



# The Pink Panther

## Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 10, 2006

### *Sign up for a Conference Next Week!*

*Please contact your child's teacher.  
(Early dismissal at 1:25 all week)*

Dear Kaiser Families,

Autumn is often a season of reflection and evaluation. For us in school it is a time when we examine **baseline data** and see what progress your child has made so far. Conferences are a time for connecting with your child's teacher to see how things have been going so far, for the teacher to let you know of observed strengths and weaknesses, and if needed to suggest intervention strategies. It is also a time for you to bring up concerns about your child's learning. Look inside for some guide questions.

Our human resources department sent out notices to all schools this week, updating us on the credential status of our teachers. I am happy to report that all teachers at Kaiser School are "highly qualified" and meet credential requirements for NCLB. NCLB stands for "No Child Left Behind" and is a group of federal laws for school reform. We should be proud that our entire staff has met this standard.

And we should be proud of our students' participation in our student council elections. As I observed the nomination and speech process, I saw well-behaved students putting forth intelligent ideas in an eloquent fashion. I want to thank Ms. Reese for organizing the election process. It was a "hands-on" learning experience for everybody involved. The election was too close to announce a clear winner, so there was a run-off election on Monday and the new co-presidents of the student body are Jade Belvin and Truman Ports, our new vice president is Kendall Murphy, Ella Pearson is our new treasurer, and Savannah Whaley is the secretary. Congratulations to all who ran and taught us something about self-government!

On Friday of conference week, October 20, we will be having our first ethnic potluck. We will be celebrating our Latino Heritage. I say "our" because even though I am white, I am a member of a pluralistic society made of many cultures. Last Saturday evening I went to a neighbor's birthday celebration and the house was filled with representatives of many ethnic groups, as is so often the case here in the Bay Area. As the mariachi band began playing I was taken back to my college years when I first heard that type of music and met my first Latino friends. I am proud to live in a community where we share each others heritage! Let's join together in another Kaiser community celebration. We belong to one nation of interwoven heritage, connecting to and valuing all!

The rains of fall have started. It's time to do some reflection and see how we're doing so far. So far, so good!

*Mel Stenger, Principal*

# Getting In The Know

## Parent-Teacher Conferences October 16–20

Teachers have been sending home forms to reserve a time.

Every parent should plan now to have a conference with their child's teacher to talk about the child's progress.

## Wanted:

### Instructional Assistant substitute.

Beginning Monday, October 9, our aide for the resource program, Bart Byrne, will be out for several weeks. It looks like the district will not be able to find a substitute for us.

The requirements for substitutes are an Associate Degree, or 48 college credits, or passing the paraprofessional exam. To be honest, the pay is not great. This would be more as a support to our learning community than making a big paycheck. If you're interested, please contact Mr. Stenger.

## Vacations on your Schedule?

We understand that there are sometimes necessary reasons for taking children out of school, but time on task in school is a great predictor of student success. We ask that you schedule family vacations during school vacations, and that when possible, schedule appointments outside of school time. Please remember that when you need to take your child out of school we ask that you come to the office to sign them out; then Robin, Sonya, or I will call the classroom to direct the teacher to send them to the office. When planning your pick-up please allow about 10 minutes for sign-out.

## How to be in the *Pink Panther*

To include your story or information in your school newsletter:

forward your news, questions or article to the editors by 5:00 p.m. on Sundays via:

[mryder@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mryder@ix.netcom.com) and  
[kbradley@ix.netcom.com](mailto:kbradley@ix.netcom.com)

## KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Oct 13 Friday	In Service Day for Teachers — NO SCHOOL!
Oct 16-20	Parent-Teacher Conferences: Minimum Days All Week 8:45am-1:25pm
Oct 18 - 20	Book Fair!!
Nov 4	Kaiser AUCTION

KEEP UP TO DATE ALL WEEK THRU

## The Kaiser School Web Site

<http://www.kaiserelementary.org>

- *Pink Panther* copies
- Info about fundraising events
- After school programs
- Teacher classrooms online
- Parent participation

## How to Reach Kaiser School

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

To participate in the school community group, go to (and join) this website:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool\\_group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool_group/)

# News Updates for Parents and Teachers

## Conferences are Coming!

The week of October 16 is conference week. We will hold conferences in the afternoon, immediately following early dismissal each day. You will be getting a form from your child's teacher to reserve a time slot. As you approach the time for the parent-teacher conference to discuss your child's progress, here are a few things to consider:

- What is my child's general attitude toward school and what does that tell me?
- What does my child particularly enjoy or succeed at? Have trouble with?
- Do I have any questions about my child's progress in any particular area?
- How will I receive suggestions for improvement or news that I did not expect? Can we work toward problem-solving rather than blaming?
- Do I have questions about the classroom program, procedures, or expectations?
- Do I want specific, detailed information about a particular area that may need the teacher's advanced preparation?

If you take just a few minutes to jot down a note or two you'll find the conference time to be more focused and productive. Our goal is for both parent and teacher to share information to help the student progress!

## - AUCTION DONORS - LOOKING FOR IDEAS?

Here are a few that came into the press room:

- *A Night In Your Hot Tub*
- *A Homemade Dinner for Four*
- *A Photo Shoot or Framed Photograph*
- *A Knitted Scarf or Sweater*

Sound like you? Contact Al May at  
[alisonemay@comcast.net](mailto:alisonemay@comcast.net)



## Book Fair

October 18, 19 & 20

Wed. & Thu. 1-5p Fri. 1-8p  
in the library

Here's a chance to donate books  
on the Teacher's wish lists.  
Stock up on Holiday and Birthday  
gifts.

The more we sell, the more books  
and teaching materials Kaiser gains  
for the

Library and Teachers

**Volunteers needed!**

**contact: Kelly 851-3513 or  
bartlettsmith@sbcglobal.net**

## BASIC ANIMATION - SESSION B NOW ENROLLING!

Open to Girls & Boys (grades 3rd - 5th)  
Session Fee: \$80.00 (7 Classes per Session)

Do you have a love of moving pictures? Do you ever wonder how cartoons are made? Learn the fine art of animation, where I will discuss everything about animation from the history to supplies and production. We will bring your characters to life by making simple, 2D, hand-drawn iFLIPBOOKS that you can bring home to show all of your family and friends.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lynne Lee is a graduate and instructor for the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. She has received invaluable animation training from several Pixar Animation Directors. Lynne has had a short film debut at the Mill Valley Film Festival and has worked on a kids TV series for UPN.

**SESSION:** B Day: Mondays Time: 3:00 PM 4:00 PM  
Dates: Oct. 30, Nov. 6, 13, 27 (NO class Nov. 20), Dec. 4, 11, 18

All materials will be provided. No refunds after the first class. Parents will be contacted confirming enrollment in class by either email or phone.

Questions? Please contact Lynne Lee at  
[lynnelee@covad.net](mailto:lynnelee@covad.net) or call (510) 734-3339  
Don't wait until the last minute to sign up.  
If enrollment is low, the class will be cancelled!!



## Great taste for November 4!

Thanks to *The Dinner Source* for their recent contribution of a \$50 gift certificate for the auction.

**And there's more:** anyone from Kaiser who orders meals from them during October will get 10% of their total purchase donated to the school. To do this, go to <http://www.thedinnerSource.com> and place an order. At the online checkout, simply type KAISERELEM in the coupon/gift certificate section and the donation will be allotted to Kaiser. (FYI: Each meal costs between \$15-23 and feeds a family of four. There is a four-meal minimum when placing an order.)

Meanwhile, if you can please consider donating ONE bottle of wine for us to sell - we'll be putting them in gift baskets or selling them by the case - so we need a lot. There's a box where you can place them in the little office to the left when entering the main office & a sign-up sheet if you'd like a receipt for tax purposes.

Questions? Contributions? Volunteering? Contact:

**Liz Hall,**  
Auction Chairperson  
[probossliz@pacbell.net](mailto:probossliz@pacbell.net)

**Alison May,**  
Head of Solicitation  
[alisonemay@comcast.net](mailto:alisonemay@comcast.net)



### CELEBREMOS TU HERENCIA

At the annual Kaiser feast.  
It's almost here already!

## Sangria Recipe Contest underway...

Let's get some classics in the picture.

Send in your **favorite original recipe for Sangria** to the *Pink Panther*.

We'll get a panel of experts together, pick the top ones, add a complementary food recipe, and publish them in the next two weeks.

### Feel like an expert?

Send us your name and get us going... Leave a message for the *Pink Panther* at the Kaiser office or email us here: [mryder@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mryder@ix.netcom.com)

## This just in: Entry No. 1

Hi!

I have A Cote's great sangria recipe:  
1 shot of brandy (doesn't matter which brand)  
juice of 1/2 a lemon, 1/2 a lime & 1/2 an orange  
simple syrup (to taste)  
red wine for color and flavor (preferably Borao Tempranillo)

Carrie Lee

And while you're thinking about your own entry and setting up your test kitchen...

BevMo is having their annual Buy One Get One for a Nickel sale this month. Great way to stock up on wine and donate the nickel bottle to the Auction!

# Kaiser Kiosk

## Great News on Seminar Pricing for Parenting and Teaching your Gifted Child

On October 28 in Sacramento, the California Association for the Gifted (CAG) holds two **seminars** on raising and teaching gifted students – one for teachers, and one for parents – on supporting the social and emotional needs of the Gifted, including networking with other parents and receiving expert advice.

*We've learned that Parents can register and attend the 1-day Parent Institute conference at a much lower price than advertised last week in the Pink Panther.*

**\$95 for Association non-members and \$75 for members.**

Registrations are first-come-first-served. They must be done in advance of the seminar dates, and they have different prices. And, there is no childcare available.

But **to register or get more seminar details**, check:

- the CAG website at [www.cagifted.org](http://www.cagifted.org),
- or ask at the Kaiser office for registration forms

## Kaiser Garden & Grounds Keepers

**Caitlin Sorenson, from UC Berkeley is organizing a special volunteer day on November 11.**

She has plans to have 20 UC Berkeley students join us on that day to replace our aging raised planter beds! You will hear more about this soon.

## Having a hard time at home? Kids driving you over the edge?

Try calling the  
**Parental Stress Hotline**  
at **893-5444**.

They are a 24/7 service to lend an ear to listen when you think you can't take it any more.