

The Briones Banner

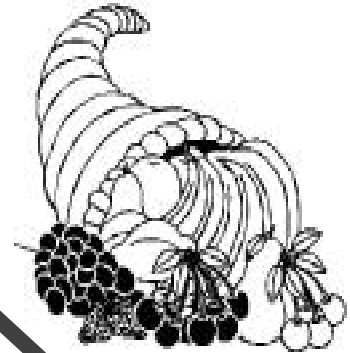


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Juana Briones Elementary School
4100 Orme St. Palo Alto CA 94306
415 856 0899

Happy
Thanksgiving

No School
November 28 and 29



Calendar

Nov. 20-25th	Book Fair
Monday, Nov 25th	Pizza Chicago Night, at 5:30pm
Wednesday, Nov 27th	Early Dismissal-1:30
Nov 28-29	Thanksgiving Break

The Briones Banner is now also available on the Briones web site at www.briones.palo-alto.ca.us/

President's Message

With the holidays approaching, I'm sure you would all like to get into the spirit of the season and experience the joy of giving, and the PTA can help! We have many upcoming events and wonderful opportunities for you and your children to help others, and work together with others at our fundraising and community events.

Maria Eichler in the office is collecting **scrip donations** that will be given to families in our community who could use some help around the holidays. Scrip such as Toys R Us or Ross may be purchased from our scrip queen, Amy Christel, and given to Maria in the office who will see that it gets to the right place. Also, look for the **Toys for Tots Campaign** that will be happening right here at school. As in past years, a Palo Alto fire truck will be pulling up to collect gifts from our children. The gifts can be brought from home, or students can bring in an envelope with money to exchange for a gift here at school. We would

like to encourage our children to save or earn the money for the gift themselves, so that it will be a meaningful contribution for them.

To show our teachers how much we appreciate all they do, we will be having our annual **Teacher Cookie Exchange on Wednesday, December 11th**. Contact Debbie Sutherland at 493-1782 if you can help make cookies. We need lots!

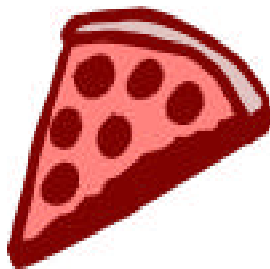


Five people and one alternate are needed for the **PTA Nominating Committee**, who will contact people to fill out our PTA executive roster for next year. This is a good way to make sure no one nominates YOU for a busy job. The committee will meet a few times at the beginning of the year. Contact Suzanne McKenna at 856-4192 if you can help with this very important job.

February will be filled with popular events, and we need many volunteers to make sure everything runs smoothly. Our annual **Ice-Skating Party** is coming up on **Saturday, February 1st**, and is great fun for the whole family! We will need help with the food and ticket sales. Contact Stephanie Langley at 857-9539 if you can help. We also need volunteers to help with our new event this year, the **Valentines Party and Silent Auction on February 8th**. Please contact Jeanne Chisholm at 424-1228 if you can help with food, decorations, or auction items. The **Juana Run** will be coming up soon after the skating party, on **Saturday, March 1st**. We need course volunteers and help with registration. Contact Dale Reynolds at 493-2118 if you want an excuse not to run!

Don't forget, **Pizza Chicago Night on Monday, November 25th** from 5:30-7:30pm. You don't want to be home cooking three days before Thanksgiving, so we invite you and your friends to join us at Pizza Chicago for dinner. If you pay for your meal with Pizza Chicago scrip, 10% of the total goes to the school. You can buy your scrip from Amy Christel ahead of time Wednesdays at school, or you can purchase it from her that night at the restaurant. We'll look forward to seeing you there!

—Lynn Kidder ,PTA Co-President
493-6575



PTA News and To Do's

WHO IS PAFE?

Dear Juana Briones community, PAFE is an education foundation raising funds for programs in all PAUSD schools. Our board of directors includes parents, teachers and community leaders. For the past 16 years, our focus has been geared to grants for teachers to create innovative projects. Last year, we awarded grants totaling \$350,000. This year, PAFE takes on a new challenge. PAFE hopes to raise an unprecedented \$650,000 to award grants in three specific areas:

1. Enhance High School Science Programs - the majority of the funds, \$500,000, will go toward a multi-year, \$1 million campaign to directly fund the science curriculum at Palo Alto and Gunn High Schools. The funding will buy technology, equipment and furnishings for science labs and classrooms. The PAUSD's Building for Excellence program did not address these needs.



2. Education Grants - another \$100,000 will directly benefit teachers and students in Palo Alto schools through grants awarded for new classroom projects.

3. Professional Development for Elementary School Teachers - a total of \$50,000 is earmarked for additional training for elementary teachers in math and writing instruction. These are ambitious goals, but we're confident they're within our reach. These ideas were formed after extensive collaboration and input from Superintendent Mary Frances Callan and her staff, as well as principals, teachers and parents.

Our strategy to raise funds is two-fold. We have a direct appeal letter

going out shortly; and we are planning our second annual gala on March 8, 2003. Last year's event raised \$150,000. We're hoping to be even more successful with this event, and anticipate raising \$250,000.

For more information, please visit our website at www.pafe.org. You may also call us for information.

Sincerely,

Anne Avis - 321-2781

Cindy Ziebelman - 852-9797

Co-Presidents, PAFE

DFO Moving Forward - Plans January 2003 Launch

The District-Wide Funding Organization (DFO) is pushing ahead with plans to officially launch in January 2003. We have been working together with the School District, PTA's, and Principals to assess our fundraising needs and create the plan for our fundraising campaign.

We are also working with the Palo Alto Foundation for Education (PAFE) in order to clarify our distinct roles. PAFE raises funds for capital projects (one-time expenses), such as this year's science campaign. DFO will raise money for recurring costs, such as school staffing. The initial inspiration for the DFO is that PTA's will no longer be allowed to raise money to pay for staffing as of the 2004-2005 school year.

I encourage you to watch for DFO announcements in the coming year. There will be opportunities to volunteer and work side-by-side with parents from other Palo Alto schools. Your time and effort will not only help the PAUSD students, but will also provide a chance to make new friends in the community across town and across school boundaries. Working with middle and high school representatives will also provide us insight into those schools, where our children will be in a few short years.

As the Juana Briones representative to the DFO, I encourage your participation, and welcome any comments or questions you may have. Please email me at mattpassell@yahoo.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

FYI

Decorations Committee?

We are still looking for a few good people who would like to help with the decorations and ambiance at our "Adult Social and Silent Auction", Feb. 8th. You don't necessarily have to do all the labor but could help come up with some of the decorating ideas. We can find the worker bees later. Please call Jeanne Chisholm at 425-1228 and join a TEAM.

Direct Appeal

Donations to our DIRECT APPEAL campaign are still dribbling in. It is never too late to donate to the many resources our school has to offer. If you have misplaced your donation form you can pick one up in the Briones office from Maria or Sharon.

National Children's Book Week

During the week of November 18-22, 2002, schools, libraries and bookstores across Palo Alto will be celebrating National Children's Book Week. This is a perfect opportunity to see that every child in our school district has his/her library card. Thank you for your support of our literacy efforts in the Palo Alto Unified School District.

As the Cold Season Approaches

Where would you like to be when you have a cold, are running a high fever, or even (yikes!) vomiting? Certainly your first choice would not be at school. It is very important, as well as school district policy, that you keep your sick child at home.

When sick, your child infects students, teachers and staff – nobody benefits from this scenario.

Also, your child is more susceptible to other infections when at school with a lowered resistance. Please have consideration for everyone in your school community.

The following are health recommendations from the district nurse:

1. Be sure your child leaves the house with at least a jacket or sweater.
2. **Keep your child home** if he or she has a temperature of 100 degrees or more and **do not** send that child back to school until the temperature has been **normal for 24 hours**.
3. If your child develops a cold, the best treatment is rest, fluids, and acetaminophen for fever and discomfort. **Do not use aspirin** for children under 18 years of age.
4. **Keep your emergency information current in the school office.** None of us like to see a child have to stay in the office (feeling miserable) because a parent or other contact cannot be located.

Linda Lenoir, RN. M.S.N.

District Nurse



Lost and Found to Disappear

The Lost and Found rack, located near the office, will be emptied on Wednesday, December 18th. If you are missing anything, you have a few more weeks to claim it.

The Phantom Tollbooth

Announcing Terman Middle School's first drama production, The Phantom Tollbooth. Based on the book by Norton Juster and directed by Dey Rose. This play is about Milo, an ordinary kid, who is bored by just about everything. He is about to experience something very extraordinary, a magical journey to help bring rhyme and reason back to Dictionopolis. Performances are Friday, Nov. 22, 7:30 and Saturday, Nov. 23, 2:30 at Terman Middle School. Tickets: \$6.00 adult, \$4.00 child.

Items included in the Briones Banner are presented as a community service. The Briones PTA and PAUSD do not necessarily endorse any of the programs mentioned here. For more information about any item, please check to see if complete flyers are available in the school office or are posted on the bulletin board just outside the school office