

Sycamore Valley Elementary SHARK BITES



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal April 25, 2024

Dear Sycamore Families:

I hope you and your family are well.

This week we enjoyed the 2nd graders' Hero presentations. The kiddos looked great in their costumes and did a wonderful job presenting! Well done 2nd grade students and teachers!

Also, this week, we have been blown away with the creative and thoughtful celebrations for Staff Appreciation week! From amazing doors to lovely flowers and delicious goodies we have felt so appreciated! A giant thank you to everyone who helped in this effort.

Please note the following dates!

Dates to Remember:

- 04/22-04/26 - Staff Appreciation Week
- 04/23-04/26 - Book Fair - see information below
- 05/01 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal - 1:00pm - MPR
- 05/02 - Variety Show - 6:00pm - MPR
- 05/16 - Open House
- 05/23 - Spring Concert - more details to come
- 05/24 - No School
- 05/27 - No School - Memorial Day Holiday
- 06/05 - Last Day of School - Minimum Day Schedule

CAASPP Testing Reminder: (REPEAT)

Starting later this month, students in grades 3-5 will begin taking the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). Fifth graders

will also be participating in the CAST (California Science Test).

Your child's teacher will be communicating specific testing days, times, and information for your child's class.

However, please note the following CAASPP Testing Date windows for each grade level:

Third Grade: Weeks of 4/22 and 4/29

Fourth Grade: Weeks of 4/29 and 5/6

Fifth Grade: Weeks of 4/29, 5/6, and 5/13

For more information about CAASPP, please visit [CAASPP Parent/Guardian Resources](#) or contact Patricia Kawahara at pkawahara@srvusd.net or Tiffany Goh at tgoh@srvusd.net.

MAY RESOLUTIONS: (REPEAT)

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month - May

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the month of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. California is home to over 600,000 students of Asian and Pacific Islander descent and they reflect the great diversity of culture and heritage of their many countries. SRVUSD's Board of Education recognizes the need for all students to develop pride in their own identity and heritage as well as understand, respect, and accept the identity and heritage of others.

Day of the Teacher - May 8, 2024

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes May 8, 2024 as Day of the Teacher. SRVUSD's Board of Education encourages appropriate activities that celebrate our teachers and the teaching profession. The quality of all students' educational experiences depends significantly upon the quality and effectiveness of their teachers. SRVUSD administrators and school communities have the utmost respect and admiration for the district's teachers as they are individuals who have dedicated their lives and their talents to the education of our children.

Classified School Employee Week - May 19-25, 2024

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the week of May 19-25, 2024 as Classified School Employee Week. Classified employees serve a vital role in creating strong, effective schools and district offices. Classified employees support students in the classroom, perform vital clerical, office, and technology functions, prepare and serve student meals, perform custodial, maintenance, and grounds services, serve as bus drivers and crossing guards, and administer other essential services that ensure that our students, campuses, and offices run smoothly and effectively. The SRVUSD Board of Education supports the celebration of Classified School Employee Week and recognizes the outstanding contributions provided by the district's classified employees.

Mental Health Awareness Month - May

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that 13-20% of youth ages 13-18 have a diagnosed mental health disorder in the United States. With the rise in stress, fear, uncertainty, and suicidal thoughts, addressing the mental health needs of children, youth, and families is critical. The Board of Education commits that SRVUSD will intentionally commit to: Increasing awareness and understanding of mental health for our entire educational community; helping our children, youth and adults be aware of the steps they can take to protect their mental health; and providing appropriate and accessible services for all people, especially children and youth with mental health conditions.

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

04/23-04/26 - Book Fair - see information below
04/25 - Staff Appreciation Luncheon
05/01 - Dippin' Dots
05/01 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 1:00 PM in MPR
05/02 - Variety Show 6:00 PM in MPR
05/09 - School Site Council Meeting 4:00 - Virtual
05/15 - Dippin' Dots
05/16 - Open House
05/23 - Spring Concert
05/24 - No School - School Recess
05/27 - No School - Memorial Day Holiday
05/29 - Dippin' Dots
06/05 - Last Day of School - Minimum Day Schedule

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](#)

GREAT GIFTS FOR MOMS AND GRANDMAS!

Mother's Day is just around the corner, and we've got just the gifts you are looking for! Sycamore Valley. Order by Saturday to ensure delivery before Mother's Day. Plus, you'll get **FREE SHIPPING with code: MOM24**. Don't wait, [Shop Now!](#)

Spiritwear

Free Shipping \$75+

SYCAMORE VALLEY 1ST PLACE Spiritwear

MAKE MOM'S DAY

SYCAMORE VALLEY
Mom

SYCAMORE VALLEY
MOM

SYCAMORE VALLEY
GRANDMA

FREE SHIPPING WITH CODE **MOM24**

Order By 4/27
For Mothers Day
Delivery

1STPLACE.SALE/13542

Truck Time 2024 – Tickets on Sale Now!

Turn imagination into real life! This fun, interactive, outdoor family festival 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, May 4th, 9:00 am to 1:00pm

Parking lot of 2700 Camino Ramon, San Ramon

Visit TruckTimeSanRamon.org for additional details and to pre-purchase tickets. Tickets are \$7 per person (age 1 and over) if purchased before April 29, or \$10 at the door on the event day. This event is presented by the Rotary Club of Dougherty Valley/San Ramon. It benefits the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, the San Ramon Historic Foundation, the Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Rotary Club, and its Foundation.



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** must be read in order to compete in the Battle of the Books tournament being held on **Wednesday, May 8th**, in the library after school.

Science Fair:

Wonderful job to all the participants of this year's SLAM Science Fair! Great presentations on a variety of scientific topics were on display from *Shanaya Dhamija, Vanya Dodeja, Saanvi Lakhota, Jax Lee, Dylan Leong, Richard Li, Theo Rapp, Levi Schmidt, Ahana Singh, Yashika Singh, and Calvin Sjoberg.*

Congratulations to **Theo Rapp** (Creativity, The Lifecycle of Butterflies), **Richard Li** (Presentation, How Does My Eye Work), and **Ahana Singh** (Most Unexpected Results, Egg in a Bottle!) who won awards in the 1st-3rd grade group, and **Calvin Sjoberg** (Creativity, Perfect Paper Planes), **Shanaya Dhamija** (Presentation, Bridgetastic Design Showdown), and **Levi Schmidt** (Most Unexpected Results, Height of Basketball Bounce at Different Pressures and Conditions) who won awards in the 4th-5th grade group!



Science Builder's Challenge:

The Science Builder's Challenge was this past Tuesday, April 16th. The project goal of this year's challenge was to design, build, and launch a bean bag using a trebuchet/catapult at a target 20 feet away. The kids had a great time testing their trebuchets! Congratulations to **Matthew Deneys** who won 1st place and **Emerson Schebella** who won 2nd place! A huge shout out to all the kids who spent time building and launching their trebuchets: *Abhinav Mummaneni, Xander Chu, Arshan Maharaj, Emerson Schebella, Matthew Deneys, Nachiketh Iyengar, Saanvi Lakhotia.*

Math Olympiad:

Great job to our Math Olympiad team! Our team scored in the top 25% of all elementary schools around the world that participated in Math Olympiad. We had 2 kids that scored in the top 2%!! Great job **Kyle Zamanakos** and **Levi Schmidt!**

SRV Passport:

The deadline to submit the completed SRV Passport is **Monday, April 29th**. Please submit completed SRV Passports to the front office SLAM bin with your child's name on it, OR email a scanned copy to nuq101@gmail.com.

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 last class of the year is **Tuesday, May 14th**, 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
-

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



**Congrats to the new Shark Fund Board Members
for the
2024-2025 School Year!**

President: Adele Young
Vice President: Rebecca Betzina
Treasurer: Tabatha Morrison

Parents play a key role in passing Measures E & F!

The first report from the election's office shows that 90% of parents have not voted yet. Does this surprise you given that we parents and our children have the most at stake in this special election?

You should also know that the most consistent voters are those over 65, who don't have kids in school. This is why it is so important that each of us parents who can vote do vote!

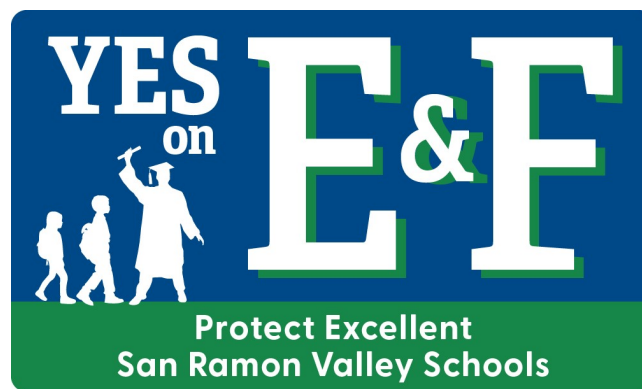
Please find your ballot and complete it TODAY! Then drop it in a mailbox (no stamp required) or in one of the secure [official ballot dropboxes](#).

Measures E and F will provide stable, locally controlled funding that is needed to protect the high-quality education our community expects, and our students deserve.

Measure E renews expiring funding that keeps excellent teachers and award-winning academic programs in our local schools. This locally-controlled voter-approved funding currently funds 56 teaching positions across the district. Our schools have relied on this supplementary funding for the last 20 years. If not renewed by Measure E, it will expire, and those positions will have to be eliminated or other significant cuts made.

Measure F is an additional assessment that would fill the gap created by the loss of one-time state funding that was provided to address student learning loss and social-emotional well-being. The system of support to address students' academic and social-emotional needs that was implemented with these funds at each of the schools has proven to be invaluable, and so the district is asking for the local community's help to sustain it by passing Measure F. If Measure F does not pass, these critically important support services for our most vulnerable students are at risk of drastic cuts.

Please help protect the high-quality education our students deserve and join the PTA and Ed Fund in supporting these measures!



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:
5/01, 05/15, 5/29**

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

rainbow

cookies 'n cream

cookie dough

YoDots

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/>

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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!

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- 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

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THANK YOU TO SYCAMORE'S 23-24
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Library Corner

Our Spring Book Fair is **NEXT** week! Students can shop during their regular library class time and avoid the long lines after school. Cash, cards, Apple Pay or ***Literati Gift Cards** are accepted.

Additional after school hours:

Tuesday 2:30 - 3:30

(Wednesday 11:30-12:30 - TK / Kindergarten ONLY)

Thursday 2:30 - 3:30

Friday 2:30 - 3:30

*The **BEST** way to ensure independent shopping (and avoid long after school lines!) is to purchase a gift card (book fair credit) for your student(s). No cash is needed!

Purchase here: <https://literati.com/store/gift-cards/>

(P.S. These are great year-end gifts for teachers as well! They don't expire and can be used anytime online!)

You can also start shopping our online companion fair right now:

<https://literati.com/store/gift-cards/>

Also be sure to check out Literati's monthly book club - low cost & curated to your child's interests!

<https://literati.com/>

Thank you for supporting our library fundraiser!

=====

Other important dates:

Battle of the Books: May 8 1:00-2:00 in the library

Last week of library checkouts: May 6th

ALL BOOKS DUE: May 17th

The Lost Books fines are due before the last day of school!

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.

Take Care,
Jen Prindiville
Library Media Coordinator
Sycamore Valley Elementary

Sharky Shout Out:

Shoutout to all our volunteers and room moms this week for helping make Staff Appreciation Week such a success! A special shout out to **Kristen Charlson** and **Julie Higgs** for spearheading the entire event!



Mark your calendar:

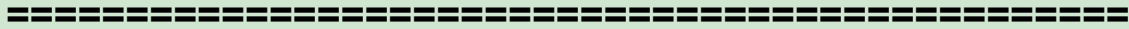
May 9th @ 4:00pm

The meeting will be virtual.

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/ynu-hurs-opr

Phone Numbers



More information about Site Council is available at:
<https://sy.es.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

CANCELLED

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



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>

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

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