

# Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



## Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal October 12, 2023

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Dear Sycamore Valley Families,

I hope you and your family are well.

We have been busy this week. TK has been exploring colors and shapes and building their class community connections. Kindergarten has been busy with all things fall. 1st grade has been exploring pumpkins and working on informational writing. 2nd grade has been practicing for the fall concert. 3rd grade has been enjoying reading mysteries. 4th grade went on their first field trip and enjoyed learning about the history of our community at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 5th grade has been reading their book club books. Every time I stop by a class our Sharks are busy, engaged and happy! Keep reading for some dates to remember,

On Tuesday we had some additional excitement when a baby snake was discovered under the Wall Ball wall at lunch recess. Situated as we are, adjacent to open space, critters stop by from time to time. Our staff is trained in appropriate management of the situation and our teachers are reminding students what to do should they happen upon a critter (leave it alone and tell an adult immediately).

Keep reading for some dates to remember, a reminder about Halloween costumes and SRVUSD District Updates.

### **Dates to Remember:**

**10/13 - FUN RUN Informational Meeting for Volunteers**

**10/17 - Tea with Trish - 8:15am - MPR**

**10/26 - Recess with Danville P.D.**

## **10/31 - Adjusted Wednesday Schedule for Halloween**

**TK / K = 8:00am - 11:30am**

**1st - 5th = 8:00am - 12:50pm**

**10/31 - Halloween Parade - 9:15am**

**11/01 - No School**

**Halloween Costumes:** We love Halloween and can't wait to see our Sharks decked out in their costumes! Following are a few things to keep in mind as costumes are considered for school celebrations.

Students must be able to easily use the restroom. Masks are acceptable for the parade but students need to be able to see clearly and we ask that adults refrain from wearing a mask. Please remember that we have littles on campus whom we want to be able to sleep easily, so avoid scary/gory costumes.

Finally, we want to avoid cultural appropriation when selecting a costume. A costume that reflects a culture other than your own can be considered offensive. For more information please check out this article. ([article](#)).

### **District Information =**

#### **FOAC Committee Seeking New Members:**

The Facilities Oversight and Advisory Committee (FOAC) is looking for new members. This committee provides oversight of Measure D facilities bond projects and expenditures. To learn more and apply visit [www.srvusd.net/foac](http://www.srvusd.net/foac). Application closes November 3.

#### **Red Ribbon Week - Oct. 23-31:**

##### **Board Resolution**

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the week of October 23-31 as Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week is an alcohol, tobacco, smoking, and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign. SRVUSD's students, parents/caregivers, faculty, staff members, and administrators can symbolically honor their commitment to healthy, drug-free lifestyles by displaying red ribbons on their clothing and/or personal items, and by encouraging a drug-free lifestyle during the week of October 23 - October 31.

#### **C.O.P.E. Parent/Caregiver Seminar Series:**

This fall, through our partnership with [C.O.P.E. Family Support Center](#), SRVUSD parents/caregivers can attend a series of virtual seminars. The next seminar, *Coping with School Refusal*, will be on Monday, November 6. [Learn more and register today](#)

Thank you,  
Patricia Kawahara

**GO SHARKS!**

**IMPORTANT DATES**



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**10/05 - Monster Mash Tickets On Sales**

**10/13 - Fun Run Informational Meeting - MPR - 8:00am**

**10/18 - Dippin Dots**

**10/18 - Shark Fund Meeting**

**10/26 - Recess with Danville P.D.**

**10/27 - Monster Mash - Blacktop & MPR - 5:00pm - 6:30pm**

**10/30 - Free Trial Class - Lego Robotics and STEM Basic 2:30 - Library**

**10/31 - Adjusted Wednesday Schedule**

**TK /K = 8:00 - 11:30**

**1st - 5th grade = 8:00 - 12:50**

**10/31 - Halloween Parade 9:15am - Turf Field**

**11/06 - Lego Robotics and STEM Basic w/ Lego Enrichment class begins**

**11/08 - PTA Association Meeting 8:00am - MPR**

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## Attendance Line



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**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.
- 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**

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**Enrollment for incoming TK and K students for the 24/25 school year will be held Online November 13, 2023 - December 15, 2023.**

We look forward to enrolling your child in our Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten programs for the 2024-25 school year. Please find attached a flyer containing information on enrollment/registration dates and Parent/Caregiver information sessions.

Feel free to reach out to our office with any questions.

- [24-25 TK-K Flyer in digital format](#)

**Parent Information Nights:**

- **TK Parent Information Night - Tuesday, October 17 at 5:30 pm** passcode: 132915
- **Kindergarten Parent Information Night - Thursday, October 19 at 5:30 pm** passcode: 670552

# TK & Kindergarten Enrollment

We look forward to enrolling your child in our Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten program for the 2024-25 school year.

## = Registration Dates =

**Enrollment Window Opens**  
Monday, November 13, 2023

**Enrollment Window Closes\***  
Friday, December 15, 2023

\* Completed online enrollment applications must be submitted by December 15 to be included in the first round of confirmation of space at the resident school site. Online enrollment applications submitted after December 15 are received on a first come first served basis for space.

## = Age Guidelines =

**To be eligible for TK for 2024-25**  
Your child must turn 5 years of age on or between  
September 2, 2024 to June 2, 2025

**To be eligible for KINDERGARTEN for 2024-25**  
Your child must turn 5 years of age on or before  
September 1, 2024

**First day of instruction: August 14, 2024**

## 2024-25 information

### Parent Information Nights

(Hosted via Zoom)

Zoom access links can be found on our TK/Kinder webpage

**TK Information Night**  
Tues., October 17, 2023  
5:30 - 6:30 pm

**Kinder Information Night**  
Thur., October 19, 2023  
5:30 - 6:30 pm

### TK/Kindergarten webpage info

Zoom links for Info Meetings

TK FAQ

Kindergarten Readiness

TK/Kinder Enrollment Quick Reference



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



## **FUN RUN:**

Sycamore Valley Elementary - 20th 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 9th at 9:00 am. Last year 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 13th, 2023 @ 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!

## **Grade Colors:**

TK: Orange 3: Green

K : Purple 4: Dark Blue

1: Yellow 5: Rainbow

2: Red

Questions: Erin Meyer— [erin@meyerca.com](mailto:erin@meyerca.com)

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## **Virtual Dyslexia Simulation - An Interactive Online Event for Families**



Artist credit: Paddy Donnelly, <https://lefft.com/dyslexia-beach/>

In recognition of national Dyslexia Awareness Month, Decoding Dyslexia CA's Tri-Valley Support Group and the San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs' Exceptional Education Committee are co-hosting an interactive workshop that will help individuals gain a better understanding of and empathy for children and adults with dyslexia.

Thursday, October 19, 2023

7:00pm - 8:30pm

On Zoom

Please **[REGISTER](#)** in advance and you will be emailed a unique link to join the meeting.

Dyslexia is a language-based learning difference that makes learning to read

difficult. Participants will be guided through a series of exercises that simulate how those with dyslexia experience reading, writing and processing information in the classroom.

The experience is designed for adults, but families with older children may wish to participate together.



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## **Extracurricular Extension Programs for Grades 1 - 5 in the subjects of Science, Language, Arts, Math and Research!**

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### **Research:**

The research topic for September/October is "Festival Around the World". For those that already created a presentation for last month's event, please email Raj at [rajiedeol@gmail.com](mailto:rajiedeol@gmail.com) to get SLAM credit. Those that would still like to create a presentation (e.g. tri-fold, slideshow, video, etc.) are welcome to do so for the country of your choice. Presentations are due **Friday, October 27th**.

### **SuperSTEM:**

September and October/November issues of SuperSTEM are due **Thursday, November 30** (extended from October 27). Please download, complete, and hand in the skills worksheets at the front office SLAM bin. Student work will be returned after credit is given.

Thank you to those that attended our SLAM Info Night! If you missed it, you can check out the presentation [here](#) and get all the information you need about SLAM on our [website](#).

## **SLAM Program signups are now open! Please sign up your students [here](#).**

Most SLAM programs are best suited for 3rd-5th graders, however, several programs this year are open to students from grades 1-2 also (if there is enough interest and we have enough parent volunteers).

**We are still looking for parent volunteers and coaches to help lead the following programs:**

- Odyssey of the Mind
- Science Olympiad

All SLAM volunteers are required to have level 1 clearance through the district (level 2 or 3 may be required in certain circumstances). Please see the district's [volunteer requirements](#). Learn more about the open roles in

SLAM and sign up to volunteer [here](#).

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Any questions about SLAM?  
Please email : [gositycamoreslam@gmail.com](mailto:gositycamoreslam@gmail.com)



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## **Monster Mash: October 27, 2023**

Sharky invites your family to Sycamore for a Halloween-themed night of fun on October 27th from 5-6:30pm. Join your friends for games, pizza and other refreshments, BYO pumpkin decorating and carving, prize drawings, cupcake walk, glow-stick dance party and more! Bring your own pumpkin and Shark Fund will provide the supplies. Tickets on sale NOW (they sell out quickly): <https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store>.

Ready to get involved and help make this event a success?! [Sign up here.](#)

Bring your own pumpkin and Shark Fund will provide the supplies.

**Tickets on sale Now (they sell out quickly):**  
<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store>



100% OF EVENT PROCEEDS BENEFIT SHARK FUND PROGRAMS

SHARK FUND  
PRESENTS



TICKETS GO ON SALE 10/5 AT 7:00PM

FAMILY  
EVENT

OCT 27  
5-6:30 PM

SYCAMORE  
BLACKTOP

Join your friends for Halloween-themed games, pizza and other refreshments, BYO pumpkin decorating and carving, prize drawings, cupcake walk, glow-stick dance party and more! **Bring your own pumpkin and Shark Fund will provide the supplies.**

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store>

*\$20 per person; children must be accompanied by an adult and each member of the family is required to purchase a ticket*



Dippin' Dot Calendar:  
10/18

Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!

Punch cards can be purchased for **\$25.00** at all Dippin Dot Wednesday events with cash or check made payable to "Sycamore Shark Fund"

- Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free
- Save time in line
- No need to bring money to school
- Families can share one card
- 100% of proceeds benefit your students at Sycamore

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

In just two events, Dippin dots has sold **over \$2,800!!!!!!**

Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30 am near the Kinder playground  
1st-5th Grade Sales @ 12:50-1:10pm near the back MPR/blacktop entrance

Lost Punch Cards or any other Dippin' Dot questions please contact  
Dippin' Dot Dana Claffey  
925-407-7178 [Dana.claffey@gmail.com](mailto:Dana.claffey@gmail.com)



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**Double the impact of your school donations with Corporate Match!**  
Follow these simple steps: <https://srvef.org/matching-gifts/>

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 CHEVRON ROBERT HALF GENENTECH INTEL CLOROX EBAY  
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 AIG CONSTITELLATION WORKDAY ROCHE MOLECULAR CHUBB BANK OF THE WEST  
 NOVARTIS VISA APPLE MERCK GARTNER EBAY PEPSICO BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB  
 CHEVRON VISA APPLE MERCK GENENTECH EBAY AT&T ADOBE WELLS FARGO




**SHARK FUND**  
 A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITTING ALL SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

**SAN RAMON VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION**  
 Investing In a World Class Educational Experience

DOUBLE YOUR SHARK FUND DONATION WITH  
**CORPORATE MATCH**

LAST YEAR SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY RECEIVED OVER

**OVER \$35,000**

FROM CORPORATE MATCHES!




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- 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

Do you need a way to keep track of all of your students' items at school? Buy personal labels for your kids at [campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com) Choose our organization from the list, **Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund**, and we'll earn 20% from it!



Keep your things out of the lost and found!

**mabel's labels**  
 FUNDRAISING

Buy personal labels for your kids at  
[campaigns.mabelslabels.com](https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com)

Choose our organization from the list  
**Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund**  
 and we'll earn 20% from it!




THANK YOU TO SYCAMORE'S 23-24  
PLATINUM CORPORATE SPONSORS



## Library Corner

Fall Book Fair coming soon. More details to follow.

Take Care,  
Jen Prindiville  
Library Media Coordinator  
Sycamore Valley Elementary

## Sharky Shout Out:

To our amazing game night volunteers, for putting on a great night!  
Kelly Virgillito, Lori Wodehouse, Cara Gamble, and Dana Claffey.



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**The next Site Council meeting will be announced soon.**

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



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### **Black Dragon Chess - Fall 2023**

Chess classes will be offered Thursday afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.  
Chess class will be held in our school library.  
Aug. 24 - Nov. 02, 2023  
See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

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### **Brick Techniques: STEM Basics with Lego**

Oct. 30, 2023  
Free Class - Introduction to STEM Basics and Lego Robotics.

[Free STEM Basic with Lego](#)

### **Lego Robotics - Fall 2023**

**Grades 3rd - 5th**  
Nov. 06 - Dec. 18, 2023  
No class on Nov. 20th  
2:30pm - 4:00pm School Science 1/3 Room next to the Library  
See attached flyer to sign up

[Lego Robotics Enrichment Class](#)

### **Brick Techniques: STEM Basics with Lego - Fall 2023**

**Grades K - 2nd**  
Nov. 06 - Dec. 18, 2023  
No class on Nov. 20th  
2:30pm - 4:00pm School Library

See attached flyer to sign up

## [STEM Basics with Lego](#)

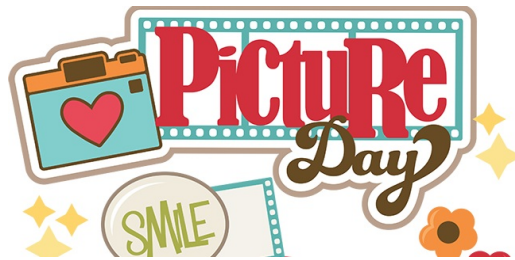
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### **Sports Camp - Fall 2023 - Start Date Sept. 21st**

Description: This Multi-Sport program combines all your favorite sports into one action-packed after-school enrichment experience. Each week participants will learn the fundamentals of a new sport through PLAY! Sports include: Baseball, Basketball, Capture the Ball, Dodgeball, Flag Football, Soccer, Volleyball, and Ultimate Disc! Skyhawks Coaches provide a positive environment where young athletes can develop at their own pace with lots of encouragement and a big focus on FUN! Your child will leave with new skills, new friends, and a new love for sports!

### [Sports Camp Information](#)

### [Sports Camp Flyer](#)



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If you have not done so already, you are welcome to order school photos. Here is the link.

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

You will need to know your child's student number. This can be found in your parent portal.



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The Lost & Found rack is located at the front of our school near the MPR.

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.

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# 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>

## Job Openings with Child Nutrition Join the School Meals Team

Sycamore Valley Elementary | 2200 Holbrook Road, Danville, CA 94506

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