

THE SCHOOL NEWS

1 PEARL CITY

Our Lady of Good Counsel School

Our school welcomes **Father Alfred Omar Guerrero** as the parochial vicar of our parish. He joined our pastor, **Father Pascua**, in being very involved with the students and staff. In the first month of school, he captured their attention during his homilies, joined them under the sun at recess play, and led the preschoolers in a tour of the church! The students were excited to sit in the presider's chair, hold the lectionary and see the sacred vessels that hold the precious body and blood of Jesus. The students are claiming Father Alfred's love for Jesus is as "sweet as a chocolate chip cookie." In a recent homily, he told the students how wonderful it is to share what we truly love with those around us. After Mass, he shared his favorite Chips Ahoy Chewy cookies with everyone in the school and reminded us to share the Good News of Christ in the same manner — with haste and excitement! Father Alfred's presence is certainly noticed and appreciated by the school community. (Reported by *Chantelle Luarca and Genette Perreira*)



2 EWA BEACH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

Our school is happy to share the good news that the **playground area** has a new rubber safety surfacing overlay, a new arch bridge with railing, and a new access ladder/steps. The safety surfacing overlay and the installation of the playground **Game Time** parts were constructed by **IPR Hawaii**. It was during the 2003-2004 school year that **Sister Davilyn** had IPR reconstruct the existing playground area. The entire school family gathered on Aug. 21 for a blessing ceremony during which this prayer was read: "We dedicate this playground to the children here and to all those in the future who will use the playground. We dedicate it, also, to the good of the earth, for physical movement, for making friends, and for spiritual creativity. May this space be blessed by the joy of play. May it be blessed by God, by those who touch it and move on it and who watch others play. May we bless this space, wishing all the good wishes we can for its future, praying that delight and joy will always surround and fill it now and for all eternity." May God continue to bless us and all those who come to our beloved school! (Reported by *Sister Davilyn Ah Chick, OFM*; photo by *Tracy Spencer*)

Ava and eighth grader **Juliette**, was the catalyst for GGG's development at our school. She is passionate about this program because it builds grit in girls, which Cramer believes is the number one characteristic needed for long-term success. Participation will not only develop grit, but empower students to become leaders and expose them to real-life business success stories. Pictured is mentor **Bobbie Lau** of the **Howard Hughes Corporation** and senior **Catherine Palmer**. (Reported by *Hayley Matson-Mathes*)

4 HONOLULU

Sacred Hearts Academy Lower School

Our **LEO Club** is one of the many school groups which participates in numerous service events throughout the year. In late August, club members teamed with the **Kaiser High School Key Club** to fulfill their monthly commitment with **Special Olympics Young Athletes Program (YAP)**. The Leos played games with the YAP participants, ranging in age from two to six, to help them practice and develop their motor skills. They also served as cheerleaders

for the youngsters throughout the session, passing out stickers, snacks, high-fives and lots of hugs. Pictured is **Kalei Cruz**. (Reported by *Hayley Matson-Mathes*)

5 HONOLULU

St. Anthony School

At the beginning of each school year, **student leaders** are given a training on leadership. The school prepares them to think, act, and speak like a leader and to face the responsibilities and challenges of being a leader. On Aug. 26, the classroom, clubs and student council officers from third to eighth grades gathered at the school cafeteria for a half day of leadership training, conducted by **Sister Victoria Lavente, SPC**, our principal. She reminded the students why they were chosen to be leaders and their responsibilities as leaders. She also inspired the students to be a good example to the rest of the student body. The rest of the day was followed by activities that promoted team work and leadership. The students were also treated to a special snack provided by the school. (Reported by *Tess and Tyra Marie Reyes*)

6 HONOLULU

Star of the Sea School

On Sept. 22, our school honored their **dear kupuna** with a free pancake breakfast with their grandchild, followed by an opportunity to share in their weekly Friday children-led Mass. It was such a special morning seeing students with their **tutus and papas**. As one teacher said, "There's such a distinctive loving relationship between a grandparent and their grandchild and it was a privilege to witness it today." Thank you to all who joined us for this special celebration! (Reported by *Roselyn Vicente McMahan*)

7 KAPAA

St. Catherine School

On Aug. 25, our **middle school students** participated in a **color wars**. It began with egg races and shaving cream art! The focus was "community," which led to teams writing songs as well as creating skits (in under two hours!). The **middle school teachers** are constantly inspired by the creativity, energy and sense of community that the sixth, seventh and eighth graders bring

to our school. ... Our school Mass on Sept. 1 was a lively celebration. The presider was **Father Norlito Concepcion**. The **Liturgy Elective Club**, under the leadership of **Mrs. Patricia Doherty**, prepared a communion reflection litany. At the end of Mass they presented every student with a "rock of the Kingdom of God." Words written on each rock described peace, joy, love, etc. ... On Sept. 9, our **preschool** hosted our first annual **Grandparents Day**. It was a beautiful way to honor our grandparents. More than half our preschool families joined us. Grandchildren shared the prayers they have learned as well as a musical performance, a special poem, crafts and artwork. We have no doubt this new tradition will become a favorite for years to come! ... **Girl empowerment** is super-important, especially for middle school girls. On Sept. 8, while promoting the **Pink Pineapple Project at Retro Farms** and under the leadership of **Ms. Melanie Slimko**, girls discussed confidence issues. The pressure was on when each student stood in the middle of a circle, listening to positive things about themselves from their peers. It was an uplifting and inspirational morning. Many of those students will join Ms. Slimko, **Mrs. Mary Ellen Pearlman**, and many other women and girls from the island at Retro Farms on Oct. 21 for the Pink Pineapple Project. It will be an empowering day — just for girls! ... Our middle school is also participating in the **James Madison Legacy Project**, a multi-year, nationwide civics initiative. **Mr. Williamson**, our middle school social studies teacher, was one of only 13 teachers from the neighbor islands (and the only one from Kauai), to participate. On Sept. 15, students took part in mock presentations based on the candy bar that best represents America. The structure, format and goals will mirror the final assignments at the end of the second quarter, which will focus on the influence of the Romans and Greeks in our democracy. ... Lastly, our pastor **Father Anthony Rapozo** announced an art contest in honor of the feast day of the archangels, **Michael, Gabriel and Raphael** (Sept. 29). This inspired our art teacher, **Madame Andrea Corbo**, to have students from preschool through eighth grade, collaboratively create an angel of peace, formed by fingerprints and liturgical music from hymn books, which will be presented to the St. Catherine Parish and School community. The purpose of this art project is to bring the best of everyone together as one body. Teachers, staff, parents and friends were all invited to add their fingerprints and signatures to this amazing and creative community art project! (Reported by *Andrea Corbo and Patricia Doherty*)

8 AIEA

St. Elizabeth School

We are very excited to announce that, as of Sept. 1, our school opened a **preschool for ages 3 and 4**. As part of their curriculum they learn coordination by riding tricycles and at the same time they learn the words stop and go. As you can see they are all having a great time including their head teacher and director **Sister Olive Fuentes** and her energetic assistant "**Aunty Lota**." They are all such a welcome addition to our school ohana! (Reported by *Sharon Nagasawa*)

EDITOR'S CHOICE



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9 WAIALUA

St. Michael School

On Sept. 20, the students were incredibly blessed with the opportunity to visit the **Loko Ea Fishpond** in Haleiwa as well as the **Hokulea Voyaging Canoe** docked at Haleiwa Harbor as part of its “Mahalo, Hawaii” tour of the islands. Students in **preschool through grade eight** began their field trip at the fishpond, where they learned about the importance of the fishpond in this ahupuaa (geographical area). Some students did not even know this fishpond was located in their own neighborhood. The Hokulea represents one of the greatest cultural achievements of the Hawaiian people in modern times. Using only the sky, stars, currents, winds and other natural features as its guides, Hokulea traveled successfully throughout the Pacific Ocean and beyond. It is not only a symbol of pride for the Hawaiian people, but truly for all the people of Hawaii. Students were given the unique opportunity to learn more about this extraordinary vessel through hands-on activities, cultural presentations, and an on-board tour. Overall, we are very proud of the way our school was represented. Eighth graders **Ocean Lancaster** and **Kalalapaikuanalu Winter**, with our **sixth-grade boys**, offered an oli and performed the haa, the Hawaiian version of the haka. Through the sharing of these gifts of aloha and the tribute given to the places we visited, there definitely was a cultural, spiritual and intellectual exchange between the people we encountered and the students, staff and chaperones of our school. *(Reported by Mr. Kainoa Fukumoto)*

10 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Early Learning Center

Our school team participated in the **Maui Chapter Alzheimer’s Association Memory Walk** on Sept. 23. The staff, students and ohana of the pro-

gram raised money to help this nationwide community organization that has touched themselves or their family personally. The Alzheimer’s Association, formed in 1980, advances research to end Alzheimer’s and dementia while enhancing care for those living with the disease. The Maui event had more than 500 participants and raised more than \$60,000. Go team go! *(Reported by Helen Souza)*

11 HONOLULU

St. Theresa School

Grandparents Day is a tradition observed nationally on the first Sunday of September. On Sept. 15, our school celebrated Grandparents Day in their auditorium. This special occasion honors all grandparents of our community for their gifts of life, love, faith, discipline, wisdom, respect etc. We celebrate our grandparents for all the wonderful things they have done for us. Our school community showed its appreciation with the celebration of Mass, followed by fellowship and light refreshments in the auditorium, with entertainment provided by our **preschool and kindergarten-fifth grade students**. They performed a variety of dances and songs to show their love for all the grandparents. Our school community gives thanks to God for all our grandparents for their continuous love and support for not only our school but for our parish and community. *(Reported by Faith Leasiolagi; photo by Patricia Foronda)*

12 KEKAHA

St. Theresa School

Our school celebrated **Grandparent’s Day** on Sept. 9, on the school lawn with a family luncheon picnic. Each class entertained family members with a song or game, enjoying ice cream and a trip to the **Smile Lab** photo booth! What a great day of fun and fellowship! Pictured:

Retired preschool teacher **Sharan Souza** with her granddaughters **Danielle** (fifth grade) and **Teagan** (third grade). *(Reported by Lehua Ham Young; photo by Smile Lab)*

13 KAILUA

St. John Vianney School

Several students from the **seventh and eighth grades** handed out programs as people arrived for the **Oahu Civic Orchestra** concert in our church on Sept. 17. The same students served refreshments during the concert on the Fellowship Lanai honoring the Orchestra’s 45th anniversary of performing great music. ... Our school has five **Schoolwide Learning Expectations**, which are defined as what a student should know, understand and be able to do prior to graduation. They are being a critical, creative thinker, a competent learner, a caring citizen, a communicator and a Catholic learner. These expectations are developed by students, parents, teachers and staff. The school focuses on one learning expectation a month and students are awarded certificates for their achievements. The focus for September was being a good communicator. Awards went to **Willa Akaka** (early learning center 3), **Blessing Colburn** (early learning center 4), **Dylan Parker-Kupahu** (kindergarten), **Selah Tom** (grade 1), **Maddox Marquez** (grade 2), **Koalii Kamai-Hudson** (grade 3), **Brooke Kearsley** (grade 4), **Kiani DeCorte** (grade 5), **Lawa Palafox** (grade 6), **Kimo Conroy** (grade 7), **Alex Picken** (grade 8). ... October is **Breast Cancer Awareness** month. The PTSH will be sponsoring a **Coins for Cure** drive. Each classroom will be given a pink coin box to fill. The class with the most coins will win an ice cream treat day. All proceeds will go to the **American Cancer Society**. For more information, contact 261-4651. *(Reported by Earl Walker)*