

THE SCHOOL NEWS



1 HONOLULU

Mary, Star of the Sea School

After the rash of playground vandalism reported in the media, our school dedicated a unique, vandalism-proof German-designed \$50,000 playground unit on its Kahala campus. It's a giant, 29-foot-high pyramid structure of taut polyester yarn-covered ropes lined with steel cables. It is impossible to cut the ropes or compromise the structure. Manufactured by Berliner Seilfabrik, the playset is the first to be installed on Oahu. Despite its height, the maze of strategically designed ropes makes it completely safe for youngsters. Any fall would be broken within 6 feet. The ropes are easy to grab. There is no straight route to the platform atop the structure and kids must be creative to get there. They climb, swing, and balance and imagine whatever adventure they please. They could be climbing the rigging of a pirate ship, scaling a mountain or a castle. Educators like it because it encourages agility, achievement and power in a playful environment. On Aug. 26, **Father Paterno Labasano** opened the playground with his blessing and a ride down the slide. This was a true community effort as donations came in from parishioners, school families, and friends. (Reported by Pat Bigold)

field. The Junior Cardinals Program allows students in the second through eighth grade to develop physical fitness and introduces them to different sports, where they learn the fundamentals of the game while having fun. It also builds school spirit and promotes the school in local sporting events. Pictured are track and field students at a track meet last February. (Reported by Fayth Paekukui; photo by Chrislyn Villena)

4 HONOLULU

Sacred Hearts Academy Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Inspiration

were the focus when 14 Academy high school students engaged with 14 mentors June 20-22 at the **Changing Faces Women's Leadership Seminar**. Sponsored by the University of Hawaii's East-West Center, this year's mentors hailed from countries around the world, including Australia, Brunei, China, Indonesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vanuatu, Vietnam and the United States. Each mentor has founded or built a successful business in their country, and they shared the processes required to establish and operate these organizations. They also provided the students with valuable information on being an entrepreneur, building their own projects, developing leadership and making their dreams a reality. Pictured are seniors (third from right) **Kaycee Selga** and (second from right) **Carlee Matsunaga** and their Changing Faces mentors on campus. (Reported by Hayley Matson-Mathes)

2 HONOLULU

Sacred Hearts Academy Lower School

Junior kindergarten teacher **Carrie Knebel** helped her students get rid of their first day of school jitters on Aug. 8 with a variety of activities. The kindergarteners read "First Day Jitters" by **Julie Danneberg**, which tells the story of a young girl who is scared to start at a new school where she doesn't know anyone. Knebel also shared her special recipe for first day jitters, a recipe and refreshing beverage for a special concoction called Jitter Juice: "Have you heard of Jitter Juice? It's magic and it's yummy! It makes the butterflies fly away, right out of my tummy! The bubbles in this silly juice will help you not to worry. So grab a cup and drink it up! Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!" ... Summer officially ended on the first day of school for the Academy's almost 900 students, who enthusiastically embarked on the journey of the new school year. Although the three- and four-year-old junior-kindergarten students are the youngest on campus, they are tops in spirit. (Reported by Hayley Matson-Mathes)

5 KAPAA

St. Catherine School

On Aug. 4, our school year began with a splash! Our hard working PTG sponsored their annual **Welcome Back to School Party**. There were water slides, food and fun for all! ... On Aug. 24 to 26, our **middle school students** went to Kokee for a class trip and retreat. **Father Anthony, Mrs. Rtz, Mr. Williamson** and helpful parents accompanied the students. This retreat enabled students to do team building activities while working on our school-wide character trait program. They also enjoyed hiking in God's beautiful natural surroundings. (Reported by Andrea Corbo and Patricia Doherty)

6 HONOLULU

St. Theresa School

During the summer, the **eighth grade students** participated in a **Leadership Skills Building** camp in anticipation of the upcoming year as school leaders. Our school partnered with the members of the **Farrington High School JROTC** program to acquire leadership and team building skills. Farrington cadets will continue to mentor them throughout the school year. ... Also, students celebrated **Grandparents Day** with their grandmothers and grandfathers. The day began in the church where the students and their grandparents celebrated Mass. Afterward, they were invited to a light breakfast

3 HILO

St. Joseph Grade School

Our **Junior Cardinals Program** started a couple of years ago when a few alumni decided to put a feeder sports program together run by **Mike Costales** (SJS graduate/athletic director/parent). Parent volunteers coach the various sports and all funding is from donors. The money is used for league entrance fees, uniforms and equipment. The program offers basketball, volleyball, swimming, and track and

field. The school administrative assistant **Stephanie Ondayog** sharing refreshments with her granddaughter, sixth grader **Hazel Arzaga**. (Reported by Lynette Seto)

7 HONOLULU

St. Theresa Preschool

We spent the first few weeks of school learning about **dinosaurs**. As part of a culminating event, students participated in different activity centers focusing on fine motor skills, color and shape recognition, counting skills and sequencing. In this particular activity, students had the opportunity to become **geologists** and "dig for fossils" using special tools designed to strengthen their fine motor skills. They had so much fun working together and loved learning about dinosaurs. (Reported by Magdalena V. Collins)

8 HONOLULU

Holy Family Catholic Academy

Our **performing arts students** which includes fifth-eight grade **Concert and Marching Band** and **marching hula girls** have spent the past several weeks prepping diligently for their busy month of September. On Sept. 17, the group will host a dual-purpose **March-a-thon** to raise funds via pledged donations for the school's performing arts program. The March-a-thon serves as an extended outdoor rehearsal time to build the band's performance endurance for the **70th Annual Aloha Festival Floral Parade**. This year's island-wide parade filled with decorated floats, colorful flowers, lei-bedecked horses, and hundreds of marching entries will be Saturday, Sept. 24. The three-and-a-half mile parade route from Ala Moana Beach Park to Kapiolani Park is a tradition for the Holy Family community. Marching and performing in a televised parade through Waikiki is quite a memorable thrill for the students! Pictured are some French horn musicians familiarizing themselves with their instruments. (Reported by Christina Malins; photo by Jennifer Canales)

9 HONOLULU

Saint Louis School

Here our students pray with and learn from **Marianist Father Allen DeLong**, campus minister. (Reported by Glenn Medeiros)

KEKAHA

St. Theresa School

Our school is happy to report 115 students enrolled — up from past years! This promises to be a very productive year with many parents signing up for various committees and projects. The spirit of ohana is alive and well. ... On Sept. 9, our school celebrated the unconditional love and guidance of grandparents at the **annual Grandparent's Day picnic** on the school grounds. Everyone had a wonderful time sharing stories and seeing old friends and making new ones! Congratulations to our "**Fruit of the Spirit**" awarders for August 2016: **Kamalu Alquiza-Kenny, Keilana Ando, Madeleine Clarke, Sumiko Kona, Hai-**

ley Niau, Brody Robinson, Kaimalie San Agustin and Teagan Souza. This award is presented monthly to students who display the Christian values of the Fruits of the Spirit through their words, actions and habits. (Reported by Chantal A. Duarte)

10 KAILUA

St. John Vianney School

The school is working on a project with **Ka Ohana o Kalaupapa, the Sisters of Saint Francis and the Brothers of Sacred Hearts**, as well as teachers and students from other schools to collect kukui nut lei to adorn marchers and vehicles in the **70th Annual Aloha Week Floral Parade** on Sept. 24. This year's theme is "Halia Aloha - Treasured Memories," and many from the school are participating. The goal is to collect enough lei to have 8,000 nuts, each representing the light and life of someone buried at Kalaupapa. After the parade, the lei will be donated to **St. Augustine by-the-Sea Church** to make kukui nut rosaries to be sold locally, nationally and worldwide to help build up **Damien and Marianne Museum**. ... **Big Island Candy Bars** are being sold as the school's **fall fundraiser**. They may be purchased from any student, at the school office and after all Masses for three weekends beginning Sept. 23-24. Price is \$4 or 5 for \$20. Several of the bars will contain a **Golden Ticket** that may be redeemed at the school office for \$50. For more information, contact 261-4651. (Reported by Earl Walker)

11 HONOLULU

St. Patrick School

On Sept. 7, the **students, faculty and staff** gathered in celebration of **Grandparents Day**. Many grandparents and parents helped fill up St. Patrick Church as everyone participated in the Mass officiated by the president of our school, **Father Clarence Guerreiro**. Before Mass, the **kindergarten class**, with the help of teachers **Mrs. Lilian Cecil** and **Ms. Alexis Anjoshmoa**, performed two songs for the congregation including the national song for Grandparents Day. After Mass, the students and their grandparents and parents were escorted to the school's auditorium for refreshments and fellowship sponsored by the **student council**. (Reported by Pamela Asuelo-Montalla)

12 KAILUA

St. Anthony School

Our school is off to a wonderful year with many renovations and upgrades to the campus. We honored **grandparents and great-grandparents** at a Mass led by **seventh grade students** on Sept. 9. Our youngest keiki, from the **early learning center**, blessed the entire school with a lively song celebrating the joyous love between grandparents and grandchildren. A reception with live music and fresh fruit followed Mass. A memento of the special bond shared by grandparents and their grandchildren was captured through portraits taken on

the Friendship Lanai. Pictured: Grandson **Emmett Brown** helps grandmother **Elizabeth Aki** prepare for their picture. (Reported by Patricia Barros)

13 PEARL CITY

Our Lady of Good Counsel School

Ask any student and the answer will pretty much be the same, they LOVE art! Students in **preschool 3 through 5th grade** are extremely excited to welcome their new art teacher **Ms. Alyce Dodge**. (The older students have another art teacher.) With bodies wiggling with excitement, the students quiet down to hear what the soft-spoken Ms. Dodge is introducing today. She brings with her not only 36 years of teaching experience, but a plethora of materials that appeal to children of all ages. Included in her arsenal of captivating tools are puppets, which help her explain that day's art project. My favorite by far is her black and white skunk puppet "**Sweetie**," who is very shy and will not come out of his hiding place until all is quiet. The students are eager and happy to settle down. They are introduced to the primary and the secondary paint colors, the tints, the tertiary colors, and how to create each color using the primary ones. Our school is happy to welcome Ms. Alyce and looks forward to seeing more of Sweetie, to learn more about art, and to apply what they have learned. (Reported by Ginger Kamisugi)

14 WAILUKU

St. Anthony Grade School

As we begin the new school year, we welcome our new principal and faculty members as well as 32 new students. **Linda Keizer** (center), our new principal, comes to us with a lot of experience. She has been a principal and teacher in the past and has also worn many hats in the field of Catholic education. **Marion Lung** (left), first grade teacher, is an alumni of St. Anthony Jr./Sr. High School and an active parishioner of St. Anthony of Padua Church. She brings with her, rich years of experience in public and Catholic education. **Kapu Adams** (right), fifth grade teacher, has started to fulfill a new career in full-time teaching. She has been a reliable substitute teacher for our school and a dedicated religious education teacher for the parish. (Reported by Teri Tavares)

15 HONOLULU

St. Anthony School

A **Student Leadership Workshop** Aug. 29 was organized by **Sister Victoria Lavente, SPC**, student council moderator. **Kendall Rameil**, student council president for 2016-2017, facilitated the activities of the workshop which focused on critical thinking and decision making, team building, and the dynamics of good leadership. The workshop was attended by the **class and club officers from third grade to eighth grade**. Congratulations, Kendall, for an excellent job! (Reported by Mrs. Corazon Azcon)

16 HONOLULU

Damien Memorial School

Students and parents enjoyed a fun and busy return to school with student orientations, back-to-school nights, liturgies, honors and welcome back assemblies. Our faculty and staff joined other Catholic schools staff at the **annual Mass of the Holy Spirit**. The **second planting party** Sept. 10 continued our efforts to plant sustainable native Hawaiian plants throughout the campus. The **Damien Leo Club** sponsored a Damien family who has just moved into housing and provided essentials that included school supplies, slippers, socks, pillows, towels and toiletries. Each Leo Club member gave up eating one lunch, going to the movies or buying drinks from Starbucks, Jamba Juice or Tea Time and used their money to purchase the requested items. Total donations exceeded \$500. Leo Club advisor **Mrs. Jean Ota** commended the club members on a wonderful project of caring about others and making a difference. Way to go Monarchs! (Reported by Damien staff)

17 WAILUKU

St. Anthony High School

In commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the tragic day in American history, 9/11, our **National Honor Society** members lined the front of the Wailuku campus with signs and waved American flags before school and during their morning recess on Sept. 12. Later, representatives visited some of the neighboring fire stations to deliver food baskets in appreciation for their work and in support of all first responders. Pictured, from left, are seniors **Noah Miller, Keoni Lee** and sophomore **Hunter Otani**. (Reported by Art Fillazar)

WAIALUA

St. Michael School

Our students donated 90 packets of toiletry items to the **North Shore Foodbank** as part of an on-going effort to help the less fortunate and also to establish positive presence in our community. We will be having an **annual garage sale** Oct. 6-9. Donation drop off dates and times are Monday through Friday, Sept. 26-30, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 1-2, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (From the parish bulletin)

18 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Early Learning Center

The school staff enjoyed fellowship, blessing and renewal on their annual staff retreat, Sept. 16 at St. Theresa Church in Kihei, facilitated by **Father James Orsini**. The theme was "The Year of Mercy." The teachers and religious education leader celebrated Mass, helped serve meals at the **Hale Kau Kau Kitchen** and walk through the church's "Door of Mercy." Thank you to **Msgr. Terry Watanabe**, Father Orsini, the staff at the Hale Kau Kau and the **St. Theresa Parish staff** for all their kindness and hospitality that made our retreat special to all. Mahalo and God bless. (Reported by Helen Souza)