

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal March 28, 2024

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well.

This past weekend the Shark Fund hosted a highly successful and fun auction. A big thank you to the auction committee - Adele Young, Christine Hoffman, Katerina McCormack and Dana Claffey and to all the volunteers and families who supported the Sycamore Sharks.

We are moving into a very busy time of year as the school year begins to wind down. Please note the Dates to Remember listed below and be sure to scroll all the way through the newsletter for information about upcoming events. Keep reading for information about May Read Alouds, staff updates, some health information, classified employee of the year and news about the upcoming partial solar eclipse.

Dates to Remember:

03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts

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

04/08 - School resumes

04/15-04/19 - Exceptional Abilities Week

April Read Aloud:

[April Read Aloud Schedule](#)

May Read Aloud:

[May Read Aloud Schedule](#)

The character trait of the month is Responsibility. We will be reading *No David!* By David Shannon and *The Great Paper Caper* by Oliver Jeffers as we explore this trait. Attached is the schedule.

Staff Update:

Blanca Pedro-Perez joins our team as the Night Custodian. Please join me in welcoming Blanca Pedro-Perez to the team!

Health Information:

We love seeing your child at school - improving attendance is actually one of our site goals! However, we do know that kiddos get sick and there will be times they need to stay home. Please review the current [district guidelines](#) regarding when and when not to send your student to school. Thank you.

Classified Employee of the Year:

Lori Smith is Sycamore Valley's Classified Employee of the Year. Mrs. Smith is a long time Sycamore para-educator and currently supports the third grade team. Mrs. Smith is an invaluable member of the team. Mrs. Smith jumps in to support students across the school - from extra duty on rainy days to explaining kickball rules to the first graders - whatever the ask, Mrs. Smith is there to support kiddos. Congratulations Mrs. Smith!

Solar Eclipse:

On April 8th there will be a solar eclipse (partial here in the Bay Area). We have ordered eclipse viewing eye glasses for everyone and have planned to be out for a few minutes to view the eclipse at 11:10-11:15 a.m. I still remember viewing an eclipse with my school when I was in 3rd grade (we had to make our own viewing sunglasses).

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

- 03/29 - No School - Spring Break Starts**
- 04/01 - 04/05 - No School Spring Break**
- 04/08 - School resumes**
- 04/10 - Dippin' Dot Sales**
- 04/12 - Deadline to sign up for the Variety Show**
- 04/15-04/19 - Exceptional Abilities Awareness Week**
- 04/16 - SLAM Science Builder's Challenge**

04/22 - SLAM Science Fair.

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

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

05/16 - Open House



Sycamore Valley's Auction 2024

We did it again, we blew the lid off the goal!!!

**Over \$115,000 NET PROFIT
from Auction!!!**

**An Enormous Thank You To:
The Auction Team:**



AUCTION COMMITTEE

SUPPORTING ROLES

Alison Stracke	Erin Querio	Kristina Buskirk
Brittney Page	Glenda Wilson	Lindsay Mitchell
Caitlin Vonnegut	Jenna Mesic	Lisa Guglielmelli
Celia Schebella	Jenny O'Leary	Nate McCormack
Chris Young	Julie Cullen	Rebecca Betzina
Christian Ruether	Julie Lovren	Robin Bonaso
Doug Merian	Kali Fama	Tabatha Morrison
Erin Meyer	Kelly Virgillito	

Our School Staff & Faculty:

Thank you to our teachers, staff and faculty for the support of the auction team and our Sharks.

Fund A Need Hero:

Mr. Bob Butler -For the highest Fund A Need bid. Your paddle bid broke the record for the past 10 years! We are forever grateful!

Highest Bidder:

David and Cindy Watkins

Thank you for supporting our Sharks!

Our Top Donors:

1. Steele Family - 49ers
2. Carter Family - Warriors
3. Pickering Family - Blackhawk CC
4. Shugrue Family - Garage Kings
5. Wilson Family - Bishop Ranch
6. Vonnegut Family - Wine Lot
7. Sharky & his VIP tables - Disney

*Over \$20K raised by this.

Auction Sponsors: Best Guys

1. **Mr. Bob Butler -Lloyd W. Aubry Co. - Grandfather of Sycamore Kids!**
2. **Joe Kehrig - Kehrig Team - Sycamore Alumni!**
3. **Sameer Misson - Wine Sponsor - Sycamore Dad!**
4. **Mark Lafiguera - Entertainment Sponsor / Best DJ Ever-Sycamore Dad!**
5. **Jen Larsen - Arrive Reality - Decor**

*Over \$20K in donations

Top Business Donor:

San Ramon Valley Dentistry

Isola Osteria

*Over \$7K in donations



This incredible event would not have been possible without the **HARD** work of the committee, and the **EXTREME GENEROSITY** of the many people who supported it!

THANK YOU to our Incredible SYCAMORE Community for SHINING BRIGHT for our KIDS!

With Sincere Gratitude,
Your 2024 Auction Chairs

If you have not done so already, you are welcome to order school photos. Here is the link.

You will need to know your child's student number. This can be found in your parent portal.



Did you forget to order school portraits?



It's not too late...
Order today!

925-485-6025
www.ciphotoca.com



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](#)

The Sycamore Valley Spring Spirit Wear Sale is underway! Choose from hundreds of designs and garments that are delivered to your home in days! You'll save 25% off the entire site! New product lines include Nike and Adidas! Shop at <https://1stplace.sale/13542>.

Free Shipping \$75+

SYCAMORE VALLEY
OFFICIAL ONLINE STORE

1ST PLACE Spiritwear

Spring SALE
25% OFF

SALE EXTENDED!

BELLA+CANVAS NIKE DRI-FIT adidas

ORDER AT 1STPLACE.SALE/13542
HURRY! SALE ENDS APRIL 1ST



2024/2025 PTA Proposed Slate of Officers

2024-2025 PTA Proposed Slate of Officers

President	Cami Severson
EVP	Julie Lovren
Secretary	Audrey Sullivan
Treasurer	Ed Pan
Financial Reviewer (Auditor)	Celia Schebella
Financial Secretary	Christian Ruether
Parliamentarian (appointed)	Dana Claffey
1st VP Health & Wellness	Gabby Slivka
2nd VP Ways & Means	Jenna Mesic
3rd VP Programs	Ays Aytolu
4th VP Volunteers	Kristina Buskirk
5th VP Legislation	Katerina Mc



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

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

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

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:



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.

May 8, 2024

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:

A huge congratulations are in order for our 3rd grade Odyssey of the Mind team as they are now advancing to World Finals to be held in Iowa in May of 2024!!!

Ethan K., Arnav K., Daniel K., Zoe L. Jaxon L., and Rohan S. came in 2nd place at the State tournament, held on March 9, 2024 in Concord, California. The top two teams advance to the World Finals. Previously, the Sycamore team received the highest scores for their overall performance, beating out 28 other teams at the Qualifying tournaments held on February 3 and 10, 2024. We are incredibly proud of this hardworking and phenomenal team!

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, April 9th**, 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 February issue. Credit will be given and work returned. The answer key to this issue may be

found [here](#). The March/April issue of SuperSTEM is due **Tuesday, April 30th**. 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:

- Recap: Mini STEM Reads
- Collision Course
- What's the Main Idea?
- Expressions: Seaweed Growth
- How Do Clouds Form?
- Line Plot: Rainfall Amounts
- Make a Bar Graph
- Design a Sidewalk Light

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



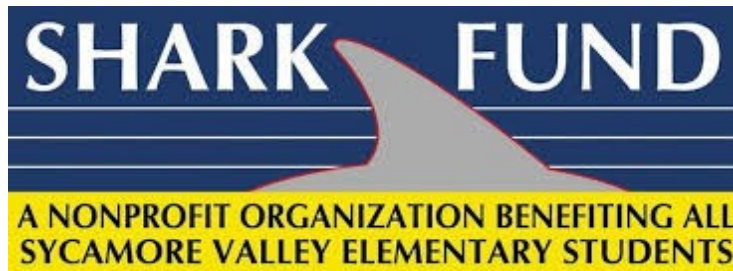
Download App



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: 4/10, 4/27

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

dippin' dots \$5 each

cotton candy
cotton candy
YoDots
cotton candy flavored frozen yogurt

rainbow
rainbow
YoDots
rasberry yogurt

cookies 'n cream
cookies 'n cream
YoDots
vanilla frozen yogurt

cookie dough
cookie dough
YoDots
chocolate frozen yogurt

Shark Fund is proud to offer Dippin' Dots

Double the impact of your school donations with Corporate Match!
Follow these simple steps: <https://srvef.org/matching-gifts/>

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

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 \$35,000
FROM CORPORATE MATCHES!

- 1 YOU DONATE
- 2 THEY MATCH IT
- 3 DOUBLE THE IMPACT

SEE IF YOUR EMPLOYER WILL MATCH YOUR DONATION
[HTTPS://WWW.SRVEF.ORG/DONATE/MATCHINGGIFTS.ASPX](https://www.srvef.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

AT&T WELLS FARGO MCKINSEY & COMPANY VISA LINKEDIN VEEVA SYSTEMS ADOBE LPL FINANCIAL SERVICES GOOGLE BANK OF AMERICA VERIZON AIG NOVARTIS CHEVRON VISA APPLE MERCK GARTNER EBAY PEPSICO ADOBE BRISTO-MYERS SQUIBB WELLS FARGO

THANK YOU TO SYCAMORE'S 23-24
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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:

We did it again - WE BLEW the LID off!

Auction over \$115,000 NET PROFIT

Thank You to the Auction Chairs-

Katerina McCormack & Christine Hoffman

Adele Young - Shark Fund President & Online Chair

Dana Claffey - PTA President & Auction Support Chair



Thank you to Our TOP Donors

1. Steele Family
 2. Carter Family
 3. Pickering Family
 4. Shugrue Family
 5. Vonnegut Family
 6. Sharky & his VIP tables
- Your donations helped raise thousands!

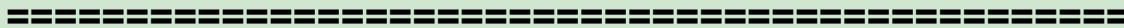
Thank you to Mr. Mark Lafiguera



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.

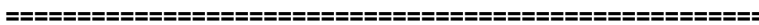
Chess class will be held in our school library.

Mar. 14th - May 30th

No class during winter break.

See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)



Brick Techniques: STEM Basics with Lego - Spring 2024

Grades 3 - 5th

April 8 - May 20, 2024
2:30pm - 4:00pm Science Room
See attached flyer to sign up

[Prime Robotics with Lego](#)

Brick Techniques: STEM with Lego - Spring 2024

Grades K - 2nd

Jan. 29 - Mar. 25, 2024

2:30pm - 4:00pm School Library

See attached flyer to sign up

[STEM 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

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 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.

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

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