours