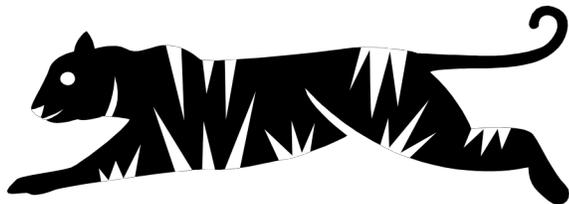


THE PINK PANTHER

H. J. KAISER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 14th, 2004



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

As we approach this very special time of year, I want to take time to thank all of you for your support and for the gift of your wonderful children. They make each day an adventure for us and we really do have fun teaching them!

At the end of the week the report cards will be sent home and I hope that each of you will look at your children's strengths and transmit your belief that they will have a successful year. Many of our teachers have indicated an area or two that you can help support, and the consistent recommendation is that an adult make time to read with our children.

Below is a story that is excerpted from Wally Amos' article in the Costco newsletter which Robin Sasada passed along to me:

"Tapping the Power of Positive Words"

Recently, someone sent me the following story. It's a strong case for giving positive support.

A group of frogs were traveling in the woods, and two of them fell into a deep pit. All the other frogs gathered around the pit. When they saw how deep it was, they told the unfortunate frogs they would never get out. The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit.

The other frogs kept telling them to stop, that they were as good as dead. Finally, one of the frogs took heed of what the other frogs were saying and simply gave up. He fell down and died.

The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could. Once again, the group of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and suffering and just die. He jumped even harder and finally made it out.

When he got out, the other frogs asked, "Why did you continue jumping? Didn't you hear us?"

The frog explained to them that he was deaf. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.

There is the power of life and death in the tongue. An encouraging word to people who are down can lift them up and help them make it through the day. A destructive word to people who are down can cause them to give up.

Be careful of what you say. And remember: Like sugar that has dissolved in water, once your words leave your mouth they cannot be returned.

"Rhythms and Rhyme- Poems in Wintertime"

We ask that children report to their classrooms by **6:45 p.m.** unless the teacher has asked for an earlier report time. Most of our children will be performing Tuesday and Thursday, and we will have Mr. Neat's class featured at the Asian Potluck on January 28th. The instrumental music beginning students will also perform in January. Students will be performing in the order printed below:

Tuesday, December 14- 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Stenger- K
Miss Blunt- 1st
Mr. Rust- 2nd
Ms. Yang- 3rd
Mrs. Reese- 5th - Holiday Play

Thursday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Instrumental music- violins/ intermediate band
(Neat, Wade, Reese)
Mr. Byers- K
Ms. Apaydin-1st
Mrs. Pletcher- 2nd
Mrs. Bailey- 3rd
Mr. Wade- Holiday Play

INTERMEDIATE BAND ONLY

Intermediate Band will be performing on Thursday, December 16th. Due to a very full agenda, we have had to adjust the program and our beginning band members will be performing at one of our PTA events in January or February when they will be able to wow you with their progress!!

Please note: All students should report to their classrooms the evening of the performance and wait until each class is called to the stage. The auditorium is usually very crowded, thus the necessity of having the children wait in their rooms. Students will get to see each other the day of their performance, as there will be a dress rehearsal.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NOAH KENDRICKS AND ELLA PEARSON, THIRD GRADERS, WHO CAN WRITE ALL THEIR MULTIPLICATION FACTS IN FOUR MINUTES OR LESS!!

Katie McLane



STILL NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE!!

Brownie Troop #1877 is still collecting coats for our annual **One Warm Coat** drive. The coats are being collected in the large wardrobe box outside the main office of the school. The Brownies will donate these collected coats to the **East Oakland Recovery Center** for their families in need.

Last year we collected 75 coats, so please help us reach our goal of 80 this year by donating your gently worn outerwear that you no longer wear. The Brownies will deliver these coats to the Center in mid-December. Please contact **Lesley Clark** if you have any questions, lesleyrc@aol.com or 531-0114. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Upcoming

Calendar

December 6th -17th	Food and Clothing Drive
Friday, December 10th	Picture Make-Up Day
Tuesday, December 14th	<u>Winter Holiday Performance</u>
Thursday, December 16th	<u>Winter Holiday Performance</u>
Friday, December 17th	

The African Dance Troupe will be performing at 2:10 on for an all-school assembly. There will be some other surprise performers, as well. Parents are welcome to join us for the last hour on Friday. The African dancers will also be performing in February for the African-American Potluck and Oratorical presentation.

December 20-31 Winter Recess - School Closed

Monday, January 3	School Reopens/ PTA Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 12	PTA Meeting – Learning Styles and Integrating the Arts
Monday, January 17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday- No School
Wednesday, January 19	School Site Council Meeting
Friday, January 21	Family Night Chinese New Year's Celebration
Wednesday, January 26th	OUSD Martin Luther King Oratorical
Friday, January 28	Minimum Day- end of first semester

FLU VACCINE NOTICE

Alameda County Public Health Department

As you may know, there is a flu vaccine shortage. ACPHD has put out a notice that they will be receiving less than 50% of the doses ordered, but there appears to **be an adequate supply of pediatric flu vaccine**. For influenza updates please visit the following websites:

- o Centers for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov/flu
- o California Department of Health Services: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/izgroup/flu.htm>
- o Immunization Action Coalition: <http://www.vaccineinformation.org/flu/index.asp>

and Find a Flu Shot: <http://www.findaflushot.com/>

Thank you.

TIME TO SHARE

We would love all of our families to bring something to share to the holiday concerts.

Please bring along some non-perishable **food for the Alameda County Food Bank**, or a gently used coat, or help our PTA raise funds by donating used ink cartridges. If you have a **toy that is no longer used, but in relatively good condition, we can donate it to one of the Child Development Centers. Soaps, shampoos and other toiletries will be sent to one of the Women's Shelters.** So, if you can remember to bring something for someone, we will see that it goes to a good cause!

!!LAST CALL FOR LOST AND FOUND!!
If jackets, sweaters and other items are not claimed before the holiday, they will be donated to shelters. Would you also check the backpacks at your house to see if you have a light blue one that was taken home by mistake? We are missing a couple of lunch boxes, as well.



PROSPECTIVE PARENT MEETING ON WEDNESDAY JANUARY 5TH

Please encourage your neighbors and friends, including pre-school buddies, to come to Kaiser School for a **parent info meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday** the week after vacation. Prospective parents are also welcome to visit our school at any time!!

SART MEETINGS TO BE HELD IN JANUARY FOR CHRONICALLY TARDY STUDENTS

For those families who are struggling with getting students to school on time, we are required to hold conferences to help you solve the problem, or else we may have to recommend a school nearer your home. Children who are late regularly miss the equivalent of two weeks of school, over the school year.

REPORT CARDS WILL BE SENT HOME BEFORE VACATION

The marking period for the report cards is over on Friday, December 10th. On our new standards-based report cards, it is important to note that some areas will be blank because they are not taught until later in the year. The overall grades will reflect each child's mastery of specific standards.

MARTIN LUTHER KING ORATORICAL COMPETITION

The OUSD M.L.King, Jr. Oratorical Competition is in February, so we will have our Kaiser competition on **Wednesday, January 26th, 2005** from **9:00 to 10:30 a.m.**

Please begin working on choral reading, original or famous speeches if you want to participate. All speeches must be memorized and no music, dancing or props can be used. If you have any questions, contact **Ruby Blunt, Room 3.**