

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal August 25, 2022

Dear Sycamore Families:

It has been another great week here at Sycamore Valley! We are enjoying the first full week with the full day schedule - routines are being learned and communities are being built. During classroom visits I am seeing engaged and happy students.

This week I have been invited into classrooms to read stories centered around Kindness, the character trait for August. In the Kinder and 1st grade classes we have enjoyed *My Friend is Sad* by Mo Willems, in 2nd and 3rd grades we have shared *Finding Kindness* by Deborah Underwood, and in the upper grades we enjoyed *A Sick Day for Amos* by Phillip C. Stead. I have an order placed and should the books arrive before the end of the August (fingers crossed) I will share *Sad, the Dog* by Sandy Fussell and *Where the Heart Is* by Irma Gold, with the 4th and 5th grade as well. I have enjoyed chatting with the students as they share their thoughts. Keep reading for important information and reminders.

REMINDERS:

- School Picture Day - Wednesday Aug. 31, 2022
- No School - Monday, Sept. 5th - Labor Day

Safety Reminder: Drop Off and Pick Up:

With our school being secured by the new fencing, we are asking that our TK/K families enter campus at the TK/K playground. Students in grades 1st - 5th can access the playground during drop off at the small gate at the front of the school to the left of the MPR or the small gate at the path that leads from Alta Vista Way & Trish Drive.

Parking Lot Safety:

Please be mindful of your surrounds while walking and driving in the parking lot. Be careful when backing out of a parking spot as there may be smaller children walking that may be difficult to see.

Also, please use the sidewalk and crosswalk when exiting the playground. Do not cut across the lanes of traffic to get to the parking lot from the playground as this is unsafe.

Vacations:

If your student will be missing school due to a trip/vacation, according to district policy, our teachers are not obligated to provide work while students

are absent unless a parent/caregiver requests an Independent Study Contract (ISC), which must be for 5 or more school days. Otherwise, make-up work will be waiting for the student in the classroom when the student returns to school. Here is the link to start the request if you would like.

<https://www.srvusd.net/Departments/Educational-Services/Enrollment-Info/Independent-Study/index.html>

Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS

IMPORTANT DATES



Annual Update Open - online through your parent portal

08/02 - 09/02 - Sycamore Valley Elementary Online Registration

08/26 - Spirit Day - Wear Blue or your Shark wear

08/26 - Sip & Spin Social Event 11:30am at Star Cycle

08/31 - School Picture Day

09/02 - Shark Shop Orders Due - Shop Closes

09/02 - Spirit Day - Wear Blue or your Shark wear

09/05 - No School - Labor Day

09/07 - PTA Association Meeting 8:10am - MPR

09/07 - Dippin' Dots Sales

09/07 - Shark Cinema - 1:00 - 3:00 - MPR

09/09 - Spirit Day - Wear Blue or your Sharkwear

09/10 - Street Smart Bike Rodeo - 10:00am - 1:00pm registration required
09/15 - Chess Enrichment Class - 2:35-3:35
09/19-9/23 - International Culture Week / Festival Around the World
09/19-9/23 - Book Fair
09/21 - Dippin' Dots Sales
09/22 - Chess Enrichment Class - 2:35 - 3:35
09/26 - No School - School Recess
09/27 - No School - Staff Development
09/21 - Shark Fund Meeting - Virtual 6:30 - Zoom
09/29 - Chess Enrichment Class - 2:35 - 3:35

Attendance Line



**Please call the attendance line
to report an absence:
925-855-2898**

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. It is recommended that your child stay home for 5 days.

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



School Picture Day

School Picture Day is Wed. August 31.

You will need to enter your child's student ID# to place an order for the school photos. You can order individual photos as well as a class photo. All students will be photographed. Purchasing photos is not a requirement.

<https://www.ciphotoca.com/sycamorevalley>

Picture Day Volunteers:

Picture day is coming up on Wednesday, August 31st. Volunteers are needed to help picture day run smoothly for our Sharks!

Please sign up if you are able to help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C44ABAB2AABFA7-picture1>



Shark Shop 2022!
Get your
Sycamore spirit wear today!

Shark Shop is open to get
all your Sycamore Spirit wear!
Shirts, and sweatshirts,
Sharky hair bows and hats available.

[FLYER](#)

Blank sample sizes available for viewing at the
first Dippin Dots Wednesday!
Wednesday 8/24 11:30am at the kinder yard & 12:50pm on the blacktop

ORDER YOUR SYCAMORE SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS AT:

<https://sharkgear2022-23.itemorder.com/shop>

ORDER SHARKY BOW & HAT AT:

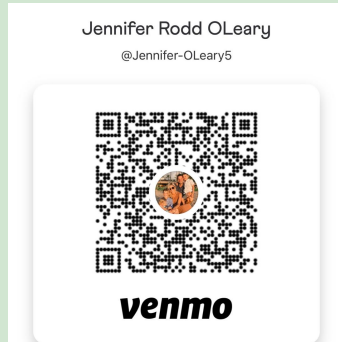
<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration>

Did you already register and forgot to order your bow or hat?

Venmo Jennifer O'Leary @Jennifer-OLeary5
or drop an envelope labeled "Shark Shop" at the office
with:

1. Quantity of each item: Sharky bow \$18, Sharks Hat \$35 (10% is donated back to the school)
2. Check made out to "Sycamore Valley PTA"
3. Your student's first and last name
4. Your email address

You will receive an email confirmation in a few days!



Shark Shop will close on FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND at midnight.

Orders will be processed, packaged, and distributed during the last week of September.

Now through 9/2 is the ONLY time Shark Shop will be open for the entire school year.

You will not be able to order after the deadline and we will not have extras.

Questions? Email sycamoresharkshop@gmail.com

ONLINE SHARK SHOP 2022

Store will close on FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND at midnight.

Orders will be processed, packaged, and distributed during the last week of September.

Now through 9/2 is the ONLY time Shark Shop will be open for the entire school year.

You will not be able to order after the deadline and we will not have extras.

ORDER T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS AT:

<https://sharkgear2022-23.itemorder.com/shop>
ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE IN BOTH YOUTH AND ADULT SIZES



ORDER SHARKY BOW & HAT ON FUTURE FUND

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration>



Already registered? Want to order a bow or hat?

Venmo Jennifer O'Leary @Jennifer-OLeary5 or drop an envelope labeled "Shark Shop" at the office with:

1. Quantity of each item: Sharky bow \$18, Sharks Hat \$35 (10% is donated back to the school)
2. Check made out to "Sycamore Valley PTA"
3. Your student's first and last name
4. Your email address

You will receive an email confirmation in a few days!



Contact: Shark Shop at sycamoresharkshop@gmail.com

All orders final as of store close date - no returns or exchanges.

Sycamore Valley Online Registration is OPEN!

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is now open on FutureFund!

Thank you in advance for registering! Your support during registration is vital to our school, Shark Fund, and PTA to ensure our Sycamore students have the very best classroom support, materials, and technology equipment. Registration ensures your directory preferences are up-to-date, provides information about volunteer opportunities, and allows you to purchase items such as a yearbook and spirit wear.

Please note that all registration is being conducted online at this link: <https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/registration> .

There is no onsite registration.

You may also scan this QR Code to register.



Library Corner

Hi Sharks!

We are looking forward to opening our school library for students to check out books and do research. Students will visit the library every week.

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



Get Involved with Shark Fund -

Continued parent support is crucial to sustain the valuable programs that make Sycamore an exceptional learning community!

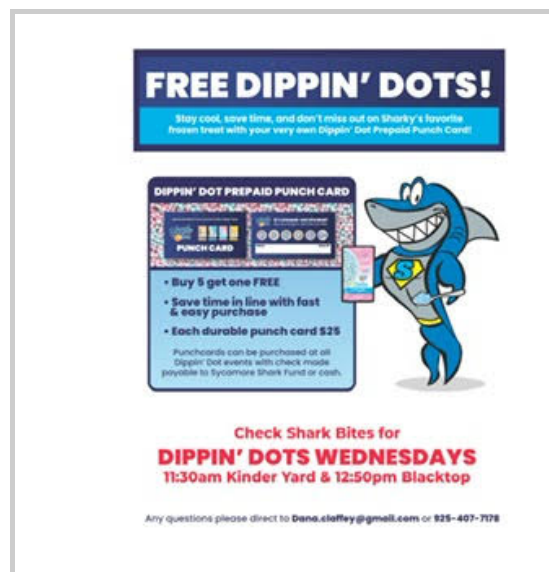
We hope you will consider donating money, time, and/or talents to Shark Fund. Please visit the [Shark Fund page](#) for future meeting dates, events and volunteer opportunities.

We are in need of volunteers for the upcoming [Sharky Cinema](#) on 9/7.

If you have any questions or would like to get more involved, contact Shark Fund President Alison Stracke at sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org.

- Sip 'N Spin - Friday, August 26, 11:30am-12:15pm at Star Cycle Danville. [Purchase tickets.](#)

- Sharky Cinema - Wednesday, September 7, 1:00-3:00pm.
Purchase tickets on [Future Fund](#).



Dippin' Dot Punch Cards are \$25.00 each (Buy 5 get 1 Free!!). Families may share one card, please send child with cash or check made payable to Sycamore Shark Fund to the first event, or Dippin' Dot Dana is usually around before and after school daily - If you would like to purchase your family or child's card before the first event, contact Dippin' Dot Dana 925-407-7178. Dippin' Dot Punch card Tip - Please write family's last name on the punch card, so it can be returned if found.

August - October Dippin Dot Calendar (Weather Permitting)

9/7, 9/21, 10/5, 10/19

Shark Fund would like to Thank You for your support with our
Dippin' Dot Wednesday Fundraisers!!!!
100% of Dippin Dot proceeds benefit your students:

- **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

TK & Kindergarten Sales @ 11:30am near the Kinder Playground Entrance .
1st – 5th grade Sales @ 12:50pm on the blacktop near the rear entrance of
the MPR

Lost Dippin' Dot Punch Cards or any other Dippin' Dot questions
Dippin' Dot Dana Claffey
925-407-7178
Dana.claffey@gmail.com



Reflections

"Show Your Voice"

REFLECTIONS ART PROGRAM

All students are invited to participate and submit original artwork in one of six areas aligned with the theme "Show Your Voice":

- Dance Choreography
- Literature
- Photography
- Film Production
- Music Composition
- Visual Arts

Submission deadline TBD in October. Selected artworks will be judged by Sycamore PTSA, and are then sent on to councils and then districts for consideration. The final artworks submitted to California State PTA by districts are then considered for Outstanding Interpretation, Awards of Excellence or Awards of Merit.

[Official Entry Form and Rules](#)

Contact Kristina Buskirk for more information.
kristinabus Kirk@gmail.com



Back to School Sip 'N' Spin Social Event

Celebrate back to school with a dance party on a bike!! 45 sweaty minutes followed by a celebratory mimosa bar and light bites. First timers welcome and wanted! Grab your friends and come meet some new Sycamore parents! Clip in. Check out. Let's Ride. Go Sharks!

All proceeds will benefit Shark Fund.

When: Friday August 26th at 11:30am

Where: Star Cycle Danville, 155 Railroad Avenue Suite A

Celebrate back to school with a dance party on a bike!! 45

Empowering, sweaty minutes followed by a celebratory mimosa bar and light bites. First timers welcome and wanted! Grab your friends and come meet some new Sycamore parents! Clip in. Check out. Let's Ride. Go Sharks!

Questions and to reserve your bike.

Please reach out to Kali Fama: kalifama@hotmail.com

Tickets: \$45 each



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

More Information Coming Soon!

Check out our new SLAM website to read about the projects, learn how to volunteer, and check out pictures from last year's SLAM program!

<https://sites.google.com/view/sycamoreslam/home>

Info Night and Sign Ups will be communicated on the site and also in Shark Bites.

We are still seeking parent volunteers! Please email gositycamoreslam@gmail.com to see how you can help.



Way to go, Sycamore SLAM!

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



Black Dragon Chess - Fall 2022

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

Sept. 15th - Dec. 1

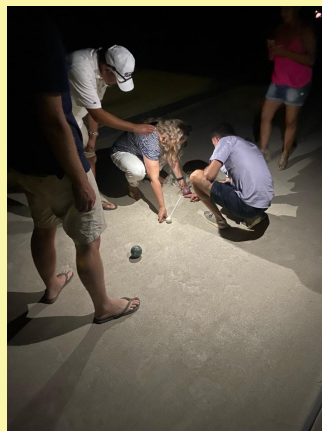
No class on Oct. 6th and Nov. 24th.

See attached flyer to sign up.

[Chess Enrichment Class](#)

Sharky Shout Out:

A big thank you to Kristina Buskirk, Audrey Sullivan, Cami Severson, Dana Claffey, Kristin Swigert, Lisa Bond, Lisa Comeau, and Kamey Brooks for hosting the Sycamore Auction Social - Bocce Ball. The Mexican themed event was a huge success, and the two final teams battled it out beyond lights out at Sycamore Courts - and generated important funds to support all the great programs that benefit all students at Sycamore.



If you are interested in becoming part of our Site Council,
**We need two parents for the upcoming
Site Council Committee.**

Positions Open:

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>

STREET SMARTS

Street Smart Bike Rodeo and Festival:
September 10, 2022
10:00am - 1:00pm

Iron Horse Middle School, 12601 Alcosta Blvd, San Ramon, CA

Registration is Required

<https://www.street-smarts.com/community-bike-festival/>



Street Smarts

San Ramon Valley



**YOU'RE INVITED
TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY
BIKE RODEO AND FESTIVAL!**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022
10 A.M. – 1 P.M.**

**WHERE: IRON HORSE MIDDLE SCHOOL BLACKTOP
(12601 ALCOSTA BLVD, SAN RAMON)**

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
SEE BELOW FOR SIGN-UP INFORMATION***

*Enjoy a **FREE, FUN-FILLED EVENT!** At this educational, skills-based training for children using bicycles or scooters, learn lifelong bicycle skills, and increase basic bicycle knowledge in a safe, organized environment.*

HELMETS REQUIRED!

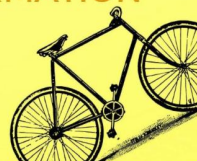
VISIT:

***STREET-SMARTS.COM "BIKE RODEO"
FOR SIGNUP & EVENT INFORMATION**



Space is LIMITED!

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL
DPITA@SANRAMON.CA.GOV**



Kids Are Talking

Stay Tuned for the Next Issue !



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>

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

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DOUBLE YOUR SHARK FUND DONATION WITH

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LAST YEAR SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY RECEIVED OVER

OVER \$25,000

FROM CORPORATE MATCHES!



1 YOU DONATE

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

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