

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal October 06, 2022

Dear Sycamore Families:

I hope you are well! Conferences are well underway. We have had a great turn out this week but if you were not able to attend, please be sure to reach out to your child's teacher to set an appointment.

This weekend is the Fun Run. I am walking the 5K with my teenagers. I look forward to seeing some Sycamore friends out there!

Next week marks a return to the usual routine - a five day week of full days. Keep reading for dates to note and important information about Rainbow Fentanyl, some goings-on around school, Sharkwear updates, the Equity Parent Representative and Halloween.

REMINDERS:

School Photo Make-Up or Retakes: Oct. 12th

Lunch Recess with Danville PD: Oct. 17th

IMPORTANT - Be Aware:

Alarming Rainbow Fentanyl Trend

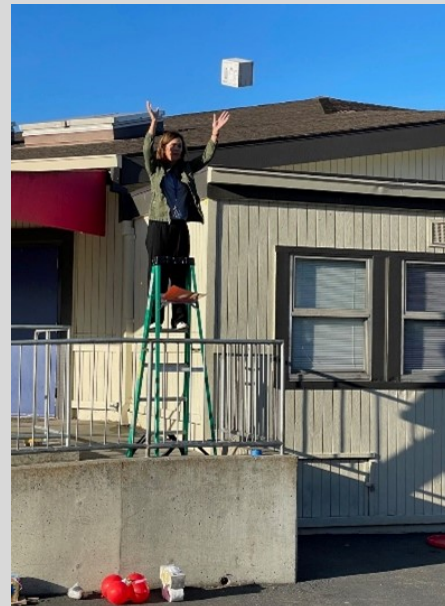
With Halloween coming up, we want our community to know that this version of fentanyl is made purposely to look like candy. The [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) and the California Department of Education are advising the public of an alarming emerging trend of colorful fentanyl available across the United States. Dubbed "rainbow fentanyl" in the media, this trend appears to be a new method used by drug cartels to sell highly addictive and potentially deadly fentanyl made to look like candy to children and young people.

Please be aware and monitor the candy that your children receive.

Egg Drop:

Our 4th graders enjoyed their science class last week with the Egg Drop experiments.

Mrs. Cory talked about how the process of designing the egg contraption is important. Students learned about energy and collisions. They build a contraption to reduce the amount of energy that gets transferred to their egg when it hits the pavement. Common ways to reduce it include building parachutes to soften the landing, using straws that can bend and absorb the energy instead of the egg absorbing it, and using multiple layers of padding to absorb the energy transfer and protect the egg.



Shark Wear Update:

Sorry for the delay in receiving your Shark Wear. There has been a delay in production and delivery, but we anticipate the orders will arrive soon.

Parent Equity Representative:

Sycamore Valley is still looking for a parent to represent our community on the District Equity Committee and to partner with us in our Equity work. If you would like more information, please reach out to me.

Halloween:

Halloween is fast approaching and there are a few things to note:

Halloween is a Monday, October 31st and it is a full day of school.

Halloween parade - Grades TK-5th will participate in the Halloween parade. The parade will begin at 9:30 on the turf field on the other side of the parking lot. Following the parade, students will return to campus to resume the usual schedule. Campus is not open to parents during the school day unless you have signed up to volunteer for a specific assignment.

Costumes - Students need to be able to put on and take off their costume independently. Students may wear a mask during the parade but need to be able to see clearly when walking. We do ask that parents refrain from wearing a mask and that all costumes are respectful of various cultures. Wearing a traditional costume from a culture other than your own and/or wearing face make-up to appear as a person from an ethnicity other than your own is not respectful and can undermine the inclusive community we are building here at Sycamore Valley.

Class Parties - Individual classes will share the details for their Halloween parties including requests for any needed volunteers. The parties are for the children only. Volunteers for the parties will need to be cleared through Be A Mentor and signed in at the office.

Thank you for your cooperation as we strive to have a fun filled and celebratory Halloween.

Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



10/03-10/07 - Conference Week - Minimum Day Schedule

10/08-10/09 - SRVEF Run For Education

10/10 - Fun Run Parent Meeting - 8:00am - MPR

10/12 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field

10/12 - School Photo Make Up and Retake Day

10/12 - Sharky Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR = SOLD OUT!

10/13 - Site council Meeting - 4:00pm - Google Meet

10/17 - Lunch Recess with Danville Police Department

10/19 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field

10/19 - Dippin Dots - After school
10/19 - Shark Fund Meeting - 6:30pm - Virtual
10/21 - Reflections - Submissions due today
10/26 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field
10/24-10/28 - Red Ribbon Week
10/31 - Halloween Parade - 9:30am - Turf Field
11/02 - Dippin Dots - After school
11/04 - Family Game Night - MPR
11/10 - Fun Run - Turf Field
11/16 - Dippin Dots - After school
11/30 - Dippin Dots - After school

Attendance Line



**Please call the attendance line
to report an absence:
925-855-2898**

AR 5113 States that all absences which are not cleared within two days after a student's return to school shall be recorded as unexcused (CUT).

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 your child has COVID-19, please notify the school office. It is recommended that your child stay home for 5 days.

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.

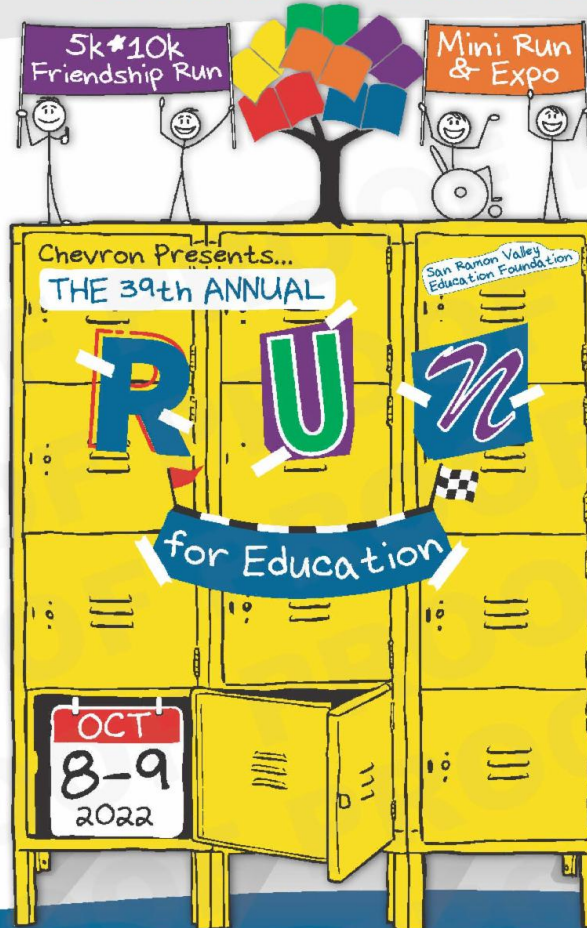
Note: Even if you have notified your child's teacher,
please call the attendance line to record
the absence!

Thank you.

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

Register today for the 39th Annual Run for Education

Back In Person for 2022



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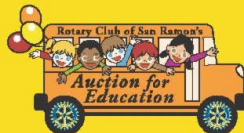


REGISTER TODAY!
srvef.org/the-run



Oct 8 | 9AM-3PM
Expo for Education
Friendship Run | Mini Run
Oct 9 | 8AM-12PM
Expo for Education
5K & 10K

AUCTION FOR EDUCATION | November 1-9



The Rotary Club of San Ramon is once again proud to partner with the SRVEF to host the Online Auction for Education. This fundraiser benefits the 30,000 students of the San Ramon Valley USD. The funds raised are donated to SRVEF to support all things education! We are currently looking for auction items to be donated. If interested, scan the QR code on the right!



The Run for Education - [Register Now](http://srvef.org/the-run) - October 8-9, 2022!

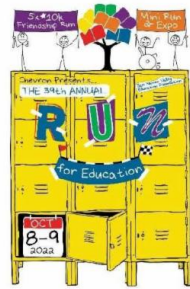
The Run for Education - [Register Now](#) - October 8-9, 2022!

We are less than three weeks away! Don't miss out on the 39th Annual Run for Education on Sunday, October 9th. The 10K run starts at Charlotte Wood Middle School and the 5K starts on Camino Ramon, near BR 2700, across from City Center Bishop Ranch.

The Run for Education includes events for the youngest runners ages 2-6, The **Mini Run!** We also have the **Friendship Run**, for students with special needs and their supporters. These events take place on Saturday, October 8th during our **Expo for Education** at 2700 Camino Ramon (BR 2700), across from City Center Bishop Ranch. The Expo features live music, a Kids' Zone including inflatables and face painting, local businesses and a performance by KungFu Dragon USA!

A reminder that schools get **70% of the donations** from the pledge pages! Check out your school at [View Teams](#). If you have questions, reach out to Karen Robman at karen@srvef.org

The Run for Education, as part of the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, supports the education of all students in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District.
<http://www.srvef.org/the-run>



Lunch Time Volunteers - Signups

Interested in volunteering more on campus?

Want to spend your lunch hour with us?

Sign up to help at lunch recess (either 1st-3rd grade time or 4th-5th grade time).

Volunteers are needed on the blacktop and inside the MPR. Sign up for as many days as you'd like!

Please check in at the office every time you come. Note: in order to volunteer, please make sure you have completed the "Be a Mentor" registration with the district.

Sign up here to Volunteer for Lunch Time Helpers:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C44ABAB2AABFA7-sycamore1>



School Pictures

Did you miss school picture day?
Do you want to retake the photo?

Make - up Picture Day Volunteers needed for October 12th

sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-school>

=====

Mark your calendar for School Photo Retakes and Make-Up day. **Wednesday, October 12th, 2022**

If you placed an order for your child's photo, the photo packets will be arriving soon. The photos will be mailed directly to your home.

If you wish to have your child's photo retaken, please return the photo packet to our school office on or before Photo Retake/Make Up day.

When placing an order for the school photos. You can order individual photos as well as a class photo, you will need to enter your child's student ID# . All students will be photographed. Purchasing photos is not a requirement.

Here is the ordering link. It is not too late to order:

<https://www.ciphotoca.com/sycamorevalley>



Reflections

"Show Your Voice"

REFLECTIONS ART PROGRAM

All students are invited to participate and submit original artwork in one of six areas aligned with the theme "Show Your Voice":

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

SUBMISSION LINK: <https://forms.gle/tPQY5TCyDgTDcdXk7>

Submission deadline October 21st, 2022. Selected artworks will be judged by Sycamore PTSA, and are then sent on to councils and then districts for consideration. The final artworks submitted to California State PTA by districts are then considered for Outstanding Interpretation, Awards of Excellence or

Awards of Merit.

[Official Entry Form and Rules](#)

Contact Kristina Buskirk for more information.

kristinabus Kirk@gmail.com



Sycamore Valley Elementary - 19th Annual Fun Run is coming!

The Sycamore Valley Fun Run is an annual event to raise money exclusively for Sycamore and its programs. It will take place on the Turf Field, Thursday **November 10th** at 9:00 am. In 2021, we raised over \$64K helping fund essential programs such as the Art Program, Teacher Mini Grants, Variety Show, Yearbook, Family Game Nights, Yard Duty, and more. We are excited to get out on the turf and have a fun run this year!

FUN RUN VOLUNTEER MEETING

October 10th, 2022 @ 8:00am in the MPR

Interested in helping with the Fun Run? Please come to the ONLY prep meeting we will have before the Fun Run. We will go over all the details leading up to and during the Fun Run. Please make sure either the room parent or class coordinator per class is attending. We need everyone's help to make the Fun Run FUN!

TK: Orange

K : Purple

1: Yellow

2: Red

3: Green

4: Dark Blue

5: Rainbow

Questions: Christy Lucia - ctr2108@gmail.com

Mark your calendars for the Fun Run on the Turf Field on November 10, 2022!



Extracurricular Extension Programs for Grades 3 - 5 in the subjects of Science, Language, Arts, Math and Research!

[Sign Ups are OPEN for select programs!](#)

Please fill out the **[Google Form](#)** (one per student) and parent leads will reach out to you.

Check out our new **[SLAM website](#)** to read about the projects, learn how to volunteer, and check out pictures from last year's SLAM program!

Want a summary of all the programs? Check out our **[SLAM flyer!](#)**

RESEARCH

Our next research project is College and Career Aspirations due Fri, Nov 4th.

Please view the **[Research](#)** tab for more details.

Any questions about SLAM?

Please email : **goscamoseslam@gmail.com**

Way to go, Sycamore SLAM!

For complete Sycamore SLAM program updates, please refer to the **[SLAM website](#)**



Get Involved with Shark Fund -

Continued parent support is crucial to sustain the valuable programs that make Sycamore an exceptional learning community!

We hope you will consider donating money, time, and/or talents to Shark Fund. Please visit the **[Shark Fund page](#)** for future meeting dates, events and volunteer opportunities.

If you have any questions or would like to get more involved, contact Shark Fund President Alison Stracke at sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org.



SOLD OUT!



FREE DIPPIN' DOTS!

Stay cool, save time, and don't miss out on Sharky's favorite frozen treat with your very own Dippin' Dot Prepaid Punch Card!



DIPPIN' DOTS CALENDAR August through October:

9/7, 9/21, 10/5, 10/19

11:30 am Kinder Yard & 12:50 pm Blacktop



Any questions please direct to Dana.claffey@gmail.com or 925-407-7178

Dippin Dot Punch Cards are back!

Punch Cards can be purchased for \$25.00 at all Dippin' Dot Wednesday events or from Dana Claffey with cash or check made payable to "Sycamore Shark Fund."

- Save time in line and get free Dippin Dots
- No need to bring money to school
- Prepay for 5 Dippin Dots get 1 Free
- Each punch card is \$25.00 (families can share one card)
- All proceeds benefit Sycamore Shark Fund
- Punch Cards will be sold at all events until Spring Break

Dippin' Dot Calendar:
10/19, 11/4, 11/16 and 11/30

Shark Fund would like to Thank You for your support with our
Dippin' Dot Wednesday Fundraiser.

In just two events, Dippin dots has raised over \$2,700!!!!!!

100% of Dippin Dot proceeds benefit your students with:

- **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

Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30 am near the Kinder playground

1st-5th Grade Sales @ 12:50 on the 1st - 5th grade near back MPR/Blacktop entrance

Lost Dippin' Dot Punch Cards or any other Dippin' Dot questions

Dippin' Dot Dana Claffey

925-407-7178

Dana.claffey@gmail.com

Does your child misplace their water bottles, lunches boxes or clothing???

Help keep track of your kids' water bottles, lunchboxes, sweatshirts, sports equipment and more with washable, durable labels from Mabel's Labels and they will donate 20% of your order back to Sycamore Valley Shark Fund

on <https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com/>
when you select "Sycamore Valley Shark Fund"

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**SUPPORT OUR
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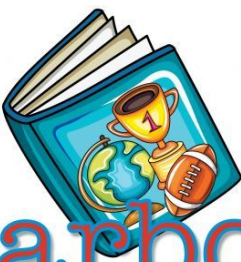
Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund

Buy Mabel's Labels waterproof, durable labels to help reduce classroom mix-ups and keep your items coming home!



➔ Go to campaigns.mabelslabels.com and search for
Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund





yearbook

Yearbook needs your photos!

We are looking for first day of school, art docent, PE, library, and any other photos you have from around campus!

Ideal photos contain 3-4 students, where we can see their faces and what they are doing. However, we'll accept any photos you have!

You can submit your photos online, or you can download the "HJ eShare" app on iPhone or Android (school code is the same as the website, listed below)

website: <https://www.hjeshare.com/eShare/home>

school code: SycamoreSharks



Morning Mile:

Every Wednesday at 7:30am at the turf field
across the street from the school!

Bring your **WAIVER!**

Come run with your kids or cheer your kids as they run!



Library Corner

Exciting news from the library!

It has been so much fun welcoming classes back to the library this month! Please keep reading at home, and making sure books are returned to the classroom each week!

Take Care,



Black Dragon Chess - Fall 2022

Chess classes will be offered Thursday afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.

Sept. 15th - Dec. 1

No class on Oct. 6th and Nov. 24th.

See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to all the parents and family members participating in Family PE this week. Coach Cabrita and the students enjoy seeing their families at PE. Feel free to join your student during their PE class.

All visitors and parents must be cleared through Be a Mentor which can take a minimum of 24 hours to be approved.



**Our first Site Council Meeting will be held on
October 13th at 4:00pm. This will be a virtual
meeting.**

If you are interested in becoming part of our Site Council,
**We need two parents for the upcoming
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 this fall once we have received the parent bios.

More information about Site Council is available at <https://syes.srvusd.net/Families/Site-Council/Site-Council/index.html>



Kids Are Talking

Watch for our next article.



Child Nutrition

Meals Provided @ Sycamore

Breakfast & Lunch will be provided at no cost to all students that request a meal at school.

[MENUS](#)

For more information about the meals, please visit the Child Nutrition Website.
<https://www.srvusd.net/Departments/Business-Services/Child-Nutrition/index.html>

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[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
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