Aloha mai kākou e nā ‘ohana o ke kula ha‘aha‘a, welina mai to school year 2014 -15!

As our haumāna return rejuvenated and refreshed from summer break, we welcome our new ‘ohana to school. As our ‘ohana grows, the achievement of our mission sustains and strengthens our lāhui.

Our tradition of excellence continues with each new year as we strive to prepare our haumāna to be compassionate servant leaders, critical problem solvers and resilient lifelong learners grounded in a firm foundation set in Christian and Hawaiian values.

The importance of ‘ohana cannot be stressed enough as we partner on this educational journey with you and your keiki. As Hōkūle‘a and Hikianalia continue on their worldwide voyage to mālama honua or care for our earth, we mālama i nā pua a Pauahi, care for children of Pauahi. The theme mālama honua is represented by this visual image (above) that reminds us to care for our school community so that our keiki flourish in optimal conditions. With caring, nurturing relationships as our cornerstone, students thrive in an environment that feeds the intellectual, social, emotional, physical and moral growth of each child.

Esther Kanehailua
Po‘o Kumu
Kula Ha‘aha‘a

Yearbook Picture Taking Day!

Don’t forget yearbook picture taking day on Thursday, Sept. 4th.

You should have picture order forms in your hands by now as students took them home earlier this week.

Say C-H-E-S-E
Angela Martin, Former 5th Grader Wins State Writing Contest

Angela Martin, formerly a 5th grader in Mrs. Pai’s class, entered her poem in the 8th Annual Nā Leo O Nā Pua writing competition, an event presented by the Queen Lili‘uokalani Children’s Center. Her poem titled, “The End of My Reign”, was selected out of 26 entrants statewide as first place in the elementary division.

Angela, who is now in the sixth grade at Kula Waena (Middle School), will be traveling to O‘ahu with her family at the end of the month to attend QLCC’s annual “A Matter of Maoli: Hawaiian Art Exhibit and Poetry Reading. There, she will read her winning poem and be honored as well.

Angela stated, in composing her poem, “I tried to think how Queen Lili‘uokalani was feeling at that time when all those things were happening to and around her”.

Results from Parent Survey—May 2014

At the end of our last school year, parents of students in grades kindergarten through fifth were asked to take a survey. Students in grades three through five shared the survey online with their parents via their student iPads. Kindergarten through second graders took home a paper survey. Out of 256 (number of K-5 students) surveys distributed, 199 were completed and returned - a 78% return in sampling.

Here are some highlights of survey:

- Are you satisfied with the way students treat each other at our kula? 88% - Yes 12% - No
- Are you satisfied with the teacher to student relationship at our kula? 95% - Yes 5% - No
- Are you satisfied with the way you are treated as our KS ʻohana? 95% - Yes 5% - No

What is your preferred method of communication (info from & about kula)? Email: 93%  Flyer: 65% Newsletter: 45% Teacher Call: 34%

What qualities would you like to see in a Hawaiian Student leader?

- Honesty, confidence, kind, humble, open-minded, kahiau, ‘olu‘olu, integrity, haʻahaʻa, compassion, respectful, humility, culturally sensitive

What benefits, if any, do you think the iPad has had on your child’s learning?

- Bridged gap between school and home, keeps them all up to date in technology and advancements, helps my child be more tech savvy in assignments BUT is also a big distraction from the actual assignment, helped to see the world from iPad, navigation confidence, looks forward to doing homework and is excited to share and show us what he has done, reinforces classroom learning, access to many thoughts/ideas.

What kinds of general topics would you like to see offered for ‘ohana night?

- Technology, reading, life coaching, health & wellness, bullying, Hawaiian language/culture, expectations of parents/student, time/assignment management, blended family activities, STEM.

To view the survey results in its entirety, go to blogs.ksbe.edu/hes