



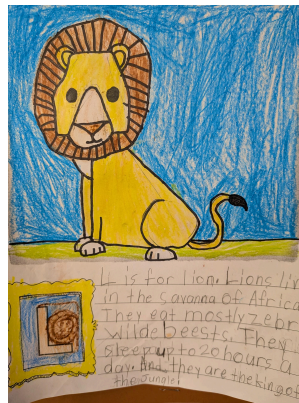
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# Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

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## Message from Principal Kawahara January 29, 2026

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### 1st Grade - Flavio - Lion – "L" Writing

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well. This week PTA hosted the annual Book Swap. I love the excitement around new books and reading this event sparks! A big thank you to the PTA and the volunteers who promoted, organized, ran and cleaned up for the event!

Next week is Words Matter Week. Classes will be thinking about the power of words and the impact they can have on others. Thank you to the PTA for coordinating some recess activities for students to consider this message.

**Bell Schedule: February at a Glance:**  
[February At A Glance](#)

**February Read Aloud:**  
[February Read Aloud Schedule](#)

**2025-2026 Read Aloud Titles (December - May):**  
[25-26 Sycamore Valley Read-Alouds](#)

**District Updates:**  
**Hiring Event next Tuesday @ Service Center:**

## HIRING EVENT

### San Ramon Valley Unified School District

Nutrition & Food Service Team

**Date:** Tuesday February 3

**Location:** 3280 Crow Canyon San  
Ramon Ca

**Time:** 3pm - 6pm





- No nights or weekends
- Paid holidays, summers off
- Paid training
- Growth opportunities

Assistance completing applications and interviews.  
Bring a list of experience and references (professional & volunteer)

**HOURLY RATES \$18-  
\$24.64  
PLUS  
GREAT BENEFITS**

**Scan for list of  
jobs here:**



**Recruitment Fair for SPED Certificated Staff:**

SRVUSD is hosting a Recruitment Fair for Certificated Special Education positions: Teachers, Psychologists, and Speech Pathologists. Interested applicants should complete the online application on Edjoin.

[More information can be found on this flyer.](#)

DATE: February 25, 2026

TIME: 4:00-6:00 pm

LOCATION: SRVUSD Boardrooms

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

Thank you,  
Patricia Kawahara

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**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!!**

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## Important Dates to Remember

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**TK/K - Enrollment Open for New Students**

**02/01 - 1st - 5th Grade Enrollment Opens for New Students**

**01/29 - Sharky Cinema Ticket Sales Open 7:00pm - Future Fund**

**02/01 - Culture in the Community Celebration 12:00 - 5:00**

**02/03 - Sharky Cinema Ticket Sales Close 6:00pm**

**02/04 - Sharky Cinema - Smurfs Movie - MPR - 12:50 - 2:30pm**

**02/05 - 5th Grade Class Panoramic and "26" photo shoot**

**02/11 - Melos Giveback - 20% to Sycamore**

**02/16 - No School - President's Day**

**02/17 - No School - Professional Development Day for Staff**

**02/27 - Deadline to submit Variety Show Act**

**03/04 - 5th Grade Math Placement exam for entering Middle School**

**03/11 - Sharky Cinema**

**03/16 - 03/22 - Silent Auction - Online**

**03/21 - Live Auction - Blackhawk Country Club**

**04/01 - Variety Show Dress Rehearsal 1:00 - 3:00pm - MPR**

04/02 - Variety Show - MPR - 6:00pm  
04/03-04/10 - No School - Spring Break  
05/06 - Sharky Cinema

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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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### Attendance Line

**Please call or email the attendance line to report  
your child's absence:  
925-855-2898  
[sy-attendance@srvusd.net](mailto: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](mailto: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).*

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

**SAN RAMON VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# TK & KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

for the 2026-27 School Year




**Enroll Now**  
For Kinder and TK!

**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

**TK/Kinder Webpages**

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

[www.srvusd.net/enrollyourchild](http://www.srvusd.net/enrollyourchild)



# Auction!

**Auction!!! This is a LIVE and ONLINE auction year**, so mark your calendars to join in the fun!! All auction updates will be on our schools auction website: [sycamore2026.ourschool.auction](http://sycamore2026.ourschool.auction)

**Save the date!**

**You're Invited to the 2026 Auction - Roaring 20's**

**Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026**

Location: Blackhawk Country Club

Tickets coming soon!

**ONLINE auction will run \*\*March 16 - 22\*\***

We need YOUR help for the auction to be a success! As a reminder, 100% of proceeds raised at the auction stay here at Sycamore to benefit all children.

- **Gather**: Help us gather donations from local businesses and the parent community. Email us at [sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org](mailto:sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org) to be added to the team - we will provide you a short list of businesses to reach out to, that have donated at previous auctions!
- **Host**: host a social! Our social events, paid for and organized by the parent community, make up a huge amount of the auction proceeds! Check out the "host a social" tab on the website, under "donate" or [use this form if you want to host](#).
- **Donate**: donate an item or experience to the auction! [sycamore2026.ourschool.auction](http://sycamore2026.ourschool.auction) then select "donate"
- **Live event**: help us with the live event!  
Email [sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org](mailto:sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org)

[Sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org](mailto:Sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org) (Doug - President)

[Sycamorevalley.edfundvp@srvef.org](mailto:Sycamorevalley.edfundvp@srvef.org) (Adele - VP)

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## SPIRITWEAR

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

Stock up on Sycamore Valley Elementary School spirit wear! The more you buy, the bigger your savings-up to 25% off! Save 15% when you buy 2 items. Save 20% when you buy 3 items. SAVE 25% OFF when you buy 4 items! **Use code SPIRIT766 at checkout to apply your discount.** Plus, receive FREE shipping on orders of \$75 or more. Shop now during the perfect opportunity to stock up on Sycamore Valley Elementary School tees, hoodies, hats, accessories and more for the entire family. <https://1stplace.sale/13542>

[Shop Now!](#)

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

**SYCAMORE VALLEY**  
OFFICIAL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

**BUY MORE. SAVE MORE!**  
Stock up on official spirit wear and save up to 25%



4+ items	→	<b>25% OFF</b>
3 items	→	<b>20% OFF</b>
2 items	→	<b>15% OFF</b>

**BUILD YOUR BUNDLE**

SHOP NOW

USE CODE: SPIRIT766

FREE Shipping on orders over \$85  
**SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/13542**

**1ST PLACE**  
*Spiritwear*



## 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](#)








**YEARBOOK**  
**eShare**

**STEP-BY-STEP:**

**How to upload a photo for yearbook consideration**

- Go to YearbookShare.com and enter your school code.
- Locate the picture (file) to upload. Select it, click Open.
- To upload more than one file, Ctrl-click on each file name. You can upload 10 images at a time.
- Click each thumbnail to select it and enter information about all images. **Please include teacher name in description when submitting photos.**
- Click Submit Image Information when you are done.

**From your phone into the book.**



USE THE QR CODE OR VISIT [YEARBOOKSHARE.COM](https://yearbookshare.com)

THEN, USE OUR SCHOOL CODE:

**sycamoresharks**



## Yearbook eShare Flyer

### Attention parents...We are now collecting photos for the yearbook!

- First day of school
- 5th grade arcade
- Halloween parade & class parties
- Trunk or treat
- Fun Run
- Around the World Festival
- 5th grade outdoor ed
- Field trips
- Art docent
- Many more!

#### A few tips:



Candid photos are great!



Make sure you have at least 2-3 students in a photo, preferably the same grade level.



Please include grade level & teacher. Individual names are not necessary.



No photos of students at home or outside of school.

## Book Swap

Thank you all to all those who participated in the Book Swap. We hope you are enjoying your "new" books! We are excited to announce the winners of the bookmark contest. This year's theme is "My Favorite Character." Everyone did a fantastic job on their bookmarks! There was so much creativity, artistry, and demonstrated love for reading. Students voted for their favorite bookmark in their grade level during their class library time. Winning bookmarks were reproduced and given out at the Book Swap. Congratulations to all winners!

### Bookmark Contest Winners

K - Cruz E.

1st - Mehr K.

2nd - Kassandra S.

3rd - Colette P.

4th - Ava W.

5th - Luca P.



# PTA Updates

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## OUR VARIETY SHOW IS BACK FOR 2026!

Does your child love to perform on stage?

Would they like to present an entertaining act of their choice in front of an audience?

Solo or in a group, we would love to see your rising star showcased in this year's Sycamore Valley Variety Show!

## IMPORTANT 2026 VARIETY SHOW DATES:

Deadline to submit Registration and Music: Friday, February 27th

Variety Show **Dress Rehearsal**: Wednesday, April 1st at 1:00 PM in MPR

Variety Show: Thursday, April 2nd at 6:00 PM in MPR

Please read the attached ["2026 VARIETY SHOW Info"](#) document for all information pertaining to this year's show and how to get your act signed up in time!

If you have any questions, please contact Variety Show Directors Marisa Montierth and Kali Fama

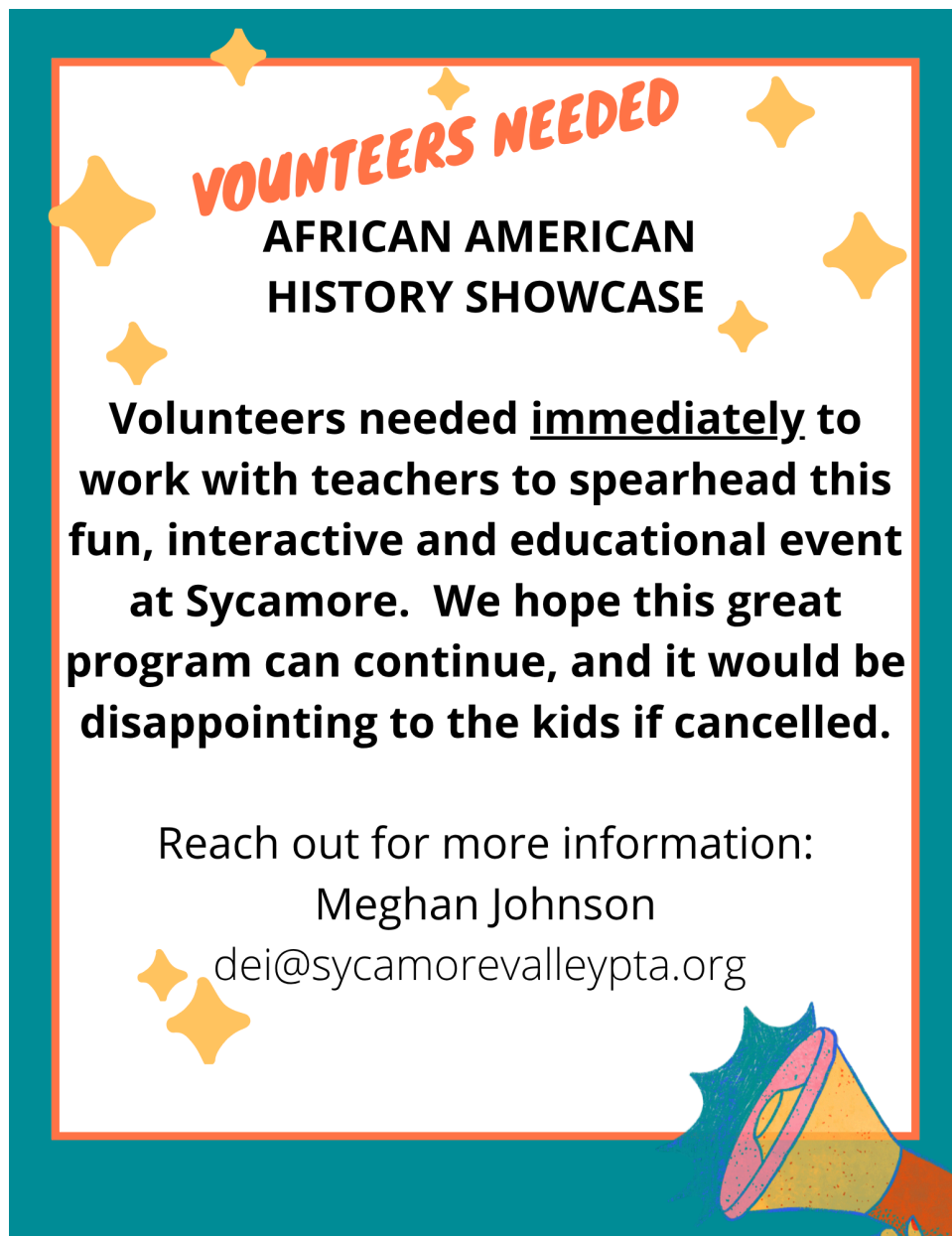
([marisamontierth@gmail.com](mailto:marisamontierth@gmail.com), [kalifama@hotmail.com](mailto:kalifama@hotmail.com)).

This is the link to the info sheet - [Info Sheet](#)

Registration Form: [Variety Show Registration Form](#)

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## *African American History Museum:*



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### 2026 Culture in the Community Celebration

The 2026 Culture in the Community Celebration will be held on Sunday, February 1st from 12pm to 5pm at the Dougherty Station Community Arts Center organized by the City of San Ramon. All are welcome to attend (free and all-ages) this celebration of the diverse cultures that make up San Ramon through art, dance, music and games from around the world. Please join us with the whole family and spread the word to your friends, neighbors, and various communities.





## 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](mailto:jeannine.pickering@gmail.com)  
and Katerina McCormack [katerinitsa@aol.com](mailto:katerinitsa@aol.com)



**GARAGE  
KINGS**  
925-786-6822



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



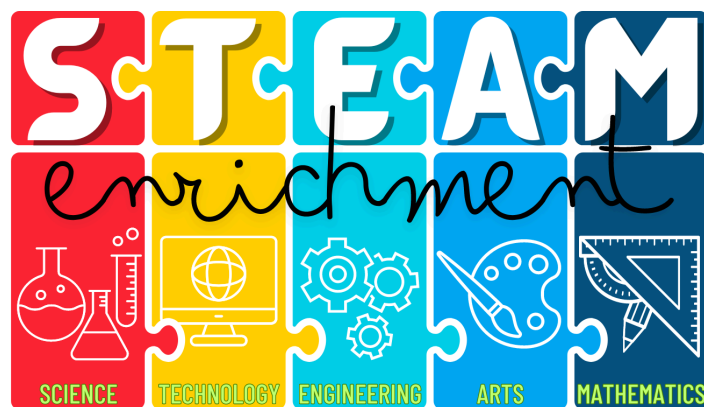
**KEHRIG**  
— REAL ESTATE TEAM —



**FLOURISH**  
*airway*  
**COLLECTIVE**



Dr. Richard J. Koeltl, D.D.S. Committed to Healthy Smiles



### **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](mailto:battleofthebooks@sycamorevalleypta.org)) if you missed the book list. For anyone still interested in participating in this program, please [sign up here](#).

### **Book Club 1st-2nd:**

The next book club meeting for 1st and 2nd graders will be held **Wednesday, February 25th, after school in the Science Room**. 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](mailto:1_2bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Book Club 3rd-5th:**

The next book club meeting for 3rd-5th graders will be held on **Wednesday, February 11th, after school in the Science Room**. 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](mailto:3_5bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Math Olympiad:**

The team meets every Friday morning @ 7:15am for practices. For more information, please reach out to Deepa ([mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Research Projects:**

The research project topic for February will be aligned with the upcoming 6th Annual African American History Showcase in honor of Black History Month, which will be held on **Friday, February 27th from 2:30pm - 3:30pm in Sycamore's MPR**. The theme for this year is ***The Harlem Renaissance: A Celebration of Dreams***, which will highlight the creativity and voices of the Harlem Renaissance through student work inspired by influential writers, musicians, artists, and photographers.

Students can pick any topic for their research presentation that is related to this year's theme. ***Please encourage student(s) to pick a different topic than the ones their grade levels will be focusing on.*** Presentations can be a trifold and/or poster board. ***Trifolds for projects are available in the front office.*** For this research topic we will not be accepting slideshow (ppt), audio or video presentations as all research presentations will be displayed in the MPR at this year's African American History Showcase. Students may work individually or in pairs.

**Students should drop off their presentations in the front office on Wednesday, 2/25 or Thursday, 2/26.** Please have student(s) drop their presentations in the front office and put their *Name, Teacher and Grade Level* on the back of their presentation. Student(s) can pick up their presentations from the front office on **Monday, March 3.**

If your student would like to participate, please fill out the [Sign Up](#) genius under the "African American History Showcase" Section. For any questions, please contact Raj ([researchprojects@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:researchprojects@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **Science Builder's Challenge:**

The Science Builder's Challenge has been canceled this year due to low interest. For any questions, please contact [steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org).

### **Science Fair:**

Stay tuned for details to come about the spring Science Fair. For any questions, please contact Mariam ([sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **WordMasters Challenge:**

The 2nd Round WordMasters Challenge has been released and the Challenge 2 Test Submission is due by **February 10th**. For any questions, please contact Rachel ([wordmasters@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:wordmasters@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

Contact [steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:steamenrichment@sycamorevalleypta.org) with any questions about the STEAM Enrichment program.



## **Shark Fund Updates**

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**Melos Giveback** - February 11th!! Dine at the Melos in Danville on 2/11 and tell them you're with Sycamore - they will donate 20% of proceeds to our school!

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## Shark Fund Monthly Meetings:

Our monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm and open to all! Feel free to join our next monthly meeting Wednesday 2/18 at 6:30pm. <https://meet.google.com/ttd-tnzn-mks>

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Join us after school on a Wacky Wednesday February 4th, 2026 to watch a kid-friendly movie with theater snacks in the MPR! This month's movie is **The Smurfs** !

Ticket sales open Thursday, January 29th, 2026 at 7:00pm  
Ticket sales close Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026 at 6:00pm

Date: Wednesday, February 4

Place: Sycamore MPR

Time: 12:50-2:30

[Tickets On Sale – Future Fund](#)

### **Sharky Cinema - Volunteers Needed for March 2026**

Sharky Cinema will be the first Wednesday of each month this year 12:50-2:30pm. We still need volunteers the first Wednesday of the month moving forward! The December Sharky Cinema movie will be The Grinch, so be sure to buy your tickets!

**Volunteer sign up:**

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

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## **Dippin' Dot Calendar:**

**Dippin Dots -**

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

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### **Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!**

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

Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free

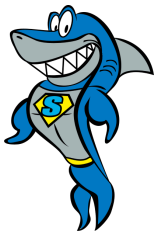
Save time in line

No need to bring money to school

Families can share one card

100% of proceeds benefit your students at Sycamore

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## **Sharky Shout Out:**

A big thank you to our parent volunteers who helped out for Book Swap early in the morning and after school, especially in this frigid weather!

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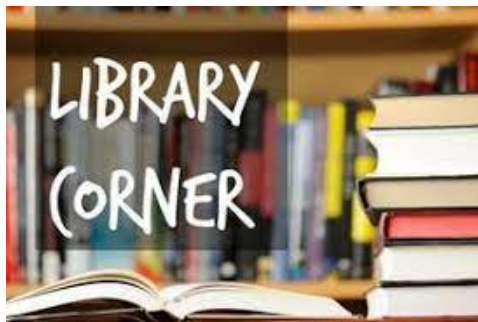


## School Site Council Update

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**Next Meeting TBD**

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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](mailto:jprindiville@srvusd.net)

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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.

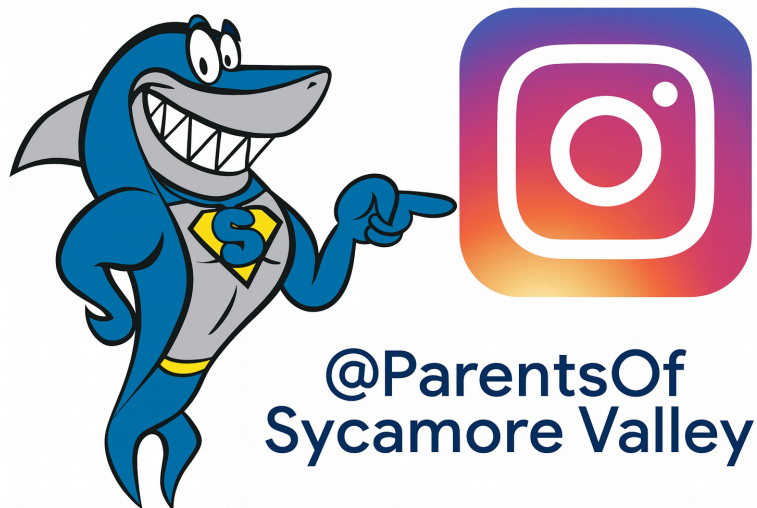
Thank you to everyone who has already helped out. You're the best!!!





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.

[Sycamore Valley Peach Jar](https://www.catapult-connect.com/pv-en/_MjUxNjc1P3Q9cjgBX-$$)

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## Lost & Found

**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 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.

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## Read Our Announcements

[VIEW ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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## Keep in Touch with Us!

Follow and Like Us!



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**Sycamore Valley Elementary**

2200 Holbrook Dr., Danville, CA 94506

[\(925\) 855-2800](tel:(925)855-2800)

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