

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal March 03, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

CORRECTION =Regular School Day = Friday, March 11th
Minimum Days = March 16th - 18th - Parent/Teacher Conferences

School Calendar Update:

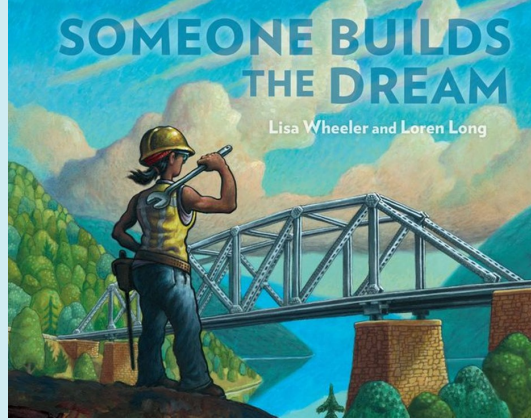
Reminder, March 11th is a regular school day. It was formerly a floating workday. This change was approved by the Board of Education and the updated instructional calendar is located [here](#).

Morning Recess Volunteers:

We are looking for Parent Volunteers to help with morning recess supervision, March 1st - May 31st. If you would like to sign up to volunteer 1 day a week (or more) 9:30-10:15, please contact our school office manager, Barbara Jones at bjones1@srvusd.net to sign up. Thank you!

Read Aloud - March: Creativity:

During the month of March we will focus on the Character Trait of CREATIVITY. Creativity is the use of the imagination or coming up with original ideas. Our read aloud book is called, Someone Builds the Dream. This book is an exploration of the many types of work that go into building our world—from the making of a bridge to a wind farm, an amusement park, and a picture book.



However, while the book celebrates the dreamer, it also recognizes that the dreamer isn't always the person who makes the dream come true. An architect may dream up the plans for a house, but someone has to actually work the saws and pound the nails. This book acknowledges the creativity of the dreamers but also gives recognition to the crews of skilled people, using some very impressive equipment and working very hard for a long time, to actually build that dream. In her biographical note, the author states that she grew up in a family of steel workers and welders and that she hopes we learn to admire and respect the builders and their work in this book.

African American History Museum:

Our African American History Museum was a huge success! The kids did such a beautiful job on their artwork and our living history models did a fantastic job teaching about the lives of our artists. We had some special visitors come see our museum including Trustee Clark and Dr. Malloy. A huge thank you to Toby Silvestri for her creativity in coming up with the projects, to our leadership students for creating the posters of artists' names, to Joselito Tangco for all his hard work setting up the event, and to our PTA President Christy Lucia, PTA EVP Erin Meyer and our other PTA volunteers who hung artwork and posters, created brochures and signs, and took care of all of the set up and take down for the event.



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.

Author Visit:

This week, Rakestraw Books (with the help of our librarian extraordinaire, Jennifer Prindiville) brought author Dan Santat- IN PERSON- to Sycamore! He wrote and illustrated the graphic novel *Sidekicks*, and has also written and illustrated many acclaimed picture books, including *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend*, which won the Caldecott Medal. During his visit, he kept our fourth and fifth graders enthralled as he talked about his newest graphic novel *The Aquanaut*.



SRVPTA Presents: Fentanyl Is in Our Community:

SRVPTA is hosting this event on Thursday, March 10, 2022, 7:00 - 8:30 PM in SRVUSD's Boardroom at 699 Old Orchard Drive, Danville. At the event you will hear from featured speakers: *Allan Shields, Danville Police Chief; April Rovero, National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse; Jon Campopiano, SRVUSD* and learn what to look for and how to save a life. This event will take place in person, seating is limited. Click here to register: [Fentanyl is in our Community: Learn What to Look for and How to Save a Life](#). Please register to attend.

Warmly,
Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



-
- 03/04 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
 - 03/04 - Early Bird Ticket Sales ends - Auction Tickets are still available.**
 - Live Auction [buy tickets](#)**
 - 03/04 - 5th Grade Finale Participation forms Due Today**
 - 03/09 - Dippin Dot Sales**
 - 03/11 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing**
 - 03/11 - Last day to order a Yearbook.**
 - 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**
 - 04/13 - Dippin Dot Sales**
 - 04/27 - Dippin Dot Sales**
 - 04/27 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal**
 - 04/28 - Variety Show - 6:00pm**



Sycamore Auction 2022

[Buy Live Auction Tickets Here](#)

LIVE Auction: Early Bird ticket sales end tomorrow!

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. Tickets purchased on or before March 4th will earn you a bonus raffle entry. That's an extra chance to win one of three great raffle prizes:

1. Date Night Package: \$100 Ruth Chris Steakhouse Gift Card, \$25 Uber Gift Certificate, \$15 Fandango Gift Certificate and Bottle of Rombauer Vineyards Zinfandel. {value \$200}
2. Spa Day Package: Hydrafacial from Blackhawk Skin Center & MedSpa and Kendra Scott Jewelry Set. {value \$385}
3. Family Fun Package: Gift Card for Universal Studios Hollywood to use for tickets, food, beverages and merchandise. {value \$500}

Sharky Surprise: Small family donations will turn 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 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! ***Mrs. Sayer's and Mrs. Smoller's classes have taken the lead, with Mrs. Kay's class not far behind.*** Each donation will also earn you an entry in our raffle, plus donor names will be displayed during our Live and Online Auctions.



Sycamore Auction 2022

Visit [Auctria](#) to purchase your LIVE auction tickets, make a contribution to Sharky Surprise and to learn more about all the auction fun in store.



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

TICKET

<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 



JENNIFER LARSON

arriveREgroup.com
DRE #01897334

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



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, 4/13, 4/27

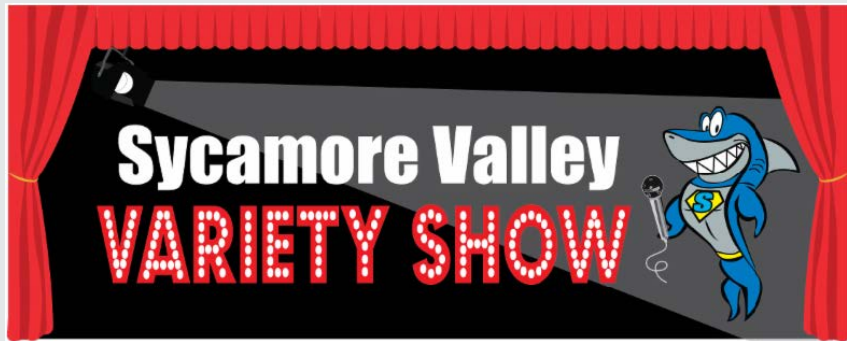
TK & Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30am near the Kinder Playground Entrance
1st - 5th Sales @ 12:50pm on the blacktop near the rear entrance of the MPR

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

Sharky Cinema:

Shark Fund be hosting Sharky Cinema in the near future, please stay tuned for information about our upcoming Spring sessions.



REMINDER for all 5th Grade Families:

Forms are due this **FRIDAY 3/4/22** if your child would like to participate in the 5th Grade Finale Performance on 4/28 OR would like a 5th Grade T-shirt! The 5th Grade finale is an annual Sycamore tradition offered to all 5th graders! Come join the fun and perform on stage at the end of the Variety Show. No experience needed. There will be 4 after school practices to rehearse and learn an easy routine. It will be a very memorable experience!

[5th Grade Finale Participation Form](#)



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**



LAST CALL TO ORDER YEARBOOKS!

Yearbook:

Last chance to order yearbooks!
Order thru future fund. **Deadline: Friday, 3/11/22**
Unsure if you've already ordered? You can check your future fund account.

To Place Order: Click here: [Future Fund](#)



Kids Are Talking Stay Tuned for Next Week.

If you were the
President, what
would you change?



Sophie

I would try to send more cops out because there has been a lot of crimes, so I think I would send more police out to stop the crimes.



Roman

I would change racism and I would make Ukraine and Russia stop battling and I would make it illegal for kidnapers to kidnap or murderers to kill and if they do that, they are sentenced to death.

Konstantine
I would make everything fair, to put in things to help schools and people who try very hard but don't get anything for it. And also to help the oceans and the wildlife.



Tanishka

I would make sure every hotel would have a dog policy. I would make sure every hotel, if you had a dog, you must be allowed to take it in and have dog hotels everywhere.



Evie

I would make teachers get paid more because they do so much work for us.



Karina

I would change climate change because a lot of animals are dying because of it. Another thing I would do if I was President is, I would help stop pollution, there is a lot of plastic going in the ocean and also killing a lot of animals. Another thing I would do is for Ukraine and Russia to stop battling, so Russia can stop taking over Ukraine's land. Another thing I would do is help homeless people and give them food and water, if they need it, and a home.



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>

SuperScience: Completed February SuperScience issues, as well as the new Mar/Apr 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](#). Completed worksheets for the Mar/Apr issue must be turned in to the SLAM bin located in the office by **Friday, April 1st**. Student work will be recorded and then returned the following month.

Science Builder's Challenge: This year's Science Builders' Challenge is Goldberg's Garage. Students will find creative ways to complete several action transfers (kinetic energy) by using a variety of simple machines, thus combining to form a complex machine! This project applies the concept of a Rube Goldberg machine, which uses a complicated series of actions to simply move an object from one place to another, usually in a unique, fun, and indirect way. The project submission and showcase will be held on **Monday, May 2nd**, after school. Project requirements will be emailed to those that have signed up.

Science Fair: Students will answer your most pressing scientific questions using The Scientific Method and present their experiment and findings in a tri-fold poster board presentation. This year's Science Fair will be held on **Wednesday, May 18th**, after school. Judging will be held that afternoon and prizes will be awarded for Creativity, Presentation, and Most Unexpected Results. The projects and awards will be on display in the library during the school's Open House on Thursday, May 19th. Project requirements will be emailed to those that have signed up.

Sign up for Language (word masters)

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

Sign up for Language (Battle of the Books)

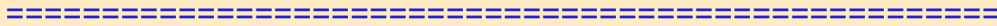


Sign up for DynaMath

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

The March/April Issue will be sent home through your child's classroom shortly. Download Blank Answer Worksheets from the SLAM website or put your answers in the magazine.

Complete March/April worksheets/magazines must be turned into the SLAM bin in the office by **Friday, April 1st**.

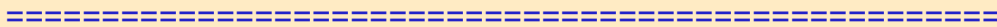


RESEARCH

Sign up for Research Projects here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080548ada92ba3f85-slam>

Our next project is Women's History Month due on **Friday, March 25th**.



SAN RAMON VALLEY PASSPORT

All 3rd-5th grade students (who have not previously done the passport) are invited to take part in this independent, interactive field trip exploration into the history of the San Ramon Valley!

Please follow this link to print out your own passport!!

<https://museumsrv.org/passport-2/>

Students must visit the assigned places and answer questions. Completed Passports can be dropped in the SLAM Office bin. The passport earns 2 SLAM points!

Passports are due **Friday, May 6th**.

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:

Thank you to everyone who helped make the
African American History Museum a success!

A big shout out to Mrs. Bullard, Christy Lucia and Erin Meyer for planning the event; the teachers for discussing their grade's artist with their classes; art docent teacher Toby Silvestri for planning and leading the artwork lessons; the parent volunteers for helping with set up: Asia Plahar, Kim Eves, Celia Schebella and Jessica Burg; the students who were the “live models” during

the museum: Wesley Plahar, Zoe Plahar, Caitlin Buskirk, Sloka Reddy, Daivik Dodeja and Olivia Kenney; and students who helped clean up on Monday: Maggie Meyer, Natalie Meyer and Kristopher Meyer.



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.

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.SRVEF.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

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1-844-KEHRIGS



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REAL ESTATE GROUP

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