



TigerTalk

A Publication of the Terman Middle School PTA

December 7, 2006

Terman Middle School
655 Arastradero Road
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650)856-9810
<http://www.terman.pausd.org>

CALENDAR

December

Fri. 8th 7:30-8:30 a.m.
Principal's Coffee

Wed. 13th, 1:00 p.m.
Breaking of the Bread

Fri. 15th
Minimum Day (dismissal at 12:20 p.m.)

Mon. Dec. 18th-Tues. Jan. 2nd
No School-Winter Break

January

Wed. 3rd.
School Resumes

Thurs. 4th 8:30 a.m.
PTA Executive Board Meeting

Mon. 8th 3:30 p.m.
School Site Council Meeting

Wed. 10th 7:00-9:00 p.m.
PTA Meeting & Parent Ed. Night
"State of the School"

Thurs. 11th
Parent Visitation Day

Mon. 15th
No School-Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Fri. 19th
No School-Semester Break

Tues. 23rd
Terman/Gunn Band Exchange

Tues. 23rd-Fri. 26th
Auditions for *The Tempest*

Wed. 24th
Bookathon Begins

Wed. 24th
Science Fair

Wed. 31st 7:00 p.m.
Terman Band Concert

February

Thurs. 1st
6th Grade Class Pictures
Band "Pops" Concert

Tues. 6th-Wed. 7th 7:00 p.m.
Gunn Presentations for Parents

Letter from the Principal

Dear Terman Community,



Here we are between Thanksgiving and the winter holidays. Weren't we just starting school in August? Before we know it the first semester will be ending on January 19, 2006.

One of many activities that happened between editions of *TigerTalk* was the presentation of our Site Plan to the School Board on October 24. The five secondary schools participated in a work session with the School Board reviewing final reports from 2005-06 and our new site plans for 2006-07. You may review these documents by going to the Terman website and clicking on School Site Council.

It was a good opportunity to share with the Board many of the program initiatives and successes we have had here at Terman. We were able to report on several initiatives we took last year including working with 7th and 8th graders on social cruelty, staff collaborating on studying a writing management tool with Jordan and the extensive reading programs available through our library. In January I will be reporting to the school community on the "State of the School" which will include much of this information. Please join us on Wednesday evening 10 January 2007 at 7 p.m.

As we enter this holiday period please remember how stressful this time can be on children, as well as adults. As happy as everyone is for a break from school, the very break from routine can cause

enormous stress for a child. We often see this advice in the newspaper or hear it on TV, and it is worth repeating. Try not to over schedule events in your family life. Take care to maintain a regular routine even during vacation days. Be sure everyone gets enough sleep and a balanced diet, at least between the holidays cookies and boxes of chocolates.

Another point worth repeating is to know where your child is and with whom at all times, especially during the holidays when schedules get hectic. It is crucial to know where your child is and where s/he is going and with whom. Don't hesitate to check on the web sites that they visit. The police department encourages the schools to support parents in being vigilant about where their students are "websurfing". Middle School is a time of discovery but with guidance.

Please discuss with your student the importance of not approaching strangers and of going to a safe place if they are approached by a stranger. Work with them about going to an adult whenever they encounter a stranger. We supervise the school grounds but at Terman we are located adjacent to a public park which makes it difficult to totally eliminate the presence of community. It is important that students feel comfortable telling adults if anyone approaches them.

As vigilant as we ask you to be, we do follow our own advice about safety. Staff procedures on safety are reviewed

Continued on page 2

TigerTalk

TigerTalk is published monthly during the school year by the nonprofit Parent Teacher Association of Terman Middle School.

Principal	Carmen Giedt
PTA President	Joan Jacobus
Executive Vice President	Sharon Dally
Editor	Susan Voll
Layout	Yasuko Weyhrauch
Distribution	Amy Christel

To Submit Articles for Publication:

Email stories relating to the PTA and its activities to Susan Voll at foleyvoll@yahoo.com.

Email stories relating to academic or after-school activities to the Principal at cgiedt@pausd.org.

Attachment should be sent as MSWord or text-only documents. Flyers, coupons, charts and other artistic or hard-to-format items should be placed in the *TigerTalk* folder in the PTA box, located in the school office. They should be on white paper. Only flyers announcing PTA and/or PAUSD sponsored activities may be included. Write your name and phone number on the back in case we have any questions. All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.

Information in this newsletter is provided as a community service. The mention of any business, service or organization in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Terman PTA or the PAUSD.

Next issue

Submission Deadline: 5 p.m. Fri. Jan. 26, 2007

Publication Date: Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007

eNews

To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email to:

majordomo@laki.pausd.palo-alto.ca.us with the following:

Subject: subscribe (unsubscribe)

To subscribe or unsubscribe for 6th Grade eNews:

The body of message: subscribe (unsubscribe)
terman-pta-2009

To subscribe or unsubscribe for 7th Grade eNews:

The body of message: subscribe (unsubscribe)
terman-pta-2008

To subscribe or unsubscribe for 8th Grade eNews:

The body of message: subscribe (unsubscribe)
terman-pta-2007

Letter from the Principal *continued from page 1*

annually and discussed periodically in team and staff meetings. We are continually updating our safety plans. With the media presentation of negative events at schools gives us all a moment of concern, Please call us if you have any questions.

Time just before winter holidays is when students should check to make sure that all their academic obligations are met. Encourage your student to check with all her/his teachers before winter break to see if there is anything s/he might do either before or during break.

Terman's Homework Habitat is a positive resource for students. It is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in the library from 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. Students are able to complete homework in an environment staffed by teachers and an instructional assistants. This is a great place for everyone to work, especially for those who might have a hard time getting work done at home. We are always looking for volunteer tutors to help work with the students. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mike O'Neill or me.

Plans for the 2007-08 school year have begun. Registration for next year will occur during January and/or February. We are currently putting together our course catalog, which will outline the elective courses that students may sign up to take during their seventh/eighth grade year. Currently, we are planning on offering electives in the areas of music, world language, art, drama, home economics, media and industrial technology. We are also working with the high schools so that we ensure a smooth transition for our eighth graders. Both Gunn and Paly staffs will be here in February to meet with the 8th grade students.



Even though Terman is now in the fourth year here at this site we are still making capital improvements and procuring equipment to build our programs. This year we will be adding lights and sound equipment to the stage in the café for drama and musical productions, adding equipment for home economics program, continuing to add technology tools such as LCD projectors to our classrooms and adding reference books to our classrooms. This is all over an above what the PTA is doing with Technology this year. If you are interested in making an end of the year donation to a specific area or a particular item please contact me directly. Donations may be considered tax deductible.

On behalf of the entire Terman Staff, I want you to know how thankful we are for your children and for your support of them in school. Each one is a special gift that we treasure. We sincerely wish all of you a restful and fulfilling break, and a happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Carmen Giedt

PTA President's Letter

Dear Terman Families,

This is a busy time of year for many families, and Terman PTA has been busy as well!

Teachers and parents both are excited about a new program we are piloting this year—team parents. The role of team parents is two-fold. The first is to coordinate parent volunteers to assist teachers with classroom needs. This might include working with students in the classroom, chaperoning field trips, and helping with special events. The second role is to help foster a sense of community in our school. To this end, several of the teams have held potluck dinners to enable families to get better acquainted, and more are in the planning stages. You will find a list of the team parents for each teaching team below.

Don't wait for them to contact you, feel free to let them know that you're eager to help!

Last month we reported that the PTA has already authorized the purchase of up to \$30,000 worth of new technology equipment and that additional purchases will be authorized when our Direct Appeal campaign meets its goal. While PTA fundraising efforts are focusing on technology needs this year, we are not ignoring other needs. The first round of PTA educational grants for this academic year were awarded recently and included funds for:

1. A spelling/phonics curriculum for the Resource department that will benefit students with learning disabilities in all three grades.
2. A storage shed for clay, glazes, and tools that will enable art students to have an outdoor clay working area.
3. iPod speakers to enable students in Spanish classes to listen to music and enhance their appreciation of Spanish culture.
4. An assortment of materials to update Speech and Language supplies and activities.

Many thanks to Daisy Zook for coordinating the Educational Grants program. Teachers and staff will have another opportunity to submit grant applications in February.

If you purchased a paver on your check-in form in August, be sure to look for it in the Terman Triangle. Approximately 50 new engraved pavers were recently placed, thanks to the efforts of Anne Maggioncalda, James Witt,

and Tina Tang. We are now declaring the Triangle officially completed!

Our November parent education program, "Middle School 101," was extremely informative. Parent Education Chair Kathleen Parkinson brought together a panel of speakers to discuss community programs and issues pertinent to middle school parents and students. The panel included our own assistant principal Mike O'Neill and counselor Melanie Blaskower, as well as Adam Howard and Beeny Sander from the Mitchell Park Youth and Teen Center and Krystal Gaumont of Youth Community Service.

Please mark your calendar for our next parent education event on January 10 at 7:00 p.m. Principal Carmen Giedt will give us a "State of the School" update.

I hope you all had a chance to enjoy the Children's Theatre Outreach production of *Dear Edwina*, starring a cast and crew of enthusiastic and talented Terman students. The show featured an inspiring message of being true to yourself, not to mention many helpful etiquette tips! A number of parents participated by driving carpools to rehearsals, baking and selling refreshments, and other tasks, but none of it would have happened without the hard work of our Children's Theatre Liaison, Deborah McCarley. Thank you!

The annual Book Fair, which benefits our school library, was a great success thanks to a team of parent volunteers led by Book Fair Chair Amy Christel. It was wonderful to see kids (and adults) so excited about books. See the article on page 11 for a wrap-up.

Finally, many of you are now receiving eNews for the first time and hopefully finding yourself much better informed about what's happening at Terman. A big Thank You goes to Steve Schmidt for adding all the e-mail addresses contained in the school directory to the eNews mailing list. If you have more than one student at Terman, you may be receiving it twice. This is because we have separate mailing lists for each grade level. The regular weekly eNews goes to all three mailing lists, resulting in duplicates for some of you. Please just delete the extra one and accept this minor inconvenience. We do occasionally send

Continued on page 4



special notices that are relevant to just one grade level, so if you unsubscribe from one of the mailing lists, you may miss some important piece of information. Also, at the end of the year we roll the 8th grade list to Gunn eNews, so students are informed of all Gunn orientation activities.

celebrating holidays, hitting the ski slopes, or just enjoying some family time at home, we wish you a happy and relaxing winter break.

Joan Jacobus
PTA President
jjacobus@sbcglobal.net

Sharon Dally
PTA Executive Vice President
sharon.dally@gmail.com

Please don't hesitate to contact either of us if you have any questions, comments or suggestions. Whether you are

Attention Sixth Grade Parents!

Before your child can start 7th grade, you must provide the following documentation to the Health Office at Terman **before school starts in the fall:**

Proof of:

A series of three Hepatitis B Immunizations

A second Measles vaccine (given as an MMR-Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine)

A TD booster (tetanus and diphtheria) if they haven't had one within the last five years.

The TD booster is recommended, not required.

The series of Hepatitis B shots consists of three shots over a six month period, so please start early so you will be done by the start of school in the fall. **If your child has not started this process and you do not provide proper documentation to the school office, he/ she will not be allowed to attend classes on the first day.**

If you have any questions, please call the Health Office at 856-9810.

2006-2007 Team Parents

Grade 6:

Lester-Diether:

Michelle Wu
Zoya Ferdowsian

Maher-Rodriquez:

Veronique Whitney
Uma Murthy
Gabriela Balas
Julia Sharma

McDermott-Yount:

Nancy Kelem
Daisy Zook

Beske-Casey-Do:

Carol Carbone
Alison Simonetti

Grade 7:

Berliner-Blockhus-Joss-Juarez:

Karla Larson
Vicki Johnson
Anne Averell

Duffy-Rea-Vetter-Carlson-Durchslag:

Cindy Carpien
Vaswati Bhatnagar
Estee Grief

Grade 8:

Cox-DeFrancesco-Helsaple-Jorgens-Rajbhandari:

Lydia Kou
Tina Dinitz

Fernando-Quarneri-Picture-Young-Ames:

Lakshmi Sunder
Eileen Legenhausen

TERMAN UPDATE

What's Cooking in Home Ec?

This is the time of year when students from all over the campus come sniffing at the home economics classroom door and ask, "What did you make today?" Our annual Winter Bazaar will take place on Tuesday, December 13, during brunch and lunchtime, and the Home Ec students are happily preparing a variety of baked goods and candies for the sale. Prices range from \$.50 for a cookie or candy to \$5 for a large platter of goodies, so all Terman students and staff are welcome to come and purchase a food gift for their family and friends. We may even have a few homemade dog biscuits for sale for your beloved family dog!

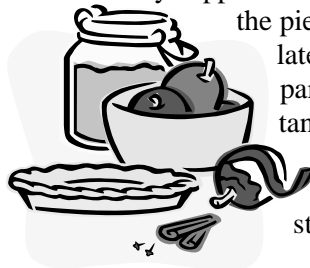
Before the students began cooking, however, the fall semester started with students learning how to do the laundry at home. In addition to trying out a variety of products in a laundry product lab, they watched the fun Maytag video, "Gone With the Wash!" and earned extra credit if they washed a load of clothes or ironed a clothing item at home. Surprisingly, a large number of students are already doing their laundry, so this was an easy assignment for them! We also had a unit on child development and how play is important to a child's physical and mental growth. Students then made the always popular "Boo Boo Bunnies" out of washcloths—a fun way to comfort a child who has bumped himself since an ice cube can be inserted into the bunny's body and held against a bump or sore.

Halloween is a "spooktacular" theme for the fall semester Dr. T's Café. The students decorate invitations to the Terman staff, telling them about the sit-down luncheon in Room F-7. They then prepare all of the food and decorations so that the students can get a little idea of what it takes to run a restaurant. The staff is very hospitable to the students, and they make the event a fun, memorable experience for them.

The fall semester is also a time for Home Ec students to honor the veterans who are patients at the Veterans Administration Hospital near Gunn High School. They designed and decorated beautiful cards expressing their ap-

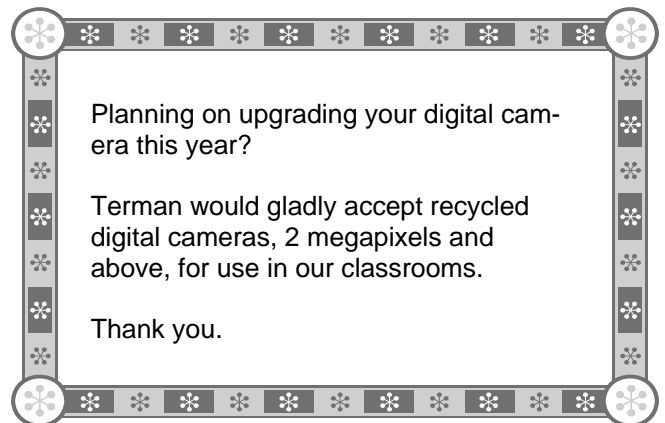
preciation to the men and women who have served our country. The V.A. Hospital always responds by sending us a thank you note, and the students probably get as much out of the cards as the veterans do.

We were very privileged to have Steve Coutre, father of two Terman students, come to our 6th period class and demonstrate their family's apple pie recipe. The Coutre family supplied the class with the ingredients to prepare the pies in our seven kitchens, and they were later sold at a 8th grade fundraiser. Terman parent Belle Griffiths and our own assistant principal, Mike O'Neill helped with the pie-baking extravaganza. Thanks to all of you for helping this demonstration and lab go so smoothly.



In January, the four home economics elective classes will return to preparing foods from our California cuisine unit. We look forward to preparing a variety of healthy foods that represent our multicultural state. At the end of the semester, each student will receive a cookbook containing all of the recipes prepared by their classes. It's a nice way to remember the fun times they had working with other students to prepare good things to eat!

Judy Salmon
Home Ec. Teacher



From the Social Studies Department

Geography Bee

Cities, states, countries and continents - the Social Studies Department is in the midst of the Geography Bee. Preliminary rounds have been held in individual Social Studies classes with top scorers moving on to the last preliminary round in December. The top 10 contestants will participate in the final round on January 10th during Advisory. The purpose of the Geography Bee is to have fun, test our geography knowledge and stand in awe at the vastness of our world's geography! Many of the questions stumped us all – teachers included!

New Textbook Selections

The Palo Alto Unified School District is in the process of selecting new Social Studies Textbooks in grades K-8. Terman is involved in the selection process for grades 6-8. A district-wide Textbook Selection Committee has been convened to examine materials from six different publishers. The committee consists of teachers, parents, administrators, students and community members. By January, the selections will have been narrowed to two different publishers. At that point, the materials will be on display at the District Office and later at Terman for public review and comment. Please stay tuned for more information, as we truly want the Terman Community's input on these textbooks.

Curriculum Boxes

The PTA awarded the Social Studies Department a generous grant last school year to purchase items to enhance the various units taught in 6th, 7th and 8th grades. These materials range from Roman coin reproductions, to Indian saris, to a medieval helm and civil war uniforms. Please see the pictures below to get a sense of the range and uniqueness of these items. The items make up Curriculum Boxes for major units taught throughout the grade levels. The Social Studies Department is continuing to augment these boxes and will gladly take donations! If you have items gathering dust in your garage that you picked up from a trip or visit to a museum, we would love to use them in the classroom. Also, keep us in mind during future travels as well! Below is a list of the various units. Please contact Victoria Blockhus, Instructional Supervisor, if you have any questions at vblockhus@pausd.org.

6th Grade:

- Early Humans
- Mesopotamia, Egypt and Kush
- Ancient Hebrews
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient China
- Rise of Roman Empire

7th Grade:

- Fall of Rome
- Islam
- West Africa
- Medieval China
- Medieval Japan
- Middle Ages in Europe
- Renaissance
- Reformation
- Scientific Revolution
- Maya, Inca and Aztec Cultures
- Age of Exploration

8th Grade:

- Native Americans
- American Revolution
- Constitution
- Westward Expansion
- Civil War
- Industrialization

Music Notes

The music groups have been working hard and sound fantastic! The performances this year should be outstanding. I know you will be impressed with the high performance level of our music ensembles. Please mark the concert dates on your calendar.

Several Terman band students were involved in the Gunn Prism Concert on Thursday, October 19. A prism concert is similar to an optical prism - only in sound. Different groups (large and small) played a variety of colorful music from different locations in the theatre. The experience creates a multi-dimensional sound prism for audience members. Thank you to the Terman Band students who participated. The band performed Dance Celebration by Robert S. Flute: Dionna J., Izzy O., Chloe F., Meera P., Richard W.; Clarinet: Nathaniel B., Alice L., Spencer M., Anne S., Ivy S., Jesse K.; Alto Sax: Eric L., Benjy S., Janine K.; Trumpet: Varun B., Thomas P., Josh T., Arjun D.; Trombone: Devyani B.; Percussion: Will C.

Congratulations to the 7th and 8th grade band students for an outstanding concert on November 8. On December 6 the Orchestra and Choir students will perform at Terman. Other major performances in the spring include:

Dec. 6	Terman Orchestra/Choir Winter Concert	7:00@ Terman
Jan. 31	Terman Symphonic Band/Jazz Band	7:00@ Terman
Feb. 1	Terman Concert Band/Jazz Band	7:00@ Terman
Mar. 3	MTSC Faculty Concert and Art Show	4:00@ Gunn

We thank you again for your continued support of the music program.

Mark Dungan, Band Director
 Lisa Lawrence, Band Director
 Beeri Moalem, Orchestra Director
 Naomi Temes, Chorus Director
 Nancy Coffey, Music Coordinator, ncoffey@pausd.org

Registration Open for 6th Grade Basketball



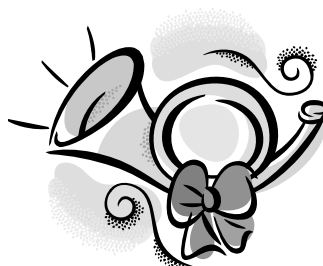
Does your 6th grade son or daughter want to play basketball for Terman? Registration for 6th grade boys and girls school team basketball is now open. Everybody plays!

Registration Options:

- Online: Register online through Enjoy! Online at www.cityofpaloalto.org/enjoy
- Mail-In or Fax-In: Registration forms are available at the school office or online at <http://www.city.paloalto.ca.us/community-services/rec-school.html>. Fax or mail your completed registration form with payment to Middle School Athletics; 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94301, Fax: (650) 321-5612.
- Walk-In: To register in person, please go to the Lucie Stern Community Center at 1305 Middlefield Road.

Last day for 6th grade basketball registration is Wednesday, January 24, 2007.

Any questions? Contact Terman Athletic Director, Jim Geers at jim@futzer.com. Don't wait until the last minute! Late registrations may not be accepted.





“Scene” in the Drama Department

Winter break is on the horizon, and everyone is busy here in G-9. The Drama 1-A classes invited parents and students to see their modern Greek plays – the students wrote the scripts themselves, made masks, rehearsed, and added music as the chorus recited. The performers of the best play in each class received laurel wreaths, just like in the 5th century BCE, during the Festival of Dionysius, when theatre as we know it began. Now the 1-A students are looking forward to our **Stage Combat Workshop** in the beginning of December. In the meantime, they are working on stage blocking, character development, and script interpretation, as we head towards our invited **evening 1-A recitals during the week of January 8, 2007**. Be sure to check in with your Drama student for the exact date!

Meanwhile, the Drama Wheel had two recitals before Thanksgiving, which were fun and exciting. The new Wheel classes are working on their pantomime scenes, some of which will end up in our **Wheel recitals on Tuesday, January 23**, right after semester break. The recitals will be during the students’ regular Drama period, in G-9.

A big **thank-you** to the **teachers** who bring their classes to see our recitals, and to the **parents**, who take time out of their busy schedules to support our wonderful Terman Thespians by coming to watch their performances. Drama just isn’t the same without an audience! Speaking of nice audiences, the Children’s Theatre Outreach Program had a

successful run of the musical comedy, *Dear Edwina*. Congratulations go to all the Terman students who sang and danced and put on a delightful show.

As for the Spring show, Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*, it will be a tremendously challenging and exciting production! I will be holding an **audition workshop** for all interested students on Wednesday, January 10, 2007, from 1:45 – 3:00 p.m. While attendance is not mandatory, it is strongly suggested for all interested performers. There will also be a **parent meeting** for all parents of cast and crew on Tuesday, January 30 - please put the date on your calendars! **Auditions will be the week of January 23**. Look elsewhere in this edition of *TigerTalk* for a flyer with all pertinent audition information. **All Terman students are welcome to audition**, and I will try to cast as many as possible!

Be sure to stop by and visit us in G-9! Any questions or comments are always welcome. I can be reached at drose@pausd.org (or through the Terman website), or of course, by calling Terman.

Thank you again for all of your support!

Dey Rose, Drama Teacher

Soccer Uniforms for Oaxaca

Once again it is time for the annual collection of soccer uniforms to send to the children of our Sister City, Oaxaca, Mexico.

As in the past, Neighbors Abroad, Palo Alto’s Sister City organization, with the help of Girl Scouts of Palo Alto, will place a box for the uniforms in the Terman school office from December 1-15.

Please send **CLEAN shirts, shorts and socks**. Please do not send shoes or shin guards as they are too bulky to pack efficiently.

Thank you for your help. The children in Oaxaca really appreciate our sending the uniforms.



Science Camp Poetry

NATURE

By Agidza M.

I see trees around me
I hear animals around me
I see a river too!

There are beautiful things around me
Leaves have fallen around me
The best part about nature
Is it doesn't cost a thing.

THE RIVER

By Gage V.

The river flows so swiftly
In the sunlight it can shine
The animals around it
Often jump through the pine
It calls out so sweetly
We forget what's yours or mine

I KNOW

By Ivy S. S.

The water's not deep, but the water is cool
Or so I believe, I'm not aloud to touch.

The soil's not grainy, but the soil is damp
Or so I assume, as everything else is.

Some leaves are still green, but those leaves are dead
Or so I can guess, as they are off the tree.

The air is still cool, and smells like the trees
And this I DO know, because I was there.

THE FOREST

By Benjy S.

A bird chirps
Poison oak lurks
Salamanders gleaming bright red,
Crawdads play by the river bed

Banana slugs with their sticky slime,
A forest fern, the shade of a lime.
The forest shade,
The forest light,
The forest in the daytime,
The forest at night.

PTA UPDATE



Book Fair and Café Evening a Big Success!

The Fourth Annual Terman Book Fair was quite a success, thanks to the efforts of our entire school community. The

Book Fair ran from Tuesday, Nov. 28 through Friday, Dec. 1 and included “Café Evening” on Wednesday night. The Café Evening featured luscious homemade crepes and other desserts and beverages. Ms. Salmon’s Home Economics students made delicious apples pies. The desserts and beverages, as well as gift-wrapping service at the Fair, were provided by 8th grade parents and students and sold to support the 8th grade Promotion Party in June. Thanks go to Jane Barbeau, Belle Griffiths, Leslie Fiedler, Laney Harney, Tina Fein Dinitz, Kathy Coutre, Susan Nicholls, Jeannie Meyer, Stacey Newman, Christine Braelow, Sapna Sood, Monica Thompson, Terri Goldman and Eileen Legenhausen for helping with the Café and gift wrap table, and to *all* the parents and students who served the goodies, wrapped books and cleaned up!

Entertainment was provided by Terman musicians who played a variety of instruments. Our 15 student performers were Linda Z., Ben L., Cecillia W., Tim A. and his Mom, Josh, Kevin T., Sophia C., Grace M., David K., Tony B., Kellie N., Coline D., Michael A., Spencer M. and Harrison H.

Thanks to all those who shopped at the Book Fair, sales at this year’s Fair were about 20% higher than last year’s! Wish books were purchased by students and parents for twenty-four teachers who requested titles, and more titles were purchased for classroom libraries with Fair profits. Teachers received over \$1260 in books and our library earned over \$1000 in cash profit to purchase library books. The exact numbers will be reported in the next *TigerTalk*.

An energetic crew of parents volunteered to help Fair Chairperson, Amy Christel, set-up, staff the registers, assist shoppers, and close the Fair—a huge thanks to Evelyn Aguon, Sue Benjamin, Cindy Bickerstaff, Robin Boselli, Bi-Fen Chen, Sharon Dally, Clarissa Douglass, Tania

Goldszmidt, Seher Gursoz, Sara Jackson, Lindsay Joye, Stephanie Langley, Linda Lingg, Nancy Marcotte, Deborah McCarley, Jolande Murray, Trang Nguyen, Janet Ramusack, Amy Scrivner, Amy Smiley, Dianne Vernon, Yasuko Weyhrauch, Danielle Xu, Margaret Yung, and Andrea Ziebell! Thanks also to students Hadar R. and Emily L. for their help in packing up the Fair in record time!

Our gratitude also extends to Terman staff members, who supported the Fair: Eddie Seguritan, Efran Talbano, Jenny Gardiner, and of course, Dede Barnhart for her expert book recommendations and presence at the Fair.

We are hoping next year's Fair and Café will take place after Thanksgiving again, just in time for holiday shopping. We hope to see you all there! Any parents interested in running the Book Fair next year should contact Dede Barnhart at dbarnhart@pausd.org. This year’s chairperson is graduating!

Annual Breaking of the Bread

On Wednesday, December 13, Student Council with PTA volunteers will host a favorite Terman tradition, the sharing of bread from all the cultures represented here at Terman. Students bring a bread item to school on Wednesday morning. PTA volunteers will place the bread on tables and all students will join to share during Advisory period at 1:00 p.m. Please contact Sharon Dally at sharon.dally@gmail.com if you can volunteer.





Terman Direct Appeal Campaign



“A Year of Technology”

As the holidays come and go we will find the school year is about half over. As exciting as this may seem, it also means we will have reached the half-way point for the Terman Direct Appeal Campaign. There are approximately 550 families at Terman and right now about 265 have donated to the campaign. With all sincerity we would like to say Thank You to all those families who have gotten us this far. The donations are of all amounts and they generously add up to approximately \$65,000. The goal that we need to reach is \$72,000.

So as you can see we are close but not yet there. The money we have already received has immediately gone to good use. In fact as you read this, the mobile computer lab is being refurbished. Terman is the only middle school with only one permanent computer lab, so the mobile cart

serves as the second computer lab and travels to where it is most needed. The items that remain on the Priority One list for technology needs are in the areas of digital and media equipment. These items are essential to our students as they need them to present homework assignments and research projects.

As we come to the end of the year (and the close of another tax season), if you are able to send in a donation, this would go a long way towards purchasing the remaining items left on the Priority One list and helping all the Terman students.

Tracy Stevens,
VP Ways and Means and Direct Appeal Chair
trastevens@earthlink.net

A Year of Technology 2006-07 – Terman Direct Appeal Campaign

Please mail to Terman Middle School PTA, 655 Arastradero Rd, Palo Alto, CA 94306 or return to school office. Make your check payable to: Terman PTA. Donations are tax deductible.

Donor Name(s)

First

Last

Home Address

Street

City

Zip

Home Phone _____ Email _____

Student Names/Grades _____ / _____

Student Names/Grades _____ / _____

Bike Safety

As the holiday season approaches, so too comes the bad weather. And suddenly – just like that -- all of our brave biking and walking Terman Tigers want to be driven to school. But unlike the witch in *The Wizard of Oz*, kids do not melt when they get wet! We don't have to stop our good commuting habits just because of a little rain if we follow a few extra guidelines:

Protect. In addition to a good rain repellent jacket, buy a good pair of rain pants. They are simple to wear over clothes and keep bikers completely dry. They can be found for around \$20 at most biking, fishing, or sports stores. The best models are those with side snaps so they can be quickly removed and stuffed into a locker or bag. Contact Kathryn if you would like more information.

Warn. The rain and reduced sunlight make visibility harder for drivers, so bikers should use extra lights to warn drivers that they are there. Red blinking lights can be purchased at most bike stores for a few dollars. They should be placed in the back of the bike, and the front headlight should be turned on. In addition, reflective tape and bands can be worn on shoes, ankles, and items of clothing to help drivers notice bikers and pedestrians.

Obey. There are many more cars on the roads in bad weather, and so it is even more important for bikers to fol-

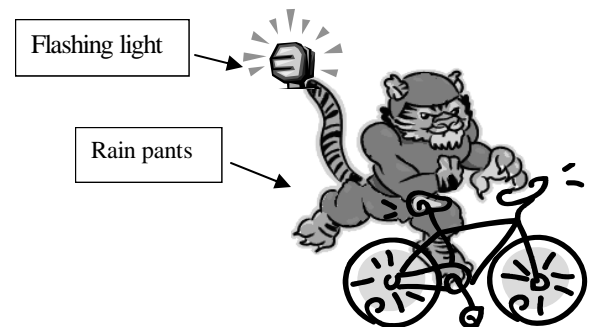
low the road rules. Everyday we see near accidents because bikers are on the wrong side of the road, failing to stop at stop signs, crossing in the middle of the street, or assuming they always have the right-of-way. A good rule to remember is that bikers should obey the same rules as cars

All Terman Tigers who are good with the internet should check out these two sites. The first one is a map showing the best biking streets to Terman and Gunn. The second one is a special biking site set up by the City of Palo Alto to give us hints for better biking. Check them out!

<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/transportation-division/documents/SR2S-2004.PDF>

<http://www.saferoutes.paloaltopta.org/index.shtml>

Kathryn Latour, Bike Safety Co-Chair
Ruth Harris, Bike Safety Co-Chair



Terman Directory Additions / Corrections

The 2006-2007 Terman directories were distributed on Monday, October 16. Listed below are additional addresses and phone numbers that parents requested to have listed in the directory, which we were not able to accommodate in the directory this year, as well as corrections received after the directory went to print.

If you have corrections for next year's directory, please submit the change form at the back of the directory to Joy Helsaple in the Terman office.

Jon Klein jbk1524@sbcglobal.net

PTA Nominating Committee Forming for 2007/2008 PTA Elections

Believe it or not, it's that time again! This is an excellent opportunity to participate in a short-term project that will have a real impact on Terman in the coming years.

We need seven (7) volunteers who can meet to recruit and propose a slate of candidates for next year's PTA executive board and make proposals for key committee chairs. The nominating committee consists of five (5) members and two (2) alternates.

The committee will meet starting in January and will propose a slate of candidates for the executive board at the March general meeting of the PTA. The slate of candidates plus any nominations that are made from the floor will be voted on at the April meeting.

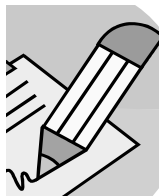
Being on the nominating committee does not prevent you from running for a position or volunteering for a particular committee chair.

The job descriptions and proposed qualifications are drafted so your job should be mostly networking and finding a good cross section of parents who are willing to help out next year.

If you are interested or can think of someone who would do a great job, please let me know as soon as you can.

Thanks in advance,

Duncan MacMillan,
PTA Parliamentarian
dmcmlan@pacbell.net



Attention 8th Grade Parents

Gunn PTSA is looking for an 8th grade Terman parent to serve on their nominating committee. If you are interested, please contact former Terman parent and current Gunn PTSA President, Peggy Esber, at peggyesber@aol.com or 917-0550.



Email Update – Attention SBCglobal.net email users

With the ever-growing spam issues, all email providers have been diligently trying to protect their clients from unwanted spam. Sometimes the end results are that non-spam email is blocked, mismarked as spam and sent to the junk or bulk mail folders, or lost into the unknown mist of the Internet.

It appears that there may be a problem with sbcglobal.net users receiving pausd.org email accounts. If you believe you may have experienced difficulties sending or receiving emails from your child's teachers you can do one or more of the following:

1. Go into your email Preferences settings/options and choose "Always Allow" or add "@pausd.org" to your whitelist.
2. Call SBC and let them know that you have experienced difficulty with sending/receiving email from a pausd.org account and have them investigate the matter.
3. Check you "Junk" or "Bulk" mail folders often for misdirected emails.

If you believe that your child's teacher has not received your email, then leave her/him a note in their mailbox in the office just to be sure. We want to be sure we remain connected and keep supporting your child through their time here at Terman.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Fact Sheet

To: Parents and Staff

From: Linda Lenoir, PAUSD Nurse

What is Pertussis and How is it Spread?

Pertussis, or whooping cough, is a contagious, bacterial disease. The germs that cause pertussis are spread through the air when an infected person sneezes, coughs, or talks. Other people in close proximity then inhale the germs. The first symptoms usually appear 7 – 14 days after a person is exposed, although some people do not start to cough for up to 21 days after their last exposure. Pertussis is commonly spread within families and among other close contacts.

What are the Symptoms:

Pertussis usually begins with cold-like symptoms, with a runny nose, sneezing, and mild cough. This initial illness is similar to a minor upper respiratory infection. The cough gradually gets worse over 1 to 2 weeks, progressing to severe coughing spells, often followed by gagging or vomiting. Vaccinated children, adolescents and adults often have milder symptoms, resembling bronchitis or asthma, that frequently are not recognized as pertussis. However, the disease can cause serious illness in very young children and infants.

How can Pertussis be Prevented?

Protection against pertussis from childhood DTP (Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis) shots usually wears off by the age of 11 or 12 years, leaving most adolescents and adults susceptible to infection. Because the vaccine is only about 80% effective, even some recently immunized children can catch pertussis. Appropriate antibiotics may prevent infection in close contacts of cases and thereby prevent spread of disease.

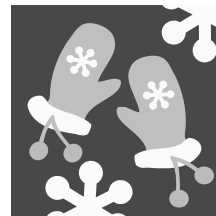
What Should I Do?

Observe for a cough that gets progressively worse after the first few days. If you or your child develop a severe, choking cough, call your doctor. If the physician thinks you or your child may have pertussis, you or your child should stay away from others until completion of the first 5 days of a course of antibiotics. Laboratory culture for *B.pertussis* is requested but a negative result does not rule out pertussis. Preventative antibiotic treatment is recommended for

household members and other close contacts of diagnosed cases.

The FDA has approved pertussis booster vaccines for both adolescents (ages 10-18 years) and adolescents/adults (ages 11-64 years). These vaccines will greatly enhance our ability to prevent and control pertussis. Please contact your primary physician or your local health clinic regarding the booster vaccines.

For more information, please call the Public Health Department at (408) 885-4214 and ask to speak with Beth Davis, public health nurse.



It's Nobody's Fault: Anger, Anxiety, Depression, & Bipolar Disorder in Kids

Presented by Navah Statman, past president of NAMI and Gina Sessions, PhD Director of clinical services at Children's Health Council

As parents we want our children to be happy, healthy and productive. But what do we do when we see our children with issues that do NOT allow them to function well in their daily lives? Our speakers will discuss identifying problems, seeking help, finding resources, and family coping strategies. Issues both at home and at school will be discussed for kids in elementary through high school. Gina Sessions will answer clinical questions. NAMI is the National Alliance on Mental Illness www.namiantaclar.org.

Wednesday, January 17, 2006. Special evening meeting is 7-9 pm. Hospitality begins at 6:45pm. Covington Elementary School Multi, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos. This parent education event is sponsored by the SELPA 1 CAC (www.selpa1cac.org). All of our events are free and open to anyone who feels they might benefit.

No registration is necessary. For more information call or email Karen Mueller at mueller4@ix.netcom.com.



Adolescent Grief

by Laurie Linscheid, MFT Adolescent Counseling Services On Campus Counseling Program

The loss of a loved one is an issue that many teens deal with every year. When a family member, close friend or peer dies, teens experience a loss that will be a part of their lives forever.

Adolescent years can be inherently difficult. These young people are in a phase of their lives when they are no longer children, but not yet adults. They have many of the responsibilities of adulthood, but lack many of the privileges. Their lives are in constant change as they begin the process of separating from their parents. In many ways, teens are pushing their parents away in an effort to take some risks at independence. If a teen loses a parent or caretaker during this period in their life, the teen is often left with a sense of guilt that will complicate the normal mourning.

Similarly, the loss of a sibling may create some feelings of guilt over normal sibling interactions that may have been affected by competition or rivalry. The loss of a close friend may create complicated feelings of guilt over academic competition, envy, or normal peer conflict.

Regardless of the circumstances surrounding the loss, adolescents need support to get them through. Because many adolescents appear physically mature, those around them make the mistake that they have the emotional maturity of an adult and treat them as such. They are expected to “be strong” and “take care of the family”. Unfortunately, when a teen is given such a responsibility, they miss out on the opportunity to grieve, which may have harmful circumstances later on.

The way a parent reacts to the death of a family member will have a great impact on the coping of their adolescent son or daughter. With the best intentions, many parents are too caught up in their own grief to be aware of how their teen is dealing with the loss. Often parents make the mistake of not talking to their teen about the loss that they have experienced. The belief is that in doing so, he or she will experience less sadness. The reality, however, is that teens may suffer more from the feelings of isolation than from the actual death itself. They may also believe that they are the only ones grieving and feel that their feelings are not validated.

Healthy grieving is important for a teenager. Signs of unhealthy grieving may include changes in eating and sleep-

ing patterns, disinterest or decline in academic performance, change in peer or family relationships, increase of risk taking behaviors, or denial of pain and an appearance of being overly strong.

To support teens through the grieving process, parents can help by giving their teen permission to grieve by talking to your teen about the loss, sharing personal feelings to help normalize theirs, and confirming that it is all right to be sad and feel the emotions that they feel.

As the anniversary of the loss of a friend or loved one approaches, it is important to be aware that teens, not unlike adults, may begin to re-experience the feelings originally associated with this loss. Their reaction to the anniversary date may be similar to the way they reacted when the loss originally occurred, and what they need from those around them may be similar to their needs when the loss occurred. It is important for parents to be aware that these dates may trigger an emotional reaction and be prepared to be available for their teen.

Similar to an anniversary, the holidays can also trigger intense emotional reactions for teens. Holidays, which are traditionally filled with family and friends, can be a painful reminder of someone they have lost.

If you find that your teen is having difficulty coping with the loss of a loved one, there are many services available at their school as well as in the community. Adolescent Counseling Services has therapists on your teen’s campus to help him or her to cope with this loss. We also have access to outside resources to help parents to get through this difficult time.

Adolescent Counseling Services is a community non-profit, which provides vital counseling services on six secondary school campuses at no charge to students and their families. To learn more about ACS, please visit our website at www.acs-teens.org or call Marina Bystritsky, Ph.D. at Terman Middle School. ACS relies on the generosity of community members to continue offering individual, family and group counseling to over 1,500 individuals annually, helping teens find their way! ACS provides critical interventions and mental health services, building a better future for tomorrow.