



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

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

School & Community Newsletter May 23, 2006

Message from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

On Sunday we welcomed lots of new families to Kaiser School and they were so excited! It is such a joy to be a part of a school which has such a wonderful reputation and I can honestly say that this new group of families will be a welcome addition to our Kaiser family. The children were delightful and my personal thanks to Bruce Byers, raconteur extraordinaire, for his willingness to come in on Sunday afternoon to read and sing with the children. We will definitely miss Bruce next year as he leaves us to join his wife in Washington, D.C. Although he has only been with us for two years, his magical style with young children, conscientiousness as a member of the staff and his joyful singing will be missed both in the classroom and at every staff gathering. He has been a real asset to our school in innumerable ways! Thank you, Bruce Byers.

Thanks to the PTA and Joyce Wessling who hosted the Ice Cream Social! Joyce, Tim, Neil and little daughter, Mei, made everyone feel at home and welcome. We have a few siblings coming next year and we encourage our families who weren't at the "Sunday Social" to check out the Kindergarten play dates that were set up to help kids and their families connect.

This weekend our very talented young actors in the afternoon program "Kids on Stage" performed Hansel and Gretel. Among the cast were: Megan DeVecchi (Gretel), Kendall Murphy (Hansel), Lucy Gaw (Elsa), Neil Wessling (Zephyr), Alexandra and Gabriella Kashefi (Liesl and Lunette), Maya and Olivia Kelleher (Fritz and Clairette), Emily and Sarah Percy (Sophia and Tatiana), Sage Smith (Echo), Alyssa Kunesh (Alalia), Alexa Butts (Frizette Marie Bamboozle) and Isabella Davis (Marianne). Watch for next year's productions. They are fabulous! Thank you, Katy DeVecchi, for setting up such wonderful afterschool programs and thanks to the PTA for sponsoring partial scholarships.

Next weekend Pope Flyne and our oldest group of African Dancers will be performing in San Francisco at an international dance festival! Kelly Takunda Orphan, the director of our Miracle Choir for the Oakland Youth Chorus, tells us she and her group (KTO) will be performing free at the Temascal Street Fair. Both Pope and Kelly are amazing musicians and we are blessed to have them inspiring our young musicians.

Another staff member who is leaving us is Steven Wade, currently the 4th/5th grade teacher, but he also has taught 2nd and 3rd grade at Kaiser School for eleven years! Many families have enjoyed Steve's treks into the woods of Tilden Park for camp-outs, a tradition in his class over the years. Steve will have the opportunity to be the Science teacher at a Quaker school in the Philadelphia area. We know that his wife, Martha, and son, Jonah, will enjoy being near the maternal grandparents. Thank you, Steve, for your years of service to Kaiser School!

Don't forget that we have a four-day holiday this coming weekend. Enjoy your Memorial Day weekend and let Robin know if you're coming to the retirement celebration on the 3rd of June. Light hors d'oeuvres will be served throughout the day, so we really need to know who's coming.

Parents of 4th and 5th graders- we need you and your children here Tuesday evening for the band concert. Younger jazz band members should also plan to be here.

- Katie

The Pink Panther Staff is now forming for the 2006-2007 school year! Contact Eva Caraher or Lisa Downes for details.

Getting In The Know

NOT RETURNING TO KAISER NEXT YEAR?

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

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

DON'T FORGET -- 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.

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

DATE / DAY	EVENT
May 23 7 p.m.	 Instrumental Music Concert 4th & 5th grades SEE PAGE 8 !!!
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	5 th grade graduation 1 p.m. Goodbye Party Mr. Wade! 3:30
June 15	Last day of school

How to Reach Kaiser

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

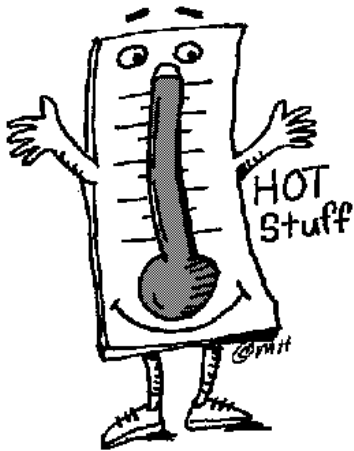
Principal Katie McLane's email address is Catherine.Mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us

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!!

RAFFLE TICKETS

Please sell those Raffle tickets. We need to make our goal and have funding to operate the school next year. **The goal is \$10,000.** At this time we have \$1,500.00. Please take them to work or have your family buy a pack or two. The prizes are GREAT.



TICKETS are \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00 OR 12 FOR \$10.00. We are attempting to close the financial gap made by the low participation in the Pledge Drive and the low participation in the Walk A Thon this year.

Please help support your school or we may need to cut some programs that are only funded through the PTA next year.

If each family sells **\$40.00** worth of Raffle tickets we will reach our financial goal of \$10,000. This means we will NOT have to cut any programs next year. I hope to be able to announce at the general PTA Meeting that the Kaiser families have step up to the plate and helped their school.

SCHOOL ICE CREAM PARTY JUNE 12th

I believe that our Kaiser community will rise to the occasion and we will meet our goal of \$10,000. In anticipation of reaching this goal we are planning an Ice Cream Party for the school if we meet our goal.

The PARTY will be MONDAY June 12th, 2006, directly after school. We hope all parents come and celebrate a job well done.



What a great way to end the year and say so long to each other until the next year.

If you are not returning to Kaiser next year this is a great time to say good - bye and exchange contact information for the future.

Leadership News

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL ELECTS OFFICERS FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR

At the May 16th meeting of the School Site Council, Linda Pulido-Esquivel was elected chairperson. Serving with her will be Steve Neat, secretary, and parents Karl Debro, Valerie Hutson, and Yvonne White. Other staff members are Janan Apaydin, Mel Stenger, and Margaret Yang. Mar Smith has offered to be the parent alternate and will be at all the meetings.

We thank Renato Almanzor for his excellent leadership over the past two years. His skills have been tremendously helpful.

Our parents have been real advocates for equity in every aspect of our school planning and they have been diligent in analyzing data and helping plan for school improvement and staff development opportunities. I have often bragged that our School Site Council is the most "savvy" group of parents and staff that any school could possibly hope to have. Linda will offer outstanding skills as she takes over the leadership of this important group.

All parents are welcome to attend these meetings, so be sure to watch for the announcements on the SSC meetings posted on the bulletin board outside the office and in the Pink Panther.

If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of 100 people, with everything else remaining the same, it would look like this:

[Thanks to Darrell Sevilla for this item]

Kaiser PTA Board Members on board for 2006-2007! Next Meeting: June 7th.

We now have a full slate of people set to serve on the PTA board next year. It is a great way to become more involved in our wonderful Kaiser community.

Reminder: before the performance on June 7th at 6:30, there will be a **PTA meeting** to vote in the new board members and approve a preliminary budget for next year.

More info: contact Lisa Downes (lisadownes@sbcglobal.net, 532-5913), Lesley Clark (lesleyrc@aol.com, 531-0114), or the Kaiser office.

There would be:

- * 57 Asians
- * 21 Europeans
- * 14 from the West
- * 8 Africans,

- * 52 would be female
- * 48 would be male

- * 70 would be non-white
- * 30 would be white

- * 70 would be non-Christian
- * 30 would be Christian
- * 20 would be Muslim

- * 95 would be heterosexual
- * 5 would be homosexual

- * 6 people would own 59% of the world's wealth, and all 6 would be from the United States

- * 80 would live in substandard housing
- * 70 would be unable to read

- * 50 would suffer from



Parents & Teachers Together

Katie McLane Retirement Gift Needs Volunteers!

date corrections!

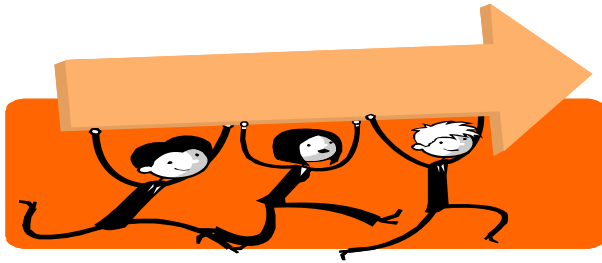
Money has been collected to rebuild the fence at Katie's home to keep the deer out. However, we need lots of helpers to get the job done.

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

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

Saturday, June **10th**- Crew to build fence

Sunday, June **11th**- Crews to finish fence building and plant new plants



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!

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

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.

A Celebration for Mr. Wade

As most of you know by now, Mr. Wade, our current 4/5 teacher, is leaving Kaiser school after 12 years of teaching our children. He will be moving to Philadelphia with his family this summer.

Please join current and former students and their families on **June 13th, starting at 3:30**, in the Kaiser school library to thank him for all his years of hard work. Please bring along a snack/hors d'oeuvre to share.

Please also feel free to pass this information along to any former Kaiser families you see. If you need information you can call Mar Smith at 510-534-0548 or e-mail her at emily5@prodigy.net.

Thanks.


Up to Date with Measure B ??

Hello Kaiser Parents and Teachers,

I am a parent of children at Chabot Elementary School, and co-chair of **the campaign for Measure B**, a \$430 million bond measure on the June 6 ballot. Passage of Measure B will allow OUSD to do repairs and renovations in Oakland's schools. As you know, the average Oakland school is 60 years old. If Oakland doesn't raise this money, which will qualify it for \$100 million in state matching funds, those matching funds will go to other cities. We would really like Kaiser to help us get the word out to parents about voting for Measure B on June 6. (I realize we may have missed your May PTA meeting, but we still would like help with informing folks in your community.)

Please contact me with any questions or comments. In case it helps, we have endorsements from the PTAs at Chabot, Hillcrest, and Crocker Highlands, as well as the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee and Senator Don Perata.

Thanks for your support of Oakland's public schools!
Jody London
510/658-2100 (h)
510/459-0667 (w)



Have you seen the **fact sheet about Measure B** that you can provide to your group?

Jody London also can get you yard signs to distribute (outside school property). The yard signs in particular are critical right now.

Contact Ms. London, the Pink Panther, or the Kaiser office for a copy of the fact sheet.

Dear All,

Hopefully you saw the latest issue of "From a Teacher's Perspective" (Thursday March 11th).

As teacher's representative Steve Neat has cautioned,

"Now that we have a teachers contract, let us not grow complacent. We still have a lot to do.

Measure B will be a very hard fight."

Leading up to June 6th, the Pink Panther has heard about opinions on both sides.

Many people in the community, particularly parents, are instinctively and understandably for it... however, the measure has its intricacies. Some people that have spoken about it are against it. And the OEA and CTA have taken no official stance.

However you might see it, we urge you to check into it *for yourself* and get the word out on Measure B.

Summer Time Cruise

BELLWORKS EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

We have a great Summer Educational idea as well as an opportunity to raise money for Kaiser. We use these Educational materials in several classrooms. The **Work Book** is for the Summer and allows your child to be able to keep their skills sharp through the Summer in preparation for the next academic year.

The Book is one hundred pages and takes $\frac{1}{2}$ hour each day for your child to complete. It is a great opportunity for your child to review some areas as well as begin to explore ideas being taught to them the next year.

Each book is \$15.00 and **\$4.50 of that amount comes to Kaiser**. You will have an opportunity to view the book at the Year End performances as well as information will be in the office. There will be a short window of time to consider buying the book. We will need to have the books to the families before the last day of instruction.

If your child completes the book and returns it at the beginning of the school year we will have a special prize for them.

If you have any question please contact Cynthia Thompson (510) 703-3658 or cynthomson@mac.com

SUMMER CAMP CAR POOL?

If any Kaiser Families are attending the Oakland **Sarah's Science Camp** at Roberts Park the week of June 19th or June 26th

or

the **OFASS (Oakland Fine Arts Summer School)** at Glenview Elementary School during the month of July

please call Deborah (Taki's Mom) at 510 532-2613 about car pooling in the morning.

Music To Our Ears

The Kaiser Band and String programs will present their final performances of the year this Tuesday, May 23, 2006 at 7:00pm in the Kaiser Auditorium.

All 4th and 5th grade student groups will be participating. Concert dress is black or dark bottoms and white or very light tops. Jeans, t-shirts and sneakers are strongly discouraged.

- There is **no afterschool child care** for band students from 3:00pm to 6:30pm **unless** they are actively enrolled in Adventure Time.
- Students should leave campus to insure a rest period and a meal before the evening performance.
- **Band members** are asked to return to Kaiser by 6:30pm and report to the staging area.
- Jazz band will meet in Mr. Rust's room.
- Strings will meet on the stage.
- Beginning Band will meet in the library.
- Intermediate Band will meet in Mr. Stenger's Kindergarten Room.

Third grade families are encouraged to attend this exciting concert performance as all incoming 4th and 5th graders will be able to participate in either band or strings next year!

Parents are needed to assist with tuning, and student management prior to each group's performance. Assistance is also needed for the recording of the concert and for pictures.

Please contact Renae Briggs (renaeb@california.com) 879-1710 or 393-6242 if you are able to assist in any of these areas.

The
Players

Dress
Code!

Where
to Go
Before
the show

Bring your
3rd Graders

We
need
you
too!