



Aloha families,

The last weeks of the 3rd quarter were busy, with many whole school events. The WASC accreditation visit was on March 8th. Thank you to the parents that came to meet with the WASC visiting committee and to our staff that met during the day to share their views on our successes and areas for improvement as we work to better educate all of our students.

STEAM night was a great success with over 225 people in attendance. Thank you to our teachers and students for the great artwork and projects displayed in the library and also to our teachers that volunteered during the STEAM night to manage the various stations. We loved seeing the families visiting each of the areas and experiencing activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math.

We ended the quarter with our spirit week and the makahiki field day. The makahiki was an awesome way to head into our break. Thank you to the PTA for organizing the event, to the volunteers that helped with the stations, to our custodians for assisting throughout the day, and to the students and families for collecting donations to support the programs sponsored by the PTA for our school and our students.

Quarter 4 allows us to wrap up our learning for this school year and set a foundation for next year. Students in grades 3-5 will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA), which is the state-wide assessment completed by all DOE schools. This is an opportunity for our students to demonstrate what they have learned since Kindergarten. If you would like to see what type of questions our students will be completing, you can go to <https://smarterbalanced.alohasap.org/> Click on "Students and Families" and then "Training and Practice Tests". SBA testing will begin in the middle of April and will continue until the end of the month. Teachers will send home a testing schedule for their class. Testing will be scheduled primarily in the morning. Please help your child do their best by making sure that they get plenty of sleep, that they eat breakfast, and that they arrive to school on time.

Breakfast

Our school health aide reminds us all of the importance of our students eating breakfast before school. She reports that often students come to see her during the morning block that are not feeling well, and a common theme is that they did not eat anything for breakfast. Our morning time is our most academically challenging part of the day and our students can not succeed on an empty stomach. If your child arrives to school before 8:20, they can also purchase breakfast in the cafeteria.

Homework surveys

Thank you to the families that returned the homework surveys from the March newsletter. Responses are still being compiled and a summary of the replies will be provided in the May newsletter.

SY 18-19 Calendar

A copy of the calendar for next school year was sent home last week on the back of the April menu. We ask that families review the intersession and holiday dates and try to plan family trips during the break times. We continue to focus on attendance. Did you know:

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

School Community Council (SCC)

Thank you to the parents and students that stopped by the SCC area in the library during STEAM night. The SCC will be meeting on 4/5/18 to review input from that community meeting, including student responses to what they like best about Kamali'i Elementary School. The council will also review the final draft of the Academic Plan for SY 2018 – 2020 for approval and submission. The meeting is open for everyone to attend.

Book Fair

Support our library by attending our Book Fair. The Book Fair will be held in the school library from May 7th through May 12th. Purchases may be made in person and also online. Volunteers are needed. If you are able to volunteer, please call the school and ask for Cassie Martin, our librarian. More information about the book fair can be found at this website <https://bit.ly/2pVL09p> Flyers will also be coming home with information about the book fair and the schedule of when classes will be visiting the library to participate in the event.

From the Library: April is **School Library Month**. April 8-14 is National Library Week, April 12th is DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) Day and the 14th is National Library Workers Day.

Website input

We will be updating our website over the summer break. We will be working with a company that is used by many other schools in Hawaii. As we prepare to create a site that is relevant to our families as a communication hub, we ask for your input. Our current web address is: <http://kamaliischool.weebly.com/>

Kamali'i Elementary School

Newsletter April, 2018

To view other Hawaii school websites, and to access a survey on how to improve our school website, please use this link: <https://bit.ly/2EbC1Gn>
From the Garden...

Thank you to all of the students that participated in the Change for the Garden challenge. Our students brought in over \$2000 to help support our garden program. Thank you to the PTA for continuing to support this instruction at our school. A special thank you to the Peterson's who volunteered to take all of that change to the bank!! A generous donor at the Taste of Schools Garden fundraising dinner was inspired by our students' efforts and matched the amount collected through the Change for the Garden challenge.

We will have a garden work day on Saturday, April 14th, from 8:30 – 11:30am. From our garden coordinator:

At the workday we will tackle the task of adding a second layer of height onto our wooden planter beds. The lumber is already cut from a previous work day, all that needs to be done is drilling. We will need volunteers who have an interest in building. A few more tasks include: laying down cardboard and spreading mulch, cleaning up our nursery, and painting a few signs for the garden.

Having the added depth on the planter beds will help with weed suppression and make the planter beds more comfortable to work at, but sometime soon we need to get soil to fill up the new space the added vertical height will create. If anyone knows of any vendors who might be willing to donate some or all of the soil that we will need, call the office and the message will be given to our garden coordinator.

Focusing on Safety...

We will be implementing two initiatives to help to ensure the safety of our students.

Emergency Provisions – Thank you to the PTA for purchasing plastic storage bins for each of our homerooms. These bins will be used to hold emergency provisions in the event we need to be in a shelter-in-place situation for an extended period of time. A great suggestion was made by one of our parents regarding how to provide for water and food during this time. This suggestion was reviewed by our school's district office and discussed by principals. We will be asking our families to provide a provision bag for each of their children. Each child will consume the items in their own bag in order to prevent reactions from food allergies. Families are invited to provide a bag for this last quarter if they wish – bags will be requested from all families for next school year. Bags will be sent home at the end of the school year.

Provision Bag Directions:

- 1 gallon baggie (re-sealable)
- 2 bottles of water – must fit into bag with the snacks
- snacks – suggestions include dried fruit, granola bars, dried meat, nuts, etc.

Attendance Phone Calls – This year we have not used the automated system to call parents when students are absent from school, due to a number of reasons. Recently I have had conversations with parents regarding

this practice and it's importance as a safety measure. Due to recent events in Kihei involving students before and after school, the suggestion was that a phone call

home when a student is absent would alert parents that their child was not in school. The system used last year notified parents in the early evening. We investigated with our school message system to determine what steps to take to restart the attendance calls and how to have the calls scheduled early during the day. We discovered that the DOE will be switching to a new system beginning in May. We have confirmed with the new company that we will be able to provide attendance notifications and will be able to schedule them during the morning block. We will keep our families informed as we transition to this new system and begin notifying parents when their child is absent. This is the same system used for our Sunday messages.

Upcoming Events:

Apr 3 – PTA Meeting 3:00 Library

Apr 5 – SCC Meeting 3:00 Library

Apr 14 – Garden Work Day 8:30 – 11:30 am

May 1 – PTA Meeting 3:00 Library

May 7-11 – Staff Appreciation Day

May 7-12 – Book Fair

May 23 – Full Day - Dismissal at 2:45

May 25 – Early Dismissal at 1:00

May 25 – Ho'olaule'a

May 28 – Memorial Day

May 30 – Full Day – Dismissal at 2:45

May 31 – Last Day for students – dismissal at 1:00

Thank you... To the Rotary Club of Kihei-Wailea for their generous donation used to purchase books for our library. To the Rotary Club of Kihei Sunrise for their donation of school supplies.

Adult Supervisors Needed:

We are looking for Adult Supervisors to help at our school. Adult supervisors assist school staff in supervising students during recess time and lunch. Scheduled hours would be from 10:15am – 1:45 pm. Compensation is \$10.10 /hr. If interested, please come to the office for an application.

Custodian substitutes needed:

We are looking for substitute custodians and/or room cleaners. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact the school office for more information.

Educational Assistants Substitutes needed:

We are looking for substitutes for our educational Assistants (EA). This would be an on-call position. Starting times would be between 7:45 – 8:30 and end time would be between 2:30 and 3:15. If interested, please come to the office for an application.

We are an equal opportunity employer.

If you are seeking full or part-time employment, please inquire at the Kamali'i School front office for job requirements and information on how to apply.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this newsletter. If you have questions, suggestions or

Kamali'i Elementary School

Newsletter April, 2018

concerns, please contact Principal, Cyndi Rothdeutsch, through the school office at 875-6840, or by email at crothdeutsch@napueo.k12.hi.us