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Principal's Message

We are into our third quarter of school. As we resume focus on teaching and learning, I would like to take a moment to wish all of you a Happy New Year! I hope this year will be one filled with achievement and happiness for our school `ohana. We accomplish a lot when working together.

Chad Okamoto, Principal

Spelling Bee

Pu`u Kukui's top spellers from 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade assembled in December to compete in our second annual school wide Spelling Bee. Students held preliminary competitions in their classrooms and the top delegates from each class represented their classes in our school wide completion on December 21, 2014.

Students were prepared and brought their A-game! Competition was fierce and went down to the wire progressing rapidly into more difficult words. At the final, our winners were: 1st place - Karissa Ginoza, 2nd place – Riley Regan, and 3rd place – Tiana Lee.

Our school's top delegates will go on to represent Pu`u Kukui Elementary Spelling Bee on Thursday, January 22, 2015 at Baldwin High School 6:00 pm.. Karissa and Riley will serve as competitors and Tiana will be a competitor.

We wish our Puelo well at their upcoming competition and congratulate them on their work and accomplishments so far.

Upcoming Events

January 20

PTSA Meeting, 6pm, Library

January 22

District Spelling Bee, 6pm, Baldwin HS,

February 28

Spring Fling – PTSA Silent Auction & Rummage Sale

March 29

Maui 5K for Kids, 7am, Ma`alaea Triangle – registration required



Proactive Ponderings with Mr. Dillon

7-Habits Resolutions

Hau`oli makahiki hou! Happy new year to our Pu`u Kukui Ohana and welcome back to school. With our saws well sharpened we are ready to begin a second semester of learning and growth.

One way for households to improve in the new year is by coming up with 7-Habits resolutions for the whole family. Think about where you need to improve and decide on a simple way for everyone to use the 7-Habits to help. This gives the family a common goal to work together on to keep the resolution intact. And don't forget to celebrate what you accomplish together when you synergize!

Late Pick-up Policy

Last month all families received a memo regarding the new Late Pick-up Policy. This is for non-A+ students that are picked up from campus after school. This policy is now in effect. Remember, if you arrive after 2:30PM (1:45PM on Wednesdays) you must park and sign your child out from the main office. At that time you will be provided with another copy of the policy and resulting school actions. If you did not receive this memo it is available in the main office.

Maui 5K for Kids

The date has been set for the 4th annual Maui 5K! Mark your calendars for Sunday March 29th, 2015 at 7:00am and come join us to raise funds for your school!

Online registration is \$20.00/entry until midnight on March 14th, 2015. The entry fee increases to \$25.00/person on March 15th. Please visit: <http://maui5k.org/> to complete your registration.

PTSA Message

Your PTSA is planning a Spring Fling for Saturday, February 28th! Lots of fun things planned ... silent auction, food trucks, entertainment, a student arcade and possibly a craft fair. We are currently looking for donations for our silent auction. Some ideas for auction items: Recreational Activities (zip lining, Atlantis Submarine tour), Concert or Play Tickets, Hotel Stays, Restaurant Gift Certificates, Golf Course Gift Certificates, Spa Gift Certificates, Gift Baskets, Artwork, Jewelry, etc., We are also looking for volunteers to help out with parking, silent auction, working the ticket or water booth, set-up and clean-up on the day of the event. Money raised from the silent auction will go towards purchasing a kiln for our school!

Please contact us at: puukukuipta@gmail.com or call Desiree at (808) 344-0070

Kindergarten Gingerbread Houses



Our Kindergarteners and their families gathered in our cafeteria to build a very beautiful and delicious looking Gingerbread Town last month. Here is a peek at some of the yummy construction projects that these young students were very proud to show off.



College for Kids/College Bound

Call 984-3231 to register



ENR6921-003 SCRATCH I Sat, 2/7 • 9:30-12:30 Ages 10+ • Learn what good game design is, how to program simple video games with animation, use existing characters, modify program details. Focus: backgrounds, sprites, motion and sound. \$49

ENR 6947 Title: My Own iOS App: An Introduction • Sat, Feb 14, 9:00am-noon Ages: 14-18. Learn the basic structure of an iPhone App and the tools you'll need to create one. By the end of class, you'll have an App that displays graphics, updates text, and reacts to your touch. \$59

ENR6937 SCRATCH II Sat 2/14 • 9:30-12:30 Ages 10+. Using tools for a specific game design, students will work solo to create a 2-D version of their characters using an extended script. \$59

ENR6927-002, 3/7 Kids 'n' Cameras Sat, 2/21 9-11:00 am • Age 10+. Want to be the family's best photographer? Bring your digital Point 'n' Shoot camera and discover great ways to create better pictures for your own use, school projects or the family album. You will learn to: compose the best photo; create fun angles and silly shots, and enjoy a friendly kid critique of your work. \$39

ENR6921 Minecraft in Education Sat 2/21 • Noon-2:00 For Teachers & Parents only. Learn the best ways to utilize this game program to engage students, increase vocabulary, illustrate concepts across a variety of subject areas; tips on how to teach team collaboration and team roles. \$39

ENR6941 Minecraft Level 1 Sat, 2/28 Noon-2:00, Gr. 4-7 Beyond the basics and after the Basic Minecraft class, learn beginning programming for students who already have experience with Minecraft. \$59

ENR6923-002 Personal Best: Note taking for any Subject and Study Tips the Best Students Use • Sat, 2/28, 9:30-11:30 & noon-2:00, Age 10+ • Learn different ways of taking notes, organizing projects and how to study for any subject. Different materials per grade level • \$75 + \$10 Materials Fee

Rotary Club Donates Dictionaries to 3rd Graders



Our local, Wailuku Chapter of the Rotary Club visited our 3rd grade classrooms recently to make a special delivery. Every student in 3rd grade was issued their very own Student Dictionary. Not only did the Rotary members personally hand each student these valuable tools, they spent time in each classroom showing students how to find information in their dictionaries and interacting with them.

This is the second consecutive year our students have been visited by the Rotary Club. We are very appreciative to them for including our school in this wonderful program.

Mahalo Rotary Club!



PTSA Fun Run Dare Assembly



If you ask any student at Pu`u Kukui what their favorite moment of December would be, chances are it was our PTSA Fun Run Dare Assembly. Our entire student body gathered in the Cafeteria just before our winter break to celebrate and

recognize some fundraising accomplishments we achieved. Roughly, \$25,000 were raised to benefit various programs at our school. We exceeded our fundraising goals by about \$3,000.

The top earning students and classrooms were recognized and rewarded with various prizes and also by issuing a special dare to Mr. Okamoto and Mr. Dillon. Let's just say our Principal and Vice Principal know how to "Let it Go" and make our students giggle and laugh. Principal Elsa and Princess Dillon will forever twirl in our hearts!



As if this was not enough, our top earning class was surprised with presenting an additional dare to our very gracious Principal and Vice Principal. Mrs. Locke's 3rd grade class was lucky enough to sit front row while Mr. Okamoto and Mr. Dillon did an ice bucket challenge....Brrrr!!!

Thank you to our hard working staff, students, and their families that made this fundraiser such a big success! We appreciate the support that is shown to our school very much!



Employment Opportunities

Attention all caring and patient individuals! We are currently offering employment opportunities for **Educational Assistant substitutes**. Educational Assistants or EA's typically work one on one or with small groups of students who receive Special Education services. Their job is to help students successfully participate in the classroom, recess and lunch settings. If you feel you have what it takes to work with these special students please contact our front office.

We are also seeking **Adult Supervisors**. This is a paid position which also provides the opportunity to support the school and serve our students.

We have several other "on call" positions available including Meal Clerks, Custodians, Cleaners, and Office Assistants. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Main Office.

Looking to **Volunteer**? We are always seeking the help of family volunteers in supervising our drop-off and pick-up areas. Even if it's just a couple days a week, we would really appreciate parent support in these areas. MAHALO for CARING!