



Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

**Message from Principal Kawahara
November 20, 2025**



Balloons Over Broadway - Mrs. Miller's 5th Grade Class

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well. We have the Thanksgiving break coming up and we have been reflecting as a community on what we are thankful for.

Families that partner with us to support students are at the top of my list. We can't do this work without you! Enjoy the break and I will look forward to hearing all about what the kiddos got up to when they return.

Lost and Found - Reminder:

The lost and found will be donated tomorrow 11/21/25. Be sure to check the coat rack and yellow bin for your child's lost items before the clothing is donated.

See's Candy - Orders can be placed online and shipped directly - so feel free to circulate this link with friends and family. An amazing 20% of the sales proceeds will go to the Sycamore Shark fund, in support of our school! The online store will close 12/5/25, so candy can be shipped for holiday delivery. Support our Shark Fund and the programs at Sycamore - [Order Link](#)

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

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

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

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

11/01 - 11/30 - TK/K Priority Enrollment Open

11/20 - Sharky Cinema Tickets on Sale 7:00pm
11/21 - Lost & Found will be Donated.
11/24-11/28 - No School - Thanksgiving Break
12/01 - Astronomy Night - 5:30 - 7:30 on the Blacktop
12/03 - Dippin' Dots
12/03 - PTA Association Meeting - 8:05am - MPR
12/03 - Sharky Cinema - 1:00pm - MPR - The Grinch
12/05 - Family Game Night - 6:00pm - MPR - Buy your ticket now
12/17 - Dippin' Dots
12/22-01/05 - No School - Winter Break
01/14 - Dippin' Dots
01/19 - No School - Martin Luther King Holiday
01/28 - Dippin' Dots

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.

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

SPIRITWEAR

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

ALL UNDER ARMOUR IS 30% OFF until midnight Saturday! Stock up now on all your favorites from Under Armour featuring Sycamore Valley Elementary School! **Use code UA30** at checkout for the lowest price of the season with guaranteed delivery by December 23rd!

Take 20% off sitewide with **FREE SHIPPING** on orders over \$75! Shop from hoodies, shirts, hats, and more! Order your custom Sycamore Valley gifts now with guaranteed delivery by December 23rd! <https://1stplace.sale/13542>

Let's make this holiday season joyful and successful for Sycamore Valley Elementary School!

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

Store Link: <https://1stplace.sale/13542>

SYCAMORE VALLEY
FLASH SALE
30% OFF
UNDER ARMOUR
USE CODE: UA30
DELIVERY BY GUARANTEED DEC. 23RD
SHOP NOW
FREE Shipping On Orders Over \$75
SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/13542

SYCAMORE VALLEY
Holiday Sale
Gifts For **KIDS**
20% OFF
SITEWIDE
DELIVERY BY GUARANTEED DEC. 23RD
SHOP NOW
FREE Shipping On Orders Over \$75
SHOP AT: 1STPLACE.SALE/13542

1ST PLACE Spiritwear



Sharky is inviting your family to Sycamore for an evening of bingo, trivia, prizes, dinner and a ton of fun on Friday, December 5th!

Dinner will be served at 6:00pm, games will begin at 6:30pm.

Dinner will include: Pizza, salad, cookie and water.

Tickets are \$15.00 for each participant.

Tickets on sale starting 11/14/25 at 12:00pm - Get your tickets as this event always sells out!



GAMES FUN PRIZES

**FAMILY
EVENT**

**Dec 5
6-8 PM**

**SYCAMORE
MPR**

6:00 PM CHECK-IN & DINNER, 6:30 PM GAMES
BEGIN COST IS \$15 PER PERSON (INCLUDES
PIZZA, CAESAR SALAD, WATER & COOKIE)

TICKETS GO ON SALE 11/14 AT 12:00PM



***\$15 per person. 150 person capacity event. NO tickets will be sold at the door Register on future fund and sign PTA waiver
THIS IS NOT A DROP OFF EVENT! ONLY TWO ADULTS PER PARTY***





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](#)



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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

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!



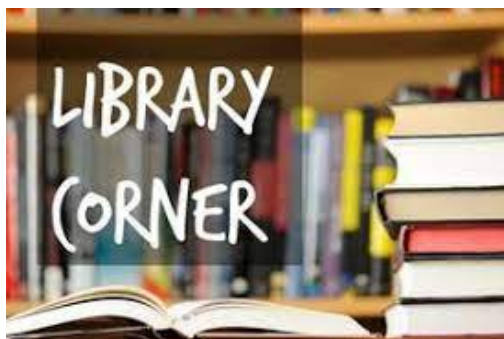
Make sure you have at least 2-3 students in a photo, preferably the same grade level.



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





Let's finish strong, Sharks!

This is the **LAST day to submit Fun Run donations** for your student's chance to snag a spot at our **Ice Cream Party** for the top fundraising class and top 20 individual fundraisers!



All pledges must be received online or turned in to the office **by Friday, 11/21** — don't miss it! **Current Class Leaderboard:**



Mrs. Maghami's class is holding the top spot!



Mr. Coley's class is right on their tail — it's still anyone's game!

Let's cheer on our Sharks and see who takes home the sweet victory!



And remember — even after today's deadline for prize eligibility, **Fun Run donations stay open through the end of the school year!**

You can continue to support our school by submitting pledges through Pledgestar anytime.

Payments can be made online or by check sent to the office — just be sure to include your student's **name and teacher** so they get credit for their hard-earned laps!

Let's make this finish line *extra* fun and rally together!
Questions? E-mail the team at :
funrun@sycamorevalleypta.org



The SRVUSD Inclusion Matters clothing store is now open until December 1st!
Shop [here](#) for some fun swag with a meaningful message for the whole family!



Registration is Now Open for Fall Break Imagineering 2025!
Dates: 11/24-25 Time: 9am-1pm Locations vary

Cozy Kitchen Creations for Grades 3rd – 6th @ Windemere Ranch Middle School

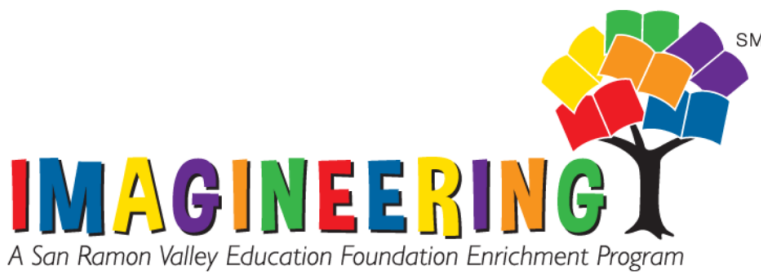
Get ready to stir, mix, and create some holiday magic in the kitchen! With plenty of laughter and teamwork, kids will learn basic cooking skills like measuring, chopping, and following a recipe—all while exploring the joy of cooking and sharing food.

Art Explorers for Grades 2nd – 5th @ Creekside Elementary School

Students create different projects using acrylic paint and watercolors. Students are exposed to art history and how artists use different styles and techniques in

their work. Projects are taught step by step. The goal is to make art fun and relaxing

Registration: bit.ly/imagineering_srvef



Scan to register for any
Imagineering Class



COOKING: COZY KITCHEN CREATIONS

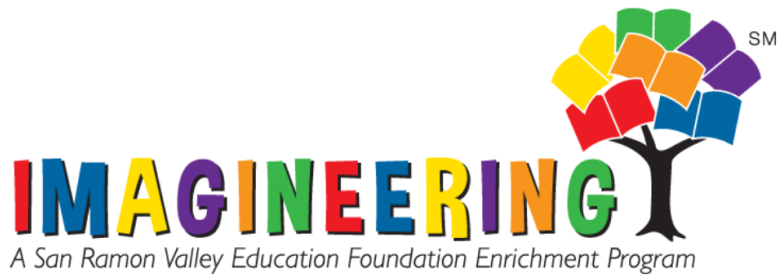
Get ready to stir, mix, and create some holiday magic in the kitchen! With plenty of laughter and teamwork, kids will learn basic cooking skills like measuring, chopping, and following a recipe, all while exploring the joy of cooking and sharing food.

Monday and Tuesday, November 24 and 25, 2025
9 am to 1 pm

Windemere Ranch Middle School
For students in grades 3-6

Taught by Julie Garrahan, Windemere Ranch MS teacher

Register at bit.ly/imagineering_srvef



Scan to register for any
Imagineering Class



ART EXPLORERS

Students create different projects using acrylic paint and watercolors. They will be exposed to art history and learn how artists use different styles and techniques in their work. Projects are taught step by step.
The goal is to make art fun and relaxing

Monday & Tuesday, November 24 & 25, 2025
9 am to 1 pm

Creekside Elementary School

For students in grades 2-5

Taught by Bhu Singh, Creekside Elementary School Art Teacher

Register at bit.ly/imagineering_srvef

African American History Museum:

VOUNTEERS 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
and Katerina McCormack katerinita@aol.com

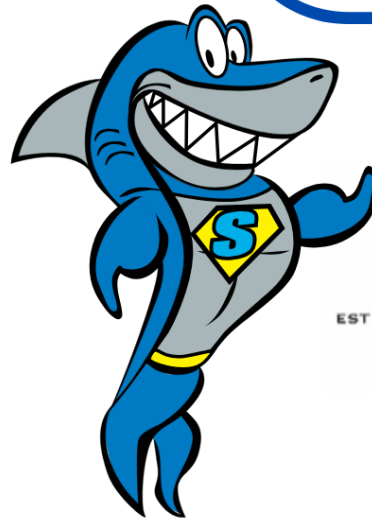


**GARAGE
KINGS**
925-786-6822



Little Genius
— academy —

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



KEHRIG
— REAL ESTATE TEAM —



ARRIVE
REAL ESTATE GROUP
JENNIFER LARSON
OWNER | TEAM LEAD | BROKER

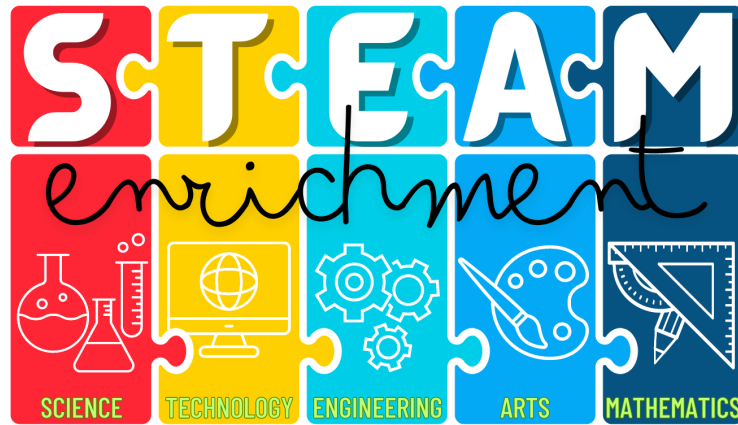


FLOURISH
airway
COLLECTIVE



RK Dentistry

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



Book Club 1st-2nd

Thank you to all those who participated in our first book club meeting! The next book club meeting for 1st and 2nd graders will be held on **Wednesday, December 17th**, after school in the Science Room. The book that will be discussed is ***The Boy Who Cried Wolf, retold by Leah Osci***. It is on the EPIC website, and kids can read it for free. <https://www.getepic.com> 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

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).

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).

Math Madness

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

Math Olympiad

The team has been formed and meets every Friday morning at 7:15am for practice. The first of the five contests for this year will be held in November. The exact date will be announced soon. Sign-ups are now closed. For more information, please reach out to Deepa at (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) 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).

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



**We're Fundraising with
See's Candies!**

Help us earn money for our organization
and make the holidays even sweeter.

**See's
CANDIES.**

See's Candy - Online Store now open!

Our See's Candy fundraiser is back this year and better than ever!

Orders can be placed online and shipped directly - so feel free to circulate this link with friends and family. An amazing 20% of the sales proceeds will go to the Sycamore Shark fund, in support of our school! The online store will close 12/5, so candy can be shipped for holiday delivery.

<https://www.yumraising.com/store/winter-2025-sycamore-valley-elementary-shark-fund-holiday-2025-b264/TabMor31311>



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#/>

Sharky Cinema tickets for 12/3 - go on sale 11/20 at 7pm:

<https://sycamorevalley.futurefund.com/go/54378-december-sharky-cinema-the-grinch>



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:

Dippin Dots - 12/03/25

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

Dippin Dots - 12/17/25

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

Dippin Dots - 01/14/26

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

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**.

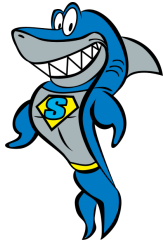
Prepay for 5 Dippin' Dots, get one free

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:

A big thank you to our Kinder teachers and volunteers who helped make the annual Kindergarten Thanksgiving feast so special yesterday. The kiddos enjoyed a fun meal of Thanksgiving treats and performed a bunch of Turkey songs for their family & friends!



School Site Council Update

School Site Council Meeting

Date to Be Determined @ 4:00pm Virtual Meeting



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!!**

Lost and Found will be Donated: Tomorrow - 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.

Read Our Announcements

[VIEW ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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

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