

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal January 20, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

Minimum Day: Tuesday, January 25th

TK & K (all students) = 8:00am - 10:30am

1st - 5th (all students) = 8:00am - 12:00pm

As mentioned last week, we will be continuing with our “NEW YEAR REVIEW” that focuses on reviewing procedures/providing updates for procedures here on campus. This week, we will focus on reviewing our Afternoon Pick Up guidelines.

Pick Up Procedures

Grades 2-5 Dismissal from School

Students who are being picked-up in vehicles at carpool:

Students will walk to the front of the school where they will stand in their designated grade level area. Students may stand with their siblings. Students will stay in their area until they see their family’s vehicle arrive. Students will walk to the vehicle and enter. Once a student is safely in the vehicle, the vehicle should pull forward and leave the carpool lane safely.

Students who are being picked-up in person:

All parents/guardians will park their vehicles in the lot in front of Sycamore. Parents/guardians will cross the street and stand on the playground blacktop by their child’s classroom number. Parents/guardians with multiple children at school may want to consider coordinating a certain area as the family’s “meeting spot” ahead of school starting. Parents/guardians may not go inside of the school gates. Students will walk with their class to the playground blacktop where they will meet their parents who are standing near their classroom number. Once parents/guardians and students

have connected, parents/guardians will immediately leave the playground area, cross the street at the crosswalk, and go to their parked vehicle.

If any students are not picked up by 2:45, the paras/teachers on duty will walk students back to the office and families will be called.

Students who are walking:

Students will exit the campus and head out towards the back path or down Holbrook to walk home.

Students who are going to Kids' Country:

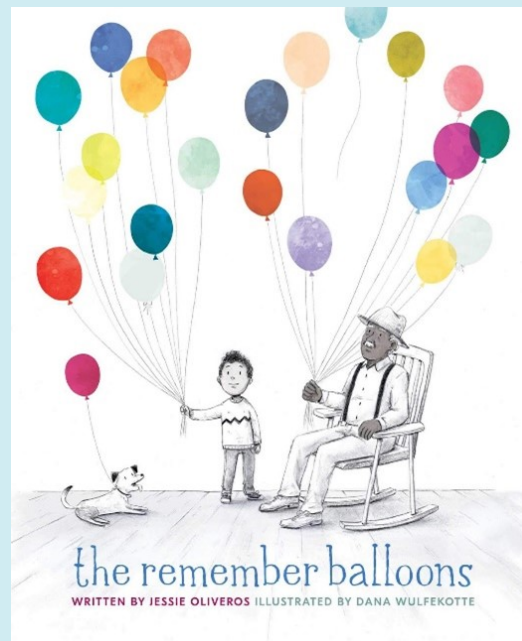
Students will leave their classrooms and walk to the Kids' Country entrance in the fifth grade quad.

NOTE:

If you park in the Kids Country or Synagogue parking lots - You MUST turn right when exiting the parking lot. DO NOT drive straight across the road. Traffic signs indicate that you must turn right when exiting this lot. It is unsafe to cut across traffic when exiting these lots.

Read Aloud Information

As this month is so short, students will be watching a video of this month's read aloud book. This month's read aloud focuses on the character trait of cooperation. The act of cooperating is the process of working together to the same end. In this month's read aloud, James learns the importance of working together with his family to preserve his grandpa's memories, even as his grandfather begins to forget them. In the story, each balloon represents a memory.



James's Grandpa has the most balloons because he is the oldest and has the most memories. In James' opinion, his grandfather also has the best balloons because he has the best memories. He has balloons showing Dad when he was young and Grandma when they were married. Grandpa has balloons about camping and Aunt Nelle's poor cow. Grandpa also has a silver balloon filled with the memory of a fishing trip he and James took together.

But when Grandpa's balloons begin to float away, James is heartbroken. No matter

how hard he runs, James can't catch them. One day, Grandpa lets go of the silver balloon—and he doesn't even notice! Grandpa no longer has balloons of his own. But James has many more than before. He realizes it is up to him to work together with his family to continue to share Grandpa's balloons, one by one.

Report Cards

Report cards will be going home (hard copy) with students this Friday. Report cards will also be available on the Illuminate Student Portal for you to view on Friday, January 21st at 3:30 pm. Parents will be able to view using student login to Illuminate. Here is more information on [**Report Card Access for Parents**](#).

Staff Updates

As some of you may know, Katy Power, our office assistant, has accepted a new position at SRVHS. While we will miss Katy tremendously, we are excited for her in her new endeavor. We are currently seeking a new office assistant for 30 hours per week. If you have any interest in the position, please reach out to Barbara Jones at [**Bjones1@srvsud.net**](mailto:Bjones1@srvsud.net).

We also have a new face on campus! We'd like to welcome Bhawana Verma to Sycamore. She is our new Resident Substitute teacher. She helps to cover classes when we need a substitute and also provides additional support on campus.

Warmly,
Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



02/04 - 02/13 - Sloat Garden Center Giveback

01/24 - 01/26 - Book Swap Donations Accepted

01/25 - Minimum Day Schedule - Staff Development day

01/26 - Dippin Dot Sales

01/26 - Book Swap

01/28 - Vision and Hearing Screening - Volunteers Needed

01/31 - 02/04 - Words Matter Week

02/09 - Dippin Dot Sales

02/16 - Shark Fund Meeting 6:30 pm -virtual

02/21 - No School - President's Day

02/22 - No School - Staff Development Day

02/23 - Dippin Dot Sales

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.

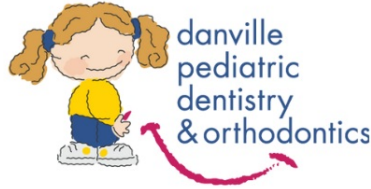
If you choose not to leave illness details, you will receive a call from the attendance office asking for more information. It is our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our school community and we ask for your cooperation. Your student's private health information will not be shared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



Hearing and Vision Screening Volunteers needed!

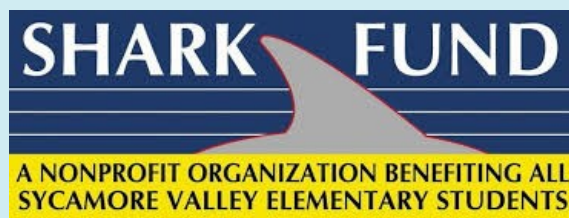
Please consider signing up to help our school nurse during the vision and hearing screening on Friday 1/28. Click the link for opportunities to volunteer!

[Vision & Hearing Volunteer Sign-Up](#)

Please make sure you have registered with Be A Mentor and are cleared to be general volunteer on campus. [Be A Mentor](#)

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



Shark Fund / PTA Google Calendar

Calendar



Book Swap:

Mark your calendars for the Book Swap on Wednesday, 1/26 after school in the MPR!

DONATIONS Monday – Wednesday, January 24-26

We will begin accepting donations Monday, January 24.

7:45-8:05 a.m. Front of School (Mon, Tues, Wed)

7:45-8:05 a.m. Kindergarten/TK Playground (Mon, Tues, Wed)

BOOK SWAP Wednesday, January 26th

Students may come to the MPR and select a “new to them” book of their choice based upon the number of books they donated up to five (5). Students will trade one (1) ticket for one (1) book. Students will also receive a free bookmark designed by the Bookmark Contest Winner for their grade level.

More information available: [FLYER](#)

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)

1/26, 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.

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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.

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

What are you most looking forward to this year?



Stefan

Probably math and science and everything else. Also reading harder books.



Zoya

This year I am looking forward to getting to know more friends and getting better at my handwriting because I don't have very good handwriting, and I think I am also looking forward to learning new things.



Jenna

I am looking forward to playing with my family and being a better student and memorizing more math and science... and to be playing more games during recess.



Parker

I am looking forward to a puppy playdate with my neighbors and also to play the board game Monopoly with my family.



Dylan

Having playdates with my friend



Harry

I am most looking forward to learning more math and learning more things in school. I was in remote learning last year, so this year I want to play with friends, I want to go to the park a lot, I want to have a lot of playdates since I couldn't have them over last year.



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: [Shutterfly](http://Shutterfly.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 Lisa Stansfield for capturing our kids thoughts and opinions in "Kids are Talking"!



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 Kristinabus Kirk@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 card s 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



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