



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

25 South Hill Court, Oakland, California 94618 (510) 549-4900

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 3, 2008

Dear Kaiser Families,

I've been writing to you about finding just the right tasks to help our children learn—not too easy, not too hard. This week I would like to take a few minutes to reflect with you about the importance and power of math. Our math education starts in preschool when our parents teach us the fundamentals of counting. In kindergarten children are expected to know and use numbers to 30. By fifth grade students are expected to master simple algebra equations, and be fluent in the fundamentals of data and statistics. We are often so absorbed in the teaching of the skills that we forget that **these math tools help us to understand and manage our world.** Just yesterday I scratched out on a piece of paper a comparison to checking accounts based on the interest rates they gave, how much to charge for ATM interactions, the interest rate on the credit card they included, and an estimated number of total transactions. That's lots of math to make an informed decision. These are the kinds of math skills are children will need to maneuver successfully through their adult world.

Here at school our teachers use quiz scores and test scores to monitor student progress and to evaluate the success of their teaching based. These numbers then inform our teachers of who needs intervention, whether the whole lesson should be taught again, and how quickly to pace the curriculum. In all of these situations, the numbers are not an end to themselves, but point to real human situations and reveal how they are changing.

I invite you to work with your child with mathematical situations. If you have younger children help them with counting, teach them about different coins, and have them read labels to you at the grocery store. Older children in third through fifth grade can be invited to review credit card statements, check banking account balances, start their own savings account, and other practical math applications. I recently read an article that said wealthy people teach their children about money, and the rest of us keep it a secret. Maybe that's one of the reasons why they get rich!

And here's another invitation having to do with numbers. This Saturday, November 8, 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:

- It's only \$25 if you get tickets at school!
- It benefits the kids!
- It's a real fun-raiser!
- It's cheaper than your phone bill!
- You get to meet new people!
- You get to mingle with teachers!
- It's much better than another evening of TV!
- It's only \$30 at the door!

How's that for some "big math!"

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

Please Note:

On Monday, November 11, we will celebrate Veterans' Day and school will be closed. School is also closed the week of November 24 for Thanksgiving vacation.

On Friday, November 14, our PTA will host a movie night showing *Kung Fu Panda*. The event will be in the multipurpose room and will feature snacks and drinks. Please watch for other details.

Know Any Future Kaiser Students?

If you have friends, neighbors or relatives who have 2009 kindergartners and are interested in coming to Kaiser, please have them call Robin (549-4900) to schedule a visit. Word of mouth is our best reference!

Volunteers Welcome

Jeff White, 4th grade parent, is sponsoring a Garden Project Day on Saturday, November 15, at Kaiser School with UC Berkeley students. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jeff at jbbster@comcast.net.

How to be in the *Pink Panther*

To include your story or information in your school newsletter: forward your news, questions, or article to **both** of the editors by **5 p.m. on Sundays** via e-mail:

carriemail2001@yahoo.com – Carrie Shepherd
jolie@earthlink.net – Jolie McRae

Please put "Pink Panther" in the subject of your email to ensure that it is not deleted accidentally!

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Nov. 5	PTA General Meeting
Nov. 8	Kaiser School Auction
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day NO SCHOOL
Nov. 14	Kaiser Movie Night
Nov. 18	SSC Meeting
Nov. 19	PTA Board Meeting
Nov. 25-28	NO SCHOOL

How to Reach Kaiser School

Our phone number is **(510) 549-4900**
(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>

**The Pink Panther is also available at
www.KaiserElementary.org.**

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Janice Murphy

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae & Carrie Shepherd
Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

Kaiser Kiosk

Don't Delay! Join Today!

Thank you to the 229 members who have already joined the PTA.

In addition to giving a pizza party to the class with the highest percentage, we are going to give a pizza party to the class with the most memberships due to the variance in class sizes.

Ms. Araki is leading the race with the highest percentage—85%—and Ms. McGhee is leading the race with the most memberships—19. Very impressive!!!

Here's how the classes are doing as of October 31.

% and number of families who have joined the PTA

Apaydin: 56% - 15	Araki: 85% - 17
Bailey: 83% - 15	Banks: 72% - 18
Gorham: 67% - 12	Haruyama: 60% - 12
Hunter: 67% - 18	McGhee: 76% - 19
Neat: 43% - 13	Ross: 59% - 16
Yang: 59% - 10	

It's a close race. Each class still has a chance to win, so turn your membership in today! **The deadline is November 15.**

-Joyce Wessling, VP Membership

PTA Movie Night Is Coming to Our School!

Join us for an evening of family fun! Mark your calendar for **Friday, November 14**, when we will be showing the blockbuster hit movie, *Kung Fu Panda*. You also will have the opportunity to participate in giveaways, including *Kung Fu Panda* Activity CDs and the *Kung Fu Panda* DVD. Proceeds support Kaiser School's PTA. More information on this evening of fun will be coming soon.

HELP THE KAISER AUCTION! DONATE TO THE INSTANT WINE CELLAR

There's still time to donate a bottle (or more) of wine for "The Instant Wine Cellar". Donations will be accepted until 3:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 7. A big THANK YOU to everyone who has donated already!

BevMo is having another "5 CENT SALE!" Get 1 bottle and the 2nd one is only a nickel! So go down to your local BevMo (there's a new one in Emeryville), and get one bottle for yourself and one for the school!

Place donations in the wine box in the nurse's station. (I'll even come by your house and get it from your porch if you don't want to leave it at school. Send me an email or call.) Come on people, give till it hurts!

Thanks! Any questions call or email
Liz Hall
probossliz@pacbell.net
cell (510) 325-7803

Come to the Auction!
It's only \$30 and that's a lot cheaper than a phone bill, or a cable bill, or dinner out, or shoes, or.....

Kaiser Kiosk

Final Numbers for Sally Foster Sale Are In!

Congratulations to the entire Kaiser community for a successful Sally Foster Sale. The final numbers are tallied, and we raised \$15,021, of which we keep 50%. A big thank you to all those families who participated. Congratulations to our top five sellers:

- Miles Haimovitch - \$638!
- Aces Bell - \$578
- Jaylen Dent - \$494
- Zaria Igondjo - \$364
- Emily Percy - \$312

And our top two online sellers:

- Isaac May - \$293
- Aidan Farnsworth - \$289

Remember that you can continue to order from Sallyfoster.com throughout the year and Kaiser will receive 50% credit.

Catalog orders will be arriving on Thursday, November 13. If you would like to help with sorting and distributing boxes that afternoon, please contact Lisa Downes (lisadownes@sbcglobal.net) or Kristin Carpenter (mamademaya@comcast.net). We would love your help!

Thanks again for all your support!

Auction Volunteers Needed

We need a few more volunteers to help with registration, check-out, and clean up at the Fundraiser Auction on November 8. If you are interested, please call or email Dora (510-813-7096) doritapt@sbcglobal.net or Linda (510-507-9380) lindape923@att.net .



A Community Harvest
34th Annual Kaiser Elementary Fundraiser Auction

November 8, 2008 – 6 p.m.
Jack London Aquatic Center

Don't miss out on the opportunity to support our school programs and to enjoy a great party. We have a large and wonderful selection of items for our silent and live auctions—restaurants, kids' items, kids' camps, health and fitness activities, jewelry, cooking classes, dinners, parties (Ladies Bunko Night, and Paisano and Liotta), weekend getaways, wine cellar and much, much more. We'll also have the priceless class and teacher/staff offerings such as:

Classroom quilts, ceramics, pillows and other items designed and made by your children

A day at the zoo with Ms. Haruyama

Tea and cake decorating with Ms. Bailey

An ice cream date at the park with Micah and Ms. Pessin

Soccer with Mr. Neat

Sand Francisco Ferry Ride Adventure with Ms. Apaydin

Landscaping consulting services by Ms. Apaydin

A day of hooky with Mr. Stenger

Order forms are available on the school website www.KaiserElementary.org, in the office and the parent information table outside of the office. At the parent information table you will also find a preview catalog of auction items.

Please remember to make your own childcare arrangements for the evening. **Childcare will not be provided.**

If you have any questions contact Dora (813-7096 or doritapt@sbcglobal.net) or Linda (507-9380 or lindape923@att.net).

YOU CAN STILL BUY TICKETS! TICKETS AT THE DOOR WILL BE \$30.