

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal March 17, 2022

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

Minimum Days = March 16th - 18th - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Minimum Day = March 22nd = Professional Development ½ Day

Grades: TK / K = 8:00am - 10:30am

Grades: 1st - 5th = 8:00am - 12:00pm

Happy Saint Patrick's Day

It was so much fun to see all the **GREEN** around campus today. The kids had a great time sharing their leprechaun traps and eating special treats. Wishing you a happy Saint Patrick's Day!

Conference Week

It has been a busy week for our teachers as they meet with families to discuss students' progress. I have been fortunate enough to get to sit in on several conferences and it is wonderful to see the growth our Sharks have made and the strong collaboration that is happening between home and school. Thank you to all of you for all the support you give your children and our staff.

The Fire Trail

The fire trail and the drainage ditch at the back of our campus are areas that children should not be playing on, in or near. When you arrive to pick up your children after school, it is important that you meet your child at the red line by the classroom cone - or at the front of our campus. Please do not allow your children to play on the fire trail & drainage ditch as they are not safe areas. We appreciate your support in keeping our Sharks safe.

Dogs on Campus

As much as many people love their furry friends, unfortunately, no dogs are allowed on our campus during school hours. This includes the 15 minutes before and after school (7:45-2:45). In addition to the fact that we have students who are afraid of dogs, we also never know how an animal will behave and we must keep our Sharks safe. Please help us with following this rule by keeping dogs at home or in cars while picking up/dropping off your Shark.



Band Concert

This past week, some of our 5th grade band students got to go perform at San Ramon Valley High School. We are so proud of how they have grown as musicians this year! Great job!



Independent Study

If your family is going to be away from school for 5 or more consecutive days, please follow the directions below regarding requesting an Independent Study Contract for those pre-determined absences. By requesting a contract, your child(ren) will be given work to complete during their absence. Upon your child's return, they will submit the work they did and, once reviewed, the school will be able to receive ADA funding for the days missed. As a reminder, daily ADA funding is approximately \$70 per child. Without the contract, your child risks falling behind and our school loses out on funding.

While you can let your child's teacher know you are going to be leaving, you must fill out the Independent Study Request Form (see link below) and notify the staff in the school office to initiate the process. Teachers will only be able to provide work if the independent study contract request is completed.

Here are some of the procedures for requesting an independent study contract.

- 5-10 consecutive instructional day independent study contract: Must request at least three days in advance.
- 11-14 consecutive instructional day independent study contract: Must request and contact the principal five to ten days in advance.
- To request an Independent Study contract, please submit a filled-out request form to your student's school office. Click on this link: [Independent Study Request Form](#)

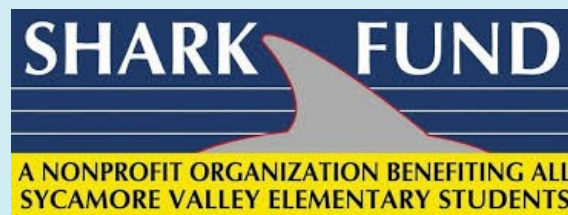
Warmly,
Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



03/18 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing
03/18 - 03/27 - Give Back - Sloat Garden Center
03/21 - 03/25 - Spirt Week Events
03/21 - 03/27 - Giveback - Pizza Guys
03/23 - Dippin Dot Sales
03/25 - Spirit day - Wear your shark ware or Blue clothing
03/25 - Live Auction
03/28 - Variety Show Act Submission deadline
04/04 - 04/08 - Spring Break - NO SCHOOL
04/13 - Dippin Dot Sales
04/15 - Family Game Night - MPR
04/25 - 04/29 - Spring Book Fair
04/27 - Dippin Dot Sales
04/27 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal
04/28 - Variety Show - 6:00pm



Shark Fund / PTA Google Calendar

[Calendar](#)



Sycamore Valley's Auction 2022 starts next week!

Remember, all proceeds benefit Shark Fund education programs like classroom paraeducators, weekly library, student intervention, TK/K PE and more. Read below for all the important details.

Sharky Surprise:

Tomorrow, 3/18 is the last day to help fund a SURPRISE lot to be featured at the Live Auction on 3/25. 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 class continues to hold their lead, with Mrs. Smoller and Mrs. Kay's classes 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.

[Donate to Sharky Surprise Here](#)

Spirit Week:

March 21-25. Do you have spirit? YES YOU DO!!! Next week is FULL of fun spirit activities - including dress up days and after school activities where students can earn participation tickets!!! Drawing will be held on Friday, 3/25 but your student does not need to be present to win. Spirit Week activities also include awesome fundraisers like Pizza Guys (Mar 21-27, be sure to mention Sycamore) and Dippin' Dots Wednesday, 3/23 after school on the Sycamore blacktop. Look for the printed Spirit Week Fun Guide, which will be sent home with students this week. Volunteers are needed to help run the after-school activities, please [sign-up here](#) if you can help.

Staff Raffles:

Order forms are coming home with students this week! Enter your child(ren) to win a chance to hang out with our beloved teachers and staff! Experiences are 100% donated by teachers and staff and raise several thousand dollars for our school each year! Be sure to turn your order form and check (payable to Shark Fund) in to the office by the 3:00 pm deadline on 3/25.

Online Auction:

March 21-27. Hundreds of great items can be previewed [here](#).

LIVE Auction:

March 25. Ticket sales are now closed but guests are encouraged to preview some of the [incredible packages](#) up for bid that evening.

Thank you for partnering with Shark Fund on this important school fundraiser – your participation in any or all of the activities above is vital to the success of the auction!



Dippin' Dots

March – April Dippin Dot Calendar
(weather permitting)
3/23, 4/13, 4/27

Shark Fund would like to **Thank You** for your support with our Dippin Dot Wednesday Fundraisers!!!!

In 2021, Dippin Dots generated over **\$13,500** in sales and since January over **\$3,700**.

100% of Dippin Dot proceeds benefit Shark Fund which benefits your children and Sycamore through the following programs:

- **Paraeducators** in every classroom
 - **Reading Intervention**
 - **Rainbow Room** – provides social development support for students TK-3rd grade
 - **Librarian's** salary
 - **Physical Education** for TK & Kindergarten students
 - Supplemental **office hours** to support the Sycamore Community
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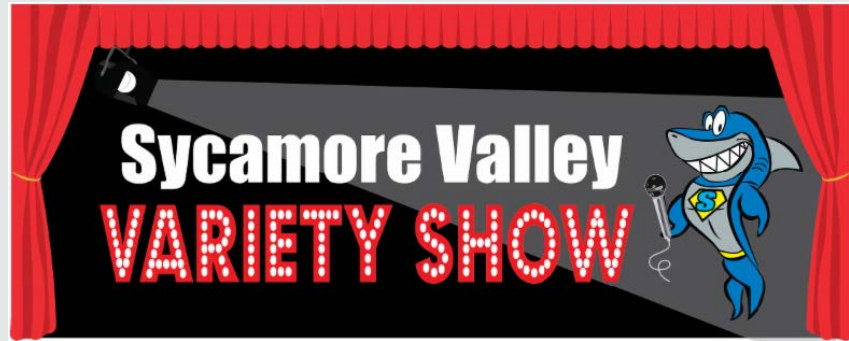
TK & Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30am near the Kinder Playground Entrance .
1st – 5th grade Sales @ 12:50pm on the blacktop near the rear entrance of
the MPR

Lost Dippin Dot Punch Cards or any other Dippin Dot questions
Dippin Dot Dana Claffey
925-407-7178
Dana.claffey@gmail.com

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Sharky Cinema:

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



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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

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.

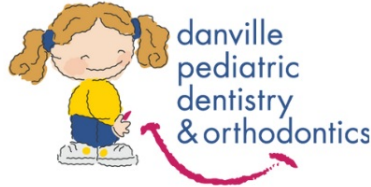
If you choose not to leave illness details, you will receive a call from the attendance office asking for more information. It is our responsibility to maintain the health and safety of our school community and we ask for your cooperation. Your student's private health information will not be shared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

Please write your Child's Name and Grade/Teacher
on the item that your are dropping off.



PTA Job Descriptions:

Click on this link to view the description of our
PTA jobs.

[PTA Job Descriptions](#)

Join the PTA Executive Board



everychild.one voice.®

Sycamore Valley PTA Executive Board has two open roles for the 2022-2023 school year.

Financial Secretary Parliamentarian

For job descriptions please follow this [link](#).

We also have several open PTA committee positions with varying time commitments. It takes a lot of volunteers to run the PTA amazing programs at Sycamore.

Come join us! We need YOU!!!

To discuss these opportunities, please contact Joëlle Baldwin (310) 562-2281, joelle.baldwin@gmail.com

Student Class Placement Form 22-23

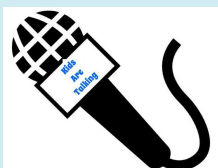
The Sycamore staff will be assigning students to classes for the 2022- 2023 school year during the month of May. Parents and students will be notified of teacher and classroom placement on August 8th, 2022.

Careful consideration is given to the class placement of each student. The primary factors considered in class placement are:

1. Current year's teacher assessment of the student's needs;
2. Input from support staff - resource, speech, school psychologist, reading specialists;
3. Class balance: academic performance, test scores, behavior, and boy/girl ratio;
4. Physical, medical, emotional and social development of the child;
5. Parent information regarding student's specific needs.

This form is not required, however if you believe your child has specific needs and/or excels in a particular type of classroom environment that the staff should consider when placing him/her, describe them below. Please do not request specific teachers. Letters that state a specific teacher's name or that tries to describe a specific teacher will not be considered.

[Student Class Placement Form 22-23](#)



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>

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 have been emailed to those that signed up. See the [SLAM](#) website for project details.

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 have been emailed to those that signed up. See the [SLAM](#) website for project details.

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>

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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.**

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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..**

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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!

Mark your calendars for our first book fair in over two years!

Our Spring Book Fair will be April 25-29th. More information to come soon!

The Battle of the Books is only ONE month away! If your student plans to participate, they need to read at least 8 / 10 of the books. See the PTA SLAM

sign up above 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 PTA's Staff Appreciation Team: Laura Savage, Carrie Butz, and Avi Banaranaike, who provided snacks for our teachers and staff this week during conferences!



**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.



Growing Up Green Weeks 2022

A fundraiser benefiting your school!

2022 DATES

Jan 7 - 16

Feb 4 - 13

Mar 18 - 27

2022 DATES

Sep 2 - 11

Oct 21 - 30

Nov 25 - Dec 4

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



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**



Child Nutrition

Lunch Provided @ Sycamore





Lunch is provided at no cost to all students that request a lunch at school.

Elementary School Menus

Limited Salad Bar is back week We are very excited to report that the salad bar has reopened.

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)

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON
CHEVRON
CISCO
WELLS FARGO
VISA
LPL FINANCIAL
GOOGLE
ADOBE
LINKEDIN
VEVA SYSTEMS
BANK OF AMERICA
VERIZON
AIG
NOVARTIS
CHEVRON
VISA
ELI LILLY
MERCK
GARTNER
GENENTECH
EBAY
PEPSICO
AT&T
ADOBE
BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB
Kaiser
CLOROX
EBAY
AT&T
MERRILL LYNCH
AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING INC.
ROCHE MOLECULAR
BANK OF THE WEST
CHUBB
DODGE & COX
WORKDAY
EBAY
ORACLE
PG&E




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.srvef.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

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


ARRIVE
REAL ESTATE GROUP

JENNIFER LARSON

arriveREgroup.com
DRE #01897334

**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