

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal February 24, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

No School = Friday, March 11th - Teacher Work Day
Minimum Days = March 16th - 18th - Parent/Teacher Conferences

African American History Museum:

Hopefully, you have all marked your calendars for this Friday, February 25th from 2:30-4:00 pm as we host our African American History Museum in the MPR. This year's museum is focused on African American artists' contributions to the visual arts. Each grade level has a different artist that they are focusing on this month. Here are the artists by grade level:

TK/K: Romare Bearden
First: Clementine Hunter
Second: Benny Andrews
Third: Henry Ossawa Tanner
Fourth: James Van Der Zee
Fifth: Gordon Parks

PTA generously purchased a copy of a read aloud book for each teacher. These read aloud books focus on each grade level's artist. Mrs. Silvestri, our art docent teacher, created art lessons inspired by the African American artist assigned to each grade level. We will be showcasing the student's artwork and highlighting the contributions of these artists in our museum. Hope to see you there!

Sacramento Trip:

All of our fourth graders have now taken the trip to Sacramento to visit the Railroad Museum, Sutter's Fort and the State Capital. Thank you to our fourth grade teachers and all our parent chaperones who helped make this trip happen for our fourth graders. This is such a special experience and it was made even more special this year when Sycamore was featured on the digital display board on the Assembly floor!



Carnegie Hall Performance: Stephanie Zhu

On February 19th, one of our second graders, Stephanie Zhu, won First Place in the Final Competition of Elite International Music Competition at Carnegie Hall New York. Her performance piece is Chopin-Waltz, Op. 69 No. 2 in B minor. The day before her Carnegie Hall competition, Mr. Coley sent her a very thoughtful encouragement picture with all her classmates and everyone made a best wishes card for her. Stephanie felt so inspired and so touched. All of us here at Sycamore are so proud of Stephanie and her accomplishments!



Parent/Teacher Conferences:

As you may be aware, March 16th, 17th, and 18th are Parent/Teacher Conferences. Unlike October's Fall Parent/Teacher conferences, Spring Conferences are not for all students. The Spring conferences are by teacher invitation or parent request only. Just like in the fall, these conferences can be in person or virtual. Teachers will reach out directly to those families with whom they would like to meet.

Welcome New Staff:

We have new staff on our campus! Alexis Louis will be at our site working to support our students.

IMPORTANT DATES



-
- 02/25 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
 - 02/25 - African American History Museum**
 - 03/01 - Deadline for submitting photos for yearbook**
 - 03/02 - PTA/Shark Fund/Site Council Job Fair**
 - 03/04 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
 - 03/09 - Dippin Dot Sales**
 - 03/11 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
 - 03/18 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
 - 03/23 - Dippin Dot Sales**
 - 03/25 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
 - 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**

African American History Museum

Please join us in the MPR on Friday, February 25th from 2:30-4:00 to celebrate the African American History Museum 2022. This year's museum theme is African Americans in the Visual Arts and focuses on the lives and artwork of six prominent African American artists. Sycamore students read books about these artists, and created original artwork inspired by their work.

FEB
25

Celebrating
African Americans
in the Visual Arts:

Benny Andrews
Romare Bearden
Henry O. Tanner
Clementine Hunter
Gordon Parks
James Van Der Zee



AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MUSEUM

African Americans
in the Visual Arts
2:30-4:00 in the MPR

PTA Presents the African American History Museum to celebrate African Americans in the Visual Arts. Join us in the MPR on Friday, February 25 from 2:30-4:00 as we celebrate the lives and artwork of prominent African American artists. Come view the original artwork created by Sycamore students inspired by these artists!



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 25th at Crow Canyon Country Club. Please view our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for additional information. Every Live Auction ticket purchased before March 1st will earn you an entry in our [raffle](#). We can't wait to welcome you aboard!



Sycamore Auction 2022

Want a chance to visit **The Wizarding World of Harry Potter**? Buy your raffle tickets today on [Auctria](#) for your chance to win! While you're on the site, secure your seats for the LIVE auction event where you could go home with an even more magical prize!

Sharky Surprise: Your \$30 donation turns into thousands for Sycamore!

We are looking for our Sycamore community to fund a SURPRISE lot to be featured at the Live Auction on March 25th. Your \$30 donation will fund 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! **Currently in the lead are Mrs. Miller's, Mrs. Kay's and Mrs. Crothwait's classes.** Each \$30 donation will also earn you 1 entry in our [raffle](#), plus donor names will be displayed during our Live and Online Auctions. [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



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



**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!

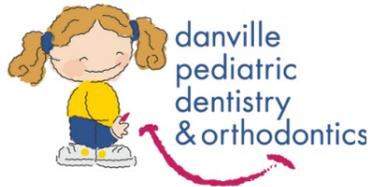
Thank you.

Platinum Sponsors

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



THE KEHRIG
REAL ESTATE TEAM
KEHRIGTEAM.COM
1-844-KEHRIGS



ARRIVE
REAL ESTATE GROUP

TIFFANY
STOCK
TEAM



BEE ORGANIZED
Simplify Your Hive

JENNIFER LARSON

arriveREgroup.com
DRE #01897334



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

armanino

DESILVA  GATES
CONSTRUCTION

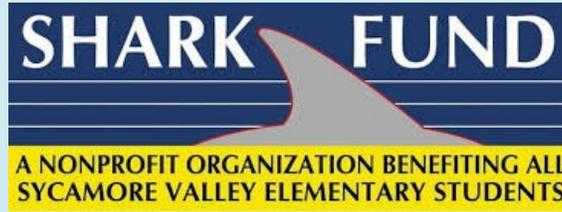
CARDMY★YARD
SKIP THE CARD, STAKE THE YARD

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.



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)

3/9, 3/23

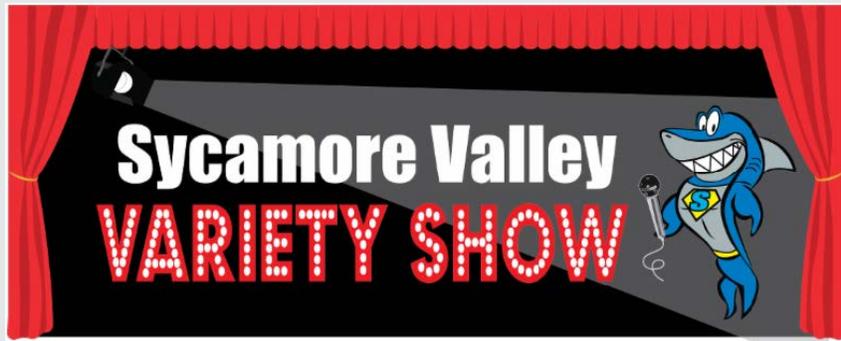
TK & Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30am near the Kinder Playground Entrance
1st - 5th Sales @ 12:50pm on the blacktop near the rear entrance of the MPR

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.



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

Marisa Montierth

Assistant Variety Show Director marisamontierth@gmail.com



Our PTA Needs Your Help!!

Our PTA Needs Your Help!!

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

- 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**

LAST CALL FOR ALL 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

code: sycamoresharks

Want your
PHOTOS

in the
YEARBOOK?



Upload at www.hjeshare.com
School code: **sycamoresharks**

Kids Are Talking



Stay Tuned for Next Week.



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](#). 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!

Sign up for Language (word masters)

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

Sign up for Language (Battle of the Books)

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

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

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
Thank you for participating, and happy reading!

Sharky Shout Out:

We have received more than you cards from the students at our
Sister School--King Elementary in Richmond.
They have LOVED the new books our Sycamore community generously
donated for the Sister School Drive in December.
We hope the generosity will continue for our spring drive.
Look for details in next week's Shark Bites.



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



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

 Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) Program	 ATHLETICS	 SCHOOL FUNDING
P-EBT CARD RECEIVE \$ TO PURCHASE FOOD	DISCOUNTED FEES FOR PAY TO PLAY	INCREASED FUNDING TO SUPPORT STUDENTS' ACCESS TO TOP-NOTCH EDUCATION
 COLLEGE APPLICATIONS	 STANDARDIZED TESTS	 NETWORK
DISCOUNTS FOR FEES ASSOCIATED WITH COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS	DISCOUNTED FEES FOR SAT, ACT & AP TESTS	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

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

SHARK FUND
 A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITING ALL SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

SAN RAMON VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
 Investing in a World Class Educational Experience

DOUBLE YOUR SHARK FUND DONATION WITH CORPORATE MATCH

LAST YEAR SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY RECEIVED OVER
OVER \$25,000
 FROM CORPORATE MATCHES!

- 1 YOU DONATE
- 2 THEY MATCH IT
- 3 DOUBLE THE IMPACT

SEE IF YOUR EMPLOYER WILL MATCH YOUR DONATION
[HTTPS://WWW.SRVUF.ORG/DONATE/MATCHINGGIFTS.ASPX](https://www.srvuf.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)

- 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!

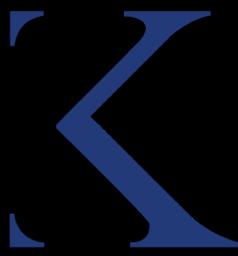
People love a tax-deductible donation & raising money for all of our children. Please view the [attached letter](#) for more information.

Questions?

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

Platinum Sponsors

DESILVA GATES
CONSTRUCTION



THE KEHRIG
REAL ESTATE TEAM
KEHRIGTEAM.COM
1-844-KEHRIGS



ARRIVE
REAL ESTATE GROUP

JENNIFER LARSON

arriveREgroup.com
DRE #01897334

TIFFANY
STOCK
TEAM



danville
pediatric
dentistry
& orthodontics

**CARD
MY
YARD**
SKIP THE CARD, STAKE THE YARD™

armanino



BEE ORGANIZED
Simplify Your Hive

State Farm

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