

# THE SCHOOL NEWS

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Parish  
News issue,  
May 19

## 1 HONOLULU

### Sacred Hearts Academy Lower School

Forty-six fifth graders, accompanied by teachers **Susan Phillips** and **Angela Sanborn** and 14 parent chaperones, excitedly embarked on the annual class learning trip March 8-10. At Camp Mokuleia on the North Shore, the students' adventures focused on increasing their awareness of the island environment, promoting teamwork and problem-solving skills and enhancing self-esteem and confidence. The students explored the problem of opala, or rubbish, harmful to native flora and fauna. In groups, the students collected and picked through debris, identifying items which could be ingested by the locale's albatrosses. The camp's location, free of the bright lights of the city, also gave the group an amazing nighttime canvas to stargaze. And, using the stars like a compass, they learned basic celestial navigation techniques used by ancient Hawaiians. The highlight of the trip was tackling the **high ropes course**, suspended up in the tree line. While daunting, the fifth graders were encouraged by their peers on the ground, with many facing their fears to successfully navigate to the course's finish line! Pictured is **Brielle Aguila** carefully making her way across the course. (Reported by *Hayley Matson-Mathes*)



## 2 HONOLULU

### Sacred Hearts Academy High School

Ninety-two juniors and four adult chaperones got their hands dirty literally while participating in a day of service-learning with **Papahana Kualoa** at its 63-acre site in Heeia on March 10. Working in groups, the Academy volunteers cleared the mountainside of invasive weeds and rooting trees, stomped down the sticky mud in the loi and prepared the patches for planting taro, or kalo. Papahana Kualoa is a non-profit organization providing educational programs focused on sustaining Hawaiian culture and the environment through various programs rooted in caring for the aina. Pictured are the juniors navigating the perimeter of the loi, stomping the knee-deep mud to prepare it for planting. (Reported by *Hayley Matson-Mathes*)



## 3 HONOLULU

### Holy Family Catholic Academy

Shades of purple was the attire of the day for students and teachers in recognition of **military children** everywhere who play an important role in the **Armed Forces community** across our nation and abroad. The **Purple Up! For Military Kids** worldwide initiative was celebrated on April 21 to applaud our military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome for our nation. Purple symbolizes the combined colors of all branches of the military — Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red, and Navy blue. Our school's supportive tribute to thank military kids for their strength and perseverance is a distinctive component of this month's celebrations in honor of the military child. Pictured are kindergarten students in **Mrs. Sunada's** and **Mrs. Eickmeyer's** classroom who happily lent their support to their military classmates. (Reported by *Christina Malins*; photo by *Catherine Kerch*)



Easter Break April 16-23. This is the school's seventh choir trip since 1995. The students are **Justin Benigno, Alyvea Ancheta, Aylah Barba, Tyler Mamuad, Kyrsten Dacua, Jezsiree Duong, AJ Agsalud, Aiden Orden, Sigrid Benigno, Saralyn Solina, Kendall Ramelb, Lilzen Dacua** and **Dylan Ancheta**. The students performed renditions in choir, ukulele, bell choir, directed by faculty/music director **Mrs. Corazon Aczon**, and hula taught by **Ms. Giselle Agsalud**, at the Ontario Science Center and Toronto Medieval Times. Some of the places visited included St. Paul Basilica, Casa Loma, Eaton Center, Toronto Zoo, CN Tower, Rogers Center, Royal Ontario Museum, Fort York, St. Catharine Welland Canal, and the magnificent Niagara Falls (pictured).

We thank God for his wonderful blessings and goodness! (Reported by *Corazon Aczon*)

## 5 HONOLULU

### Maryknoll School

Furthering its going green efforts, our school installed **photovoltaic panels** on its high school and grade school buildings. The PV project is part of a statewide effort of the **Diocese of Honolulu** to use the collective bargaining power of its churches, schools and other facilities to save money while promoting the use of renewable, environmentally friendly energy. The systems are being paid for by a third-party investor, **CC solar**, under a 20-year power purchase agreement. According to **Larry**

**Gilbert of Kairos Energy Capital**, the grade school will offset approximately 6.4 percent of the campus load, while the high school system will offset about 19.3 percent of its load. Further engineering studies are being conducted to determine whether other types of energy storage would be cost-effective for a future phase. Mahalo to **HECO**, **CC solar**, and **Kairos Energy Capital** for partnering with us and allowing Maryknoll School to continue toward our commitment in creating sustainable energy and a better environmental future. (Reported by *Lindsey Carlos*)

## 6 HONOLULU

### Saint Louis School

Our **robotics team** visited San Fran-

cisco for a **FIRST Robotics Regional** at St. Ignatius College Preparatory, a first for the school. The team also visited Golden Gate Park and bridge, California Academy of Science, Fisherman's Warf, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, University of California at Berkeley, Stanford University, the Bay Bridge, Intel Museum, Apple headquarters and much more. The regional was attended by 41 schools including Hawaii's Sacred Hearts Academy. Most teams were from the Bay Area but two teams came from as far away as Turkey. Both Hawaii teams did reasonably well. ... A few months ago, we placed second in the state at VEX Robotics regional in the Big Island. Congratulations to Team 4270 the Crusaders! Our robotics team won second in the alliance portion of the First Robotics competition and third place individually among 37 entries in the Hawaii regional at the Stan Sheriff Center. We qualified to compete in the world championship tournament in Houston. This is only the first year that the 171-year-old school has had a robotics team. Congratulations to **Mr. Travis Takashima**, engineering and robotics teacher, for inspiring and challenging young minds in STEM education! ... Pictured is **Marianist Father Pat McDaid** sharing with the **lower school students** during a Holy Week Mass some of his favorite parts of Holy Week and the upcoming Easter Season. (Reported by *Michael Paekukui*)

## 7 WAIALUA

### St. Michael School

On April 21, our school had its first **Bingo Night**. It was a great night of fun, food and fellowship. The **eighth grade** even had the chance to hold a bake sale to help raise money for their end of the year activities. The fun was a great way to end a work week. Bingo Night was such a success that the people said we should do it more often. Now there's something to look forward to! (Reported by *Ms. Sandra Franks*)

## 8 AIEA

### St. Elizabeth School

Students do **community service** by donating desserts to the **Institute for Human Services** every fourth Wednesday of the month. This puts into practice our "Student Learning Expectations of Catholic Values and Global Awareness." The Spirit of giving is alive at St. Elizabeth School! (Reported by *Sharon Nagasawa*)

## 9 KAPAA

### St. Catherine School

So many wonderful things are happening here beginning in **preschool** where a successful **pancake breakfast fundraiser** on Sunday, March 26, is about to create an improved playground with a fun playground structure. Preschoolers will be smiling ear to ear (as always)! ... On the weekend of March 31, we were honored by a visit from **Bishop Larry Silva**. It began with Mass on Friday, after which the bishop visited every class. On Saturday he dined with parish ministry representatives and spoke to us about our parish future. On Sunday, he celebrated the 9:30 a.m. Mass as students took on many liturgical ministry roles. After Mass, there was time for all parishioners to talk with their bishop. ... On Holy Thursday, April 13, **eighth graders** washed kindergarteners' feet in memory of the Last Supper of Jesus. After the service we bid a heartwarming goodbye to **Mrs. Celina Haigh**, our principal for the last 10 years, where students and staff showed their appreciation with gifts, cards, hugs and tears. She will be missed but we all

look forward to the future under the leadership of our new principal **Mrs. Britt Cocumelli**, who is no stranger to us. She has been a valued kindergarten teacher here for the past five years. ... Our art program, under the leadership of **Mrs. Andrea Corbo**, has been on fire. First, there was the **Kauai Museum Exhibition** where students' artwork (awarded with ribbons and certificates) has been on display at the Kauai Piikoi Building. Then, five fifth graders, **Emma McCartney, Martian Binonwangan, Nico Cocumelli, Kate Brown** and **Liliwai Keohiolalo**, will take part in the **Young Artist of Hawaii Exhibition 2017** awards ceremony May 6 on Oahu. Their artwork will be on display from May 6 until April, 2018, at the HCC, Pa Kamalii Courtyard on the third floor. (Reported by *Andrea Corbo and Patricia Doherty*)



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**10 KAILUA**

**St. John Vianney School**  
For the past several years our school has held a **Purple Up Day** when all students of military families are encouraged to wear purple and be honored. On April 19 at the morning assembly, the school celebrated its military children and their families. Many of their parents attended that morning. The celebration included **Chloe Masaitis** (8) reading a beautiful poem, the **school choir** directed by **Mrs. Golding** performing songs, and several **Boy Scouts** raising the flag. The school office has a banner with pictures of all military children in the school and the public is invited to stop by and see them! ... The school's annual **Country Fair** is May 5, 5-9 p.m. featuring live entertainment by **IMUA**, food for purchase, a country store, prizes, and games for the entire family. Admission is free. For more information, call 261-4651. (Reported by *Earl Walker*)



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EDITOR'S CHOICE



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**11 MAKAWAO**

**St. Joseph Early Learning Center**  
On April 4, our school joined other Maui preschool centers to participate in a free **Uncle Wayne and the Howling Dog Band** concert in front of the Maui County Building. The event was sponsored by the **Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children** in conjunction with **Hooikaika Partnership** and **Friends of the Children's Justice Center of Maui**. It was in celebration of April — Month of the Young Child and National Child Abuse Prevention Month. **Mayor Allen Arakawa** issued a proclamation in honor of these events. (Reported by *Helen Souza*)



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**12 HILO**

**St. Joseph Jr./Sr. High School**  
Spanish teacher **Senora Ridolf** is taking a hands-on approach to educating her students about Latin American culture. Instead of reading from a text book or watching a video, her students took part in a salsa dance workshop as an immersion approach on April 12 in the school gym. Ridolf feels that an important aspect of this experience was to break preconceived ideas we usually make about a culture. For example, the students were surprised to see that the dance instructors were in their 20s. They were expecting to see older salsa instructors. Senora Ridolf says that our job, as language teachers, is to help our students leave behind preconceived ideas and to break the cultural bias that divides us. The greater responsibility of teaching a culture to our young students is to help them develop a respectful and compassionate vision for all human beings. Part of the mission of St. Joseph School is to have our students nurtured in a faith community blessed with many cultures, gifts, and talents. The lesson our students learned through the salsa dance workshop brought awareness and opened up their hearts to the Latin American culture. (Reported by *Fayth Paekukui*; photo by *Senora Ridolf*)

**13 WAIPAHAU**

**St. Joseph School**  
On April 21, our school came together for our **annual fun run**. This year's theme was **Color Run**. Thank you to our **PTG** who worked so hard to coordinate this fun event. Also, thank you to all our families and friends who helped to support our **Color Run** this year. Together we raised over \$19,000! Pictured are our colorful **junior high students**. (Reported by *Keala Kia*)

**14 HONOLULU**

**St. Theresa School**  
The **preschool and kindergarten students** made a special visit to the **Pacific Aviation Museum** at Pearl Harbor. Students participated in many engaging, age-appropriate activities focused on aviation history in Hawaii. They worked in small groups, visited many areas of the museum and even had the opportunity to dress up in kid-sized pilot gear and board an actual jet! This is sure to be one of their most memorable field trips! (Reported by *Magdalena Collins*)

**15 HONOLULU**

**Star of the Sea Early Learning Center**  
Pictured are students enjoying Easter with a visit from the **Easter Bunny**. (Reported by *Mariam Joseph*) ... Students celebrated their annual **May Day pageant** on April 28. This year's theme was "Hokulea." Before the performance, the **Clarence T.C. Ching**

**Foundation** presented "large check" to the school for its playground renovation project. The pageant began with our **May Day Court** followed by each age division performing musical selections. Some of the songs included "Hokulea and Me," "Mr. Sun," "Malama Honu," and "How Far I Will Go" from the movie "Moana." Following the program, everyone enjoyed a buffet lunch prepared by our kitchen staff. Musical entertainment was provided by **Augie Reye** and **Jeannette Trevias** and a special appearance of "Moana and Maui," from **Storybook Hawaii**. (Reported by *Lisa Foster*)

**16 EWA BEACH**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help School**  
"And I Will Soar With You," "Your Spirit Leads Me On," and "In the Power of Your Love." Indeed, with one heart and one voice, the **grades kindergarten, one and two** were very spirited and soaring high as they sang beautifully the song "The Power of Your Love." Their natural, expressive voices reverberated throughout the evening's **Third Quarter Awards Ceremony** and **PTSA** meeting, March 23, in the parish church. As part of the curriculum, the students rendered various Chinese songs that they learned in class and conveyed the meaning of the Chinese songs through their vigorous movements. Moved by the grace of the Lord and the power of his love, the students enjoyed the feeling of singing with confidence in front of a large crowd

of families, friends and guests. Oh, how these little children captured the hearts of their audience. In return, families, schoolmates and friends were so amazed and grateful with the children's remarkable performance, and the efforts they put on to make a difference. (Reported by *Leticia Melo*; photo by *Patricia White*)

**KANEOHE**

**St. Ann Model Schools**  
The school's first **Hoolaulea** to raise funds for the school and earlier learning center will be celebrated on campus on May 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. It hopes to provide more exposure for the school to boost enrollment. The festive event will feature **Miss America 2017 Savvy Shields**, comedian **Frank De Lima**, the **Paul Dunlap Trio**, **Kaylee Shimizu**, magician **Kaulana**, **St. Louis School's Hui o Na Opio**, **24/7 Dance Force** and **Walt Keale**. The day will also feature extreme rides, fun games, food and tons of crafts. Come one, come all. (Reported by *Mandy Thronas-Brown*)

**17 HONOLULU**

**Star of the Sea School**  
In preparation for the joyous celebration of Easter, students learned about prayer and pretzels and how they go together. The pretzel being symbolic of prayer and penance is a small but powerful instrument in bringing families to God. Students enjoyed making their pretzels and then eating them too! Then, during Easter vigil, after months of preparation under the guidance of **Mrs. Deanna**

**Rasmussen**, five students celebrated their new beginning into the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation. Congratulations to **Heather Smith** (fourth grade), **Chae-eon Lim** and **Katie Sah** (third grade), and **Caitlin Jaimes** and **Sung Joon Lim** (second grade). And finally, students participated in the parish sponsored **Easter egg hunt**. Eggs are also symbolic of new beginnings. With more than 4,000 eggs, students enjoyed the hunt on Easter morning and again on Monday morning, as they scoured the field looking for those remaining eggs still waiting to be found. (Reported by *Roselyn Vicente McMahon*)

**18 PEARL CITY**

**Our Lady of Good Counsel School**

Five students represented our school at this year's **Hawaii State Science and Engineering Fair** April 10-12 at the Hawaii Convention Center. Through the first semester, students of **grades six through eight** worked under the guidance of their upbeat and encouraging science teacher, **Mrs. Sylvia Tsuda**, to conduct scientific research, prepare a display board explaining the research, and present their findings at the school level where selected projects advanced to district fairs. **Thomas Rivera** (Grade 8), **Saunders Alaimalo** and **Sakura Morita** (Grade 6), and partners **Caitlyn Evangelista** and **Chloe Toledo** (Grade 8) received recognition at the district level and were given the opportunity to compete for cash, scholarships and other awards at the State Science Fair. Thomas R. won the first place "Grand Award" in the junior category of "Energy: Chemical." Sakura M. also achieved the first place "Grand Award" in the junior category of "Robotics and Intelligent Machines," plus five additional awards: American Public Works Association, Mae Nishioka Pioneer Jr. Engineering Award, Office of Naval Research — U.S. Navy/U.S. Marines, Perron Innovation Awards, and the Broadcom MASTERS. Sakura is one of five students selected to represent Hawaii at the **International Science and Engineering Fair** held in May. The school is bursting with pride for its science department and students who have displayed outstanding problem-solving and effective communication to be successful! (Reported by *Chantelle Luarca*)

**19 HONOLULU**

**Chaminade University**  
This **Easter Vigil** at Mystical Rose Oratory, **four Chaminade students and six parishioners** committed themselves to the faith and were received into full communion in the church. Students **Anthony Lamorena**, **Darynka Gomez-Cervantes**, **Mario Armendariz** and **Jared Hernden** have been studying the Catholic faith since last September. As the students went through the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, they prepared themselves to receive the sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation and Eucharist). The night was the culmination of an eight-month faith journey. The **Easter Vigil Mass** on April 15 was deeply moving for the students, filled with symbols of light and hope. Friends and supporters were on hand to witness the sacraments of initiation. "I felt a bit of sadness because my parents weren't here to celebrate this special moment in my life and spiritual journey, but I'm glad I have great friends that came to support me," said Gomez-Cervantes. "After the confirmation, I felt much closer to God and related more to the people of the church. I felt like a new person, a worthy person closer to God." Lamorena reflected that he, too, had changed. "I felt renewed because I had gone through a process that has helped me become a stronger and new person in the eyes of God and to others," he said. (Reported by *Chaminade Communications*)