

THE SCHOOL NEWS

1 KAILUA

St. Anthony School

Our school has been busy with so many things since the beginning of the new year, on top of our academics of course! **Catholic Schools Week** brought us a flurry of activities and events that celebrated Catholic schools. At the annual **ACCE conference** two of our teachers were honored for teaching in Hawaii Catholic schools for 20-plus years. We are so lucky to have **Ms. Claire Shannon** and **Mr. Kepa Stern**. Ms. Shannon is a most extraordinary teacher of 3-year-olds who brings joy and happiness wherever she goes; while Mr. Stern is our music, choir and band teacher, who also happens to be our church's music director. We began February with an open house welcoming new families to come and see our campus. We are currently accepting applications for 3-year-olds up to eighth graders. Visit our website at www.saskailua.org to apply. ... Then students and faculty celebrated love and kindness on St. Valentine's Day by wearing pink and red. To top off two wonderful months we had our enthusiastic **Shrove Tuesday Malasada Crew** (pictured) who began working at midnight, to provide traditional, delicious malasadas for our school community and parishioners. We are so fortunate to have so many people who are willing to volunteer their time. Mahalo nui. (Reported by Patricia Barros)

2 EWA BEACH

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

Celebrating **Catholic Schools Week** from Jan. 26 through Feb. 1 was that time of the year that students look forward to with joy, thrill and amazement. The week's activities were purposely aligned with the school's mission statement that teaches students to be **Active Catholics, Responsive Producers, Holistic Learners, and Capable Communicators**. It started with the 9 a.m. Sunday liturgy allowing students to express their Active Catholic qualities. Monday's spelling bee and talent show certainly encouraged students' ability to be Responsive Producers. On Tuesday, as Holistic Learners, students dressed in the careers they wish to be in the future. Wednesday's activity added humor to the celebration when everyone in school paraded with their "wacky tacky" socks. In the afternoon everybody gathered to watch the movie, "Letters to God." The most hilarious day was Thursday when everybody, as Capable Communicators, gathered at the school campus for the field competition. As Capable Communicators, they had to be good listeners, able to follow directions and execute them accurately, and that is what the students did. They did not really focus on winning, because here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, what matters is the feeling of joy, fun, belonging and victory, knowing that in the center of all the activities is **Jesus Christ!** Pictured here are students dressed in the career they wish to be in the future. Pictured, from left, **Logan**



Kim, Adelina Irons, Christopher Fidelibus, George Manibog, Czarina Santiago, Chanel Mendoza and Alani Kairi Pine. (Reported by Remedios Cabrera)

3 MAKAWAO

St. Joseph Early Learning Center

The students received ashes the morning of Ash Wednesday, Feb. 26, from **Father Michael Tolentino**. The students also prepared their individual "leaf promises" on their class **Lenten tree** in preparation for their Lenten journey to **Easter**. Students wrote down and drew the acts of kindness they would do from now until Easter to bring them closer to God. On the day before Ash Wednesday, the children enjoyed eating fresh malasadas from the parish fundraiser for **Fat Tuesday**. We look forward to a blessed Easter Season. (Reported by Helen Souza; photo by Mahealani Cavaco)

4 KAPAA

St. Catherine School

The **third and fourth grade classes** had special guests come talk to them. **Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii** is a small non-profit group with a lot of heart, just like our school. A really great group of

them came to talk to the students about what is going on with our east-facing coastlines. Throughout all of our islands, including the uninhabited islands, large and small plastics continue to collect and build up. Sustainable Coastlines shared awareness and things that we can all do to help make our little islands a better place, which in turn makes the world a better place. It can truly start with us just taking a bag to the beach to pick up trash. And it can expand to using less plastics. I always love the phrase "**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, REFUSE!**" All good things to help make God's planet a more sustainable one, which was always the intention. God bless our earth! (Reported by Elizabeth Sancho)

5 KEKAHA

St. Theresa School

Our school learners are doing their part in being stewards of their community and their planet. Not only have the **middle schoolers** launched their single-use plastic elimination initiative for the school, they have taken their work a step further by providing a recycling collection on the first Friday of every month and collaborating with the **County of Kauai** to install trash separation bins throughout the campus. This involves hands on,

daily work. But no one is complaining! In fact, now that trash separation is a part of their day, learners are getting ideas on more ways to reduce what we send to our landfills. In science class, **seventh and eighth graders** are researching where our recycled plastic actually goes. "The goal isn't to just remove it from the island," says **Mrs. Kleidosty**, science teacher, "we need to find out where it goes on earth!" Principal **Wendy Castillo** said, "These kids are awesome! They see the big picture and are empowered to create positive change. Our seventh and eighth grade gave me a hydroflask for Christmas because I was a repeat offender with the plastic water bottle. I haven't used a plastic bottle since then." She laughs, "I'm scared of getting scolded." **Josey Mattos**, eighth grader, explains. "We need to keep recycling. We need to weigh what we bring in to track how our program is working. And we need to keep working with our school families to reduce our carbon footprint." Last month, the school brought in 353 pounds of recyclable glass, plastic and aluminum on their first Friday collection. This month, the goal was raised to 400 pounds, but they didn't quite make it. For next month, the community is invited to join in their effort. Recycling

collection is on the first Friday of March, 7-7:30 a.m., on the school grounds. Enter from Elepaio Road, behind the church. Separate your recyclables and remove caps before bringing in! Thank you to the staff and learners who come in early to work on recycle days! All money earned from recycling goes to the **student council fund**, which is used to make school improvements deemed necessary by the learners. Currently, one goal is installing new water fountains and bottle refill stations on campus. ... Principal Castillo doesn't stop looking forward. "It's 2020! St. Theresa School is moving into the new decade with respect for the past and endless possibilities for the future. Thank you to all who choose STS as a place to learn and grow for their children. We are so proud of all that they accomplish! STS is here, we are strong, and we are ready to make a difference." Pictured are **Kanoe Dusenberry**, 8th grade, and **Emily Racpan**, 7th grade, removing bottle caps. (Reported by Ursuline Munar)

WAILUKU

St. Anthony Preschool

Congratulations St. Anthony Preschool! On Jan. 14, our preschool was informed that their program has achieved a new five-year term of accreditation by the **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**. The process is difficult and arduous and required many months of preparation. Our heartfelt thanks go to **Carlene Santos**. Hired as an aide in 1983, Carlene has been at the helm as directress of the preschool since 1985. A product of Catholic education and an alumnus of St. Anthony School, Carlene has dedicated her career to guiding our littlest keiki into the world of learning! Many of her students are now young adults bringing their own children to the preschool. St. Anthony Church is proud of her and her dedicated teachers and aides for this accomplishment and for earning this well-deserved third accreditation from the NAEYC! (Reported by Debbie Melton)

KAILUA

St. John Vianney School

A delicious **Lenten Fish Fry** will be held by the **Windward Knights of Columbus (Council 6307)** on March 6, for dine-in or drive-thru. Price is \$17 for adults and \$13 for seniors and adolescents and may be purchased at the door. This year's fish fry will be held from 5-7 p.m. at **St. Anthony Church**, 148A Makawao Street in Kailua. The funds earned are gifted to both St. John Vianney and St. Anthony schools to be used as scholarships for students returning the next school year. Applications for the 2020-2021 school year for new students may be downloaded from our website: sjvkailua.org. **Welcome Grants** for assistance with tuition for two years are available to Catholic students who wish to enroll from a non-Catholic school. For more information, please call 261-4651. (Reported by Earl Walker)