

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal October 13, 2022

Dear Sycamore Families:

I hope you and your families are well and enjoying the lovely weather - fall weather in the Bay Area is the best! Everyone is busy and focused. As I visit classrooms I am impressed with the hard work our students are engaged in and the kindness the students show one another.

Keep reading for some dates to note and upcoming events, reminders and important safety and testing information.

REMINDERS:

Lunch Recess with Danville PD: Monday, Oct. 17th

Halloween Parade: Monday, October 31st

No School on Tuesday, November 1st

Car line Reminders:

A few friendly reminders to ensure parking lot safety for our community. Please do not drop students off in the fire lane. If you are at the front of the line, please stop at cone 1 to drop off your child. Also, please do not pull ahead in the car line. It can be very hazardous as folks are pulling away from the curb. Finally, and most importantly, please cross at the crosswalk. Your cooperation is most appreciated!

IMPORTANT - Be Aware:

Alarming Rainbow Fentanyl Trend

With Halloween coming up, we want our community to know that this version of fentanyl is purposely made 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.

CogAT Exam:

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 18, 2022 at 8am to November 20, 2022 at Midnight** on the [Gate Testing page](#) of the district website. *Late registrations will not be accepted.*

Shark Spirit:

Show your Shark spirit by wearing blue or any Sycamore Spirit Wear every Friday.

Absences / Tardies:

As mentioned previously in Shark Bites:

Illnesses - please report your child's absence on our attendance line: 925-855-2898

Remember: your child needs to be - vomit / fever / diarrhea free without medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

Late to school - please report late arrivals on our attendance line: 925-855-2898

Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



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 - Last Day to Purchase Monster Mash Tickets - (see flyer below)
10/19 - Shark Fund Meeting - 6:30pm - Virtual
10/21 - Reflections - Submissions due today
10/25 - In-Person Discovery Counseling Workshop (see flyer below)
10/25 - TK Information Night 5:30-6:30 (see flyer below)
10/26 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field
10/24-10/28 - Red Ribbon Week
10/28 - Monster Mash - MPR 6:00pm - 7:00pm - (see flyer below)

10/31 - Halloween Parade - 9:30am - Turf Field
11/01 - No School
11/01 - Virtual Discovery Counseling Center Workshop (see flyer below)
11/02 - Dippin Dots - After school
11/04 - Family Game Night - MPR - (see flyer below)
11/09 - Kinder Information Night 5:30-6:30 (see flyer below)
11/10 - Fun Run - Turf Field
11/14-12/16 - TK/K Enrollment Open
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**

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>



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/tPOY5TCyDgTDcdXk7>

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

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 2023-24 school year.

Registration Dates

Enrollment Window Opens
Mon., November 14, 2022

Enrollment Window Closes*
Fri., December 16, 2022

* Completed online enrollment applications must be submitted by December 16 to be included in the first round of confirmation of space at the resident school site. Online enrollment applications submitted after December 16 are received on a first come-first served basis for space.

Age Guidelines

To be eligible for TK for 2023-24
Your child must turn 5 years of age on or between
September 2, 2023 to April 2, 2024

To be eligible for KINDERGARTEN for 2023-24
Your child must turn 5 years of age on or before
September 1, 2023

First day of instruction: August 10, 2023

2023-24 information

Please join us for a Parent Information Night
(Hosted via Zoom)

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

TK Information Night
Tues., October 25, 2022
5:30 - 6:30 pm

Kinder Information Night
Wed., November 9, 2022
5:30 - 6:30 pm

Visit our TK/Kinder garden webpage to access Zoom links to parent information meetings and other TK/Kinder resources:

- TK FAQ
- Kindergarten Readiness
- TK/Kinder Enrollment Quick Reference



TK/Kinder Webpage

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

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Reconnecting With Our Kids:

A learning workshop for parents and caregivers on strategies and positive communication methods from the Discovery Counseling Center



Tuesday, October 25, 2022: In-Person

Tuesday, November 1, 2022: Zoom

7-8:30PM, RSVP required:

www.srvcouncilpta.org



Attend EITHER Session

Join us for an evening where you'll learn:

1. What counseling services are offered to students as well as parents
2. Tips on identifying if your child is distressed
3. The right time and way to intervene and reach for help



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!

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 : gositycamoreslam@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.

100% OF EVENT PROCEEDS BENEFIT SHARK FUND PROGRAMS

SHARK FUND
PRESENTS

MONSTER MASH

FAMILY
EVENT

OCT 28
5-7 PM

SYCAMORE
BLACKTOP

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

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

\$15 per person; children must be accompanied by an adult and each member of the family is required to purchase a ticket



Dippin' Dots \$5 each

cotton candy
YoDots
cotton candy
cotton candy
cotton candy

rainbow
YoDots
rainbow
rainbow
rainbow

cookies 'n cream
YoDots
cookies 'n cream
cookies 'n cream
cookies 'n cream

cookie dough
YoDots
cookie dough
cookie dough
cookie dough

Shark Fund is proud to offer Dippin' Dots

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' DOT PREPAID PUNCH CARD

PUNCH CARD

- Buy 5 get one FREE
- Save time in line with fast & easy purchase
- Each durable punch card \$25

Punchcards can be purchased at all Dippin' Dot events with check made payable to Sycamore Shark Fund or cash.



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 825-407-7178

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

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



Family Game Night

Order your tickets [here](#):



GAMES FUN PRIZES

**FAMILY
EVENT**

**NOV 4
6-8 PM**

**SYCAMORE
MPR**

6:00 PM CHECK-IN & DINNER

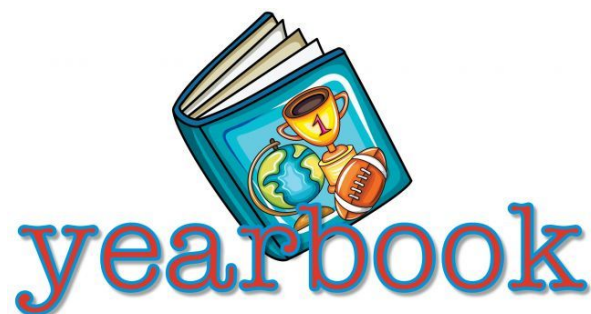
6:30 PM GAMES BEGIN

COST IS \$12 PER PERSON (INCLUDES
PIZZA, CAESAR SALAD, WATER & COOKIE)



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

*\$12 per person. 130 person capacity event. NO tickets will be sold at the door
Register on future fund and sign PTA waiver before Thursday November 3rd.*



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,
Jen Prindiville / Library Media Coordinator
<https://syc-srvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/sylibrary>



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:

Parents: Thank you for participating in the recent give back events at Melo's and Dos Coyotes. You helped raise \$775.00 to support Sycamore Elementary and these local Danville businesses!

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Thank you to all the volunteers that mobilized at the last minute to volunteer to cover recess, lunch and picture retake day.



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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](mailto: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

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Watch for our next article.



## Child Nutrition

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### Meals Provided @ Sycamore

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

#### [MENUS](#)

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

#### [Flyer](#)

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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## Shark Fund - Corporate Match

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BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB  
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SHARK FUND  
A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITING ALL SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

SAN RAMON VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
Investing in a World Class Educational Experience

**DOUBLE YOUR SHARK FUND DONATION WITH  
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LAST YEAR SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY RECEIVED OVER  
**OVER \$25,000**  
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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

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