

THE PINK PANTHER

H. J. KAISER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
WWW.KAISERELEMENTARYSCHOOL.COM

JANUARY 25, 2005



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

You should have seen our wonderful children last Friday as they participated in the "Peace March." After singing several songs from the days of the early marches such as "We Shall Overcome" and "This Land is Your Land" led by Laura Sherman and Bruce Byers, the children marched with their signs and posters up to the field and shared their dreams for a better future. There were lots of environmental wishes, as well as humanistic dreams. It was a joy to see.

This morning one of our third graders, Marina Donaldson, arrived at school with a new, short cut and she announced that she had donated her long hair to "Locks for Love." If you are interested in this program which donates real hair for wigs for children who are undergoing chemotherapy, please let us know and we'll forward the information to you. She reminded us that both her mom and dad had also donated their hair. Thanks for the inspiration!

I'm looking forward to seeing our families at our Asian Potluck on Friday evening! The potluck begins at 6:30, but if you come at six you can catch Mr. Neat's class performing a civil rights play. The potluck will begin at 6:30 and there will be stations set up to learn about different aspects of the Asian cultures. Our kindergarten, first and second graders will be singing and performing "Silver Moon Boat." Later, there will be a performance by the dragon dancers. Please bring food to share and if it is convenient, try to follow the alphabetical assignments, so that there is real variety!

Events such as this at our school continue to attract families from all over Oakland. As Oakland's student population has dropped almost 10,000 children over the past four years with families moving elsewhere to more affordable communities, we have maintained a stable population. It is your children who make coming to school exciting for all of us! We are blessed with the support, energy and positive feedback to neighbors and friends that our families give us.

In the next month I will be participating, with eight other principals, in providing feedback on a redesign for our school district. Dr. Ward has hired a project director (Steve Jubb) who many of us trust to move the district forward in a more student-centered way. The district has received money from many foundations to help with this redesign, so that when we come out of bankruptcy, we will have a district that is both fiscally sound and efficiently run, with almost all of the funding going directly to the school sites. It will be up to us to determine how we will allocate our funds. This is a unique opportunity for all of us and one that may make a tremendous difference in the life of Oakland's children in the years to come. The funding is coming to Oakland because we are seen as an urban district that has the potential to make great strides and can serve as a prototype for other urban districts. I am hopeful!!

Katie McLane

MINIMUM DAY ON FRIDAY

Students will be excused at 1:30 this Friday- the last day of the first semester. African Dance will begin at 1:30 to 2:15 for the younger group and 2:15 to 3:00 for the older children.

Please make arrangements to pick up your children at the correct time. Thank you!!

AFRICAN DANCE BEGINS RIGHT AFTER SCHOOL AT 1:30 ON FRIDAY

1/25/2005

Multiplication Club Additions... as of
1/21/05:

5 Minutes

Salina Wittmer
Shawn Elliott
Dehjah Vaughn
Sarah Percy
Yasmine Wilson
Aliyah Jones
Chardonnay Hightower
Hannah Caldwell
Sophia Lee

4 Minutes

Christian Morgan
Slater Hitz

Sierra Baxter

Sydney Imus-Hanlon

3 Minutes

Kindness Nwakudu

2 Minutes

Julian Salkin
Maureen Murphy
Aaron Elliot
Meghan Risvold
Hannah Risvold

1 Minute

Tommy Gonda
Mahal Caraher
Christopher Thaxton

**ORATORICAL COMPETITION ON
WEDNESDAY**

Below is the tentative time schedule for the oratorical contest. Students who signed up to compete from the following classes will be competing for our panel of judges.

9:20 – Mr. Stenger
9:30- Mrs. Apaydin
9:50- Miss Blunt
10:10- Mrs. Pletcher
10:20- Mrs. Reese
10:40- Mr. Rust
11:15- Mr. Byers
11:20- Mrs. Bailey
11:45- Mr. Wade

Upcoming



Calendar

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
Wednesday, February 2nd Diane Ferlatte, master storyteller,
comes to Kaiser - 11am
Monday, February 21st Presidents Day Holiday – School
Closed

JAZZ ENSEMBLE TO MEET ON THURSDAYS

David Waugh will be meeting with all interested jazz ensemble members on Thursday afternoons (not Mondays) from 3:15 to 4:15 each Thursday. If interested, students should arrange to be there this Thursday.

MR. NEAT'S CLASS PERFORMING AT 6:00 p.m. SHARP ON FRIDAY EVENING

Mr. Neat's class will be performing a Civil Rights play on Friday evening before the potluck. Students and parents should come to the classroom at 5:45 p.m. Please bring something to share if you plan to stay for the potluck, music and dragon dancers!

SCIENCE AND MUSIC NIGHT- MARCH 9TH

The beginning instrumental musicians will be performing on Wednesday, March 9th at the PTA meeting. Students will be asked to arrive at 6:30 that evening and the program will begin at 7:00 p.m.

ASIAN POTLUCK- FOOD CATEGORIES

If your surname begins with:

A-G Salads or vegetables

H-O Main dishes

P- Z Appetizers or Desserts

TRACK TEAM

Does your child like to run? Track practice is starting now. Come and join the track team which meets Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Berkeley.

Coach Peterson is a great trainer. This program is open to children six years and older.

Look for flyers in the office or talk to Laura Sherman.

SPANISH CLASSES TO BEGIN FOR WINTER SESSION

Classes begin this Wednesday, Jan. 26th and continue through March 30th and the fee is \$100.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC OFF CAMPUS

Some families had asked about guitar lessons and we are aware of a strong and versatile program offered by Harmony Road Music School, located at Piedmont Piano Company, 4382 Piedmont Ave. There are music classes and lessons for all ages and levels.

Call 510-652-1222 or go online to www.piedmontpiano.com Tell them that you are from Kaiser Elementary School.

TRANSPORTATION FOR 5TH GRADER

Fifth grader, Vivian Allen, is needing transportation through mid-February because mom, Kira, cannot drive due to foot surgery. If you can offer help, call Kira at 434-0510. They live on McKillop Rd. near Mills College. Thanks!

COMPUTER-SAVVY AND WILLING TO HELP WITH AUCTION?

Our annual auction is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th, from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. and we need someone to help make data entries (ie. donated items) and then oversee the process the night of the auction. If you are interested, please contact Andrea Nobles at 553-1502.

SMALL CHILDREN USING PERMANENT MARKERS ON WALLS AND CARPETS?

We have a product that was purchased in bulk that is rather magical in cleaning off ink and paint, carpets, pet stains, upholstery, adhesive remover and mildew. It is non-allergenic, non-toxic, non-abrasive and smells good, too! A pint container (which can be used straight from the container or mixed with water) sells for \$10.00 and check can be made out to the PTA. See Katie McLane for details.