



# *The Pink Panther* **Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School**

25 South Hill Court, Oakland, California 94618 (510) 879-1710

## School and Community Newsletter October 4th

### Note from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

Two weeks ago the School Site Council members were discussing the goal that we've always been working on at Kaiser, that of equity for all students. One of the "measurements" that is used by the state is the listing of scores, by ethnicity, of all students who tested from 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade on the California STAR test. We wanted to look deeper into the scores and we found that if students had been at Kaiser 4 years or longer, when they tested in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, all ethnicities scored equally well. The difference in scores occurred for those students who were newer to the school and might not have had the same expectations made of them at their previous schools.

The bottom line- all students can learn and most can achieve at a high level, with parent support, good teaching and a positive attitude about themselves. We will post the findings on our website and on the main bulletin board in the hall.

Latino Heritage month began in September with Independence Day on September 15<sup>th</sup> and will culminate on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at our Latino Heritage Potluck. We encourage everyone to attend and we look forward to seeing two of our students dance Folklorico that evening. Laura Sherman is also working with the younger children, teaching them a song and a dance from Mexico. They will also perform during our dinner. Thanks to the parents who are helping decorate the hall and organize this event! Please join us!

I would like to ask a special favor of all of our families. Recently, I have been alarmed by what the children are telling me that their parents are saying to them about retaliating when someone pushes or hits them. I am quite certain that most of our families don't encourage their children to fight, but I need to ask you to encourage your child to seek an adult, rather than reciprocate if someone calls them a name or pushes them. We are working hard on creating a safe environment here at Kaiser, and there is always an adult nearby, both on the playground and in the lunchroom from 8:20 to 3:15. Often we are trying to "sort out" events that occurred after school or early in the morning when there is no adult supervision. Would you please help us by dropping off and picking up your children in a timely fashion? Thank you.

Also, as a matter of respect, I always wait to hear both sides of a situation before I determine who or what might have upset your child. I ask you to do the same. If your child tells you about another child or staff member who offended them, I would like you to call me immediately at school (510) 879-1710 or at home (510) 530-0613, so that I can set up a meeting right away the following day. Often, when the two parties get together, we realize that there was a misunderstanding or, as is more often the case, "play" escalated into someone being hurt, either emotionally or physically. Thanks for your support.

**Katie**

# Getting In The Know

## LATINO HERITAGE POTLUCK - FRIDAY OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>



### Save the date!

Our first PTA sponsored potluck is fast approaching!

You won't want to miss this evening of delicious food, celebration of Latino culture, and a wonderful opportunity to connect with others in the Kaiser community.

If you would like to help organize this event, please contact Susan Ruiz at [suziruiz@msn.com](mailto:suziruiz@msn.com) or 567-9742.

## KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Oct 8 Saturday	Beautification Day
Oct 14 Friday!!	Latino Heritage Potluck
Oct 24-28 Monday - Friday	MINIMUM DAYS - Parent/ Teacher conferences
Oct 25 Tuesday	Individual and Group Picture Day
Nov 1 Tuesday	VOTE!
Nov 5 Saturday	Kaiser Auction

## BEAUTIFICATION DAY NEXT SATURDAY- 9:00 TO 1:00 P.M.

Come one, come all! We are planning to plant more butterfly-attracting plants, fix some of the sprinklers, put down mulch and generally get the gardens ready for the winter. We are grateful to Janan Apaydin, our staff member who has taken the lead in this project, along with Margie and Jim Potts, who wrote a matching grant for gardening from Chevron Corp. We are indebted to all the dedicated gardeners who are helping restore a beautiful environment for Kaiser students, staff and parents. This is a lovely way to spend some family time contributing to the community as you enjoy each other's company! Thanks to all of you!



## How to Reach Kaiser

Our phone number is (510) 879-1710 (includes a 24 hour message service).

Principal Katie McLane's email address is [Catherine.Mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:Catherine.Mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us)

## How to use the Pink Panther

To include your story or information in your school newsletter: check with Katie McLane, then forward to both editors by 5:00 p.m. on Sundays, at [cara\\_eva@hotmail.com](mailto:cara_eva@hotmail.com) and [kbradley@ix.netcom.com](mailto:kbradley@ix.netcom.com)

## Kaiser Related Events

DATE/TIME	NOTES:
Nov 5 6pm - midnight	AUCTION: The Linen Life Gallery 1375 Park Ave. Emeryville, CA 94608
Nov 11-14	Cody's Bookstore Benefit Daze!

## How to use the Kaiser School Website

For our public information, be sure to visit and browse [www.kaiserelementaryschool.com](http://www.kaiserelementaryschool.com) and to participate in the school community group go to, [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool\\_group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool_group/) and join!!

# Kaiser School Messages

BOOK POWER BOOK POWER BOOK POWER

## Books by US!

### School Directories are in the Works!

Do you have any connections to a printing or copy company?

We are in the process of putting together the **PTA school directory** and need to find an inexpensive resource for having it printed. If you have any leads please contact:

Kelly Bartlett at 595-9533  
[bartlettsmith@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bartlettsmith@sbcglobal.net),

or

Cindy Hobbs 534-0593  
[cindyhobbs@excite.com](mailto:cindyhobbs@excite.com)

## Books by THEM!

### **SAVE THE DATE!!**

The PTA will be participating in the **Cody's Books School Benefit Daze** for four days in **November (11-14)**. Cody's designates four shopping days each year at their three stores and via their website to benefit the area's schools. If you

1. Make a purchase at one of their three retail stores or via their website between November 11-14; AND...
2. Turn in your original receipts to the office; THEN...

they will donate 15% of our net sales to the Kaiser PTA. We will collect all the receipts, submit them to Cody's, and receive 15% of net sales. You may purchase books, magazines, journals, calendars, gift cards, paper gift certificates, stationary, special orders, bargain books and more.

*Teachers will be compiling a list of "books wanted" for their classrooms and library so look for those soon.*

**Cody's store locations** are 2454 Telegraph Ave., and 1730 Fourth St. in Berkeley, and 2 Stockton St. at Market in San Francisco. Their website is [www.codysbooks.com](http://www.codysbooks.com)

If you have any questions please contact:  
Lisa Downes 532-5913, [lisadownes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lisadownes@sbcglobal.net).



### Anyone ready to assist?

Special **Still-To-Do's** with the Board:

- **Book Faire: see Cynthia Thompson**  
*Run your own shop!  
Be an entrepreneur!  
Generate "Buzz"!  
Mold young minds and wallets!*
- **Assemblies:** see Andrea Nobles or Katy DeVecchi

### EVENTS at ROCKRIDGE LIBRARY

October & November

Hello Parents, Teachers, and Students. Autumn is beginning, and we've got 3 special events for children planned for this season, in addition to our regular story times. See the attachment for the details of our programs. -- Erica Siskind, Children's Librarian, Rockridge Branch

### (Okay, no book here, but... ) Sally Foster Coming This Week!

Our fundraiser featuring Sally Foster giftwrap and gift products will be starting this week. **Be sure to check your child's backpack for your Sally Foster catalog and envelope.** The catalog features Premium Giftwrap, Gifts, Bath and Body Products, and Chocolates. The sale will run from October 3 thru October 18 with delivery of products the week of November 29<sup>th</sup>. So be sure to stock up on supplies for the holidays. **50% of every purchase goes directly to our school!** Out of town family and friends can support our school by visiting [SallyFoster.com](http://SallyFoster.com) and using our school's account number 370976.

# Protecting Our Kids' Health

## HEALTHY SNACK GUIDELINES REMINDER:

Thanks for helping to re-educate our kids about what "HEALTHY" really means! They will thank us later for helping them not become overweight. Have your children help you shop for healthy foods. They can begin to look at the labels and determine whether or not items are healthy. SB12 states that an individually sold snack may have no more than the following:

- 35 percent of its calories from fat (excluding legumes, nuts, seeds, non-fried vegetables and cheese packaged for individual sale,)
- 10 percent of its calories from saturated fat (excluding cheese packaged for individual sale.)
- 35 percent sugar by weight (excluding fruits and vegetables)
- 175 calories- elementary schools
- An individually sold entree may have no more than 4 grams of fat per 100 calories and not exceed 400 calories.



SB 965 extends restrictions on the types of beverages that can be sold in elementary schools.

- Fruit and vegetable-based drinks that are at least 50 percent fruit juice without added sweeteners
- Drinking water without added sweeteners
- Milk products including 2%, 1% nonfat, soy, rice and other similar non-dairy milk
- An electrolyte-replacement beverage that contains no more than 42 grams of added sweetener per 20-ounce serving

## ONLY FIVE FAMILIES HAVE NOT RETURNED THEIR EMERGENCY PACKETS:

**It is the fifth week of school and we need to know how to reach you in case of an emergency.**

Next week, the names will be published, so that someone else who might be able to aid you in filling out the forms might step forward.

## WHAT IS SECOND STEP ?

**When speaking to children who end up in a situation where someone has gotten hurt**, it turns out that most of the incidents began with "rough play." Second Step helps children change the attitudes and behaviors that contribute to violence. The curriculum teaches social-emotional skills to reduce impulsive and aggressive behavior in children and increase their level of social competence. The skills being taught include empathy, impulse control and anger management. Current research links academic success with these skills.

Second Step school and family components are important parts of any comprehensive **plan to improve children's social skills and reduce violence. We have two videos that we would happily share with our families** that want to know more about the processes that the children are being instructed to use. Please help us by reviewing these videos and asking your children to talk to you about the Second Step lessons that by now all teachers should have started.

## *Update on Vanessa Wittmer and call for Support*

As most of you are aware, on October 13, 2003 second grader Vanessa Wittmer was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She has been responding well to the treatment and is on her last 90 days of chemotherapy!

Many of you have offered support over the past two years which Vanessa and her family are truly grateful for. I would like to continue that support by updating a list of people willing to occasionally bring dinners to the school for Trish to pick up.

If you are interested in helping with this effort please contact me at 510-532-5913, or [lisadownes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lisadownes@sbcglobal.net). For more information on Vanessa's journey please visit <http://www2caringbridge.org/ca/vanessa.wittmer/>

# Your Kaiser PTA - SignUps and Ballot

## PTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

aims to Climb to the top of the Mountain!

The class that signs up the highest percentage of PTA members gets a climbing trip to Ironworks climbing gym! So, strap on that harness and get climbing. Along with becoming a member you will also receive a membership card and a school directory.

Only parents and faculty can help the kids do this. Reminder:

Single parent family \$ 7.00

Two parent family \$ 14.00

**Look for a table set up this week at drop off and pick up.** Forms are also available in the office.

Have your check ready made out to Kaiser PTA.

Include your child's name and teacher.

-- Kelly & Cindy

## EScrip Sign Ups

Hello friends and staff of Kaiser Elementary School in Oakland, California! If you haven't already done this..... please consider signing up!

The eScrip program will reward the Kaiser PTA with a percentage of the money you already spend when you shop at Safeway, Vons, Macy's, Office Max and other participating stores. Other merchants include Carnival Cruise Lines, Century 21 Real Estate and Sierra Trading Post! EScrip will also reward Kaiser PTA with a percentage of purchases made through a registered credit card.

Signing up online takes about 5 minutes.

Just go to the Kaiser website and click on register with eScrip:

<http://www.kaiserelementaryschool.com/getinvolved/escrip.html>

or click here: <http://www.escrip.com/>

The name of the group to support is:

**Kaiser Elementary School PTA**

Our zip code is **94618**

## PLEASE COMPLETE, SEPARATE, & RETURN THIS ELECTION FORM FOR THE SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL PARENT REPRESENTATIVE!

Valorie Hutson, parent of two daughters (5<sup>th</sup> and K) has been nominated by the School Site Council to fill the vacated position of Malia Ramler. She is currently working on her PhD at Mills in Educational Leadership and serves as the After-School program coordinator at Westlake Middle School. We recommend that she be elected for a three year term.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**, I support the nomination of Valorie Hutson

\_\_\_\_\_ **No**, I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for that position.

\_\_\_\_\_ **In addition** to electing Valorie Hutson, I would like to offer to serve and/or

nominate \_\_\_\_\_ as an alternate.

**Your Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Auction/Dance - An Evening in Tuscany

## "An Evening in Tuscany" Kaiser's 31st Auction/Dance

**Date:** Saturday November 5, 2005

**Time:** 6pm - 12pm

**Place:** Linen Life Park Avenue Gallery  
1375 Park Avenue Emeryville, CA 94608

*Wonderful Atmosphere, Good Food,  
Great Company, Noteworthy Cause  
Get your bidder cap and put on your dancing shoes  
and prepare yourselves for one of the year's funnest  
events.*

**Child Care:** Provided by –  
Head Over Heels Gymnastics (2 blks from the gallery).  
1250 45th Street, Suite E  
Emeryville, CA 94619  
Time: 5:30pm - 12:00am

*The children are guaranteed to have a wonderful time  
as we dance the night away. They will enjoy being in  
groups of 4 with their own private gymnastics trainer  
for the evening. Their skills will be challenged by the  
circuits created especially for them, and there's  
delicious Round Table Pizza for dinner, and of course  
a movie with popcorn to end their night of fun.*

### REGISTRATION:

(Early Bird ) Sept. 12 - October 10

Auction : (1) \$25.00 or (2) \$40.00

Childcare: \$22.00 per child

**For auction donations/information contact:  
Andrea Nobles (510) 326-5078**

**AUCTION FORMS:** Register for the Auction and sign up for child care by using the Auction Registration and Childcare form available from the Kaiser Elementary office or from the school web site at: <http://www.kaiserelementaryschool.com/getinvolved/auction2005.html>. If childcare is desired, you must complete a waiver and return it with your registration for participation. The waiver is provided in the school office. Please turn in completed forms with payment to the PTA Auction envelope in the school office. Donation / Solicitation forms are also available from the Kaiser school web site.

## "COUNT DOWN" 8 DAYS LEFT

There are **only eight days left** to take advantage of the *Early Bird Special*. Remember! this is a great event to extend an invitation to your family, friends, and neighbors. It is a tremendous opportunity to show off what makes our school unique while building long term community support.

### Head Over Heels

Head Over Heels Gymnastics registration at 55% -- Registration is on a first come first serve basis. We are limited to 40 children, and currently we have 22 registered. You don't want to miss out on this tremendous opportunity at a fabulous price while offering endless safety and fun. Please secure your spot and register today. **Minimum age requirement: must be potty trained.**

### Solicitations/Donations

A big round of applause to all of you who have rolled up their sleeves in helping us secure 200 items for the auction. We are making great progress! Currently we have 60 items total. The items are in the various categories and are sure to cause a bidding frenzy. Some of our HOT items: i-pods, portable DVD with a swivel screen, hand painted custom portrait of your choice, Disneyland tickets, fabulous dinners, outstanding pamper sessions, Italian handbags. If you have items that you will be donating, please complete the donor form and return it as soon as possible

We could use assistance with obtaining items for our "Free Your Mind" category (ie. yoga classes, bookstores, aromatherapy, etc.

*It would be extremely helpful to the auction committee to have items logged and categorized quickly as we move closer to the date.*

I believe we can exceed the \$30,000 working together to make a difference for our school and the lives of each child. Thank you for supporting and making this event magical. Information/donations: Andrea Nobles (510) 326-5078 or [aynobles@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aynobles@sbcglobal.net).

# Late Breaking News & Notes

## Did somebody say *Dance*? ...

Former Kaiser student, Katharine Mayer, will be dancing in several ballet productions this month.

Come see her in the following:

--**Hansel and Gretel**, a ballet of the classic fairy tale and a delight to children of all ages. This is the perfect way to get into the Halloween spirit, with a scary witch and a house scrumptious enough to eat! (Sunday, October 23, 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.).



--**Choreographer's™ Showcase** features the work of choreographers Ronn Guidi, Michael Lowe, Danny Nguyen, and David Bertlin. Styles range from modern dance (Nguyen), to a jazz-influenced ballet (Guidi), to modern classical (Bertlin), and finally to a ballet that draws life and energy from Asian music and themes (Lowe). (Fri, Oct 21, 8 p.m. and Sat, Oct 22, 2:00 p.m.)

Shows will be staged at Regent's Theatre, Holy Names University, Oakland, California. For detailed performance information and to order tickets (\$20), go to

<http://www.obacademy.com/performances/index.html>

## Latino Heritage Online

Hi all. Ready for the PotLuck? Don't stop there!

(1) Here's an amazing website for looking up Latino and Hispanic cultural life and centers in the Bay Area. <http://www.bodacia.com/hispanic.htm#bayarea> Don't forget to scroll all the way up to see the main listings on the webpage too -- it's not just Bay Area but resources from all over the country. The favorite site would have to have been "[TacoTrucks.net](http://www.tacotrucks.net) -- Information on and reviews of food from taco trucks throughout Oakland." - but sadly it looks like a dormant effort...

(2) The Latino History Timeline <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/calheritage/latinos/timeline2.html> is a project running on a grant to the Oakland Unified School District. Check it out! Interestingly, there is not much listed after 1940, so they either need some help or there is another place to see their most recent work. Something for a volunteer to check into.

(3) The Oakland Museum runs (or ran) a Latino History Project <http://www.urbaneyes.org/LHP.html> that includes a video called "Urbaneyes". I wonder if the Museum would support lending/showing the video at Kaiser. Also, see <http://www.puente.net/lhp.html> for visual examples of student research into Latino Heritage that toured the state from Oakland. It would be great to get an update on the conclusion of the project; look what it was scheduled to offer: *The \$285,000 project was scheduled to conclude spring 2003 with a comprehensive anthology of narratives, educational and curriculum materials (including a series of posters) and a website that chronicles the evolution and final products of the Project.*

(4) While we're at it, here are two things that "shoulda been" -- AND really are!

[Directorio Web de Gogle](#)  
Google's Spanish-language web directory.

[Yahoo! en Español](#)  
Yahoo! Directory in Spanish.

-- Editors

# Rockridge Library Program Guide - Oct & Nov

Hello Parents, Teachers, and Students -- Autumn is beginning, and we've got 3 special events for children planned for this season, in addition to our regular story times. (Read below for more info on our story times!) –

Erica Siskind, Children's Librarian [esiskind@oaklandlibrary.org](mailto:esiskind@oaklandlibrary.org)  
Rockridge Branch Library, 5366 College Ave, Oakland CA 94618  
510-597-5017

## FOR CHILDREN:

Toddler Story Times:

1st & 2nd Saturdays at 10:30am: 1 & 8 October, 5 & 12 November.

Pre-School Story Times:

1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 10:30am: 5 & 19 October, 2 & 16 November.

Pajama Story Times:

2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00pm: 11 & 25 October, 8 & 22 November.

## Special Events for Kids and Families:

### OCTOBER

\* Halloween Special Story Time! Tuesday, October 25th:

Spooky stories for children ages 2 to 7, and Refreshments, followed by:  
Truly scary stories for those who dare to listen! Costumes welcome...

FYI: Rockridge Library is open until 8:00pm on Halloween Night, and we will be giving out treats to kids. See you in your costume!

### NOVEMBER

\* Active Arts performs "Two-Minute Tales" for Children's Book Week, 2005, on Saturday, November 12th, at 3:00pm. Well-known folk and fairy tales performed with much humor, especially for children ages 3 to 9. Free!

\* 2005 Children's Choice Book Awards at Rockridge:

From November 1st through 14th, kids can nominate books for awards in a variety of categories...and then during Children's Book Week, they can vote to choose the winners. Pick up a nomination form before November 14th, 2005, at Rockridge Branch Library's Children's Desk, and return for a ballot between November 15th and 19th. The Awards Ceremony will take place during Pajama Story Time on November 22nd, at 7:00pm. All ages welcome! Ask Erica for more details. 597-5017.

## EVENTS FOR TEENS:

\* Bookwormz (Teen Book Club): last Tuesday evening of each month from 5:00 - 6:00pm. October 25th, November 29th. Call Susy for more info: 597-5017.

## EVENTS FOR ADULTS:

\* WEEDING PARTY! Bring your garden gloves and hand weeders to Rockridge Library on Saturday, October 15, from 9:30-11:00 a.m, and meet your neighbors and fellow garden mavens! We'll be weeding our new landscaping with TLC! Refreshments served.

Please respond to Pat Lichter, Rockridge Library, at 597-5017.

\* "There and Back Again: A Family's Five-Year Odyssey at Sea". Slide show and book-signing by Joanne Sandstrom. Saturday, October 8th, 2:00pm.

\* "Creative Writing Workshop" with Opal Palmer Adisa. Saturday, October 15th, 2:00 - 4:00pm. Space is limited, please call to reserve a spot at 597-5017.

## LAWYERS IN THE LIBRARY:

Tuesday, October 4th and November 1st.

Lawyer begins consultations at 6:00pm. Sign-ups begin at 5:00, first-come-first-served.

## IN THE GALLERY:

October: The Annual RCPC  
Photography Exhibit

November: Edith Yu; Abstract  
Watercolors

## IN THE DISPLAY CASE:

October: John Baldwin; Collage &  
Acrylic

November: Harlan Conti; Archival  
Photography ???

## MORE INFORMATION ON THE STORY TIMES:

If you have never been to a story time at the library, come try one! Usually they are about a half-hour, and we try to pick books that will be entertaining or thought-provoking for people of different ages:

Our Toddler Story Time is for infants and toddlers, and siblings are always welcome. We look for books and rhymes for ages 6 months to 2 ½ years. The Pre-school Story Time is for ages 2 1/2 to 5 years, and the Pajama Story Time is for ages 2 1/2 to 8, but younger and older siblings are welcome. If you are not sure which one is right for your child, please come and give it a try. If you and your children are enjoying the stories, that's what counts.

Some parents fear that their child won't behave well at story time. We expect that each child has ups and downs of energy and attention in each day. We count on the parents to keep an eye on it, so that if the noise or activity is distracting others, a parent might take their child to another part of the room until he or she settles down a bit. No matter how much disruption your child might cause, you are both always welcome to come back next time and try again!