

## SYCAMORE ELECTIVES 2022 - 2023

### McKINLEY SCIENCE BUDDIES

Have you ever thought about being a teacher? Being a part of the Science Buddy class would give you the opportunity to both learn AND teach fun science lessons and activities to 1st graders. Sycamore 6th, 7th and 8th graders are all welcome to join in this fun class that builds friendships and teaches lifelong lessons about responsibility, respect, integrity, patience and kindness. On behalf of myself and your first grade buddies, we look forward to meeting you and creating fun memories together throughout the year!

\*\*\* [snichols@gusd.org](mailto:snichols@gusd.org)

### McKINLEY MENTOR

Mentors will be assigned one period a day to work with a McKinley teacher and his/her students. You will be assisting in many ways- running your own center, assisting with classwork, correcting papers, helping struggling readers, etc. Most importantly, you will be making positive connections with children who will look up to and depend on you. What does it take? A kind heart, a willingness to learn, a mature attitude, and commitment.

\*\*\* [tormachea@gusd.org](mailto:tormachea@gusd.org)

### PIANO

This class is for beginning piano students. Students learn basic chords and simple, fun songs with an opportunity to perform, if they choose. No experience with pianos is required!

\*\*\* [jspring@gusd.org](mailto:jspring@gusd.org)

### AVID

Going to college in a few years? AVID is a class that prepares students for college by having opportunities to learn strategies that will help increase achievement in every subject. Students learn cooperative learning skills, writing and reading skills, how to ask questions to better understand, and organizational skills. All this is done during class time and gives students ways to be individually determined to succeed in learning and in life.

\*\*\* [eayon@gusd.org](mailto:eayon@gusd.org), [msolis@gusd.org](mailto:msolis@gusd.org) .

### MEDIA

Students will learn how to create and edit video, focusing on creative and informational videos. Students will learn how to DJ at dances and school events. Media students support every aspect of life at Sycamore school.

\*\*\* [merickson@gusd.org](mailto:merickson@gusd.org)

### ASB (LEADERSHIP) Application Required

ASB is spirited, fun, and energetic! ASB contributes in many ways to Sycamore, our community, and Butte County. The skills and talents as a young leader are essential to making this school inviting and fun for the entire student body. Each student will learn how to act with courtesy, confidence, poise and appearance. ASB plans rallies, dances, spirit days and fun lunchtime activities!!! Come join, and build on this amazing school culture!

\*\*\* [msolis@gusd.org](mailto:msolis@gusd.org)

### YEARBOOK Application Required

The Sycamore Yearbook Staff is responsible for creating, marketing, and selling the annual Sycamore Yearbook. Students are tasked with covering school events, athletics, clubs, organizations, staff, and students. Our yearbook staff gains experience in photography, graphic design, marketing, and leadership. Join us as we have the privilege to record each school year through pictures, captions, and stories in a book that will last forever! #sycamoreyerds

\*\*\* [eayon@gusd.org](mailto:eayon@gusd.org)

### **SPANISH LANGUAGE CLASS**

**(8th grade only)**

If you have ever been interested in learning another language, or you already speak some Spanish - then this is the right class for you! In this class we will focus on becoming bilingual speakers, listeners, readers, and writers. From classroom games to festive holidays, we will learn about the Spanish language while studying the cultures and customs of all 21 countries of the Spanish-speaking world. Upon successful completion, students may be chosen to move into Spanish 2 at the high school.

\*\*\*[cmendonca@gusd.org](mailto:cmendonca@gusd.org)

### **SPANISH - SPEAKING CULTURE CLASS**

**(6th & 7th grade only)**

Does Spanish-speaking culture interest you? Do you want to learn some basic Spanish? Maybe you want to learn more about Mexican culture or your own family's roots. In this class, we will focus on basic vocabulary such as the alphabet, greetings, nouns, some adjectives, numbers, etc. We will also learn about a range of topics related to Spanish-speaking cultures of different countries - food, customs, family, holidays, etc. This class is a great stepping stone to 8th grade Spanish language class if you chose to take that as an 8th grader.

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### **BEGINNING BAND**

Our Beginning Band is our entry level band for 6th graders or any 7th or 8th graders who have not played a musical instrument before. You will learn how to play a band instrument - flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drums, xylophone, etc. and how to read music and play some of your favorite songs. The Beginning Band will have a Winter Concert, a Spring Concert, and even be part of a local parade!

\*\*\*[ejacobsen@gusd.org](mailto:ejacobsen@gusd.org)

### **ADVANCED BAND**

Our Advanced Band is for students who have 1 year or more of experience playing their instrument. This class is mostly for 7th and 8th graders. We will continue learning how to read and play more advanced music as a group. 7th and 8th graders who audition also have the opportunity to play alongside the Gridley High School pep band for football games in the Fall. The Advanced Band will have a Winter Concert, a Spring Concert, and even be part of a local parade!

\*\*\*[ejacobsen@gusd.org](mailto:ejacobsen@gusd.org)

### **MUSIC TECHNOLOGY**

Our Music Technology class focuses on creating music and sounds using computers and software. We will listen to different music genres and styles, create beats and rhythms, play with loops, record instruments and sounds, write music, make a podcast, and many other things. Students will work individually and in small groups for assignments. Students will also have the opportunity to share their work with Sycamore's Media Class for use in the morning announcement videos.

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### **STEM**

Stem stands for SCIENCE, technology, engineering and mathematics. This course is just that, a lab based hands-on adventure into the world of STEM. It is designed to challenge and engage students of all abilities grades 6 through 8. Using LEGO Mindstorm and other mediums, students will explore scientific phenomena, program robotics, engage in building challenges, and calculate the outcomes. The requirements for the class are an open mind, active imagination, and a love for things that snap together.

\*\*\*[jdenman@gusd.org](mailto:jdenman@gusd.org)

### **OFFICE AIDE (7th and 8th only)**

Office aides deliver notes to classrooms, answer the phone and perform helpful tasks for our amazing office staff. In the absence of work, you are able to catch up on school and homework.

### **TEACHER'S AIDE (7th and 8th only)**

Teacher's can agree to have you as an aide in the room, helping students, organizing papers, etc.

\*\*\*[ldelgado@gusd.org](mailto:ldelgado@gusd.org)

### **ART**

Do you like to doodle? Dabble in painting? Draw? Then "Young Future Artists" with Tuft is for you. In this class your daily cares will melt away as you learn the fundamentals of art like shade, tint, and color schemes. You will also learn how to paint using mediums like watercolor and acrylic. You will learn how to use different drawing pencils, colored pencils, blending techniques, and markers. Many projects, so little time.

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