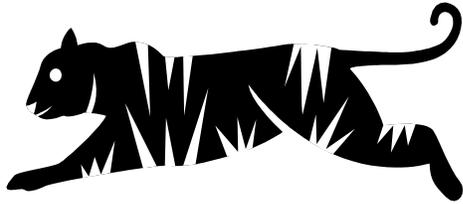


# **THE PINK PANTHER**

H. J. KAISER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2004



## ***Dear Families,***

It is a joy to walk up and down the halls and see real learning going on in every classroom! Our children appear anxious to be in school and very few are struggling with socialization issues. We are stressing the importance of respecting each other which translates into using kind words and not pushing or hitting (even "play fighting" is something we hope not to see at school.

This past week some of our support programs began (Library Prep, Computer Lab and Orff music and movement for K-3) and the others will begin this coming week (Healthy Living/Physical Fitness) and Art for five classes. The instrumental music program will begin for the 4th and 5th graders the following week.

**We could really use the help of parent volunteers each day in the morning and afternoon** (for half and hour time slots) to move the traffic through the circle in a timely fashion. Please remember that we do not park in the circle at all. **Only drop off your child in front of the auditorium, and move along.** You are welcome to park on Hiller Drive and to walk back up the hill, after dropping off your child. We have had some near-accidents (children being dropped off on the inside lane and running across the island and across the traffic pattern, cars backing up into children who are playing after school, etc.) We

look forward to having the rules followed by everyone because it is about **SAFETY FIRST!** for all of our children.

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This **Wednesday** evening is **Back to School Night**. **6:15** for families of Stenger, Apaydin, Blunt, Rust, Aurelio and Yang. **7:00** PTA meeting- approval of budget and **7:45** is for Byers, Bailey, Neat, Wade and Reese. If you absolutely have no one to watch your children, we have a limited number of spaces for children if you call and reserve a spot.

We look forward to seeing all of you at back-to-school night where you will learn about each teacher's classroom management plans, the curriculum standards and the

other enrichment that is offered.

**Katie McLane**

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## ***Register to Vote!***

Here's a few fun facts about voting:

In the 1996 presidential elections fewer than half of eligible citizens voted

More than 50 million women who are eligible to vote aren't registered

Voter turnout has been over 60% for a presidential election only 4 times since 1924

**We'd love to see 100% of the adults in the Kaiser community registered to vote.** We may differ in our choice of candidate or issue, but we can all agree that it's better to cast your vote than let

someone else decide for you. If you've been too busy to

register or moved since you voted last - it's not too late. Californians can register until 15 days before the election. Voter registration forms are available in the Kaiser school office. If you think that form you fill out might get lost before it gets stamped and in the mailbox (under the car seat, on a pile on your desk, into the recycling bin with yesterdays paper.....) feel free to slip it into the envelope in the office and I will see to it that it's stamped and mailed to the county registrar.

**Talking** about the election with your child is a great way to share values and get them started on the road to a lifetime of civic engagement.

**Ask** your child what they wish for in their neighborhood, state or country. Research candidate statements and think together about which candidate can most effectively work toward making that wish a reality.

**Discuss** the stories you hear on the news about the election. Let your child know what you believe and why, and listen to what they think.

Surf the net for some great resources for kids about voting and how government affects their life. Some good sites are:

**The PBS Kids Democracy Project**  
[www.pbs.org/democracy/kids/vote/](http://www.pbs.org/democracy/kids/vote/)

**The Kids Newsroom** [www.kidsnewsroom.org](http://www.kidsnewsroom.org)

**"www.takeyourkidstovote.org"**



## ***Latino/Hispanic Heritage Month Festivities***

Hispanic Heritage Month began on **September 15** and **continues through October 15th**. Susan Ruiz has offered to chair the **Latino Heritage Potluck** event on **October 8th** and she is looking for others to help decorate the hallways and to set up in the auditorium that evening.

Check out this helpful resource I found on **GreatSchools.net** to support my child!

Click on this link to learn more:

<http://www.greatschools.net/cgi-bin/showarticle/CA/204/improve>