

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal December 08, 2022

Dear Sycamore Families:

I hope you and your families are well! It seems that the cold and flu season is back in full force this season. We are encouraging kiddos to cover their coughs and sneezes and wash their hands often. After a few years of wearing masks, we are a little out of practice - the other day I was stunned when my 13 year old "covered" his cough by holding his elbow about five inches away from his mouth while he coughed. It was a clear reminder that the kiddos might be a little rusty with best practices.

On another note, it is cold outside! I encourage students to bundle up as we are outside as much as possible if it is not raining. Coats and sweatshirts are strongly recommended. Please remember to write your child's name on the tag of their clothing.

Winter break is fast approaching but we are still in full swing for another two weeks. Keep reading for dates to note, information on late drop off procedures, and some campus happenings.

Reminders:

Friday, December 9, 2022 = Spirit Day, show your Sycamore spirit with Sharkwear or Sycamore Blue OR wear green and gold in support of the San Ramon Valley High School Football team - they are playing in the state Championship!

Dec. 06, 2022 - Dec. 09, 2022 = Book Fair

Dec. 23, 2022 - Jan 09, 2023 = No School - Winter Break

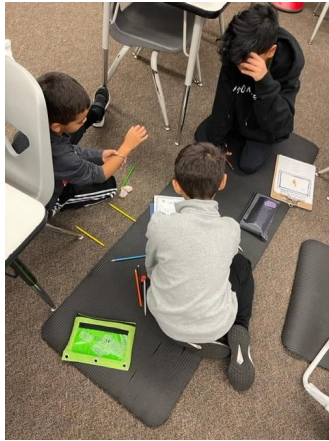
Late Drop Off:

If you are dropping your student off after 8:00, please be sure to drive through

the drop off line. Dropping students off in the parking lot is dangerous as we cannot guarantee there will be someone to help them safely cross the street. I understand that this will add another minute or two but the drop off line is the safest option. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Campus Happenings:

For the first time this year, our TK kiddos met their fifth-grade buddies. Dropping in on conversations and watching the kids work together showed how important this mentor relationship is. Our fifth graders were kind, patient, caring and wise. And our TK kiddos were too cute for words. Building community and connections serves all of our students and is something of which we are very proud.



Lost Item:

A horseback riding crop fell out of a van at pick up last week. It is in the office, please stop by to pick it up if it is yours.

Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS !

IMPORTANT DATES



11/14-12/16 - TK/K Enrollment Open

11/28-12/16 - Sister School Holiday Collection (see flyer below)

12/09 - Winter Book Fair - Last Day Open 2:30 - 4:30pm - Library

12/09 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue Clothing

12/14 - Dippin Dots - After School (Weather Permitting)

12/14 - Wrap Event for Sister School Collection
12/16 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue Clothing
12/16 - Holiday Luncheon for Staff Hosted by PTA
12/22 - Spirit Day - Pajama Day
12/23-01/09 - No School - Winter Break
01/10 - School Resumes
01/11 - PTA Meeting - 8:10am - MPR
01/16 - No School - Martin Luther King Holiday
01/18 - Dippin Dots - After School (Weather Permitting)

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



Holiday Staff Luncheon: Hosted by PTA

The PTA will be hosting a staff luncheon on December 16th.
Please review the available slots below and click on the button to
sign up to donate something. Some of the items have suggested
links.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4EA9AD28A7FB6-staff2>

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Thank you to Sycamore's 22-23
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Sister School
Program
San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs

King Elementary Sister School Coat and Shoe Drive



Please bring all new coats and shoes to school by
Monday, Dec. 12th, labeled with the *name and grade* of the child
you purchased them for.

Please bring some scissors and tape and join us at the wrapping party in the MPR after school on Wednesday, Dec. 14th.

This year, our Sister School, King Elementary in Richmond has asked our community for help in getting coats and 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.

Sister School Coat & Shoe Drive

If you do not have time to shop for shoes or coats, please consider making a donation (any amount helps) on [Future Fund](https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store/campaigns/29095-sister-school-donation) and we will shop for you.

Donation link:

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store/campaigns/29095-sister-school-donation>

Please look for donation bins in front of the school or in 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 the school.**

We will be collecting new coats and shoes now through Monday, Dec. 12th. Gifts will be wrapped after school on Dec. 14th -- parents and students are welcome to help. Bring scissors and tape.

Additionally, we will be collecting coats and shoes in "LIKE-NEW" condition as there are many students at King in need and this list does not cover them all. Please look for donation bins in front of the school and for Girl Scouts helping collect the gently-used coats and shoes. Please do NOT put your new items with the donated items.

Students will also be making Holiday bookmarks in their classes. All the students at King Elementary will receive a candy cane and bookmark from their Sister School friends at Sycamore.

Thanks again for your support and generosity to help students in need. It is MUCH appreciated!

Happy Holidays!



Library Corner

Exciting news from the library!

Our Winter book fair is coming to the library next week, just in time for holiday shopping!

Book fair dates & times open to all:

Tuesday 12/6 - 2:30-4:30

Thursday 12/8 - 2:30-4:30

Friday 12/9 - 2:30-4:30

The fair will also be open during our regular class visits for teachers and kids to browse, make wish lists and shop on their own with cash, or *if they have a gift card already purchased*. (Please note - students need to be responsible for their own money, teachers will not be overseeing this.)

***Gift cards enable kids to shop independently within their budget. This is also a great idea to share with family for gifting! Please have your student bring a printout of their card/QR code! (*This is the Literati version of an e-wallet.)**

<https://efairs.literati.com/product-category/gift-cards/>

***Online shopping also counts towards the fair total!**

Shop here: <https://efairs.literati.com/books/?school=sycamore-valley-elementary-school-danville-ca>

The book fair is the library's biggest fundraiser, so your support is appreciated!

Thank you for your support of our library!

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



NEW Sycamore Valley Spirit Wear Online Shop!

Introducing a NEW Spirit Wear Store with new designs that ship directly to your house! The new Shark Shop is now open year-round. New designs are up on the website including the Sharky Sunrise shirt from the beginning of the year!

Shop here: 1stplace.sale/13542

SYCAMORE VALLEY SPIRIT WEAR STORE

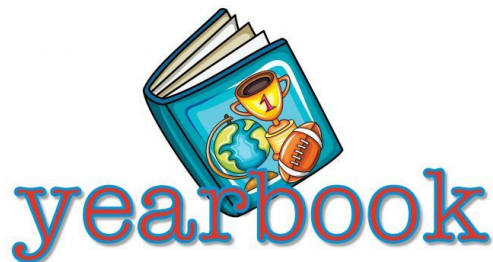


TEES, HOODIES & MORE!



1stplace.sale/13542

1ST PLACE 
Spiritwear



Reminder to Upload Photos -

Given all of the fun activities lately (past and upcoming), please share your photos for our yearbook committee.

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!*



**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.

DYNAMATH

Dec/Jan Issue Due **Jan 17th, 2023**

SUPERSCIENCE

Dec/Jan issue Due **Feb 3, 2023**

RESEARCH

Our next research project is African American History Month

Due **Fri, Feb 24th.**

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.

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at smile.amazon.com.

You shop. Amazon gives.

Shop at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of each qualified purchase to Shark Fund at no cost to you! It's easy, it's free, and it helps our

school!

Set **SRVEF- Sycamore Valley Elementary School Shark Fund** as your charity of choice!



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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

- 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 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:

12/14 , 01/18

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

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

“Dippin Dots has raised over **\$4,200** since August!!”

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



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

**Please check for your misplaced items -
you might even find an item that you
didn't know was lost!**

This time of year, our Lost and Found tends

to grow rather quickly.
In fact, the rack is currently overflowing...
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 front quad near the MPR.

Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to our Library Liaison Phyllis Acon and all the
parents/friends of Sycamore who volunteered to help run a successful
Winter Book Fair!



**The next Site Council meeting will be held on Thursday,
January 19, 2023 @ 4:00pm**

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If you are interested in becoming part of our Site Council,
**We need two parents for the current school year
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>



Black Dragon Chess - Fall 2022

Chess classes will be offered Thursday afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.
Winter Session - Information coming soon
See attached flyer to sign up.

Chess Enrichment Class

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Soccer - Fall 2022

Soccer is offered Monday afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm
Oct. 31st - Dec. 19th
No class on Nov. 21st
See attached flyer for sign up

Soccer Enrichment Class

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Basketball - Winter 2023

Basketball will be offered on Tuesday 2:35pm - 3:35pm
More details coming soon
See attached flyer for sign up

Basketball Enrichment Class

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Pickleball - Winter 22/23

Pickleball Wednesday afternoons 12:55pm - 1:55pm.
Feb. 01 - 5/03, 2023
No Class; 3/22, 4/05
See attached flyer for sign up.

Pickleball Enrichment Class



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!



Child Nutrition

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>

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

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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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