

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal March 07, 2024

Dear Sycamore Valley Families,

I hope you are well.

This week we are celebrating Words Matter Week. Each day students had the opportunity to consider ways to be kind. Today PTA worked with students during recess to create a Word Wall of kind words (see picture below). Tomorrow students will use the word wall to write positive messages for friends. A big thank you to the No Place for Hate club and Student Leadership students and teacher leaders, and the PTA coordinator and volunteers Megan Johnson, Jenny Carter and Sarah Cain.

The ticket sales close Sunday, March 10th at 9:00pm, for our Live Auction. We sincerely hope that many of you will support our school by attending the Live Auction on March 22nd. See details below and the link to purchase your ticket.

Keep reading for some dates to remember, the April read aloud updated schedule, and some SRVUSD Updates.

Dates to Remember:

03/10 - Daylight Saving - Spring Forward 1 hour

03/15 - No School - Teacher Work Day

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

- TK-K Grade: 8:00 - 10:30
- 1st - 5th Grade: 8:00 - 12:00

03/22 - School Live Auction

03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts

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

Words Matter:



SRVUSD Information

April Board Resolutions:

[School Library Month](#) - April

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the month of April as School Library Month. The school library ensures that students and staff are effective users of ideas and information and contributes to the growth and development of all students. Lifelong learning is enhanced and systematically developed through the school library. The librarian's role is to provide the leadership and expertise necessary to ensure that the school library is an integral part of each school's instructional program.

[National Day of Silence](#) - April 12

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes April 12, 2024, as National Day of Silence. During this student-led national event, some students may choose to take a vow of silence to bring attention to the name calling, bullying and harassment that many LGBTQ+ youth face. SRVUSD promotes respect, tolerance, and acceptance on all our campuses and believes that all students and staff have a right to a safe and healthy school environment. National Day of Silence will not alter instruction on April 12, but students may voluntarily participate, and teachers may discuss and are asked to be thoughtful and sensitive as they create lesson plans. Teachers will be teaching

on this day. The pride flag will fly at the District Office and at all District sites.

Public School Volunteer Appreciation Week - April 15-19

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the week of April 15-19, 2024, as Public School Volunteer Appreciation Week. The many devoted and dedicated volunteers in our community provide essential support to our students through generous donations of time, talent, and resources. Volunteers enrich learning experiences beyond what is often available for students and selflessly serve on our boards and committees. They play a key role as our partners in education and in fostering a sense of community and pride within our schools and district.

Environmental Week - April 21-27

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the week of April 21-27, 2024, as Environmental Week. Schools have the potential to effect positive, tangible environmental change while preparing students, in their careers and civic life, to be stewards of their communities, the earth, and its resources. We support students in becoming aware of the impact of their actions on themselves, others, the environment, and vulnerable communities around the world. SRVUSD also acknowledges April 21 as John Muir Day and April 22 as Earth Day.

Celebrating Music in Our Schools:

Join us in celebrating music in our schools by attending our **band, choir, and orchestra festivals**.

(Please note, Sycamore Valley 5th grade Band students will participate in the Monte Vista concert on March 28th. Sycamore Valley 5th grade Strings students will participate in the SRVUSD concert on April 17th.)

Parent Engagement Workshop with NAACP for Elementary (ES):

There is a Parent Engagement Night for Elementary called "How to Effectively Support Your Student's Success in School", hosted by NAACP Hayward Chapter, on Wednesday, March 7th from 6:00-7:30pm. Check out the flyer **here** to RSVP.

Hiring Event:

Improve School Meals - Afternoon Event! Help spread the word about our Hiring Event on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 - 3 pm-6 pm.

SRVUSD is hosting an afternoon hiring event for kitchen positions! Check out the great job opportunities we have to serve students delicious meals. Paid training and lots of schedule options. With more staff, we can accomplish our goals of serving more cooked-from-scratch meals and reduced lunch wait times. **View our current job openings**.

What: SRVUSD Kitchen Positions Hiring Event

When: Wednesday, March 20, 2024, come anytime from 3 pm - 6 pm.

Where: Service Center, 3280 Crow Canyon Road, San Ramon

Questions: Email SRVUSDdeats@srvusd.net or call 925-824-1836

SELPA Community Advisory Committee- Bright Lights Award

The SRVUSD SELPA Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Bright Lights Awards are designed to honor people who have made a positive impact on the lives of students in special education. We encourage you to nominate

someone (in any of the nine categories) deserving of this award who goes 'above and beyond' to engage, educate, and empower students receiving special education services. The winners of each category will be honored before the School Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. **Please submit nominations by Thursday, April 11, 2024.** Thank you for taking the time to recognize someone who has made a difference in a student's life. Click [here](#) to access the nomination form.

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

Thank you,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



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

03/08 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or blue clothing
03/10 - Daylight Saving - Spring Forward 1 hour
03/10 - Auction Ticket Sales end at 9:00pm
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



▣. The **TEACHERS & ADMINISTRATION** are making an **AUCTION APPEARANCE, ARE YOU?! .▣**

The success of the auction will determine the future of the **EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF** and **PROGRAMS** available for Sycamore students. We ask that everyone realize the importance and do their part in supporting.

TICKETS CLOSE Sunday, MARCH 10th @ 9pm

<https://event.auctria.com/9d7c1beb-2e26-4c2e-a4e1-caf9b8ceb452/>

MARCH 22ND, 2024

LIVE AUCTION SNEAK PEEK

PRICELESS WARRIORS EXPERIENCE

49ERS ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE WITH FIELD PASSES!!!

SYCAMORE VIP PARKING ONLY AT LIVE AUCTION

BUCKET LIST FRENCH LAUNDRY

BLACKHAWK MUSEUM
DOORS OPEN AT 6:15 PM, DINNER STARTS AT 7:30 PM

\$150 Entry Ticket, A VIP Table Is Available
Purchase Tickets Online 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 sycamorevalleyauction.edfund@srvef.org. 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](#)

Classroom Placements: Parents you are welcome to complete the attached form if you believe your child has specific needs.

After spring break, teachers will meet with Principal Kawahara to begin building balanced classes for the 24/25 school year. Parents and students will be notified of teacher and classroom placement on August 12th, 2024.

Careful consideration is given to the class placement of each student. The primary factors considered in class placement are: 1. Current year's teacher assessment of the student's needs. 2. Input from support staff - resource, speech, school psychologist, reading specialists. 3. Class balance: academic performance, test scores, behavior, and boy/girl ratio. 4. Physical, medical, emotional and social development of the child. 5. Parent information regarding student's specific needs.

This form is not required, however if you believe your child has specific needs and/or excels in a particular type of classroom environment that the staff should consider when placing him/her, you are welcome to complete and return the attached form. **Please do not request specific teachers. Letters that state a specific teacher's name or that tries to describe a specific teacher will not be considered.**

This form is due to the school office no later than March 27, 2024.

[2024-2025 Student Class Placement](#)

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>

Click here for the [Spiritwear Sale](#)

Our annual Spring Sale starts next Tuesday, March 12th! Everything will be discounted 25% sitewide! It's a great fundraising opportunity and there will be exciting new product lines and designs!

- Sale Dates: March 12th - March 26th
- 25% off all merchandise
- Free shipping on orders over \$60
- \$5 shipping on orders under \$60
- No code is needed

[Spiritwear Sales](#)

Free Shipping \$75+



SYCAMORE VALLEY
OFFICIAL ONLINE STORE

1ST PLACE Sports

Spring SALE
25% OFF

ORDER AT [1STPLACE.SALE/13542](https://1stplace.sale/13542)
HURRY! SALE ENDS MARCH 26TH

SCAN HERE TO ORDER



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**

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 Show 2024 Handout (Attached Below)** for all information pertaining to this year's show and how to get your act signed up in time!

Variety Show 2024 Handout

If you have any questions, please contact:

Laurie Campbell, Marisa Montierth & Kali Fama Variety Show Directors

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.

San Ramon
Children's Makers Market
One day marketplace for children to create, plan and launch a business
Dougherty Station Community Arts Center, San Ramon
Saturday, May 04, 2024
10am - 2pm

Apply today

Calling all youth creators, dreamers, artists...

Do you always dream of being an entrepreneur?

Are you between 7 years and 17 years old? Then, this is for you!

Event Sponsors:
VIDHRA
San Ramon CALIFORNIA
SAN RAMON COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER
Connecting Kids and Commerce
SAN RAMON COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER

For further details, contact: TheVidhra@gmail.com



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 on **Tuesday, April 16th**! 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:

Best of luck to *Ethan Kang, Arnav Khanal, Daniel Kim, Zoe Li, Jaxon Lovren, and Rohan Singh* as they complete in this Saturday's NorCal State Association Tournament! We are rooting for 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:

The final research topic for this year is the **SOLAR SYSTEM**. Students can pick any item related to the Solar System (e.g. Stars, Planets, Asteroids, Comets, Galaxies, etc). Presentations should be trifold and/or poster board only. Students may work individually or in pairs. Presentations are due **Friday, April 26th**. Students should submit presentations to the front office to be displayed in the library. Please email rajiedeol@gmail.com to get SLAM credit.

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 : goscamoslam@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:

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!*



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 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

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



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armanino



Library Corner

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@yahoo.com
- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CAEA92FA31-battle1#/>

Take Care,
Jen Prindiville
Library Media Coordinator
Sycamore Valley Elementary

Sharky Shout Out:

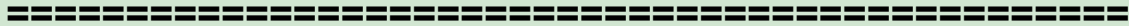
Thank you to PTA coordinator and volunteers Megan Johnson, Jenny Carter and Sarah Cain for helping with Words Matter Week.



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 - Spring 2024

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

Chess class will be held in our school library.

Mar. 14th - May 30th

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

We Are Hiring



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.
<https://www.srvusd.net/Departments/Business-Services/Child-Nutrition/index.html>

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

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