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Sycamore Valley Elementary Shark Bites Newsletter

**Message from Principal Kawahara
February 12, 2026**



Mr. Coley's 3rd Grade - Heart Art

Dear Sycamore Valley Families:

I hope you and your family are well. We are all abuzz with so many holidays approaching. Students are looking forward to Valentine's Day, and learning about Presidents' Day and Lunar New Year, there is so much excitement in February!

Auction!

**Save the date! You're Invited to the
2026 Gala & Auction - Roaring 20's**

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026

Location: Blackhawk Country Club

****Tickets go on sale tonight 2/12/26 at 7pm! ****

Bell Schedule: February at a Glance

[February At A Glance](#)

February Read Aloud:

[February Read Aloud Schedule](#)

March Read Aloud:

[March Read Aloud Schedule](#)

2025-2026 Read Aloud Titles (December - May):

[25-26 Sycamore Valley Read-Alouds](#)

District Updates:

None this week

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 for New Students

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

02/12 - Auction Tickets Go On Sale - 7:00pm

02/16 - No School - President's Day

02/17 - No School - Furlough Day

02/18 - Dippin' Dots

02/25 - Dippin' Dots

02/27 - Deadline to submit Variety Show Act

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

03/04 - Dippin' Dots

03/11 - Sharky Cinema

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

03/18 - Dippin' Dots

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

04/23 - Science Fair - MPR

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).



**1st Grade - 5th Grade enrollment for new students
for the**

2026/27 school year is now open!

[Enrollment](#)

**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.



Auction!

Save the date!

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

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2026

Location: Blackhawk Country Club

****Tickets go on sale tonight 2/12/26 at 7pm! ****

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 - tickets are purchased on our website!

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)

SPIRITWEAR

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

Time is running out to show more Sycamore Valley pride and stack up your savings! Save up to 25% off when you buy more with code SPIRIT766! PLUS GET FREE shipping on orders \$85+. <https://1stplace.sale/13542>

[Shop Now!](#)

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

SYCAMORE VALLEY
OFFICIAL SPIRIT WEAR STORE

**FINAL DAYS
SAVE
BIG!**

4+ items →	25% OFF
3 items →	20% OFF
2 items →	15% OFF

BUILD YOUR BUNDLE

SHOP NOW **USE CODE: SPIRIT766**

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

The advertisement features a blue background with white and yellow text. On the right side, there are four t-shirts displayed: a blue long-sleeve shirt with 'SHARKS' and 'SYCAMORE VALLEY' in yellow and white, a black t-shirt with 'SHARKS' in white and blue, a grey t-shirt with 'SYCAMORE VALLEY' and 'SHARKS' in blue and white, and a blue t-shirt with 'SYCAMORE VALLEY' and 'SHARKS' in white and blue. At the bottom right, there is a red hand icon pointing to the text '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](#)



shutterstock.com: 1157158796



YEARBOOK
eShare

Trunk or Treat

STEP-BY-STEP:

- 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.



PTA Updates



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, kalifama@hotmail.com).

This is the link to the info sheet - [Info Sheet](#)
Registration Form: [Variety Show Registration Form](#)

African American History Museum Showcase:

Sycamore's 6th Annual African American History Showcase
Presents...

THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE

*Featuring Inspirational Writers,
Musicians, Artists, and Photographers*

SYCAMORE MPR

A Celebration of Dreams



Join us for Sycamore's 6th Annual African American History Showcase celebrating Black History Month! EVERY student will have work on display, along with interactive projects, a bingo activity, and plenty of opportunities to learn and engage.

Friday, 2/27
2:30-3:30pm



Sycamore's **6th Annual African American History Showcase** is coming up, and this year we're celebrating **The Harlem Renaissance**—a powerful era of creativity, culture, and expression.

Join us for an afternoon featuring student work inspired by writers, musicians, artists, and photographers, plus interactive projects and fun ways to learn together. **Every student will have work on display**, and we can't wait for our families to experience it all.



Parents & families—save the date and come celebrate Black History Month with us!

We still need volunteers to make this showcase a success! [Please sign up to volunteer here!](#) Email dei@sycamorevalleypta.org with any questions.



SYCAMORE NEEDS YOU!

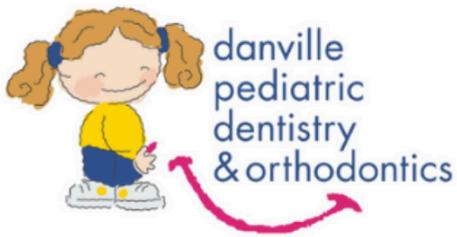
Become a 2025/2026 Sponsor Today!

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.

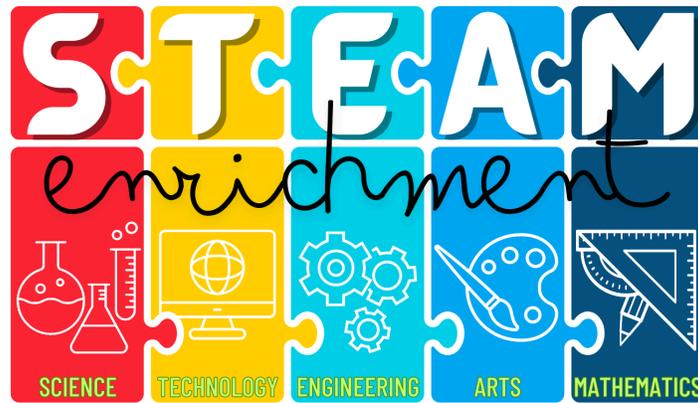
[Sponsorship Flyer](#)

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



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





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 **Wednesday, February 25th, after school in the Science Room**. The book that will be discussed is ***Roger Takes a Chance 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 Sukhdeep (1_2bookclub@sycamorevalleypta.org).

Book Club 3rd-5th:

The next book club meeting for 3rd-5th graders will be held **Wednesday, March 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:

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. **Blank 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).

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:

Mark your calendars for the Science Fair happening on **Thursday, April 23rd**, after school in the MPR! If your student (grades 1-5) would like to participate, please [sign up here](#). The deadline to sign up is February 27th. **Blank trifolds for projects are available in the front office.** For any questions, please contact Mariam (sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org).

WordMasters Challenge:

For any questions, please contact Rachel (wordmasters@sycamorevalleypta.org).

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

Science Fair 2026

(see attached pdf)

Sycamore Valley Elementary's

2026

SCIENCE FAIR

Open to all 1st - 5th grade students!

**Entries are Due in the MPR
on Thursday, April 23rd after school**

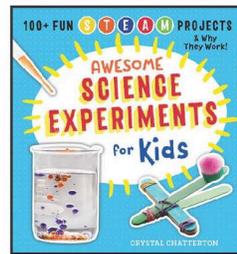
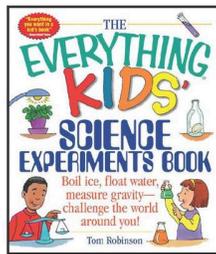
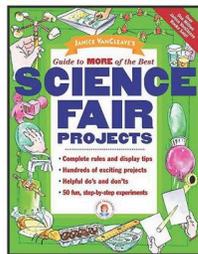
Projects will be judged, awarded, and then displayed at Family STEAM Night.
PRIZES will be awarded for **Creativity, Presentation,**
and **Most Unexpected Results** for grades 1st-2nd and 3rd-5th!

If you are interested in participating in the 2026 Science Fair, then please sign up by February 27th:



NEED IDEAS?

These books with project ideas and tips are available for check out at the Sycamore library!

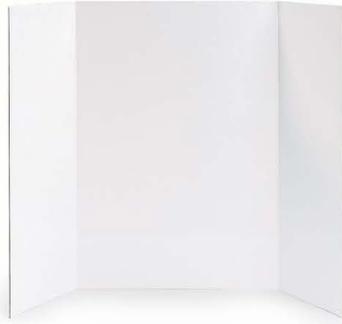


Questions can be emailed to Mariam at sciencechair@sycamorevalleypta.org.

THE DISPLAY:

This will be a tri-fold poster board presentation and will include:

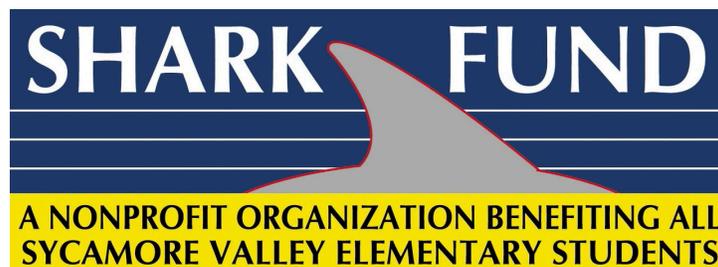
1. Testable Question - the question you are seeking to answer
2. Hypothesis - what you think will happen
3. Experiment - must include the materials (what you used) and the procedure (what you did)
4. Data / Results - may include charts, graphs, photos
5. Conclusion - what did you learn? what questions do you still have?



THE REPORT:

1. Title Page
2. Table of Contents
3. Testable Question - the question you are seeking to answer
4. Hypothesis - what you think will happen
5. Experiment - must include the materials (what you used) and the procedure (what you did)
6. Data / Results - may include charts, graphs, photos
7. Conclusion - what did you learn? what questions do you still have?
8. Acknowledgments

See an example of a student presentation from a previous science fair:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJFruJI7WO8>



Shark Fund Updates

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>



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/10C0D4EAFA82DA5FDC61-58993180-sharky#/>



Dippin' Dot Calendar:

Dippin Dots - 2/18

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

Dippin Dots - 2/25

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

Dippin Dots - 3/04

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

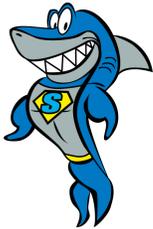
Dippin Dots - 3/18

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 Dana Claffey and her team of volunteers for hosting the abilities awareness workshop for our students today. This is a wonderful experience for our students.

During Words Matter Week, students explored the power of kindness and positive language through classroom activities and a special lesson from our school counselor, Sarah Reardon. At recess, many students helped build a school-wide Kindness Chain, adding their own ideas and examples of how words and actions can make a difference. You can now see the Kindness Chain displayed in the school office. A huge thank you to Jenny Carter, Jenna Romoli, and Halina Haug for helping to make Words Matter Week a success last week!



School Site Council Update

Next Meeting Thursday, February 26, 2026

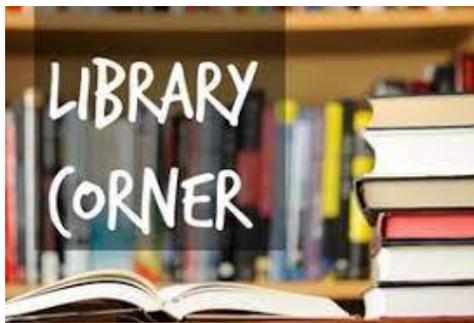
[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/qzv-gfjn-pxu

Phone Numbers

(US)[+1 561-594-1169](tel:+15615941169)

PIN: 390 878 242#



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!

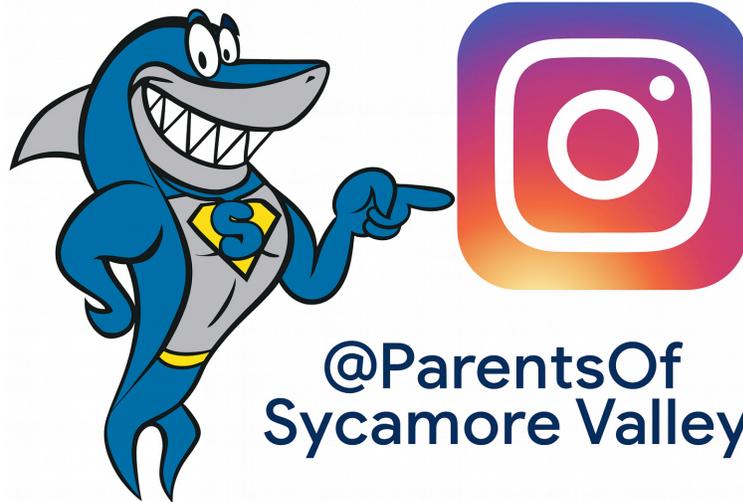
You're welcome to join me out on the field to volunteer. Here's the link for the [Sign Up Genius](#). Make sure you're cleared by Be a Mentor first.

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



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!!

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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You are receiving this email because your email address is associated with

Sycamore Valley Elementary

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