

# Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



## Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal April 20, 2023

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Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well.

This week the third graders started our testing window - taking the first part of the English Language Arts test. Students in grades 3rd, 4th and 5th will complete the tests over the next few weeks. Please be sure that your child has a good breakfast and is well rested.

Keep reading for some dates to remember, information about Abilities Awareness Week, the upcoming Book Fair, CCCOE Parent Education Night, the Run for Education logo contest, and the Science Fair.

### **Dates to Remember:**

Spirit Day Friday - wear Shark Wear of Sycamore Blue to show your school spirit!  
CAASPP Testing Window: April 17th - May 20th (depending on your grade level)  
Book Fair - April 25th, 27th & the 28th (see below for additional information)

### **Abilities Awareness Month:**

Next week Sycamore Valley Elementary will participate in Abilities Awareness Week. We will read various stories to broaden our understanding and deepen our appreciation of different abilities. The stories we will read are *The Girl Who Thought in Pictures* by Julia Finley Mosca about Dr. Temple Gradin, *Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You* by Sonia Sotomayor about people with different abilities, *What Were You Thinking!* By Bryan Smith about impulsiveness, *A Friend for Henry* by Jenn Bailey about a boy on the autism spectrum, *It's Hard to Be a Verb* by Julia Cook about ADHD, *Deaf: The William Hoy Story* about a deaf baseball player and *All the Way to the Top* by Annette Bay Pimentel about the fight to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act. Thank you to the PTA for

coordinating this event. Please contact me if you have any questions.

### **Book Fair:**

The Spring Book Fair will be next week, 4/25, 4/27, and 4/28. Students can shop during their class' regular library time, and the book fair will also be open after school, 2:30-4pm on Tuesday 4/25 and Thursday 4/27.

### **Online shopping counts towards the fair total!**

<https://efairs.literati.com/books/?school=sycamore-valley-elementary-school-danville-ca>

**Gift cards** enable kids to shop independently (like e-wallet).

<https://efairs.literati.com/product-category/gift-cards/>

This book fair helps fund books and supplies for our Library, and it's a great opportunity to get ready for summer reading. Thank you for your support of the Sycamore Library!

### **CCCOE Parent Education Night: Impact of Digital and Social Media on Children:**

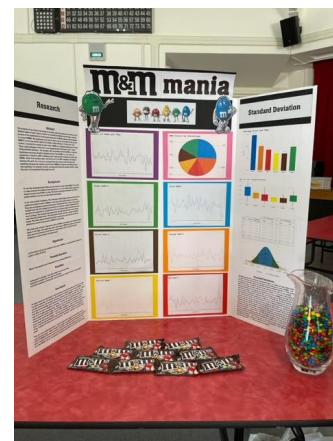
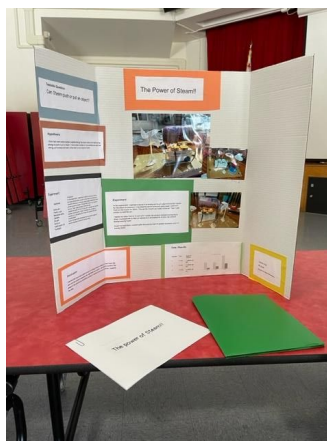
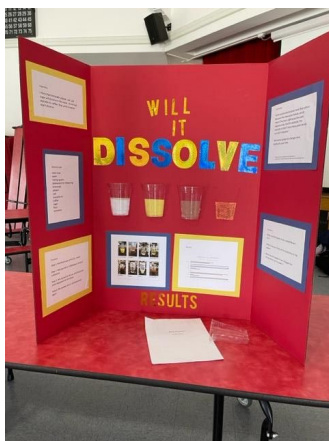
Join Contra Costa County Office of Education and Common Sense Media as they explore the impact digital media has on your child's social development. Discover ways you can reset your parenting approach to media use at home and rethink your child's online communications. [More details here.](#)

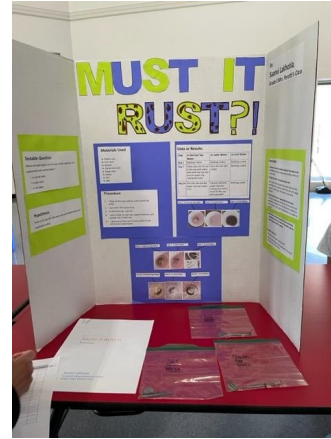
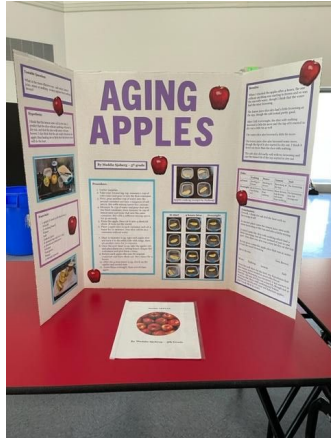
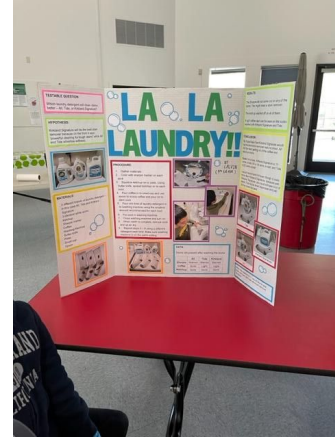
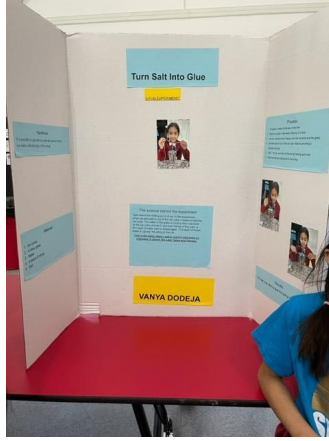
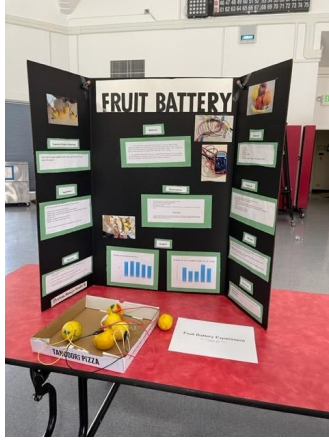
### **40th Annual Run for Education Logo Art Contest**

The San Ramon Valley Education Foundation is accepting submissions of a logo for the 40th Annual Run for Education. The winning design will be highlighted on t-shirts and the winning student will receive \$100 in gift cards. View all of the [logo criteria](#) for submission. Please email entries to [info@srvef.org](mailto:info@srvef.org) with the subject line "Run for Education Logo Contest" by Tuesday, April 18, 2023

### **Science Fair:**

Last week the PTA SLAM program hosted a Science Fair. The students who participated developed experiments, displayed their findings and presented what they learned to attendees. Good work everyone!





Thank you, as always, 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**

**04/21 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue attire**

**04/24-04/28 - Staff Appreciation Week**

**04/24-04/30 - Giveback - Pia's Kitchen - See information below.**

**04/27 - Staff Appreciation Luncheon - See sign ups below!**

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

**04/27 - Variety Show - 6:00pm - MPR**

**04/28 - Spirit Day - Wear Sharkwear or Blue attire**

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

**05/03 - Dippin' Dots - weather permitting**

## Attendance Line



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**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.**

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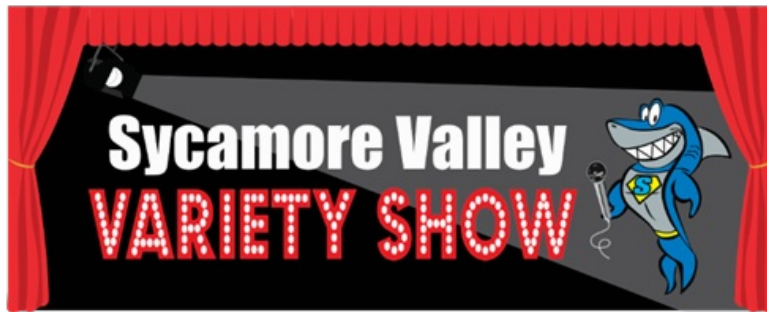
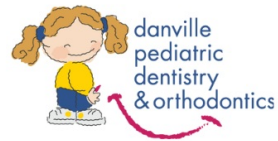
**Reminder:  
If you need to drop-off items for your  
child or their teacher,  
please call the school office  
when you arrive at the main gate.  
(925) 855-2800**

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**Elite Corporate Sponsors**

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



## Variety Show

**Please NOTE:**

**We have 37 performances this year!**

**We kindly request ONLY immediate household family members attend.**

**Please be prepared to stand as seating is limited.**

### **2023 VARIETY SHOW DATES :**

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

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



**Staff luncheon sign up genius:**  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4EA9AD28A7FB6-staff3>



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

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**SCIENCE FAIR**

Last Friday was the Sycamore Science Fair! We were blown away by all the varied topics and extensive research of the student presentations. The trifold will be in the library for the next few weeks for all students to see.

Thank you to our guest judges Dima Jarjour and Jean Lee!

Congrats to the following students who earned awards at the Science Fair.

**Most Creative: Addie Baldwin**

**Best Presentation: Shanaya Dhamija**

**Most Unexpected Result: Saanvi Lakhotia**

And thank you to all the participants for their hard work!

**Maddie Sjoberg, Calvin Sjoberg, Vanya Dodeja, Will Bond, Yashika Singh**



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## ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

**The 5th grade Odyssey of the Mind team is going to the WORLD FINALS!**

The team will be representing Sycamore Valley at this huge event which includes teams from all over the US and over 20 countries!

Please reach out to [goscymoreslam@gmail.com](mailto:goscymoreslam@gmail.com) if you'd like to help support the team.



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## SUPERSCIENCE

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

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**SLAM would like to recognize our amazing parent volunteers who give their time and effort to run the SLAM programs for our students!**

**Vipula Dhamija:** SuperScience, Science Olympiad

**Reshma Shetty:** Science Fair, SRV Passport

**Jyoti Rekhi:** Odyssey of the Mind

Deepa Kannan: Odyssey of the Mind  
 Christiana Leung: Battle of the Books  
 Nirup Shetty: WordMasters, SRV Passport  
 Kristina Buskirk: Reflections Art Program, STEAM Art and Play  
 Rachita Dodeja: Dynamath  
 John Leung: Math Olympiad  
 Lisa Bond: Math Madness

Any questions about SLAM?  
 Please email : [gosycamoreslam@gmail.com](mailto:gosycamoreslam@gmail.com)



**Pia's Kitchen**  
 Indian Cuisine

**GIVEBACK:**

April 24 - April 30 Pia's Kitchen will give back to Sycamore. When you order your meal, please let them know you would like to participate in the Sycamore Giveback.

9000 Crow Canyon Road, Suite J  
 Danville, CA 94526

**\$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](mailto:Dana.claffey@gmail.com) or 925-407-7178

**Dippin' Dot Calendar:**  
 4/19, 5/3, 5/17, 5/31  
 \*\*\*weather permitting\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*Punch Cards are currently sold out\*\*\*



Shark Fund would like to Thank You for your support with our Dippin' Dot Wednesday Fundraiser. Dippin Dots has raised over \$7,800 since August!!!! 100% of Dippin Dot proceeds benefit your students with:

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.

If you have lost your Punch Card or have any questions, please contact - Dippin' Dot Dana at 925-407-7178 or [dana.claffey@gmail.com](mailto:dana.claffey@gmail.com)



## Library Corner

### Spring Book Fair

The Spring Book Fair will be next week, 4/25, 4/27, and 4/28. Students can shop during their class' regular library time, and the book fair will also be open after school, 2:30-4pm on Tuesday 4/25 and Thursday 4/27.

**Please sign-up to volunteer at the book fair:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A45ADAB29A3FD0-sycamore3>

**Volunteers will receive a \$10 credit off your purchase.**

The book fair will take place in lieu of the typical library visit, so there will not be check-in/out and reshelfing next week. You are welcome to signup for your class' usual time (the book fair slots are 1 hour if you don't mind serving 2 classes), and we especially need volunteers during the after school times.

#### **Book fair dates & times:**

Tuesday 4/25: school day and 2:30-4pm

Thursday 4/27: school day and 2:30-4pm

Friday 4/28: school day only

Location: Sycamore Library

**Online shopping counts towards the fair total!**

<https://efairs.literati.com/books/?school=sycamore-valley-elementary-school-danville-ca>

**Gift cards** enable kids to shop independently (like e-wallet).

This book fair helps fund books and supplies for our Library, and it's a great opportunity to get ready for summer reading. Thank you for your support of the Sycamore Library!

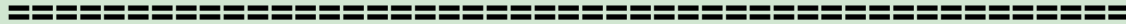
Take Care,  
Jen Prindiville / Library Media Coordinator  
<https://syc-srvusd-ca.schoolloop.com/sylibrary>

## Sharky Shout Out:

**Thank you Marisa Montierth, Laurie Campbell, Rica Santo, Erin Olsen, Kali Fama, Christine Hoffman, and Kim Eves for organizing, coordinating, and highlighting all our Sycamore kid's talents for our Annual Variety Show.**



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



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](mailto: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>



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### **Black Dragon Chess - Spring 2023**

Chess classes will be offered **Thursday** afternoons 2:35pm - 3:35pm.  
Mar. 30 - May 25, 2023 - No Class 5/18/23  
See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

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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**

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### **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**

Notice

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