

THE PINK PANTHER

H. J. KAISER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 30TH, 2004



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This certainly was a lovely week to have an extended break! I hope that you and your families had a chance to bundle up and walk in your neighborhoods, noticing the last leaves falling to the ground and the beauty of the sun reflecting on the raindrops last Friday! We certainly are blessed to live in this remarkable part of the world.

Three more weeks and we will have another break, and then the excitement of learning will pick up again in January and carry us through to June 22nd! While you are planning activities with your families, check out the Parent magazine that comes home each month. Lots of great ideas! This coming Saturday, December 4rd, is the Holiday Parade and the following week, December 11th, two events are vying for our attention: the Interfaith Gospel Choir at the Paramount and the Oakland Youth Chorus with our Miracle Choir at the First Congregational Church at 2501 Harrison (next to Westlake Middle School.)

ANOTHER NATIONAL BOARD TEACHER!!



Congratulations to Elizabeth Whittaker, our resource specialist, who passed her National Board exams! Now Kaiser has two National Board certificated teachers-

Elizabeth and Steve Wade. My goal is to get several more of our staff to take the time to make the application and take the exams. We also need to acknowledge that Jill Reese has received her Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) certification.

HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE CHANGES

Please note that there are some changes in the date of the holiday performances for certain classes: Jill Reese's class will perform on Tuesday, the 14th. Steve Wade's class will be on Thursday evening, the 16th, and the instrumental music students in 4th and 5th will be performing on Thursday night, the 16th. The Orff music for the K-3 will remain the same, except that after the performances, you can bring your child back to the auditorium and let them sit in your lap. Due to time constraints, will not have a finale for the winter concert.

NUTCRACKER


This **Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.** we will be hosting a group of musicians playing portions of the "Nutcracker Suite" by Tchaikovsky. Our PTA continues to bring cultural activities to all of our children.

PROSPECTIVE KAISER PARENTS' VISIT

There are **two evenings** that we have scheduled to talk with interested new kindergarten parents. They are **December 8th and January 5th at 7:00 p.m.** and we hope that if you have friends and neighbors who might be interested in Kaiser, that you will encourage them to come on one of those evenings. Our school's very existence is based on the word of mouth from our families. Our operating budget is now completely based on our having a full enrollment, and it is imperative that we continue to draw new families to our school. We are unique in many ways- and we need to let people know that we are here!! Thank you.

Katie McLane





upcoming calendar

Wednesday, December 1 School Site Council & G.A.T.E. Meeting

Monday, December 6 PTA Board Meeting
Town Hall Meeting

December 6-17 Food and Clothing Drive

Tuesday, December 14 Winter Holiday Performance:
Mr. Stenger Ms. Blunt Mr. Rust Ms. Yang
Mr. Neat Ms Reese

Thursday, December 16 Winter Holiday Performance:
Ms. Apaydin Ms. Pletcher Ms. Bailey Mr. Wade
Mr. Byers 4th and 5th Instrumental Music Students

December 20-31 Winter Recess - School Closed
School reopens January 3, 2005



WHAT GOALS SHOULD WE HAVE FOR ALL CHILDREN-including the gifted?

At Kaiser, we hope to attain the following goals as the result of a series of appropriate learning activities experienced over time:

- A core of knowledge about the world
- Basic skills and a fabric of integrated-subject learning
- Ability to think at higher levels
- Desire and ability to research a topic for a purpose
- Ability to communicate capably in writing, verbally and non-verbally
- Desire and competence to behave as a responsible citizen
- Ability to problem-solve, convergently and divergently

- Qualities of the sophisticated reader and a love of reading
- Ability to make qualitative judgments in the arts and sciences
- Desire to realize high personal goals and aspirations
- Independence, discipline and self-responsibility for learning
- Ability to relate positively to self and others
- Skill to provide quality leadership or to support as a follower
- Ability to relate to a mentor in an area of interest
- Lifelong love of learning

MCLANE'S MULTIPLICATION MASTERY CLUB IS DESIGNED TO HONOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY MASTERED THE MULTIPLICATION FACTS WITH AUTOMATICITY!

If your child is in the third through fifth grades and does not know his or her multiplication facts "by heart" PLEASE help him or her! The use of flash cards, dice games (factors up to six) or the more delightful "Multiplication Rock" are all means to the important end. We can order CD's and tapes for our families at \$12.95, if you call the office. We will try to have them available for stocking stuffers if you place your orders before Friday, December 3rd.



SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL AND GATE MEETING

Wednesday, December 1st at 3:45 there will be a meeting of the School Site Council which will be looking at the program for extending the learning for our gifted and talented children while bolstering the academic program for all of our students. The planning phase for next year's budget is underway right now.

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL SEEKING ANOTHER PARENT REP

If you are a parent of a K-fourth grader, we encourage you to visit our meeting on Wednesday and decide if you would like to be a voting member of the SSC. There is a position available, due to Susan Simond's resignation to assume the role of PTA President.



COATS, JACKETS, LUNCHBOXES---HELP!!

Susanne Plunkett, our director of Adventure Time, went through over 150 jackets, coats and sweaters and found three with names in them. We returned them to the children immediately and called one of the students who had moved and his folks were elated that the jacket was found.

Because our Brownie Troop is holding a drive for coats, we will donate all the coats that have not been picked up by December 17th.

Kaiser Gardening News

Eat too much turkey? Need some exercise? Then join us this Friday after school for our monthly First Friday of the Month Gardening. There is always lots to do- even during the winter months. See you Friday from 3:15-5:00.

Kaiser's Junior Girl Scout Troop 2871 is sponsoring "To Kids From Kids"



To Kids From Kids (TKFK) is a Girl Scout holiday service project sponsored by the Girl Scouts of San Francisco Bay Area Council (GSSFBA).

TKFK reaches out to foster children, newborn to 18 years old, living in Alameda County. With the efforts of many volunteers and contributors, these children are ensured a gift during the December holidays.

Gift donations are being accepted for kids ages Newborn – 18 years. Donation suggestions include toys, games, balls, puzzles, art supplies, and gift cards for the older kids. All gifts should be new, non-violent, and unwrapped

We will be **collecting gifts through Thursday, December 9**. You can place your donations in the box in the main office. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Esquivel 569-2048.

www.webwisekids.org is a website that is an introduction to a program for both parents and youngsters that teaches them how to avoid sexual predators online.

TOWN HALL MEETING IN DISTRICT 4, SPONSORED BY GARY YEE

Dr. Ward has asked Gary to plan and promote a town-hall style meeting for his staff to begin presentation of both the multi-year fiscal recovery plan, and to address issues of school reutilization. The meeting will be held on **Monday, December 6th from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** at Sequoia School, 3730 Lincoln Avenue, off Mac Arthur Blvd. There is excellent parking on the playground and easy access to the auditorium.

**Hello Parents and Teachers,
Here are the events at Rockridge Library for
December and January:**

FOR CHILDREN:

Toddler Story Times:

1st & 2nd Saturdays at 10:30am: 12/4 & 12/11, 01/08
(We are closed on the
first Saturday of the New Year.)

Pre-School Story Times:

1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 10:30am: 12/1 & 12/15, 01/5
& 01/19

Pajama Story Times:

2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00pm: 12/14 & 12/28, 01/11 &
01/25

NOTE: On December 28th, we will have a Winter
Holidays Special Pajama
Story Time.

DECEMBER Special Event for Kids:

Paper Craft Workshops with Won-Ju: Making Origami
Tree Ornaments -- for a
Rockridge Library tree and for your own, or to decorate
your home for the
winter holidays.

We will make a crane with a beaded string, a butterfly, a
photo frame
(bring a small photo) and a star/wheel.

Dates: Wednesday afternoons; December 1st, 8th, &
15th, from 3:00 to
4:00pm.

Please sign-up at the Children's Reference Desk, or call
597-5017.

Drop in during December to Make Snowflakes for our
windows. Kids of all ages
welcome! Ask at the Children's Reference desk.

FOR ADULTS:

Lawyers in the Library:

First Tuesdays, 12/7 & 01/4. 6:00-8:00pm. Sign-ups
start at 5:00pm

Library will be closed:

Saturday, 12/25 for Christmas.

Saturday, 01/01 for New Year's.

Monday, 01/17 for Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday.

Thanks again!
Erica Siskind

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