



THRIVE!

NĀ PŌKI'I

Ke Kula Ha'aha'a o Kamehameha ma Hawai'i

Two-Way Communication a Priority

The research is clear -- parents' involvement in their child's education improves outcomes in areas such as learning, attendance, behavior, and graduation rates. Increased and meaningful communication between home and school enhances parent involvement.

The era of weekly or monthly newsletters sent home in your child's backpack has been enhanced through an array of options via social media. In our effort to provide increased and meaningful two way communication between you, our valued 'ohana members (and first teachers of our keiki), and all teachers at our kula ha'aha'a, we hope you can find at least one method we are using a viable way to stay informed and get involved.

We have researched, discussed, received training and implemented several modes of communication with the hope that you can be adequately informed and participate in a two way conversation to enrich your child's learning. At the same time we are also aware that not everyone has ready access to the internet and sometimes the hard copy to hang on the refrigerator may be the best way to get the word out to you.

Know that you will receive this monthly newsletter, Nā Pōki'i, in your child's folder, by the beginning of each month. Nā Pōki'i will include monthly events and activities, a feature article as well as other pertinent information we hope you will find interesting and informative.

Our end all catch all mode of communication is through our school website/blog that is updated at least weekly. Access our blog at blogs.ksbe.edu/hes or hawaii.ksbe.edu/elementary. Our facebook and twitter links can be found there as well as the monthly Nā Pōki'i. Please be sure to "like" our facebook page and join us on twitter.

Every teacher on our campus is a blogger. You can access their links on the left sidebar of our blog. We appreciate all views to the blogs (that is why we include counters on the blogs!) and most especially we appreciate comments you may leave.

In addition, you will continue to receive pertinent information in your keiki's planner and folder.

Mahalo for your continued support. We are off to a great start and we look forward to your comments.

I mua.

Kepakemapa Highlights

Mon. Sept. 3	Labor Day Holiday
Fri. Sept. 7	Nā Koa Reward Day #1
Sat. Sept. 8	PTO School Store Open: 11:00 am-1:00 pm
Mon. Sept. 10	Ekalesia (special event attire)
Thurs. Sept. 13	PTO General Membership Meeting 6:00 pm – Hā'aeamahi Dining Hall PTO Scholastic Book Fair Opens 2:30 pm-5:30 pm PTO School Store Open: 4:00pm – 6:00 pm Location: Hā'aeamahi Dining Hall
Wed. Sept. 19	Early Release at 1:30 pm
Mon. Sept. 24	Food Service Appreciation Day (Grades 2 nd & 3 rd : Snack donations) Last Day for PTO Scholastic Book Fair
Fri. Sept. 28	Aloha Wear Day (please refer to the Student and Parent Handbook)

Check out our website : blogs.ksbe.edu/hes

Got Uniforms?

As a reminder, commencing on Tuesday, Sept. 4th, we will be enforcing our dress code guidelines as noted in our Student and Parent Handbook (pages 20-23).

Our counselors have created an informative video that you can view at: <http://blogs.ksbe.edu/hes/2012/08/14/dress-code>. The video shares what is acceptable to wear.

For more information and further questions, feel free to contact our counselor, Tim Kudo, at 982-0235 or email him at tikudo@ksbe.edu.

Nā Koa Reward Program

Our revamped Nā Koa Reward Card Program began on Monday, August 27, 2012. The changes to the program were a direct result of the mana'o given by parents, students and teachers at the end of last year. The information below provides more details about the program (it's the same information that was sent home earlier this month).

What are the criteria (expectations)?

1. Student must attend school every day and be on time (no penalty for excused absences, see handbook p. 18).
2. Students must make good behavior choices and not receive a minor or major referral (see handbook p. 26, item #5). Uniform reminders are no longer part of this criterion.

How does it work?

Beginning on August 27, 2012, your child will need to meet the two criteria until the day before the first reward day, which is scheduled for September 7th. Your 'ohana calendar has all nine reward days for the year listed. On the following school day after each reward day, a new monitoring period begins for the next reward day. For example, on September 10, 2012, the new monitoring period begins and runs until the day before September 27, 2012, which is reward day #2. If your child meets the two criteria, they will earn a punch on their reward card and be eligible to participate in the reward day activity.

The design of the card has changed to show nine punching spaces, each representing a punch day for the year. If your child earns a punch for the first monitoring period, he/she will have space #1 punched on their card to show that they may participate in reward day #1's activity. If your child is able to earn seven or eight out of nine punches (rewards), he/she will be able to participate in the Nā Koa water play day on May 17, 2013. In consideration of developmental differences, students in grades K and 1 will need seven out of nine punches and students in grades 2 through five will need eight out of nine punches to participate in the water play day.

When your child receives a "punch" and is eligible to participate in the reward day, he/she will be given a wristband and a note will be sent home to inform you of the reward activity.

How can you help?

- When possible, avoid scheduling appointments before school as any tardy during a monitoring period would disqualify a student from participating in the reward day activity.
- Encourage your child to make good behavior choices every day.

For questions or concerns, please call your school counselor, Tim Kudo, at 982-0235 or email at tikudo@ksbe.edu.



Get Ready for Pinwheels for Peace!

Kamehameha Schools Hawai'i Kula Ha'aha'a will again participate in **Pinwheels for Peace**. Keiki will have a chance to look at peace in our kula, with 'ohana and in our community. September 21st will whirl with color as **Huila Makani no ka Maluhia** adorns our campus and supports International Day of Peace.

Mrs. Debus is teaching a beautiful song to keiki in grades kindergarten through 5th. The students will be singing the song at oli Monday morning September 17th. Thank you, Mrs. Debus, for enhancing to this special event with the gift of mele.

Parents interested in constructing pinwheels and/or installing the students' creations please give Mrs. Rosehill a call at 982-0255.





Hana Hou IXL Math



Here at Kula Ha'aha'a, we are extremely fortunate to have IXL math available to our keiki for another year. Students who were here last year are still able to access the site using their same username and password. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher if you need to obtain this information. Logging on is very simple.

1. Log onto www.ixl.com
2. Type in your child's username and password.
3. Select the appropriate grade level.
4. Select "practice" and choose a skill.

This year we will be implementing a school-wide incentive program which we hope will encourage our students to use this valuable practice site. There will be many opportunities for students to earn prizes for themselves and their class. Starting in the month of September, students who are able to master at least seven skills within their grade level or higher will be able to obtain a prize. Grade level drawings and an end of the year drawing will also be done. Stay tuned to find out what the great prizes will be. Finally, at the end of each trimester, the class with the most earned medals will win a pizza party! So don't wait, get your child started on IXL math!

If you have questions or difficulty logging on, contact your child's teacher or Mrs. Elaine Hara, Math Resource Teacher at 982-0284 or email her at elhara@ksbe.edu.

Health Room News

Staying healthy during cold & flu season....

- Eat healthy, especially breakfast.
- Get enough sleep, children usually need at least 8 hours per night.
- Drink enough water, it keeps the mucus membranes, immune system, kidneys and organs in top shape. When getting enough water, urine is pale yellow and clear.
- Get the flu shot or flu nasal spray from your doctor.
- Wash your hands before eating or touching your face.

When should students stay home?

The Student and Parent Handbook (page 38) specifies that students will be sent home for:

- Fever of 100°F or higher
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Infectious diseases (e.g., chicken pox, pink eye, influenza, head lice, etc.)

Questions or concerns? Contact our Health Services Provider, Carl deLeon at 982-0411 or email him at cadeleon@ksbe.edu.

'Ohana Corner

Parent Quiz ...Are you teaching respect, "hō'ihī" at home?

Children who understand the importance of having respect for themselves, others and authority are more likely to be successful in school. Our first trimester Hawaiian value is "hō'ihī", to be respectful at all times; to each other in school and home. Answer the following questions *yes* or *no* to see if you're raising a respectful child:

- __1. **Do you treat** your child with respect?
- __2. **Do you teach** your child to respect the rules by following them yourself?
- __3. **Do you model** polite behavior, such as saying *please* and *thank you*?
- __4. **Do you explain** the reasons behind the rules to your child?
- __5. **Do you encourage** your child to be honest? Admitting your own mistakes is a good place to start.

How did you do? *Each yes answer means you are promoting respect at home. For each no answer, try that idea from the quiz.*



Support Regular Attendance

He woke up late and there's no way he's getting the bus. You've to go to work and don't have enough time to drive him. Would it really matter if he just missed one day of school?

The answer is **YES!** Attendance makes a *big* difference. Children who attend school regularly achieve at higher rates than students who are chronically absent. So get your child to school every day!



Set Up A "Homework Hub"

Children need a quiet area for studying. But that doesn't mean that your child has to be banished to his room. Some children like to have people around, especially parents who can help. If your child feels this way, brainstorm about a distraction-free spot that might work for him – like at the kitchen table (with the television off).

✓ Get Focused On Good Habits This Year

The beginning of the school year is an important time for your child to develop good habits. Here are some to focus on:

- **Planning ahead.** When your child faces a big task, teach him/her to divide it into smaller, more manageable parts. Then he/she should set a deadline for each section. This makes the project less intimidating. Best of all, it gets them done on time.
- **Being organized.** Use a box or shelf as a place for your child to stash all the stuff that has to go to school tomorrow. Try keeping it near the front door (or back) so that everything's right there when it is time to leave.
- **Managing time:** Make sure your child doesn't commit to too many activities. Always leave time for family and homework. Set a good example yourself by putting family first.

