

# THE FALCON FLASH

By Students, For Students



## DAYS OF APRIL

**KIRSTEN REEVES,  
8TH GRADE**

April is the fourth month of the year according to the Gregorian calendar and the first month of the year to have exactly 30 days. The month of April, seen as the second month of spring, is also known as Autism Awareness Month. This month is filled with many fun and important days!

One of the most common known holidays in April is Easter Sunday which lands on April 17th. Easter is a holiday that celebrates the rebirth of Jesus seen in Christianity but is celebrated by many others as a fun holiday.



Not only does Easter occur in April, but there are also days such as World Autism Awareness day on April 2nd.

On April 2nd it also marks the start of Ramadan. Ramadan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar and is seen as the holiest month of the year. Another important holiday in April is Earth Day on April 22nd. Earth day originally started in 1970 founded by Gaylord Nelson as a way to bring awareness to environmental issues. Other things celebrated in April are April Fools Day on April 1st, World Health Day on April 7th, Palm Sunday on April 10th, and Babe Ruth Day on April 27th.

Historically April has multiple important days to remember. One notable thing in April is April 9th, 1959 when NASA announced America's first astronauts. April 15, 1912 marks the day the Titanic sank into the ocean after hitting an iceberg. The Revolutionary War also started in the month of April on the 19th in 1775. On April 30th Palestinian Jews established Israel after declaring independence from British rule. The month of April is one that holds both fun days and important history worldwide for us to remember and learn about.

### JOKE FOR APRIL

HOW DO YOU MAKE A  
WATERBED BOUNCIER?

FILL IT WITH SPRING  
WATER!



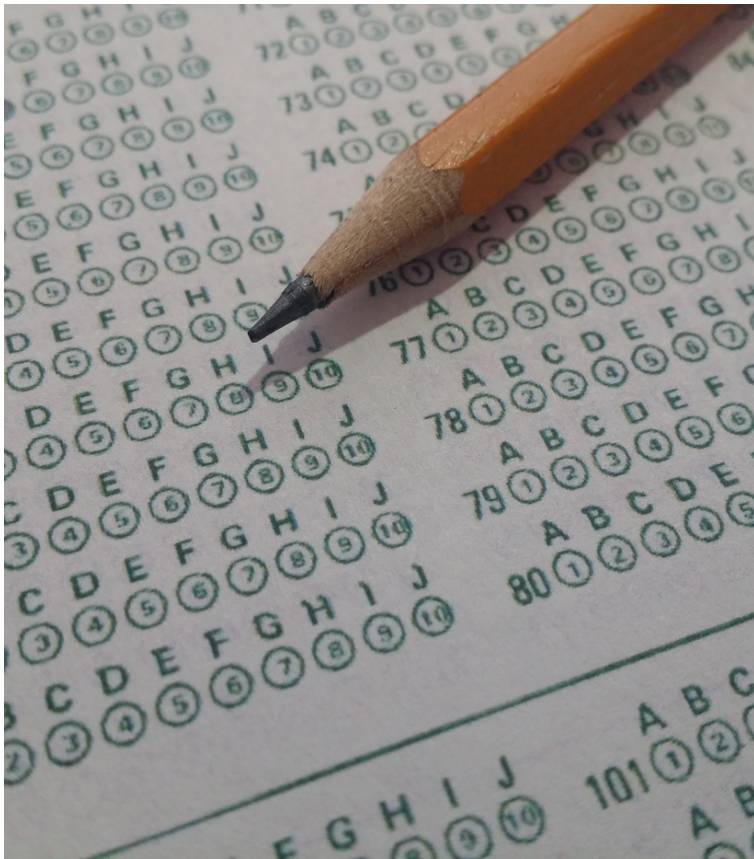
### UPCOMING DATES

APRIL 4-11  
AASA  
TESTING

APRIL 8  
STAR PARTY

APRIL 18-22  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE WEEK

APRIL 23  
CAMPUS  
CLEAN-UP DAY



## TESTING TIPS



### **ARIANA WILLIAMS, 8TH GRADE**

As you've probably heard over the morning announcements, we will be taking our AASA tests April 4th-11th. It has also been mentioned that if you're present for all five tests, you will be entered into a drawing, and the grade level with the best attendance gets to tape Ms. Nicolosi to the cafeteria wall. Please try your best on these tests, and remember to answer every question. If it helps, you should likely also review all of your answers before submitting. Make sure to get a good sleep the night before so that you're not tired during the test. It would not be a good thing if you were to fall asleep during one of the tests. Please remember to submit your questions at the end of the test.

## HONOR ROLL



### **KIRSTEN REEVES, 8TH GRADE**

Congratulations to all the students who made the third quarter blue or gold honor roll! You all worked hard to earn it and it shows. Our blue honor roll students did it by getting all A's and B's with gold getting all A's. Even if you didn't make the honor roll third quarter, you have one more quarter this year as a chance to earn it. Keep up the good work!





## STAR PARTY RESCHEDULED

**ARIANA WILLIAMS,  
8TH GRADE**

Attention Falcons, the time has come. The Star Party has been rescheduled and will now take place on April 8th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Join us for a fun night of STEM exploration and an awesome view of the night sky. Astronomers will assist families using telescopes in the south field. And for a little bonus, snacks will be provided along with a Star Gift for students! Please remember that this is a family event, and you will need an adult with you to attend. We hope to see you out there exploring the stars!



## A PIECE ON RACCOONS



**EMMA VORASANE,  
7TH GRADE**

Raccoons, or the Procyonidae family, are mammals. Being a part of the Procyonidae family in simple terms means that you have features such as slender bodies and long tails, tree climbing skills, round head & ears, either short or long snouts, and long banded tails. Raccoons are mammals because they are warm blooded, have fur, and can produce milk for their offspring. Their offspring are called kits and are usually born in litters of two to five. Raccoons are omnivorous, meaning they eat nuts, berries, insects, and eggs. Fish and other various small critters are eaten if convenient. Raccoons usually live 2-3 years. The longest ever recorded raccoon lived to be 22 years old. They can weigh from 4 to 23 pounds. The heaviest raccoon, weighed so far, has been a 75-pound raccoon named Bandit. Raccoons are known to have seven species. Although there are three main types of said species, Procyon Pygmaeus, Procyon Cancrivorus, and Procyon Lotor. Procyon Lotor means “before-dog washer” in Neo-Latin. The words Raccoon come from the Powhatan word arouhgcun (ahrah-koon-em) meaning “one that scratches with one’s hands.” Procyon Lotor are the most popular species of raccoon. They are native to northern America and southern Canada and are considered an invasive species.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK

**JENNY TRAN,  
8TH GRADE**

**Monday, April 18: Expression Day -**

Make your community a better place by expressing yourself through fashion, art, or culture! Create something or do something to show your peers who you are and how your differences build a strong and healthy community.

**Tuesday, April 19: Teaching & Learning Day -** Teach someone a skill/something new or open your mind to learn something new! Communities are filled with people who constantly bring new things to the table.



## CAMPUS CLEAN-UP DAY

**JENNY TRAN,  
8TH GRADE**

Attention Falcon families! On Saturday, April 23, we are inviting you to a Campus Clean-Up Session! As part of our Community Service Week, we encourage families to come out and help us with campus beautification projects from 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be both indoor and outdoor tasks. We prioritize the quality of our campus, so join us as we spruce it up!



**Wednesday, April 20: Appreciation Day -** Create something to show your appreciation for someone, spread kind words, or take an action to show why you love someone! A stronger community is through love, and it's crucial to recognize the things and people around you and what they do for you.

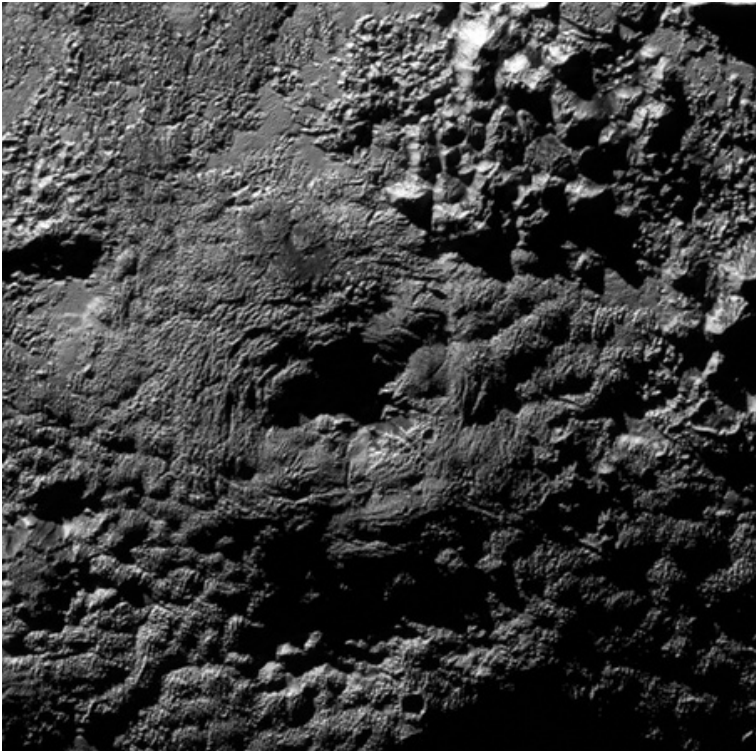
**Thursday, April 21: Helpfulness Day -** Reach out to someone who might need help or do something nice to help someone! People have their own set of struggles but being able to recognize when you need help is important to making a safer community. Let's help each other out and take the right steps when you can!



**Friday, April 22: Environment Day -** The quality of your environment relies on you! Take a step to reduce waste and to find ways to take care of your environment. Educate others on the importance of maintaining a healthy environment.







## PLUTO'S ICE VOLCANOES

### KIRSTEN REEVES, 8TH GRADE

It has been discovered by new photo analysis that there are ice volcanoes on Pluto. In the photo analysis there was an area of terrain seen that was like nothing else seen on Pluto. This terrain was revealed to be massive ice volcanoes with some such as Wright Mons which when compared to volcanoes on Earth is as big as Moana Loa, one of the largest volcanoes on Earth. The ice volcanoes on Pluto move material from the subsurface to the surface creating new terrain. This material is water that quickly freezes when reaching the surface. With research it was discovered that these volcanoes were active recently and that Pluto's interior, or core, is warmer than expected. These volcanoes suggest that there is a subsurface ocean on Pluto that was once thought to be gone. This subsurface ocean and warm core lead to the thought of Pluto possibly being habitable although with challenges.

## SUGGESTION BOX

### KIRSTEN REEVES, 8TH GRADE

Do you have a suggestion to make our school better? Well, the student council wants to hear your suggestions. Located in the cafeteria, there is a suggestion box where you can write down your ideas for us to hear. We as student council want to help make our school better and to do that we need to know what the student body as a whole wants. Alternatively, use this link to submit your suggestions!

<https://bit.ly/3gD91No>





## INTERVIEW: MARK "MARKER" BARKER

**ARIANA WILLIAMS,  
8TH GRADE**

Mark Barker, Secretary of Student Council,  
7th Grader



You're the secretary of the Student Council, so you have to write down a lot of notes during every meeting. What is your advice on successful note taking?

Don't overdo it. To take effective notes, write down the key points, not everything word for word.

You're a member of most of the clubs at Alice Vail Middle School and still are somehow able to maintain great grades.

How do you do this?

Time management. Take into account how much effort each assignment [will take] and put the effort into each according[ly]. It is also important not to overdo any of the assignments, or you will get quickly overwhelmed.

One could say you know everything about everyone at the school, including the staff.

Why do you do this?

I find it helpful to learn all that I can about the school. It also is a fun challenge I gave myself at the beginning of the year to learn as much about the school as possible. All of the effort has been worth it, the inform[ation] has served me well. It has provided a valuable perspective in StuCo.

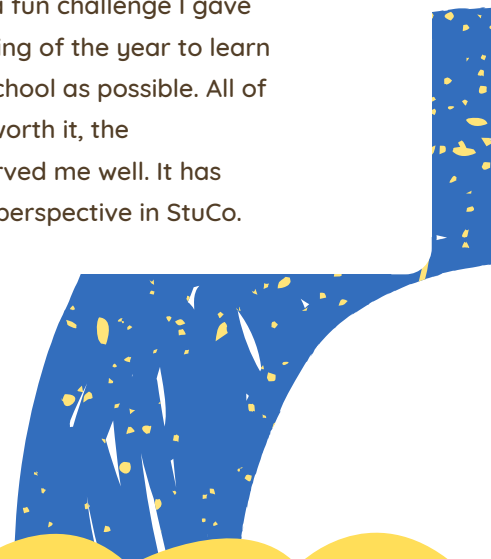
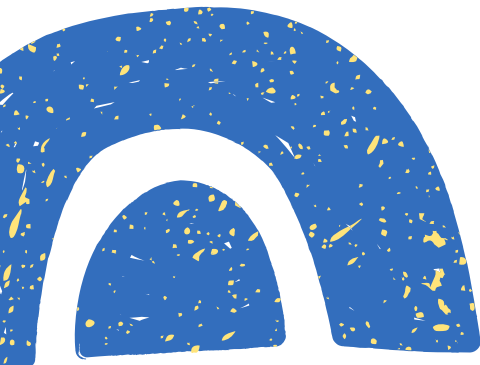
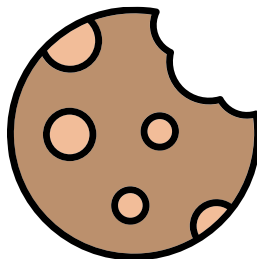
You have quite an impressive collection of silverware, where do you find all of it? Any details you'd like to add about this hobby of yours?

Estate sales. You can find quite a lot of cool stuff at estate sales. I highly recommend it.



What is your favorite type of cookie?

Personally, I think that white chocolate macadamia nut cookies are quite a delicious treat. Equatable, but not quite on the same level as Devine Sugar Cookies.



# NEW TRACK SEASON

## ABIGAIL PHILIPS, 8TH GRADE

Our new track season is finally here! Practices are currently being held every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday unless told otherwise. Every track team member must be clothed properly and, on the courts, ready to practice at 4:00 after school. The track team has many upcoming meets to practice for.



Meets are held in two-day durations consisting of either running or field events. The track team has two more full meets before the semifinal meet of divisionals that are held on **Saturday, April 23rd**. Divisionals will take the top three participants who place the highest in each event and they will get to go to the city meet.

The city meet is being held on Saturday May 5th. Various schools from across Tucson will come to the city meet to determine which participants get the highest placements.



As the temperature rises it is advised that students participating in track stay hydrated.

Reminder: Track meet dates are subject to change, please make sure to keep updated.

Our falcons have been working hard and are determined to make this a great Track season! Please talk to Coach Greer in room 206 for girls and Coach MacIntyre in room C-1 for boys for additional information. Go Falcons!



@avmsstudentcouncil



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## QUESTION OF THE MONTH

**JENNY TRAN,  
8TH GRADE**

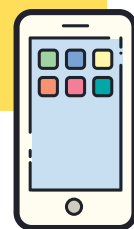
What song always gets stuck in your head?  
Answer using the form below!

<https://bit.ly/35GVbHi>



## SOCIAL MEDIA

**JENNY TRAN,  
8TH GRADE**



Follow us on Instagram and TikTok! We are open to new content ideas, but expect to see upcoming posts!

# GO FALCONS!