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# Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

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## Message from Principal Kawahara November 06, 2025

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Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well. These past two weeks have been full of fun with the Halloween parade and festivities and today's Fun Run. A giant thank you to all the parents who helped with the events and supported our kiddos! And now, we have a four day weekend to recover!

### **Lost and Found Will be Donated: November 21, 2025**

The Lost and Found will be donated to One Warm Coat collections. Please check the lost and found rack and the yellow bin (both are overflowing) for any jackets, sweatshirts, etc. that your student may have left at school

### **Bell Schedule: November at a Glance:**

[November At A Glance](#)

### **November Read Aloud:**

[November Read Aloud Schedule](#)

### **December Read Aloud:**

[December Read Aloud Schedule](#)

**November Character Trait:**

This month we are exploring the trait of Resilience. We are reading *The Power of Yet* by Maryann Cocca-Leffler and *Sad, the Dog* by Sandy Fussell.

**District Updates:****Mobile Communication Device Feedback**

Share Your Feedback!

We are gathering feedback from staff, students, and families regarding the implementation of the Mobile Communication Device (cell phone/smart watch) policy at all SRVUSD schools this year. Please take a few minutes to [complete this survey](#) and share your thoughts. Links to the Board policies are included on the form.

**AI in SRVUSD: Our Approach to Education**

In partnership with SRVUSD PTA, we are hosting a parent education series with a focus on AI. Those interested can [register here](#). Below are the details for the first session:

Join us for the first session of the *SRVUSD AI Parent Education Series, "Raising Future-Ready Students."* This series is designed to help San Ramon Valley Unified School District (SRVUSD) parents and guardians understand the role of artificial intelligence in their children's education. Our goal is to explain how SRVUSD approaches integrating AI into education. We will highlight the district's guidelines and empower you to help your children navigate this technology safely and ethically.

**Date:** November 13th

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Format:** A 45-minute virtual webinar followed by a live Q&A session.

**Presenters:** Kelly Hilton, Director of Technology, SRVUSD Media Specialist; Lauren Dowd, Diablo Vista; and Kerri Knapp, Dougherty Valley High School

**November Board Resolutions:****National Native American Heritage Month**

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes the month of November as National Native American Heritage Month. We acknowledge that this country was home to generations of Indigenous Peoples long before the arrival of European explorers and that these tribes had a unique and vibrant culture. The California State Board of Education recognizes that each student needs an opportunity to understand the common humanity underlying all peoples and our California Frameworks state that the history curriculum must reflect the experiences of all people. During this month, a special focus is placed on improvement in education about Native American Heritage.

**Substitute Educators Day: November 21, 2025**

San Ramon Valley Unified School District recognizes November 21, 2025, as Substitute Educators Day. Our substitute educators are an essential part of the education of students in our district. They provide continuity in the learning process and safe, healthy learning environments for students. The Board of Education and the district administrative team extend sincere appreciation to the

substitute educators of SRVUSD and encourage the community to celebrate their contributions.

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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**11/01-11/30 - TK/K Priority Enrollment Window Open for 26/27 school year.**

**11/10 - No School - Day Off**

**11/11 - No School - Veteran's Day**

**11/13 - Site Council Meeting - 4:00pm - Virtual Meeting**

**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**

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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 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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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](http://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 Sale**

FLASH SALE FRIDAY! It's our biggest holiday deal of the season! **Order now and save 40% off on Sycamore Valley hats & caps! Limited time offer on new style hats & designs.**

Perfect gifts for the entire family! Don't miss out! Order now for guaranteed Christmas delivery by Dec. 23rd!

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.

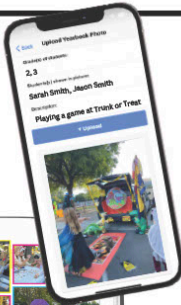
There are 3 requirements that are necessary every year.

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

### [Volunteer Handbook](#)









**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](#)



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**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.

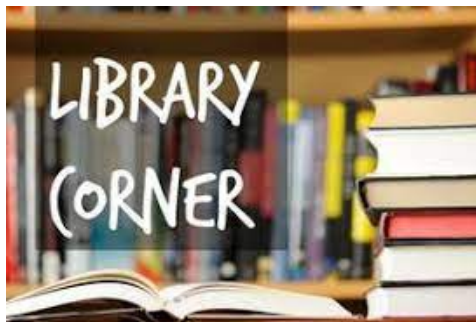


Please include grade level & teacher. Individual names are not necessary.



No photos of students at home or outside of school.

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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!!!

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## PTA Updates

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A poster for Astronomy Night 2025. The background is a dark space with stars and constellations. The title 'ASTRONOMY NIGHT' is in large white and blue letters, with '2025' in a blue box. Below the title, it says 'Great fun for families and enthusiastic astronomers alike!'. The date 'DECEMBER 1' is in large blue letters. To the left, under 'Activity Program:', there is a list of activities: 'Telescope Displays', 'Talk with astronomers about the night sky', and 'Enjoy hot cocoa'. To the right of the list is a calendar icon. Below the list, the time '5:30-7:30' is in large blue letters. At the bottom right, a blue box contains the location 'Sycamore Valley Elementary Blacktop'. There are decorative geometric shapes and lines in the corners.

# 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

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***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





## **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 [katerinita@aol.com](mailto:katerinita@aol.com)



**GARAGE  
KINGS**  
925-786-6822



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



**KEHRIG**  
— REAL ESTATE TEAM —

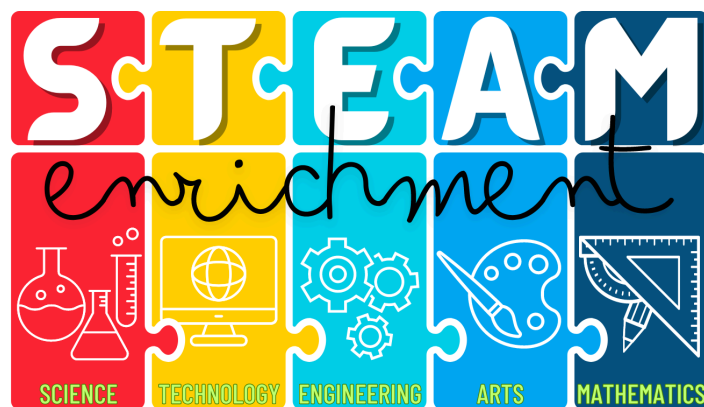


**FLOURISH**  
*airway*  
**COLLECTIVE**



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





### **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](mailto:1_2bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

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

Thank you to all those that participated in our first book club meeting! The next book club meeting for 3rd-5th graders will be held on **Wednesday, December 3rd**, 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)).

### **Research Projects**

The November/December research project topic is **Astronomy**. Students can pick any topic for their research presentation that is related to Astronomy, such as Stars, Planets, Asteroids, Comets, Galaxies, etc. 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**. Astronomy Night is great fun for families and enthusiastic astronomers alike! There will be Telescope displays, students can talk with Astronomers about the night sky, and hot cocoa will be served. **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.**

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

### **Math Madness**

Registration has closed and the program is underway. For any questions, please contact Deepa ([mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto: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 tomorrow - Friday, Nov 7th** - please [sign up here](#). For more information, please reach out to Deepa ([mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org](mailto:mathchair@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **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 booklist. For anyone still interested in participating in this program, please [sign up here](#).

### **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](mailto:sciencebuilders@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

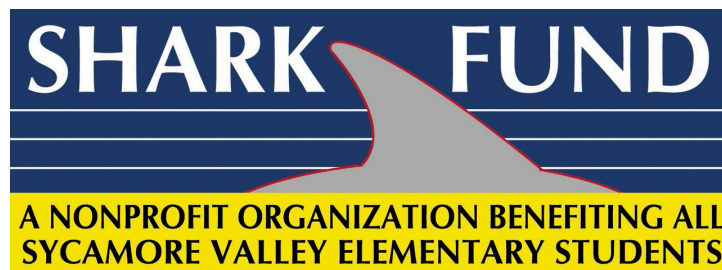
### **Science Fair**

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](mailto:sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org)).

### **WordMasters Challenge**

Registration has closed and the program is underway. 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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**Sharky Cinema - Volunteers Needed - Wednesday 12/3!**

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

**Volunteer sign up:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAFA82DA5FDC61-58993180-sharky#/>

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

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

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## Dippin' Dot Calendar:

### 11/19 - 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**.

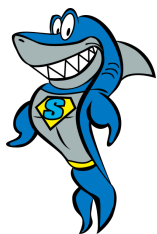
Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free

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 amazing 5th graders for their incredible Thriller performance during the Halloween parade last Friday!

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## School Site Council Update

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### School Site Council Meeting

**November 13, 2025 @ 4:00pm Virtual Meeting**

Meeting ID

[meet.google.com/rmq-bpmp-fqx](https://meet.google.com/rmq-bpmp-fqx)

Phone Numbers

(US)+1 978-347-0890

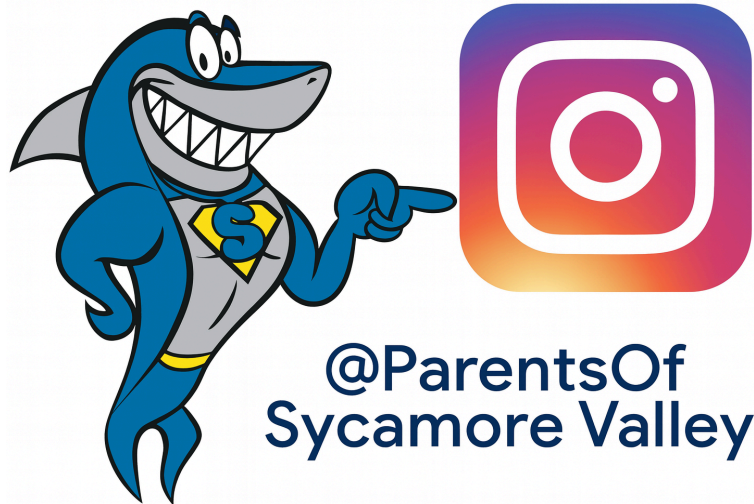
PIN: 309 150 198#

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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](#)



## Lost & Found

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

**Lost and Found will be Donated: November 21, 2025**

The Lost and Found will be donated to One Warm Coat collections. Please check the lost and found rack and the yellow bin (both are overflowing) for any jackets, sweatshirts, etc. that your student may have left at school

**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.

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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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