

# Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



## Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal February 17, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

### REMINDERS

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

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

### Valentine's Day Fun

Our teachers and amazing parent volunteers put on a fantastic Valentine's Day for all of our students this year. Thank you to everyone who came to help make the day a great one! Check out some of these fun activities:



### Professional Development Day

Next week, we will be spending our time on Tuesday working on developing strategies around social emotional support for our students here on campus, working in our PLC groups, aligning essential standards across the district, and learning more about Tourette's syndrome and how to support our students with Tourette's.

### Staff Updates

We have a new face on campus! We'd like to welcome Karen Ta, our new Office Assistant. Karen comes to us with a strong background in office administration with a focus on budgeting and accounting. We are so lucky to have Karen join our team! Next time you are in the office, be sure to say hello!



Warmly,  
Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

## IMPORTANT DATES



- 
- 02/18 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
  - 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 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
  - 02/25 - African American History Museum**
  - 03/02 - PTA/Shark Fund/Site Council Job Fair**
  - 02/04 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
  - 03/09 - Dippin Dot Sales**
  - 03/23 - Dippin Dot Sales**
  - 03/25 - Live Auction [buy tickets](#)**
  - 03/28 - Variety Show Act Submission deadline**
  - 04/04 - 04/08 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL**
  - 04/27 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal**
  - 04/28 - Variety Show - 6:00pm**



# Sycamore Auction 2022

## Tickets On Sale Now

**Live Auction Tickets On Sale Now:** Our Sycamore Valley Live Auction only comes around every other year and you won't want to miss it! This year's "Yacht Party" will be held on March 25<sup>h</sup> at Crow Canyon Country Club. Please view our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for additional information. Every Live Auction ticket purchased before March 1<sup>st</sup> will earn you an entry in our [raffle](#). We can't wait to welcome you aboard!

## Buy Live Auction Tickets Here

### **New for 2022 - Sharky Surprise:**

We are looking for our Sycamore community to fund a [SURPRISE lot](#) to be featured at the Live Auction on March 25th. For \$30, you'll be donating to create a highly desirable, parent-funded, family-friendly auction package which will be a surprise until the night of the Live Auction and auctioned off to the highest bidder. Be sure to enter your student's teacher name(s) when you make your donation because the class with the highest participation percentage will earn an exciting class prize!

Each \$30 donation will also earn you an entry in our [raffle](#), plus donor names will be displayed during our Live and Online Auctions. The fundraising target for Sharky Surprise is \$5,000. [Donate to Sharky Surprise Here](#)

### **Hosts are Needed for Sycamore Socials**

Have you ever wondered how people really get to know each other at Sycamore? Look no further than the Sycamore Socials! As part of our Online Auction, we offer a range of fun, parent-hosted experiences geared towards kids, adults and families. If you and a few friends are interested in hosting a party to help Sycamore raise money for paras, intervention, library, and other great services for our kids, please reach out to Alison Stracke [sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org](mailto:sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org) for further details.



**2022 AUCTION  
YACHT PARTY**

**WE NEED ALL  
HANDS ON DECK!**

**AUCTION TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**



**YACHT PARTY  
MARCH 25, 2022  
CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB  
6:00-10:00 PM**



<https://tinyurl.com/yckny3xj>

## **Attendance Line**

**925-855-2898**



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**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!

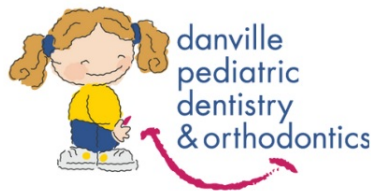
Thank you.

## Platinum Sponsors

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



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1-844-KEHRIGS



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**armanino** 

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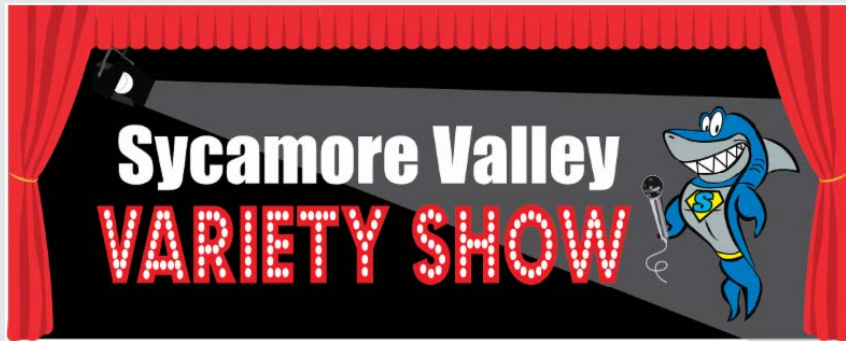
**CARDMY★YARD**  
SKIP THE CARD, STAKE THE YARD

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

Please write your Child's Name and Grade/Teacher  
on the item that your are dropping off.



## OUR VARIETY SHOW IS BACK AND WE ARE SO EXCITED!!!

Does your child love to perform on stage? Would they like to present an entertaining act of their choice in front of an audience? Solo or as a group, we would love to see your star showcased in the **Sycamore Valley Variety Show!**

## IMPORTANT 2022 VARIETY SHOW DATES:

**Deadline to submit Variety Show Act Participation Information and Music:**  
Monday, March 28th

**Variety Show Dress Rehearsal:** Wednesday, April 27th at 1:00 PM in MPR

**Variety Show:** Thursday, April 28th at 6:00 PM in MPR

Please print and read the attached [Variety Show 2022 Handout](#) for all information pertaining to this year's show and how to get your act signed up in time!

If you have any questions, please contact:

Laurie Campbell Variety Show Director [dancelm@mac.com](mailto:dancelm@mac.com)

Marisa Montierth

Assistant Variety Show Director [marisamontierth@gmail.com](mailto:marisamontierth@gmail.com)



## 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. 25<sup>th</sup>)**  
**Corporate Sponsorship Committee**  
**Live Auction Event committee (Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>)**  
**Auction Sycamore Socials Coordinator**  
**Spirit Week Committee (Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>)**

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

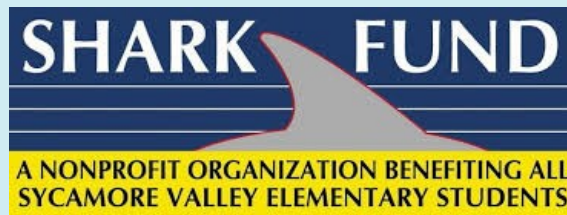
To discuss these opportunities, please contact  
Joëlle Baldwin (310) 562-2281, [joelle.baldwin@gmail.com](mailto:joelle.baldwin@gmail.com)

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** 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)

**2/23, 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

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### **Sharky Cinema:**

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

## **Yearbook NEEDS Your Photos:**

**Please submit qualified photos for Yearbook!**

**DEADLINE is MARCH 1st**

**What is a qualified photo?**

- 3-5 kids in a photo
- Clear and High Resolution
- Close-up, kids looking at the camera

[www.hjeshare.com](http://www.hjeshare.com)

code: sycamoresharks

**ATTN: 5th Grade Parents!**

**BABY PHOTOS** are due 2/15.

Please email to: [Laura@cadoro.us](mailto:Laura@cadoro.us) and PLEASE make sure to indicate the FULL name of your student in the email.



Want your  
**PHOTOS**

in the  
**YEARBOOK?**



Upload at [www.hjeshare.com](http://www.hjeshare.com)  
School code: **sycamoresharks**



## Kids Are Talking

What's your  
favorite book or  
author?



**Mai Ly**  
My favorite book is Geronimo Stilton books because they are funny. Geronimo Stilton is a 'fraidy mouse because he's a mouse and he always does mistakes and he has lots of adventures.



**Erin**  
My favorite book is Hamster Princess because it has a picture on every page. It's about animals and hamster princesses.



**Nya**  
Raina (*Telegemeier*) is my favorite author and 'Sisters' my favorite book. It's because it's about two sisters, about siblings that fight, and me and my sisters fight a lot and it reminded me of them. I really loved the book because it's a graphic novel.



**Laney**  
My favorite book is called 'Love' and I like it because it's very cool and it teaches you who you truly are.



**Maximus**  
That's hard. Probably the Jack and Annie books (*Magic Tree House*) that my Dad reads to me because they go on adventures, and there's magic in it. I remember all of them.



**Daniel**  
David Pilkey because he makes good books and he makes Captain Underpants and Dog Man and Super Diaper Baby. I like to read those books. I like they are funny and they say not real words and they yell a lot.



# 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](mailto:sycamoreslam@gmail.com) and see our website at <https://sycamoreslam2122.shutterfly.com/>

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## 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](#). 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 Feb issue has been sent home through your child's classroom. Download Blank Answer Worksheets from the SLAM Website

or answer in the magazine.

<https://sycamoreslam2122.shutterfly.com/m>

Completed worksheets/magazines must be turned into the SLAM bin in the office by the DUE DATE below.  
Student work will be recorded and returned.

**DUE DATES:**

**Feb Issue:** Due Fri, Feb 25

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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!**

Please be sure to remind your student(s) to return their books each week, and keep an eye out for any weekly overdue reminders.

Fee requests for lost library books from 2021 will also be coming this week. Thank you for your help!

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](mailto:phyllis.acon@gmail.com)  
Thank you for participating, and happy reading!

## Sharky Shout Out:

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Thank you to our 5th grade teachers for hosting the outdoor education parent meeting last night. We are looking forward to a fun filled overnight field trip in April for our 5th grade students.



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**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.



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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](mailto:orders@ciphoto.com)



## Child Nutrition

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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><b>P-EBT CARD</b> RECEIVE \$ TO PURCHASE FOOD</p>	 <p><b>ATHLETICS</b> DISCOUNTED FEES FOR PAY TO PLAY</p>	 <p><b>SCHOOL FUNDING</b> INCREASED FUNDING TO SUPPORT STUDENTS' ACCESS TO TOP-NOTCH EDUCATION</p>
 <p><b>COLLEGE APPLICATIONS</b> DISCOUNTS FOR FEES ASSOCIATED WITH COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS</p>	 <p><b>STANDARDIZED TESTS</b> DISCOUNTED FEES FOR SAT, ACT &amp; AP TESTS</p>	 <p><b>NETWORK</b> ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR INTERNET ACCESS &amp; WIRELESS SERVICE</p>

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)





**Growing UP Green Weeks 2021-2022**

A Fundraiser benefiting your school!

<b>2021 DATES</b>	<b>2022 DATES</b>
Sept. 3 - 12	Jan. 7 - 16
Oct. 22 - 31	Feb. 4 - 13
Nov. 26 - Dec. 5	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 purchases back. *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](http://www.sloatgardens.com)  
 Mill Valley    Kentfield    Novato    San Francisco  
 Concord    Martinez    Pleasant Hill    Danville—Camino Ramon    Danville—Diablo Road

**Shark Fund - Corporate Match**

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**DOUBLE YOUR SHARK FUND DONATION WITH**  
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**LAST YEAR SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY RECEIVED OVER**  
**OVER \$25,000**  
**FROM CORPORATE MATCHES!**

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 ELI LILLY GENENTECH AT&T WELLS FARGO



- 1 YOU DONATE
- 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

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](mailto: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](mailto:katerinitsa@aol.com) or Kristina Buskirk [Kristinabuskirk@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org)

## Platinum Sponsors



**DESILVA GATES**  
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REAL ESTATE GROUP

**JENNIFER LARSON**

arriveREgroup.com  
DRE #01897334

TIFFANY  
STOCK  
TEAM



danville  
pediatric  
dentistry  
& orthodontics

**CARD  
MY  
YARD**  
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BEE ORGANIZED  
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