

PVA: This Week's A View From the Valley (8/17 - 8/23)

3 files • Zachary Strom • 24 minutes ago • Monday, Aug 17 at 2:14 PM • **Palm Valley Academy**

A View From the Valley

Palm Valley Academy 8/17 - 8/23



Good afternoon, Bobcat Families,

One week down, and we are already beginning to settle into the rhythm of another great year at PVA! The first week is always filled with excitement, new routines, new friendships, and plenty of adjustments, and I could not be more proud of how our students and staff have started the year.

As we head into Week Two, our focus begins shifting from learning routines to really getting down to the business of learning, growing, and making every day count.

I also recognize that our weekly newsletter can sometimes feel like A LOT of information, especially at the beginning of the year. However, there is important and necessary information included each week, so I encourage you to take a few minutes to look through it. Our goal is to keep everything you need in one place and, hopefully, cut down on the number of individual emails coming your way.

Moving forward, I will do my best to have **A View from the Valley** in your inbox each Sunday, and certainly no later than Monday. Consider it your weekly look ahead at everything happening in the Valley! Thank you for your continued patience, flexibility, and partnership. We've had a fantastic start, and we're just getting started!

Here's to another GREAT week in the Valley!

Go Bobcats! 🐾

Mr. Strom

Principal, Palm Valley Academy

PVA Vision Statement

Building purposeful leaders where everyone shines through achievement.

We **P**ursue Excellence.

We **V**alue All.

We **A**chieve Success.

We are PVA!

INFO FOR ALL K-8

PTO, PTO, PTO!!

Palm Valley Academy and the PVA PTO share the same vision for success, which is only accomplished by leaning and relying on the strength of everyday working relationships between students, parents and staff. The effort the parent-members, chair-members, and board members put forth daily to support our students, staff and school is nothing less than extraordinary. On behalf of everyone here at PVA, we sincerely thank all our PTO members who work so hard year-round to ensure a safe and educationally enriched environment here at PVA. **Please consider joining our PTO HERE!!!**

PVA Open House (Curriculum Chats) – Save the Dates!

We invite our PVA families to join us for Curriculum Chat, an opportunity to follow your child's schedule, visit classrooms, meet teachers, and learn more about the curriculum, expectations, and learning ahead this year!

Middle School Curriculum Chat: Thursday, August 27

Elementary Curriculum Chat: Tuesday, September 8

Additional details and schedules will be shared as we get closer to each event. We look forward to seeing you! 🐾

Prepared

Respectful

Inspired

Determined

PVA

Middle School

CURRICULUM CHAT

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH

HR

Doors open at 5:30pm
5:30-5:40 Transition to 1st Period Class

01

1st Period
5:40-5:50

02

2nd Period
5:55-6:05

03

3rd Period
6:10-6:20

04

4th Period
6:25-6:35

05

5th Period
6:40-6:50

06

6th Period
6:55-7:05

07

7th Period
7:10-7:20

Follow your student's schedule and meet their teachers.
Friendly reminder - paper schedules will not be provided. Schedules are available on HAC.

Engaged

Prepared

Respectful

Inspired

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

Getting Off to a Great Start! A NOTE FROM OUR COUNSELORS

The start of a new school year can be met with a lot of excitement, apprehension and anxiety...Here are some tips and reminders to help your children transition to a new school year and develop resiliency throughout the year:

- 1. Encourage Open Communication:** Talking about feelings helps children understand and express their emotions. Ask about their day, listen without judgment, and validate their feelings. Let them know it's okay to feel nervous, excited, or unsure.
- 2. Set Realistic Expectations:** Setting achievable goals helps children feel capable and boosts self-esteem. Celebrate small wins, whether it's mastering a new skill, making a new friend, or completing an assignment. Praise effort over perfection.
- 3. Model Problem Solving and Coping Strategies:** Children learn resilience by seeing how their parents handle challenges. Share age-appropriate stories of when you've faced setbacks, how you overcame them and how you didn't shy away from a challenge.
- 4. Promote a Growth Mindset:** Focusing on effort and learning rather than outcomes helps build resilience. Use language like "You didn't get it this time, but you can try again" or "Mistakes are a part of learning." Encourage them to embrace challenges.
- 5. Provide Emotional Support (without trying to save them):** When we see our children struggle, it is tempting to want to take their discomfort away. However, by giving children space to experience discomfort while you provide emotional validation, it boosts their self-confidence and helps them feel safe and secure. Acknowledge their anxieties about school and offer reassurance. Let them know they can count on you for support, no matter what happens.
- 6. Create a Positive Environment for Learning:** A dedicated space to study and be creative builds focus and reduces distractions. Set up a quiet and organized study area. Keep supplies accessible and encourage a positive, distraction-free atmosphere for homework or reading.
- 7. Teach Time Management:** Learning to prioritize tasks and manage time helps build independence and reduces stress. Use planners or digital apps to organize schoolwork and extracurricular activities. Teach how to break tasks into smaller steps to avoid feeling overwhelmed.
- 8. Talk About Failure in a Positive Light:** Resilient students understand that failure is part of life and help them grow. When they face setbacks, discuss what they learned from the experience and how they can approach the next challenge differently.
- 9. Encourage Healthy Sleep Habits:** Adequate sleep enhances mood, focus, and the ability to handle stress. Stick to a consistent bedtime, avoid screen time before bed, and ensure they have a calming pre-sleep routine.
- 10. Stay Connected with Teachers and School Staff:** Knowing the school environment and building a relationship with educators makes kids feel supported.

Attend parent/teacher meetings, stay in touch via email, and volunteer if possible. This shows children the importance of community involvement.



State Testing Begins This Week

Our **first round of state testing begins this week!** Please take a moment to review the **testing calendars below** for important dates and grade-level assessments.

On testing days, please help your Bobcat arrive **on time, well-rested, and ready to do their best!** As always, we encourage our students to work hard, take their time, and **show what they know!** 🐾

2026 AUGUST	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10 First Day of School	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18 2nd Grade Reading	19 2nd Grade Math	20	21	22
	23	24 1st Grade Reading	25	26 1st Grade Math	27 Kindergarten Early Literacy	28 Kindergarten Math	29
	30	31	**Assessment Calendar is subject to change. Make-up exams will be given as soon as possible upon a student's return to school.**				

2026 SEPTEMBER	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	30	31	1 5th Grade Reading	2	3 3rd Grade Reading	4 Middle School Reading	5
	6	7 Holiday	8	9	10 3rd Grade Math	11	12
	13	14 4th Grade Reading	15 5th Grade Math	16	17 4th Grade Math	18 Middle School Math	19
	20	21	22	23	24 Last Day to Test	25	26
	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	**Assessment Calendar is subject to change. Make-up exams will be given as soon as possible upon a student's return to school.**					

Elementary Info (K-5)

Important Food & Celebration Guidelines

As we begin the school year, we want to remind families of an important guideline regarding food brought onto campus for classroom celebrations.

Homemade food items are NOT permitted for distribution to students. Any food or treats brought in to be shared with a class must be **commercially prepared, store-bought, and in the original packaging with ingredient information available.**

When planning birthdays or other classroom celebrations, please also keep the following in mind:

- Please communicate with your child's teacher **in advance** before sending any treats or food items.
- Teachers must remain aware of **student allergies and dietary restrictions** within their classrooms.
- **Non-food celebration items** such as pencils, stickers, or other small items are always a great alternative and encouraged!
- Classroom celebrations should remain **simple and minimally disruptive to instructional time.**

These guidelines help us celebrate our Bobcats while keeping the **health and safety of all students** at the forefront. Thank you for your understanding and partnership!



Middle School Info (6-8)

Middle School Transitions/Book-Bags

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 if a locker was requested. If one wasn't and your student would like one, please have them reach out to Ms. Fennelly.

Once a Bobcat, Always a Bobcat...

Calling All 8th Grade Families! 🐾

This year's 8th graders are a very special group—the **first class to have the opportunity to attend PVA from Kindergarten through 8th grade!** To commemorate this milestone, families have the opportunity to purchase a personalized brick, an 8th Grade banner, or a bundle including both.

Whether your student has been a Bobcat since kindergarten or this is their first year at PVA, EVERYONE is welcome to participate!

- **Personalized Brick:** \$150 – includes installation near our flagpole
- **Brick + Banner Bundle:** \$190
- **8th Grade Banner:** \$60 – personalized and displayed around campus

Please see the flyer below and **scan the QR code to place your order.**

We can't wait to celebrate the **Class of 2027** and leave a lasting mark for this incredibly special group of Bobcats!

Once a Bobcat, Always a Bobcat! 💙💛🐾

ONCE A
BOBCAT,
ALWAYS
A BOBCAT

CALLING ALL 8TH GRADE FAMILIES!

We want to celebrate and commemorate your 8th grader on being a part of the very **FIRST CLASS TO ATTEND K-8TH GRADE AT PVA.**

We are offering a commemorative brick and banner as a way to celebrate this group of students.

**BUY A
PERSONALIZED BRICK**
\$150.00
(INCLUDES INSTALL)
• Personalized brick with student name
• Installed in front of our flagpole

**BUNDLE
BRICK + BANNER**
\$190.00
(BRICK AND BANNER)
• Personalized brick (includes install)
• Personalized banner displayed around campus

BANNER ONLY
\$60.00
• Personalized banner displayed around campus

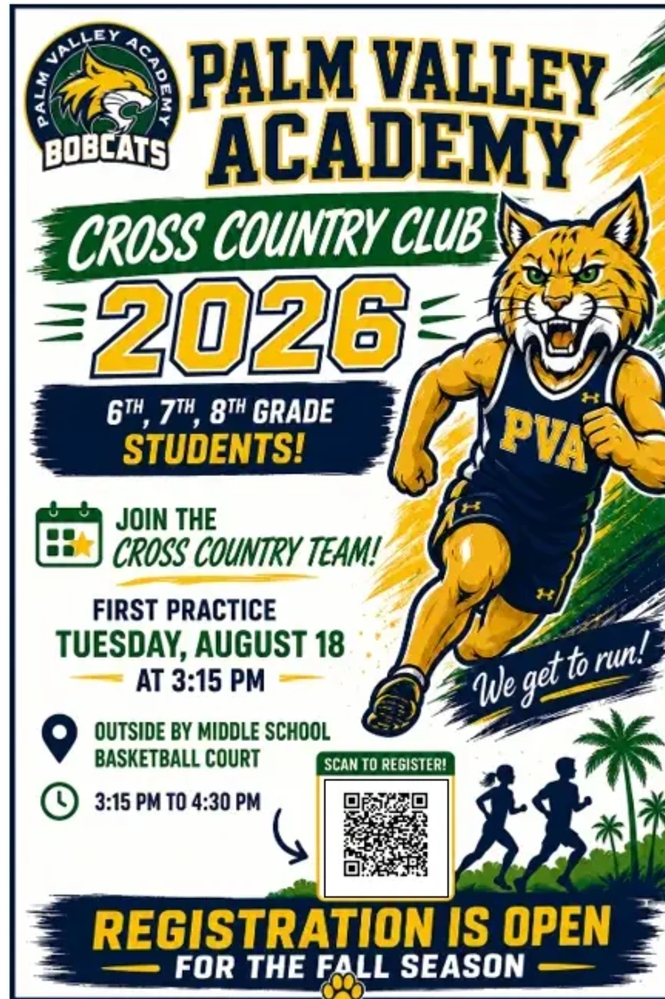
Whether you've been here since kindergarten or this is your first year attending, **EVERYONE IS WELCOME.**

8TH GRADE 2027
**FIRSTNAME
LASTNAME**
PALM VALLEY ACADEMY

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
ORDER YOUR BRICK
AND/OR BANNER TODAY!
[Google Form](#)

https://www.parentsquare.com/feeds/84560140?media=print

12/17



All Things PTO!

Show Your Bobcat Pride – PVA Spirit Store!

Stock up on your favorite **PVA gear** and show your Bobcat pride all year long! Our **PVA Spirit Store** has apparel and spirit items for students, families, and staff.

Whether you're getting ready for **Spirit Fridays, sporting events, or just want to represent PVA around town**, we've got you covered!

Visit the PVA Spirit Store [HERE](#) and gear up today!   

1st PTO Meeting of the Year - JOIN US!

Join us for our **first PVA PTO meeting of the 2026–2027 school year** this **Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.** The agenda is below and a virtual link will be sent the morning of. We'd love to see our returning families and welcome some new faces as we kick off another great year of supporting our students, staff, and school community.

We hope to see you there! 💙💛



PVA PTO
General Meeting
AUGUST 19, 2026

Let's kick off THE NEW YEAR together!

Join us
FOR COFFEE AND LIGHT PASTRIES
AS WE KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR!

- 1** Principals Comments – Mr. Strom
- 2** Web Kids – Let's talk about this year's WEB Program!
- 3** Bobcat Bolt Purchasing
- 4** Upcoming Events
 - a. Book Fair – Mare G
 - b. Bingo – Brittany Pavlock
 - c. Believe Kids Fundraiser – Tiffany Fisher
- 5** Volunteer Opportunities and Sign Ups
- 6** Sign Ups still pending
 - a. Pride Rock
 - b. 8th Grade Bricks and Banners
 - c. Spirit Shop/Class Shirt Shop
 - d. Bobcat Brigade
- 7** Upcoming Events
 - a. Candy Drive for Trunk or Treat – Starts October 5th
 - b. Fall Festival – October 25th
 - c. Red Ribbon Week – October 26-30
- 8** Open Forum/ Input/Suggestions

Together,
WE ACHIEVE SUCCESS!



Dates of Note

This Week:

Tuesday, August 18th

- 2nd Grade Reading STAR Test

Wednesday, August 19th

- 2nd Grade Math Test
- PTO General Meeting @ 9:00am in Cafe
- Early Release

Thursday, August 20th

- MS BOYS VOLLEYBALL TRYOUTS

On the Radar:

Monday, August 24th

- 1st Grade Reading Test
- MS Girls Volleyball Tryouts

Tuesday, August 25th

- MS Girls Volleyball Tryouts

Wednesday, August 26th

- 1st Grade Math Test
- Early Release

Thursday, August 27th

- Kindergarten Reading Test
- MS Curriculum Chats 5:30-7:30pm

Friday, August 28th

- Kindergarten Math Test

That's all for this week!

Sincerely,

Zach Strom
PVA School Principal



Thank you to our Partners in Education

Platinum Partners



Gold Partners



Silver Partners



Interested in partnering to support our Bobcats? Contact Michelle Lockwood at partnerspvapto@gmail.com.