

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal December 15, 2022

Dear Sycamore Families:

I hope you and your family are well. We have been working hard as we approach Winter Break. Our sharks have been finishing up math modules, writing essays, furthering their reading skills, exploring science concepts and building core strength and athletic skills. Additionally, students have been practicing special songs, developing fine motor skills through art projects and building connections across the community. This work will continue next week as well. Please be sure that your child(ren) is/are attending school whenever they are not sick. Every day is an opportunity for your child to grow.

Last week we enjoyed the Book Fair. Thank you to our librarian, Mrs. Prindiville and all the community members who helped by volunteering and supporting our library with purchases.

Keep reading for some important dates to remember, a message from the school nurse, information about covid test kits and campus happenings.

Reminders:

Friday, Dec. 16, 2022 = Spirit Day, Wear Sycamore Blue or Shark Wear to show your spirit!

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

January 16, 2023 - Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday - No School

Message from the School Nurse:

We are in the midst of the cold and flu season so a few reminders for students and staff. Please remind your student(s) to cough into their elbows and throw their tissues into the trash can. Immediately after blowing their nose, they should wash their hands or use sanitizer to disinfect their hands so they are not touching common areas with their hands.

We strongly recommend testing your child for Covid should they exhibit any

Covid (flu-like) symptoms AND before their return to school after the Thanksgiving break.

Please see the attached chart to determine if you should keep your child at home or send them to school. [Guidelines](#)

Thank you so much. All your efforts are appreciated to keep our children healthy and safe at school.

COVID Test Kit Distribution:

The CDPH is continuing efforts to keep schools safe and successful by providing over the counter (OTC)/at-home COVID-19 rapid antigen tests for students and staff to use when returning from Winter Break. We are encouraging all students and staff to test for COVID-19 before they return to school following Winter Break, as testing remains a critical safety measure to reduce the possibility of an early 2023 surge. The kits will be sent home prior to Winter Break with all students and staff.

Sister School - Coat/Shoe Drive - Wrapping Event

We are grateful for your donations to our Sister School, King Elementary. The gifts of warm coats and shoes for the holidays are a welcome gift. Our leadership students and girl scouts helped wrap the gifts yesterday. The coats and shoes were delivered to King Elementary this morning.



Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS !

IMPORTANT DATES



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

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

Elite Corporate Sponsors

Thank you to Sycamore's 22-23 Platinum Corporate Sponsors



Library Corner

Thank you for supporting our Winter book fair!
The book fairs are the sole source of funding for the library,
so each purchase helps to add new materials to the library collection
for our students and teachers!

Please keep reading over the break, and happy holidays!

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

MAKE EVERYDAY SPIRIT DAY!

**SYCAMORE VALLEY
SPIRIT WEAR SALE**



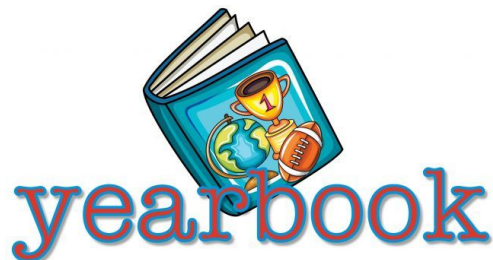
- ✓ **TEES, HOODIES & MORE**
- ✓ **FAST HOME DELIVERY**
- ✓ **FREE SHIPPING OVER \$100**
- ✓ **CHOOSE FROM 150+ DESIGNS**



SCAN TO ORDER

ORDER AT 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 : gosycamoreslam@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!



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:

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 **\$4,500** 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 all the families who donated to our King Elementary Sister School Coat and Shoe drive. 5th grade leadership, several Girl Scouts troops and parents wrapped tons of donations after school on Wednesday.

Kim Eves, Dana Claffey and Liz Sorley took three carloads of coats and shoes to King Elementary today, and the school and families were beyond appreciative.





**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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[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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