



Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

Message from Principal Kawahara
October 30, 2025



Kindergarten Fire Engine Visit - Fire Safety Month

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well. We are all excited about the Halloween festivities scheduled for tomorrow. We hope you can join us for the Halloween parade on the big turf field across the parking lot. See below for details.

Attendance Stats:

As you may know, raising our attendance rate is one of our school goals. This year we started strong but have seen a drop off over the past two months. Please work to schedule time away during school breaks. If that is not possible, please consider an Independent Study Contract. Please call the office for more information on that process.

Monthly Attendance Rate

Month	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3
Attendance Rate	98.61%	97.14%	96.72%

Safety Reminder:

I have received reports that cars turning left onto Holbrook from Camino Tassajara are going through red lights. This is very dangerous as cars turning right have a green light. We appreciate how much folks want to get to school but please be safe enroute. We will welcome your child when they arrive and keep them with us in the office if you are running late at the end of the day.

Day Light Savings Time End:

"Fall Back" - Turn your clocks back 1 hour Saturday night, November 1st.



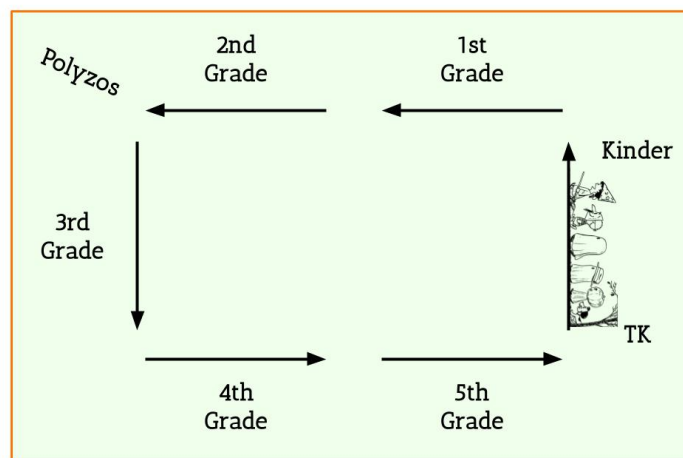
Bell Schedule: November at a Glance:
November At A Glance

November Read Aloud:
November Read Aloud Schedule

Halloween Information for Families: Halloween Costumes, parade, parties, etc., information provided in the attached Halloween Information Document:
Halloween Information

Parade Map:

Parent Section



Walk over and enter here.
 Go around the circle, then sit in your spot.

District Updates:

Introducing "Interland!" - Free Gamified Digital Literacy Learning

We are excited to introduce Interland!, a free, comprehensive program from Google designed to teach children the fundamentals of digital safety and citizenship. This engaging resource provides the essential knowledge and skills for our students, your children, and our community to explore the online world with confidence and responsibility.

- **Interactive Learning:** Students will love learning through **Interland**, an adventure-packed online game where they practice digital safety skills by tackling challenges and battling "badly behaved" hackers, phishers, and bullies.
- **The Internet Code of Awesome:** The program is built around core lessons to help students navigate the internet:
 - [Be Internet Smart: Share with Care](#) (Digital Footprint & Responsible Communication)
 - [Be Internet Alert: Don't Fall for Fake](#) (Phishing, Scams, & Credible Sources)
 - [Be Internet Strong: Secure Your Secrets](#) (Online Security & Passwords)
 - [Be Internet Kind: It's Cool to Be Kind](#) (Combating Negative Online Behavior)

Please keep reading for some upcoming event information, important dates and other PTA/Shark Fund News.

Thank you,
 Patricia Kawahara

**NOTE: Gmail users, please be sure to click
"View Entire Message" at the bottom of this email to avoid
missing all important updates.
A new window will open displaying the full newsletter.**



Important Dates to Remember

10/27-10/31 - Red Ribbon Week
10/31 - Halloween - Wednesday Day Schedule
All TK/K = 8:00 - 11:30
All 1st - 5th = 8:00 - 12:50
10/31 - Halloween Parade 9:15 @ Turf Field
11/01-11/30 - TK/K Priority Enrollment Window Open for 26/27 school year.
11/02 - Day Light Savings Time End
11/05 - PTA Association Meeting - 8:05am - MPR
11/05 - Sharky Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR
11/05 - Dippin Dots
11/06 - Fun Run at Sycamore - Turf Field - ALL grades
11/19 - Dippin Dots
11/19 - Shark Fund Meeting - 6:30pm - virtual
11/24-11/28 - No School - Thanksgiving Break
12/01 - Astronomy Night - 5:30 - 7:30 on the Blacktop
12/03 - PTA Association Meeting - 8:05am - MPR
12/03 - Sharky Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR
12/22-01/05 - No School - Winter Break

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



Attendance Line
**Please call the attendance line to report
your child's absence:**
925-855-2898
sy-attendance@srvusd.net

If your child will be absent from school, please notify the school office by phone or by email. (925) 855-2898 or sy-attendance@srvusd.net Please provide your child's first and last name (spell the last name), teacher's name / grade, and the reason for the absence

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).

SAN RAMON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TK & KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

for the 2026-27 School Year



Enrollment Dates

**PRIORITY ENROLLMENT WINDOW
NOVEMBER 1 - 30, 2025**

* Completed online enrollment applications submitted by Nov. 30th will be included in 1st round of confirmation of space at the resident school site. Applications submitted after Nov. 30 are received on a first come-first served basis for space.

Age Guidelines

TK for 2026-27
Child must turn 4 years of age
on or before
September 1, 2026

KINDERGARTEN for 2026-27
Child must turn 5 years of age
on or before
September 1, 2026

Parent Information Night

**TK and Kindergarten
Information Night
(virtual*)**

**Tuesday, Oct. 7
6:00-7:00 pm**

*Virtual meeting link can be found
on our [TK/Kinder webpage](#)

TK/Kinder Webpages



- [TK FAQ](#)
- [Kindergarten Readiness](#)
- [TK/Kinder Enrollment Quick Reference](#)

www.srvusd.net/enrollyourchild

TK and Kindergarten enrollment opens November 1st
for the 2026-27 school year.
Children who turn 4 (TK) or 5 (Kinder) by September 1, 2026
are eligible to attend.

SPIRITWEAR

Click here for the [Spiritwear Sale](#)
Shark Spirit Clothing Sale

No Tricks... Just Treats All Sycamore Valley Polos and Quarter Zips are 30% off
sitewide. Shop this SPOOOOY Sale now! Use code **TREAT30** at
checkout! <https://1stplace.sale/13542>

Exclusive Holiday Offer:

Do you want your parents to receive special offers during the holidays? Send us
your email list, and we'll email exclusive coupon codes with savings up to **40%
off!** They can only receive these offers via email. As a thank-you, you'll receive
a **\$50 store credit gift card**.

Holiday Incentives:

If your school store has gross sales of \$1,000 during the sale we will send you
a **\$50 gift code** to purchase anything from your store, along with free shipping!
Sales over \$2,000 gets you a **\$100 gift code** and \$3,000+ gets you a **\$150 gift
code!**

All delivered to your door in days!
Shipping is FREE on orders of \$75 or more!

Don't miss this limited time offer! [Shop Now!](#)

Store Link: <https://1stplace>.



Be A Mentor:

Volunteer Clearance - Reminder - **NEW REQUIREMENTS**

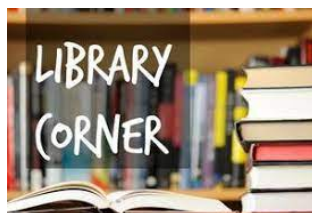
We ask all of our parents/guardians to register w/ Be A Mentor for level #1 - general volunteer. This clearance will allow you to be on campus and/or in the classroom with the children. All volunteers must be finger printed. Here is the link to sign up. [Be A Mentor](#) Click on the New Volunteers Apply Now on the bottom right side of the page.

Clarification regarding volunteer drivers. As of June 2025, all volunteers who wish to drive on a field trip will need to complete the DMV report through their Be A Mentor account. There is a \$2.00 fee for this process. Be sure to upload your Driver's License information as well.

There are 3 requirements that are necessary every year.

- 1) DMV report
- 2) Annual Training (2)
- 3) Car Insurance Declaration Page updated

[Volunteer Handbook](#)



Please help your reader remember their library day and to turn their books in when they're due!

Any questions - contact Mrs. Prindiville - jprindiville@srvusd.net



P.E. News

Hello Shark Family!

You're welcome to join me out on the field to volunteer. Here's the link for the [Sign Up Genius](#). Make sure you're cleared by Be a Mentor first.
Thank you to everyone who has already helped out. You're the best!!!



PTA Updates



FUN RUN COUNTDOWN!

**DON'T FORGET
THE WAIVER!**

- 1

CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT AT
sycamore.pledgestar.com
- 2

**CONFIRM YOUR
ACCOUNT VIA EMAIL**


- 3

**CLICK THE LINK TO
COMPLETE THE WAIVER**
ONE FOR EACH STUDENT



**SEE YOU ON
THE TURF
NEXT WEEK!**



8:15am - 9:00am: 2nd and 3rd grades

9:30am - 10:00am: TK, K and 1st grades

10:15am - 11:00am: 4th and 5th grades

The Fun Run is a little over a week away, taking place on November 6th! Make sure you complete all steps below so your student can participate.

All students must have a Pledgestar account and a completed online waiver to participate. Follow ALL steps below:

1. Create your account at <https://sycamore.pledgestar.com>
2. After setting up your account, you will receive an email from Pledgestar to confirm your account and a link to the waiver. *CHECK YOUR JUNK FOLDER IF YOU DO NOT GET AN E-MAIL FROM PLEDGESTAR*
3. Click the link in the email, this will take you to future fund, where you fill out the waiver, one for each student you have at Sycamore. Parents must complete the waiver for their student(s) to participate.

Looking forward to seeing you on the turf next week! Please have your students wear closed toe shoes appropriate for running and clothes they can easily move around in. Every registered student will receive a Fun Run t-shirt and water bottle on the day of the event!

Please see last week's Shark Bites for all other registration details.

Questions?
Erin and Jenna
Funrun@sycamorevalleypta.org

African American History Museum:

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY SHOWCASE

Volunteers needed immediately to work with teachers to spearhead this fun, interactive and educational event at Sycamore. We hope this great program can continue, and it would be disappointing to the kids if cancelled.

Reach out for more information:

Meghan Johnson

dei@sycamorevalleypta.org



ASTRONOMY NIGHT 2025

Great fun for families and enthusiastic
astronomers alike!

DECEMBER 1

Activity Program :

- Telescope Displays
- Talk with astronomers about the night sky
- Enjoy hot cocoa

5:30-7:30

Sycamore Valley
Elementary
Blacktop





SYCAMORE NEEDS YOU!

Become a 2025/2026 Sponsor Today!

Would you like to get your business noticed at school events, bring sycamore supporters into your business, get a write-off, and get us to our fundraising goal? **Become a corporate sponsor today!**

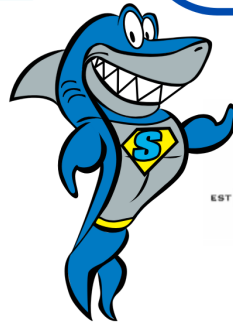
See the attached flyer for all the details.

Sponsorship Flyer

Questions? Contact Jeannine Pickering jeannine.pickering@gmail.com
and Katerina McCormack katerinitsa@aol.com

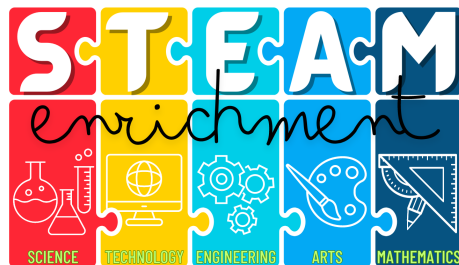


**SHARKY SHOUTOUT
TO OUR 2025-2026
SYCAMORE VALLEY
ELEMENTARY SPONSORS**



FLOURISH
airway
COLLECTIVE





Battle of the Books:

The booklist has been sent out to all enrolled participants. *Students MUST read 9 out of 10 books to be able to participate in the competition in May.* Please reach out to Deepa (battleofthebooks@sycamorevalleypta.org) if you missed the booklist. For anyone still interested in participating in this program, please [sign up here](#).

Book Club 1st-2nd:

Thank you to all those that participated in our first book club meeting! The next book club meeting for 1st and 2nd graders will be held on **Wednesday, November 19th**, after school in the Science Room. The book that will be discussed is ***What Should Danny Do? on Vacation! (The Power to Choose)*** by **Ganit Levy**. Please [sign up here](#) to attend specific book club dates (for both student participation and to be a parent helper). For any questions, please contact Sukhdeep (1_2bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Book Club 3rd-5th:

The first book club meeting for 3rd-5th graders will be held **next Wednesday, November 5th**, after school in the Science Room. The book that will be discussed is ***Ivy Lost and Found*** by **Cynthia Lord**. Please [sign up here](#) to attend specific book club dates (for both student participation and to be a parent helper). For any questions, please contact Juliana (3_5bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Research Projects:

The next research project topic is **Astronomy**. Presentations should be completed using a trifold and/or poster board. **Blank trifold poster boards are available for students to pick up in the school office and use for their presentations.**

Presentations are due **Monday, December 1st** and will be displayed during our *Astronomy Night* event on the blacktop on **December 1st, 5:30-7:30pm**. **Students should bring their presentations to the "Astronomy Night" event directly for display, and then make sure to take their research projects home at the end of the event.** For any questions, please contact Raj (researchprojects@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Math Madness:

The team is formed and matches are well on the way. Students just finished the 2nd Qualifier round this week and are waiting for placement results to move on to the Bracket rounds. Signups are now closed for this program. For any questions, please contact Deepa (mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Math Olympiad:

The team is formed and meets every Friday morning @ 7:15am for practices. The 1st of the 5 contests for this year will be held in November, the exact date will be announced later. **Signups will remain open for new participants until Nov 7th** - please [sign up here](#). For more information, please reach out to Deepa (mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Science Builder's Challenge:

Thank you for signing up. This program will kick off after the winter break, so stay tuned. For any questions, please contact Sruthi (sciencebuilders@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Science Fair:

Thank you for signing up. This program will kick off after the winter break, so stay tuned. For any questions, please contact Juliana (sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org).

WordMasters Challenge:

Registration has closed and the program is underway. For any questions, please contact Rachel (wordmasters@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Contact steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org with any questions about the STEAM Enrichment program.



Shark Fund Updates



Sharky Cinema - Volunteers Needed - Wednesday 11/5!

Sharky Cinema will be the first Wednesday of each month this year 12:50-2:30pm. We still need volunteers this next Wednesday 11/5 and the first Wednesday of the month moving forward!

Volunteer sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAF82DA5FDC61-58993180-sharky#/>

Tickets for 11/5 will go on sale Thursday 10/30 at 7pm - Lilo & Stitch!

\$25 per child: <https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/go/54381-november-sharky-cinema-lilo-stitch>



Monster Mash - A HUGE thank you to all of the volunteers who made Monster Mash possible! We raised over \$6,000 from ticket sales, which goes directly to the Sycamore Shark Fund (Education Fund) in support of the school!

A big thank you to the volunteer families who hosted Trunks for the kids! Thank you, families: Brecher, Buskirk, Chaccour, Cox, Duffy, Lwin, Mesic, Pignati, Ricketts, Severson, Yadav, & Young. Another special thank you to the volunteers helping to coordinate the dance party and other aspects of the event: Lori Wodehouse, Doug Merian, Tab Morrison, Kelly Morgan, & Adele Young.



Auction!

This is a live auction year and we are gearing up for a great event! If you are interested in helping with the auction in any capacity - please reach out to the Shark Fund board, as planning meetings will start soon!

Sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org (Doug - President)

Sycamorevalley.edfundvp@srvef.org (Adele - VP)



Dippin' Dot Calendar:

11/05 - Dippin Dots -

TK/Kinder 11:30am, 1st-5th 12:50pm

11/19 - Dippin Dots -

TK/Kinder 11:30am, 1st-5th 12:50pm

Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!

Punch cards can be purchased for **\$25.00**.

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



Sharky Shout Out:

Thank you to all our wonderful families who decked out their cars for Trunk or Treat at the Monster Mash last Friday!



School Site Council Update

School Site Council Meeting

To Be Determined 4:00pm Virtual Meeting





**SAVE BIG
BEFORE OCTOBER 31!**

**2026 Run for Education
Registration Now Open**

Take advantage of the lowest prices of the year. From now until Friday, October 31, we've rolled back prices to just \$30 for the Friendship and Mini Runs, \$35 for the 5K and new 1.5 Mile, and \$45 for the 10K before fees!

Introducing a new event in 2026:
A 1.5 mile run/walk (untimed).
Start at the same time and place as the 5K, but complete a shorter course.

srvef.org/the-run



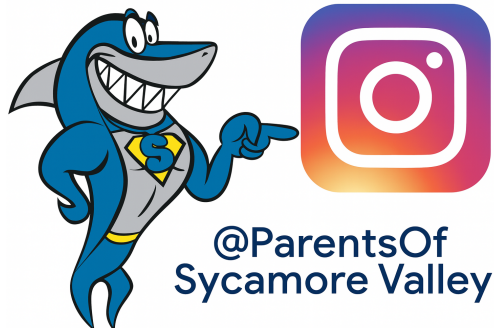

Massive Deal available until tomorrow, Friday, October 31st, for Registration for Next Year's Run for Education!

Registration is open for the **2026 Run for Education**. Take advantage of the lowest price opportunity by registering before midnight on Friday, October 31st. They've rolled back prices to \$30 for the Friendship and Mini Runs, \$35 for the 5K and the new 1.5 Mile, and \$45 for the 10K, before processing fees. The new event - a 1.5 mile run/walk (untimed) event will start at the same time and place as the 5K, but is a shorter course.

Register at srvef.org/the-run

Follow our new Instagram page @parentsofsycamorevalley for bite-sized updates on school events, programs, and all the fun happening at our school!

Instagram:



After School Enrichment

Please refer to Peach Jar for after school enrichment opportunities that are offered for Sycamore students.



Lost & Found

**With the change of weather our lost and found
is growing!!**

**Take a look at the Rack and in the Yellow Bin.
Lost and Found is OVER FLOWING!!**

**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 on their clothing.
Smaller Lost & Found items are in the Office.

Water Bottles and Lunch Boxes are on the shelf in the MPR.



Child Nutrition

Meals Provided @ Sycamore

**Breakfast and lunch will continue to be offered free of charge for all
students for the 25/26 school year, funded through the California Universal
Meals Program.**

Here's the link to the Child Nutrition website.
[link](#)

**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>

Can my child purchase a second meal?

Yes, but they need to have funds on their prepayment account, which can be done on the Titan [Family Portal](#). Cash will not be accepted in the breakfast or lunch line. Cash or checks can be given to the Child Nutrition Manager outside of the breakfast or lunch meal service time. A second breakfast is \$4.00 and a second lunch is \$5.75 at Elementary Schools and \$6.00 at Middle and High Schools. School staff can purchase a breakfast for \$4.50 and lunch for \$6.00.

Read Our Announcements

[VIEW ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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