



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

School and Community Newsletter September 20th 2005

Note from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

I just read some rather frightening statistics that reflect research on influences on children.

Twenty years ago the top influences on children were: #1- Home/parents, #2 church, #3- school, #4- friends and #5- TV/radio/music.

The present-day influences are: #1-TV/radio/music, #2-friends/peers, #3- home/parents, #4- school and #5- church.

Urban children watch approximately 7.5 hours of TV a day, 49 hours a week. TV viewing has become a full time job. What is the predominant theme of what children are watching? Sex and violence.

Children see approximately five acts of violence an hour and in a week, 245 acts with over 12,000 a year. The #1 victims portrayed on TV are women. Most teachers in our school system are women, which is why, the authors postulate, inner city schools have been experiencing a continued rise in behavioral problems.

Parents are encouraged to imagine what their children would be capable of if they spent only half the amount of time they currently spend watching TV and substituted reading, writing, conversing or learning math facts.

Granted, most of our families are very much aware of limiting the amount of TV time and also scheduling some time to watch TV together, with follow-up conversations, It does cause concern, however, to realize the amount of violence that is regularly seen on the TV screen

Several of my colleagues were sharing this info with their parents on back-to-school night, in an effort to alert all of our families to the sad fact that the TV has, in many homes, become the default entertainer when the parents are tired after a long day at work.

This issue of the PINK PANTHER will have some ideas on some healthy snacks that could be brought to the healthy snack sales on Thursdays.

Thanks to all of our families who came to the Back-to-School Night and PTA meeting. The very ambitious budget was passed and now we have the fun of raising the funds to make certain that those activities and persons that have such a positive impact on our children will be able to continue. Our enrichment program is thanks in large measure to the support of the PTA and its members- all of you! Thank you for joining and let's have a wonderful year working together.

Katie McLane

Getting In The Know

MIRACLE CHORUS - CLASS TIME ADJUSTMENT - AGAIN!

OYC's Kelly Takunda Orphan is directing our chorus on Tuesday afternoons:

Grades K-2 will meet from 3:10-3:55 and **grades 3-5 will meet from 4:00-4:45.**

Supervision is provided in the library for students waiting for the 4:00 class. 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#. **THERE IS STILL PLENTY OF ROOM FOR MORE SINGERS IN THE CHORUS! SIGN UP NOW!** Weekly classes run now through December, \$75 for the semester.

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

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

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 and kbradley@ix.netcom.com

CALENDAR through November 1st

DATE / DAY	EVENT
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!
Nov 5 @ 6pm	Kaiser Auction @ The Linen Life Park Avenue Gallery

Notes & Corrections, Times & Locations

DATE/TIME	NOTES:
Nov 5 6pm - midnight	AUCTION: The Linen Life Gallery 1375 Park Ave. Emeryville, CA 94608

How to use the Kaiser School Website

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

Auction Update - An Evening in Tuscany

“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) 326-5078**

SEE ATTACHED FORM: Auction registration and
childcare registration. if childcare is desired, you
must complete a waiver and return it with your
registration for participation. The waiver is provided
in the school office. Please turn in completed forms
with payment to the office in PTA Auction envelope

Dance...Dance...Dance...

You don't want to miss the opportunity to hear your
favorite songs from the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's,
and today's hits while dancing the night away with our
Kaiser family. There will be music for all of us to
reminisce upon! This is a great event to extend an
invitation to your family, friends, and neighbors.

Head Over Heels

What a special treat for our children as we bid on
those coveted items and dance the night away. We are
limited to 40 children and it is on a first come first
serve basis. Be sure to reserve your space and take
advantage of the early bird special (see listed
advertisement). **Minimum age requirement: must be
potty trained.**

Solicitations/Donations

We are in high gear obtaining and soliciting donations
for the night's events. As one of our greatest fund-
raisers, this is a time where we can all come together
and ensure that we obtain our goal of \$30,000. We are
asking those who can assist to identify (5) items or
individuals within your sphere of influence for
donations. **Attached is a solicitation letter that you
are able to make as many copies needed, along with
a donation form and auction ideas sheet for your
use.** Together we can obtain the goal of 200
wonderful items for us to bid on. Thank you for
supporting and making this event magical.
Information/donations: Andrea Nobles (510) 326-
5078 or aynobles@sbcglobal.net.

VOLUNTEERS

It takes the hands of many people working together to
make anything great. There are various areas that you
can assist with. Please sign up on the volunteer board
located in the hall. Katherine Fratti, auction volunteer
coordinator, will contact interested individuals with
specifics.

Kaiser School Messages

HEALTHY SNACKS

Snacking has become a way of life for both adults and children and a recent study reported that over 95 percent of the women and children in the country have at least one snack each day.

Most common snack foods are high in sugar and sodium. If these foods are used for snacks frequently, they can affect health.

Snacks can be good for us if we make good choices. Children especially may benefit from healthy snacks. They often cannot eat enough at three meals a day to satisfy their hunger and provide all the nutrients they need. Snacks can provide the additional foods they need.

When shopping, let children help pick fruits, vegetables and cheeses for snacks. They will be more interested in eating these foods if they have been involved in selecting them.

Set aside a "snack spot" in the refrigerator and cupboard; keep stocked with nutritious ready-to-eat snacks.

Offer snacks at regular times, such as midmorning and midafternoon, but don't let children nibble constantly during the day. Avoid high sugar, fatty and salty snacks, such as candy and soda pop.

What can we bring to the "healthy snack sale"? Let's try some of these:

- Raw vegetables (celery, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, green pepper, etc.) with lowfat dip.
- Applesauce cups, fruit cups
- Bottled water
- Chex-mix
- Granola bars or high energy bars
- Sesame sticks
- Baked whole wheat chips, no salt
- Raisins, unsweetened dried fruit
- Yogurt, gogurt
- Unsweetened fruit juices
- Lowfat quick breads and muffins such as pumpkin, zucchini, banana or bran
- Snacks made with popcorn and whole grain cereal
- Roasted pumpkin seeds (pepitas). No-salt soy nuts, sunflower seeds (NOT in shell)
- Flaxseed corn chips, oriental rice crackers, cheddar snacks

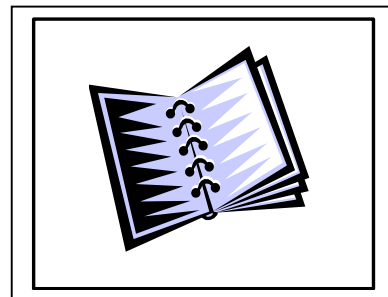
Thanks for helping to re-educate our kids about what "HEALTHY" really means. They will thank us later for helping them not become overweight.

SAVE THE DATE!!

The PTA will be participating in the **Cody's Books School Benefit Daze** for four days in **November (11-14)**. Cody's designates four shopping days each year at their three stores and via their website to benefit the area's schools. They will donate 15% of our net sales to the Kaiser PTA. We will collect all the receipts, submit them to Cody's, and receive 15% of net sales.

All you need to do is:

1. Make a purchase at one of their three retail stores or via their website between November 11-14.
2. Turn in your original receipts to the office.



You may purchase books, magazines, journals, calendars, gift cards, paper gift certificates, stationary, special orders, bargain books and more. Teachers will be compiling a list of "books wanted" for their classrooms and library so look for those soon. **Cody's store locations are** 2454 Telegraph Ave., and 1730 Fourth St. in Berkeley, and 2 Stockton St. at Market in San Francisco. Their website is www.codysbooks.com If you have any questions please contact Lisa Downes 532-5913, lisadownes@sbcglobal.net.

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)

School and Community

Update on Vanessa Wittmer and call for Support

As most of you are aware, on October 13, 2003 second grader Vanessa Wittmer was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She has been fighting her battle with remarkable grace and courage and the good news is she is responding well to the treatment. She is on her last 90 days of chemotherapy!

Many of you have offered support over the past two years which Vanessa and her family are truly grateful for. I would like to continue that support by updating a list of people willing to occasionally bring dinners to the school for Trish to pick up. If you are interested in helping with this effort please contact me at 510-532-5913, or lisadownes@sbcglobal.net.

For more information on Vanessa's journey please visit <http://www2caringbridge.org/ca/vanessa.wittmer/>

SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL- MEMBER ELECTION

On Wednesday, September 21, the School Site Council will meet in the library at 3:45 and one of the items on the agenda is the election of a member to replace the vacancy left by Malia Ramler, as her daughter has moved on to the middle school. Last Spring, we asked for interested persons, and Valorie Hutson was nominated to fill the position of a parent rep. Valorie has two daughters attending Kaiser- one in fifth and one in kindergarten!

We will hold the election on the 21st and also want to find an alternate who is willing to participate regularly. The meetings are generally held the third Wednesday of the month at 3:45 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Members of the School Site Council include: Renato Almanzor, chair, Karl Debro, Yvonne White, Margaret Yang, Steve Neat, Janan Apaydin, Robin Sasada and Katie McLane.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

The School Site Council is the vehicle by which the school community comes together to chart the school's path to improvement. The SSC is uniquely suited to carry out this function since it is representative of all segments of the school community.

Being composed of the principal, teachers, other school personnel and parents, it provides a forum for all of the major players in the school to come together to identify common goals and establish a plan to achieve these goals.

The SSC's success depends upon both the ability and the willingness of all those involved in the process to work together in a cooperative manner to develop an effective curricular and instructional program in which all students may attain higher levels of academic competence.

The SSC allocates the supplemental resources and strives to keep its focus on establishing and maintaining a comprehensive and ongoing strategy to improve curriculum and instruction. The SSC should establish and maintain a vision of the skills and knowledge students will need as adults in our society, and then use the available supplemental resources, along with the existing base resources of the school, to make this vision possible for all students at the school.

Our School Site Council has been influential in helping focus our restructuring, more fully implement the arts as a vital part of the core curriculum and has been an excellent example of the teamwork that makes for a successful school. The meetings are open to all parents and we definitely want to invite everyone to participate.

Kaiser PTA Page

School Directories are in the Works!

Do you have any connections to a printing or copy company? We are in the process of putting together the PTA school directory and need to find an inexpensive resource for having it printed. If you have any leads please contact Kelly Bartlett at 595-9533 bartlettsmith@sbcglobal.net, or Cindy Hobbs 534-0593 cindyhobbs@excite.com
Thanks.

Anyone ready to assist?

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

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

- 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: Janice Murphy
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

EScrip Sign Ups

Hello friends and staff of Kaiser Elementary School in Oakland, California!

If you haven't already done this..... please consider signing up!

The eScrip program will reward the Kaiser PTA with a percentage of the money you already spend when you shop at Safeway, Vons, Macy's, Office Max and other participating stores. Other merchants include Carnival Cruise Lines, Century 21 Real Estate and Sierra Trading Post! EScrip will also reward Kaiser PTA with a percentage of purchases made through a registered credit card.

I went online and signed up in about 5 minutes. The only part that took time was digging through my wallet to find out what my card numbers were. Everything else was a snap!

Just go to the Kaiser website

<http://www.kaiserelementaryschool.com/getinvolved/escrip.html> and click on register with eScrip or click here:

<http://www.escrip.com/>

The name of the group to support is:

Kaiser Elementary School PTA

Our zip code is 94618

Kaiser's 31st Auction / Dance Planning Committee presents:

An Evening in Tuscany



Saturday November 5, 2005

6pm - 12 midnight

The Linen Life Park Avenue Gallery
1375 Park Avenue, Emeryville, 94608

**Childcare at Head Over Heels,
250 4th Sr., Suite E, Emeryville**

1. Auction Registration Form

Early Birds' price - *through October 10, 2005* \$25 -1 person
\$40 -2 people bring a friend!!!

Regular/at the door price *after Oct. 10, 2005* \$25 each person

Participant name(s): _____ Need bidder number?

	Yes	No
	Yes	No
	Yes	No
	Yes	No

Anyone wanting to purchase auction items will need a bidding number

2. Childcare Registration with Head over Heels Gymnastics

*Also need to sign Head Over Heels waiver form in Kaiser office

of children to attend _____ \$22/ each

First and last name Age Grade Health concerns? Contact info

Payment by: cash check credit

Credit card info (if paying with card):

Name on card Billing address

Type (VISA, MC, etc) card # expiration date

Signature for payment

*Please use back of sheet if necessary for Registration info.
Please turn in with attached check (or cash) in PTA Auction envelope to Kaiser office.*