



Honu Newsletter

Spring 2016

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Aloha, Pōmaika'i ohana!

As we begin the 4th quarter of school, I am amazed at how quickly time passes! Our amazing students have accomplished a lot, and have much to look forward to! Artist in Me Night will be on Thursday, April 7th, where our students' learning will be showcased!

The grand finale of the year is our May Hō'ike, our showcase of students' learning journey through music and dance; save the date: May 25th. We will end school at 2:00 P.M., on that day. We are switching the end time with the next day, May 26th, which is the last day of school (and the fifth grade banquet). Our last day will end at 12:20 P.M.

Another exciting happening is testing for grades 3, 4, and 5! The Smarter Balance Assessment will be administered between April 4 and May 26. Please see letters that went home from your child(ren)'s homeroom teachers, if your child is in grade 3, 4, or 5.

We have an awesome school! This is confirmed by the amount of Geographic Exception Requests I receive each year. Kindergarten, alone, has 51 families that want to enroll at Pōmaika'i! I attribute this to the awesome students, staff, and parents that are working together to ensure that student achievement is high! Not only are our students doing well in classes, but they are participating in other events that bring positive recognition to them and the school. We've had success through Waihee Service Learning, Math Counts, Digital Media, Robotics, Garden, Arts Integration, STEAM, Broadcast, Student Council, and Sports! There's Choir, Yoga, Bricks for Kids, and the Cub Scouts who are now joined by the Girl Scouts—all providing even more opportunities for service-learning and fun!

We have awesome students! Together, we must nurture them and show them we care! We do that by ensuring their health and safety on campus, and at home. Among the top concerns that need to be addressed are: ukus, parking and traffic, and supervision. The DOE's policy on attendance negates the action of schools prohibiting students with ukus (head lice) from being in school. That being said, we still have to address this itchy issue. When found, ukus need to be eliminated to prevent the spread of them to others. If children have them (eggs or live crawlies) in school, parents will be notified and asked to take the children home to eliminate them from their hair. Information will be provided on how to help eliminate them from the home environment, too. Thank you for all of your help in helping our children and school be uku-free!

As for parking, just a reminder to drive carefully on Kamehameha Avenue, in our driveway, and within parking lots. Pedestrians be aware of cars—and little brothers and sisters...even of your parents and grandparents! When in the driveway, please do not leave your car unattended during the rush of drop off (between 7:00 and 7:45) and pickup (between 1:55 and 2:30 – or 12:15 on Wednesdays). This stalls the flow of traffic. Leap-frogging cars cause bumper-benders!

Supervision on campus begins from 7:00 when staffs assigned to supervise the students begin work. After school, is not a time for children to hang-around the playground without a parent to watch them. Supervisors are ensuring that children are riding their bikes carefully, walking home with a partner, and that parent-pickup is happening along the driveway in front of the school. Other than that, students will be with A+ or with teachers, with the teacher's consent. We love our children! Thank you for your support in helping us to keep them safe!

We've done a lot this year, and there's still more to do! Please join me in ensuring that our children attend to their work, stay healthy and safe, and find success on their learning journey where everyone plays a critical role at Pōmaika'i Elementary School!

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Mrs. B. Takahata

Awesome job Na Honu! Congratulations for your outstanding achievements, Na Honu!



PTSA Reflections

The following artists let their "Imagination Fly!" and swept the State competition for film production:

1. Mina Suzuki
2. Tiare Amarin
3. Nevaeh Dempsey

VEX Robotics

These future engineers represented Maui at the State finals on Oahu in February.

Robotex – State - 13th out of 40; Maui County Elementary Excellence Award recipient

Jared Peros, Emily Tom, Kaiden Yoshikawa

Swags – State - 24th out of 40; Maui County THINK Award recipient

Angelo Baysa, Kwanza Bondar, Mac Millen, Kamalei Pahukula, Trent Tsukiyama

Lions Club Sight is Beautiful Poster Contest Winners

Our Kindergartners submitted posters along with other Maui schools and judged by the members of the Maui Lions Club. The winners from Brynne Clark/ Kristi Ota's class.

- 1st Place Sophia Stockwell (advances to State competition)
2nd Place Mason Vilorina
3rd Place Lana Bajan

Math Team Winners

Seabury Hall hosted its fourth annual Maui Math Challenge on January 30. Our school won second place out of the 10 school in team competition, and Derek Takeno won first place in overall individual competition.

Countdown Round (head to head game show style competition):

2. Emily Tom (Pomaikai Elementary School)
3. Derek Takeno (Pomaikai Elementary School)

5th grade level winner:

1. Emily Tom (Pomaikai Elementary School)

In the 2016 Math Matters challenge, Emily Tom placed second place in overall individual competition.

Perfect Attendance

Please check the website for the list of 47 healthy and eager learners who showed up on time, every day to school for all of SY 2015-16 so far! <http://goo.gl/Iw10Ao>

Fund Raising News

eScrip/Benefit Mobile: (raised \$1756 to date!) -- <http://goo.gl/JaTF2c>
Introducing Benefit Mobile - a new app to buy and redeem gift cards instantly while earning for our school. Earn up to 20% on every purchase when you pay with Benefit. Unlike the eScript online mall or Amazon Smiles program, you can buy the gift card on the spot, in the checkout lane and use it right there and then. Don't like carrying around gift card with balance? Purchase the EXACT amount of your purchase!

iPhone App Store: <https://goo.gl/gK3eu2>
Android App on Google Play: <https://goo.gl/oJ9Z6T>

Box Tops: (raised \$1192 to date!) -- <http://goo.gl/Xk8558>
Thanks for your continued support. Our next submission date is June 1st, 2016. Please make sure all box tops have valid and visible expiration date.

Labels for Education: (raised 5497 pts to date!) -- <http://goo.gl/DuX3O6>

The Labels for Education program concludes at the end of this school year. Please bring in all labels by May 26th. We will mail our final submission on June 1st, 2016.

Upcoming Dates:

Upcoming Events:

- **4/06** – PTSA April meeting 4PM, D205
- **4/07** – Artist in Me Night
- **4/08** – Dance Party
- **4/09** – Valley Isle Keiki Fest – UHMC 11-4
- **4/15** – Used phone book recycling begins
- **4/19** – Maui Lani Assoc mtg. café 5:30-8
- **4/23** – Haiku Hoolaulea & Flower Fest
- **5/11** – PTSA General Elections
- **5/25** – May Ho`ike 2016 – 2pm dismissal
- **5/26** – Last day of school – 12:20pm dismissal