



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 26, 2010

Dear Kaiser Families,

We are facing some difficult times. I'm sure you've heard of the labor strife between the upper administration and our teachers. Maybe you feel caught in between, as I do. There will be a one day strike (that may not be the exactly correct term) on Thursday, April 29. Officially I am supposed to tell you that we will be open and that it will be a school day full of normal educational experiences and that you should send your children to school. There, I've said it. When making your decision whether to send your children to school I hope you can keep in mind that supporting teachers ultimately means supporting schools because without wonderful teachers we're lost.

Teachers for grades 2-5 will begin official standardized testing next week. Your child will have a total of 4-6 hours of testing. It's important that we have your support and that you encourage your children to put their best efforts into their testing. Our teachers have spent most of the year educating your children and giving them learning experiences in order to help them master the learning standards for the state of California. The scores will be sent to you in late August.

We take this seriously, but we don't flip out about it. We ask for your support during testing time by:

- Make sure your children get **lots of sleep** and **eat a big breakfast**.
- **Be here on time**. Late kids will not be admitted to class once testing has begun.
- **Encourage your kids** to do their best! Their efforts will be reflected in our API.

When I came to school on Saturday to be with the gardening group and Dad's Pancake breakfast, I was expecting a handful of parents and maybe a couple of kids. What a delightful surprise! WOW! A terrific number of volunteers gave of their free time on a beautiful Saturday to help make our campus more beautiful. We'll publish a more complete list of volunteers very soon, but there are a few people I want to thank for their help: Kim White, our PTA president who organized the day; Robin Sasada for preparing our sausages; Leora and Rebecca, mothers of second graders, who made the pancakes; Maureen Caldwell, Hailey's mom, brought fruit and coffee and cheered us on; Justin Sanchez organized the list of repairs; and Janan Apaydin, our faculty representative, got into the dirt and closed everything up at the end. And so many more! Thanks to one and all!

We come from all over the city, and sometimes we may find it difficult to form friendships and community relationships with others in our school. The Gardening Day/Dad's Pancake Breakfast is just one example of how Kaiser families come together to make our own community. There are many other ways to participate. We have another community-building event for families coming up: Our Walkathon is next Saturday, May 1, where kids walk and parents schmooze! There will also be a book fair. There really is something for everyone, and everyone is welcome!

Mel Stenger, Principal

Getting In The Know

Leaving Kaiser? Sometimes life situations pull kids away from our learning community. If your child will not be returning to Kaiser next year, please let us know ASAP because it impacts grade configuration for next year. Thanks!

Charlotte's Web at Fairyland

This is presented by the Oakland School for the Arts. The schedule is as follows:

Friday: April 30, 7 p.m.

Saturday: May 1, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Sunday: May 2, 2 p.m.

Tickets are available at <http://oakarts.tix.com>

Please do not park behind the buildings on school days. Regretfully we only have room for staff parking.

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
Apr. 28	PTA Board Mtg
May 1	Walk-a-thon & Book Fair
May 3 – May 7	Standardized Testing, grades 2 - 5
May 5	PTA General Meeting
May 19	SSC Meeting, 4pm
May 28	No School
May 31	No School

PTA Board meeting this Wednesday, April 28, 7:00 p.m. in the library. All are welcome!

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

Come out and *Walk with Kaiser Pride*
Kaiser PTA Annual Walkathon
May 1st, 2010 (this Saturday- rain or shine!)
9:30am – 3:00pm

The walkathon is just around the corner. Don't forget to keep those sponsors coming. Our goal is to raise \$22,000 and we need everybody's help to do it. Please bring your sponsor sheets and any money collected with you when you register on Saturday.

Winner of the t-shirt design contest: **Jack McColm-deJong**, 2nd grader in Ms. Yang's Class
Congratulations Jack!

Thank you to all the participants, we received many great designs. The judges had a difficult time picking just one. T-shirts will be awarded to walkers that have a minimum of \$25 in pledges. We will have a limited number of kids and adult t-shirts available for sale at the registration area.

Permission Slips:

If you haven't turned in a permission slip, please get a copy from the office or download it from the Kaiser website. Please turn them in at the office or bring it to registration on Saturday.

Volunteers:

Thanks to all that have submitted a volunteer from to help on Saturday. If you plan on being out on Saturday and are willing to help please let Dora Pulido-Tobiassen (510-813-7096 or doritapt@sbcglobal.net).

A few things to remember:

- Bring your reusable water bottle please. In an effort to reduce plastic waste we are asking walkers to bring their own reusable water bottles. We will have water station available so they can be refilled.
- Kaiser Café will be open with some delicious lunch options. The proceeds from the food sales are part of our fundraising efforts. Bon appétit!
- We encourage you to bring the whole family out to cheer our walkers on, but ***please leave the family pet at home.***
- The book faire will be open during the walkathon, please be sure to stop in to browse and shop. It is a great time to stock up on summer reading materials (*hard to believe, but summer is just around the corner*).

One last thing, we need 5 canopies/tents for the walkathon. If you have one and are willing to lend it to use for use at the walkathon, please contact Linda at 510-507-9380 or send me an email at lindape923@att.net.