

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal March 23, 2023

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well.

This week we have been enjoying Spirit Week sponsored by the PTA and Shark Fund. The kids have enjoyed showing their school spirit with mismatched outfits and fun colors! The online auction closes this Sunday, March 26th. The money raised supports so many wonderful programs here at Sycamore - from Para-Educators, to the Rainbow Room and Reading Intervention and more. Having worked at other schools I understand how unique it is to have these kinds of supports in place.

Keep reading for important dates to remember, information about covid tests, requests to be a good neighbor, the online auction, the student information form and the recent Street Smarts assembly.

Dates to Remember:

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

03/20-03/26 - Online Auction Open

03/22-03/24 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - Minimum Day Schedule

Covid Test Kits:

We will be sending COVID test kits home with all of the students prior to spring break. We encourage families to take a COVID test prior to returning to school on April 10th. Some of the test kit boxes might show that they have expired. Please note that test kits are still valid for 6 months past the expiration date listed on the box.

Be a Good Neighbor: I have received a number of complaints from the

neighborhood across Camino Tassajara on Holbrook. Some Sycamore Valley parents are turning into the neighborhood in the morning to do a 'U' turn in order to bypass the right turn onto Holbrook. This impacts the neighborhood, creating wear and tear on their entrance, and delaying residents as they are leaving for work and dropping off their own students. Please help us be good neighbors and stay in the line to turn right onto Holbrook. Thank you!

Online Auction:

Thank you for supporting our students and the school programs by bidding on the amazing auction items. [Online Auction](#)



Street Smart Assembly:

Your child attended a Street Smarts Traffic Safety Education Presentation this week. Mark Ballock with Street Smarts shared valuable information with our students regarding safe choices when walking near traffic, riding their bikes and exiting cars on the curb side of the car.

The Street Smarts Program not only highlights bike safety, but also pedestrian safety in and around the school and community. In our assemblies, the Traffic Safety Presentation addressed the following:

- **Crosswalk Safety**

- Making eye contact with the driver
- Looking both ways before leaving the curb
- Being aware in crosswalks

- **Bike Safety**

- Wearing a helmet – importance and instruction
- Using hand signals
- Walking your bike in crosswalks

- **Distractions**

- Cell phones
- Earbud/headphones

We encourage you to continue supporting your students to be aware of their surroundings, be predictable to drivers and be safe while walking in parking lots and riding or walking to school.

View more information at street-smarts.com



Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



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

03/09-03/29 - Food Drive for Sister School - See Sign Up Genius

03/13-03/27 - Shark Wear Sale - see flyer below 25% off sitewide

03/20-03/26 - Online Auction

03/24 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue attire

03/24 - Carnival - Blacktop - 3:00-5:30pm

03/29 - Dippin' Dots - After School

03/31 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue attire

03/31 - Deadline to sign up for the Variety Show

04/03-04/07 - Spring Break - No School

04/12 - Math Placement Exam -for 5th graders that are entering Middle School

04/13 - SLAM Science Fair - 2:30pm - MPR

04/26 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 1:00 - MPR

04/26 - Variety Show - 6:00pm - MPR

04/29 - Truck Time - San Ramon - 9:00 - 1:00 - See flyer

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 23/24 school year. Parents and students will be notified of teacher and classroom placement on August 9th, 2023.

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 30, 2023.

2023-2024 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

Elite Corporate Sponsors

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



SYCAMORE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ONLINE AUCTION
MARCH 20-26, 2023



Sycamore Valley's Auction 2023 end Sunday 3/26/23!

All proceeds benefit Shark Fund education programs like classroom paraeducators, weekly library, student intervention, TK/K PE and more. Here is the link to our [Online Auction Guide](#). Read below for all the important details.

Online Auction:

www.sycamore-auction.com.

Final reminder to get your raffle tickets and turn in those raffle ticket flyers that came home last week (due Friday 3/24/23 by 3pm in the office, check payable to Shark Fund). Thank you for supporting Sycamore and all of the Shark Fund programs that benefit all of our students!

Hot auction items to check out: Mustang Soccer Summer Camp, Sycamore Socials (newly added option for grades 1-3), and the VIP Parking Spot/First in Line package.



Sycamore Carnival

The Sycamore Carnival is this Friday 3/24/23, on the blacktop from 3pm-5pm. You can purchase tickets for \$25 at the door, however, no additional meal tickets will be sold. We can still use some volunteers to make this event a success!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c4da9aa28abf85-shark#/>

SHARK FUND PRESENTS

★ THE SYCAMORE ★

24 MAR

3-5 PM

CARNIVAL

★ FAMILY EVENT | MARCH 24 | SYCAMORE BLACKTOP | 3:00-5:00 PM ★

COME ONE, COME ALL!

- ★ TICKETS WILL BE PRESOLD ON FUTURE FUND FOR \$25.
- ★ DINNER TICKETS SOLD SEPARATELY FOR \$10. INCLUDES A SLICE OF PIZZA, CHIPS AND A DRINK.
- ★ NOT A DROP OFF EVENT. PARENTS MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE.

SYCAMOREVALLEY.FUTUREFUND.COM/STORE



Sharkwear Sale:

Store Link: <https://1stplace.sale/13542>

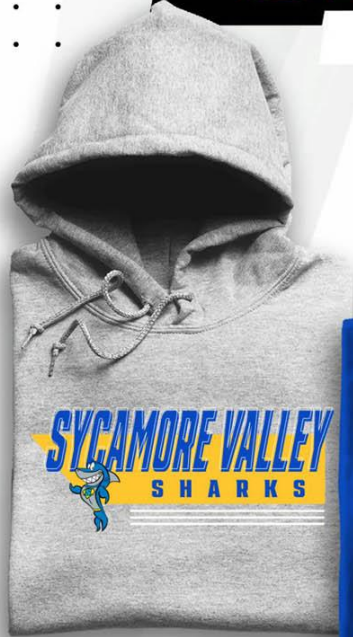
SYCAMORE VALLEY

SPRING

SALE



SCAN TO ORDER



SAVE 25%
SITEWIDE

VALID MARCH 13TH-27TH

NEW DESIGNS
NEW PRODUCT LINES

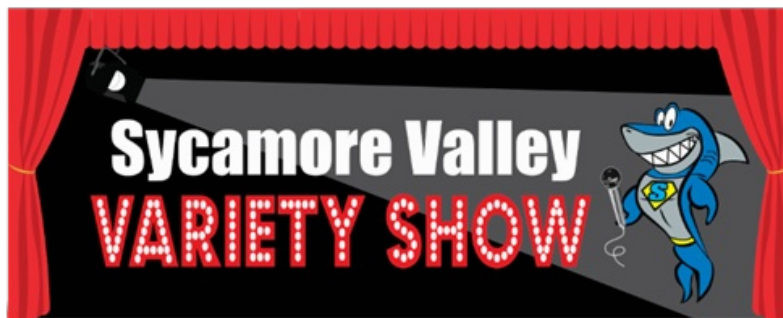
ORDER AT

1STPLACE.SALE/13542



BELLA+CANVAS

1ST PLACE
Sportswear



**OUR VARIETY SHOW IS BACK FOR 2023
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 2023 VARIETY SHOW DATES:

Deadline to submit Variety Show Act Participation Information and Music: **Friday, March 31st**

Variety Show Dress Rehearsal: Wed., April 26th at 1:00 PM in MPR

Variety Show: Thursday, April 27th at 6:00 PM in MPR

Please read the attached **Variety Show 2023 Handout (Attached Below)** for all information pertaining to this year's show and how to get your act signed up in time!

Variety Show Handout

If you have any questions, please contact:

Laurie Campbell & Marisa Montierth

Variety Show Directors

dancelm@mac.com

marisamontierth@gmail.com

Supporting the Child You Have: A conversation with author Debbie Reber

Join us virtually in a conversation with Debbie Reber, author of "Differently Wired" and Creator of the "Tilt Parenting Podcast". Please register in advance for this Zoom event which will take place on March 28, 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

One out of five kids is "differently wired:" dealing with ADHD, autism, anxiety, dyslexia, giftedness--and sometimes more than one neurodiversity. Debbie speaks to parents/caregivers of these kids as well as to all parents/caregivers and staff in offering practical advice to support kids, manage parenthood and find community.

Register via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvd-yoqjkjHN0HfHadilJyXyJOHe8oxwMf>

Interested in reading the book? Check out your local library or any bookstore! In anticipation of this event, Rakestraw Books in Danville has additional copies available for purchase.

Questions? Please contact our SRV Council of PTAs VP for Family Engagement, Krista Glaser at familyengagement@srvscouncilpta.org

JOIN US VIRTUALLY IN
CONVERSATION WITH

Debbie Reber

*Author of 'Differently
Wired' and Creator of the
'Tilt Parenting' Podcast*

This event is sponsored by the
San Ramon Valley Council of
PTAs.

Register www.srvcouncilpta.org



SUPPORTING THE CHILD YOU HAVE

One out of five kids is "differently wired:" dealing with ADHD, autism, anxiety, dyslexia, giftedness- and sometimes more than one neurodiversity. Debbie speaks to parents and caregivers of these kids as well as to all parents/caregivers and staff in offering practical advice to support kids, manage parenthood and find community.



Extra copies of 'Differently Wired'
available now at Rakestraw Books



Sister School Program

San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs

Sign up to donate food items for our Sister School - King Elementary

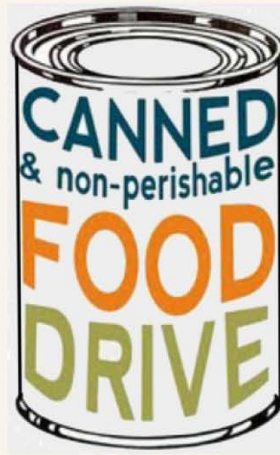
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094ba5af2aabfc1-nonperishable4#/>

Flyer

Sycamore Valley Elementary

We "Can" Do It!

MARCH 9-29



Sign Up [HERE](#) to donate food items for our Sister School, King Elementary, in Richmond.



Please put donated items in the bin in front of the school entrance or porch drop at 626 Ambience Way

Items needed:
Canned soup, beans, meat (tuna or chicken), vegetables, fruit, rice, pasta, cereal, and snacks

For more information, contact kimberlyeves@yahoo.com



Extracurricular Extension Programs for Grades 3 - 5 in the subjects of Science, Language, Arts, Math and Research!

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We are looking for a **SLAM Coordinator** for the 2023/2024 SLAM Program!

SLAM will **only** run next year if we have a coordinator - 2 people can share the role!

Duties include:

- Presenting at SLAM Info night introducing the programs
- Updating Shark Bites and SLAM website (can do as little or as much as you want)
- Communicating with program volunteers (the volunteers are very self sufficient!) and PTA
- Managing the SLAM budget

Except for the SLAM info night, this is a very behind-the-scenes role.

We are looking for **VOLUNTEERS** for the 2023/2024 SLAM Program!
No experience necessary!!

Please check out the [Volunteer tab](#) on our website for programs that need volunteers next year or email goscamoslam@gmail.com

SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

Sycamore Science Sharks placed **FIRST** in the egg drop competition this past weekend!

We are egg-ceptionally proud of our team: **Shanaya Dhamija, Amaya Chaudri, Adhira Ganesh, Yashika Singh, Sophia Ao and Renee Kim!**



ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

Sycamore's 3rd/4th and 5th grade teams will be competing at the Norcal State Tournament on Sat, March 25th!

3rd/4th grade team: **Karthik Jayaraman, Saanvi Lakhotia, Rohan Dasgupta, Priyansh Kshirsagar, Tvisha Madhav, and Parinaz Mann!!**

5th grade team: **Julian Awad, Amaya Fernando, Zoya Kaur, Allen Shao, Saina Shetty, Maddie Sjoberg, and Stefan Tekic**

RESEARCH

Our last research project is Women's History due **Fri, March 24th**. Please view the [Research](#) tab for more details.

DYNAMATH

The March/April issue will be due on **Mon, April 10th**.

SCIENCE FAIR

ready for the 2023 Science Fair which will happen on **Fri, April 14th @ 2:30pm** in the MPR.

We are looking for 2-3 Science Fair judges for the event which should last about an hour. No science background necessary! Ideally your own child is not participating. Please email goscymoreslam@gmail.com if you, or someone you know, would be willing to check out these amazing projects!!

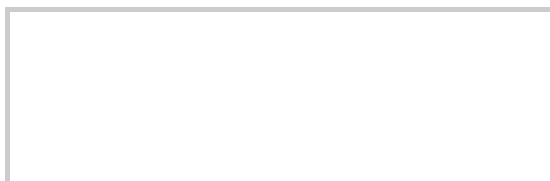
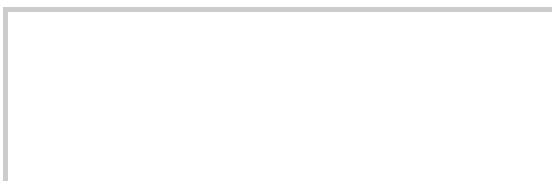
SUPERSCIENCE

The March/April issue will be due on **May 1st**.

Any questions about SLAM?
Please email : goscymoreslam@gmail.com

Way to go, Sycamore SLAM!

For complete Sycamore SLAM program updates,
please refer to the [SLAM website](#)





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 825-407-7178

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: 3/29 (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 **\$7,100** 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



Library Corner

Battle of the books is coming May 10th.
More details to come.

Take Care,
Jen Prindiville / Library Media Coordinator
<https://syc-srvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/sylibrary>

Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with launching our online auction and kicking off spirit week. Families have been buzzing about all the great items up for bid on the online auction, and the kids have had a great time getting into the school spirit by dressing up and participating in fun events.



**The next Site Council meeting will be held on:
Date to be Determined**

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We hope you will consider joining
our Site Council.
If you are interested in becoming part of our Site Council,
**We will have several openings for
the 23/24 school year
Site Council Committee.**

Positions Open:

**Parent Representatives (4) &
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 - Spring 2023

Chess classes will be offered **Thursday** afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.
Mar. 30 - May 25, 2023
See attached flyer to sign up. (flyer will be available soon)

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

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Basketball - Winter 2023 - Postponed

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](#)

Turn imagination into real life! Join us for a fun, interactive outdoor family festival that encourages children (and their adults) to explore the trucks and vehicles they see around them all the time, and maybe some they've never seen before.

Saturday, April 29, 2023, 9:00 am to 1:00pm
2700 Camino Ramon, San Ramon

Visit www.TruckTimeSanRamon.org for additional details and to pre-purchase tickets. Tickets are \$4.99 per person (age 1 and over) if purchased in advance, or \$7 on the event day.

This event is presented by the Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Rotary Club.
It benefits the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation,
the San Ramon Historic Foundation,
the Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Rotary Club and its Foundation.



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.



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**

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

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