Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal October 14, 2021

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

Min. Day Schedules for Conference Week continues tomorrow Grades 1-5 8:00 - 12:00 TK & Kinder 8:00 - 10:30

Conferences

Thank you to all of the families who have met in person and virtually with our teachers this week. It has been so helpful to get to sit with you and plan goals for your children for this year. We are grateful for your partnership in supporting our Sharks!

Site Council

Please join me in welcoming Nate McCormack to the Site Council! Nate is our new Parent Representative. We are still in need of 2 alternate parent representatives. We have had one bio submitted for this position. If you would like to be considered for the alternate parent representative, please submit your short bio to Barbara in the office at BJones1@srvusd.net.

Our first Site Council meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28th from 3:00-4:00 pm. This will be a virtual meeting. We will send out the link and the agenda 72 hours before the meeting. At this meeting we will select our Chairperson for the 21/22 school year and set meeting dates for the school year.

CogAT for Grades 3-7

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.

Schoology

We are offering another round of parent Schoology training webinars. Parents can register for the webinars the links shared directly below:

Nov. 3, 2021: 5:30 pm to 6:30 pmRegister for the webinar with this link. Nov. 4, 2021: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pmRegister for this webinar with this link A recording of the previous webinar can be shared here.

Sharkwear

Orders are available for pick up in the school office - Monday - Friday 8:00am - 3:00pm.

Warmly, Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



- 10/06 10/17 Book Fair Virtual See link in Library Corner Article
- 10/15 Reflection entries are due
- 10/20 Virtual Shark Fund meeting 6:30pm Zoom
- 10/22 Fun Run @ the turf field
- 10/22 Bios of parents are due for Site Council
- 10/25 School Picture Make-up / Retake Day
- 10/25 10/29 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/26 Monster Mash Family Evening Event Tickets available soon.
- 10/27 Dippin' Dot Sales 11:30 Kinder Playground & 12:50pm Blacktop
- 10/29 Halloween Parade Turf Field
- 11/03 Sharky Cinema 12:50-2:30 MPR
- 11/05 Family Game Night MPR / Blacktop
- 11/10 Dippin' Dot Sales 11:30 Kinder Playground & 12:50pm Blacktop
- 11/11 NO SCHOOL Veteran's Day
- 11/12 NO SCHOOL Staff Development
- 11/15-11/19 Sister School Book Drive
- 11/17 Virtual Shark Fund Meeting 6:30 ZOOM
- 11/22-11/26 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

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 TIFFANY















JENNIFER LARSON

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



Reflections 2021

Due Date This Friday, Oct. 15th

Reflections 2021

Students are invited to participate in Sycamore Valley PTA Reflections Art Program! Please refer to the Reflections section of Sycamore's PTA website for more information.

Sycamore submissions are due October 15, 2021

FLYER

Reflections 2021-2022 is here with the theme "I WILL CHANGE THE WORLD BY..."! The purpose of the Reflections Art program is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works. The excitement and enthusiasm that the program generates for students, parents, schools and communities is unmatched. The Reflections Program provides an excellent opportunity for all students of all ages to:

- Unleash their creative talents and be inspired
- Express themselves imaginatively in their artwork
- Experience the joy and fun of making art
- Tap into critical thinking skills to create art inspired by the annual theme
- Receive positive recognition for their original works of art

Student artists get involved through Sycamore Valley Elementary PTA. A student may submit an entry in any of six arts areas. Only original works of art are accepted. **Students may submit original creations in one or more of these six categories:**

- Visual Arts
- Literature
- Photography
- Dance Choreography
- Film Production
- Music Composition

Theme of the year 2021-22: "I Will Change The World By.."

Reflections program will be held again VIRTUALLY this year! More info on the google submission form will follow soon. In the meantime, start creating your masterpiece in any of the six categories.

Learn more about the Reflections Art Program at the <u>CAPTA Reflections</u> Page and the <u>CAPTA Rules and Guidelines Page</u>.

Contact the PTA at Sycamore Valley Elementary for more information on deadlines and submission forms at your school. For general questions, email reflections@srvcouncilpta.org.

Reflections Entry Form

Reflections Deadline is October 15th!

Submit your entries by that date to be entered!

Any questions, contact Cami Severson:

sycamorevalleyptareflections@gmail.com



FUN RUN 2021!

We are one week away from the fun run! Please turn in your permission slip ASAP if you have not already.

Make your account at http://pledgestar.com/sycamore by FRIDAY 10/15. It would be great if all students could make an account online regardless if you decide to raise any pledges. Your pledges and donations go toward supporting our many great programs at Sycamore like Art Docent, Teacher Mini-Grants, Family Game Nights, Yearbook, Yard Duty, Variety Show and much more!

Come cheer on your student! (Students will run with their recess groups).

8:15-9:00 3rd and 4th grades **9:15-10:00** 1st and 2nd grades

10:15-10:45 TK and K **11:00-11:45** 5th grade

Looking forward to seeing you on the turf field**Friday**, **October 22nd!**Questions? Email Erin Meyer at erin@meyerca.com



Want a front row seat to cheer on your student at the Fun Run on Friday, October 22?

Do you have grandparents or little kids that need a chair? This year, *all new* VIP seating is available for \$25.00/seat. 10 seats are reserved for each grade level time slot (approximately 45 minutes). Seats are sanitized after each seating.

Feel less stressed about finding a spot to watch the Fun Run and give back to Sycamore at the same time!! Seating is limited, so don't wait to purchase. BUY NOW: https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store



Photo Make-Up and Retakes will be taken on **Monday October 25th**.

Please email your teacher and let them know that you would like to have your child's photo taken on October 25th.

If these are retakes for your child, please return your photo package to our school.

School Picture packages are due to arrive close to October 20th. The photos are mailed to the home address on file. Families that purchased the digital image have already received them.

You are welcome to order individual photos and the class group photo. Proofs of the student's photo

Order School Photos

When placing an order after your child's photo has been taken, the code requested is your child's student ID#

Please contact Creative Imaging with any school picture questions: 925-485-6025 or <u>orders@ciphotoca.com</u>



Monster Mash - October 26th.

Tickets are on sale **now** for Sycamore's newest event: Monster Mash!

Join your friends for Halloween-themed games, pizza and other refreshments, pumpkin decorating and carving (bring your own pumpkin), prize drawings, cake walk, glow-stick dance party and more!

Monster Mash will take place on the Sycamore blacktop from 4:30-6:00 pm on Tuesday, October 26th.

Purchase your tickets at: https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store.

Parent volunteers are needed!

Please contact Meghan Gates <u>meghanmollygates@gmail.com</u> if you can lend a hand.

Dine and Donate at Dos Coyotes - October 18-24

Dos Coyotes Border Cafe will be donating a full 25% of your order to Sycamore Valley's Shark Fund from

Monday, October 18th through Sunday, October 24th. Please show a printed or electronic copy of this flyer when ordering.

Next Shark Fund Meeting – October 20

Make a difference in the Sycamore community by getting involved! Please join our next virtual Shark Fund meeting on October 20 at 6:30 pm. Log-in details can be found below. Our agenda will include adoption of our 2021-2022 bylaws, upcoming Shark Fund events, budgeting and more.

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.

Join with Google Meet: meet.google.com/prt-kddf-vvp

Join by phone: (US) +1 605-854-1361 tel:+1-605-854-1361;988836783#>

(PIN: 988836783)



Sharky Cinema – November 3

Shark Fund will be hosting Sharky Cinema the first Wednesday of each month.

Tickets for November's showing of **Free Birds** are on sale now
at: https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store. Join us in the MPR for a kid-friendly movie from 1:00-3:00, just after Wacky Wednesday dismissal.

Masks are required. Parent volunteers are needed to serve snacks and help supervise the event. Please contact Meghan Gates at meghanmollygates@gmail.com if you are able to help out.



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: 10/27, 11/10 ***weather permitting***

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

If you have lost your Punch Card or have any questions, please contact Dana Claffey.

Questions should be directed to Dippin' Dot Dana at 925-407-7178 or dana.claffey@gmail.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 atsycamoreslam@gmail.com and see our website at sycamoreslam2122@shutterfly.com

For MathMadness contact

Anurag Dodeja at: anurag@dodejas.com

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

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 Art (PTA Reflections)

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeAhemhOuvf9Pz39vDth3mE FR0e2C7KvGs9j48SPPIDwHgXHw/viewform

Reflections Deadline is October 15th! Submit your entries by that date to be entered! Any questions, contact Cami Severson:

sycamorevalleyptareflections@gmail.com

Sign up for DynaMath and Research

https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/5080548ada92ba3f85-slam

Don't forget to sign up for DynaMath and/or SuperScience by Fri, Oct 8th so you can get your subscription(s)!

3rd and 4th GATE students will receive DynaMath automatically.
4th and 5th GATE students will receive SuperScience automatically.

All other students, please visit the SLAM website for detailed information on how to subscribe to the magazines. The Sign Up Genius will not automatically get you a subscription, but it will send you due date reminders!

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

GO SLAM



We need two parents for the 2021-2022 Site Council Committee.

Positions Open:

Alternate Parent Representative (2)

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.

We will hold a special election the first part of September. Please submit your bios no later than October 22, 2021.

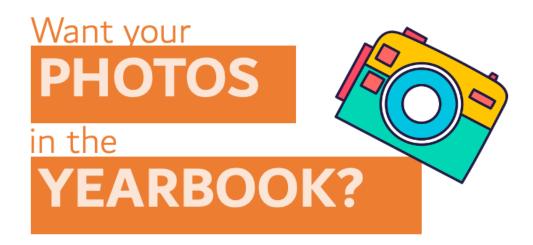
More information about Site Council is available at http://www.sycamoreelementary.org/sitecouncil

Candidate BIO:

Brittney Page -

This is my first year as a Sycamore parent, and I welcome the opportunity to volunteer for Site Council.

In my professional background, I have overseen state and private accreditations for surgery centers. My knowledge of emergency preparedness and management, quality assurance, and compliance will equip me with the necessary skills to be a positive addition to Sycamore's Site Council.



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!

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.



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 card s or even a vacation rental home?
 - Some of us have country club contacts for golf or tennis.
 - Wine club members, will your winery donate a tasting, food pairing or bottles?
 - Possibly you own a local company and want to donate your services or showcase your company's name by donating gift cards?
 - Don't forget about asking grandparents or other family members who may want to donate as well!

People love a tax-deductible donation & raising money for all of our children. Please view the **attached letter** for more information.

Questions?

Contact Online Auction Chair Jenna Mesic at sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org



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.

Join us for the next morning mile on WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 15TH!



Kids Are Talking Stay Tuned



Library Corner

Hi Sharks!

It's the final days of our online book fair!

Our Book Fair helps our students discover new books, favorite characters, and more! Every purchase earns our school rewards for much needed resources.

Plus, shipping is free on book-only purchases over \$25.

Thank you for instilling a love of reading and supporting our Book Fair here: https://www.scholastic.com/bf/sycamorevalleyelementary

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!



After School Enrichment Classes will begin in September

Chess:

Thursday Afternoon 2:35 - 3:35 Sycamore School MPR, Pick up at the front Gate 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30

10/7, 10/21, 10/28 = No Class on 10/14 due to Conferences 11/4, 11/04, 11/18

Register by Sept. 8th. Registration form is on the attached flyer.

FLYER

Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to our Shark Shop volunteers, Catherine Sjoberg and Christine Hoffman. Our Sharky Spirit Wear looks great!

4th Annual Culture in the Community Celebration

The San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs is proud to co-sponsor the Annual Culture in the Community Celebration, Sunday, October 17, 2021, from 10am to 2pm at the San Ramon Community Center.

This event will be back in-person, all booths will be outdoors following safety protocols.

What is Culture in the Community?

San Ramon celebrates its rich diversity of cultures with food, crafts, booths, music, dance and more. Culture in the Community is a fun and free event to honor the diversity in San Ramon. Many countries and cultures will be represented to honor San Ramon's cultural pride in this exciting, community-driven event.

We are currently accepting participant applications (performers, booths, etc.). To apply and for more information, view the online application. View the flyer here or visit www.SRCultureintheCommunity.com for more information.

Applications are due by September 3rd.



October is National Walk/Bike Month, and Street Smarts is having a Poster Contest!

Street Smarts is inviting all elementary school age students to enter the "Walk and Roll with Street Smarts" Poster Contest to win great prizes!

Details and Eligibility:

- All elementary school students attending or residing in the San Ramon Valley are eligible to participate.
- Poster Contest begins October 1, 2021.
- Drawings due by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 4, 2021 (no exceptions)
- Two winners in the following grade levels will be selected:
 - Kindergarten 2nd Grade
 - 3rd Grade 5th Grade
- Winners will be notified by email by Monday, November 29, 2021.

The two top winning posters in each grade level (K-2nd) (3rd-5th) will be displayed on Street Smarts Banners throughout the community and marking materials. Visit: **street-smarts.com** "2021/2022 Contests" for more information.

PLEASE FOLLOW CONTEST GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS LISTED AT

Street Smarts Poster Contest.

For questions, please contact Dolores Pita, at 925-973-2581 or dpita@sanramon.ca.gov





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.



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?dex&group_id=1531973258656&vdid=i20b2k99eacx

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

