



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

School and Community Newsletter November 28th

Note from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

A heartfelt thanks for the outpouring of love and support. Your precious children wrote me some of the most beautiful and poignant notes reflecting on the loss of my mother. Mother was ninety-one and she had led a full life and given much inspiration to her three daughters, all of whom are in the field of education. Her death was expected. We need now to focus on the living.

Upon returning to school, I was saddened to hear of the death of one of our own parents whose first grader needs all of the love and support from our incredible Kaiser community. As soon as I have spoken with the grandparents, I will let you know in what ways they can be supported as they take on the task of raising their beautiful granddaughter. Our hearts go out to the Kidder family.

We are keeping third grade teacher, Margaret Yang, in our thoughts as she faces important decisions as to the appropriate procedures to take to arrest a malignancy. Thanks to Vince Morgante who will be teaching Ms. Margaret's class until the winter break.

Our Kaiser staff is not immune from the issues that many of you are dealing with as members of the "sandwich" generation (caring for your parents and your own children simultaneously). Janan Apaydin will be job sharing for a while so that she can help her family care for her father and father-in-law.

DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL NOMINATION- WE NEED YOUR HELP! One of the most important aspects of the written documentation is the inclusion of data from our parents. We have targeted six questions to which we hope you will respond *tonight or tomorrow*. Your feedback will be included as we write our final draft this week. You may e-mail me with your responses to Catherine.mclane@ousd.k12.ca.us or fill out the attached form and return it to the main office by Thursday at the latest.

REPORT CARDS will be distributed on Friday, December 9th and they will indicate how your child is progressing in relationship to the state curriculum standards.

OPTIONS FOR ENTERING KINDERGARTEN, MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS are very different this year. Please read the attached summary sheet so that you can help your friends (or Kaiser siblings) find their way to Kaiser School. The deadline for the middle school applications is January 6th and elementary school applications will be due the 3rd of February. We are hosting parent information nights on Dec. 6th and January 5th for kindergarten and other new students interested in Kaiser. December 8th is the information night for our "Rising 5th graders" and their families. We will invite former Kaiser families to share their middle school experiences.

Warmly,
Katie

Getting In The Know

OPEN ENROLLMENT

This year all new students planning to attend any Oakland Public School must **register during the "Open Enrollment Window" which is between January 10 and January 27th.** Families may sign up for their neighborhood school or any other school in Oakland. Priority is given to persons in the neighborhood.

AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS – WINTER SESSION –

It is almost time to sign up for the winter session of after-school programs. Winter session for most classes will start in January.

LOOK FOR THE INFORMATION PACKET WITH NEXT WEEK'S PINK PANTHER! including flyers and registration forms for all of our after-school offerings, including: African Dance, Chess, Chinese, Drama, Jazz Band, Lego Engineering, Mad Science, Miracle Chorus, Piano Lessons, and Spanish.

The current session for all of our after-school classes will end before the winter holidays, so if your child wishes to continue with a class or join something new when school resumes in January, be sure to get those registration forms in before you leave for winter break.

Again, INFORMATION PACKETS WILL GO HOME WITH STUDENTS NEXT WEEK!! Questions? Contact Katy DeVecchi at katyhunterd@sbcglobal.net or call 336-9679.

Your Sally Foster Orders – Arrive this week!

They will be ready for pick up in your child's class on Wednesday, November 30.

Thank you to all who participated. We sold over **\$13,000 worth of merchandise**, half of which we get to keep. Thanks again to all the families who helped make it a success.

If you have any questions concerning your order, please contact Lisa Downes at 532-5913 or lisadownes@sbcglobal.net.

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
December 2 Friday	Minimum Day
December 3 Saturday	Miracle Chorus Performance w/ Oakland Youth Chorus
Tuesday, Dec. 6th at 7:00 p.m.	Informational meeting: Open Enrollment
Thursday, Dec. 8th	Informational meeting: 5th grade parents options for middle schools

DON'T MISS KAISER'S MIRACLE CHORUS PERFORMANCE ON DECEMBER 3RD!

See Kaiser's after-school Miracle Chorus singers perform in

WINTER SOULSTICE
with the Oakland Youth Chorus

on December 3rd at 7pm at the
First Congregational Church of Oakland
(27th and Harrison).

This holiday concert features the teen Concert Chorus, the all-city Middle School Magic Chorus, and over 75 Miracle Chorus singers from all over Oakland, including the singers from our school. Call 287-9700 for ticket information or visit www.oaklandyouthchorus.org

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!!

Joining Hands - Giving a Hand

PTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

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!

Membership: Single parent family \$ 7.00, and Two parent family \$ 14.00 Along with becoming a member you will also receive a membership card and a school directory.

Forms are available in the office.

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

- Kelly & Cindy



Your Sally Foster Orders – Arrive this week!

They will be ready for pick up in your child's class on Wednesday, November 30.

Thank you to all who participated. We sold over **\$1300 worth of merchandise**, half of which we get to keep. Thanks again to all the families who helped make it a success.

If you have any questions concerning your order, please contact Lisa Downes at 532-5913, or lisadownes@sbcglobal.net.

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS-

Thanks again to all the student candidates for the Council! Our budding future leadership includes (alphabetically):

Christina Bates, Alistair Eeckman, Aaron Elliot, Slater Hitz, Maiyah Phelps, Alyssa Kunesh, Naomi Kushins, Sophia Lee, Maya Lopez, Maureen Murphy, Ella Pearson, Olivia Ports, David Suruki and Trevor Wilson.

And, elected to office for this term:

President: Kindness Nwakudu

Vice President. Alexis Carney and

Secretary Student Council: Marina Donaldson.

Treasurer is Nikki Tauch

The Girl Scouts and One Warm Coat

Junior Girl Scout Troop #1877 is collecting coats again in our annual coat drive, One Warm Coat. Please donate your gently worn and clean coats and sweaters (that you no longer want) by placing them in the wardrobe box in the front hallway at school.

In early December, the Junior Girl Scouts in Troop #1877 will take your donated coats and give them to the East Oakland Recovery Center for individuals and families in need. The Center has benefited from these donations for the past three years and are very appreciative of the efforts of the Kaiser Community and their Girl Scouts.

If you have any questions about this coat drive, please contact Lesley Clark at lesleyrc@aol.com

Thanks for your generosity.

Thank you to all of those who participated in the **Cody's Books School Benefit Daze**. Please remember to turn in your original receipts to the office if you haven't already done so.

- Kaiser's PTA officers -

Board Presidents: Lisa Downes, Lesley Clark

Board Vice-President: Liz Hall

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

For your Urgent Reply...Please Note

PARENT RESPONSE FOR DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL NOMINATION

1. (2 . 5) How do you receive information from your school about the state standards and if your child is meeting the grade level standards?
2. (5) What is the staff development program at your school and does it ensure student excellence?
3. (6) What does the school do to ensure that it collaborates with all stakeholders (students, teachers, staff, parents, community volunteers) for student success? Note: approach the question from the perspective of a parent.
4. (7) What are your school's support services and do they meet the unique needs of your various student groups?
5. (8) How does your school ensure a safe and secure environment to promote socially appropriate behavior and positive relationships?
6. (9) How does your school effectively communicate with you and how are you encouraged to contribute to the success of the school?