

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal November 10, 2021

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

No School on the following Dates:

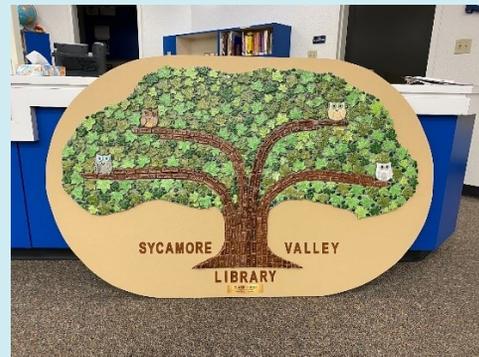
Thursday, Nov. 11th = Veterans Day Holiday

Friday, Nov. 12th = Teacher Work Day

Monday, Nov. 22nd - Friday, Nov. 26th = Thanksgiving Break

Fifth Grade Dedication Project

This Tuesday, our 2019-2020 fifth grade class, who never got to really say “good-bye”, was able to return to campus to see their fifth grade dedication project. Their project (see photo below) is a ceramic tree with leaves and branches created by the students. A huge thank you to Deana Beltramo and Jennifer Prindiville for their work creating the project and for hosting the event. Thank you also to the many special guests - our fifth-grade teachers, Mr. O, Mrs. Reedy, Mrs. Fama, and many others!

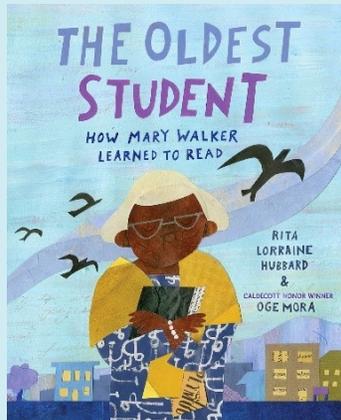


Character Trait Read Aloud: RESILIENCE

Our character trait for this month is one that we are very familiar with -

RESILIENCE. This year, our character trait statement helps tie in some of our other traits that used to stand alone. This month's statement reads: *I am flexible, patient and have a growth mindset.* You may have noticed that the word "flexible" is included in our new definition of resilient. Flexible used to stand on it's own as a trait. We have now moved it to be part of being resilient.

This year, we have added patience and a growth mindset to our understanding of resilience. This month, students will hear the story of a woman named Mary Walker in the book, **The Oldest Student**. Mary Walker was born into slavery in 1848. As a slave, Mary was not allowed to learn how to read or write. It wasn't until Mary was over 100 years old that she finally fulfilled her dream of learning to read. This month's story highlights her patience, flexibility and growth mindset.



CogAT for Grades 3-7 - Reminder

SRVUSD will be offering the CogAT exam for all students new to the district who have never taken it and for 3rd and 4th grade students who have taken it once previously and would like another try. The CogAT exam is used for Gate identification and ATP eligibility.

Register from **October 19 to November 12** on the [Gate Testing page](#) of the district website. *Late registrations will not be accepted.*

All families in grades 3-7 should have also received [this email](#) from the District with additional information. This optional CogAT exam will be offered on Saturday, January 29, 2022.

TK/K Enrollment for the 2022-2023

Believe it or not, it is already time for TK/K enrollment! We are starting earlier this year - registration begins on November 15th. Please wait until November 15th to begin your online enrollment application. The current online application is for the 21-22 school year only. See Flyer below for more information.

Warmly,

Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



11/01 - 11/17 - Sees Candy Fundraiser
11/08 - 11/14 - Giveback Dine and Donate at Pizza Guys

11/11 - NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day Holiday
11/12 - NO SCHOOL - Staff Development
11/12 - Deadline to register for CogAT for new students grades 3-7
11/15 - 11/19 - Sister School Canned Food Drive
11/15 - 12/17 - TK/K Enrollment for 2022 School Year !
11/17 - Crazy Hair or Hat - Spirit Theme
11/17 - Dippin' Dot Sales 11:30 Kinder Playground & 12:50pm Blacktop
11/17 - Virtual Shark Fund Meeting - 6:30
11/18 - Virtual Site Council Meeting - 3:00
11/22 - 11/26 - NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
11/26 - 12/05 - Sloat Garden Center Giveback
11/29 - 12/03 - Sister School Canned Food Drive
11/29 - 12/10 - Sister School Book Drive
12/01 - Sharky Cinema -1:00-3:00 - SOLD OUT
12/02 - Holiday Shopping @ Rakestraw Books - 5:00pm-7:30pm
12/06 -12/10 - Grades 1-3 Assessment Day Schedule
12/08 - Dippin' Dot Sales 11:30 Kinder Playground & 12:50pm Blacktop
12/15 - Sister School Book Wrapping party - MPR 1:00pm

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

TK and Kindergarten Enrollment Open Monday, November 15th - December 17th 2021

SAN RAMON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



TK & Kindergarten Enrollment

We look forward to enrolling your child in our Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten program for the 2022-23 school year.

= Registration Dates =

Enrollment Window Opens
Mon., November 15, 2021

Enrollment Window Closes*
Fri., December 17, 2021

* Completed online enrollment applications must be submitted by December 17 to be included in the first round of confirmation of space at the resident school site. Online enrollment applications submitted after December 17 are received on a first come-first served basis for space.

= Age Guidelines =

To be eligible for TK for 2022-23
Your child must turn 5 years of age on or between
September 2, 2022 to February 2, 2023

To be eligible for KINDERGARTEN for 2022-23
Your child must turn 5 years of age on or before
September 1, 2022

First day of instruction: August 9, 2022

2022-23 information

TK and Kindergarten Information Videos
Will be posted **Wednesday, Nov. 10** on the TK/Kindergarten Webpage

[Transitional Kindergarten FAQ](#)

[TK/Kindergarten Webpage](#)

[Kindergarten Readiness Information](#)

[TK/Kindergarten Enrollment Process Quick Reference](#)

699 OLD ORCHARD DR, DANVILLE
WWW.SRVUSD.NET | CALL 925 552 5500

SHARK FUND

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITING ALL
SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Shark Fund / PTA Google Calendar

Calendar

Dine and Donate at Pizza Guys: November 8-14

Dine at [Pizza Guys](#) November 8-14 and 30% of your order will support Shark Fund educational programs at Sycamore!

This is our highest giveback percentage ever - please help us maximize the dollars coming back to our school!

For online orders, use code: SYCAMORE, for phone or walk-in orders, please mention SYCAMORE VALLEY. [Attach flyer](#)



See's Candies Fundraiser: November 1-17

Help earn money for our school and make the holidays even sweeter!

Beginning November 1, students are encouraged to sell See's Candies to friends, family, and neighbors. 100% of proceeds from the fundraiser will go toward Shark Fund spend areas like paraeducators, library visits, reading intervention, TK/K PE, and office administrative support.

Order forms and collection envelopes will be distributed by teachers. All orders and checks are due in the office by November 17 and candy will be available for pick up on campus on December 1. Please visit [School Loop](#) for additional information.

Shark Fund Meeting November 17 @ 6:30 pm

Make a difference in the Sycamore community by getting involved!

Please join our next virtual Shark Fund meeting tomorrow evening.

Log-in details can be found below. 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.

Wednesday, November 17 at 6:30pm

Meeting ID: meet.google.com/ose-daju-wmm

Phone Number: +1 617-675-4444, PIN: 991 750 657 4271#

Shop the Holidays with a SMILE

Did you know you can help support Sycamore Shark Fund while you shop with Amazon this holiday season and beyond? Follow these simple [steps](#) and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Shark Fund educational programs.



**Sharky Cinema –
December 1st –
SOLD OUT**

Thank you to all who purchased tickets to the last Sharky Cinema of 2021! The event has sold out and we are unable to sell additional tickets. If you have already purchased a ticket for your student, please be sure you have filled out both a [Shark Fund Events Waiver](#) and a [PG Permission Slip](#) for each student participating. The waivers only need to be completed once per school year.

Our next Sharky Cinema will be February 2, 2022.

Please contact Meghan Gates at meghanmollygates@gmail.com if you are able to help out.

Sycamore Auction 2022: Parent Donations Needed

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.



Dippin' Dot Sales

Get Free Dippin' Dots with Prepaid Dippin' Dot Punch Card!

Punch cards can be purchased at all Dippin' Dot Wednesday events or from Dana Claffey with cash or checks made payable to "Sycamore Shark Fund."

- buy 5, get 1 free
- Save time in line with fast and easy purchase— no need to bring money to school

- Each punch card is \$25 (families can share one card)
- All proceeds benefit Sycamore Shark Fund

Dippin' Dot Calendar: 11/17, 12/08

*****weather permitting*****

Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30 am near the Kinder playground
1st-5th Grade Sales @ 12:50 on the 1st - 5th grade playground

Shark Fund would like to say Thank You for all your support with the Dippin Dot Wednesday Fundraisers!!!!

Since August, Dippin Dots has generated over \$6,500 in sales!

100% of Dippin Dot proceeds benefit Shark Fund

which help fund the following programs:

- Rainbow Room to provide social development support for TK-3
- Reading Intervention
- Trained Paraeducators in every classroom
- Librarian's salary
- Supplemental Office Hours

Please have your student write their name on their punch card. If your student has lost their Dippin Dot punch card, please feel free to reach out to Dippin Dot Dana: dana.claffey@gmail.com or 925-407-7178.



Sycamore 2nd and 3rd Grade Girl Scout Troops are collecting canned food for our Sister School--King Elementary.

Next time you're at the grocery store, grab an extra can or two for those in need. Families would love pasta, pasta sauce, canned soup, meat, veggies, fruit, and peanut butter.

Look for Girl Scouts at the front of the school and back path before and after school next week, Nov. 15-19 and Nov. 29-Dec. 3, who will happily take your donations. Thank you for your support!

Want your

PHOTOS

in the

YEARBOOK?



So do we! Students, parents and teachers can all contribute content to the yearbook staff by uploading photos directly to our website for potential use in the book.

Please start sharing your photos! Send in those **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL** and **FESTIVAL AROUND THE WORLD** photos! Provide as much detail as possible (including teacher and grades of students pictured)

The more you share the better our yearbook can be!

Start sharing today! Go to www.hjeshare.com and enter school code **sycamoresharks** to upload.
(Or download the App to your mobile device!)

*While we cannot guarantee that all shared photos will be published,
if you don't share your great pictures can't even be considered!*

Did you take great pictures at the fun run?
Planning on taking pictures at the Halloween Parade and class parties?
We want your pictures! Please submit to the yearbook!



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...

Unclaimed items will be donated December 22, 2021

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.



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



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

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

Sign up for Science!

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

Registration for 5th grade students is going on NOW for Science Alliance! Please register if your 5th grader is interested in participating in this program as space is limited and almost at capacity!

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>

Sign up for DynaMath and Research

Sign-ups for Dynamath are now closed. The Sept and Oct/Nov issues have been sent home through your child's classroom. Download Blank Answer Worksheets from the SLAM Website:

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

September Issue: Due Fri, Nov 19

Oct/ Nov Issue: Due Fri, Dec 17

RESEARCH

Sign-up for Research Projects

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

Our next Research Project is College and Career Aspirations due Fri, Dec 3rd.

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

GO SLAM



**We need one parent for the 2021-2022
Site Council Committee.**

**Positions Open:
Alternate Parent Representative**

The Sycamore School Site Council (SY SSC) is governed by state guidelines and makes sure the school LCAP goals, School Safety Plan and School Plan for Achievement are completed, reviewed and updated annually.

If you are interested in participating, please write a bio that tells a bit about yourself and why you want to be a part of our site council and send the bio to Barbara Jones at BJones1@srvusd.net

As a reminder, parent representatives must be elected by the parent community.

Here is the link to the Site Council Ballot:

[Site Council Alternate Ballot](#)

More information about Site Council is available at <http://www.sycamoreelementary.org/sitecouncil>

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BIO:

Pejman Noroozi: I would be honored to be the other Alternate Parent Member of Site Council. I am a proud parent of a first grader at Sycamore. I would like to help to ensure our little ones have all the resources and academic programs within reach. Assist in reaching goals set forth for the year. Review and if needed revise School Safety Plan. Thank you.



Kids Are Talking

Oliver
What did the janitor say when he jumped out of the closet?
Supplies.

Cambria
What did the dumpster say to the other dumpster?
I'm dumping you.

What do you call a man with no body and no nose?
Nobody knows.

Kristopher
Where do Sharks come from?
Finland.

Carson
Knock knock
Who's there?
Mary
Mary who?
Mary Christmas.

Fiona
Knock knock
Who's there?
Boo
Boo who?
Don't cry it's just a costume.



Library Corner

Hi Sharks!

Holiday Shopping Event - December 2 at Rakestraw Books 5:00-7:30

Come support our Sycamore Library, and a wonderful local business! On Tuesday, December 2nd Rakestraw Books in downtown Danville will open its doors after hours from 5:00-7:30 for our Sycamore families only! Do your holiday shopping locally, with unique gifts for anyone on your list. Each purchase will be a giveback in credit to the Sycamore Library, allowing me to purchase new books for the new year!

You can also shop online on our library wish list if you are not able to make the event.

<https://www.rakestrawbooks.com/wishlist/155>

Happy reading!

Take Care,
Jen Prindiville / Library Media Coordinator

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

SHARKS READ Read / Exchange / Donate

Sharks READ book exchange cart!

On supply pick-up days, 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 Audrey Sullivan from "For the Love of Sugar" for donating Sharky cookies to our top 20 Fun Run Fundraisers!



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.

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 purchasesback. *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 will be provided at no cost to all students that request a lunch at school.

We are excited to announce this school year, SRVUSD will be transitioning from a school meal program based on family income to a program which allows any student wanting a meal to have one provided to them at no cost.

Elementary School Menus

Meal Application Form: For the benefit of the entire district, please complete the annual Meal Application Form by 10/25/21.

Why is this form needed now that meals are free for all?

More LCFF funds for SRUVSD - for every qualifying family who submits a form -

SRVUSD's LCFF is increased. Further, families receive benefits beyond school meals, such as discounts on SAT testing, internet services, & many other benefits.

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.

[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

TIFFANY
STOCK
TEAM



CARD
MY
YARD
SKIP THE CARD, STAKE THE YARD™

armanino



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