

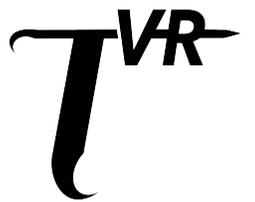


Valeo Academy
2500 Beverly Rd
Hoffman Estates, IL 60192



THE
THANKSGIVING
EDITION

THE VALOR REPORT
SCHOOL NEWSPAPER



Volume 1, Issue 3



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A LETTER FROM THE JUNIORS & SENIORS

Hey there!

This is the 3rd issue of the Valor Report and we enjoy seeing you read each month's edition. Thanksgiving is right around the corner, and we are so grateful for our fellow students and faculty. Thank you for all the awesome feedback and support. Read this month's issue to learn about the latest holiday trends, interviews from our student body, opinion pieces, and more.

SINCERELY,

Zoe Bates
Marco Rodriguez
Andrew Cleghorn
Miles Vang
Cesar Arreola
Andrew Jackson
Ashley Vega

The Valor Report provides complete, accurate, and creative content. Our school newspaper is student driven, produced, and edited.

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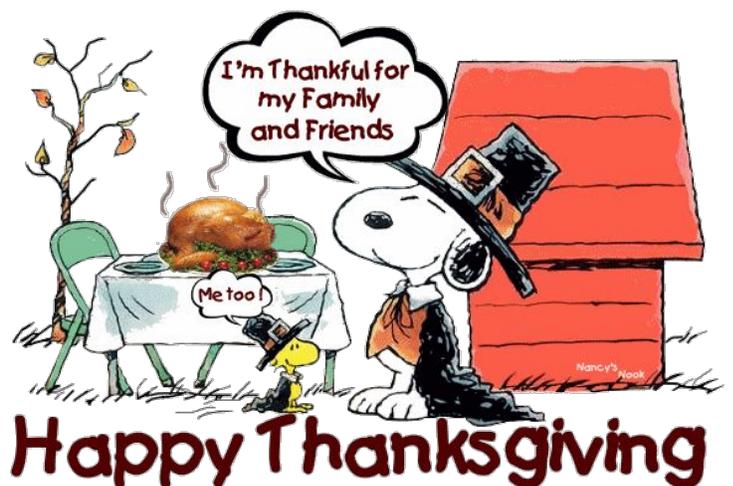
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ON THE COVER ...
Photo from Unplash.com



BeReal.



My Friends Discovery

⚠️ You have two minutes to take a BeReal! ⚠️ Capture, share a photo, and see what your friends are doing. The app BeReal has become the newest and most used social media platform. The app notifies everyone with an account simultaneously at random times every day. BeReal was created to encourage people to be authentic and share photos just the way they are in that moment. #NOFILTER Our students and staff have been enjoying the app. Here's BeReal: Valeo edition.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

UPDATING YOU ON THE LATEST EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD

BY ANDREW JACKSON, '23



Valeo's 2021 Thanksgiving. Photo by LCIC Team.

VALEO ACADEMY

On Friday, November 18, Valeo is hosting our annual Thanksgiving celebration. Together we will have a schoolwide feast. After this eventful, delicious day, the students will be able to spend a week with the fam for Thanksgiving break! Shortly after the students' week long break, they will prepare for the the school's I.O.N. We'll learn more about that next month, so stay tuned.

SPORTS

On the 14th of November, the Eagles faced their demise. They were brutally taken down by the Washington D.C Commanders, 32-21. The Philadelphia Eagles, at 8-0, were undefeated coming into this game. The Commanders were 4-5. To me, this was very surprising because the Commanders have a much worse win/lose ratio.



Photo by Matt Rourke. Retrieved from [metrophiladelphia.com](https://www.metrophiladelphia.com)

W

32

-

21



Washington Commanders
(5 - 5)

Philadelphia Eagles
(8 - 1)



Photo by *The New York Post*.

WORLD

Could you imagine driving 35 hours to compete in a pumpkin competition? Well, Travis Gienger, a teacher from Minnesota, did it. He drove to the World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off and set a new record for raising the heaviest pumpkin. The pumpkin weighed 2,554 pounds! His pumpkin even broke a record that was set in New York last week.

CHURCH WINS

Our church family loves to give and bless our community through our *Love in Action* outreach. This year we will be hosting a Thanksgiving Giveaway to provide meals for our church families and members of our community.

As part of our *Kidsgiving: Making an Impact Through Generosity* outreach, our children's ministry will be blessing the homeless with a "Shoebox of Love". During the month of November, Life Changers Kids and Valeo students can donate essential goods including hats, gloves, socks, and travel size toiletries by dropping off the items in the Kids donation bins.



2021 Thanksgiving Giveaway. Photo by LCIC Team.

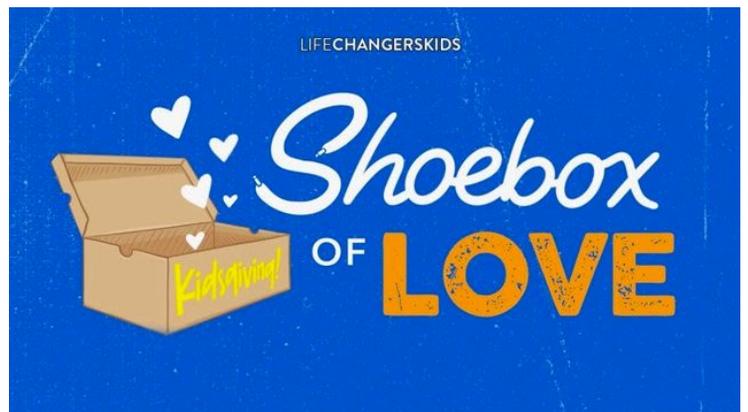


Photo by Life Changers Kids.



@lifechangers

@lifechangerskids

APPLE PIE

A STORY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A FOOD ITEM ON THANKSGIVING

By Calvin Moritz, 6th Grade



Photo from Unsplash.com

“I am freshly picked from my orchard, or at least that’s what it says on my bag. Ooh, a person. Yay! They picked me. Now, that I’m here at this person’s house, it WAS A BAD IDEA! These people are crazy. They’ve got knives and peelers. They put them in my crust. They put me in an oven, then cut me again!”

Here lies Absalom, the apple pie in someone’s stomach named Calvin Moritz.

The end.



WHAT ARE YOU GRATEFUL FOR?

BY AVERY LAVOIE, '23

I went around and asked a student from each grade what they are grateful for and they had such great responses!



"My mom and my toys!"

Ronan Halloran, K4



"I'm thankful for my friends and my teacher!"

**Crystal Medina,
Kindergarten**



"Christmas and my family."

Elijah Gritsak, 1st Grade



"I am thankful for my dad and a home."

Haven Hsieh, 2nd Grade



"I am thankful for freedom and the earth."

Shanaya Matta, 3rd Grade



"My family and my dog."

Kennedy Barry, 4th Grade



"I'm grateful for knowing God and being able to spend time with my family because some families are not able to."

Ayden Gomez, 5th Grade



"My family and my dog."

Allison Mims, 6th Grade



"I'm thankful for my parents and my dog, and this school!"

Izan Conchas, 7th Grade



"God, for sure, and Champion Youth."

Aiyanna Gomez, 8th Grade



"I'm grateful for the love of God and my family."

Vanessa Mims, 9th Grade



"God and my friend Moises."

Zion Bates, 10th Grade



"My dog and my intelligence."

Miles Vang, 11th Grade



"I'm thankful for my Christmas tree and this church!"

Ashley Vega, 12th Grade



PUMPKIN SPICE & EVERYTHING NICE

IS PUMPKIN SPICE IS OVERRATED?

BY MISS MEL ISLAS, 3RD GRADE TEACHER

'Tis the pumpkin-flavored season! As the temperature drops and the fireplaces light up, many people get ready to enjoy countless different treats and drinks. Whether they are homemade or from a local café, one thing these treats have in common is pumpkin spice. So, what is pumpkin spice? It's a combination of cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, all-spice, and ginger. These are "warm" spices typically used in holiday baking.

Nowadays it's not just used in baking. In 2003, Starbucks created the first PSL (Pumpkin Spice Latte) and so the pumpkin spice craze began! All over the U.S. people have created new recipes using pumpkin spice and the results are very interesting. From muffins and cookies to hummus and smoked salmon, the creations are endless. Overall, it just depends on what you like and there are many different choices to choose from when it comes to fall foods.



Photo from Unsplash.com

**"I like it because it's traditional, good, and it makes me feel warm inside."
-Zoe Bates**

"No, it's not overrated because it's the perfect mix of sweet, cinnamon, pumpkin, Christmas, fall goodness." - Avery LaVoie

"It is overrated and it tastes nothing like actual pumpkins." - Andrew Jackson

"I think it's overrated because it's just like a worse version of cinnamon. They ruin it because you're making cinnamon more spicy. There are too many spices in it and it just doesn't taste good."
-Andrew Cleghorn

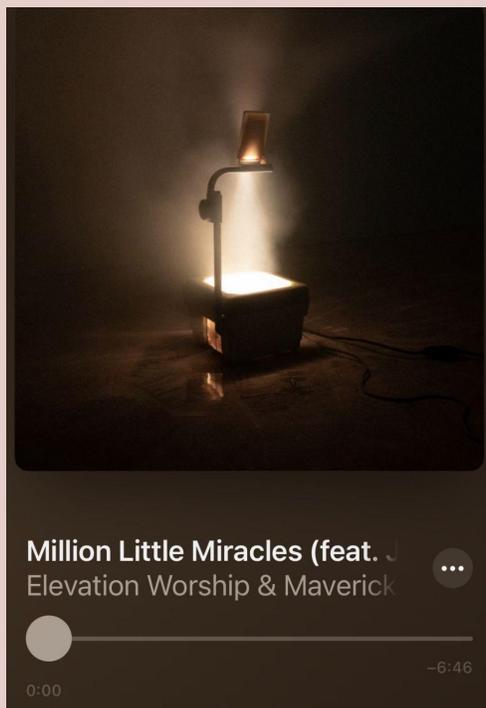
"I feel like it's not overrated because it plays a role in Thanksgiving." -Cesar Arreola

SONGS ABOUT GRATITUDE

BY ASHLEY VEGA, '23



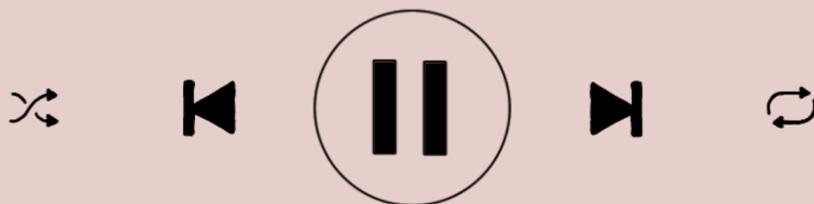
I love the clear visual of Jesus going to the cross, and the story of this song makes me feel like I'm walking that journey with Him.



This song makes me think that I don't deserve God's miracles, yet I am grateful for His blessings. It reminds me of his faithfulness and commitment to fulfill His promises.



This song reminded me of the day I accepted Jesus in my life. I am grateful to Him from setting me free.



WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE SONGS THIS SEASON?

MORE FOR YOU AT CHILI'S

FOOD IDEAS TO ENJOY DURING BREAK

BY MARCO RODRIGUEZ, '23

I went to Chili's and found out how to get the most yum for your tum for an affordable price. For those Chili's fanatics [like yours truly] who want to try a lot for less than twenty bucks per person, Chili's offers a deal called, "**3 for Me.**" Just for a dollar more, 3 for Me includes a drink, an appetizer, and an entrée.

I started by ordering the **iced tea**, which was amazing. If you're a fan of sweet iced tea, then you are out of luck because it's unsweetened.

Next, I ordered my appetizer. Since I upgraded our appetizer to the **Dip Trio**, I could choose any three dips with a large amount of chips. These seem to never run out! For the dips, I chose the queso blanco,

the regular queso, and salsa. Overall, these three dips were very enjoyable. The only thing I would say is the salsa is more sweet than spicy.

Finally, for my entrée, I chose the **Honey Chipotle Crispers** with ranch. These don't just come with chicken, but they also include two sides. I got double fries! The fries tasted like regular fries, but the crispers were definitely the star of this entire meal.

They had a very immaculate taste with a sweet heat and very crispy feeling. The ranch helped savor the whole experience to an out of this world taste bud paradise.

The experience at Chili's was definitely delicious and I would for sure recommend eating there! My overall rating is an 8/10 stars.



THANKSGIVING THEMED RIDDLES

BY CESAR ARREOLA, '24

1. WHAT IS A PILGRIM'S FAVORITE TYPE OF MUSIC?

2. WHAT IS THE MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THANKSGIVING AND APRIL FOOLS' DAY?

3. WHAT WILL YOU GET IF YOU CROSS A TURKEY AND A MONKEY?

4. WHY DID THE PILGRIM CROSS THE ROAD?

5. WHY DID THE TURKEY DECIDE TO CROSS THE ROAD?



Kindergarten at S.O.L. Photo by LCIC Team.



Second grade at S.O.L. Photo by LCIC Team.

1. PLYMOUTH ROCK.
2. ON ONE HOLIDAY YOU ARE THANKFUL, ON THE OTHER YOU ARE PRANKFUL.
3. A BANANA THAT GOBBLES.
4. BECAUSE HE WAS ACTUALLY CHASING THE TURKEY.
5. TO PROVE THAT HE WASN'T A CHICKEN!

IS IT TOO EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS?

BY ANDREW CLEGHORN, '23

Thanksgiving is upon us, but Christmas is right around the corner. And so, a big issue arises... when is it too early to celebrate Christmas? Christmas only comes one time a year and it is important that we celebrate it and give it the attention it needs. However, too much of a good thing becomes a bad thing. So, when is it appropriate to celebrate Christmas?

Now, I believe there are different levels to this. There are light “celebrations” and then there is the actual celebration with the decorations and all the festivities, but let's break it down.

It is November 1st, fall season is coming to an end. The weather starts shifting and the idea of Thanksgiving and Christmas come into people's mind. The idea of snow and Christmas just seem pleasant, but it's not quite time for it yet, right? This begins the “early” or “light” stage of Christmas celebrations. Christmas music here and there before Thanksgiving never ruins the holiday spirit. A worry that comes up is if you celebrate too early, it will spoil Christmas when it actually comes. But to that I say, NEVER! Christmas only comes one time a year and it is special that we celebrate it.



Photo from Unsplash.com

Listening to light Christmas music before Thanksgiving never hurt anyone.

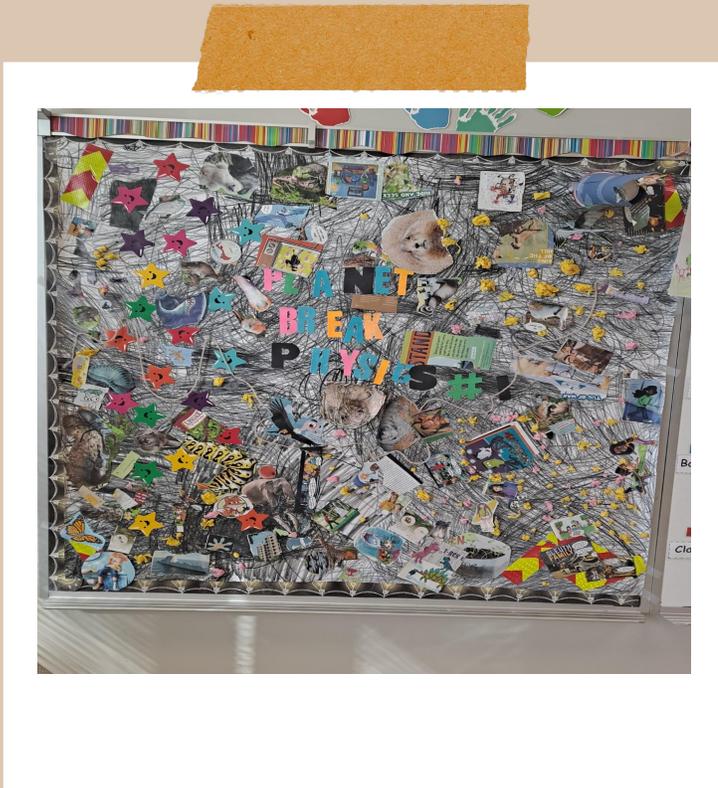
Thanksgiving dinner has just concluded and you lay down for a second to catch a break, think about the meal you had, and how grateful you are for it. But, alas! Christmas is only a month away. You look over and you see that empty corner of the living room and picture a beautiful tree sparkling with lights and

ornaments. It is time! Right after Thanksgiving the tree can come up, the lights outside can be hung, Christmas movies can be played, the Christmas spirit is officially in full effect. Now, there are variations to this and I know some people have different rules and times where they get ready for Christmas.

We would love to hear, when do you start celebrating Christmas?

First Grade's Highlights

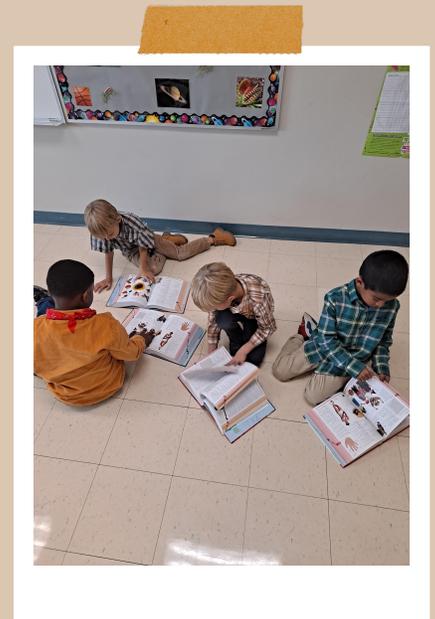
BY ZOE BATES, '24



Our first graders made a project trying to connect a magnet to demonstrate unity. Students were trying to put the magnet together, but the magnet was opposing instead of connecting. One student was determined to turn the magnet and try to connect the magnets together, even though it wasn't possible. Mrs. Bates asked the student to tell her why the magnets didn't connect and one student's response was, "You cannot break physics." What the student said sparked an idea in the first graders to make a place called, "Planet Break Physics." They

asked themselves questions like, "What would the planet be like?", "What would its color and shape be?", and "What would happen on this planet?" So, students used their imagination and started thinking about the planet and its appearance. This picture shows what first-grade thinks "Planet Break Physics" looks like to them.

In these next pictures, Mrs. Bates and her students had a blast looking through their dictionaries and competing against each other. First Grade was able to choose words to search for and understand. They created teams and played games for them to seek out words. Mrs. Bates is excited to see her students enjoying finding new words. This has been a great start to transitioning students to using their dictionaries and atlas. First-grade challenges you to a word hunt.





Lastly, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in first grade! This month, students began decorating their classroom as they prepare for the holiday season. Mrs. Bates and her students are very excited about Christmas and can't wait for their soon-to-be gift exchanged.

MULTICULTURAL THANKSGIVING

HOW DO VALEO STUDENTS CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL HOLIDAY?

BY MILES VANG, '24 & ZOE BATES, '24

Thanksgiving is an American holiday, but it is influenced by many different cultures. At Valeo, there are many different students with different traditions. They are each unique to their families and make them all special. Here are some of our classmates' family traditions.



"We're Moldovian and for every Thanksgiving, we go to Michigan to a cabin and my mom makes my favorite dish that has potato and meat. We usually also learn a song with my grandma and go to our neighbor's door and sing it for people."

**Adrian Platon,
6th Grade**



Photo from [Unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com)



"Traditions I do on Thanksgiving are cutting up a squash and eating it, cooking a turkey, obviously. Setting up some Thanksgiving decorations and that's about it, just the classic stuff."

**Demion Miranda, 6th
Grade**

WHAT IS YOUR FAMILY'S THANKSGIVING TRADITION?



"I go to my grandma's house with my cousins and my mom and everyone else. We go to trips like Wisconsin Dells and it's fun. My friend is coming over and we're going places. But my favorite thing to eat is pumpkin pie!"

Esther Gritsak, 2nd Grade



"We kinda just go to my grandma's house and all just gather there and have someone cook there or order food so my grandma won't have to cook."

Veronica Ortiz, 10th Grade



"On Thanksgiving, sometimes we play football with me and my cousins. We play board games, watch football games, and we have a big Thanksgiving meal."

Julius Chavez, 5th Grade



"We go outside and we go to do a barbecue and eat some turkey."

Jazlyn Dahan, 3rd Grade



"I like eating turkey and I like spending time with my family and that's all."

Leon Hammerschmidt, 1st Grade



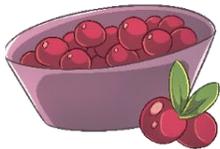
"On Thanksgiving we go over to my aunt's house and she makes ribs and turkey and ham and beef and she brings out the soda."

Elise Evans, 4th Grade

THANKSGIVING

This or That

WHICH WOULD YOU CHOOSE?



HAM *or* **TURKEY**



STUFFING *or* **DRESSING**

CRANBERRY SAUCE *or* **JELLIED CRANBERRIES**

MASHED POTATOES *or* **CANDIED YAMS**

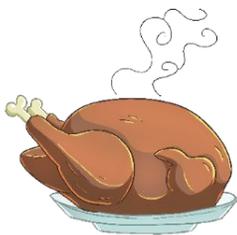


TAKE A NAP *or* **PLAY FOOTBALL**



CORNBREAD *or* **DINNER ROLLS**

PUMPKIN PIE *or* **APPLE PIE**



GREEN BEANS *or* **CORN**



