

# THE PINK PANTHER



KAISER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 24, 2003



## CHECK OUT THE DATES

### NOVEMBER

- 26 Minimum Day
- 27-28 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS
- 28 Brownie Outing-Velveten Rabbit/SF

### DECEMBER

- 1 Brownie Meeting
- 3 Minimum Day
- 5 Bake Sale
- 5 Gardening Day 3:15-5:15pm
- 6 Brownies Marching in Oakland Holiday Parade
- 8 PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 10 Minimum Day
- 12 Bake Sale
- 13 Kaiser Miracle Chorus Performance
- 15 Brownie Meeting
- 16 Winter Performance
- 17 Minimum Day
- 18 Winter Performance
- 19 Bake Sale
- 22-Jan 4 Winter Break

### JANUARY

- 5 School Reopens
- 5 Brownie Meeting
- 7 Minimum Day
- 9 Bake Sale
- 9 Gardening Day 3:15-5:15pm
- 12 Brownie Meeting
- 12 PTA Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 14 Minimum Day
- 14 PTA Meeting 7:00pm
- 16 Bake Sale
- 19 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY
- 21 Minimum Day
- 23 Bake Sale
- 24-25 Brownie Overnight Trip
- 28 Minimum Day
- 30 Bake Sale

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

**Thanksgiving Holidays  
Thursday and Friday  
Gobble, Gobble, Gobble**

**For those families who have not turned in their emergency supplies or paid the \$7.00 please do so today.**



## A MESSAGE FROM MS. MCLANE

As we approach my favorite holiday, I am reminded of the many blessings that we take for granted. Living in the incredibly beautiful Bay Area and being surrounded by families from so many different backgrounds who willingly share their traditions with others, are just two of our blessings. The food, the music and the fellowship of a broader circle of friends and acquaintances enhance our own family traditions.

Our children are having the chance to live the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as they learn and play together. I am often reminded of our good fortune in having a community that is so diverse. One of the important beliefs that we share as a community is an acceptance of the fact that while all have our family beliefs, it is important that our children be exposed to as many cultural activities as possible. That is why we talk about the traditions surrounding Chanukah, Ramadan, Dia de los Muertos, Kwanzaa, Christmas, and the various celebrations that the Asian cultures have for New Year, as well as many others. This is our opportunity to increase our children's awareness and appreciation of the richness and diversity that is so bountiful here. We welcome the sharing of

traditions at times like the Harvest Fest and thank the families for participating.

Mrs. Frago's class put on a tremendous Friday sale that focused on healthy foods! The children were looking for sweets and chips, but instead found celery sticks with chunky peanut butter (my personal favorite), edamame beans, red peppers, broccoli, carrot sticks and wonderful mixed fruit drinks. Thanks to the parents of the third grade class for helping support this effort for healthy foods. I know that the children inspired me to plan for my family's Thanksgiving visit by buying more fruit and vegetables and less candy and chips. We have sent brochures home with the children in the primary classes, which have plenty of recipes for healthy meals, and we encourage our families to make a conscious effort to sensible eating. Statistics say that one in four children in America are overweight or obese and we don't want to contribute to that. We feel that the exercise that our children get at recesses, P.E. and during lunchtime help keep them in shape. Some of the credit goes to Steve Neat for teaching the fourth and fifth graders how to play soccer in a respectful manner.

We had a visit from the State Administrator, Dr. Randy Ward, and our executive director, Donald Evans last Tuesday and they were very impressed with the fact that

**MS. MCLANE CONTINUED...**

all children were on task as they paid their surprise visit. Later that evening, Dr. Ward alluded to his visit to our school and Peralta that day by saying that it was obvious that when good teaching was occurring, all children could make great academic strides.

I feel blessed being able to work with such a wonderful staff and thank my lucky stars each day that I am at Kaiser School. We continually strive to make what we have here even better and that challenge will always remain. Enjoy your Thanksgiving break!

**One Warm Coat Thanks**

Kaiser's own Brownie Troop #1877 has been collecting gently worn coats in the wardrobe box in the hallway by the main office. The great news is that the box is almost full!! Thanks to everyone that took the time to donate. These coats will be donated to the East Oakland Recovery Center to help Oakland families during the cold winter months ahead.

Please donate your gently worn coat before Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> so that the Brownies can deliver them to the Center in early December.

Thanks for supporting Brownie Troop #1877's community service project for the fall.

**WANTED/NEEDED**

Anyone know of an operable car that needs an appreciative owner? Mr. Aurelio could use a car to get him from home to work each day. Please call him at 510-237-9472.

**STEVEN WADE  
IS RECOGNIZED AS A  
NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED  
TEACHER !**

Congratulations to Steven Wade for taking the time to apply for Board certification and to those who helped with the filming of the classroom activities so that there would be both a written and video presentation. The challenge of applying for this prestigious award is monumental, due in part to the tremendous amount of time that it takes. The best thing about it is that the focus is on improving one's practice. This year our Resource Specialist, Elizabeth Whittaker, is making an application and next year, it is my dream that many of our staff members will also apply. I am committed to helping them find time to prepare their portfolios, and if there are parents who enjoy videotaping, please let us know. We want to do more videotaping this year, to improve our own practice.

Next year, we will need the approval of our parents to include their children in the video taping of classroom lessons, because the tapes will go on to the National Board review teams.

**HENRY J. KAISER, JR.  
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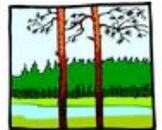


**Coins for  
Kaiser Kids**



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

**Gardening  
News**



The last gardening date was on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> (always the first Friday of each month). Thanks to our volunteers: Karin (Camille), Dennis (Savannah) and Katherine (Benjamin and Jonathan).

Working together, we accomplished the continued weeding and removal of non-native plants and mulching of the front circle as well as weeding and mulching of the butterfly larvae garden are in back of the office area.

**Our next gardening date is:  
Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from  
3:15-5:15pm.**

Donations that are still needed of large garbage cans (plastic or metal with our without lids) and outdoor pains for painting butterfly murals.