Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal February 29, 2024

Dear Sycamore Valley Families,

I hope you and your family are well.

Last Friday we had our African American History Showcase event. There was work from each class as well as projects from PTAs SLAM program. The students did an amazing job sharing their learning and the teachers did an amazing job infusing the projects with student voice and choice, collaboration and STEAM elements. A giant thank you to Liz Sorley and Christy Lucia for heading up this project and to all the volunteers who pulled it together for us. We have been busy at Sycamore settling into the first of three regular weeks. TK students are working on nursery rhymes and will embark shortly upon space exploration, Kinder kiddos are finishing up their winter studies with penguins, first grade is diving into geometry, 2nd grade is studying heroes, third grade is exploring area by designing their dream houses, fourth graders are continuing their study of California History with a field trip to Sacramento and fifth grade is working on colonies and their annual Pillow Pets project. Our Sharks are thinking deeply as they apply their learning!

Keep reading for some dates to remember, information about the April Read Alouds, Words Matter Week and SRVUSD updates.

Dates to Remember:

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

April Read Aloud: April Read Aloud Schedule

April's character trait of the month is Gratitude. We will explore Gratitude with the following read-alouds: *The Thank You Book* by Mo Willems, *Thank You Omu!* By Oge Mora, *Apple Cake* by Dawn Casey and *A Chair for My Mother* by Vera B. Williams.

Words Matter Week:

Next week is Words Matter Week. This year's Words Matter events are truly a collaborative effort, with the No Place for Hate student club, Student Leadership club and the PTA planning events.

| Monday | Teen Esteem | Assemblies TK-5 (see schedule in Dates to Remember) |
|-----------|--------------------|---|
| Tuesday | No Place for Hate | Take a kind word |
| Wednesday | Student Leadership | Spirit Day - wear clothing with inspirational word, or something that makes you happy, or Sycamore Blue |
| Thursday | PTA | Word Bank |
| Friday | PTA | Kind messages |

SRVUSD Updates:

New 'Daylighting' Law (COMMS)

Did you know that a new 'daylighting' law went into effect on January 1st? Drivers are now required to leave a 20-foot buffer zone between their parked car and any marked or unmarked crosswalk. The purpose of 'daylighting' is to create a clear line of sight for motorists approaching a crosswalk, thus making the crosswalk safer for pedestrians.

Since crosswalks near schools can be especially crowded during school hours, we ask that you please spread the word about this important new law. Help keep our students and community safe!

Events Calendar, Shark Fund and PTA information below - keep scrolling!!

Thank you, Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



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

02/28 - 5th Grade Group Photo - Panorama and "24"

03/01 - LAST DAY TO BUY AUCTION TICKETS

03/01 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

03/04 - Words Matter Assembly - Grades TK - 5th

- Grades 4/5 @ 8:00 8:45
- Grades 2/3 @ 9:00 9:30
- Grades TK/1 @ 9:45 10:15

03/06 - In-person PTA/Shark Fund/Site Council Job Fair (MPR)

03/06 - Shark Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR

03/06 - PTA/Shark Fund/Site Council Job Fair - 6:30pm - virtual

03/08 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

03/15 - No School - Teacher Work Day

03/18 - 03/24 - School Online Auction

03/20 - 03/22 - Conference Days - Minimum Day Schedule

03/22 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing

03/22 - School Live Auction

03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts

04/01 - 04/05 - No School Spring Break

04/12 - Deadline to sign up for the Variety Show

05/01 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 1:00 PM in MPR

05/02 - Variety Show 6:00 PM in MPR



AUCTION TICKETS UPDATE:

WE NEED EVERYONE TO ATTEND & SUPPORT THE SCHOOL AUCTION!
Buy your tickets NOW time is running out!!!
MARCH 6TH - LAST DAY TO BUY TICKETS - DON'T WAIT!

Only 1 VIP Table Remaining! Secure your spot now at <u>our auction website</u>. Want more details? Check out our **FAQ** page.

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@gmail.com

BYLAWS

Click here for the **Spiritwear Sale**

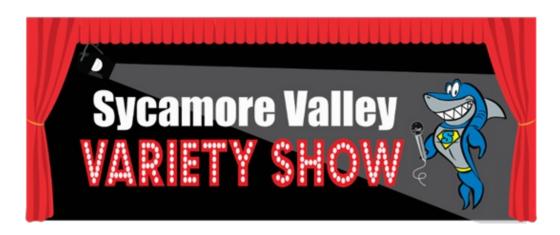
All Badger Ombre 50% Off!

This week, we are running a clearance sale on all Badger Ombre garments. This includes all Ombre short sleeves, long sleeves, shorts and hoodies! A limited selection of colors and sizes are available. Your new sale ad is below. A direct link to the Ombre clearance items **is:**

https://1stplacespiritwear.com/collection/13542?style=Clearance

Free Shipping \$75+





Variety Show: OUR VARIETY SHOW IS BACK FOR 2024 AND WE ARE SO EXCITED!!!

Does your child love to perform on stage? Would they like to present an entertaining act of their choice in front of an audience? Solo or as a group, we would love to see your rising star showcased in this year's **Sycamore Valley Variety Show!**

IMPORTANT 2024 VARIETY SHOW DATES:

Deadline to submit Variety Show Act Participation Information and Music: Friday, April 12th Show 2024 Handout (Attached Below) up in time! If you have any questions, please contact: NAACP over the coming months. PARENT ENGAGEMENT In Person Workshop Topics* · Promoting good citizenship, attendance, and achievement Learn more about parental support and school participation · Understanding CAASPP, CAST, and assessments

QUESTIONS? email Dr. Hong Nguyen,

Variety Show Dress Rehearsal: Wednesday, May 1st at 1:00 PM in MPR Variety Show: Thursday, May 2nd at 6:00 PM in MPR Please read the Variety

for all information pertaining to this year's show and how to get your act signed

Variety Show 2024 Handout

Laurie Campbell, Marisa Montierth & Kali Fama Variety Show Directors

dancelm@mac.com marisamontierth@gmail.com kalifama@hotmail.com

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



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 thevidhra@gmail.com. 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 here! 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 here 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. If you want to participate and haven't signed up yet, please sign up here by the end of March! |
| 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! <i>Ethan Kang, Arnav Khanal, Daniel Kim, Zoe Li, Jaxon Lovren, and Rohan Singh</i> 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: |
| Our WordMasters 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders completed Challenge #2 this month! Congratulations to 3rd graders Griffin Rapp , Leo Hermon , and Luca Pignati , and 4th/5th Graders Zara Hermon , Karthik Jayaraman , Zoya Kashif , and Lauren Eves for the highest scores this round. 2 challenges down, 1 to go! |
| Research: |
| STEAM Art & Play: |
| The next class is Tuesday , March 12th , 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 here. The February issue of SuperSTEM is due Friday, March 15th. Please download, 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 here. 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:

OR Code



Website



Download App



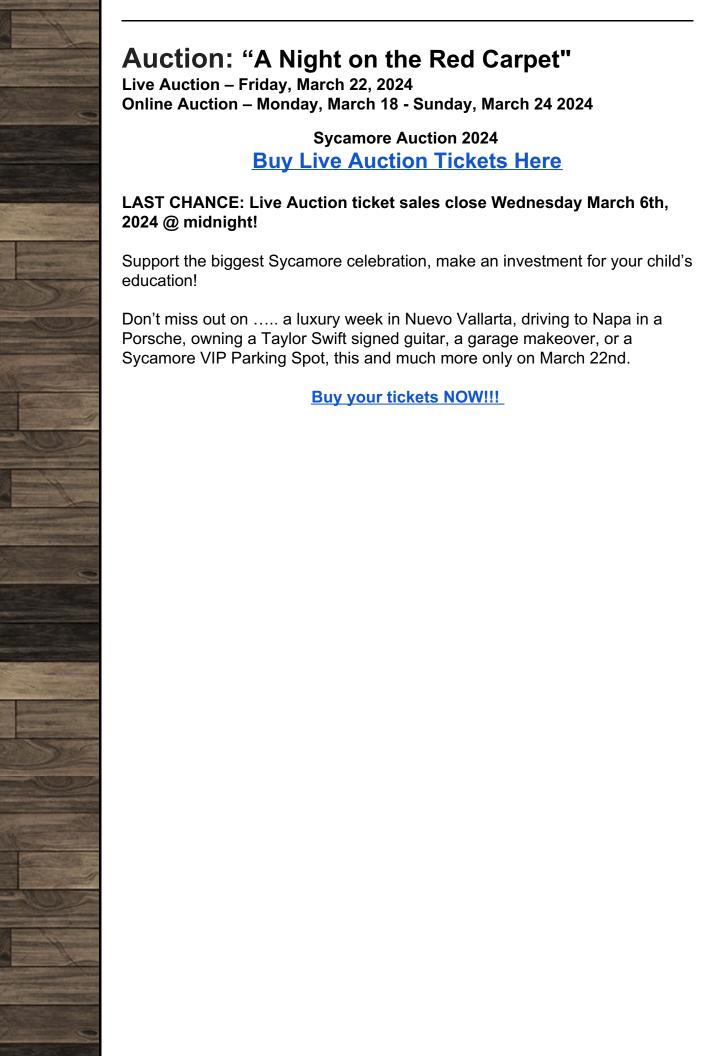
HJ eShare

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!









DON'T MISS THE BIGGEST SYCAMORE CELEBRATION OF THE YEAR AND YOUR CHANCE TO BID ON THESE FABULOUS ITEMS + MANY OTHERS!



LUXURY STAY AT VIDANTA RESORT



GUITAR HAND SIGNED



PORCHE AND NAPA PACKAG



GARAGE KINGS

Join us for an evening that includes an open bar cocktail reception, three-course dinner, interactive games, raffle drawings, LIVE auction event, and dancing into the night!

Purchase your tickets today at www.sycamore-auction.com

Donations to Shark Fund are tax-deductible and proceeds fund critical educational programs such as classroom paraeducators, TK/K kindergarten PE, library visits, intervention services.

THE GREATEST INVESTMENT FOR EDUCATION, THE BIGGEST NIGHT FOR PARENTS

AUCTION TICKETS UPDATE: TICKET SALES CLOSE 3/6

Only 1 VIP Table Remaining! Secure your spot now at <u>our auction website</u>. Want more details? Check out our <u>FAQ page</u>. Don't miss out on this unforgettable event!

Purchase your tickets today at www.sycamore-auction.com

BE A STAR - DONATE TO OUR AUCTION!

From weekend getaways to sports tickets, culinary experiences to unique talents—whatever you've got, we want it! Your generous donations make a huge difference in supporting our school. Click here to donate: http://tinyurl.com/DonateToAuction2024

Calling All Sycamore Families:

What treasures do YOU have to contribute? Whether it's a getaway, tickets, or your unique skills, your donations help make our auction a success! Spread the word to grandparents and friends. Every contribution counts. For more

details, check out the attached letter or contact our Auction Co-Chairs, Katerina McCormack and Christine Hoffman,

at <u>sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org</u>. Let's make this auction shine!

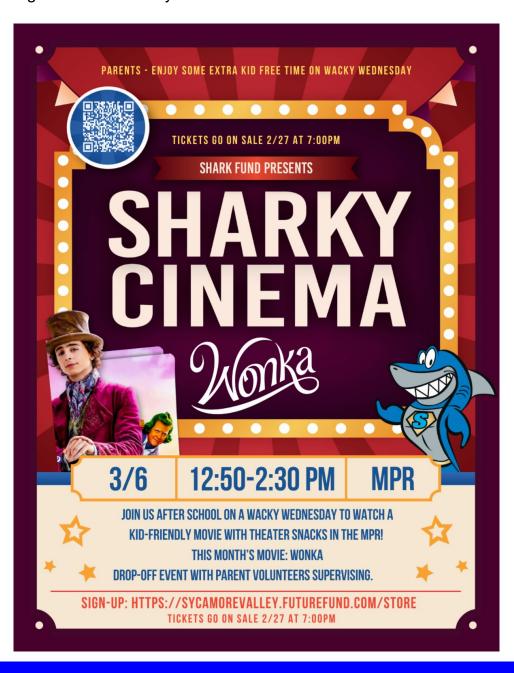
HOST A SYCAMORE SOCIAL - MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Parents, your kids need you! Hosting a Sycamore Social isn't just a party—it's supporting education and building community. With popular events raising \$2,000 - \$5,000 each, your impact is huge! We need hosts for adult, kid, or family socials. Contact Kristina Buskirk at kristinabuskirk@gmail.com to sign up. Let's make memories and a difference!

Auctria

Sharky Cinema -

Wonka on Wednesday March 6, 2024 Tickets go on sale February 27th.



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

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





#SharkFund #GraphicDesignOpportunity #JoinTheTeam



Dippin' Dot Calendar: 3/13, 3/27

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 \$8,000!!!!!!**

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: https://srvef.org/matching-gifts/



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







925.389.2380

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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:

iprindiville@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:

Thank you to all our
African American Showcase Volunteers!
It was a wonderful event.



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



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



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

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

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