

# Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



## Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal December 22, 2022

---

Dear Sycamore Families:

I hope all is well with you and your families. We are looking forward to a restful and fun break and to a wonderful New Year!! We have been busy working hard this week and today are focusing on community. Kiddos look cozy in their jammies - perfect for this foggy winter day.

Keep reading for some dates to remember, information about Depth and Complexity, Covid Test kits and job openings here at Sycamore Valley (including a new posting from Child Nutrition).

### **Dates to Remember:**

**School Resumes: Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

**No School: Monday, January 16, 2023 - Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday**

### **Depth and Complexity:**

One of San Ramon Valley Unified School District's Strategic Directions is Deep Learning. Deep Learning has many components and takes shape in classrooms in different ways. An entry point for Deep Learning here at Sycamore Valley has been Depth and Complexity. Depth and Complexity is designed to foster deep thinking and lends itself easily to differentiation. The program centers on a series of icons that are referenced as visual prompts.

TK and Kindergarten students start with patterns. Over the years icons are added until fifth grade when students are considering patterns, details, unanswered questions, language as a discipline, big ideas, ethics, perspectives, changes over time, across disciplines, trends and rules. Teachers at different grade levels have been sharing the Depth and Complexity icons and frames to support students in delving deeper in their

analysis across the curriculum.

### **Job Openings:**

We still have a number of job openings here at SycamoreValley. We are looking for an instrumental music teacher, a vocal music teacher for TK-2nd, some additional Noon Supervisors and some additional Para-Professionals. If you are interested in joining the Sycamore Valley team, please look for these postings on EdJoin.

### **Child Nutrition - Job Fair:**

Do you want to make a difference in breakfast and lunch meals served in SRVUSD?

Are you looking for a rewarding part-time job that works with your children's schedule?



Then come to the

## **Child Nutrition Job Fair**

Being held on

January 9, 2023

8 am – 4 pm

3280 Crow Canyon Road

**\*\*All attendees will receive a day of interview**

Email [jjayes@srvusd.net](mailto:jjayes@srvusd.net) for questions or additional info



Thank you for the gift of your child,  
Patricia Kawahara

**GO SHARKS !**



# IMPORTANT DATES



---

**12/23-01/09 - No School - Winter Break**

**12/26-12/28 - Flash Sales - Sharkwear - See Flyer below**

**01/10 - School Resumes**

**01/11 - PTA Meeting - 8:10am - MPR**

**01/14 - Enrollment for NEW 1st - 5th graders Opens - TK/K enrollment continues.**

**01/16 - No School - Martin Luther King Holiday**

**1/17-1/20 - Bookmark Contest**

**01/18 - Dippin Dots - After School (Weather Permitting)**

**1/30-1/31 - Book Swap Donations - See Flyer Below**

## 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



Seasons Greetings, Kimberly & School Community!

Words cannot adequately express the gratitude that my community and I feel, for your love and generosity towards our students. THANK YOU!

The joy on the faces of our students upon receiving the coats, the shoes, the bookmarks, candy canes...is priceless.

All I can say is, BLESSINGS to your students and community, for showing such kindness to my students. You brightened their holidays. You made a difference!

Please extend my gratitude to your students and community. May you all continue to find favor in all that you do.

Warm regards,  
Ifeoma

Principal  
Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School





---

## 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!*



## 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.

**FLASH SALE:** Save 25% on all spirit wear Dec 26th - 28th! Stay warm with Sycamore Valley Elementary School hoodies, jackets tees and hats!

**Shop Here:** <https://1stplace.sale/13542>.

DEC 26TH - 28TH ONLY!

**FLASH** 25% OFF  
*Sale* SITEWIDE

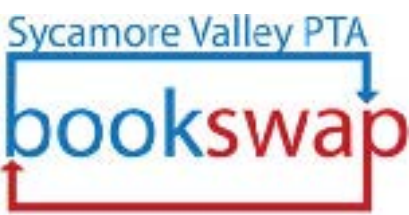
SYCAMORE VALLEY  
**SHARKS**  
ATHLETICS

SHARKS  
2023  
ATHLETICS

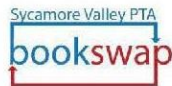
SYCAMORE VALLEY  
**SHARKS**

ORDER AT  
1STPLACE.SALE/13542

1ST PLACE Sportswear







Does your child have a stack of paperback books sitting around the house they've already read? Do you wish you had the opportunity to exchange them for new stories and reading adventures? Then the Sycamore Valley PTA Book Swap is for you!

#### **HOW IT WORKS**

January 30 and January 31 students may bring and donate "gently used" paperback books. Donations will be made in front of the MPR before school (7:45–8:00 & 8:45-9:00 a.m.). Students may swap up to five (5) books but are encouraged to bring additional book donations. All remaining books after the swap will be donated to our Sister School, King Elementary.

On Wednesday February 1, students may come to the MPR after school, 12:50-2 p.m (TK and Kindergartners in the TK/Kindergarten Playground at 11:30 a.m.) and select a "new to them" book of their choice based upon the number of books they donated up to five (5). Students will trade one (1) ticket for one (1) book. Students will also receive a free bookmark designed by the Bookmark Contest Winner for their grade level.

#### **BOOK CRITERIA**

Books to be swapped should be FROM our students, FOR our students. Encourage your child to bring books they've loved that they think their friends might love too! Books will only be accepted under the following guidelines:

Books must be appropriate for grades TK-5

Books must be gently used condition: cover on, no rips, no tears, no coloring or writing in them  
NO preschool books, magazines, sticker books, coloring books, activity books, Young Adult or grown-up books

NO free books such as kids meals (McDonalds, Chick-fil-a) will be accepted

#### **BOOKMARK CONTEST**

We invite all of our talented Sycamore artists to participate in this year's "If you don't like to read, then you haven't found the right book" Bookmark

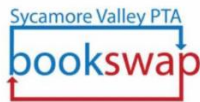
Contest. The winner from each grade level (TK thru 5) will receive a copy of their laminated bookmark as well as bragging rights as "official" bookmark winner at this year's Book Swap.

Entry forms are available in the office and online through Shark Bites. Completed Entries are due to the **Office** by January 20<sup>th</sup>. ONE (1) entry per student. Artwork should be done by hand and by the child whose name is on the form.

---

## **Book Swap - Bookmark Contest:**





### Bookmark Contest Rules:

This year's theme is "If you don't like to read, you haven't found the right book."

What's your favorite book? Use your imagination and creativity to design a bookmark that best represents that book. **Make sure to write/include the book title on your entry!** Open to all Sycamore Valley Elementary Students Grades TK - 5.

- Bookmarks must be created using this template (on the left) with crayons, colored pencils, pens or markers. (Remember, winning bookmarks must be reproducible.)
- Original entries only. No tracing or copyrighted images like cartoons. No computer generated images.
- Only one (1) entry per student. Artwork should be done by hand and by the child whose name is on the form (exception: young children may receive help in writing letters and numbers).

**Turn in your bookmark design entry to the OFFICE by January 20, 2023.**

- Winners will be chosen from each grade level (TK, K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th).
- Winners will be judged on creativity, spelling and neatness, theme, and printability.
- Winners will be announced January 25th and will receive their bookmark back laminated as well as have their bookmark printed and given out at the fair.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian, please sign:**

Sycamore Valley Elementary PTA has my permission to reproduce, exhibit, and distribute my child's bookmark and to list his or her first name, last initial, and school name on the bookmark.

Signature of parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## 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 : [goscymoreslam@gmail.com](mailto:goscymoreslam@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](mailto:sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org).

---

**Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).**

**You shop. Amazon gives.**

Shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://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!



**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**

- 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](mailto: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:**  
**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](mailto:Dana.claffey@gmail.com)

---



## 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>

---



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 room moms for being the point of contact for  
your class, communicating important information, organizing  
volunteers, parties, class gifts and taking care of all our amazing  
teachers, paras and staff.



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

=====

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](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>



---

### **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**

=====

### **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**

=====

### **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**

=====

### **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**

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**

Do you want to make a difference in breakfast and lunch meals served in  
SRVUSD?

Are you looking for a rewarding part-time job that works with your children's  
schedule?



Then come to the

## Child Nutrition Job Fair

Being held on

January 9, 2023

8 am – 4 pm

3280 Crow Canyon Road

**\*\*All attendees will receive a day of interview**

Email [jjayes@srvusd.net](mailto:jjayes@srvusd.net) for questions or additional info



## Shark Fund - Corporate Match

---

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON  
CHEVRON  
CISCO  
WELLS FARGO  
VISA  
LPL FINANCIAL  
GOOGLE  
ADOBE  
LINKEDIN  
VEEVA SYSTEMS  
BANK OF AMERICA  
VERIZON  
AIG  
NOVARTIS  
CHEVRON  
VISA  
ELI LILLY  
MERCK  
GARTNER  
GENENTECH  
EBAY  
PEPSICO  
AT&T  
ADOBE  
BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB  
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 \$25,000**  
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

AT&T  
MERRILL LYNCH  
AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING INC.  
ROCHE MOLECULAR  
BANK OF THE WEST  
CHUBB  
DODGE & COX  
WORKDAY  
EBAY  
ORACLE  
PG&E

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

[Unsubscribe bjones1@srvusd.net](mailto:bjones1@srvusd.net)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent bybjones1@srvusd.netpowered by



Try email marketing for free today!