



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

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

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 10, 2013

Dear Kaiser Families,

I would like to express my gratitude to all the families that came out this past Saturday night for our 39th annual auction. It was great to see our families mingling and having a good time, all in support of our wonderful school. It's also important that we show our appreciation to Monica Lannon and all the others on the fund-raising committee that put together this event.

Remember, because of the auction and other fundraisers our students are able to enjoy extra classes such as music, arts, and computers. Therefore, it's very important that I thank all of those who in some way supported this event. Whether you purchased one of the big-ticket items, donated an item for the silent auction, or just purchased a ticket thank you.

It is because of your support Kaiser continues to be the wonderful school that it is.

Thank you,

Darren Avent

Getting In The Know

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE log your hours in the front office - including, **but most especially**, those hours you spend doing something for the school at home, and whenever you are on campus helping the classrooms, the front office, the garden, the library, the lunch hour, the playground, the Dad's Club, the PTA meetings, the SSC meetings, all the events, potlucks and so much more that we know our community does for Kaiser Elementary.

We are a school that functions on our highly involved parent community however, whenever, wherever you donate time.

Please take the time, the next time you are at the school, to record any past volunteer time you have provided for the school.

How to be in the *Pink Panther*

The Pink Panther comes out every other week. Look for it in your child's backpack on or around 12/10, and into 2014.

We welcome submissions from everyone in the Kaiser Community. 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:

joliem29@yahoo.com – Jolie McRae
Joanna.Fraguli@gmail.com – Joanna Fraguli

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

Pink Panther's PTA Sponsors

PTA President: Jennise Mendoza

Pink Panther Staff

Co-editors: Jolie McRae / Joanna Fraguli

Copy editor: Wendy Harcarik

KAISER CALENDAR

| DATE / DAY | EVENT |
|----------------|---|
| Dec 14 | School Tour 10:30am |
| Dec 17 | ORFF Concert 6:30pm |
| Dec 18 | SSC Meeting |
| December 19 | Grades 4-5 Winter Performance 6:30pm PTA Board meeting |
| Dec 23 - Jan 3 | NO SCHOOL |

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

Check out the complete 2013-2014 school year calendar at www.kaiserelementary.org/calendar

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/

PTA President's Corner

Hello Kaiser Community,

The Kaiser Auction was successful! Thank you to **Uptown Body and Fender** for providing us a FREE venue to hold our event. Thank you to Monica Lannon, Monica Yu and Nadia Bari for coordinating this. Thank you to Ms. Bailey and Mr. Neat for being the MCs for the night. Thank you to Jim Moxon for doing all the printing for the Kaiser auction. Thank you to Jeff Thompson and Liza Lyons for providing the alcohol for this event. Thank you to Marcus Rios for providing the food. Thank you to Lawrence Patrick for providing the music. Thank you to the vendors for providing items for families to bid on. Above all, thank you to all the fabulous families and staff at Kaiser that spent hours and hours helping to make this event successful and to the families that donated to their class basket. I am lucky to be a part of such a strong community.

Our Kaiser Community can only be successful with the hours that families donate to our school as well as the financial support you provide to the PTA (Parent Teacher Association). As a team, we can provide **ALL** students at Kaiser the following programs:

- ★ Computer Class
- ★ Music Class
- ★ Art Class (with the help of a grant)
- ★ School Library
- ★ Classroom Support (Suzanne, Oscar and Ms. Pearl)
- ★ Field Trips
- ★ Classroom Supplies and much more

Please continue to support Kaiser Elementary and the PTA (Parent Teacher Association). Without your help through your time and/or financial support, our students would not be able to enjoy the enrichment classes we have. Plus, our teachers would not have the time during school hours to collaborate together which in the end only benefits our students. With that being said, I need help with the following areas:

- School tour – Thursday, December 12th @ 10:30 am
- School tour – Thursday, January 16th @ 10:30 am
- Open house – Thursday, January 16th @ 6:30 pm
- Garden Coordinator
- Potluck Coordinator (April 4th)

If you can help or coordinate with any of the above, please email me at KaiserPresident@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone that has joined the PTA, donated their time to Kaiser Elementary and/or financially supported the PTA through one of our many fundraisers.

I hope everyone enjoys their holiday season!

Jennise Mendoza
Kaiser PTA President

THANK YOU KAISER COMMUNITY!



We really appreciate all you did to make our Winter Wonderland Auction such a success! It was great to see so many people coming together to celebrate our community and help support our children. Thank you for attending, volunteering, and supporting -- we could not have done this event without the contributions of so many of you! Please look forward to a more thorough update after the winter break.

Thank you!

The Auction Committee
Monica Lannon, Monica Yu and Nadia Bari

CALLING ALL KAISER ADOPTIVE FAMILIES AND ALLIES!

Maybe you have been part of the Kaiser community for a while or maybe you are a newcomer. Wonder how to help your child deal with the playground questions or the family tree homework assignments? Wish you can be part of a group that can educate the school community about our unique families and create a welcoming and supportive circle for our children when we are not around?

Some of you may know our family well and some of you may have seen us around the Kaiser community events. We are a proud transracially adoptive family and for the past 3 years we have been upfront about our uniqueness and open to answering all questions related to adoption, disability, race, etc. We celebrate adoption day every year, we speak in the classroom about adoption or disability, we do playdates, fieldtrips and homework assignments and yet...

Last week, I happened to drop by at my daughter's fieldtrip. Within minutes I was surrounded by rambunctious second graders who started asking a number of personal and kind of intrusive questions about our adoption story; something that our entire family was unprepared for, considering that many of the children had known our family since kindergarten. Many of us feel that to expose or raise our children in a diverse environment will lead to socially aware kids, young people who are automatically committed to an inclusive and just community. Unfortunately, that's not the case! Social research indicates that children that are not actively taught about power, privilege or diversity do not necessarily behave in a more inclusive way just by mere exposure.

We are looking for families and allies to form an affinity group whose purpose will be to create a network of support for our students and perhaps work with the school community, staff and teachers to foster better awareness and education around adoption and racial justice issues. Loosely organized as a social group, let's first get to connect with each other and develop a plan of action for the remainder of the year. You can contact me at Joanna.fraguli@gmail.com. I look forward to your ideas, feedback and suggestions.

Joanna Fraguli
Second Grade Parent

LOST & FOUND LAST CHANCE!

Have you noticed that your child is not wearing his/her favorite jacket anymore? Does it seem like a few of your kid's clothing is missing, yet you don't remember giving their clothing away? It might be because your child's clothing is still at school and looking for a home. Please check out the lost and found department located in the entry way while going into the multipurpose room.



Reminder

The Girl Scouts will be donating the Lost and Found items to One Warm Coat on [DECEMBER 13th](#) so PLEASE make sure you take home your Lost and Found items before this date.

KAISER 4th & 5th Grade WINTER PROGRAM

THURSDAY, December 19th, 2013

6:45 p.m.

Strings report for tuning at 6:15 p.m.

Bands report for warm ups at 6:30 p.m.

Concert attire: Something nice.

Dear Parents:

You are invited to join us for the opening instrumental event of the year. Come celebrate the winter season with the music of the Kaiser Band and Orchestra and hear the beginners perform for their very first time. You won't want to miss it! The concert will be followed by Mr. Neat's class play.

Parents, please keep encouraging your child to practice regularly: 10–20 minutes / 5 times a week is suggested (or 50-100 minutes per week). We want to sound great for our performance.

Concert participation is mandatory. Please let us know if your child won't be there because of an early vacation or other circumstances.

Thanks for your support.

Claudia McCarthy & Candy Sanderson
Instrumental Music Teachers

My child, _____ will participate
student's name
in the Winter Music Concert, Thursday evening (6:45 p.m.) on December 19th, 2013.

Yes No

Parent Signature

