

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal January 13, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

No School: Monday, January 17th
Minimum Day: Tuesday, January 25th
TK & K (all students) = 8:00am - 10:30am
1st - 5th (all students) = 8:00am - 12:00pm

Happy New Year Sycamore Community! I hope you all had a wonderful break. It is so fun to get to see the kids this week and hear all the fun adventures they had over the break - from staying home and eating great food to trips to Tahoe for skiing and snow play.

Over the course of January, we will be using a part of the Principal's section of Shark Bites to do a "NEW YEAR REVIEW" that focuses on reviewing procedures/providing updates for procedures here on campus. This week, we will focus on reviewing our morning drop off guidelines.

NEW YEAR REVIEW: Drop Off Reminders

Grades 1-5 Arrival at School (8:00 am)

We encourage our parents/guardians to utilize the carpool pick-up lane as it is the safest way to minimize contact between community members. However, we recognize that, especially for our youngest students, drop off and pick-up in person may be the best option.

Students who are being dropped off in vehicles at carpool:

It is important to drive slowly and watch for children and adults. You must remain in your vehicle at all times if you are using the carpool drop off lane. Teachers will be there to help open doors of vehicles and safely get children out of the car.

Please do not "cut" the line unless a staff member waves you forward. Additionally, it is important that you wait until you are in one of the designated drop off spots in front of the school before you let your child exit your vehicle. When families drop off ahead of the designated spots, it often ends up creating a traffic jam. If you do not want to wait in the drop off line, you can pull into the parking lot and walk your child to the crosswalk, and they can cross safely to school.

You may drop off your 1st-5th grader in the morning no earlier than 7:45 am. There is adult

supervision on the big kid playground blacktop starting at 7:45 am. We have had a lot of children being dropped off before 7:45. We are concerned for their safety as there are no adults on the blacktop at that time.

Students who are being dropped off in person:

If you would like to accompany your child onto the playground, please park in the parking lot and remain on the playground blacktop with your child. Students will line up at their classroom number and wait for the bell to ring at 8:00am. No children should be playing on the play structure or on the yard before school starts. At 8:00 am teachers will walk to the blacktop and get their students. All adults must leave the playground at 8:00 am, as we have P.E. classes that will use the blacktop beginning at 8:10 am.

Students who are walking :

Students can enter the playground no earlier than 7:45 am. Students may enter through the front playground gates or the gate that leads to the back path and should line up at their classroom numbers.

Grade 1 Late Shark Arrival (8:40)

Students who are being dropped off in vehicles at carpool:

See above information. A staff member will be there to help open doors of vehicles and safely get children out of the car. You may drop off your late shark 1st grader in the morning no earlier than 8:30 am. Students will wait outside the front gates until 8:40. At 8:40 the staff member will walk the students to their appropriate classrooms.

Students who are being dropped off in person:

If you would like to accompany your child to the front of the school, please park in the parking lot and remain in front of the school with your child. The gates will open at 8:40 am for students to go to their classroom. At 8:40 the school staff member will walk the students to their appropriate classrooms. No parents are allowed on campus.

Covid Updates

As you have read in our daily emails, we have had a few positive cases on our campus this week. Here is some information that may be helpful to your family:

- If you choose to have your child vaccinated, please provide a copy of the vaccination card, showing both shot dates, to our school office.
- If your child has an exposure or test positive, please notify our school office ASAP.
- Home Test Kits are now approved for test results.

Warmly,
Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



01/07 - 01/16 - Sloat Garden Center Giveback

01/17 - No School - MLK Holiday

01/19 - Book Mark Contest entries due

01/19 - Shark Fund Meeting - Virtual 6:30pm

01/25 - Minimum Day Schedule - Staff Development day
01/26 - Book Swap
01/31 - 02/04 - Words Matter Week
02/16 - Shark Fund Meeting 6:30 pm -virtual
02/21 - No School - President's Day
02/22 - No School - Staff Development Day

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.

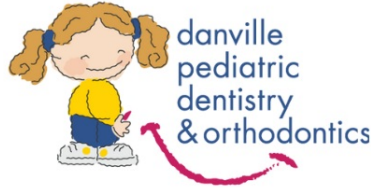
If you choose not to leave illness details, you will receive a call from the attendance office asking for more information. It is our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our school community and we ask for your cooperation. Your student's private health information will not be shared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



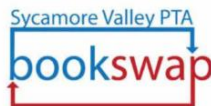
Reminder:

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

Book Swap - Bookmark Contest

Print off the flyer and make a bookmark for our Bookswap.
Bookmarks should be turned in to the school office by January 19th, 2022.

FLYER



Bookmark Contest Rules:

This year's theme is "Imagine All the People...Living in a World of Books."
What's your favorite book? Use your imagination and creativity to design a bookmark that best represents that book. **Make sure to write/include the book title on your entry!** Open to all Sycamore Valley Elementary Students Grades TK - 5.

- Bookmarks must be created using this template (on the left) with crayons, colored pencils, pens or markers. (Remember, winning bookmarks must be reproducible.)
- Original entries only. No tracing or copyrighted images like cartoons. No computer generated images.
- Only one (1) entry per student. Artwork should be done by hand and by the child whose name is on the form (exception: young children may receive help in writing letters and numbers).

Turn in your bookmark design entry to the OFFICE by January 19, 2021.

- Winners will be chosen from each grade level (TK, K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th).
- Winners will be judged on creativity, spelling and neatness, theme, and print-ability.
- Winners will be announced January 26 and will receive a prize as well as bragging rights as "official" bookmark at this year's Book Swap.

Name _____

Grade _____ Age _____ Teacher _____

Parent/Guardian, please sign:

Sycamore Valley Elementary PTA has my permission to reproduce, exhibit, and distribute my child's bookmark and to list his or her first name, last initial, and school name on the bookmark.

Signature of parent or guardian _____ Date _____



Shark Fund / PTA Google Calendar

Calendar

Shark Fund Meeting Wednesday, Jan 19 @ 6:30 pm

Make a difference in the Sycamore community by getting involved! Please join our next virtual Shark Fund meeting on January 19th. Log-in details can be found below. Our agenda will include additional 2022 funding areas made possible by the success of 2021 fundraisers. 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 Jan 19, 2022 6:30pm – 7:30pm

meet.google.com/mbe-phcm-ifg

Join by phone +1 929-399-7613 (PIN: 705914440)

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:

Mark your calendars!

Sycamore's Live Auction is scheduled for **Friday, March 25, 2022** and our Online Auction and Spirit Week will be held the week of March 21-27.

If you are interested in lending your time and talents to these important Shark Fund events, or if you or your business have an item to donate, please contact

Live Auction Chair, Katerina McCormack katerinitsa@aol.com

or

Online Auction Chair, Jenna Mesic

jlmestic@gmail.com.

Yearbook Photos:

**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**



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. In fact, the rack is currently overflowing...

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.



**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 sycamoreslam2122@shutterfly.com

For MathMadness contact

Anurag Dodeja at: anurag@dodejas.com

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805044DA8AE22A4F94-sycamore>

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Sign up for Science

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

Sign-ups for SuperScience are now closed. Completed September issues,
along with the new Dec/Jan issue, will be sent home through your child's

classroom this month. Blank SuperScience Skills Sheets, as well as Answer Keys, can be downloaded from the SLAM Website: [Shutterstock](https://www.shutterstock.com).

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:

Dec/Jan Issue: Due Fri, Jan 21

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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!

Did you receive any new books over the holidays? If you have cleaned out your bookshelves to make room, and have any popular series / books to find a home for, please feel free to email me at jprindiville@srvusd.net to see if the library can use them as a donation!

And keep up the good work returning your library books on time each week!

Happy reading!

Jen Prindiville / Library Media Coordinator

<https://syc-srvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/sylibrary>

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 our teachers, support staff, and office staff for all they do to support our students and Sycamore community.



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@ciphotoca.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 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
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

TIFFANY
STOCK
TEAM



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