

THE PINK PANTHER

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

FEBRUARY 22, 2005



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Subject: What is a Grandparent?

WHAT IS A GRANDPARENT?

(taken from papers written by a class of 8-year-olds)

Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other people's.

A grandfather is a man grandmother.

Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the store and have lots of quarters for us.

When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars.

They show us and talk to us about the color of the flowers and also!

Why we shouldn't step on "cracks."

They don't say, "Hurry up."

Usually grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes.

They wear glasses and funny underwear.

They can take their teeth and gums out.

Grandparents don't have to be smart.

They have to answer questions like "why isn't God married?" and "How come dogs chase cats?"

When they read to us, they don't skip. They don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.

Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have television, because they are the only grown ups who like to spend time with us.

They know we should have snack-time before bedtime and they say prayers with us every time, and kiss us even when we've acted bad.

A 6 YEAR OLD WAS ASKED WHERE HIS GRANDMA LIVED. "OH," HE SAID, "SHE LIVES AT THE AIRPORT, AND WHEN WE WANT HER WE JUST GO GET HER. THEN WHEN WE'RE DONE HAVING HER VISIT, WE TAKE HER BACK TO THE AIRPORT."

Keep in touch with the grandparents because our kids can't seem to do without them!

Katie McLane

Upcoming



Calendar

Friday, February 25 Black History Celebration and Oratorical Fest

Monday, March 7 PTA Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 9 PTA General Meeting and Science & Reading Night

Mon-Fri, March 14-18

MINIMUM DAYS - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, March 16 School Site Council
Saturday, March 19 Beautification Day
Monday, March 28 Cesar Chavez Day
Holiday - School Closed

Monday, April 4 PTA Board Meeting
Mon-Fri, April 11-15 Spring Break- School Closed

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH DÉCOR

Our thanks to **Chris Debro** for putting up all the banners and hallway decorations for Black History Month. It is wonderful to be able to have those fabulous banners that were **created several years ago by Betsy Ports, Hua Voscott and Bonnie Pearson**. Thanks, too, to **Patricia Wright** for adding some of her collection of artifacts from Africa which are in the display case in the main hall. And, as always, our appreciation to **Bonnie Pearson**, whose spectacular floral arrangements so beautifully capture the flavor or the cultural events which we are celebrating!!

Attention! Attention! Attention! **African Tradition**



Please join **Kathy Rashidi**, a Kindergarten parent, in a rich African tradition. Bring a photo of a loved one who has passed on for the ancestor table located in the foyer next to the office. In keeping with African tradition pictures of relatives who have passed are displayed in remembrance of those we love who are still with us in spirit.

INTERESTED IN HELPING CREATE BANNER DESIGNS TO HONOR

THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF ART ??

We get so spoiled in January and February with the superb banners honoring the Asian New Year and African American History, **that I'd like to ask for help with designs for: Visual Arts, Drama, Dance, Music, Oratory** which could be on display in March for "Art is Education" month, and could also

be displayed during other months because that is a focus of our school.

March is also Women's History month and if you know a graphic artist who would like to work with some children on making banners, such as **Berglind Matthiason** did last Spring, we'd be most happy! Other thematic ideas such as **Spring** with life cycles of plants or animals or insects would be absolutely lovely. We can reimburse you for the cost of fabric/paint/etc. Just give **Katie McLane** a call.

OPEN ENROLLMENT LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT

If you have an incoming kindergarten sibling and you did not receive a letter through **Open Enrollment** accepting your child, please contact **Robin Sasada IMMEDIATELY**. We are going to be very full in kindergarten next year and may not be able to accommodate all of our siblings. Please let us know whether or not you applied to Open Enrollment as you were directed to do.

ABSENT? PLEASE CALL!

Robin or our wonderful volunteer **Carmen Campanioni** are spending too much time having to call and check on children who are not attending school each day. Robin has to keep a log each day for children who are absent and the reasons for the absence. This is mandated by the district and it takes a great deal of time. **Please help us by calling 879-1710 any time of the day or night to let us know why the children are absent.** For your information, we do not get reimbursed if a child is absent, and if we have not heard why they are absent, then they get an "unexcused" in the attendance system which prompts an automatic truancy letter from the district. That is why it is critical that we know what the cause of absence is **IMMEDIATELY !!**

**New Additions to Mrs. McLane's Multiplication
Club for the week of February 14-18**



5 Minutes

Ian Alexander
Jacquez Clifton
Kyle Debro
Alexia Lino
Darius Muir-Hayes
Germane Rivers
Elliot Ulrick

4 Minutes

Jade Belvin
Iris Esquivel
Jasmine Guillot
Nick Smith
Paul Stenger-Morgante

3 Minutes

Robbie Collins
Margaret McKay
Taylor Scott-Mendez
Julian Voscott
Trevor Wilson
Salina Wittmer

2 Minutes

James Choyce
Caleb Davis
Oliver Wilson

1 Minute

Hannah Ayasse
Sierra Baxter
Hannah Caldwell
Julian Clark
Gracie Feferman-Perez
David Flores
Sydney Imus-Hanlon

Maya Lopez
Kindness Nwakudu
Hannah Risvold
Meghann Risvold
Dashiell Tavernit
Julien Tell
Breyon Williams

Congratulations everyone!

Here are a few websites that may help students in practicing times tables:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/numbers/wholenumbers/multiplication/timestables/index.shtml>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/megamaths/picknumber/index.html>

<http://www.multiplication.com/interactive/flashfun/flash/index.html>

<http://www.multiplication.com/interactive/quickflash/flash/index.html>

<http://www.aplusmath.com/games/picture/MultiPicture.html>

<http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/mult/mult.html>

<http://www.programmingart.com/free/games/multiply/>

**Hello parents, teachers, and kids,
Here is the listing of events for
children and teens at
Rockridge Branch Library for
the next two months.**

FOR CHILDREN:

Toddler Story Times:

1st & 2nd Saturdays at 10:30am: 5 March & 12 March,
2 April & 9 April

Pre-School Story Times:

1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 10:30am: 2 March &
16 March, 6 April & 20 April

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Pajama Story Times:

2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 7:00pm: 8 March & 22 March,
12 April & 26 April

Two Special Events for Kids:

(1)

BOOK SWAP!

Saturday, April 9th, 2:30pm, Community Meeting Room
In preparation for National Library Week (April 10 to
16) and T.V. Turn

Off Week (April 25 to May 1), the Rockridge Library
will host a public Book Swap. Kids are invited to bring
used books they no longer want, to trade (1 for 1) with
others. Bring as many books as you wish to part with,
and a blanket or other mat. Parents may also bring books
to trade with other parents.

Come to set up at 2:30, trading will begin at 2:45 and
continue until 3:45. Light snacks will be served. Tell
your friends – The more the merrier! All ages welcome.



(2)

CRITTER TALES.

Wednesday, April 13th, 11:00

Guest readers from the Oakland Zoo will be at
Rockridge Library to tell stories about animals and to
talk about what's new at the Zoo. Especially
geared toward pre-school age children, but all are
welcome.

See you at the Library!

Erica Siskind
Children's Librarian
Rockridge Branch Library
5366 College Ave
Oakland CA 94618
510-597-5017

esiskind@oaklandlibrary.org

**NORTH OAKLAND DISTRICT 1
TOWN HALL MEETING**

Tuesday March 1, 2005 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

PIEDMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4314 Piedmont Avenue - Oakland, CA

*MULTI-YEAR FISCAL RECOVERY PLAN

*CENTRAL OFFICE REDESIGN

Call 879-8653 with questions; leave a message for Kerry
Hamill

Special Guests:

* Dr. Randolph Ward, State Administrator

* Katrina Scott-George, Special Assistant

- Question & Answer Period

- Potluck & Childcare will be provided.

**The Oakland Public Library and
the Oakland Museum**

... are proud to present **an evening with Paul
Rusesabagina**, the courageous hotel manager whose
actions during the Rwandan tragedy became the basis
for the movie, "**Hotel Rwanda**."

Monday, February 28, 2005

Private Reception at 6:00 p.m.

Oakland Museum Cafe

1000 Oak Street

Lecture at 7:30 p.m.

James Moore Theater

Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak Street

A donation of \$100 to \$1,000 will guarantee the first
100 people attendance at a private reception to meet
Mr. Rusesabagina. Your donation will help to
underwrite the Library's lecture series.

For more information, call Leslie Rodd, Oakland Public Library, at 510-238-6932.

Twain-era tunes.

To learn more and order tickets on line, please visit our web site

<http://www.ccwindsymphony.org/Spring05.htm>

Or you can call the Regional Center Box Office for reservations. 925-943-7469.

Hope you can join us.

Lots O' Love,

Renae

PS. here is a link to Driving and BART Directions:

<http://dlrca.org/rcaparking.html>



.....Hi Everybody!

It's that time again! There's music in the air!

And...Yes!!!! Renae is inviting you to yet ANOTHER band concert at The Dean Leshner Regional Arts Center (Hoffmann Theatre)

http://dlrca.org/video/hofmanntheater_web.mov

in beautiful downtown Walnut Creek, California!!!

And THIS time... I actually have some great parts... and even a couple of little trumpet solos!! (WOO-HOO!!)

I know that MANY of you are out of the area... and may not be able to attend. But, sometimes people travel... or... sometimes they know people who ARE in the area. So, I figured... "What the heck! Invite everybody!"

Since our last two concerts were so well attended, I thought you might appreciate advance notice that we are commemorating Mark Twain next month. This could be a great time to get your tickets and reserve good seats. Some people prefer the balcony... so that you can see more of the musicians.

Here is a seating chart of the theatre:

(I sit "stage right"... in case you care! LOL)
ground floor (orchestra level):

http://dlrca.org/hof_orch.seats.html

terrace (balcony level):

<http://dlrca.org/hof.terr.seats.html>

On March 20th, this Contra Costa Wind Symphony concert will include commentary by Dr. Robert Hirst, Curator of the Mark Twain Project at U.C. Berkeley. Also, the program includes talented Bay Area entertainer Tim Hockenberry performing a medley of

reminders!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM & POTLUCK

Date: Friday February 25th

Time: 6:30pm

The theme this year is "A Different Kind of Hero."

This is a tremendous time for us to see the talents of our children and feast on the wonderful dishes from their parents. We would like to invite everyone to drop off their dishes starting at 6:00pm. Mr. Rust and Ms. Bailey's classes will be singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing" during the posting of the flags.

The buffet line will begin promptly at 6:30pm, children who will be performing will be served first before reporting to their designated areas.

The program will start at 7:00pm.

If your child is participating in the program, please note the times of arrival desired and location:

6:30pm - Ms. Blunt's class.....Ms. Blunt's room

6:30pm - Alexandra Kashefi.....library

Christina Bates.....library

6:30pm - Ms. Pletcher's class...Ms. Pletcher's room

7:20pm - Pope Dancers (younger group)...library

7:20pm - Mr. Wade's class.....Mr. Wade's room

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7:20pm - Megan DeVecchi....library
- Salina Wittmer.....library
- Maiyah Phelps.....library
7:40pm - Pope Dancers (older group)....library

Thank you for your dedication and participation.

If your child is performing in African dance, please remember to bring their attire or have them dressed in advance for the performance.

All of our families are invited to the PTA-sponsored African American Potluck on Friday beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be a play sponsored by Ms. Margaret's class from 6:00 to 6:15 to which our families are invited. Food will be served at 6:30 and the program will begin in the main auditorium at 7:00.

A-F Desserts
G-L Side dishes
M-S Main dishes
T-Z Salads

Due to inclement weather, we are now serving our families in the main hall of the school. Please bring your food to the teachers' lounge so it can be set on the tables. We will need helpers to set up the food and to maintain the serving tables.

PROGRAM FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN POTLUCK INCLUDES:

African Dance Troupe
Oratorical winners and second place contenders:
Miss Blunt's class, Mrs. Pletcher's class, Maiyah Phelps, Christina Bates, Mr. Wade's class, Salina Wittmer, Alexandra Kashefi, Megan DeVecchi

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE AT OAKLAND LIBRARY

The Oakland Public Library offers an annual free tax assistance program in conjunction with the American Association of Retired Persons, starting Tuesday, February 12 through Friday, April 15th. Call

either the Oakland Main Library (238-3134), the Dimond Branch (482-7844) or the Melrose Branch (535-5623) to get further information.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ASSEMBLY- 2:20-3:00 on Friday, February 25th

Featured will be Ms. Margaret's class- "Why Dogs Hate Cats", Emmett Blunt, Mr. Byer's class, singers from Mr. Neat's class, Mr. Wade's class, Maureen Murphy, orators from Mrs. Reese's class, Devin West and possibly others.

PARENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

We would greatly appreciate your response to the survey which was attached to last week's PINK and will be attached again this week. Without a significant response, there is not a valid baseline upon which we can plan our changes or continue our programs. Let us know, please, how you feel.

STUDENT COUNCIL- 2005

Elected representatives to the Student Council are Greg Belvin, president, Gabriel Alexander, VP, Hannah Ayasse, Secretary and Kindness Nwakudu, treasurer. Elected representatives from the classrooms are: Shane Sasada and Hannah Risvold (Reese), Paul Stenger-Morgante, Oliver Wilson and Anya Keller (Neat), Christina Bates and Naomi Kushins (Wade), Sophia Lee and Julian Salkin (Yang), Richard Katzoff and Ella Pearson (Bailey).