



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

School & Community Newsletter January 24, 2006

Message from Principal Katie McLane

Dear Families,

Our school is hosting many families who are excited about the prospect of being Kaiser parents next year and there is a definite buzz in the community about the level of parental support that exists here. I need to let you know how very special it is to know that the vast majority of our families believe in what we do and how we stand behind our beliefs of equity for all. .

Thanks to the special involvement of Robin Sasada, Bonnie Pearson, Lisa Downes and Katy deVecchi our halls are beautifully decorated for the **Lunar Celebration**. We are looking forward to having a wonderful time this Friday as we learn more about the holiday celebration and enjoy watching our children perform. Everyone is encouraged to come and bring some food from one of the Asian cultures on **Friday, January 27th**.

An important deadline is approaching for all fifth grade families. The **deadline for submission of the Options Program is Friday February 3rd**. All families must submit the forms before then in order to have a place for their middle school child next year. There are only two more weeks to visit the 27 middle schools to make an educated choice. We know that our children will do well, wherever they go!

We hope that you are encouraging your children to participate in the **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr: Oratorical Fest**. Several of the classes are entering as a group, but we encourage children to enter as individuals or with a friend (two or more becomes a group entry) in one of the following categories: 1) original speeches/original poetry; 2) individual poetry; 3) famous speeches; 4) choral speaking and dramatic skills. If you know that your child wishes to participate, please let your child's teacher know and fill out the entry form. We will have our **oratorical fest at our site on the morning of February 3, 2006**. The maximum time limit for groups is 5 minutes and 3 minutes for individuals. No costumes, props, tapes or special effects are allowed. Any copyrighted materials used in the oration must be identified with the author's name.

There is a **USE YOUR VOICE** survey that is coming home this week, which Oakland is expecting all families to return. The survey is part of the Expect Success program that is Oakland's effort to redesign our district into a "world class district." Please take the time to fill out the form and return it to your child's teacher. It is anonymous, but every voice counts.

This is an exciting time of year when our children really take off with their learning. Despite the contractual issues that are as yet unresolved, our teachers are committed to providing a strong academic program for your children. Hopefully, everything will be resolved soon.

Katie

Getting In The Know

FAMILY NIGHT: LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



Our annual PTA sponsored Asian potluck is this **Friday, January 27th at 6:30pm**. You won't want to miss this evening of delicious food, celebration of Asian culture, and a wonderful opportunity to connect with others in the Kaiser community. If you have a favorite dish that you would like to make and it is not in the alphabetical breakdown, please feel free to bring it. Otherwise, the following list will help us have a variety of offerings:

- A-G Salads or vegetables
- H-O Main dishes
- P- Z Appetizers or Desserts

"What's their phone number?"
"I'll check the directory."

The Kaiser Directory
will be available at the
Asian Potluck January 27th

see you there
Kelly & Cindy

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
January 23 Monday	GATE Meeting 6:30pm
January 24 Tuesday (RESCHEDULED)	School Site Council 4 pm to 5pm
January 27 Friday	Asian Heritage Potluck! Family Night Lunar New Year's Celebration
February 3 Friday	Middle and High School Options choices are due
February 6 Monday	PTA Board meeting 7:00 -9:00 pm
February 15 Wednesday	School Site Council
February 20 Monday	President's Day Holiday- School closed
February 24 Friday	Black History Celebration and Oratorical Fest

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 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 Kids Can!

...BREAKING NEWS...
SPECIAL DELIVERY NOTICE!



Baby Shower for Mrs. Bailey February 1st!

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Inviting all present and past parents and well-wishers to attend! Children allowed! (of course) To contribute to a group gift – there is an envelope at the front desk.

For gift ideas, Amelia is registered at
www.babiesrus.com and
www.jcpenney.com

Call Cynthia for any questions
c/510-703-3658
h/510-268-1478 or
cynthomson@mac.com



Why study Chinese at Kaiser?



Kaiser now offers

Beginning Mandarin Chinese after school
on Mondays beginning January 23rd. **We have one space available.** Class size is limited to 12 children.

Susan Kostal, San Francisco Magazine (February 2005 issue) notes: After decades of being relegated to the nation's linguistic backwaters, owing to a Eurocentric bias and vestigial racism, Chinese is experiencing a mini vogue among global-minded parents. Around the Bay, among some forward-thinking professionals, **Mandarin** is edging out ballet and French lessons as a preferred extracurricular for children.

Parents cite several reasons for their interest in Mandarin.

- It's spoken by more people than any other language and is the Chinese business world's dialect.
- Studies show a correlation between learning the language and development of the brain's math and music centers.
- But it's China's growing economic power that prompts many to sign up for classes.
- To top it off, the College Board recently added Chinese to the list of AP exams for 2007, which will only spark more interest.

For additional information or registration forms, contact Kiki Bradley at kbradley@ix.netcom.com or 510-530-9396.

Kids Take the Stage

will be offering
drama at Kaiser on
Wednesday afternoons
starting February 8.

Kaiser students who sign up
for the spring session of drama
will be performing *Hansel &
Gretel* in May.

**To sign your child up for
drama**, or for tickets to *The
Wizard of Oz*, visit
www.kidstakethestage.com
or call 864-7061.

NEW!

Pink Panther Kids' Page! started last week!

The Pink Panther preps it presses
for the pupils! We're looking for
parents & teachers to help the kids
periodically publish their
perceptions, pictures, points and
pride about their school.
To contribute ideas and material for
upcoming issues, contact Kiki
Bradley at kbradley@ix.netcom.com
or 510-530-9396.



Supplements to Education

Documentary: THAT'S A FAMILY !

"That's a Family!" is a documentary that breaks new ground in helping children in grades K-6 understand the different shapes families take today.

This award-winning film stretches the minds and touches the heart of viewers of all ages. Children speak candidly about what it's like to grow up in a family with parents of different races or religions, divorced parents, a single parent, gay or lesbian parents, adoptive parents or grandparents as guardians.

We will again show this film to interested parents in late January and we'll begin implementing the program in February.

The Kaiser staff is receiving training, which includes lesson plans to use with the video, suggestions for facilitating classroom discussion at different grade levels, and additional resources for teachers, families and children.

Kids Take the Stage presents *The Wizard of Oz*

The Alameda cast of Kids Take the Stage will be performing *The Wizard of Oz* this month at the Kofman Auditorium, 2200 Central Avenue in Alameda. Evening shows (7:30 – 9:30) on January 19, 20, 21 and an afternoon performance (2:00 – 4:00) on January 22. Ticket prices are:
Adult (15+): \$20.00;
Youth/Senior (2-14 / 65+): \$10.00;
Children under 2 free.



It may seem early to start thinking about summer camps, but many summer programs offer discounts for early enrollees, and programs fill up quickly, so it never hurts to get a jump start. Voted "Best Camp for Kids" in Bay Area Parent and "Best of the Bay" in San Francisco Magazine, Camp Galileo combines art, science, and outdoor programming with fun camp traditions to create a summer day camp experience kids love. Delivered by a highly talented staff, Camp Galileo's curriculum is developed in partnership with The Tech Museum of Innovation and Klutz.

Camp Galileo features three unique weeks of programming to appeal to all interests: Shape It, Sculpt It! & Amusement Park Science, Psychedelic '60s & Space Explorers, Ancient Egypt & Crime Solver Scientists. Camp Galileo Rockridge will be hosted at Holy Names High School (next to Aurora School) from June 26th – July 28th.

Visit www.campgalileo.com or call 1-800-854-3684 for more information. Enroll by February 28 and save \$20 per week!

February at the Dimond Branch Library

Thursday, Feb 2, 2006 at 10:30; Carl Winters Kalimba King playing the African thumb piano chanting, singing, and dancing. For all ages.

Friday, Feb. 3, 2006 at 4:00; Dimond Book Club reading "Crispin: the Cross of Lead" by Avi for ages 9 - 13.

Friday, Feb. 10, 2006 at 3:30; Crafts with Robin Goodfellow - Castles. for ages 6 and older.

Every Tuesday at 7:00PM- Family Storytime

Every Wednesday at 10:30AM - Preschool Storytime

Mary Schrader
Librarian II
Dimond Branch Library
3565 Fruitvale Ave., 482-7844

Editors' Choice

(Poem from e.poems.org)

Rain

When it rains
The soft grey sky
Drifts to the ground
Brown rivulets
Trickle away
Trickle away
Washing sadness down

Weather vanes
Weep and turn
Weep and turn

Forgetting in the damp and grey
That by and by
The sun will shine
Sun will shine
By and by
The sun will shine

(Translations by Altavista.com)

Pluie

Quand il pleut les dérives grises molles de ciel aux rivulets bruns moulus s'écoulent goutte à goutte le filet parti enlevant la tristesse Survivent à vers le bas à des palettes pleurent et le tour pleurent et tournent oublier dans l'humidité et le gris que tantôt le soleil brillera le soleil polira tantôt le soleil brillera. (French)

Lluvia

Cuando llueve las derivas grises suaves del cielo a los rivulets marrones de tierra gotean el chorrito ausente lejos que lava tristeza abajo resisten a las paletas lloran y la vuelta llora y da vuelta a olvidarse en la humedad y el gris que el sol brillará en breve tiempo sol brillará en breve tiempo el sol brillará. (Spanish)

Regen

Wenn es regnet, tröpfeln die weichen grauen Himmel Antriebe zu den braunen Grundrivulets den wegtrickle, der weg Traurigkeit verwittern wäscht unten, Schaufeln weinen und Umdrehung weinen und drehen das Vergessen in der Feuchtigkeit und Grau, daß nach und nach die Sonne scheint, Sonne glänzt nach und nach die Sonne glänzt. (German)

Βροχή

Όταν βρέχει οι μαλακές γκριζες κλίσεις ουρανού στο έδαφος που ο καφετής μικρός αριθμός rivulets ρέει αργά μακριά τη θλίψη μακριά πλυσίματος κάτω από καιρικά vanes κλαίει και η στροφή κλαίει και γυρίζει να ξεχάσει υγρός και γκριζός που από και από τον ήλιο θα λάμψει ήλιος θα λάμψει από και από τον ήλιο θα λάμψει. (Greek)

(See more languages on the Altavista site!)