

# THE PINK PANTHER



KAISER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 10, 2003



## CHECK OUT THE DATES

### NOVEMBER

- 10 PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 11 VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY
- 12 Minimum Day
- 12 PTA Meeting 7:00pm
- 14 African Dance
- 14 Bake Sale/Yang
- 17 Brownie Meeting
- 18 Principal for a Day
- 19 Harvest Festival
- 19 Minimum Day
- 21 African Dance
- 21 Bake Sale/Fragoso
- 27-28 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS
- 28 Brownie Outing-Velveteen Rabbit/SF

### DECEMBER

- 1 Brownie Meeting
- 5 Bake Sale
- 6 Kaiser Miracle Chorus Performance
- 6 Brownies Marching in Oakland Holiday Parade
- 8 PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 12 Bake Sale
- 15 Brownie Meeting
- 16 Winter Performance
- 18 Winter Performance
- 19 Bake Sale
- 22-Jan 5 Winter Break



**REMEMBER:**

**TOMORROW, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> IS A SCHOOL HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF VETERAN'S DAY.**

## OAKLAND YOUTH CHORUS MIRACLE CHOIR TO PERFORM ON DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>

The Oakland Youth Chorus' Miracle Choir will be performing on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at The First Congregational Church of Oakland at 2501 Harrison Street at 2:00pm and 8:00pm. The afternoon concert tickets are \$5.00 each and available only at the door. The evening performance tickets are \$20.00 for adults, and \$10.00 for students and seniors. There are also group tickets available for parties of 15 or more. Please contact Ms. McLane for details.

Support Kaiser's current and past students who are part of this great group. Mark your calendars today and plan to

## CHANGE IN SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL MEETING!

Due to Parent-Teacher conferencing this week, the School Site Council meeting will be rescheduled to the third Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the library. All parents are welcome to attend.

## Walk-a-Thon: Tying Up Those Loose Ends!!!

Our Walk-a-Thon was a great success and we have recorded pledges of over \$20,000. Make this number a reality by getting your pledges in no later than November 21<sup>st</sup>. Remember that pledges must be in by that date to qualify for classroom and individual prizes (including those great Lion King tickets!) Turn your money in to Robin Sasada today!!

## Coins for Kaiser Kids



Keep those coins coming!!! You are all doing great! The jar is beginning to fill up again, so when you can, empty those pockets, purses, car seats, sofas and dryer lint traps and support Kaiser!

**KAISER PTA MEETING  
WENDESDAY, NOVEMBER  
12<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00PM IN THE  
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM.**

**COME LEARN ABOUT  
TECHNIQUES TO TEACH  
YOUR KIDS MATH.**

## PTA CORNER

Linda Pulido-Esquivel  
President



Our next PTA Meeting will be held this Wednesday from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Everyone is encouraged to attend! We will have a Math Night (strategies to help your child have fun with Math and tips to make Math homework easier) as well as a general PTA business meeting. The following items will be on our agenda: updates from the fund raising, programs, and membership committees. We will also have a financial report, play structure status, Principal's Report and an Open Forum for you to bring your questions. We are looking forward to seeing you then.

### Plastic Bags for Earthquake Supplies

Well, we have been waiting for a while, but the plastic bags for earthquake supplies are due in on Wednesday. New families, please plan to have your supplies ready so your bags can be completed. Continuing Kaiser families should check their bags for outdated supplies and replace them this week. Thanks for keeping Kaiser kids safe and prepared!

**HENRY J. KAISER, JR.  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
25 SOUTH HILL COURT  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94618  
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## One Warm Coat

Brownie Troop #1877 from Kaiser School will be collecting "gently worn" coats which will be donated to the East Oakland Recovery Center in time for the colder weather. This coat drive began last week and we will be collecting coats through the end of the month.

The drop-off location is the large wardrobe box in the main hallway, decorated by the Brownies with their images of what One Warm Coat and community service mean to them.

If you have any outwear at home that is in good condition but that you and your family members haven't worn for a while, consider a donation to our coat drive.

Thanks in advance for all your support of this effort. Last year, Brownie Troop #1877 collected over 74 coats for the East Oakland Recovery Center and the families that they support.

HELP YOUR STUDENT'S CLASS  
EARN A PIZZA OR ICE CREAM  
SUNDAE PARTY WITH 100%  
PARTICIPATION IN KAISER'S  
MEMBERSHIP/  
PLEDGE DRIVE.

THE DEADLINE FOR JOINING IS  
**NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**, SO PLAN  
ON JOINING TODAY IF YOU  
HAVEN'T ALREADY.

KAISER KIDS NEED YOU TO  
JOIN TO HELP RAISE  
OPERATING FUNDS FOR NEXT  
YEAR'S PTA BUDGET AND  
HELP PAY FOR MAT-TING AND  
INSTALLATION OF OUR NEW  
PLAY STRUCTURE.

## Membership/Pledge Drive 2003-2004

Lesley Clark/Cynthia Thompson



Thanks to all Kaiser families who have joined the PTA in this year's Membership/Pledge Drive.

We are just a bit short of \$15,000, which is a great improvement over last year, up almost 50%. We have reached a participation rate of 63.57%.

The good news is that we have through the end of this week for the rest of our families to join the PTA and support the school through a contribution to the Membership/Pledge Drive. November 15<sup>th</sup> is the last day to submit your contribution and to have your child's class eligible for a pizza or ice cream sundae party.

More Membership/Pledge brochures are available in the office if your child does not bring one home today.

Here are the standings:

Ms. Apaydin	86.96%
Mr. Aurelio	80.00%
Ms. Blunt	73.91%
Mr. Stenger	71.43
Mr. Rust	69.57%
Ms. Fragoso	60.877%
Mr. Wade	60.00%
Mr. Neat	51.85%
Ms. Reese	51.61%
Ms. Staples	50.00
Ms. Yang	45.46%

Thanks to the families of the following students, who have recently submitted their Membership/Pledge donation:

Aaron & Zena Anderson  
Todd Blakely  
Amya Deslierres  
Ms. Fragoso  
Breyon Williams

Remember, only 5 days left!!!

## Another Jewel in Kaiser's Crown: Our Miss Pearl



How lucky we are at Kaiser, to have our own Ms. Pearl. Other schools would be jealous if they only knew about wonderful Pearl McClenan.

Ms. Pearl was retired from her job of thirty years as a supply clerk at the Alameda Naval Air Station and working part time at Sears, when she saw an ad in the newspaper for a part time morning job at Kaiser School. That was thirteen years ago and she's been with us ever since. Ms. Pearl taps into her past careers as a supply clerk and customer service representative and is responsible for doling out supplies, copying everything from homework packets to the Pink Panther, supervising the cafeteria at lunch and helping out with those wonderful kindergartners. She is an incredibly nurturing person and Kaiser's kids love her.

However, Kaiser (as much as we would like to think differently), is only a small part of Ms. Pearl's very busy life. She has bowled in a league at Mel's in Alameda for forty years. She is an active member of Evergreen Baptist Church in Oakland, where she serves as secretary of the Sunday School Class, President of the August Calendar Club and is an active member of the Pastor's Support Group. In addition, she was the Chairperson for the recent Church Anniversary Celebration, for which she received recognition for the successful event.

Ms. Pearl also loves to travel, having been to Europe a couple of times, Hawaii, and on cruises to Catalina and the Caribbean. She loves the freedom of travel and enjoys seeing new and different sights.

Ms. Pearl lives in Oakland and comes from a long line of only children; she's an only child, her daughter Artis is an only child, her grandson Darel is an

only child, and her great-grandson Kyrus is an only child! Artis lives here in Oakland and is the Director of Administration for EBMUD. They enjoy spending time together and frequently go out to the latest plays and movies. She travels a little farther to see Darel and Kyras, who live in Washington, D.C. Darel is a clothing designer with his own menswear line, which he designs and sells. Kyrus, a little young for a job at two and a half, is an active, smart, bright child who loves to read. He has a strong aptitude for all things technical, having shown his "Nana" the correct way to operate the DVD player on her recent visit to see him last month. When Ms. Pearl visits D.C., she and Kyras enjoy going to the park and just "hanging out" together.

With everything going on in her active life, we're just so tickled that Miss Pearl has time to spend at Kaiser every day. We certainly can't do without her!

## The Gift of Language: A.J. Robinson Helps Kaiser's Kids



A.J. Robinson is Kaiser's Speech and Language Therapist who is at Kaiser a few times a week, working with students with speech and articulation disorders and those that have difficulty with language skills. In addition she works with children with voice disorders and students who are hard of hearing. Ms. Robinson also works at Joaquin Miller and the American Indian Charter School.

Ms. Robinson works with both individuals and groups providing therapy. She combines students of the same age and with the same skill needs to give them the best experience. Ms. Robinson often has a social skills group that helps kids adapt more socially when language

issues impact them. In addition, Ms. Robinson works in the classrooms, team teaching with Kaiser's teachers. She is proud to work with many of them and enjoys the collaboration. Ms. Robinson is acutely aware of the demands on classroom teachers, having been one herself earlier in her career.

Ms. Robinson has a BA from UC Berkeley in Art and English. She earned both her regular and Special Ed Teaching Credentials from San Francisco State University. She worked as a researcher at the VA Hospital in Martinez before she began teaching, in LA Unified, where she was for ten years. She came to Oakland ten years ago and has been here ever since. She loves her work, but often finds the job demanding and a bit overwhelming. She has a caseload of over fifty students that she develops individualized programs for and she receives more referrals on top of that. Her love is working with the students, who she says provide her with something new every time they are together.

Ms. Robinson has an active life away from teaching. She is an artist involved in photography, drawing, lithography and etching. She has also written books in the field of Speech and Language. She makes presentations nationally in her field. Ms. Robinson is active in her book club and travels extensively. She and her husband, Dragan, have traveled to Europe, Hawaii (where she is from), and Egypt. Her husband is from Bosnia, and her last trip there was an eye opener with regard to the travesty of war. Ms. Robinson has a stepson Milos, who now lives in Bosnia and a wonderful mother-in-law, Sofija who lives with her and Dragan.

Kaiser is lucky to have such a wonderfully dedicated professional like A. J., who only with us part time treats all Kaiser kids as special! Thanks for your dedication to our students, A.J.!

