

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal February 09, 2023

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well.

We have enjoyed another great week here at Sycamore Valley.

Grades third through fifth have begun taking Interim Assessments in the state testing system. This serves a few purposes. First, these are opportunities for the students to practice navigating the test system. Second, and I would argue much more importantly, these serve as formative assessments that inform instruction in the classroom.

Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will take the CAASPP tests (annual state testing). The testing window will open the last week in April through the third week in May. Your classroom teacher will share their specific schedule. As always, it is extremely important that your child is here each day and is on time. Keep reading for some dates to remember, African American History Museum and a review of the 1st grade concert.

Dates to Remember:

Spirit Day Friday - wear Shark Wear of Sycamore Blue to show your school spirit!

02/06-02/12 - Dos Coyotes restaurant Giveback

02/20/23 - No School - Presidents Day

02/21/23 - No School - Staff Development Day

02/24/23 - African American History Museum

African American History Museum:

This month students across the school are learning about the Harlem Renaissance and important African Americans. Students are engaging in art and STEAM lessons inspired by the Harlem Renaissance and/or an African

American artist. Additionally, students are learning about individual African Americans and sharing what they learn with other students. Ask your child about whom they have learned so far. Student artwork will be on display in the African American History Museum after school on the 24th. Students are also invited to sign up to be a living statue and teach attendees about an important African American person. Check out the PTA section below for more information.

1st grade winter concert: This past Wednesday the 1st graders entertained parents at a Winter Concert. The reviews are in, 1st grade Sycamore Sharks are a hit! Not only was the singing quite impressive but the cuteness factor was off the chart! Thank you to the 1st grade team for putting this event together!

Thank you for your help in keeping our community safe.

Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



Enrollment for NEW 1st - 5th graders Opens - 23/24 School Year
Enrollment for NEW TK/K continues -23/24 School Year

02/06-02/12 - Dos Coyotes giveback - See Flyer Below

02/09 - Site Council Meeting - Virtual 4:00 - See Flyer for Google Meet

02/10 - Spirt Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue attire

02/13 - Family Game Night Tickets go on sale @ 7:00pm

02/15 - Dippin Dots (weather permitting)

02/17 - Spirt Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue attire

02/20 - No School - Presidents Day

02/21 - No School - Staff Development Day

02/24 - Spirt Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue attire

02/24 - African American History Museum - MPR 2:30-4:30pm

03/10 - Family Game Night

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**

Sycamore Shade Solutions Committee

Are you interested in being part of the solution for shade on our blacktop? Please fill out the following form with contact information if you are interested in being on a committee with a few Sycamore teachers to discuss and map out shade solutions for our blacktop. Please note: there may be some meetings after school, please plan to be flexible in the teachers' schedules.

Shade Screen Committee Form: [Shade Screen Committee Form](#)



Lunch Time Volunteer Helpers:

We have updated the sign up genius for lunchtime helpers (not the rainy day one, just general for people who would like to come up and help out on the blacktop.

lunch volunteers sign up genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C44ABAB2AABFA7-sycamore1>

Elite Corporate Sponsors

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



Dos Coyotes Border Café



Eat at Dos Coyotes
Crow Canyon Commons
3191 Crow Canyon Pl,
San Ramon
from **11:30am - 8pm**
February 6 - 12, 2023

and **25%** of your bill will be donated to:
Sycamore Valley Elementary School

Please show a physical or
electronic copy of this
flyer when ordering.
Thank you!

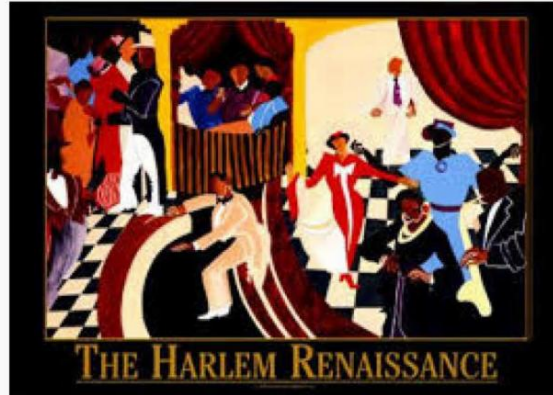


Not valid with any other offer



COME JOIN US AT
THE
**AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISTORY MUSEUM**

Friday, February 24, 2:30PM-4:30PM
Sycamore Valley Elementary MPR



The students will interact with exhibits that feature the contributions of African Americans from the Harlem Renaissance

. The museum will showcase-

- Sycamore Valley students dressed up as live statues of African American Harlem Renaissance Musicians, Artists, and Writers
- Live music from the San Ramon Valley High School's Jazz Ensemble
- Book Corner with Angela Dalton, Author of To Boldly Go
- Harlem Renaissance themed Dress up/Picture Taking Station
- Interactive Scavenger Hunt

All are welcome to attend and participate! Sign Up Genius will be shared next week!

African American History Museum -

Student Live Statues Volunteer Sign Up for Feb 24 & Parent Volunteers to Supervise and Take Down Museum on Feb 27:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4faca82ba7fb6-black1#/
/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4faca82ba7fb6-black1#/)

African American History Museum -

Setup Morning of Volunteer Sign Up on Feb 24:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4faca82ba7fb6-black#/
/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4faca82ba7fb6-black#/)

Here is the link to preorder Angela Dalton's book

[-https://www.harpercollins.com/products/to-boldly-go-how-nichelle-nichols-and-star-trek-helped-advance-civil-rights-angela-dalton?variant=40371661439010](https://www.harpercollins.com/products/to-boldly-go-how-nichelle-nichols-and-star-trek-helped-advance-civil-rights-angela-dalton?variant=40371661439010)

Spring Family Game Night is back!!!

Tickets on Sale 2/13 at 7:00pm. Capacity Limited to 150 attendees.
****Please note: maximum of TWO adult chaperones per family.****



GAMES FUN PRIZES

FAMILY EVENT | **MAR 10** | **SYCAMORE**
6-8 PM | **MPR**



TICKETS GO ON SALE 2/13 AT 7:00PM

SIGN-UP: SYCAMOREVALLEY.FUTUREFUND.COM/STORE



Attention parents! Help us raise \$30K during our Shark Fund Online Auction!

We're planning for our biggest fundraiser of the year - the Shark Fund Online Auction, March 20-26. Each year the auction helps us fund part of our \$250K budget for para salaries and critical school programs, and **we need YOUR help.**

- Do you own a small business that can donate items or a gift certificate?
- Do you have a rental property that a lucky family can bid to stay at during

a weekend?

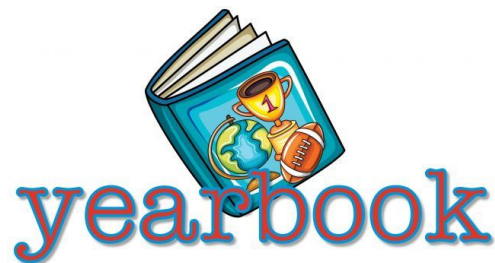
- Do you have season tickets for a sports team or theater where you can donate tickets for one game or performance?
- Do you have a connection to secure merchandise or other great items?
- Do you have unused gift cards to donate?

Physical items including gift cards can be dropped off at the Sycamore parking lot on the turf field side on February 6, 8 and 10 between 7:45-8:05 am. Look for the auction signs!!! If you plan to donate an item an need a record of donation, please fill out the [Auction Donation Google Form](#).

If you have property, season tickets or other connections to share, please fill out the [Auction Donation Google Form](#) or email sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org so that we can feature them in the online auction.

Thank you for supporting our Sharks!

Special thanks to a few of our generous donors from the 2022 auction!
Steele and Guglielmelli families donated 49ers tickets which raised \$2,030!
Gates family donated San Jose Sharks tickets which raised \$1,600!
Fernando family donated a 2-night stay at their Arnold cabin which raised \$1,100!



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!

Check out the [SLAM website](#) for the latest updates!

RESEARCH

Our next research project is African American History Month

Due **Fri, Feb 24th, 2023.**

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.

This is our last chance to support Shark Fund through Amazon Smile - this program is ending on February 20th. For any Amazon purchases now through 2/20/23, please do so through Amazon Smile to earn funding for Sycamore! See the attached graphic for instructions.

How To Support Shark Fund with

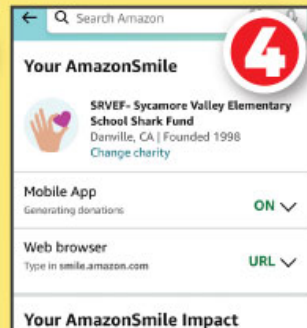
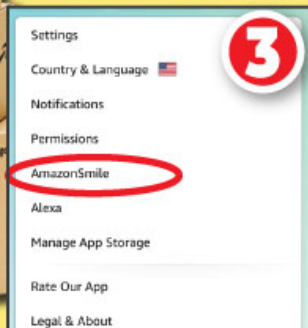
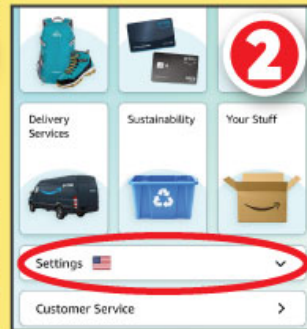
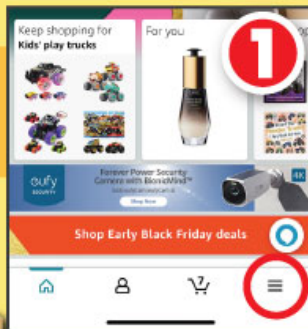
amazonsmile
You shop, Amazon gives!



Visit **smile.amazon.com** and select as your charity:
SRVEF- Sycamore Valley Elementary School Shark Fund

Amazon donates 0.5% of each qualified purchase to Shark Fund

**HOW TO TURN ON
AMAZONSMILE IN
THE MOBILE APP**



MAKE EVERY PURCHASE COUNT FOR SYCAMORE

\$5 each

Shark Fund is proud to offer Dippin' Dots

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 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:
3/1, 3/15, 3/29 (last day to purchase punch cards)
*****weather permitting*****

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

"Dippin Dots has raised over **\$5,800** 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



Library Corner

It's that time of year where I am processing all lost and missing books from the first half of the school year. Unfortunately, we are still missing hundreds of dollars worth of library materials.

PLEASE help your student return borrowed materials!

In addition - please check your email for lists of materials that are very overdue.

There are fines attached that will need to be paid before the end of the school year, and to allow your student to continue to check out books each week from the library. Unfortunately the library doesn't have funds to replace these items so once they are gone, they are gone for all. Thank you for your cooperation!



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 the generous Teen Esteem donation from a Sycamore family for the informative parent education and school assemblies.



The next Site Council meeting will be held on:
Thursday, February 9, 2023 @ 4:00pm via Google Meet.

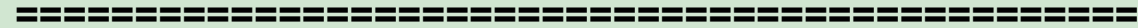
Meeting ID:

meet.google.com/vob-grdo-zau

Phone Numbers

(US) +1 402-683-0059

PIN: 793 127 099#



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 - Winter 2023

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

Jan. 19 - Mar. 16, 2023

See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

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Soccer - Winter 2023

Soccer is offered **Monday** afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm
See attached flyer for sign up

[Soccer Enrichment Class](#)

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Basketball - Winter 2023

Basketball is offered **Tuesday** afternoons 2:40pm - 3:40pm
Feb. 07 - March 28, 2023
See attached: One on One Hoops flyer for sign up

[Basketball Enrichment Class](#)

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Pickleball - Winter 22/23 - Cancelled

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Volleyball - Winter 2023

Basketball will be offered on **Thursdays** 6:15pm - 8:15pm
January 12 - March 16, 2023
See attached flyer for sign up

[Volleyball 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

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON CHEVRON APPLE ROBERT HALF AIG BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB GENENTECH INTEL KAISER CLOROX EBAY

CISCO WELLS FARGO MCKESSON FOUNDATION AT&T MERRILL LYNCH

VISA LPL FINANCIAL GOOGLE BANK OF AMERICA VERIZON LINKEDIN VEEVA SYSTEMS ADOBE

ROCHE MOLECULAR BANK OF THE WEST CHUBB DODGE & COX WORKDAY ORACLE

NOVARTIS VISA APPLE MERCK GARTNER EBAY PEPSICO BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB CHEVRON ELI LILLY GENENTECH AT&T ADOBE WELLS FARGO

SHARK FUND
A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION BENEFITING 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.SRVVF.ORG/DONATE/MATCHINGGIFTS.ASPX](https://www.srvvf.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

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

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