

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal November 30, 2023

Dear Sycamore Valley Families,

I hope you had a restful and joy-filled break. Returning to Sycamore Valley this week was delightful. I have enjoyed catching with all of our Sycamore Sharks! This time between Thanksgiving and Winter Break is very busy with a lot of learning taking place. We started the week with the annual Street Smarts Assembly. This assembly focuses on road safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and scooter-riders.

In the classrooms our Sharks are learning about a variety of topics. TK students are focusing on the letter "g" and winter holidays. Kinder students are exploring the five senses. 1st graders are working on oral presentations centered on family holiday traditions. 2nd graders went to Lindsay Wildlife Museum. 3rd graders closed out their Mystery Reading unit with a visit from the *Code Buster* author Penny Warner (see photo below). 4th grade is digging into double digit multiplication and 5th grade is diving into non-fiction reading with self-selected topics.

Keep reading for information about December Read Alouds, Lost and Found, an incident over Thanksgiving break and an SRVUSD Update.

Dates to Remember:

12/20 - Spirit Day - Theme: Pajama Day

12/20 - 01/08 - No School - Winter Break

01/09 - School Resumes

Read Alouds:

The December trait is Trustworthy. I will be reading *A Pair of Red Clogs* by Masako Matsuno, *Pig the Fibber* by Aaron Blabey and *The Grizzly Bear who Lost His Grrrrrrr!* By Rob Biddulph. Please see the link here for the December

schedule: [December Read Aloud Schedule](#) Please reach out with any questions.

Lost and found notice:

Our Lost and Found is literally overflowing! Student Leadership will be hosting a Lost and Found walk-through for each class this Friday morning. If your child does not return home with their missing items after that, please check the Lost and Found. Lost and Found items will be donated on December 14th. Moving forward, Please help us reunite jackets, water bottles, etc. with their owners by writing your child's name on their belongings.

Incident over Holiday Break:

Over the Thanksgiving holiday two classrooms were broken into on our campus. We reported the break-in to the Danville Police Department and shared the video footage from our campus security cameras. If you have any information about the incident, please reach out to the Danville Police at 925-820-2144. Thank you.

Code Buster author Penny Warner:



SRVUSD Updates

C.O.P.E. Seminar: 12/04

C.O.P.E. Family Support Center and San Ramon Valley Unified School District are teaming up to provide families with six parent seminars, to support parents and their journey to raise children with positive strategies.

[COPE Flyer FALL 2023.pdf](#)

Events Calendar, Shark Fund and PTA information below - keep scrolling!!

Thank you,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



11/06-12/08 - Spirit Wear Sale - see flyer

11/13 - 12/15 - Incoming TK & K Enrollment

11/17-12/11 - Sister School - Coat + Shoe drive

11/30 - Site Council Meeting

12/06 - Sharky Cinema 12:50-2:30pm - MPR

12/13 - Dippin' Dots

12/14 - Lost and Found will be donated to Sister School

12/20 - Spirit Day - Theme: Pajama Day

12/21-01/08 - No School = Winter Vacation

01/09 - School Resumes

01/12 - Yearbook 5th Grade Baby Photo Deadline

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.
- 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



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

With the change of weather our lost and found is growing!!!

**Take a look at the rack and in the yellow bin.
You may be surprised and find a sweatshirt / jacket / or sweater that you
did not know was left behind.**

**Unclaimed clothing will be donated to our Sister School,
King Elementary on December 14th.**

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.



Staff Luncheon:

Hi Sycamore families! The PTA will be hosting a staff luncheon in December. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up to donate something. Some of the items have suggested links. These are just suggestions and examples. Please drop off items to the office by Wednesday December 13th. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4EA9AD28A7FB6-46139494-staff>

For questions please contact Jenna Mesic at JLMesic@gmail.com



Sister School
Program

San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs



Sister School Coat & Shoe Drive

Once again, our Sister School, King Elementary in Richmond, has asked our community for help getting coats and athletic shoes for some of their students in greatest need. Let's help keep them warm this winter! Please select a student to shop for and click on the button to sign up. Here is the sign-up genius to choose a student to shop for:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094BA5AF2AABFC1-46069696-sister#/>

Today is Cyber Monday, and sales provide a great opportunity to get a deal on shoes or coats. Check out Kohl's, Macy's, JCPenney, Old Navy, or Costco for good bargains (Costco has some children's coats for around \$15-20). If you do not have time to shop for shoes or coats, please consider donating (any amount helps) to [Future Fund](#), and we will shop for you.

Donation link: [Sycamore Valley Elementary: Sister School Donation \(futurefund.com\)](#)

Please look for donation bins near the office to drop off the items you purchase. **ALL shoes and coats MUST BE LABELED with KING STUDENT NAME and GRADE when dropping them off at our school.**

Sign Up genius links:

General Lunch Recess Helpers, General Morning Recess Helpers.

Lunch Recess General Volunteers:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-44467019-lunch>

Sycamore General Recess Volunteers:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA72DAAFAC25-44466238-sycamore>

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](#)

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 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/Kinderergarten webpage info
Zoom links for Info Meetings
TK FAQ
Kindergarten Readiness
TK/Kinder Enrollment Quick Reference

TK/Kinder Webpage

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

Click here for the [Shark Spirit Shop](#)

Here is a link to the flash sale and the new flyer advertising
20% Off - Holiday Sale

11/06 - 12/08 with guarantee delivery by 12/23/23

Holiday SALE
20% OFF

GREAT GIFTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
Guaranteed Delivery By **DEC. 23rd**

1ST PLACE 
Spiritwear

SYCAMORE VALLEY

ORDER AT 1STPLACE.SALE/13542 SALE RUNS THRU 12/8



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

Battle of the Books:

The book list for the 2023/2024 school year is [here!](#) A minimum of 8 books must be read in order to compete in the Spring tournament.

Math Olympiad:

Math Olympiad meetings are Wednesdays before school at 7:15am. Please arrive at the front gate a few minutes early as no one is available to let late students in.

WordMasters:

~ ~ ~

STEAM Art & Play:

The next class is **Tuesday, December 5th**, at 2:30pm in the MPR. Your child(ren) may only attend if they are signed up via the signup genius. Classes are FULL, so if your child(ren) cannot attend, please delete their signup so that their spot may be offered to someone on the waitlist.

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.

Research:

The research topic for November/December is **ANIMALS**. Students may pick any animal and areas of research may include habitat, life cycle, characteristics, diet (predators/prey), and so on. Presentations can be a trifold, slideshow, video, audio, etc. Students may work individually or in pairs for this topic. Presentations are due **Monday, December 18th**. Students should submit hard copy presentations to the front office. Please email rajiedeol@gmail.com to get SLAM credit.

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).

Any questions about SLAM?
Please email : goscamoslam@gmail.com

Want your **PHOTOS** in the **YEARBOOK?**



So do we! All students, parents and teachers can contribute to the yearbook by uploading photos for potential use. You can share photos of classroom activities, school events or shots of your children and their friends (ideal photos include 3-4 students)!

Remember to provide as much detail as possible such as the names and grades of the students pictured, plus, event/activity.

The more you share, the better our yearbook can be!

Start sharing today! 3 ways to upload:

QR Code



Website



Download App



HJ eShare

enter school code **sycamoresharks**

*While we cannot guarantee that all shared photos will be published,
if you don't share your great pictures, it can't even be considered!*



Join Our Shark Fund Graphics Team and Dive into Creativity!



Join Our Shark Fund Graphics Team and Dive into Creativity!



Attention talented graphic designers!



Are you a wizard with Adobe Illustrator? We're on the lookout for a creative mind to join our dynamic graphics team for Shark Fund. Your skills will play a crucial role in updating and creating eye-catching flyers and social media graphics for our exciting fundraising events, including Sharky Cinema, Dine-To-Donate, and the Live Auction extravaganzas.

To dive into this fantastic opportunity, please reach out to Christine Hoffman at christy1a@aol.com. Your artistic talents will make a difference, and we truly

appreciate your support in shaping the future of our school community!



#SharkFund #GraphicDesignOpportunity #JoinTheTeam

Sharky Cinema:

SOLD OUT!

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

PARENTS - ENJOY SOME EXTRA KID FREE TIME ON WACKY WEDNESDAY

TICKETS GO ON SALE 11/28 AT 7:00PM

SHARK FUND PRESENTS

SHARKY CINEMA

The GRINCH

12/6 12:50-2:30 PM MPR

JOIN US AFTER SCHOOL ON A WACKY WEDNESDAY TO WATCH A MOVIE WITH HOT CHOCOLATE & HOLIDAY SNACKS IN THE MPR!
THIS MONTH'S MOVIE: THE GRINCH
DROP-OFF EVENT WITH PARENT VOLUNTEERS SUPERVISING.

SIGN-UP: [HTTPS://SYCAMOREVALLEY.FUTUREFUND.COM/STORE](https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store)
TICKETS GO ON SALE 11/28 AT 7:00PM

Dippin' Dot Calendar:
12/13

Dippin Dot Pre-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.

Dippin dots has sold **over \$4,500!!!!!!**

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



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

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON APPLE AIG BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB INTEL KAISER
 CHEVRON ROBERT HALF GENENTECH CLOROX EBAY
 CISCO FARGO FOUNDATION AT&T
 WELLS FARGO MCKESSON YNCH
 VISA MARRIOTT AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING INC.
 LPL FINANCIAL GOOGLE BANK OF AMERICA
 ADOBE VERIZON LINKEDIN VEEVA SYSTEMS
 BANK OF AMERICA VERIZON LINKEDIN VEEVA SYSTEMS
 AIG CONSTITATION WORKDAY ROCHE MOLECULAR CHUBB
 NOVARTIS VISA APPLE MERCK GARTNER EBAY PEPSICO BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB
 CHEVRON VISA APPLE MERCK GARTNER EBAY AT&T ADOBE WELLS FARGO
 ORACLE




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!




1 YOU DONATE

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 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

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

Thank you for supporting the library book fair! It was a success and a lot of fun! Huge thanks to the volunteers who helped man the registers and keep things organized. You are appreciated!

- **Battle of the Books** (3rd - 5th) --> Program Lead: Christiana at [analeung817\(at\)yahoo\(dot\)com](mailto:analeung817(at)yahoo(dot)com)
- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CAEA92FA31-battle1#/>

Take Care,
Jen Prindiville
Library Media Coordinator
Sycamore Valley Elementary

Sharky Shout Out:

Shout out to all of our library book fair volunteers and Ms. Prindiville for

Info from District:

SRVUSD is Seeking Members for New Resource Parent Network

The Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in SRVUSD is seeking dedicated special education parents to become part of our Resource Parent Network.

By becoming a Resource Parent you can inspire, uplift, and empower others while fostering a sense of togetherness within our special education community. Your experience and wisdom can make a world of difference to other parents navigating the complex world of special education.

Do you ever wish there was another parent there to guide you when you embarked on your special education journey?

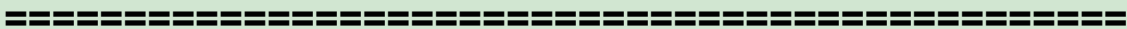
We invite you to become the support you wished for!

If you are interested, we invite you to learn more and please take this short [interest form](#) no later than January 12, 2024.



Mark your calendar:

Next meeting date will be announced in the near future.



More information about Site Council is available at:

<https://syes.srvusd.net/Families/Site-Council/Site-Council/index.html>



Black Dragon Chess - Winter 2023

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

Chess class will be held in our school library.

Nov. 30th - Feb. 29th

No class during winter break.

See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess 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](#)

Sports Camp - Fall 2023 - Session #2 Starts Nov. 09, 2023

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 Flyer](#)



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.



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>

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

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