



Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

School and Community Newsletter October 18th

Note from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

November 8th is Election Day and as I am looking at my absentee ballot, I'm still scratching my head over why the governor is so intent about seeing Props 74, 75 and 76 passed. I encourage you to think about the newest members of the teaching profession that we've had at Kaiser in the past few years: Andrea Pletcher, Steve Neat and Amelia Bailey. Would there have been any reason to ask them to be "on probation" for five years? You can spot a good teacher the moment you encounter one. Knowing that the average number of years that California teachers stay in the profession is currently three years, why would our state prolong the probationary period for five years, leaving bright, energetic and committed new educators "on edge" for five years before granting them tenure? I fear that fewer people will choose to follow this vital calling if we continue to "beat up" on the profession.

Next week we will be having parent/teacher conferencing and we appreciate that you need to make arrangements to care for your children for an entire week of minimum days. We feel that it is vital to work closely with our families to assure that we are all on the same page as we work together for each child's success. Before you go to the conference, think about what you want to tell the teacher about your child. How does your child feel about school? What does your child like to do after school? What special interests does your child have? (dinosaurs, cars, art, sports, cooking, dancing) Is there anything you would like to tell the teacher that would help him/her understand your child- or your family dynamics? Ask your child what you might discuss with the teacher and look at in the room.

At the conference, be sure to arrive on time so that the other parents won't have to wait or have their conference time shortened. Here are some questions you might want to ask: In what subject(s) does my child do well? What needs improvement? Are there any special programs that could help my child? What can I do at home to help my child? Ask questions about any part of the school program that you have questions about (homework, test results, recess, etc.)

When you get home, tell your child something good that the teacher said about him/her. Jot down any important points to share with your spouse/partner if they were unable to attend. Keep communicating with the teacher throughout the year by telephone and notes. Communication is the key!

Thanks to all of you for being such supportive parents! We are grateful for the opportunity to work with you and your children.

Katie

Getting In The Know

WOW, WE DID IT!

WE MADE OUR GOAL OF 98% ATTENDANCE FOR THE FIRST STATISTICAL PERIOD (AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND 1ST WEEK OF OCTOBER!)



Thanks to all of our families who value education and do your best to have your child attend school regularly. This is the first time we have ever hit our goal and I am thrilled! To have almost everyone here almost every day at the beginning of the year helps all of the children feel adjusted and ready to learn. Thank you, thank you!!

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

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Oct 24-28 Monday - Friday	MINIMUM DAYS - Parent/ Teacher conferences
Oct 25 Tuesday	Individual and Group Picture Day
Nov 5 Friday	Kaiser Auction
Nov 8 Tuesday	



Kaiser Related Events

DATE/TIME	NOTES:
Nov 5 6pm - midnight	AUCTION: The Linen Life Gallery 1375 Park Ave. Emeryville, CA 94608
Nov 11-14	Cody's Bookstore Benefit Daze!

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!!

Kaiser and Neighborhood News

LATINO HERITAGE POTLUCK A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thanks to Susan Ruiz and her wonderful volunteers, our halls were decorated with flags from Mexico, Central and South America. Our PTA paid for an assembly that featured music from "south of the border" on Thursday which got the children in the mood. Friday night's music and dance featured two of the three Ruiz girls who dance with the Carlos Moreno Folklorico group. What a treat!

The new banner designed by Daphne Allen will remind Kaiser families for years to come about the Latino Heritage Potluck! Thanks to everyone who brought such delicious food and participated in this family oriented event.

Thanks.

Ballet anyone?...

Former Kaiser student, Katharine Mayer, will be dancing in Hansel and Gretel, a ballet of the classic fairy tale and a delight to children of all ages.

Get into the Halloween spirit, with a scary witch and a house scrumptious enough to eat! (Sunday, October 23, 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.).

Shows will be staged at Regent's Theatre, Holy Names University, Oakland, California.

For detailed performance information and to order tickets (\$20), go to

<http://www.obacademy.com/performances/index.html>

ELMWOOD DISTRICT SPONSORS MOVIES FOR KIDS

A creative idea to allow parents a few hours of peace on Saturday mornings has been developed by the Elmwood Theater and the nearby shops. The Elmwood is located near Ashby on College Avenue and is newly reopened. Attached to this copy of the *Pink* is a two-sided flyer that lists the movies for children and the opposite side tells you which stores will give you free tickets.

Thanks to one of our new parents for sharing this lovely opportunity!!

A great website for parent information!

<http://www.greatschools.net/modperl/go/ca?fceid=20051010pa>

In This Newsletter

- * October Parent Tips
- * Autism

Autism: As cases increase, so do questions. Here's an overview.

- * Bright Ideas: Cell Phones
- * Share Your Ideas: Fundraisers
- * Ready for Kindergarten?
- * October Parent Poll
- * NetDay
- * GreatSchools Grade-by-Grade
- * Parent Reviews

MANY THANKS TO OUR GARDENING VOLUNTEERS!



Janan Apaydin and Tom Rust, our staff members who help coordinate volunteers for beautification of Kaiser's environment, wish to thank Patricia and Pearse Broadbent, Steven and Jonah Wade, Gordon Piper, Margie Potts, Cynthia and Kaitlyn Freeman and Janan's daughter, Leila, for helping prepare the beds and plant more natives.

Minimum Days Week Info

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS FOR THE WEEK OF OCT. 24-28

Please read this if your child is signed up for after-school activities at Kaiser! Parent-teacher conferences will take place during the week of Oct. 24-28.

EVERY DAY WILL BE A MINIMUM DAY, SCHOOL LETTING OUT AT 1:25PM. Here is an update of what will happen with the after school programs during that week. Please refer to this, as some of the information may be different than that which was printed on the initial flyers.

MONDAY

- Mad Science will meet in the usual place (Kindergarten classroom) from 1:30-2:30.
- Piano lessons with Marilyn Marsh – no classes currently scheduled for Mondays.

TUESDAY

- Miracle Chorus (OYC) will meet on the stage in the multi-purpose room. K-2 will meet from 1:30-2:30; grades 3-5 will meet from 2:30-3:30.
- Piano lessons with Laura Sherman will meet in the usual place (Kindergarten classroom); lesson times will be moved up to accommodate the earlier dismissal time. Please speak directly with Laura about your child's specific lesson time.

WEDNESDAY

- ALL WEDNESDAY CLASSES WILL MEET AT THEIR REGULAR TIMES & LOCATIONS.

THURSDAY

- Jazz band will be CANCELLED this week.
- Piano lessons with Marilyn Marsh will meet in the usual place (Kindergarten classroom); lesson times will be moved up to accommodate the earlier dismissal time. Please speak directly with Marilyn about your child's specific lesson time.

FRIDAY

- African Dance will meet in the usual place (multi-purpose room). K-2 will meet from 1:30-2:15; grades 3-5 will meet from 2:15-3:00.

As always, please pick your children up promptly at the end of class, or make other arrangements for their supervision. If you have any questions, please contact Katy DeVecchi at 336-9679 or katyhunterd@sbcglobal.net.

Help Us Get The Hillside Cleared!!

One of the escape routes from Kaiser School is to go down the slope behind the playground and out to Tunnel Road.

Right now there is a lot of highly flammable "Scotch broom" or ("witches' broom") growing on the hillside and we would like the Office of the State Fire Marshall to clear the site. If you could call or email Antoinette Weiskamp, Deputy State Fire Marshall at 510-520-0723 or email at Antoinette.weiskamp@fire.ca.gov to urge the state to clear the evacuation route that our children would take if we were not able to walk down Hiller Drive, it may provide the results we need!

For most emergencies, such as earthquakes, etc. we would remain on site on the upper field and use our emergency supplies of food, water, medical supplies, etc.

Your Kaiser PTA - News and Reminders

PTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

aims to Climb to the top of the Mountain!

The class that signs up the highest percentage of PTA members gets a climbing trip to Ironworks climbing gym! So, strap on that harness and get climbing. Along with becoming a member you will also receive a membership card and a school directory.

Only parents and faculty can help the kids do this.
Reminder:

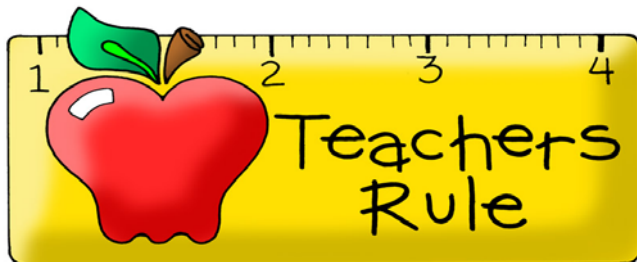
Single parent family \$ 7.00

Two parent family \$ 14.00

Look for a table set up this week at drop off and pick up. Forms are also available in the office.

Have your check ready made out to Kaiser PTA.
Include your child's name and teacher.

- Kelly & Cindy



Last Days for Sally Foster!

The Sally Foster fundraiser ends this week. Please return your order forms in the red and white envelope it came in by October 19. Please be sure your child's name and teacher's name is on the envelope and order form. All checks should be made payable to Kaiser PTA.

Thank you for all your support in making this a successful fundraiser. The orders will be ready to pick up the week of November 29.

eScrip merchants have donated \$1,830.63 to Kaiser Elementary School PTA in the past year!

When you shop with your Macy's Card, you can:

1. Provide 2-6% FUNDING for your school through eScrip.

2. Earn 10% Rewards plus donate to charities in your community when you enroll in our Thanks For Sharing program.*

3. Save an extra 10-20% on regular, sale and clearance purchases for her, him, kids & home at any Macy's, now through October 16!**

*Some exclusions apply. See in-store brochure or visit macys.com <<http://marketing.escrip.com/rd/9z1z414crhjdlkphqtqcolhtg05bumkqt4i5ue1rka8>> for details.

**Some exclusions apply. See store for details.

Signing up online takes about 5 minutes.
Just go to the Kaiser website and click on register with eScrip:
<http://www.kaiserelementaryschool.com/getinvolved/escrip.html>

or click here: <http://www.escrip.com/>

The name of the group to support is:

Kaiser Elementary School PTA
Our zip code is **94618**

Check out the climbers on the "Mountain" in the front lobby to see how your class is doing in the Membership Drive!

Kaiser: Many Ways to be a Community

An Evening in Tuscany

Countdown:

Only 19 days left!

Please note the correct of the fees: (1) person \$25, (2) persons \$50, childcare \$25 per child.

No more Early Birds! Sorry...

But if you missed out on the early bird special and would like an opportunity to save \$10 for (2) or \$5 for (1) here is your chance. Collect two different versions of "An Evening in Tuscany" auction flyers (there are three versions floating around) and attach them to your registration to receive your discount!

AUCTION FORMS:

Register for the Auction and sign up for child care by using the Auction Registration and Childcare forms available from the Kaiser Elementary office or from the school web site at:

<http://www.kaiserelementaryschool.com/getinvolved/auction2005.html>.

Child Care is Available at Head Over Heels

The response was great and we are at 40 children. Due to a number of requests we have secured 10 more slots.

Minimum age requirement: must be potty trained. Dinner will be provided. If you desire, you can bring a sleeping bag for your child to rest on during movie time (it is not mandatory).

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 PTA Auction envelope in the school office.

Solicitations/Donations

We are asking that all donations be submitted no later than Friday October 28th to ensure that the items are listed in the auction catalog. **Donation/ Solicitation forms are also available from the Kaiser school web site.**

Information/donations: Andrea Nobles (510) 326-5078 or aynobles@sbcglobal.net.

ALTERNATIVE CELEBRATION FOR OCT. 31ST

For those families wishing to have an alternative celebration to the traditional Halloween assembly/party/parade, Tracy Levy is willing to help coordinate the activity, but needs some additional "grown up" help. Parents will be encouraged to donate healthy snacks and should sign up in the office or by emailing Tracy at leejoelevy@aol.com.

We are most appreciative to Tracy for providing this alternative to families!!

On behalf of the Oakland Museum of Calif. Latino Advisory Committee you are invited to attend this free community event.



Oakland Museum of California presents
12 TH ANNUAL DAYS OF THE DEAD :
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 23, 12–4 p.m.
A special day of community healing

Dance & Music:

Danza Xitlalli

Ensembles Ballet Folklórico de San Francisco

Mariachi Colima de Javier Magallon

Teatro Familia Aztlan

Yolanda Aranda

Food & Drink:

Burritos, Tacos, Tamales, Vegetarian specialties by local restaurants

Artist Demonstrations:

Kite-making, paper mache, and traditional Days of the Dead items

Family Activities

Paint sugar skulls

Make tin frames and kites

Help create a community altar!

Mercado Vendors:

Wonderful Days of the Dead items for sale

Admission:

Celebration is free. Admission to the museum galleries, including Days of the Dead exhibition, will be half-price all day.

(Does not include Baseball As America show.)

General admission: \$8 adults; \$5 seniors and students; free for kids 5 and under and museum members.

For more information please visit www.museumca.org

Enroll Now for Classes and Lessons at The Oakland Public Conservatory of Music!

This new non-profit community music center will open its doors on October 17th for Group and Private lessons for all: Children, Youth and Adults!

Enroll and pay online and receive a 10% discount

Study with some of the Bay Area's finest music educators! (To learn more about our faculty please visit our website!)

Fall Group Classes Include:

- *Afro-Cuban Rumba-----Yaya Iluminado Maldonado
- *Afro-Caribbean Percussion-----Hector Lugo
- *Youth Jazz Ensemble-----Angela Wellman
- *Jazz Combo-----Mark Wright
- *Jazz Studies-----Angela Wellman
- *Jazz for Strings-----Sandi Poindexter
- *360 Degrees of Jazz Drumming-----Babatunde Lea
- *Blues Piano (Beginning and Intermediate Levels)-----Bill Crossman
- *Blues and R&B Guitar-----Chris Planas
- *Zimbabwean Mbira-----Russ Landers
- *Marimba of the Zimbabwean Tradition-----Russ Landers
- *Music Styles of the World for Guitar-----Chris Planas
- *Zimbabwean Dance-----Julia Chigamba
- *Beginning Musicianship/Music Theory-----Allan Crossman
- *Vocal Lab-----Angela Dean-Baham
- *Doo-Wop Vocal Group-----David Glover
- *Steel Pans-----Cannon Hernandez
- *Low Strings Ensemble-----David Arend
- *Improvisation for Strings-----India Cooke
- *Beginning Violin-----India Cooke
- *Turntableism-----Willie Adams

Private Lessons In:

Brass---trumpet, trombone or tuba
Woodwind---flute, clarinet or saxophone
Strings---violin, viola, cello or bass
Piano Voice Percussion-styles and instruments from around the world!

To learn more about OPCMusic and how to enroll go to:
www.opcmusic.org

or call us at 510-836-4649