



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 8, 2010

Dear Kaiser Families,

Last week I included this paragraph in the newsletter:

Our most recent attendance data show that we average about 97% attendance each month. If we brought that up to 98% it would mean about \$13,000 more in our annual budget per year. Although we understand keeping your child home when sick, please bring them for a partial day when they have appointments and try your best to schedule personal business to non-school days. Please help us by having your child attend every day!

I don't often put such an emphasis on the connection between attendance and our budget, choosing more often to connect attendance to children's benefit from routines and the positive aspects of coming to school every day, on time. Recently, however, there have been some events which cause us to focus more on the budget itself. Our superintendent, Tony Smith, has advised the principals that the next three years will be very lean, that we should expect cuts deeper than ever before.

For our part here at Kaiser, I've been in communication with Kim White, our PTA president. She has assured me once again of your support. I will be working with Kim over the next couple of months to put together details of continued and increased PTA support for Kaiser Elementary. Beginning this week we will be publishing the Pink Panther on paper every other week. Please look for the calendar and repeated events on our website, www.KaiserElementary.org.

The teachers, staff and I take great comfort in knowing that you, the parent community, will step forth and help fill the gaps. Last Thursday many of you came out and modeled for our children how to make your voice heard. Thank you! This is one of our rights in a democracy. And now is the time to make your voice known. We all know that there is not enough money in the state coffers to answer all the needs, but that our state government is making decisions on how to spend what is available. Please, for the sake of the children and our school community, write, phone, or email the appropriate state government officials. Tell them to make schools, particularly Kindergarten through 12th grade, a priority in the state budget. Thanks in advance for your support!

Coming up, the teachers are wrapping up grades for the second trimester. The grading period ends on March 12, and there will be a minimum day to mark the end of the trimester. Report cards come out at the end of the following week. Thursday and Friday, March 18 and 19, will be minimum days to allow teachers to have conferences with those who need them. If your child is not making benchmark, please schedule a conference to develop a plan to help them improve. If your child is doing well, or if you already have been in contact with the teacher about improvement plans, there is no need to meet.

Keep on, keep on! Together we can make wonderful things happen!

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

Girl Scout Cookies for Sale at Kaiser School

*Wednesday, March 10, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Friday, March 15, 3:00-5:00 p.m.*

They come only once a year, so stock up now and support our Kaiser Girl Scouts!

Thank you!

Engineering 4 Kids Day, March 13. E4K is a program where students in grades 4-6 can participate in science and engineering activities taught by UC Berkeley students. Free lunch games, demos, raffles and prizes! For more information visit <http://pts.berkeley.edu/e4k>

Just a note to remind parents, students and teachers that the Encyclopedia Britannica is available online through the OUSD website. Click on for students and families and then OUSD libraries. The online encyclopedia is on the right-hand side under resources.

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
Mar. 12	Report Card Period Ends Minimum Day
Mar. 17	SSC Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
Mar. 18-19	Parent-Teacher Conferences Minimum Days
Mar. 24	PTA Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Mar. 29	Cesar Chavez Holiday NO SCHOOL
Apr. 1	Kaiser ALIVE Begins
Apr. 5-9	Spring Break NO SCHOOL
Apr. 14	Math / Science Night & PTA General Mtg., 6:30

New pictures are up! Vince Morgante, Mr. Stenger's partner, has put up new photos of our Asian New Year Celebration in the main hall. And photos from the African American celebration can be viewed on an electronic picture frame in the main office. Thanks, Vince!

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_group/

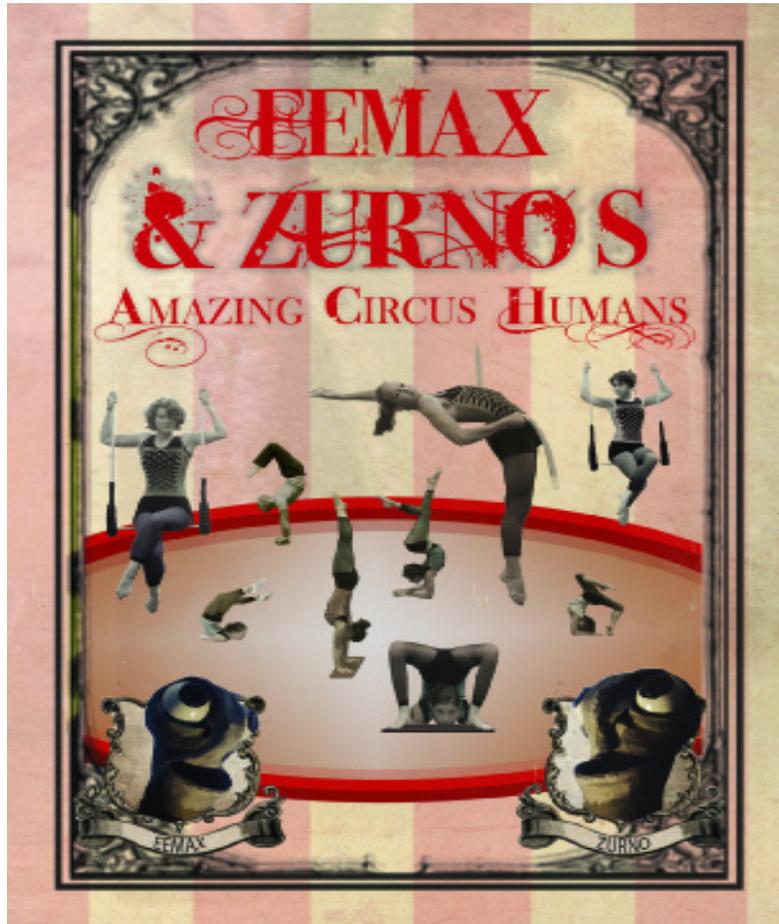
Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors
PTA President: Kimberlee White

Pink Panther Staff

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

Kaiser Kiosk

Come see your fellow classmate Sage perform!



**Saturdays at 7 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m.
March 13–28, 2010**

at:

Kinetic Arts Center

785 7th Street

Oakland, CA 94607

Phone/Fax: 510-444-4800

Email: info@kineticartscenter.com

Kaiser Kiosk

A PARENT EDUCATION EVENING

Parenting With Positive Discipline

Are your kids fighting, whining, not cooperating
or just generally driving you crazy?
Do you want to have more fun as a parent
and feel more connected to your child?
Come learn a common-sense approach that works!

Thursday, March 25, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Childcare provided.

No cost. Please RSVP to Cynthia Freeman (cynthia.freeman@att.net or
510-430-8088)

so we know how many adults and children to expect.

St. Paul Lutheran Church 1658 Excelsior Ave. in Oakland

(Corner of Excelsior and Woodruff)

The Positive Discipline approach is for parents who are looking for long-term parenting skills that will encourage their children to think for themselves, become more responsible and have a greater respect for themselves and others. The teachings of Positive Discipline are filled with non-punitive, respectful methods that incorporate kindness and firmness into parenting, help parents get to the core of their child's misbehavior, bring more joy into the home and give parents a sense of ease and joy in parenting. This philosophy of working with children has been made popular over the last 20 years by the work of Dr. Jane Nelsen and her series, "Positive Discipline."

The facilitator, Lisa Fuller, MSW, CPDA has been facilitating parenting classes in the East Bay for the past 4 years. She is a compassionate listener who is committed to empowering parents and children through the use of Positive Discipline's common sense principles. Positive Discipline is an integral part of her life with her husband and three children.