



# Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

25 South Hill Court, Oakland, California 94618 (510) 879-1710

## School and Community Newsletter September 13th 2005

### Note from Principal Katie McLane

#### Dear Families,

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the *Back-to-School Night this Wednesday*. There will be parking on the upper field as well as on the streets. The schedule begins at 6:00 for Mr. Stenger's K class, then 6:30 for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades, followed at 7:00 by Mr. Byer's K class and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. If you cannot find someone to watch your child/children, then they must accompany you to the classroom and sit with you. It is terribly dangerous to have unattended children at the site, especially since cars will be parking on the playground and there is no lighting on the field. This is one of the goals of the PTA this year- to bring night lighting to the upper field.

We encourage all of our parents to remain for the PTA meeting at 7:30 p.m. at which time we'll have lots to share about the exciting plans for the year.

On another note, we are very concerned about the number of tardies due to traffic back-ups, and would encourage you to tune in to a radio station in the morning which can let you know if there are any major accidents, etc. We know that the flow of traffic is unpredictable, so we encourage you to leave earlier, so that you will be at the site when the first bell rings at 8:40 a.m. Last June I sent home 52 letters to families whose children had over 40 tardies- that is a little over one per week. We are resending those notices because several families said they had not received them.

Some tardies were as many as 45 minutes late and many were 5 to 10 minutes, but to a child entering a classroom where the teaching and learning is underway, he or she starts the day feeling "left out" or "behind". As you read in the superintendent's letter, three tardies over 30 minutes constitute a truancy and there will be a SARB (Student Attendance Review Board) hearing with a subsequent referral to the District Attorney's Office. We are aware that many of you come a long distance to get to Kaiser and we are grateful that you want to be here, so let's work on this together, because it is about each child's success.

We have had a few cases of head lice this past week and there is an article in the Pink that addresses ways to get them under control. One of the best ways that I know of is to use mayonnaise to "smother" those little lice! Having head lice does not indicate any lack of hygiene on the part of parents so we want families to let us know immediately. We will check the children and notify you if your child might be infected. You will probably know because they will report itching on their head. (Are you scratching your head right now? I always do when I'm talking/writing about head lice!!)

We had a lovely beautification day on Saturday, thanks to a number of families who took time from their busy weekends to come up to school to weed, plant and prune! Many of our children were helpful, as well! Thanks to everyone who participated. We all appreciate how beautiful our school grounds are and credit our parents and staff for maintaining them.

**Katie McLane**

# Getting In The Know

## MIRACLE CHORUS - CLASS TIME ADJUSTMENT

The class times listed on the flyer for OYC's Miracle Chorus at Kaiser Elementary are incorrect.

Grades K-2 will meet from 3:00-3:45  
and grades 3-5 will meet from 3:45-4:30.

Thanks, and sorry for any confusion!

**Questions?** Contact **Katy DeVecchi** @  
katyhunterd@sbcglobal.net or 336-9679 or contact  
**Angela Dant** at the OYC offices @ 287-9700 ext 7#.

## COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION!!

### Pink Panther –

- Weekly newsletter distributed on Tuesday with critical information that **all parents should read**. Kaiser regularly assumes that all parents have full knowledge of any rules or policies that have been announced in the Pink Panther.
- **Cafeteria menu** - monthly, attached to *Pink Panther*
- **After-school programs** - attached to *Pink Panther*
- **Items of interest for parents** - periodically distributed and attached to *Pink Panther*

### Teacher's classroom newsletters –

- weekly or twice-monthly

### Parent's Magazine –

- Once a month. Lots of valuable articles relating to children and parents

### Magazine for Book orders –

- monthly

**Kaiser's Website – always on!**

## How to Reach Kaiser

Our phone number is (510) 879-1710 (includes a 24 hour message service).  
Principal Katie McLane's email address is  
[Catherine.Mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us](mailto:Catherine.Mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us)

## How to use the Pink Panther

**To include your story or information in your school newsletter:** check with Katie McLane, then forward to both editors by 5:00 p.m. on Sundays, at  
[cara\\_eva@hotmail.com](mailto:cara_eva@hotmail.com) and  
[kbradley@ix.netcom.com](mailto:kbradley@ix.netcom.com)

## CALENDAR through November 1st

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Sept 12 Monday	PTA Board meeting (limited childcare)
Sept 14 Wed.	Back To School Night
Sept 21 Wed.	School Site Council Meeting - all are welcome
Oct 3 Monday	PTA Board Meeting
Oct 8 Saturday	Beautification Day
Oct 14 FRIDAY !!	Latino Heritage Potluck
Oct 24-28 Monday - Friday	MINIMUM DAYS - Parent/ Teacher conferences
Oct 25 Tuesday	Individual and Group Picture Day
Nov 1 Tuesday	VOTE!

## Notes: Corrections, Times & Locations

DATE/TIME	NOTES:
Correction: Oct 14 <sup>th</sup>	Latino Heritage Potluck
Nov 5 @ 6pm	Kaiser Auction @ (TBD)



## How to use the Kaiser School Website

For our public information, be sure to visit and browse  
[www.kaiserelementaryschool.com](http://www.kaiserelementaryschool.com) and to participate in the school community group go to,  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool\\_group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool_group/) and join!!

# Kaiser School Messages

## *Everything You Wanted To Know About Lice But Forgot to Ask!*

Well, it's finally become true that the internet is probably the easiest place to get a good quick fix on lots of routine health stuff. Information is power... Here's where you can get the lowdown on a topic that popped up last week:

Lice - <http://health.yahoo.com/ency/healthwise/hw51114/aa35483>

**For convenience, here are the highlights, from medical author Amy Fackler, MA.**

Lice are very easily spread, usually through *close personal contact*. *Itching, the most common symptom* of all types of lice infestation, is caused by an allergic reaction. Lice bite to feed on a person's blood; the saliva from these bites causes the allergic reaction and itching. Head lice and their eggs (nits) *can be seen on hair, the nape of the neck, and behind the ears*. The eggs are tiny white round or oval shapes that are tightly attached to the hair near the scalp and do not slide up and down on the hair. Nits are brown before they hatch and white to light brown after hatching. Current research suggests that *combing your hair frequently in an attempt to remove lice and their eggs (nits) is not an effective form of treatment*. Preferred treatment is to use a lotion or shampoo to kill the nits as well as the lice.

**Home treatment with nonprescription medications can usually get rid of lice.** These products include:

- Nix (permethrin 1% creme rinse). Rid, Pronto, A-200, R&C, Triple X, or Barc (shampoos and gels with pyrethrins and piperonyl butoxide).

**If nonprescription methods are not effective, your health professional may prescribe a stronger medication.**

## THANKS TO THE BEAUTIFICATION DAY VOLUNTEERS!

Working in the gardens were: Samantha Haimovitch and her sons, Colin and Miles Babich, Robin and Matthew Quamina, Julie Mills and Alex McSpadden, Jamie, Clay, Camille and Diana Henderson, Laura and Elan Sherman, Jan, Janice, Kendall and Madison Murphy, Margie and Nora Potts and Alia Glover, Jasmine Breedlove and teachers Amy Haruyama and Janan Apaydin.

Helping clear out the storage shed so that it can be converted to an emergency storage center were Brad Paulus and John Hanlon and in the main hall, our PTA Co-Presidents, Lesley Clark and Lisa Downes were putting up bulletin boards!

### **A Bonus: FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED--TABLES AND CHAIRS AVAILABLE!**

If you need a small-child sized table to use as a desk at home, **we have surplus tables that have been removed from the shed** and there are also some small chairs on the stage that are available if you should want one or two. Please contact the office and you will need to pick up the table/chair before the end of the week. At that time, we will call the district and ask for a pick up.

### **Free passes to Lawrence Hall of Science!**

Big things are happening at the Lawrence Hall of Science— renovations are underway and Big Dinos Return opens October 2! It's an exciting time and we want to spread the news. Help guide our efforts by **completing our online survey**. As a thank you for participating you will receive a pair of guest passes (that's a \$19 value!) to Big Dinos Return.

Please click on the following link to access the survey:

<http://surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=775861311831>

submitted by: Scott Randol ([srandol@berkeley.edu](mailto:srandol@berkeley.edu))



# Kaiser PTA Page

## Anyone ready to assist?

Special **Still-To-Do's** with the Board:

- Book Faire: see Cynthia Thompson
- Assemblies: see Andrea Nobles or Katy DeVecchi
- Website: see Kim Carl

## - Who are the PTA officers? -

Here is the roster of parent volunteers who, as **chairpersons in the PTA Board**, are currently working for you and the children to assure that your involvement and support is the best for you that it can be:

Membership: Kelly Bartlett and Cyndy Hobbs  
Programs: Andrea Nobles and Katy DeVecchi

Room Parent: Katherine Fratti  
Site Safety/Environment: John Hanlon  
After-School Activity: Katy DeVecchi

Communications: Kiki Bradley, Kim Carl  
Secretary: Renette Warner

Fall Auction: Andrea Nobles  
Walk-A-Thon: Rosalind Nalls  
Potlucks: Andrea Nobles

Fundraising: Cynthia Thompson  
Treasurer: Gail Elliot  
Auditor: Tracy Lovely  
Financial Secretary: Shawn Walker-Smith

Board Presidents: Lisa Downes, Lesley Clark  
Board Vice-President: Liz Hall

## BACK TO SCHOOL, PTA MEETING on SEPTEMBER 14TH

Put Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> on your calendars for Back to School Night and an important PTA meeting.

## *Help Kaiser Climb to the top of the mountain*



The PTA membership drive is about to begin. Our goal is to have every student, parent and faculty member involved in the

### *Kaiser PTA*

### *Come to Back to School Night*

to learn the importance of PTA involvement and to hear about classroom incentives that will help your student reach the top of Membership Mountain.

### **See you there! Join Join Join**

Please try to find someone to watch your children so that you can come up to school and focus on what the teacher is telling you about the upcoming school year and the classroom expectations.

Parking will be available on the upper field. If it is necessary to have your child with you, please take him or her to class to sit with you.

We are looking forward to having our parents stay for the PTA meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

- Kelly and Cindy

# Heads-Up!

## How to Talk With Students in the Aftermath of Katrina

The impact of Katrina can be severe, resulting in fear and stress and even long-term post-traumatic stress disorder. Whether or not they were directly involved in the storm, children of all ages can be affected. The good news is that there is something that you can do about this to help your students.

- \* First and foremost, be a role model. Students will take their cues from the adults in their lives. Modeling calm behaviors is important.
- \* Monitor adult conversations so that they are not frightening to students who may overhear you. Be careful of discussing the storm, loss of life, looting, or other aftermaths in front of them.
- \* Have discussions about what has occurred. Students who hold in their feelings often act them out by becoming more aggressive, more disruptive, or even the opposite- more withdrawn. If students wish to talk about other times they have felt sad, allow them to talk about it. This is a fairly common experience. Once they feel safe to talk, often they will talk and talk. Do not indicate shock at anything they say about what has happened. Simply be a good listener and create a warm, safe, and friendly atmosphere.
- \* Repeatedly reassure children that they are safe. Do this frequently.
- \* When possible, protect younger students from exposure to graphic sights and images of the hurricane and flooding. This includes television, the Internet, and newspapers.
- \* Tell children the things adults are doing to help communities recover from the storm.
- \* If it is appropriate for the classes you are teaching, engage your children in some type of service project to help others that have been involved in the tragedy. Clothing and food can be collected. Research demonstrates that children who are involved in service work have greater resiliency.
- \* Be extra patient with children. They may be distracted and have difficulty concentrating.
- \* Maintain daily routines and expectations as much as possible.
- \* Stay hopeful. A positive and optimistic outlook helps children see good things in the world even in challenging times. Make sure that you talk about other storms and how we have survived them. It is very important that we give them hope for the future.
- \* Remember, your students need you. You are there not only to teach the basic subjects but to be a source of support. Some of your students may have no one else to whom they can talk. They need the strength and courage you can offer them. They need you.

Appelbaum Training Institute 1-800-23-CHILD  
104 Industrial Drive, Suite A  
Sugar Land, TX 77478

[www.atiseminars.org](http://www.atiseminars.org) <[http://pull.xmr3.com/p/53324-530B/55224319/www.atiseminars.org\\_Link.html](http://pull.xmr3.com/p/53324-530B/55224319/www.atiseminars.org_Link.html)>

## Letter Section

Our principal Katie McLane came across *very* timely advice on **Talking With Students During the Aftermath of Katrina**, supplied by the Appelbaum Training Institute. (See column on the left.)

One thing that comes from the advice is noting how sensitive we are – for us kids, to our surroundings; and for us grown-ups, to our ideas. Given what’s going on at times like this, an extraordinary amount of the “surroundings” is made up of the things we say about what we think.

Then, after reading the advice, I felt the old saying cross my mind -- that “actions speak louder than words.”

This made me ponder a couple of big questions. For one, did my children see me doing anything differently because of Katrina? And secondly, does our normal home life seem, to my children, to have any connection to what they might already know, about (as the Chronicle headlines put it) the hard times in the Big Easy?

I realized that those two questions pointed at a special part of how we might handle things now... I don’t want the kids to be threatened by information about Katrina, but certainly no less do I want them to think that the aftermath of Katrina is “unreal”.

The more I think about it, the more I believe that the best way to have the kids get a real yet reassuring grip on Katrina is to be sure that they know our own life, at home and at school, gives us a way to do something about it, and that this ability is one of the best things about what we have.

You may have heard about the school whose kids collected hundreds of backpacks and got them sent to the children of Katrina, filled with items of relief. Let’s hope many schools will have many such great ideas.

But also imagine how those young backpack angels feel. For them, hearing and seeing all of this or that about Katrina, caring is comforting, and sharing is powerful.

Yes, we need to “protect” our kids from the terrible aftermath of Katrina. I think our real opportunity to do that is to “keep it real” for them by empowering them to do things about it that they can do. How about you? I bet this will prove to be the real core of their understanding, as the year goes by.

- A Kaiser parent

*Please contact the Pink Panther editors if you have a message or observation to share on strengthening our experience of Kaiser.*



## “An Evening In Tuscany” Kaiser's 31st Auction/Dance

**Date:** Saturday November 5, 2005

**Time:** 6pm - 12pm

**Place:** Linen Life Park Avenue Gallery  
1375 Park Avenue Emeryville, CA 94608

Wonderful Atmosphere, Good Food,  
Great Company, Noteworthy Cause

*Get your bidder cap and put on your dancing shoes  
and prepare yourselves for one of the year's funnest  
events.*

**Child Care:** Provided by –  
Head Over Heels Gymnastics ( 2 blks from the  
gallery). 1250 45th Street, Suite E  
Emeryville, CA 94619  
Time: 5:30pm - 12:00am

*The children are guaranteed to have a wonderful  
time as we dance the night away. They will enjoy  
being in groups of 4 with their own private  
gymnastics trainer for the evening. Their skills  
will be challenged by the circuits created  
especially for them, and there's delicious Round  
Table Pizza for dinner, and of course a movie with  
popcorn to end their night of fun.*

### REGISTRATION:

(Early Bird ) Sept. 12 - October 10

Auction : (1) \$25.00 or (2) \$40.00

Childcare: \$22.00 per child

**For auction donations/information contact:  
Andrea Nobles (510) 326-50478**

**SEE ATTACHED FORMS: Auction registration  
and childcare registration along with waiver.  
Please turn in completed forms with payment  
to the office of PTA Auction envelope**

*People make the world go 'round... by working hard  
to make things possible for each other... A lot of  
what New Orleans is showing us makes us think of  
what we've been through.*

### Things to Remember; Things to Ponder

**1871** Mills College moves to Oakland where a new campus is purchased and Mills Hall built. In 2002, Mills Hall remains a centerpiece of the college's campus. The City government moves into the newly completed City Hall at 14<sup>th</sup> & Washington Street. The Webster Street drawbridge across San Antonio creek is completed connecting Oakland with Alameda. The city's black community stands up to the Oakland School Board and fights to preserve **open classroom admissions**.

**1874** The first edition of the "Oakland Daily Evening Tribune" is printed. The Federal government **dredges the channel** to open Oakland as a deep water port.

**1910** Oakland's population more than doubles in ten years from 66,960 to over 150,000 as **people and businesses relocate** from earthquake-ravaged San Francisco. Oakland regains control of the long-lost waterfront by final settlement of litigation which had lasted over half a century and cost several millions of dollars.

**1975** Nakhodka, Russia and Sekondi Takoradi, Ghana become Oakland's second and third **sister cities**. The Golden State Warriors take the NBA Championship in a four-game sweep over the Washington Bullets.

**1984** Following a \$15 million refurbishment, the Oakland Civic Auditorium is reborn as the **Henry J. Kaiser** Convention Center.

(Originally compiled by the Oakland History Room of the Oakland Public Library, this timeline was expanded and updated by the Community and Economic Development Agency in preparation for the City's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.)