

THE PINK PANTHER

H. J. KAISER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January 11, 2005



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

One of the areas that every site administrator needs to be plan for is school climate and safety. Our staff gives input as well as the School Site Council, PTA representatives and students in Student Council and the Conflict Mediators.

If students are having difficulties following rules, or are being unkind to their fellow classmates, we work together with the families and the children to help solve the problems. We try to emphasize caring, thoughtful approaches that invest in each child's growth and development and rarely find it necessary to suspend a child to create a safe and productive learning environment for other children.

Just as we assess each child's academic growth and provide appropriate interventions, we also try to do the same with a child's behavioral and emotional growth. We are in a unique position of being a small enough school with a caring community and trained professionals that we can make a difference in the lives of most children.

Our children at Kaiser learn early that we provide an individualized, case by case response to discipline issues and they recognize and accept differences in their classmates' needs. Even our youngest students understand that sometimes a teacher appears to overlook negative behavior in an effort to "catch a student doing the right thing." Often, young children do not discriminate as to the kind of attention (positive or negative) they receive, as long as someone's paying attention to them.

Do we believe in zero tolerance? Yes, for weapons! Otherwise, all infractions are taken on a

case- by- case basis, as long as we follow district guidelines. A wonderful source of information that supports this kind of approach is

www.justicematters.org where you can find a study entitled "Turning *To* Each Other, Not *On* Each Other." This Research describes how school communities prevent racial bias in school discipline.

We do expect our children to respond immediately to the requests of an adult simply because there is usually an issue of safety or learning involved. We encourage students who feel that there is a degree of unfairness to let the principal know because we can often work things during the course of the day. Our staff is also encouraged to let students know when we make misjudgments, because we are all human!

We also expect our parents to contact the teacher or principal when they are aware of inappropriate behavior so that we, not someone else's parent, can investigate the issues. While we agree that "it takes a village" we must remind everyone that each child and adult in the school has the right to feel safe and we definitely cannot tolerate verbal abuse from one adult to another, or to a child.

We know we can count on the Kaiser families to work together to help all of our kids find success. Kaiser is known as a school with a safe and nurturing environment. Thank you all for helping make that reputation a reality!!

Katie McLane



INFORMATION REGARDING MIDDLE SCHOOLS TUESDAY NIGHT

Parents of fifth graders are invited to school tonight, January 11th at 7:00 to discuss middle school options. Parents of students in other grade levels are also invited to join in the discussion.



Upcoming

Calendar

Tuesday, January 11	Middle School Information Night
Wednesday, January 12	PTA Meeting – Learning Styles and Integrating the Arts
Monday, January 17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday- <i>No School</i>
Wednesday, January 19	School Site Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 26th	OUSD Martin Luther King Oratorical at Kaiser Elementary
Friday, January 28	Family Night Chinese New Year's Celebration
Friday, January 28	Minimum Day- end of first semester

Gracie Feferman-Perez, Kyle Debro, Julian Voscott and Christina Bates.

PTA PROGRAM ON WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12TH

Our January meeting will focus on learning styles and the important role that the arts have in helping many children access other subjects. Come prepared to take a learning styles inventory yourselves!

**PARENT EQUITY FORUM:
LEADING MY CHILD TO EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY**

The Alameda County Office of Education is sponsoring a dialogue with Enid Lee to address parents and their power to lead their children into academic success and educational equity. The conversation will cover language, culture and race topics. She will emphasize reading as a tool to move children forward in education.

You can register online by going to www.acoe.org or stopping by the office to pick up a registration form. The FREE conference is on Friday, January 21st from 9:00 to noon at the Alameda Co. Office of Education building on Winton in Hayward. If you are planning to go and would like to carpool, please leave a message with the school.

WEDNESDAY IS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT DAY!

On January 12th, we will have volunteers from a number of companies here to teach a special curriculum. Junior Achievement's purpose is to introduce students to the world beyond their classrooms giving them a foundation of business knowledge and skills in order to improve the quality of their lives. The interactive curriculum also helps fulfill the California State Content Standards for History/Social Science as well as reinforces the Math and English Language Standards. Join us in welcoming our volunteers!

**MLK, Jr. ORATORICAL FEST AT OUR SITE
ON JANUARY 26TH**

If you would like your child to participate in the Oratorical Fest, please contact your child's teacher to let him or her know of your interest. The fourth and fifth graders will all be expected to participate in solo or whole class activities.

STUDENT BODY OFFICERS ELECTED

We had a terrific group of young students who willingly participated in the election process at Kaiser School and the results were very close! The new officers are:

- Greg Belvin, President**
- Gabriel Alexander, Vice President**
- Hannah Ayasse, Secretary**
- Kindness Nwakudu, Treasurer**

We are proud of all the other candidates who participated in the election: **Sierra Donaldson,**

JAZZ ENSEMBLE HAS BEGUN!

Our incredibly talented David Waugh has begun sessions with our fourth and fifth graders interested in learning the techniques of working in a jazz ensemble. We encourage all students to speak with their parents about being in this group. The group will be meeting on **Mondays from 3:15 to 4:15**

and there will be one more exploratory session before beginning the paid sessions. Reports from those who attended today were glowing!

MULTIPLICATION FACT MASTERS FOR THE WEEK OF JAN. 3-7TH

5 minutes: Mahal Caraher, Jasmine Guillot, Kindness Nwakudu, James Choyce

4 minutes: Marquis Taylor, Savannah Whaley, Hannah Ayasse, Ashlyn Triggs

3 minutes: Christina Bates, Maureen Murphy, Elan Sherman, Marina Donaldson, Benjamin Cash-Jauregui

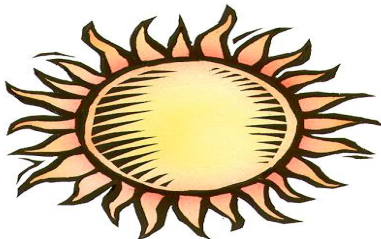
2 minutes: Maiyah Phelps, Mikaela Briggs, Gabriel Alexander, Yelena Keller, Julien Tell, Breyon Williams, Maya Lopez, Tommy Gonda, Christopher Thaxton

1 minute: Alexis Carney, Devin West, Dwayne Anderson

It's a wonderful thing to see kids rush to the computers to try to better their previous marks! We encourage all of our third, fourth and fifth graders to become completely proficient in their multiplication facts, so that math will be far easier down the road for them.

ORANGES, ANYONE?

If you are interested in ordering delicious oranges from former teacher, Joyce Staples, please tell Robin. The 10# bags are \$5 and the 50# bags are \$15. We are taking orders now and they should be ready for harvest in early February.



IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ORDERING AFRICAN AMERICAN 2005 CALENDARS OR CHECKBOOK PLANNERS, STOP BY THE OFFICE.



Did you know that our *Pink Panther* is online at www.kaiserelementaryschool.com ?

OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSFER WINDOW PRIOD FOR THE 2005-2006 SCHOOL YEAR IS TWO WEEKS ONLY!!

January 10-January 22nd

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS TAUGHT BY RENAE BRIGGS AFTER SCHOOL

If you are interested in having private instrumental lessons, please contact **Renae Briggs** at reanaeb@california.com or leave a message for her at school, or stop by the computer lab.

TSUNAMI RELIEF

Mr. Wade's fourth graders are heading up a cash drive for Tsunami Relief for the victims of the Southeast Asian devastation. They will come to classrooms on Thursday, Jan. 13th to collect donations made by Kaiser students, parents and staff. The class would very much appreciate having everyone share a little bit of what we have that day.

In addition, the Brownie troop will be collecting donations at the Asian Potluck on January 28th to aid the children who were victims. More details in the next *PINK*.