



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 30, 2006

Dear Kaiser Parents,

Once again the teachers and families have shown their commitment to the education of our children. Each teacher gave me a list of parents who did not make it to conferences last week, and I called them to try to establish that contact. As of Friday we had met with over 95% of our families for parent-teacher conferences! In addition, I did random checks of parents to find out their level of satisfaction with their experience. I asked if they had received an academic update, a social growth update, and suggestions for helping their child. They all reported getting that information and more. Now, some had received difficult news, but the communication lines are open! Thanks to you all, parents and teachers, for dealing with the inconvenience of minimum days, and for the disruption of your regular routines to make this happen. Building a "communication coalition" is a vital part of your child's success.

Our attendance performance dropped a bit this month. We did not meet our goal for actual attendance, and our tardy rate is increasing. That's not good. Our tardy rate is in the low 90%. That means about 20-24 kids are late each day. The teachers are very good about starting on time (8:45) and most of the kids are present and engaged! If you have been slacking off, I am giving you a gentle reminder to review your routines and tighten up a bit. I need to do the same, so let's work on that together.

Although you're getting this letter on Monday or Tuesday, I'm writing it on Friday morning in the waiting area of San Francisco airport. My father passed away on Tuesday morning, and I'm on the way to Cincinnati for the funeral and to be with my mother. Many people have found out and wished me well, and I want to thank them all. So that's why I have not been around for a few days. Death is never convenient, and I really appreciate the help from the office staff and teachers to keep the school going! I will return Thursday to wrap up the week.

And now the final push. This Saturday, November 4, is the social event of the season! The Kaiser School Benefit Auction! If you're still "on the fence" about attending let me encourage you because:

- o It's only \$20!
- o It benefits the kids!
- o It's a real fun-raiser!
- o You get to meet new people!
- o You get to mingle with teachers!
- o It's much better than another evening of TV!
- o It's only \$20!

Oh, and let me not forget, Happy Halloween! BOOOOO!!

Your friendly no-that's-not-a-mask-on-my-face principal,

-- Mel Stenger

Getting In The Know

IMPORTANT HEALTH ALERT

In a situation that re-occurs every year, we have new reports confirming that another outbreak of head lice has hit. This is a very contagious problem that can quickly become an enormous burden on large numbers of families and friends, not just children -- and it will not subside if left alone!

Please check your child's head and hair carefully as soon as possible for the telltale signs. At minimum, if you think you see dandruff, but it doesn't easily fall off the hair, you need to be serious and get sure.

Auction Tickets Deadline
for advanced registration
is **THURSDAY** – November 2!

If you are planning to attend this year's auction and didn't already get your auction registration form in, get movin' (!) or contact Liz Hall and be "advance" registered.

probossliz@pacbell.net

After Thursday tickets can be purchased at the door for \$25 each.

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 and
kbradley@ix.netcom.com

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Nov. 1	PTA General Meeting : CANCELLED!
Nov. 3	Gardening Day
Nov. 4	Kaiser AUCTION
Nov. 10	Veterans' Day: SCHOOL CLOSED
Nov. 13	Sally Foster Deliveries
Nov. 15	School Site Council Meeting
Nov. 20-24	Thanksgiving Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED

KEEP UP-TO-DATE ALL WEEK

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/)

School Matters

FROM THE RESOURCE CORNER

In the Resource Room this past month we have been trying out a writing program called **Kidspiration** which was created for K-5 learners and provides an easy way to apply the proven principles of visual learning.

Students build graphic organizers by combining pictures, text and spoken words to represent thoughts and information. Younger learners develop early literacy skills, and more advanced students improve comprehension skills and better organize ideas for writing.

Student recommendations: Elijah reports, "We edited each other's work by checking punctuation, spelling and capitalization. I'd like to find out if there are more action symbols to use in the program." Eric had this to say about the program: "It's very helpful in learning how to use the computer to write. I like how it was and would like to have it in my classroom." Joshua wants to tell you: "It would be fun to do at home if you are bored and don't have anything to do." He added, "I liked working with a partner on it. I'd like to find out how to work together better on the program."

To check it out at home, go to www.inspiration.com and choose Kidspiration. You can download it free for one month. If you'd like to stop in and see our student work, please do! – Elizabeth Whittaker, Kaiser Resource Specialist Program

REMINDER:

the "Cody's Books Celebrate School Book Days" fundraiser is November 17-20.

All you have to do is shop at Cody's during those days, submit your receipts to the office, and the school receives 15% of the net purchases.

The PTA Presents...

The PTA is proud to bring the **upcoming assemblies to the students** of Kaiser School as part of our dedication to the enrichment of our arts and science curriculums. Thank-you for your continued support of our community, which is what makes programs like these possible.

Nov. 1st-Wed.10:45: S.F. Opera Guild, "Interactive Student Performance"

Nov.13th-Mon.9:30: Mobile Dairy Classroom, A cow comes to campus!!!

Dec.6th-Wed.9:00: Stagebridge Storytellers, "Multicultural Folktales and Lifestories"

SAFETY REMINDER: Please take these steps for your Child's Safety!

1. **Avoid drop-off on Hiller if possible.** Please drop off students on the traffic circle.
2. **Please do not pull a U-turn on Hiller Drive itself.** Use the intersection.
3. **Please be respectful of the traffic monitors** before and after school. Follow their directions. They are there for the safety of all.



Fiesta!

Browse!

Buy!

Sip!

Spin!

Smile!

Get yourself to the auction on time. Have some yummy Pacific Coast brew or a glass of good wine and get a jump on bidding on great items!

"Happy hour" from 6-7pm. All drinks will be \$3.00. After 7pm all drinks will be \$4.00.

Give!

Also if you're making a donation, get your information to Liz or Alison by Wednesday morning. Email is best.

Questions? Contributions? Volunteering?

Contact:

Liz Hall,
Auction Chairperson
probossliz@pacbell.net

Alison May,
Head of Solicitation
alisonemay@comcast.net

More Ways To Help

Many thanks to Kaiser parent Maisha Williams who recently secured a \$300 donation to our school through her employer Wells Fargo. The bank will donate \$300 to Kaiser when you re-finance your home through them. Please contact Ms. Williams for more information.

Maisha A. Williams
Home Mortgage Associate
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
1021 Blossom Hill Rd Ste A
San Jose, CA 95123
408-723-6604 office
408-723-6655 fax

P.S. - We're looking for all the info we can get about our Kaiser community's businesses and employers who we can all collaborate with through their programs for charitable giving to schools and by using each others' business services. If you will share the information about your company, please send it to the Pink Panther where we can post it on future Kaiser Businesses pages.

2006-2007 Pink Panther Staff:

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Kiki Bradley
Principal: Mel Stenger

Kids Take the Page

Congratulations to our Cast Members
for this week's assembly (grades 3-5),
The Barber Of Seville

They'll be joining the San Francisco Opera Guild
onstage, Wednesday at 10:45 in the auditorium.

Dr. Bartolo	Nydesha Foster
Berta	Savannah Whaley
Don Basilio	Alyssa Kunesh
Lawyer	Richard Katzoff
Sergeant	Isaiah Brown
Policeman #1	Jade Belvin
Policeman #2	Justin Blincoe
Footman #1	Nolan Rogers
Footman #2	Gabriel Meldmann-Cotton

POETRY SLAM

Life
Biking hard
Peddling fast
Lost again
Wait! Wait!

Neija Cox

Students
Reading
Quietly
As teacher exclaimed
Working

Campbell Ryder

Tigers
Running
Fierce
To catch their prey
King of the Jungle!

Richard Katzoff

Classmates
Learning
Easily
To get an education
Sweet

Chardonnay Hightower

Darkness
Lurking
Slowly
To destroy light
Light

Gabriel Meldman

Water
Hydrates
It evaporates eventually
It goes through the cycle
from H2O to vapor
H2O

Ella Pearson

Recess
Children racing out
Rapidly
One out of two breaks
A time to be free and
not have to listen

Sophia Lee

Mind
Thinking
Frantically
It just keeps going
Imagination

Truman Porter

Dogs
Run
Quickly
To play with other dogs
Man's best friend

Noah Kendrix

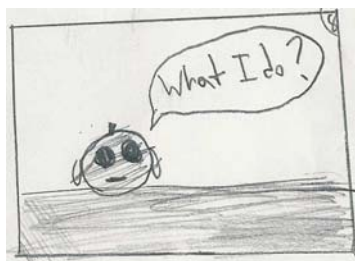
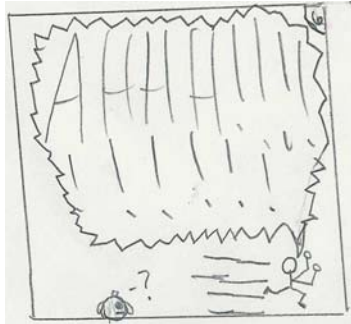
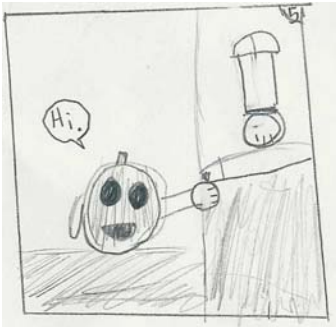
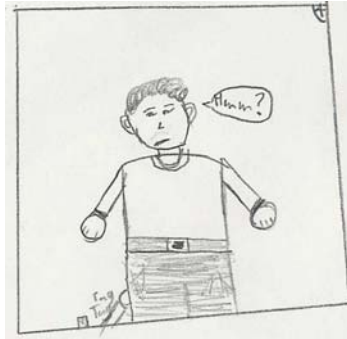
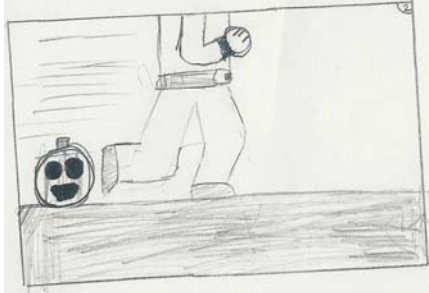
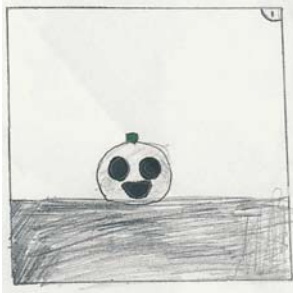
David Diop
Sitting
Quietly
It takes concentration
to write poetry
Strong

Karen Scott-Yetende

Organic farming
Helping
Healthy
It create healthy
ecosystems
Excellent!

Nolan Rogers

Art Attack



THE END

The San Francisco Symphony presents *Keeping Score*



Beethoven's *Eroica*:

November 2, 2006, 10 pm

Eroica in concert: November 5, 1 pm

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.

Dimond Branch Library, November Events

3565 Fruitvale Ave. , Oakland, CA

Friday, Nov. 3

Dimond Book club for ages 9 - 12

Refreshments provided

Call 482-7844 for November's title.

ages 9 - 12 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Every Tuesday night at 7:00

Family Storytime

Stories, songs, and fingerplay

for ages 0 - 6 7:00 - 7:30 pm

Every Wednesday morning at 11:00

Preschool Storytime

Stories, songs and fingerplays

for ages 3 - 5 11:00 - 11:30 am