

Sycamore Valley Elementary **SHARK BITES**



Message from Patricia Kawahara - Principal September 29, 2022

Dear Sycamore Families:

I hope you all enjoyed the long weekend! And a belated Happy New Year to those who celebrated Rosh Hashanah!

This is my favorite time of year - I love the crisp mornings and the warm afternoons. By this point in the year, the children have settled in by this point in the school year and there is a lot going on in our Sycamore Valley community that is very exciting over these next few months. To start off our busy season, our fifth graders headed off to camp! We have missed them and are looking forward to their arrival home on Friday afternoon. Next week, we have Parent Teacher Conferences. As I have mentioned before, conferences are an excellent opportunity to connect with your child's teacher. It is also a week of short days - please see details below.

REMINDERS:

The parking lot at Beth Chaim will not be available to our school during these times:

Wed., Oct. 5, 9:00 am - Noon (Service begins at 9:30 am)

Conference Week - October 3 - 7 :Minimum Day Schedule

TK/K = 8:00am - 10:30am

1st - 5th Grade = 8:00am - 12:00pm

Alarming Rainbow Fentanyl Trend:

With Halloween coming up, we want our community to know that this version of fentanyl is made purposely to look like candy. The [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) and the California Department of Education are advising the public of an alarming emerging trend of colorful fentanyl available across the United States. Dubbed "rainbow fentanyl" in the media, this trend appears to be

a new method used by drug cartels to sell highly addictive and potentially deadly fentanyl made to look like candy to children and young people. Please be aware and monitor the candy that your children receive.

Drop off - Late Sharks

If you plan to wait with your Late Shark at the main gate from 8:30-8:40, please park in the main parking lot and walk your child to the main gate. Do not leave your car in the drop off lane. Families have been waiting in line thinking the cars would move forward then realize there is no one in the car. These unattended cars are blocking traffic. If you are simply dropping your child off, then the curbside drop off lane is for you.

Festival Around the World:

A hearty thank you to Christy Lucia and the rest of the parent team that worked to make the Festival Around the World a fun and educational community event! It was great to see everyone, hear the 2nd graders sing and learn about different cultures.



Thank you for the gift of your child,
Patricia Kawahara

GO SHARKS!

IMPORTANT DATES



09/30 - Spirit Day: Shark Wear or Blue Attire
10/03-10/07 - Conference Week - Minimum Day Schedule
10/05 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field
10/05 - PTA Meeting - 8:00am - MPR
10/08-10/09 - SRVEF Run For Education
10/12 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field
10/12 - School Photo Make Up and Retake Day
10/12 - Shark Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR

10/13 - Site council Meeting - 4:00pm - Google Meet
10/19 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field
10/19 - Shark Fund Meeting - 6:30pm - Virtual
10/26 - Morning Mile - 7:30am - Turf Field
10/24-10/28 - Red Ribbon Week
10/31 - Halloween Parade - 9:30am - Turf Field

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. 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

Register today for the 39th Annual Run for Education
Back In Person for 2022



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San Ramon Valley **DANVILLE LIVE LOCALLY**
1017KKIO **Q&A**

REGISTER TODAY!
srvef.org/the-run

Oct 8 | 9AM-3PM
Expo for Education
Friendship Run | Mini Run

Oct 9 | 8AM-12PM
Expo for Education
5K & 10K

AUCTION FOR EDUCATION | November 1-9



The Rotary Club of San Ramon is once again proud to partner with the SRVEF to host the Online Auction for Education. This fundraiser benefits the 30,000 students of the San Ramon Valley USD. The funds raised are donated to SRVEF to support all things education! We are currently looking for auction items to be donated. If interested, scan the QR code on the right!



The Run for Education - [Register Now](http://srvef.org/the-run) - October 8-9, 2022!

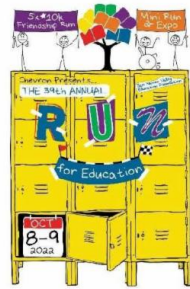
The Run for Education - [Register Now](#) - October 8-9, 2022!

We are less than three weeks away! Don't miss out on the 39th Annual Run for Education on Sunday, October 9th. The 10K run starts at Charlotte Wood Middle School and the 5K starts on Camino Ramon, near BR 2700, across from City Center Bishop Ranch.

The Run for Education includes events for the youngest runners ages 2-6, The **Mini Run!** We also have the **Friendship Run**, for students with special needs and their supporters. These events take place on Saturday, October 8th during our **Expo for Education** at 2700 Camino Ramon (BR 2700), across from City Center Bishop Ranch. The Expo features live music, a Kids' Zone including inflatables and face painting, local businesses and a performance by KungFu Dragon USA!

A reminder that schools get **70% of the donations** from the pledge pages! Check out your school at [View Teams](#). If you have questions, reach out to Karen Robman at karen@srvef.org

The Run for Education, as part of the San Ramon Valley Education Foundation, supports the education of all students in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District.
<http://www.srvef.org/the-run>



Lunch Time Volunteers - Signups

Interested in volunteering more on campus?

Want to spend your lunch hour with us?

Sign up to help at lunch recess (either 1st-3rd grade time or 4th-5th grade time).

Volunteers are needed on the blacktop and inside the MPR. Sign up for as many days as you'd like!

Please check in at the office every time you come. Note: in order to volunteer, please make sure you have completed the "Be a Mentor" registration with the district.

Sign up here to Volunteer for Lunch Time Helpers:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C44ABAB2AABFA7-sycamore1>



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

[Sign Ups are OPEN for select programs!](#)*

Please fill out the [Google Form](#) (one per student) and parent leads will reach out to you.

*Math Madness and Science Alliance are now closed for sign ups. Other programs, especially those with teams, will close shortly as they kick off for the school year

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!

Want a summary of all the programs? Check out our [SLAM flyer!](#)

RESEARCH

Shoutout to 3rd grader Zoya Kashif who completed a Pakistan tri-fold for her country Research Project! Her tri-fold is now on display in the library for students and teachers to view!

Our next research project is College and Career Aspirations due Fri, Nov 4th. Please view the [Research](#) tab for more details.

Any questions about SLAM?

Please email : gosycamoreslam@gmail.com

Way to go, Sycamore SLAM!

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



School Pictures

**Did you miss school picture day?
Do you want to retake the photo?**

Mark your calendar for School Photo Retakes and Make-Up day. **Wednesday, October 12th, 2022**

If you placed an order for your child's photo, the photo packets will be arriving soon. The photos will be mailed directly to your home.

If you wish to have your child's photo retaken, please return the photo packet to our school office on or before Photo Retake/Make Up day.

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

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



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.

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



SOLD OUT !



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:
10/5,10/19

*****weather permitting*****

Shark Fund would like to Thank You for your support with our Dippin' Dot Wednesday Fundraiser.

In just two events, Dippin dots has raised over \$2,200!!!!!!

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

Does your child misplace their water bottles, lunches boxes or clothing???

Help keep track of your kids' water bottles, lunchboxes, sweatshirts, sports equipment and more with washable, durable labels from Mabel's Labels and they will donate 20% of your order back to Sycamore Valley Shark Fund on <https://campaigns.mabelslabels.com/> when you select "Sycamore Valley Shark Fund"

mabel's labels
FUNDRAISING

SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER!

Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund

Buy Mabel's Labels waterproof, durable labels to help reduce classroom mix-ups and keep your items coming home!



➔ Go to campaigns.mabelslabels.com and search for **Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Fund**



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!



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](#)

SUBMISSION LINK: **<https://forms.gle/tPQY5TCyDgTDcdXk7>**

Contact Kristina Buskirk for more information.

kristinabus Kirk@gmail.com



Library Corner

Exciting news from the library!

It has been so much fun welcoming classes back to the library this month! Please keep reading at home, and making sure books are returned to the classroom each week!

Thank you for supporting our author visit with Kelly Yang with your book purchases through Rakestraw Books! Together we are working on more author visits for all grades for this year - stay tuned!

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



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:

Thank you Angel Garrett, Monica Orrvick, Christy Lucia and all the families who hosted a country booth for Festival Around the World. The Sycamore community got to spend the evening traveling throughout the world through music, food, dance and entertainment.



**Our first Site Council Meeting will be held on
October 13th at 4:00pm. This will be a virtual**

meeting.

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>



Kids Are Talking

Watch for our next article.



Child Nutrition

Meals Provided @ Sycamore

**Breakfast & Lunch will be provided at no cost to all students that
request a meal at school.**

[MENUS](#)

Shark Fund - Corporate Match

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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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