



Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

Message from Principal Kawahara January 15, 2026

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well.

Please note, school will be closed next Monday, January 19, 2026 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

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


January Read Aloud:
[January Read Aloud Schedule](#)

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


District Updates:
Please join the SRV Diversity Coalition for the 5th Annual Dr. Martin

Luther King, Jr. Celebration at the San Ramon City Hall Rotunda on January 19, 2026, from 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM. We will recognize the important work of AAUW Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek and AAUW San Ramon. Everyone is welcome!

Presented by




SAN RAMON VALLEY
DIVERSITY COALITION



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Honoree:



AAUW
of California

Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek
and San Ramon branches

Monday, January 19, 2026
San Ramon City Hall Rotunda
Program 2:00 - 3:30 pm
Reception 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Supported by:

- Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
- Supervisor Candace Andersen
- Danville Mayor Newell Arnerich and Vice Mayor Robert Storer
- San Ramon Valley Unified School District
- Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association-Tri-Valley Chapter (APAPA-TVC)
- Diablo Black Men's Group
- Discovery Counseling Center
- Narika
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) - Contra Costa
- PFLAG Danville-San Ramon Valley
- Rewire Community
- San Ramon Chamber of Commerce
- San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs

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

TK/K - Enrollment Open

- 01/16 - Report Cards Available Online @ 2:30pm
- 01/16 - Bookmark Contest Entries due to the school office
- 01/19 - No School - Martin Luther King Holiday
- 01/21 - Shark Fund Meeting - Virtual - 6:30pm
- 01/22 - Site Council Meeting - Virtual - 4:30pm
- 01/28 - Dippin' Dots
- 01/28 - Book Swap - MPR - 1:00pm
- 02/01 - 1st - 5th Grade Enrollment Open for New Students**
- 02/01 - Culture in the Community Celebration 12:00 - 5:00
- 02/04 - Sharky Cinema
- 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
- 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
- 04/03-04/10 - No School - Spring Break
- 05/06 - Sharky Cinema

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 or email 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).



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

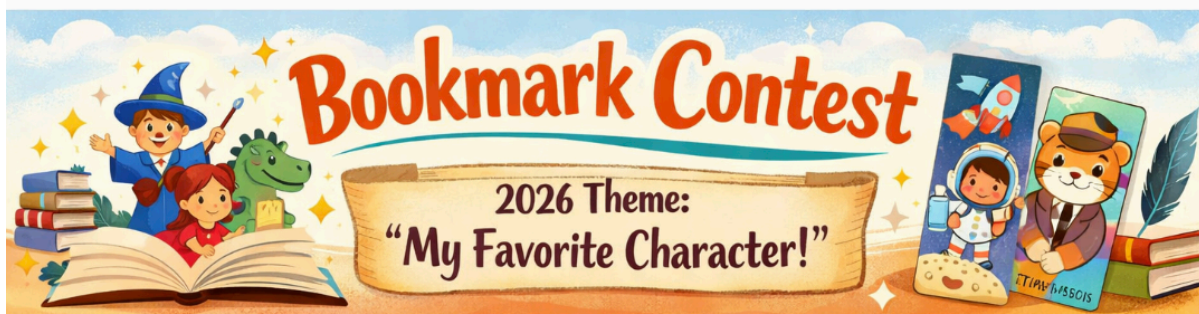
TK for 2026-27
Child must turn 4 years of age
on or before
September 1, 2026

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



The Annual Book Swap is coming up soon, and we're kicking things off with a favorite tradition — the Bookmark Contest!

As part of the Book Swap festivities, we're inviting all students to participate in the **2026 Bookmark Contest** with this year's theme:
"My Favorite Character"

Students are encouraged to get creative and design a bookmark inspired by a character they love from a book, story, or series.

How to Participate:

- Bookmark entry forms are available in the Office and attached below
- One (1) entry per student
- Artwork must be done by hand by the student (younger children may receive help with writing letters or numbers)

Deadline:

FRIDAY, January 16th

Please return completed entries to the Office.

All submitted bookmarks will be proudly displayed in the Sycamore Library, and winning designs will be professionally reproduced and given out at the Book Swap — how cool is that?!

We can't wait to see our students' creativity shine and celebrate the characters that make reading so magical.

Bookmark Entry Form

Questions? Contact Lisa Comeau at comeaux@gmail.com or Lisa Chen at lisacquan@gmail.com

SPIRITWEAR

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

The wait is over for Sycamore Valley parents & students.

Our new Hooded Long Sleeve Tees have arrived, and you can **save \$5 per shirt** for a limited time only. Orders over \$75 ship free, but this offer won't stick around — order fast.

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

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

SYCAMORE VALLEY
OFFICIAL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

NEW STYLE
HOODED
LONG SLEEVE TEE



SAVE \$5
ONLY \$27.99

SHOP NOW

FREE Shipping on orders over \$75
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](#)









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!



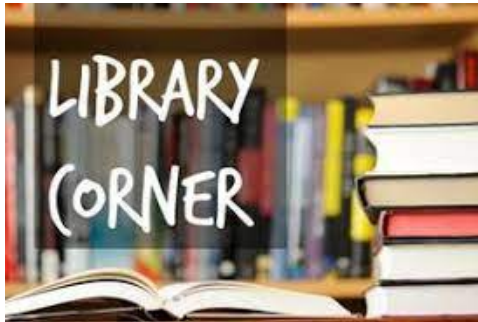
Make sure you have at least 2-3 students in a photo, preferably the same grade level.



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



No photos of students at home or outside of school.



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

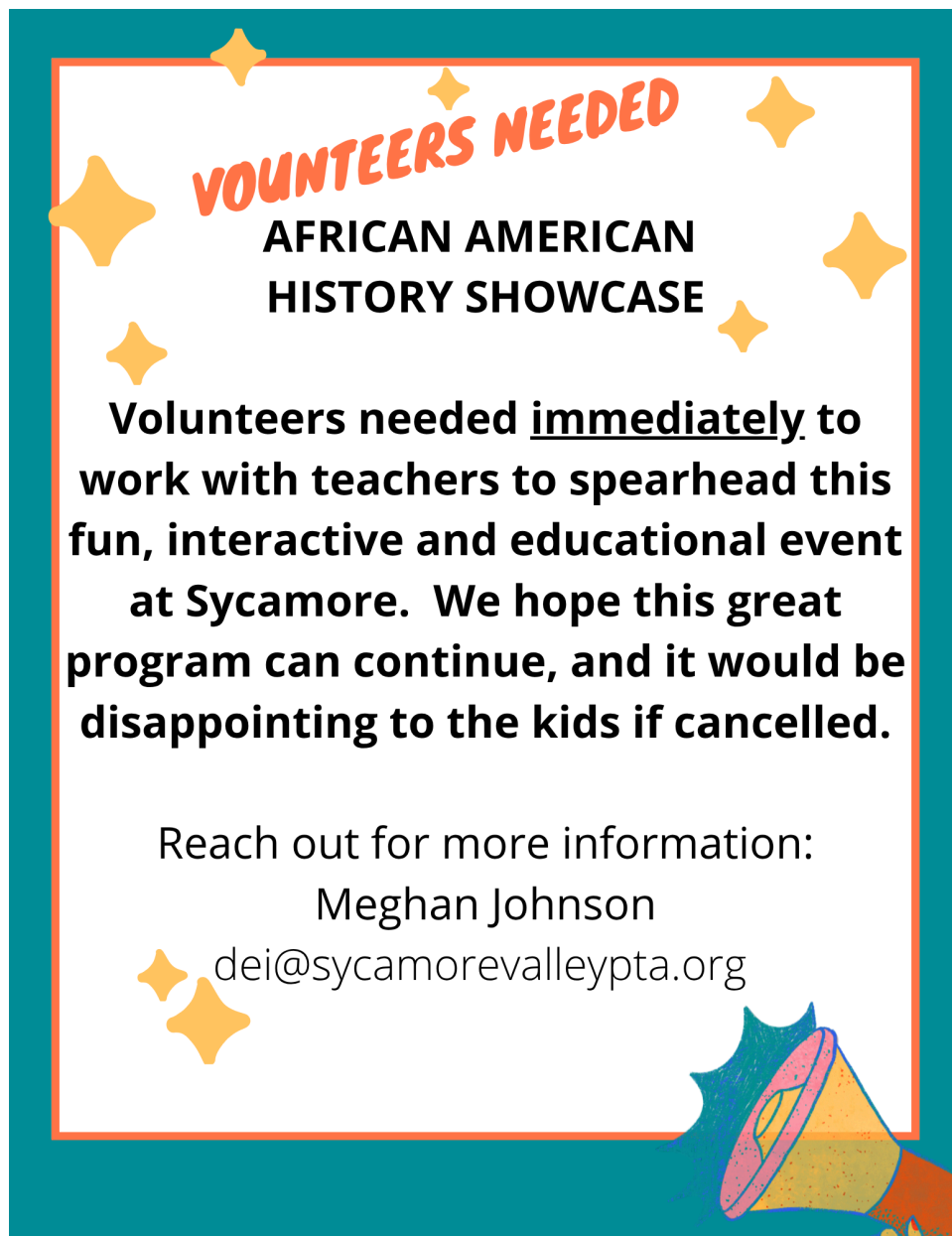
Hello Shark Family!

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

African American History Museum:



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
and Katerina McCormack katerinitsa@aol.com



**GARAGE
KINGS**
925-786-6822



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



KEHRIG
— REAL ESTATE TEAM —

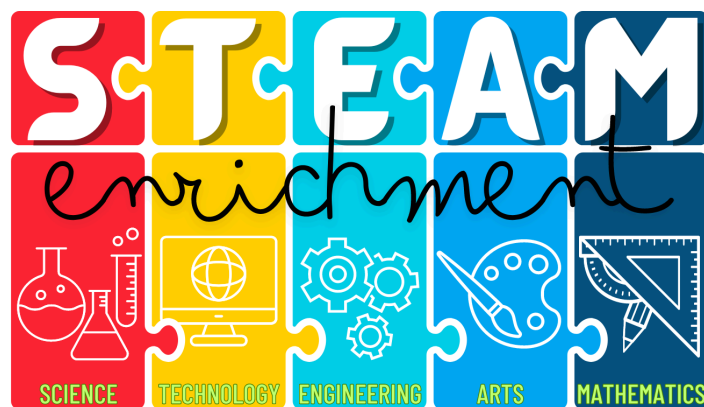


FLOURISH
airway
COLLECTIVE



RK Dentistry

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) 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 **next Wednesday, January 21st, after school in the Science Room**. The book that will be discussed is ***Magic Treehouse: #1 Dinosaurs Before Dark by Mary Pope Osborne***. 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 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).

Math Olympiad:

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

Research Projects:

Stay tuned for the next research topic! For any questions, please contact Raj (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.

Science Fair:

We are looking for a new volunteer to lead the Science Fair this Spring! If you are interested or have any questions about this program, please contact steamenrichment@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).

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



Shark Fund Updates

SHARK FUND MEETING:

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 1/21 at 6:30pm.

Meeting will be virtual: <https://meet.google.com/ttd-tnzn-mks>



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!



Sharky Cinema -

Volunteers Needed for January & March

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/10C0D4EAFA82DA5FDC61-58993180-sharky#/>



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

LIVE auction will be held March 21st (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 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 then select "donate".

Live Event : help us with the live event! Email sycamorevalley.edfund@srvef.org

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

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



Dippin' Dot Calendar:

Dippin Dots - 01/28/26

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

Dippin Dot Pre-pay Punch Cards are Back!

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

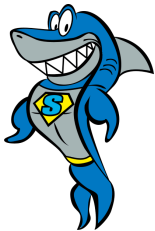
Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free

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 Dip-n Dot Dana for always being out there supplying our families with tasty treats on Wednesdays.



School Site Council Update

School Site Council Meeting**January 22, 2026 @ 4:00pm Virtual Meeting**

Meeting ID

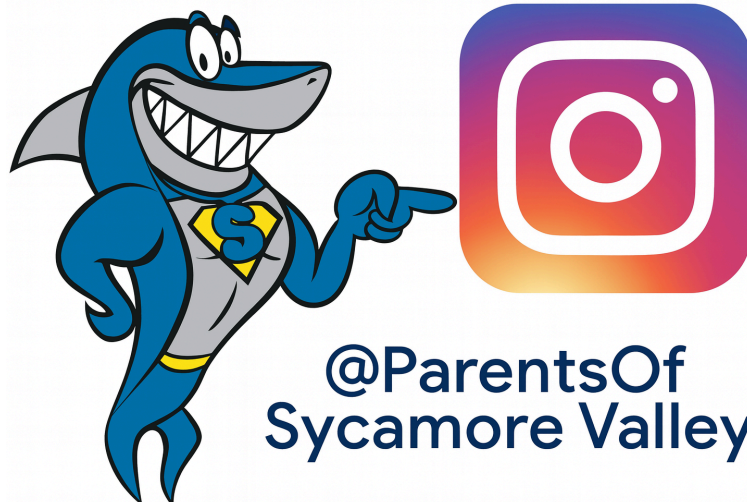
meet.google.com/mon-pnzw-doe

Phone Numbers

(US)+1 [240-490-4666](tel:2404904666)PIN: 557 572 516#



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

Instagram:**@ParentsOf
Sycamore Valley**



After School Enrichment

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

[Sycamore Valley Peach Jar](#)



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.

Read Our Announcements

[VIEW ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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Sycamore Valley Elementary

2200 Holbrook Dr., Danville, CA 94506

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

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