

A View from the Valley

Palm Valley Academy: Week of 8/19 – 8/23

Dear PVA Families,

One full week the books (for most) and what a great start we have had. As we settle into our routines at school and at home, I'm extremely encouraged to see how hard everyone is working and the continual effort they put forth during what has no doubt been a successful first week to a school year. In just a couple of days, I have seen continual improvement, problem solving, and the overcoming of obstacles across settings. This is a testament to the resolute dedication and commitment to the educational process that is being shown by our teachers, school support staff, students, and parents. I can say without hesitation that PVA is a great place and that you, along with the individuals inside the building, make all the difference. With that in mind, we will celebrate our successes, admit our mistakes, and continue to get better, heart-first and mission bound to **P**ursue excellence, **V**alue all, and **A**chieve success. Thank you all for such a great start!

Please take time to review the below information, reminders and upcoming events.

Until next weekend, take care and Go BOBCATS!

INFO FOR ALL (K-8)

Arrival Reminders/Updates

- The carline is open for arrival between 8:05am and 8:35am
 - Early Arrivals (PRIOR TO 8:05): If you arrive prior to 8:05am, students must stay inside their vehicles as staff members are NOT in their duty spots and ready to welcome students.
 - Late Arrivals (8:35am-8:45am): Students and teachers must be allotted time to get to their classes by 8:40am for the day to begin. Thus, starting at 8:35am, the carline will be shut down (cars already in the line will be unloaded by staff), the middle gate will be opened and cars will be ushered over to the bus loop where students will unload, be given a tardy slip and head onto class. Parents, for these first couple of weeks, we will also hand you a TARDY ALERT flyer as a gentle reminder to the arrival times. As a parent, I certainly understand tough mornings are a part of life and that's ok, but when at all possible its important students are on campus and in class prior to the first bell. Thank you for your support and understanding.
 - Arriving past 8:45am: The school staff has obligations and must be in the building by 8:45am. Any cars arriving after 8:45am will need to park and walk students in the front office.

- Car-tags MUST BE DISPLAYED UNTIL STUDENTS ARE IN YOUR VEHICLE and should be written in the following way: GRADE LEVEL, FIRST, LAST NAME.

Example: 2nd Bobby Bobcat

If you have more than one student please list them individually

- Students MUST enter and exit on the passenger side of the vehicle.
- Adults MUST remain in vehicles at all times.

Dismissal Reminders/Updates

Please review the RAINY DAY DISMISSAL/HOLD Procedures (can be found on the PVA homepage within the July Summer Communications and below). As these summer storms continue to roll in, rest assured we will continue to monitor the skies and communicate any change in dismissal AS SOON AS possible each day. Remember, PLEASE have your tag labeled and displayed until all kids are in your car – Rainy day or not. Thank you!

RAINY DAY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

2024 - 2025

RAINY DAY HOLD vs. RELEASE

What you need to know...

Rainy day dismissals require an all-hands on deck approach, in which we will all need to work diligently to ensure students get home safe and sound. This is not an ideal dismissal scenario, but by working together, all students **will** get home as safely and quickly as possible. We appreciate your patience and support as we work to accomplish this feat.

There are TWO different types of Rainy Day Dismissals that we will use at PVA. One for passing weather and another for severe, sustained weather. Depending on local skies, administration will make the call to do one or the other by 2:40 p.m. if at all possible. A school messenger will be sent out announcing the dismissal changes (BE SURE YOU ARE SIGNED UP AND RECIEVEING TEXT ALERTS VIA SCHOOL MESSENGER). Please read and become familiar with BOTH types of Rainy Day Dismissals and prepare as necessary.

RAINY DAY HOLD:

A **Rainy Day HOLD** will be called when inclement weather is in the area but looks to be quickly passing. If this is called, all bridge goers will be held within the building. Once the weather lightens and it is safe for student travel, the hold will be lifted and students will be able to dismiss as normal. In a HOLD, students will go home as planned, they will just be **delayed**. A school messenger will be communicated to parents both when the Rainy Day HOLD is placed and when it is lifted. **No check-outs will occur at this time.**

RAINY DAY RELEASE:

A **Rainy Day RELEASE** will be called when inclement weather is in the area and looks to be long lasting. If this is announced, all BIKER/WALKER/GOLF CART students will be held within the building and **EVERYONE** will become a car rider. The bridge gates will remain locked and closed, as NO walk-up check-outs will be allowed. A school messenger will be communicated to parents when a Rainy Day RELEASE is announced (no later than 2:40 p.m.) so arrangements can be made for student pick-up. **AGAIN, THERE WILL BE NO BRIDGE ACCESS WHEN A RAINY DAY RELEASE IS CALLED AND ALL STUDENTS WILL BE CAR RIDERS.** Please make sure you have your students name and grade level on your dashboard, along with your ID.

****In the event of Rainy Day Hold or Release, please be attentive to all School Messenger alerts and messages****

Cell Phones/Smart Watches

It is a state mandate and SJCSD Policy that all cellphones and smartwatches are off and away during instructional blocks during the school day. Students may have phones/watches out upon arrival and dismissal, but they must be turned off and put away at all other times. The only exception to this is the middle school policy, which allows phones/watches to be on during transitions.

- Elementary (K-5): ALL Phones and Smart Watches are off and in their backpacks at all time.
- Middle School (6-8): Students will turn-off phones/watches and place in their backpacks, or in the teachers provided pocket chart, where they will stay until students are dismissed. Additionally, ONE EAR BUD may be used during arrival and dismissal, but off and away at any other point of the day. **STUDENTS MAY NOT KEEP PHONES ON THEIR PERSON DURING INSTRUCTIONAL BLOCKS!**

We kindly ask that parents continue to assist us in discussing appropriate cell phones use regarding restrooms, pictures/videos, and social media. We appreciate your support and understanding.

PVA Curriculum Chats

Elementary Curriculum Chat- Tuesday, August 27th @ 5:00-8:00pm

Middle School Curriculum Chat- Thursday, August 29th – Details to follow

A Note from Deputy Wilson

Welcome back Bobcats! I'm so excited to be back at PVA, I missed you guys during the summer. I wanted to share a couple of reminders with each of you to get us back into good, safe habits.

- Remember to always wear your helmet if you're riding a bike, scooter or skateboard.
- Look both ways before crossing the street and use the crosswalk if one is provided.
- Never get into a car with someone you don't know and don't accept gifts or candy from strangers.

I look forward to another great year of fun and learning with each of you.

Your friend,

Deputy Wilson

GRADE SPECIFIC INFO (K-8)

Middle School Transitions/Book-Bags (6-8)

As your students begin to dig into the curriculum, their backpacks and belongings are going to become more and more cumbersome. Please remind students to clean out backpacks as often as necessary and to make use of their lockers. Just a reminder, locker information (including combinations) have been assigned and are uploaded on HAC for student access.

Middle School Volleyball Try-outs (6-8)

Sign-ups for try-outs are posted on the school website under the Athletics tab
ALL STUDENTS MUST BE SIGNED UP TO PARTICIPATE.

- Girls Tryouts: Mon. August 19th, with call backs on Tuesday, August 20th.
- Boys Tryouts: Won't be until next week. Info to come.

PTO HAPPENINGS (ALL GRADES)

- Please join us Wednesday, August 21st for our first GENERAL PTO MEETING OF THE YEAR @ 6:00pm in the PVA Café.
- The PVA Apparel Store Opens TOMORROW (8/21) for only a short period of time! Updated link to be sent by PTO soon!
- PVA Families!! We're excited to announce a fundraiser/competition to kick off the school year! DOME Headwear has designed some amazing PVA hats and is making a very generous donation to PVA of \$10 for every hat sold. **The GRADE that sells the most hats wins a PIZZA PARTY!**
 - This year, we are also offering some styles other than PVA hats, but please note, only PVA hats can be worn on Fridays. Make sure to get yours before the store closes August 30th!

<https://www.domeheadwear.co/pva-store-2024>

UPCOMING DATES OF NOTE:

- Monday, August 19th
 - Girls Volleyball Tryouts – See Coach Henson for details
- Tuesday, August 20th
 - Girls Volleyball Tryouts CALL BACKS – See Coach Henson for details
- Wednesday, August 21st
 - PTO GENERAL MEETING @ 6:00pm in the PVA Café

That's all for now Bobcats. Have a great week!

Respectfully,

Zach