



The Pink Panther

Henry J. Kaiser, Jr. Elementary School

25 South Hill Court | Oakland, CA 94618 | 510.549.4900

School & Community Newsletter

November 29, 2016

KAISER CALENDAR

Friday, 12.9.16
6:30pm – 10:00pm

Dad's Club
Movie Night

Wednesday, 12.14.16
6:40pm

4th & 5th Grade
Winter Concert

Monday, 12.19.16 –
Monday, 01.02.17

NO SCHOOL*

* All OUSD – Winter Recess

Save the Dates!

PTA PRESIDENT'S NOTE

TODAY IS THE DAY TO MAKE THAT DONATION

If you are planning to make a donation to Kaiser Elementary School PTA, today is the day. We are below our donations target for this year and your gift, in any amount will support your child's education in so many ways. If you make a donation today, your donation is 100% Tax Deductible, and you can receive the benefit of that deduction in time for the December 31st deadline for your 2016 taxes.

...continued on page 4 →

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL GUIKEMA

Hello Kaiser Families:

In light of the rhetoric and outcome of the recent presidential election, I have been thinking a lot about my personal and our school community's shared values. More than ever, it is important to name and live up to these. Kaiser Elementary is a community that is rooted in our diversity. We are proudly LGBTQ and allies. We work hard to maintain a safe space for all students. We are feminists who believe in the unlimited potential of our girls. Our Oakland schools are a haven for those who are undocumented. We will resist racism, sexism, Islamophobia, fascism and the many other -isms that are rearing their ugly heads. Although we are in difficult times, and it is easy to feel helpless, we are reminded that we can make a significant and positive impact at home, school, and community.

Meanwhile, we are entering a busy time of the year at Kaiser. Our first marking period just closed. (We are already a third of the way through the academic year!) Report cards will be coming home in about a week, and you will notice both academic as well as SEL (Socio-Emotional Learning) indicators. We are looking forward to our winter music and theater performances, field trips, and other fun activities. And, of course, we will be filling this small three week window between Thanksgiving and our Winter Break with lots of learning.

Thanks for all you do to make Kaiser Elementary such a tremendous school!

Sincerely,

Dennis Guikema, Principal





School News

STUDENT ATTENDANCE



The Kaiser Community can celebrate having our best attendance rate in three years: **Currently 78% of our children have “satisfactory” attendance of 98% or higher.** The downside of this, though, is that **22% of our students have less than satisfactory attendance.** The research is clear, chronic attendance significantly sets kids back, and has a negative impact on the whole learning environment. Here’s a quick snapshot of attendance facts:

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/facts-stats-school-attendance/>

Of course there are understandable reasons why a child would be out, in particular when they have a contagious illness. Any time your child will be away from school, please contact Kaiser’s attendance guru, Gayle, at Gayle.Peterson@ousd.org, or you can leave a voicemail at any hour at 510-549-4900. Also, be sure to check in the office if your child is later than 5 minutes at the start of the day. (This way we are sure to change an “absence” to “tardy” in the attendance system.)

I have been surprised, since coming to Kaiser, at the number of requests for time away during school days. This has a negative impact on both the individual student and the class. I am asking all families to please schedule vacations and time away during our school holidays. In the new year I will be scrutinizing requests for extended time away and independent study more closely than has been done at Kaiser in the past.

Thank you, everyone, for making attendance a top priority at Kaiser Elementary.



OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT

The OUSD enrollment window **opens December 5 and closes January 20.**

This has a lot of implications for Kaiser families:

- **Current 5th Graders:** All 5th grade families should be sure to complete the options process during this window. I highly encourage all 5th grade families to visit an options fairs. Dates and times are listed on the next page.
- **Incoming Kindergarten Students:** Please continue to spread the word about Kaiser as an option for families with a child who will be entering Kindergarten in the coming year.
- **Transfer Students:** If you have friends who have a child in any grade, whether in OUSD, charter, or private schools, who are interested in transferring their child to Kaiser for the 2017-18 school year, they should also follow the Options process during this timeline.

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School News



OUSD ENROLLMENT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

OUSD Middle School Options Fairs

November 30 th , 2016: Wednesday	5:00PM – 8:00PM	Martin Luther King Elementary 960 10 th St., Oakland, CA 94607
December 5 th , 2016: Monday	5:00PM – 8:00PM	New Highland Elementary 8521 A St., Oakland, CA 94621
January 11 th , 2017: Wednesday	5:00PM – 8:00PM	Garfield Elementary 1640 22 nd Ave., Oakland, CA 94606

For more information about the process, please visit: <http://www.ousd.org/enroll>, or for specific information about enrollment at Kaiser please visit: www.KaiserElementary.org/enroll

HOLIDAY SHOPPING IN SUPPORT OF KAISER!

As we think ahead to the holidays, there are several ways we can combine holiday shopping with support for Kaiser's music, arts, computer, and academic enrichment.



If you are signed up as a "Basementeer" you BOTH save 10% off every purchase AND Sports Basement donates 10% of the purchase to Kaiser. If you sign up in the store, there is a \$25 fee, but at <http://tinyurl.com/KaiserSports> you can register for free.... just be sure to do it in advance of your store visit. When enrolling, select "Kaiser Elementary", scroll down past all the "charities" and then find us under "K" in the long list of schools..



While the percentage they donate is small, it really adds up. Please encourage all family and friends who use Amazon to sign up for Smile. It is the exact same Amazon, just with the bonus of the donation. Please share this link with others. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-6184119>



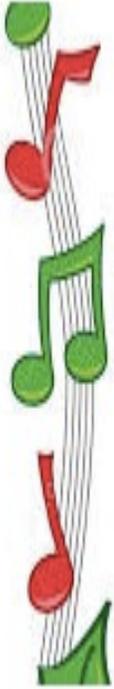
Remember that all donations to Kaiser's PTA are tax deductible. Donating in the name of a finicky family member solves the problem of what to get for the person who is hard to shop for. :-)) Click here for more information on donations, employer matches, and other fundraisers. <http://www.kaiserelementary.org/fundraisers/>





School News

KAISER 4TH & 5TH GRADE WINTER PROGRAM



Wednesday, December 14th at 6:40pm

Dear Kaiser Families:

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 5th grade 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 me 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

**Strings report at 6:20 p.m./Band 6:30 p.m.*

***Concert attire: Something nice!*

PTA News

PTA PRESIDENT'S NOTE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Did you know that you may be able to double your contribution? Find out if your employer offers matching funds for donations, or view a partial list of companies that offer matching at <http://www.kaiserelementary.org/fundraisers/>

To make a donation, visit the Kaiser homepage for a list of donations options including all major credit cards and Paypal.

- Linda Handy, PTA President

We Need Your Help!

Support your child's education

Donate to Henry J. Kaiser Elementary School PTA
TODAY!

Donations recieved before Dec 31st are
100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Did you know

you could **DOUBLE** the value of your donation?

Visit www.kaiserelementary.org/fundraisers to find out more about employer matching funds.





**KAISER DADS CLUB PRESENTS
A FUNDRAISER FOR THE PTA**

KID'S MOVIE NIGHT AND PARENTS NIGHT OUT



FOOD-DRINKS-POPCORN-MOVIE



FRIDAY, DEC. 9th, 2016 FROM 6:30-10:00 P.M.

\$35 per kid (siblings an additional \$10)

Scholarships available (contact Jim at asapqp@flash.net)

**FILL OUT SLIP ON BOTTOM AND PUT IN THE BOX IN OFFICE WITH A CHECK
MAKE CHECKS OUT TO KAISER DADS CLUB.**

A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES ARE AVAILABLE SO PLEASE SIGN UP NOW!

COME IN YOUR PJ'S! BRING BLANKETS AND PILLOWS!

EXCELLENT 1:10 SUPERVISION PROVIDED BY KAISER DADS CLUB

QUESTIONS: CONTACT JIM MOXON AT asapqp@flash.net

Please reserve _____ spots for the following children:

***Attach check made out to KAISER DADS CLUB and drop it off in
the box in the office labeled "MOVIE NIGHT".***





Community News & Opportunities

TOY DRIVE BY KAISER GIRL SCOUTS



Help make the holidays special for a kid in Oakland!

KAISER ELEMENTARY
JUNIOR, BROWNIE & DAISY
TROOPS

**are collecting new,
unwrapped toys &
books.**



Girl Scouts and the firefighters at Fire Station #18 are working together to collect toys for delivery to the kids in need!

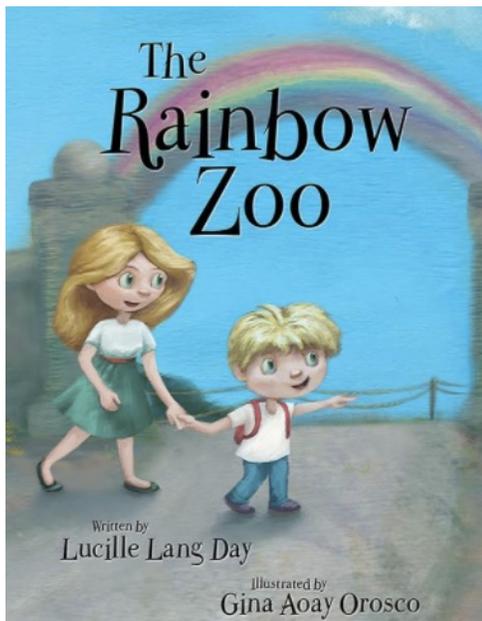
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

TO

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9TH

Please drop toys off in the collection box near the front office

THE RAINBOW ZOO



Join Kaiser students Autumn (5th grade) and Devlin (1st grade) Pease on **Saturday, December 10th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**, for Family Fun Day at **Laurel Book Store, 1423 Broadway, Oakland.**

Autumn and Devlin are the characters in a new children's picture book, *The Rainbow Zoo*, by their grandmother, Oakland writer Lucille Lang Day. Day will be present at the event, along with illustrator Gina Aoay Orosco and Meg Fleming, author of *I Heart You* and other books for children.

For more information please visit:

<http://www.laurelbookstore.com/event/family-fun-day-two-new-books-celebrate>.

