

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal January 27, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS **Musical Performances for TK-2nd** **on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - See Schedule Below!**

New Year Review

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 volunteering procedures.

Here at Sycamore, we are so lucky to have so many amazing parent volunteers. From yard duty to art docent support from library to classroom help, parent’s time on campus with students makes a huge difference in the lives of our students. As we head into the second half of the year, here is what you need to know as a volunteer:

When you arrive at school to volunteer, please call the office at 925-855-2800. One of our staff members will come to the gate to let you onto campus. You will need to head straight to the office to sign in and swipe your ID in our computer system to receive a badge. Once you have signed in and have your badge, you can head to your destination (classroom, library, yard). When you are done with your assignment, please return to the office to sign out. This is a change from previous practice. This will help us with keeping track of exactly how many people are on our campus in the case of an emergency.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer on campus, you need to become a level one general volunteer. Please go to [Be A Mentor](#). You will need to provide your ID and other information, including your vaccination card if you have it.

TK-2nd Grade Music Performances

We are so excited to showcase our TK-2nd grade students and our new music program next week! If you will be attending to watch your child’s class, please wait outside of the MPR until we open the doors and welcome you. We will open the doors approximately five minutes before performances start. If you have any questions, please reach out to your child’s teacher. Remember, that all visitors must wear a mask once indoors in the MPR. Also, on Wednesday and Thursday, all students in grades 1-5 will eat outdoors to accommodate these performances. Students will return to

eating in the MPR on Friday.

Tuesday, February 2nd- TK/K Classes

Mrs. Baylies' Class	9:15-9:35
Ms. Smoller's Class	10:00-10:20
Mrs. Dennis' and Mrs. Readler's Class	10:30-10:50
Mrs. Koeltl's Class	11:00-11:20

Wednesday, February 3rd- 1st Grade Classes

Mrs. Flavio's Class	10:00-10:20
Mrs. Schembri's Class	10:30-10:50
Ms. Benz's Class	11:40-12:00
Mrs. Gilroy's Class	12:20-12:40

Thursday, February 4th- 2nd Grade Classes

Mr. Coley's Class	10:00-10:20
Mrs. Johnson's Class	10:30-10:50
Ms. Matejka's Class	11:00-11:20
Mrs. O'Malley's Class	12:10-12:30

Yearbook Photos

Our yearbook is still in need of photos! If you have any pictures of kids at events (think: Halloween, Fun Run, Art Docent, Library, First Day of School, Spirit Days, etc.) upload your photos to www.hjeshare.com with our school code: sycamoresharks . We have extended the deadline and would love to have your submissions!

Professional Development Day

This week, on Tuesday when we had our minimum day, our teachers were hard at work at Grade Level Meetings. During these meetings we study assessment data and determine what is needed to support students with their needs. We look at students who are struggling as well as our students who are thriving and ensure that all of our students' needs are being met.

Cell Phones and Smart Watches

Another reminder as we go into our second semester, please do not send students to school with smart watches that receive phone calls/texts. Additionally, no students should have cell phones on their body during the school day. If students need these devices, they can carry them in their backpacks and may only take them out once they are released from the classroom at the end of the day.

If you need to reach your child during the school day, please contact our office at 925-855-2800. We will be happy to relay any information or messages to your child.

Staff Updates

We also have a new face on campus! We'd like to welcome Nicole Berglund to Sycamore. She is our new MTSS liaison. She helps to provide additional support on campus by helping us organize our intervention programs. She also provides additional training to both our classified and certificated staff.



Warmly,

IMPORTANT DATES



01/28 - Vision and Hearing Screening - Volunteers Needed
01/31 - 02/04 - Words Matter Week
01/31 - Lost & Found will be bagged up for Donation
02/03 - Lost & Found will be Donated 7:30am
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
02/25 - African American History Museum
03/03 - 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.

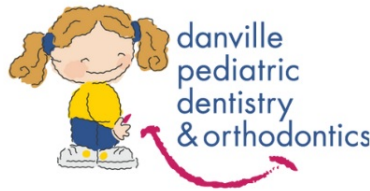
If you choose not to leave illness details, you will receive a call from the attendance office asking for more information. It is our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our school community and we ask for your cooperation. Your student's private health information will not be shared 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 Curry, Agent
925-588-7010
www.JenniferCurryInsurance.com

JENNIFER LARSON

arriveREgroup.com
DRE #01897334





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...**

***Lost and Found will be bagged up for donation on
Monday, January 31st.***

Donation pick up will be Thursday February 3rd @ 7:30am.

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.

Unclaimed water bottles and lunch boxes will be thrown away.

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:

Thank you to Christy Lucia, Erin Meyer, Dana Claffey, Leslie Cruz, Desare Kallingal, Alison Stracke and Lauren Ghio. Also thank you to Jack Lucia and Munesu Zifodya for collecting the books in the morning.

Congratulations to our Book Mark Winners:

TK - no entries

K - Mila Page

1st - Tashvi Rao

2nd - Lauren Eves

3rd - Purvi Rao

4th - Addie Baldwin

5th - Kate Stracke



1st - 5th Book Swap



1st - 5th Book Swap



TK/K Book Swap



Our PTA Needs Your Help!!

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 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

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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:

Save the Date for Sycamore's Live Auction Yacht Party

March 25, 2022

Crow Canyon Country Club

Tickets will go on sale in February

We Need All Hands On Deck to make this a success!

Volunteers are needed to assist the evening of the event (March 25), to help run Spirit Week (March 21-25), and to coordinate family-hosted Sycamore Socials. Please contact Joelle Baldwin joelle.baldwin@gmail.com if you are interested in joining our fun crew.

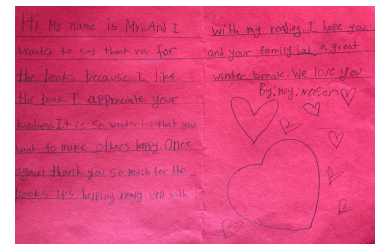
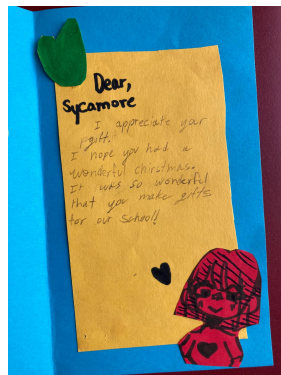
If you or your business have an item to donate, please contact
Live Auction Chair, Katerina McCormack katerinitsa@aol.com
or

Online Auction Chair, Jenna Mesic jlmestic@gmail.com.

Sister School Book Drive Update

Thank you to all the families who donated books to our Sister School Book Drive, for the students who made bookmarks, and for all those who helped at the wrapping party. The students and teachers at King Elementary were extremely grateful!

Here are some of the many thank you notes that King Elementary students sent us as well as Elf Kim Eves delivering the books before Christmas!





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

If you could ask a wild animal any question, what would you ask?





Addison
I would probably ask where it lives and if it would eat me or not? I would ask a camel, it's my favorite animal.



Eva
What their name is and what are they going to be doing? Also their names and their age.



Zoe
A cheetah or a leopard because they have spots and I like them. (I would ask) what would you ask for and why?



Honour
I would ask the wild animal, can you speak English?



Sanjay
What is your favorite color?



Landon
Do you have any friends who are animals? We're animals and so if they were friends with us, I wanted to know if they were friends with us?




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 in April - 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 the Moreno family for keeping our campus beautiful by planting new flowers!



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!

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 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](https://www.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