

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal February 03, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

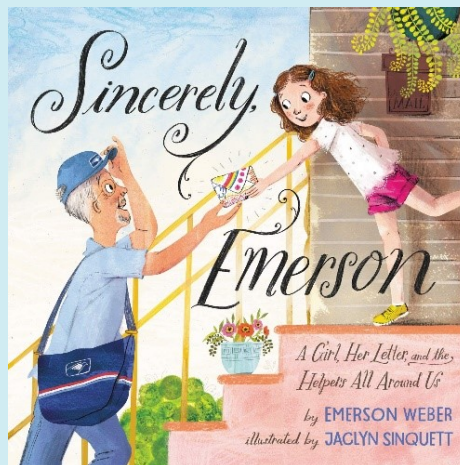
REMINDERS

No School = Monday, February 21st - Presidents' Day

No School = Tuesday, February 22nd - Professional Development Day

Words Matter Week:

Each year in early February, we celebrate Words Matter Week with the support of our PTA. This is a week where we are focusing on teaching students that their words carry weight and have the power to lift someone up or tear someone down. We encourage the students to be thoughtful about their words and use their words for good.



This year, in honor of Words Matter Week, our PTA purchased copies of the book, Sincerely, Emerson. The book tells the true story of eleven-year-old Emerson Weber as she writes a letter of thanks to her postal carrier, Doug, and creates a nationwide outpouring of love. This is a story that teaches children about gratitude, hope, and

recognition: for all the essential helpers we see every day, and all those who go *unseen*.

For Words Matter Week, teachers could read that book or another book of their choosing to illustrate the importance of gratitude and showing gratitude through words. Then students had the opportunity to write thank you cards to people who they feel deserved acknowledgement for their actions. Some students chose to write to family members or friends while others choose to write to people in our community like firefighters, doctors, sanitation workers or mail carriers. PTA will be helping to get the letters written to community members delivered to the appropriate people.

Musical Performances:

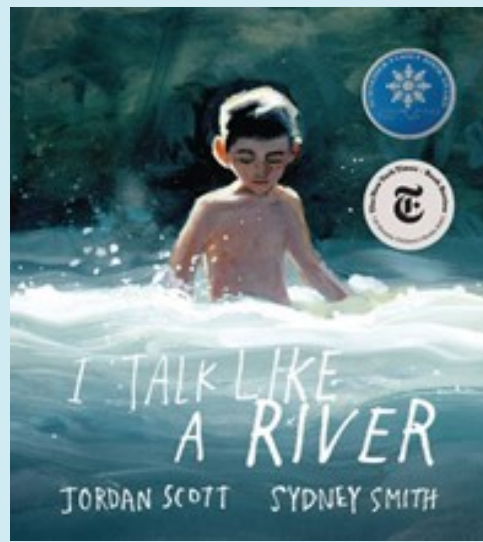
This week our MPR was alive with the sound of music! Our TK- 2nd grades did an amazing job of singing our school anthem as well as songs about winter. They also played musical instruments. It was a fabulous performance by all, and our students should be so proud! A huge thank you to Ms. Shiva for her hard work with our students and for putting together such a great concert. Another huge thank you to all the family and friends who came out to support our Sharks!



We are still looking at doing a performance for our 3rd-5th grades- more to come on that soon!

February Character Trait: Courage:

This month, our character trait is **COURAGE**, and our character statement is: "I am **courageous** in trying new things to solve problems." I will be reading the book, [I Talk Like A River](#). The book is based on a true story about the author who has a stutter. At the beginning of the book, the boy who stutters feels isolated, alone, and incapable of communicating in the way he'd like. During the story, his dad takes him on a walk by the river to help him find his courage and his voice.



Warmly,
Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



-
- 02/03 - Lost & Found - Donated 7:30am
 - 02/09 - Dippin Dot Sales
 - 02/16 - Spirit Day - Theme: Favorite Sport Team
 - 02/16 - Shark Fund Meeting 6:30 pm -virtual
 - 02/18 - 5th Grade Group Photos @ 11:00am
 - 02/21 - No School - President's Day
 - 02/22 - No School - Staff Development Day
 - 02/23 - Dippin Dot Sales
 - 02/25 - African American History Museum
 - 03/02 - PTA/Shark Fund/Site Council Job Fair
 - 03/09 - Dippin Dot Sales
 - 03/23 - Dippin Dot Sales

Attendance Line
925-855-2898



**Please call the attendance line
to report an absence:
925-855-2898**

Reminder: If your child will be absent from school, please call the attendance line (925) 855-2898. State your name and relationship, your child's name, grade and teacher name along with the reason for absence. If your child is ill, please let us know what symptoms your child is experiencing. If any of the

symptoms described are known symptoms of COVID-19, you will receive an email regarding the next steps and information about returning to school.

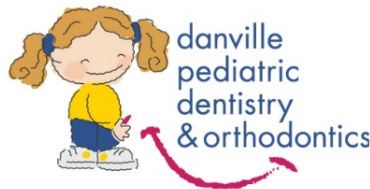
If you choose not to leave illness details, you will receive a call from the attendance office asking for more information. It is our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our school community and we ask for your cooperation. Your student's private health information will not be shared beyond administrative or nursing staff.

Note: Even if you have notified your child's teacher, please call the attendance line to record the absence!

Thank you.

Platinum Sponsors

Thank you to Sycamore's 21-22  Platinum Corporate Sponsors



JENNIFER LARSON

Jennifer Curry, Agent
925-588-7010
www.JenniferCurryInsurance.com

arriveREgroup.com
DRE #01897334



Reminder:
If you need to drop-off items for your

child or their teacher,
please call the school office
when you arrive at the main gate.
(925) 855-2800



Our PTA Needs Your Help!!

Our PTA Needs Your Help!!

Insert Sharky Logo here

Sycamore Valley PTA is looking for volunteers for the following roles.

- African American History Museum Coordinator and Committee (Feb. 25th)**
- Corporate Sponsorship Committee**
- Live Auction Event committee (Mar. 25th)**
- Auction Sycamore Socials Coordinator**
- Spirit Week Committee (Mar. 21st-25th)**

Getting involved with our PTA is a great way to help our school and students and meet new friends!
Let's KEEP SYCAMORE GREAT!

To discuss these opportunities, please contact
Joëlle Baldwin (310) 562-2281, joelle.baldwin@gmail.com

Also,

Save the Date:

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

**PTA, Shark Fund and Site Council Job Fair
for the 2022-2023 School Year**



Shark Fund / PTA Google Calendar

[Calendar](#)

Shark Fund Meeting Wednesday, Feb 16 @ 6:30 pm

Make a difference in the Sycamore community by getting involved! Please join

our next virtual Shark Fund meeting on February 16th. Log-in details can be found below. Our agenda will include an update on all things auction as well as the 2022-2023 school year funding commitment letter. All are invited to attend! To learn more, please contact Shark Fund President Alison Stracke at sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org or visit www.sycamoreelementary.org/sharkfund.

Wed Feb 16, 2022 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Join with Google Meet: meet.google.com/dda-vpjs-iyt

Join by phone: (US) +1 904-900-0757 (PIN: 635657378)



Shark Fund would like to say **THANK YOU** for your support with the Dippin Dot Wednesday Fundraisers!!!! In 2021, Dippin Dots generated over **\$13,500** in sales!!!!

100% of Dippin Dot proceeds benefit Shark Fund which helps your children and Sycamore through following programs:

- **Rainbow Room** - provides social development support for students TK-3rd grade
- **Reading Intervention**
- **Paraeducators** in every classroom
- **Librarian's** salary
- **Physical Education** for TK & Kindergarten students
- **Supplemental office hours** to support the Sycamore Community

January - March 2022 Dippin Dot Calendar

(weather permitting)

2/9, 2/23, 3/9, 3/23

TK & Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30am near the Kinder Playground Entrance

1st - 5th Sales @ 12:50pm on the blacktop near the rear entrance of the MPR

Please Note: 1/26 Dippin Dot event will be the last day to purchase Dippin Dot Punch Cards.

Lost Dippin Dot cards or any other questions,

please direct to Dana Claffey

925-407-7178

Sharky Cinema:

Shark Fund will not be hosting Sharky Cinema in February but please stay tuned for information about our upcoming Spring sessions.

Sycamore Auction 2022:

Save the Date for Sycamore's Live Auction

Yacht Party

Our Sycamore Valley LIVE Auction only comes around every other year, so you won't want to miss it! This year's **Yacht Party** LIVE Event will be held at Crow Canyon Country Club on **Friday, March 25**. Tickets go on sale Monday, February 7. We can't wait to welcome you aboard!

If you have an item or experience to donate to this critical Shark Fund fundraiser, please reach out to our Live Auction Chair, Katerina McCormack katerinitsa@aol.com or Online Auction Chair, Jenna Mesic jmesic@gmail.com.

We need All Hands on Deck to pull off an event of this size. Please contact Joelle Baldwin joelle.baldwin@gmail.com if you are interested in joining our fun crew. We are specifically in need of volunteers to assist the evening of the event (March 25), to help run Spirit Week for the students (March 21-25), and to coordinate family-hosted Sycamore Socials.

Yearbook Photos:

Deadline Extended

We still need photos of all past events:
Fun Run, 1st Day of School, Festival Around the World, Monster Mash, Halloween, Red Ribbon Week Thanksgiving feast, Winter Holiday Parties.

Want your

PHOTOS

in the

YEARBOOK?



Upload at www.hjeshare.com

School code: **sycamoresharks**



Kids Are Talking



Maxon
Pokemon because they battle and they have powers.



Nitya
Teeniepings. There is a girl that has pets and she can catches teeniepings. *(I like it)* when she catches teeniepings.



What's your favorite TV show and why?



Araiya
Elsa because she has ice powers.



Nolan
Ninjago because I like ninjas.



William
All of them! I watch a lot. *(I like)* Ninja show. There is a blue ninja, green ninja, red ninja, and my favorite is the red one... actually no the blue one, he has ice powers.



SCIENCE LANGUAGE ART MATH

A fun extra curriculum activity lead by expert parent volunteers to promote curiosity and learning.

3rd through 5th grade.

For more info please contact Rita Birk at sycamoreslam@gmail.com and see our website at <https://sycamoreslam2122.shutterfly.com/>

Sign up for Science

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090949a8af22abfe3-slam>

Completed Dec/Jan SuperScience issues, as well as the new Feb issue, will be sent home through your child's classroom this month. Blank SuperScience Skills Sheets and Answer Keys can be downloaded from the SLAM Website: [Shutterfly](https://www.shutterfly.com/). Students will be receiving *1 point per completed issue* for SuperScience (instead of the previous 0.5 points per completed issue) as the skills sheets are quite long and extensive, and we want to reward your

student's hard work!

Completed worksheets must be turned in to the SLAM bin located in the office by the DUE DATE below. Student work will be recorded and then returned the following month.

DUE DATES:

Feb Issue: Due Fri, Feb 25

For those students signed up for the spring Science Fair and/or Science Builders' Challenge, look for details regarding these activities to come soon!

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Sign up for Language (word masters)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4caea92fa31-word>

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Sign up for Language (Battle of the Books)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4caea92fa31-battle>

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Sign up for DynaMath

The Dec/Jan has been sent home through your child's classroom. Download Blank Answer Worksheets from the SLAM Website OR complete your answers on blank paper.

Completed worksheets must be turned in to the SLAM bin in the office by the DUE DATE below.

Student work will be recorded and returned.

DUE DATES:

Dec/Jan Issue: Due Fri, Jan 21

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RESEARCH

Sign-up for Research Projects here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ada92ba3f85-slam>

Our next Research Project is Black History Month, due **Friday, Feb 25.**

GO SLAM



Library Corner

Hi Sharks!

Thank you for your book donations! Please keep them coming!
(Any extra books will later be donated to our sister school.)

The Battle of the Books for all 3rd-5th graders opting to participate is coming on April 20th - still plenty of time to get reading! See above here in Shark Bites for more info.

Stay tuned for some fun library fundraising news soon as well!

Jen Prindiville
Library Media Coordinator
Sycamore Valley Elementary
<https://syc-srvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/sylibrary>

“A book is a friend. You can never have too many.” -Gary Paulsen

Happy reading!

SHARKS READ Read / Exchange / Donate

Sharks READ book exchange cart!

The **Sharks READ** cart will be in front of the MPR with free books -
from and for Sycamore students.



Sharks Read, Exchange, And Donate



Please **Take One & Leave One** (if you can):

- Give books. Donate gently used books to share with other Sycamore families.
- Take a book. When you are finished reading it, you may keep it or return it.
- Share and keep the cycle going!

Please be careful and considerate.

- Please wear a mask and maintain social distance at least 6-feet apart while you take turns browsing.
- Please do not leave wet or soiled books.
- Please keep the cart neat for everyone to browse.
- Please take only 1 book at time, or only as many books as you have donated.



Thank you for participating, and happy reading!

Please direct any questions to PTA Library Liaison: phyllis.acon@gmail.com
Thank you for participating, and happy reading!

Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to Card My Yard



**San Ramon Valley for the
Words Matter Week sign
in front of school!**

**As a corporate sponsor of
Sycamore, Card My Yard has
offered a \$20 off coupon to our
Sharks!**

Website: <https://www.cardmyyard.com/san-ramon-valley/>

Code: [SRVSYCAMORE20](#)

**Thank you to our parent volunteers from
the Hearing & Vision screening event on 1/28.**

We appreciate you being so generous with your time!

Thank you to Marina Kol, Joelle Kaskanlian, Perry Miller, Lauren Ghio,
Sangita Mahishi, Christy Lucia, and Rachita Dodeja



**The Lost & Found rack is located at
the front of our school near the MPR.**

Please check for your misplaced items - you might even find an item
that you didn't know was lost!

This time of year, our Lost and Found tends to grow rather quickly.

**Please make sure that your child's name
is marked in their clothing.**

Smaller Lost & Found items are in the Office.
Water Bottles and Lunch Boxes are on the shelf in the MPR.



Morning mile is back! Join us on WEDNESDAY mornings at 7:30am on the turf field directly across from the main entrance to Sycamore Elementary to run, jog, walk or skip your way around the field. All grades are welcome to come run, younger siblings too!

Parents must stay with your child to participate. Please fill out and bring the waiver prior to your first time attending.

[WAIVER](#)

We will be done to get to class by 8:00.



You are welcome to order individual photos and the class group photo. Proofs of the student's photo can be viewed:

[Order School Photos](#)

When placing an order, the code requested is your child's student ID#

Please contact Creative Imaging with any school picture questions:
925-485-6025 or orders@ciphoto.com

Sycamore Parents:

A few minutes of your time can help our school in a BIG way!

This year the Sycamore Corporate Sponsorship team has found new & creative ways to get your business out to our community that will bring you even more visibility!

We have added sponsor visibility at more events, in the yearbook, and made our weekly Shark Bites a main attraction.

Want to be a
Sycamore
Sponsor?



The Sycamore PTA partners with businesses each year to help support under-funded or cancelled state educational programs.

Find new clients while supporting our school! Email Kay McCormack for details (katerinitsa@aol.com)

- Support Sycamore
- Increase your sales & visibility
- Get a tax deduction

Sycamore is invested in making this year a successful one for us all, and hope you will come partner with us. Platinum level is \$1,500 and is our highest level of visibility. For more information, please view our [sponsorship details](#) or contact us at Katerina McCormack katerinitsa@aol.com or Kristina Buskirk Kristinabuskirk@gmail.com

Sycamore's Auction is back and scheduled for March 2022!

We want to make it a huge success and are asking our Sycamore families:

What do YOU have to donate?

- Perhaps you have a getaway experience, sporting event tickets, restaurant gift cards or even a vacation rental home?
- Some of us have country club contacts for golf or tennis.
- Wine club members, will your winery donate a tasting, food pairing or bottles?
- Possibly you own a local company and want to donate your services or showcase your company's name by donating gift cards?
- Don't forget about asking grandparents or other family members who may want to donate as well!

People love a tax-deductible donation & raising money for all of our children. Please view the [attached letter](#) for more information.

Questions?

Contact Online Auction Chair Jenna Mesic at sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org



Growing UP Green Weeks 2021-2022

A Fundraiser benefiting your school!

2021 DATES

Sept. 3 - 12
Oct. 22 - 31
Nov. 26 - Dec. 5

2022 DATES

Jan. 7 - 16
Feb. 4 - 13
Mar. 18 - 27

Shop at any Sloat Garden Center location during your school's *Growing up Green* week, mention your school, and your school will receive 10% of purchases back in the form of a Sloat gift card, which can go towards your school's beautification projects, fundraisers or classroom activities. The school with the highest participation will receive 20% of purchasesback. *Please note: Purchase of gift cards do not apply.*

Just mention your school to the cashier!

Sloat Garden Center • 13 locations throughout the Bay Area • www.sloatgardens.com
Mill Valley Kentfield Novato San Francisco
Concord Martinez Pleasant Hill Danville-Camino Ramon Danville-Diablo Road



Child Nutrition

Lunch Provided @ Sycamore

Lunch is provided at no cost to all students that request a lunch at school.

[Elementary School Menus](#)

IT'S MORE THAN JUST FREE MEALS!

COMPLETE OUR MEAL BENEFIT APPLICATION TO ENSURE CONTINUED FUNDING TO SUPPORT OUR ENTIRE DISTRICT



P-EBT CARD
RECEIVE \$
TO PURCHASE FOOD



ATHLETICS
DISCOUNTED FEES
FOR PAY TO PLAY



SCHOOL FUNDING
INCREASED FUNDING TO
SUPPORT STUDENTS' ACCESS TO
TOP-NOTCH EDUCATION



COLLEGE APPLICATIONS
DISCOUNTS FOR FEES
ASSOCIATED WITH COLLEGE
APPLICATION PROCESS



STANDARDIZED TESTS
DISCOUNTED FEES FOR
SAT, ACT & AP TESTS



NETWORK
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR INTERNET
ACCESS & WIRELESS SERVICE

The annual form is now available online and in four languages.

- **English Meal (Income) Application**
- **Español Spanish (Income) Application**
- **Chinese Meal (Income) Application**

- ■■■■■ Hindi Meal (Income) Application

For more information about the meals, please visit the Child Nutrition Website.

[https://www.srvusd.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?
d=x&group_id=1531973258656&vdid=i20b2k99eacx](https://www.srvusd.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?d=x&group_id=1531973258656&vdid=i20b2k99eacx)



**Street
Smarts**

See more information on the *Monthly Contest* tab at street-smarts.com.

Street Smarts has an ongoing Monthly Contest. Click on the link above more more details.

Dolores Pita is the SRV Street Smarts Coordinator and can be reached at dpita@sanramon.ca.gov or 925-973-2581.

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON
CHEVRON **APPLE** **AIG** **BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB** **INTEL** **KAISER** **EBAY**
 ROBERT HALF **GENENTECH** **CLOROX**

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WELLS FARGO **AT&T**
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LINKEDIN **ROCHE MOLECULAR**
 VEEVA SYSTEMS **BANK OF THE WEST**
VERIZON **WORKDAY** **DODGE & COX**
 BANK OF AMERICA **ORACLE**
AIG **CONSTITUTION** **PG&E**

SHARK FUND
 A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITING ALL SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

SAN RAMON VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
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OVER \$25,000
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- 2 THEY MATCH IT
- 3 DOUBLE THE IMPACT

SEE IF YOUR EMPLOYER WILL MATCH YOUR DONATION
[HTTPS://WWW.SRVEF.ORG/DONATE/MATCHINGGIFTS.ASPX](https://www.srvef.org/donate/matchinggifts.aspx)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TODD STRACKE AT
 TODD.STRACKE@CLOROX.COM OR (510) 219-8589

Sycamore Valley Shark Fund is an affiliate of the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation
 Donations are 100% tax-deductible. 501c3 Tax ID #94-3390401

NOVARTIS **APPLE** **GARTNER** **PEPSICO** **BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB**
CHEVRON **VISA** **ELI LILLY** **MERCK** **GENENTECH** **EBAY** **AT&T** **ADOBE** **WELLS FARGO**

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