



The Pink Panther **Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School**

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

School & Community Newsletter May 16, 2006

Message from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

You certainly spoiled us last week! All week we had the most delicious taste treats brought by our wonderful families to be shared with all the staff. We had some prospective teachers visit us as well and they couldn't believe the support that our families provide!

Next week our fourth and fifth graders will have their Open House on Tuesday, May 23rd at 6:30 and then the instrumental music concert at 7:00. The jazz band will also perform that evening. We expect all 4th and 5th grade students and their families to be in attendance that evening.

The younger students will be performing on Wednesday, June 7th, with primarily a dance program. The Open House will be from 6:30 to 7:00, followed by the children's performances. There will also be a PTA meeting that evening and all parents are encouraged to stay to elect the officers and approve the preliminary PTA budget for next year. This will be a most important meeting.

Speaking of budgets, it appears that the governor is going to send back some of the money he borrowed from the education community three years ago. Oakland looks forward to the returned funds so that our budgets at the sites can begin to balance. When we submitted our preliminary budget, we were in the red for next year.

Last Saturday evening, our own Kaiser Miracle Choir joined with other Oakland Youth Chorus Miracle Choirs to perform a spectacular concert! We are blessed to have a very special director, Kelly Takunda Orphan, working with our students. It was also fun to see our alumni performing in the Middle School Choir.

Other good news: the Barrios Foundation has once again awarded Kaiser School an \$8,000 grant for our Orff music program in the primary grades and we will hear this week if we will have an Arts Anchor grant for next year. If so, we will be able to maintain the upper grade "wheel." We are discussing offering PE, Science, Social Studies and instrumental music for of the wheel next year.

Our thanks to the many parents who accompanied our first through third grade children on the Monterey Bay Aquarium field trip. It was a beautiful day and despite the long bus ride, there was much to be seen and learned. Our children, as always, were well behaved on this adventure. This month many of our classes are exploring sea life and this experience will make the learning much more real.

Standardized testing is almost completed and we ask that you return the information on the attached form (Student / Parent Information) so that we know that the information we send to the state is as accurate as possible. Look for the green form!

We hope that the Mother's Day weekend was a wonderful one for family closeness and we encourage you to join us on June 3rd for the retirement celebration.

Please note that an additional day has been added to the end of the school year, so now classes will extend through JUNE 15th.

- Katie

Getting In The Know

NOT RETURNING TO KAISER NEXT YEAR?

It really would be helpful to hear from you if you are moving or otherwise not planning to return to Kaiser next fall.

As of now, given our current numbers and the new students who are joining us, we will probably be having classes set up as follows:

- K** two Kindergarten classes,
- 1** two first grades,
- 1-2** a one/two combination,
- 2** a second grade,
- 3** two third grades,
- 3-4** a three/four combination,
- 4-5** a four/five combination and...
- 5** a fifth grade.

When we put combination classes together, we seek to have students who can focus and work independently.

No teachers have been assigned to these classes yet as we need to complete the hiring and then make the appropriate assignments.

ASSISTANCE WITH ADDRESSING INVITATIONS??

If you have a few minutes to stop by the office and address invitations **for Katie's retirement party on June 3rd**, please let us know.

If you have a little time to share with us, we would be delighted to hear from you!

How to use the Pink Panther

To include your story or information in your school newsletter: check with Katie McLane, then forward to both editors by 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.
cara_eva@hotmail.com and
kbradley@ix.netcom.com

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
May 20 2:00 pm	Kids Take the Stage production of Hansel and Gretel (Kaiser cast) Veteran's Memorial Bldg., 2203 Central Ave., Alameda
May 23 7 p.m.	Instrumental Music Concert 4 th & 5 th grades
May 26 - 29	Memorial day Holidays – No school
June 3 12 noon – 5:00 pm	Katie Mc Lane's retirement party at Kaiser
June 5 7 – 9 pm Kaiser library	Old and new PTA board meeting
June 7 6:30 p.m.	K – 3 Evening of Dance & Music Performances PTA Meeting/New Principal
June 13 1 p.m.	5 th grade graduation
June 15	Last day of school

How to Reach Kaiser

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

Principal Katie McLane's email address is Catherine.Mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us

How to use the Kaiser School Website

For our public information, be sure to visit and browse www.kaiserelementaryschool.com and to participate in the school community group go to, http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool_group/ and join!!

Parents & Teachers Together

Katie McLane Retirement Gift Needs Volunteers!

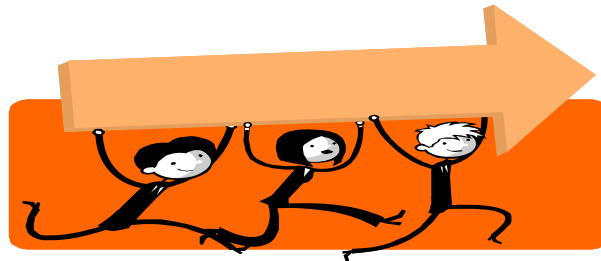
Money has been collected to rebuild the fence at Katie's home to keep the deer out. However, we need lots of helpers to get the job done.

Call Tom Rust (336-9417) to volunteer for the following:

Sunday, June 4th- Crew to dig post holes and set new posts

Saturday, June 9th- Crew to build fence

Sunday, June 10th- Crews to finish fence building and plant new plants



Looking for Kaiser PTA Board Members for 2006-2007!

We are currently looking for people interested in serving on the PTA board next year. It is a great way to become more involved in our wonderful Kaiser community. We are specifically looking to fill positions for:

Parliamentarian

Historian

If you think you might be interested in these, or any other position, please contact Lisa Downes (lisadownes@sbcglobal.net, 532-5913), Lesley Clark (lesleyrc@aol.com, 531-0114), or the Kaiser office.

TILE MURAL

Margaret Yang came up with the idea to create a mural of tiles to honor Katie McLane. With only sixty tiles available, we don't want any disappointed artists, so please turn in your reservation forms (available in office) ASAP! All the tiles will be decorated on June 3rd, the day of the retirement party for Katie.

ONLY 2 GARDENING DATES LEFT THIS SCHOOL YEAR!

Please join us after school (3:00-5:00) on Thursday, May 25th (no school that Friday) and again on Friday, June 9th.

We need to complete the classroom garden bed relocation project.

All of the beds have been moved and repaired, but there is some (!) dirt that still needs to be moved. Lots of workers would make this project go quickly.

See you on Thurs., May 25th and Fri., June 9th!

Janan and Tom

Events and Happenings

**Hello Parents, Teachers and Students,
Dimond Branch will have these programs for
Dimond Branch, 3565 Fruitvale Ave.**

MAY

Every Tuesday in May, except May 2
Family Storytime
ages 0-6 and adults
7:00 - 7:30

Every Wednesday in May
Preschool Storytime
ages 3 - 5
10:30 - 11:00

FLAT SCREEN TV'S ARE PRIZES FOR THE RAFFLE

Tickets went home with the kids and to give you a chance to win a flat-screen TV. More are available in the office. This is a great chance to donate to the school, help raise the money we need to meet our PTA goal and to "update" the entertainment center in your home. Please turn in your tickets by May 31 and drawing will take place June 1.

Worth repeating...
LIGHTS ON THE UPPER FIELD!!

Thanks to our PTA, money was allocated to provide subtle lighting in the auditorium for the evening and there is now a light mounted on the shed which tremendously helps light a large section of the upper field and one set of stairs. Thanks to the hard work of Gail and Mark Elliott and to Brian Donaldson for completing the installation!

JUNE

Saturday, June 10:
Summer Reading Program begins - Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales.
Sign up at any Oakland Public Library, read 8 hours and win fabulous prizes.
For ages 0-13.

Tuesday, June 6
Family Storytime
for preschool - age 7
7:00 PM

Tuesday, June 13:
Magic Mike presents magic, comedy, and music for all ages.
7:00 PM

Tuesday, June 20:
Juggler Marcus Raymond presents a HIGH ENERGY juggling show that will make the children laugh themselves silly.
For all ages
7:00 PM

Tuesday, June 27:
Opera Piccola performs "Hansel and Gretel" for all ages
7:00 PM

Wednesday, June 21:
Early Literacy Program - Enjoy a preschool storytime and learn some pre-reading tips.
For Preschoolers and their adult caregivers or parents.
10:00 - 11:00 AM

Every Wednesday (except June 21)
Preschool Storytime
for children ages 2 - 5
10:30

Community Action for Kaiser

KDFC FM 102.1 SAVE SCHOOL MUSIC WEEK

http://new.kdfc.com/2006/save_school_2006.cfm

May 15-19

Learning music expands young minds and makes better students; it instills discipline, teamwork and confidence. But because of budget cuts, music programs in public schools need our help now more than ever.

May 15-19, KDFC will make donations totaling \$20,000 to music education programs in the Bay Area: twenty \$1,000 grants, all directed by listeners.

Here's how to 'win' a donation for your school. Three times each day -- at 7am, Noon, and 4pm -- be ready to make the 'Save School Music Call.'

If you're the 10th caller to 415/975-KDFC, we'll send \$1,000 to the school music program of your choice*.

KDFC will distribute another \$5,000 (\$1,000 each day May 15-19) in donations based on your grant requests. Every day at 6pm during 'Save School Music Week' KDFC's John Evans will announce that day's \$1,000 recipient. Tell us, in 150 words or less, about a school music program worthy of support.

Your Name

Your email address

Your phone number

Name of school

Why does this school or music program deserve a grant?

Thanks for your nomination!



DO YOU HAVE THE NEW ADDRESSES FOR THESE OLD FRIENDS?

We would love to have the new addresses of these families. If you know how to reach them, please call the school or email Robin at robin.sasada@ousd.k12.ca.us

Wilcox family (both households)

Kim and Cam Leung

Ricks Family

Nick Cassman