Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Sylvie Bullard - Principal October 28, 2021

Dear Sycamore Community,

REMINDERS

No School on the following Dates:

Monday, Nov. 1st - Vacation Day
Tuesday, Nov. 2nd - Professional Development Day
Thursday, Nov. 11th - Veterans Day Holiday
Friday, Nov. 12th - Teacher Work Day

Halloween Parade: Reminder:

Our Halloween parade will take place tomorrow, October 29th from 9:30-10:30 on the turf field across from the school. All grades, TK-5 will be in attendance. There will be a separate viewing area for parents. As the event will be outdoors, Covid masks will be optional. Please discuss with your child what you would like for them to do regarding Covid masking at this event.

Costumes for Halloween:

A few reminders about safety for the day: No weapons, real or pretend, are allowed. This includes things like lightsabers, shields, swords, etc. If you have a question, please ask your child's teacher or our office staff. No overtly scary or bloody costumes. Costumes need to be kid friendly for ALL AGES. No costume masks that make it difficult for students to see where they are going. For parents who chose to attend the parade in costume, please make sure your costume is kid friendly and that we can see your face.

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.

Site Council Ballot for Alternative Parent Member:

We have an election for our alternate site council member. Please cast your vote by Nov. 2nd. Here is the link to the Site Council Ballot: **Site Council Alternate Ballot**

As a reminder, here is our candidate's 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.

Reminder Regarding Covid Testing/Quarantine:

If your child has symptoms that could be associated with Covid 19, you will be asked to follow one of 3 procedures:

- Consult with your child's physician
- Have your child tested for Covid19 either PCR or Antigen Rapid test.
 Both of these are available at the school district office for your convenience.
 NOTE: Home Test Kits are not recognized
- Quarantine for 10 days.

Fun Run:

What an amazing Fun Run we had over two days! Last Friday our students in grades 1-5 ran in the afternoon and just this morning, our TK/K students ran the turf field! A huge thank you to Erin Meyer and all of our hardworking, dedicated, Fun Run volunteers. You all ROCK! The event ran so smoothly and most importantly, the kids had a BLAST! Also a big thank you to all of our Sharks families, friends and neighbors who contributed through their generous donations. Here are a few photos of the event:



Monster Mash:

Monster Mash was a smash! Thank you to Meghan Gates and all of the fantastic Monster Mash volunteers that brought this fun family evening together for our Shark community. From the cake walk to the pumpkin carving, the night was so special!



Wishing you and your family a fun and safe Halloween weekend! See you all back at school next Wednesday!

Warmly, Sylvie Bullard

Go Sharks!

IMPORTANT DATES



10/22 - 10/31 - Sloat Garden Center Giveback

10/25 - 10/29 - Red Ribbon Week

10/29 - Halloween Parade - Turf Field 9:30am

11/01 - 11/17 - Sees Candy Fundraiser

11/01 - NO SCHOOL - Vacation Day

11/02 - NO SCHOOL - Staff Development

11/03 - Dippin' Dot Sales 11:30am Kinder Playground & 12:50pm Blacktop

11/03 - Sharky Cinema -1:00-3:00 - Buy Tickets Now

11/03 - 11/05 - Halloween Candy Collection

11/05 - Family Game Night - MPR / Blacktop

11/08 - 11/14 - Giveback Dine and Donate at Pizza Guys

11/10 - Dippin' Dot Sales 11:30 Kinder Playground & 12:50pm Blacktop

11/11 - NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day Holiday

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

11/26 - 12/05 - Sloat Garden Center Giveback

12/01 - Sharky Cinema -1:00-3:00

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



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



Join us on the turf field tomorrow, Friday, 10/29 at 9:30am for the Halloween Parade!

Volunteers are needed to help set up and take down: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C44ABAB2AABFA7-halloween2



FUN RUN 2021!

Thank you to all who participated and came out to help with the fun run!

TK and Kindergarten ran their fun run this morning!

Results, as well as the top-fundraising class,
and top 20 fundraising students will be announced soon
(The date for the ice cream party for these students is TBD).

Participation prizes will be coming home soon for all students!



Growing UP Green Weeks 2021-2022

A Fundraiser benefiting your school!

 2021 DATES
 2022 DATES

 Sept. 3 - 12
 Jan. 7 - 16

 Oct. 22 - 31
 Feb. 4 - 13

 Nov. 26 - Dec. 5
 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



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 <u>orders@ciphotoca.com</u>



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 in the classrooms. Please visit **School Website** for additional information.



Sharky Cinema – November 3 – Buy Tickets Now

Join us in the MPR for a kid-friendly movie from 1:00pm-3:00pm, just after Wacky Wednesday dismissal.

Masks are required.

There are only a few tickets left to November's showing of <u>Free Birds</u>.

Get your student's ticket before they sell

out: https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store.

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

Dine and Donate at Pizza Guys: November 8-14

Dine at <u>Pizza Guys</u> November 8-14 and 30% of your order will support Shark Fund educational programs at Sycamore! For online orders, use code: SYCAMORE, for phone or walk-in orders, please mention SYCAMORE VALLEY. <u>Attach flyer</u>



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: 11/03, 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

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.



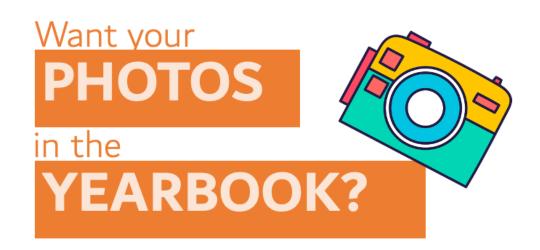
November 3, 4, and 5 before, during, and after school

We will be collecting candy in large bins outside the front gate. This drive is hosted by 5th graders who will take the candy to local dental offices to earn \$1 per pound of candy.

Proceeds go toward the 5th grade end of year celebration.

FYI - The dental offices mail the candy to overseas troops or donate it to local food banks.

Questions?: Contact Anna at annameecham@gmail.com



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!



Emoji Family Game Night



Emoji Mania Family Game Night Friday, November 5th

- •6:00 PM check-in & dinner
- •6:30 PM games begin
- Cost is \$9 per person (includes pizza, caesar salad, water & cookie)

This is NOT a drop-off event. Children MUST be accompanied by an adult.

REGISTER TODAY!

https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store

Please note: this is a limited 100 person capacity event -Please limit your party to immediate household members only. NO tickets will be sold at the door



Register on future fund and sign PTA waiver before Thursday November 4th.

Register for Family Fun Night: Family Fun Night



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 DynaMath and Research

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

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.

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

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.

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.



Kids Are Talking





Library Corner

Thank you for supporting our Fall online book fair! I have been adding new books to our collection in the last few months, and hope to use Scholastic Dollars from our sale to continue to update and diversify our collection.

I am excited to share that we will be doing a Sycamore shopping event soon with Rakestraw Books to support both our library and a fantastic local business. Get your holiday shopping lists ready and stay tuned for more information soon!

Please remind your student(s) to regularly return their library books each week. Our rate of return has not been what it should, and your student will not be able to take home new books until previous ones have been returned. Thank you for your help!

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 all the volunteers who helped make the fun run a success, especially with the last minute time change!

A big thank you to Tassajara Valley Little League for the use of their fencing! Without it, we wouldn't have been able to have spectators at any of our larger events, especially the Fun Run and Halloween Parade!

Thank you to Meghan Gates and her team for organizing a smashing Monster Mash!



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







POSTER CONTEST

"WALK AND ROLL WITH STREET SMARTS!"

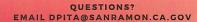
WIN EXCITING PRIZES!

During the month of October, students will create a poster describing how they can be safe as a pedestrian or when riding their bike, scooter or skateboard.

Entries are due by 4:00 p.m - November 4, 2021

VISIT:

STREET-SMARTS.COM "2021/2022 CONTESTS" TAB FOR PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND TO ENTER





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?deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?https://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?https://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?https://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?https://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?https://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view_page?https://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.pagehttps://deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.page<a href="mailto:deltastation.net/pf4/cms2/view.page<a href="mailto:deltastatio

Shark Fund - Corporate Match



Platinum Sponsors







JENNIFER LARSON

arriveREgroup.cor













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