# Shark Bites



# Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal February 08, 2024

Dear Sycamore Valley Families,

I hope you are well.

This week, the first graders treated us to a Winter Sing. The students did a wonderful job singing and the cuteness factor was off the charts! A big thank you to the 1st grade team for working with the students and pulling the event together for us.

Keep reading for some dates to remember and information regarding Astronomy Night, the African American History Showcase, Sycamore Valley's Live Auction event, a job opening, volunteer opportunities, and some adorable glasses that need to be reunited with their owner and a district update.

#### Dates to Remember:

02/08 - Auction Tickets go on Sale tonight 02/09 - Family Game Night - MPR 02/13 - Astronomy Night 6-8pm - Blacktop 02/19 - No School - Presidents Day 02-20 - No School - Staff Development Day 02/23 - African American Museum 03/04 - Words Matter Assembly (Teen Esteem) Grades 4/5 @ 8:00 - 8:45 Grades 2/3 @ 9:00 - 9:30 Grades TK/1 @ 9:45 - 10:15 03/15 - No School - Teacher Work Day 03/20-03/22 - Conference Days - Minimum Day Schedule 03/22 - School Live Auction 03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts 04/01-04/05 - No School Spring Break

Astronomy Night: We are keeping our fingers crossed that the skies are clear and we are able to host the Astronomy Night on February 13 from 6-8 pm on the blacktop. Please join us for some stargazing and hot cocoa! Thank you to Mrs. Yee for bringing this event to the PTA and thank you to the PTA for hosting!

#### African American Showcase is coming soon -

The African American Showcase event will center on African American Scientists and will take place after school on 02/23. Students are learning about the different scientists and developing their showcase pieces. Third grade is using this as an opportunity to bring in choice and voice as students are able to determine how they will demonstrate their learning. For more information, please see below.

#### Live Auction:

The Sycamore Valley Shark Fund is working hard preparing for "A Night on the Red Carpet" - the 2024 Sycamore Valley Live Auction event. Ticket sales start tonight, February 8th at 7PM. Limited VIP Tables are available for purchase (https://ourschool.auction/SYCAMORE\_AUCTION\_2024). For more information please click the following link and read the Shark Fund Update below (http://tinyurl.com/FAQ-Auction2024).

#### Job Opening:

We are looking for a new Kitchen Assistant. The position is Monday - Friday 10:00am - 1:45pm. Please see the flier under the Child Nutrition section of our newsletter for more information. We would love to have you join our team.

#### CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!:

Calling all volunteers! PTA is filling the roster for the 2024-2025 school year, and Sycamore needs YOUR time and talent! There are dozens of ways to get involved at Sycamore. Check out the list of opportunities at http://bit.ly/sharkjob to find your fit. Then, share your interest with the volunteer committee by filling out this easy 5-question form. There are positions available in:

- EVP
- Graphics
- Science, Literature, Art, Mathematics (SLAM) Committee
- Corporate Sponsorship
- African American History Museum
- Fifth Grade Events and Yearbook

#### SRVUSD Update:

#### AI Unleashed: Parent Ed Workshop (COMMS)

Parents: Are you curious or nervous about the integration of AI into education? Come discover how students can learn to safely interact with AI models, balancing innovation and academic integrity.

Join SRVUSD Technology leaders on Wednesday, February 28 at 6:30 pm forAl Unlocked:

Embracing Al Through Shared Leadership with Parents & Caregivers. The event will be livestreamed and recorded. Register today at bit.ly/SRVUSD-ParentEdAI. Events Calendar, Shark Fund and PTA information below - keep scrolling!!

Thank you, Patricia Kawahara

# **IMPORTANT DATES**



Incoming New TK & K Enrollment - Now Open Incoming New 1st - 5th Grade Students Enrollment - Now Open

02/08 - Auction Ticket go on Sales today @ 7:00pm! 02/09 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing 02/09 - Family Game Night - MPR 02/13 - Astronomy Night - 6:00-8:00pm - Blacktop 02/14 - Dippin' Dot Sales 02/15 - Cyber Safety Class - 6:0pm-7:00pm - District Office 02/16 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing 02/19 - No School - Presidents Day 02-20 - No School - Staff Development Day 02/23 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing 02/23 - African American History Showcase 02/28 - Dippin' Dot Sales 03/01 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing 03/04 - Words Matter Assembly - Grades TK - 5th 03/08 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing 03/15 - No School - Teacher Work Day 03/20-03/22 - Conference Days - Minimum Day Schedule 03/22 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing 03/22 - School Auction - Tickets on Sale 2/08/24! 03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts 04/01-04/05 - No School Spring Break

**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



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

# **PTA Bylaws:**

PTA updates bylaws every 3 years. The attached bylaws will be discussed and raised for approval at the March 7th, 2024 PTA Association meeting. All PTA members are welcome to attend and vote.

If you have any questions, please reach out to: Alison Stracke BruinAL925@gmail.com or Dana Claffey Dana.Claffey@gmail.com

# **BYLAWS**

# Family Game Night:

Sharky invites your family to Sycamore for an evening of bingo, trivia, prizes, dinner and a ton of fun on **Friday**, **February 9th!** Dinner will be served at 6:00pm and games will begin at 6:30pm.

This is not a drop-off event. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

# Tickets will go on sale 1/25 at 7 PM (they sell out quickly): <u>https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/store</u>

We kindly request that your group is limited to children with a maximum of two adult guardians - this is a popular event and our space is limited to 150 participants. This is not a drop off event, and no tickets will be sold at the door.



# **Astronomy Night:**

Tuesday, February 13th, 2024 6:00 - 8:00pm on our school Blacktop



# SAVE THE DATE!!!!

**African American History Museum** is back and this year we are celebrating scientists, mathematicians and/or inventors that made a difference. The museum is open to all families and friends on Friday, February 23rd from 2:30-3:30pm in the school MPR.

This year we are not only showcasing our students art, but also projects and lessons they have learned about their scientist/inventor. For more details please click on the link below for the flyer.

\*\*\* flyer\*\*\*



Finally, in order for this event to come together smoothly we are in need of your help. If your child would like to participate and be a "Live Statue" please sign up and also check out the signup link below to see where else you can assist.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4EABAA2AA1F85-47779065african#/

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

# Click here for the **Spiritwear Sale - PJ Pants**

This week only, save 25% on all Sycamore Valley 1/4 zips! This includes styles from Nike, Adidas and Badger! Shop Now: <u>Spiritwear Sale - PJ Pants</u> Free Shipping \$75+





Registration for Workshop: <u>Cyber Safety Parent Education Workshop: 2/15/24</u> <u>bit.ly</u>

#### Parent Engagement Workshops with the NAACP

SRVUSD Parents/Caregivers are invited and encouraged to attend these Parent Engagement Workshops, presented by the Hayward Chapter of the NAACP over the coming months.



# PARENT ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP WITH NAACP



A PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

#### In Person Workshop Topics\*

- Awareness and strategies to creating a safe learning space in the home
- Promoting good citizenship, attendance, and achievement
- Learn more about parental support and school participation
- Understanding CAASPP, CAST, and assessments
- Navigating social media

\*Content and topics will be designed for the grade levels being covered in each session

# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Hayward Chapter of the NAACP

Presented by:

Session for parents with students in grades TK-January. 24, 2024 March 7, 2024

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL

Session for parents with students in grades 6 February 13, 2024 May 2, 2024

#### H AACP 1909 Fe MA

QUESTIONS? email Dr. Hong Nguyen, Director of Educational Equity, at hnguyen2esryusd.net.

#### HIGH SCHOOL

February 27, 2024 May 16, 2024

SRVUSD District Boardrooms 699 Old Orchard Drive, Danville 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

#### San Ramon Childrens' Makers Market

Vidhra, in collaboration with the City of San Ramon, is thrilled to announce the San Ramon Children's Makers Market taking place on May 4th, 2024, 10AM to 2PM at the Dougherty Station Community Arts Center in San Ramon. This unique one-day marketplace empowers children (ages 7 to 17) to explore their entrepreneurial ideas, receiving valuable feedback from genuine customers in a real-world setting. It serves as an excellent platform for young minds to grasp the intricacies of building a business marketplace. For more information, interested children can contact <u>thevidhra@gmail.com</u>. Act quickly, as applications will be closing soon.





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 <u>here</u>! A minimum of 9 **books** (not 8 as previously misstated) must be read in order to compete in the Spring tournament.

# Science Fair:

Mark your calendars for the SLAM Science Fair coming this Spring on **Monday, April 22nd**! Open to all 1st-5th graders, students will answer scientific questions using The Scientific Method and present their experiment and findings in a tri-fold poster board presentation. If you want to participate and haven't signed up yet, please sign up <u>here</u> by February 29th!

# Science Builder's Challenge:

The Science Builder's Challenge is coming up this Spring! Date to be

announced soon. The project goal of this year's challenge is to design, build, and launch a trebuchet/catapult at a target 20 feet away.

# **Odyssey of the Mind:**

6 Sycamore 3rd grade students sang, danced, and problem-solved their way to win **1st place at "Odyssey of the Mind Qualifying Tournament"**held on February 3, 2024! *Ethan Kang, Arnav Khanal, Daniel Kim, Zoe Li, Jaxon Lovren, and Rohan Singh* competed against 11 other teams in Division 1, 3rd -5th grade. They will compete next on March 9th at the NorCal State Association Tournament. Congratulations and good luck to the team!



# 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:

Word List Test 2 for our Wordmasters students have been sent out. Please take the test by **Sunday, February 18th**. Scores will be announced shortly after. Word List Test 3 (final word list) will be available at the end of February.

# **Research:**

The research topic for January/February is **African Americans in Science**. Presentations can be in a trifold or poster board format. For this research topic, we will not be accepting slideshows (ppt), audio, or video presentations as all research presentations will be displayed in the MPR at this year's African American History Museum (AAHM). Students may work individually or in pairs.

Presentations are due **Friday**, **February 23rd**. Students should bring their presentations to the MPR for the AAHM taking place after school on 2/23. Please email <u>rajiedeol@gmail.com</u> to get SLAM credit.

# **STEAM Art & Play:**

The next class is **Tuesday, February 13th**, 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:

Thank you to those students who turned in work for the December/January issue. Credit will be given and work returned. The answer key to this issue may be found <u>here</u>.

The February issue of SuperSTEM is due Friday, March 15th.

Please <u>download</u>, complete, and hand in the skills worksheets at the front office SLAM bin.

Please complete the following sections of the current issue in order to receive full credit:

- Math Puzzle: Sloth Operations
- Make a Claim: Do Aliens Exist? Line Graph: UFO Sightings
- How Fossils Form
- Drawing STEM Words
- Fossil Measurements
- Cool STEM Jobs Spotlight
- Photography's Rule of Thirds
- Map: California Condor Range
- Measure Your Heart Rate

# SLAM Program signups are now open! Please sign up your students <u>here</u>.

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 : gosycamoreslam@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:





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!



# Auction: "A Night on the Red Carpet"

TICKETS SALES START FEBRUARY 8TH AT 7PM - Price: \$150.00 LIMITED VIP TABLES FOR PURCHASE. https://ourschool.auction/SYCAMORE\_AUCTION\_2024 Click Here For More Information: http://tinyurl.com/FAQ-Auction2024

#### **BE A STAR - DONATE ITEMS, EXPERIENCES, OR YOUR TALENTS** Sycamore Valley Families, it's your time to shine on our Red Carpet! Whether it's a weekend getaway, sports tickets, restaurant delights, or your unique skill

it's a weekend getaway, sports tickets, restaurant delights, or your unique skills —photography, culinary, design—we want it all! <u>http://tinyurl.com/DonateToAuction2024</u>

Make your tax-deductible donation and let's create an unforgettable night!

#### SYCAMORE SOCIALS - HOST THE FUN, FUEL THE FUTURE

Host a Sycamore Social, create lasting memories, and support our school! Whether it's a night out for parents, a fun family gathering, or an activity just for kids, your event makes a difference. Sign up now!

http://tinyurl.com/SocialHostForm

http://tinyurl.com/SycamoreSocial-Ideas

We can't wait for you to join all the fun! Sycamore Auction Committee



#### THE GREATEST INVESTMENT FOR EDUCATION THE BIGGEST NIGHT FOR PARENTS



#### HTTPS://OURSCHOOL.AUCTION/SYCAMORE AUCTION 2024

Supporting this event is vital to the success of your child's education at Sycamore!

# Sycamore Auction 2024

Sycamore's Auction is back and scheduled for: Live Auction – Friday, March 22, 2024 at the Blackhawk Museum Online Auction – Monday, March 18 - Sunday, March 24 2024

#### Parent Donations Needed:

We want to make it a huge success and are asking our Sycamore Families: what do YOU have to donate? Perhaps you have a getaway experience, sporting event tickets, restaurant gift cards or even a vacation rental home? Some of us have country club contacts for golf or tennis. Wine club members, will your winery donate a tasting, food pairing or bottles? Possibly you own a local company and want to donate your services or showcase your company's name by donating gift cards? Don't forget about asking grandparents or other family members who may want to donate as well! People love a tax-deductible donation & raising money for all of our children. Please view the attached letter for more information. Questions? Contact the Auction Co-Chairs Katerina McCormack and Christine Hoffman, at

sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org

**Socials** - you've heard of the progressive party or boos and booze, which sell out in minutes! Let's get more socials on the calendar for ticket sales during the online auction! Email Adele for information and to get set up!

#### sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org

#### How to host a social:

Find some couples to help you host Choose a theme & date Set your number of tickets to be sold! 100% of ticket sale proceeds go to Shark Fund

#### **Calling All Auction Volunteers!**

Are you interested in helping to make our event a huge success, join us Tuesday at 8am in the MPR for an auction job fair. Meet committee members, ask questions, join the team.

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 <u>christy1a@aol.com</u>. Your artistic talents will make a difference, and we truly

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



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#SharkFund #GraphicDesignOpportunity #JoinTheTeam



Dippin' Dot Calendar: 2/14, 2/28

# Dippin Dot Pre-pay 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: <u>https://srvef.org/matching-gifts/</u>



# THANK YOU TO SYCAMORE'S 23-24 PLATINUM CORPORATE SPONSORS





# **Library Corner**

It's hard to believe that we are already in February!

We unfortunately have a huge number of books missing / not returned already.

Any books checked out in December (and before) will be marked lost until they are returned.

Please help your reader find their missing library books, or replace the book/pay the fine and let me know via email at: jprindiville@srvusd.net.

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

Jen Prindiville Library Media Coordinator Sycamore Valley Elementary

# **Sharky Shout Out:**

Sharky Shoutout to our wonderful Sharky Cinema volunteers! It's is such a wonderful event and always sells out in minutes! Thanks for all your efforts to make it such a special day!



Mark your calendar: Date to Be Determined @ 4:00pm The meeting will be virtual.

More information about Site Council is available at: https://syes.srvusd.net/Families/Site-Council/Site-Council/index.html

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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.

> 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.



# **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 - Winter 23/24 Grades K - 2nd Jan. 29 - Mar. 25, 2024

No class on 2/19/24 2:30pm - 4:00pm School Library See attached flyer to sign up

**STEM Basics with Lego** 

# Sports Camp - Winter 2024 - Session #3 - 1/18-3/14

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**



# **Child Nutrition**

# Job Opening at Sycamore

Kitchen Assistant Monday - Friday 10:00am - 1:45pm





Serve students great meals.





# KITCHEN ASSISTANT AT SYCAMORE VALLEY 10AM-1:45PM DAILY

Competitive wages, paid holidays, school schedule, weekends & evenings off.

# See all jobs here: or visit SRVUSD.net -Child Nutrition

#### Questions? Email SRVUSDEats@srvusd.net

**San Ramon Valley Unified School District** This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# 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. <u>https://www.srvusd.net/Departments/Business-Services/Child-</u> <u>Nutrition/index.html</u> Sycamore Valley Elementary | 2200 Holbrook Road, Danville, CA 94506

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