



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 25, 2010

Dear Kaiser Families,

The School Site Council met this week, and our agenda included reviewing and approving the site safety plan. It is available for your review in the main office at school. Some of the main points include:

- Regular drills for fire, earthquake and lockdown
- Chain of command for school personnel for catastrophes
- Evacuation plans, including plans for student release
- Description of supplies and tools and their storage

Although this information may be a bit dry and boring, *please read these descriptions so we will all be prepared.* Most probably we will never really need to put this to use, but the recent events in Haiti remind us to be ready.

Drills: We have regular drills and then review and refine our methods. We had a lockdown drill last week, the first in several years, and it went very well. Sadly, this is a necessary part of current institutional life; extreme violence is a small but real possibility. The lockdown drill works like this: After the office staff makes a coded announcement, the teachers and other adults get everyone into classrooms or otherwise behind locked doors. Robin Sasada and I then check the campus for safety before giving the all-clear signal. I'm pleased to say that for the drill everyone was behind locked doors in less than 90 seconds. The teachers later used their discretion to determine what to tell the kids about the drill, and your kids may have come home to ask you about it. We will have a fire drill this week.

Chain of Command: All teachers and staff are assigned duties in the event of an emergency such as earthquake or hill fire. In addition all teachers are recently trained in first aid and CPR. We are also equipped with a radio communicator to connect us with district emergency personnel.

Evacuation: in the event of an earthquake or building fire, we will all evacuate to the upper field. There we will contact the fire department or other emergency authorities as appropriate to the situation for further direction. We may go down Tunnel Road, go down the back side of the hill toward Highway 24, or shelter in place. In such an emergency do not call the school because we would be outside with the children. Please know and follow the PTA phone tree. Students will only be released to authorized adults, so please keep your emergency information updated.

Supplies: We have emergency supplies stored in a container on the upper yard. Our parent coordinator, Justin Sanchez, organized the materials in the beginning of the year. We have food, water, medical and other supplies necessary for about 3 days. Of course, we know that most kids would be picked up within hours.

Although emergency preparedness is not the most fun topic, it's necessary to be organized and ready. Take some time to review your home emergency plan. Do you have supplies? What plan do you have for reuniting after a major catastrophe if the phones are out? A little planning can save panic later!

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

The recent tragic earthquake in Haiti serves as a reminder to be prepared for disasters. **If you have changed your phone number recently, please let us know so that we can contact you in a disaster situation.** Most probably we will not be answering the office phone should such a situation occur.

Will your child be returning to Kaiser? We are trying to determine how many children we can take in next year at various grade levels. If you can't find the form we sent home, just send a note to your child's teacher and let us know of your plans.

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

The online Pink Panther includes information from our Wellness Committee

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
Jan. 27	PTA Board Meeting, 6:30
Jan. 29	Asian Potluck, 6:30
Feb. 1	NO SCHOOL – End of the Semester
Feb. 15	NO SCHOOL – President's Day Holiday
Feb. 17	SSC Meeting
Feb. 24	PTA Board Meeting, 6:30
Feb. 26	African American Potluck, 6:30

Hello Kaiser Families,

Operation Smile was a huge success!! Kaiser School Smile Team Raised \$1925.00!!!! That's 8 smiles!!! How wonderful!!!! I know the children that we helped are so grateful!! Thank you all so much for your support. The tax receipts were sent out last week. If you did not receive yours please contact email

Candy.Simmons@operationsmile.org. Mr. Ross and Ms. Araki's classes had the most donations! Both classes will have "A Movie and Popcorn"!!! WOO HOO!!! Thank you all again!!! Love and Blessings, Roxie Samuels

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Kimberlee White

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae & Carrie Shepherd
Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

PTA CORNER

ASIAN HERITAGE POTLUCK Friday, January 29, 6:30 pm

Please participate in honoring and celebrating Asian culture! Asia encompasses a vast array of cultural diversity. If you, your child or your family's ethnic heritage is from any of the following countries, then you are connected with the Asian continent and have something unique to share. You could bring your ethnic food to the potluck dinner, hang a map or decorations related to your country or region, share a folktale or historical book, make a small poster about a famous Asian-American or about your cultural history, or lead a simple arts and crafts project. We're also open for more entertainment ideas!

Countries of Asia

Armenia, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Georgia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea-North, Korea-South, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen.

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR SET-UP/DECORATING, HELPING WITH ARTS AND CRAFTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND CLEAN-UP.

The entire Kaiser community is welcome! Please bring a dish to share. If you have a special recipe that deviates from your designated menu category, that's okay. We just try to spread out the menu so we have a balanced variety. Please refer to the posted flyer.

CONTACT: Karen Orsulak at 510-729-6141 or karen.orsulak@gmail.com with questions or to volunteer.

ASIAN HERITAGE POTLUCK



Friday, January 29, 6:30-8:30 PM

Come celebrate Asian culture and the Lunar New Year!

Please bring a dish to share for the Potluck, per last name:

A-E: Appetizers, Salad, Soup or Finger Food

F-K: Side Dishes, Rice, Noodles, etc.

L-Q: Main Dish

R-V: Dessert or Fruit

W-Z: Beverages

Volunteer help is needed with set-up/decorating, arts and crafts, entertainment and clean-up. All ideas and contributions are welcome! Please contact: Karen Orsulak at (510) 729-6141 or karen.orsulak@gmail.com to participate!