



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

25 South Hill Court, Oakland, California 94618 (510) 549-4900

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 13, 2008

Dear Kaiser Families,

So what did we do on Friday? While we were at the Emeryville food court, several Kaiser people came up to say hi to us and I could tell by the look on their faces that they were wondering what we were doing there. We had come from a four-hour CPR/first-aid training in the morning, and when you put 12 teachers together around the big table eating lunch, we did what most teachers do—talk about our work! Even though it was supposed to be a casual lunch, our faculty takes every opportunity to reflect on what we do. I'm so proud of them!

In addition to being certified to do CPR and first aid, we learned a few other things, and a couple of them pertain to parents. If you have a child who needs medicine of any kind, we need a doctor's note with the medicine to be held in the office, and then administered by office staff. We need a doctor's note to dispense medicine of any kind, even over-the-counter medicine, even with your verbal or written permission, because we are not medical personnel. Secondly in our discussions we learned that a 911 call from a cell phone is often ineffective because the 911 dispatcher cannot tell the geographic location of the cell phone. That leads to two considerations for better and quicker service: when at all possible make a 911 call from a landline, or if you must use a cell phone in an emergency in Oakland call 238-4030, the police and emergency dispatcher.

In the afternoon we had a discussion about the methods we use to teach writing, and how to coordinate those methods between the grade levels so we'll have a "tighter" writing program. Finally, we spent time planning for conferences. Teachers will have a learning plan to discuss with you. Some teachers may have already filled in some significant information while others may complete the form with you. What's important here is to come to an agreement of the areas to emphasize for your child's success. You may find it helpful to reflect for a few minutes beforehand and consider your child's likes, efforts, and challenges. Working together with your child's teacher will most often lead to greater success!

Last week I wrote a couple of paragraphs about how to encourage and motivate children. According to Carol Dweck, a professor of psychology at Stanford University, praising a child's abilities or identity leads them to believe that they have a fixed amount of intelligence, that their efforts are irrelevant. Praising their efforts help them to see the relationship between effort and success, and leads them to improve their study habits, their motivation to learn, and the valuing of academics. If you're interested in reading more about this concept take a look at Dweck's article, "The Perils and Promises of Praise" published in Educational Leadership, Summer 2008.

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

A Note on Playground Use...

Many of our families send their children to Adventure Time here at Kaiser. Recently I was reminded that AT actually leases our upper field as well as the multi-purpose room both before and after school. The challenge is that some families like to bring their kids to the upper field after school for a few minutes of running around time. I have spoken with AT and they have agreed that it is fine to have other Kaiser kids on the playground before and after school for about 20-25 minutes. It is okay to stay as late as 3:20 or 3:25 to watch your kids play. A gentle reminder: please go to the field with the kids for their supervision.

REMINDER:

This is conference week. Take a few minutes to prepare for the conference. And remember school dismissal is at 1:25 p.m. all week!

Sign-up for the OUSD E-Newsletter.

Learn important district-wide information. To sign-up, visit the OUSD website:

www.ousd.k12.ca.us

and select the "Join Now" box on the lower left side of the page.

How to be in the *Pink Panther*

To include your story or information in your school newsletter: forward your news, questions, or article to **both** of the editors by **5 p.m. on Sundays** via e-mail:

carriemail2001@yahoo.com – Carrie Shepherd
jolie@earthlink.net – Jolie McRae

Please put "Pink Panther" in the subject of your email to ensure that it is not deleted accidentally!

KAISER CALENDAR

DATE / DAY	EVENT
Oct. 13-17	Conference Week Minimum Days All Week
Oct. 15	School Site Council
Oct. 17	Latino Heritage Potluck
Oct. 21	Picture Day
Oct. 29	PTA Board Meeting
Nov. 8	Kaiser School Auction
Nov. 14	Kaiser Movie Night

How to Reach Kaiser School

Our phone number is **(510) 549-4900**
(includes a 24-hour message service).

To participate in the school community group, go to (and join) this website:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kaiserelementaryschool>

The Pink Panther is also available at
www.KaiserElementary.org

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Janice Murphy

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae & Carrie Shepherd

Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

Kaiser Kiosk

Hooray for Garden Beautification!

Garden Beautification Day was fabulous! We had 31 parents and 27 children logged on the sign-up sheet. The children had fun painting lots of pots and running around in the garden. The pots will be on sale at the auction November 8. What a beautiful day Sunday was! It was sunny, and it had just rained, so it was perfect to pull weeds. Lots of old friends. Met lots of enthusiastic new parents. So much fun!

—Maureen Caldwell

Don't Delay! Join Today!

Please join the PTA. The membership fee is only \$10 per person. The PTA supports many wonderful programs. Our goal is to get 100% membership and, as an added incentive, the class that gets to 100% first (or the class with the highest percentage) will win a pizza party. Here's how the classes are doing as of October 10.

% of families who have joined the PTA

Apaydin - 44%	Araki - 70%
Bailey - 67%	Banks - 64%
Gorham - 59%	Haruyama - 60%
Hunter - 59%	McGhee - 68%
Neat - 43%	Ross - 56%
Yang - 59%	

Ms. Araki is in the lead with 70%; however, every class still has a chance to win, so turn your membership in today! **The deadline is November 15.** A big thanks to those who have already joined.

--Joyce Wessling, VP Membership

HELP THE KAISER AUCTION! DONATE TO THE INSTANT WINE CELLAR

BevMo's Annual 5-Cent Sale is over, but we still need your donations for the auction. Please donate one or more bottles of wine for Kaiser's Annual Fall Fundraiser "Instant Wine Cellar" auction item. The more wine you donate, the bigger the cellar! Please donate wines priced above \$10 and place the donations in the wine case in the nurse's station in the school office.

Any questions? Please email Liz Hall at probossliz@pacbell.net or call 510-325-7803

Come on people! Give till it hurts!
Thanks.

PTA Movie Night Is Coming to Our School!

Join us for an evening of family fun! Mark your calendar for **Friday, November 14**, when we will be showing the blockbuster hit movie, *Kung Fu Panda*. You also will have the opportunity to participate in giveaways, including *Kung Fu Panda* Activity CDs and the *Kung Fu Panda* DVD. Proceeds support Kaiser School's PTA. More information on this evening of fun will be coming soon.

Kaiser Kiosk

"A Community Harvest" Kaiser's 34th Annual Auction
Fundraiser

November 8 at 6:00 P.M.
Jack London Aquatic Center

Don't forget to order your tickets now!

Some of the great items you'll be able to bid on are:

Gift certificates to hundreds of Bay Area restaurants and stores
Pamper packs like manicure-pedicures, facials & spa treatments

Wine, tastings, and beer

Luxury baskets

Gym memberships

Dinners and parties (Katie McLane is offering up her final
Famous Fiesta!)

A Ski Getaway!

A Wine Country Getaway!

even A Hometown Oakland Getaway!