



# Hanalei Elementary School Newsletter



## A Message from Principal Moraes

Happy Holidays Hanalei School Ohana! We hope this newsletter finds you healthy, and happy.

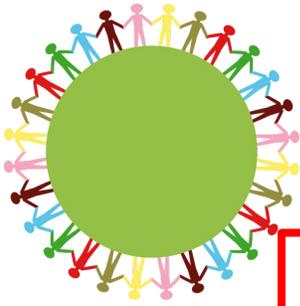
The holidays are a wonderful opportunity for us to take time out of our busy schedules to enjoy our family, friends, the beauty of our island, or other places that call to us. This pause also inspires sentimentalism of holidays past with our children smaller and our kupuna younger. As a parent of a child in college, I can confirm how quickly the time passes. In the blink of an eye, our babies become children, children become teenagers and teenagers become adults. I look back with fondness on all of the past holidays and truly value just how precious these times are. Please take the time to savor this season and be together; read a book, bake cookies or watch the stars, recognizing that the best present we can give to our children is our presence. After all, in the words of Natalie Merchant: “These are the days that you’ll remember”; and in the words of Helen Keller: “The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.”

In the spirit of the holidays and giving thanks, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest gratitude to our Hanalei School Foundation (HSF) and our Hanalei School PTA for their generosity and dedication to our school. For SY '23-24, each of these organizations will purchase a teaching line for a total of two additional teaching positions. This will allow our school to continue to deliver personalized education with an average class size of 13.8:1 student to teacher ratio (versus Statewide average class size of 26.15 :1 student to teacher ratio). We are confident that small class sizes greatly contribute to our students consistently exceeding complex area (Kauai County) and Hawaii state averages for proficiency in Math and English Language Arts, as well as high Social Emotional Learning skills in many areas. As a community, Hanalei has endured substantial hardships, from historic flooding, to multiple landslides to the COVID pandemic. Throughout this journey, families experienced distance between the school and home. With these challenges now behind us, we are rebuilding our traditions and asking our parents to come back to taking a more active, in-person role in their children’s education. There are many ways that you can contribute, including joining the PTA, volunteering in classrooms and on field trips, or sitting on the Hanalei School Foundation Board. We also encourage our families to consider donating to the [Give Big Hawaii fundraising event sponsored by the Hanalei School Foundation](#) and/or sharing the link with other friends and family members on your social media accounts. Currently, this fundraiser has raised \$2060 towards our \$147,075 goal and the drive will continue until the end of the year. The funds raised will contribute to school wide enrichment programs as well as the third teaching line we would like to fund which would enable every grade to have two classroom teachers.

We look forward to seeing all of our students and families at our Holiday Craft Night (Tuesday, December 13th, 5-7pm in the cafeteria). We will be welcoming students back to school on January 4th, well-rested, full of stories to share and ready to grow in the 2nd semester. We wish our entire Hanalei School Ohana a safe, happy and enjoyable holiday season with warm tidings of comfort and joy. My heart is full everyday to be your principal.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

Deena Moraes  
Hanalei School Principal

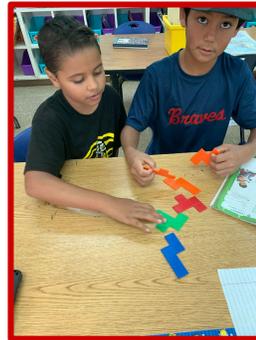


# NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

Each month we will highlight what's been going on in the classrooms. Here's what Upper Elementary (3rd - 6th Grades) have been up to! Look to the back of the newsletter for school-wide announcements and info.

## 3rd GRADE Mrs. Swenson & Mr. Andrews

Happy Holidays Families! This quarter, the 3rd graders are currently learning about the structures of life in science. They got a chance to dissect owl pellets and reconstruct the bones of a mammal. In math, we are deep into using multiplication, division, and distributive property to find the area of squares. For a literature study, the students read the book, Bunnicula, and did various activities to increase literature comprehension and fluency. As usual, we are having fun in art class and doing our holiday decorations!



## 4th GRADE Mrs. Robert



4th grade was so excited this quarter to get to participate in our annual Makahiki Games. This year we got to go to Kīlauea to compete! We had a blast. Even through the rain the kids were all smiles. In science this quarter we have been working on making our own fossils, learning about how various landforms form, and how the rock cycle works. This quarter we also started our SEL program Choose Love. Make sure to check it out or ask your child about it. We are looking forward to Market Day and our family craft night! Happy Holidays!

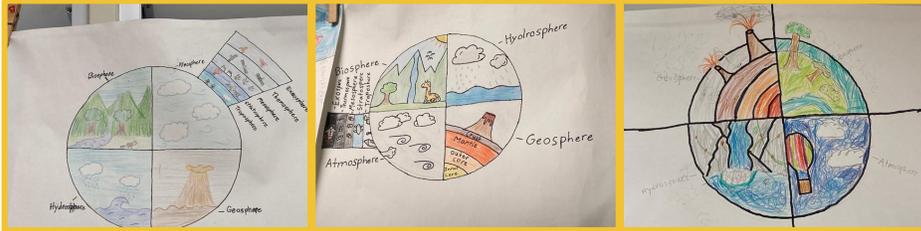


# 5th GRADE

## Ms. Gallagher & Ms. Collins

From Ms. Gallagher: Fifth grade has been doing a fabulous job with their narrative poems, using rhyme, alliteration, similes and metaphors. Check out their poems outside the library. Students have also been stepping up in Math to handle the challenge of dividing with decimals. In Science, we are examining subsystems of the Earth and how they interact with each other. We are starting to focus on the biosphere, investigating vascular plants, and specific types of biomes. While in Social Studies, European explorers have been our hot topic. Students created posters detailing backgrounds, explorations, maps as well as impacts of the explorations on their countries as well as the native populations they encountered.

So proud of the entire school with the wonderful response to the food drive. Keep it up!



From Ms. Collins: Education can be so much more than sitting in the classroom.

Connecting with the land, culture and real experiences make a lasting impact. This quarter the 5th graders experienced this during their field trip to Waipa. The classes hiked Maka Iu Wa'a Trail and their job was to kilo (observe) all along the way. The students also learned about how the site was used for navigation, tying into their Social Studies lessons on World Explorers.

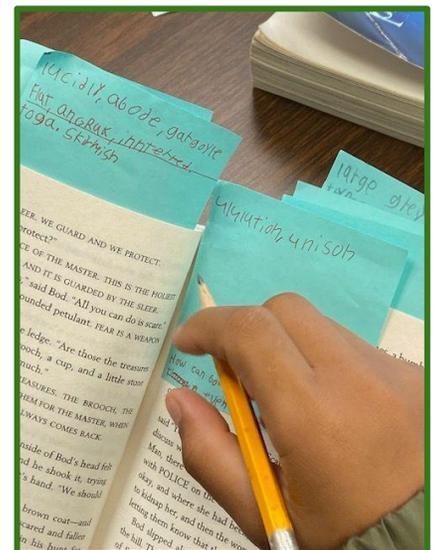
This was the 5th graders' third field trip this year! The first was "Make a Splash" hosted by the Department of Water. The students learned all about water conservation, the water cycle and other topics through fun hands-on activities including Water Olympics.



# 6th GRADE

## Mrs. Adams & Ms. Ricardo

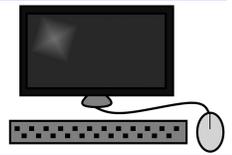
From Mrs. Adams (Math & Science): 6th graders have been busy learning their math and science in the 2nd quarter. In math, students completed their learning of numeric and algebraic expressions and have moved on to learning about algebraic equations and solving equations and inequalities. Although this work didn't start out easy, 6th grade students showed grit and determination and are showing proficiency in this subject area! In science, students are almost completely finished with their Weather and Water unit. They learned how to read pressure maps and how meteorologists use air pressure as one indicator to predict weather. They also learned how air particles will move because of high and low pressures. Their final investigations will include learning about convection currents and how they create global winds and local winds to affect our weather.



From Ms. Ricardo (ELA, Social Studies & Art): The 6th graders are sharpening their reading comprehension and written composition skills, as well as building their vocabulary. For reading comprehension and vocabulary, they have been learning to annotate as part of their novel unit and they're applying these same skills to their unit on ancient Egypt in social studies. In addition to learning how to annotate, they are using these notes to have collaborative conversations in smaller groupings to clarify what they are learning as well as reinforce understanding of more complex aspects of this ancient civilization. In art class, they are taking the crayon/watercolor resist technique to a higher level and creating pieces that reflect their favorite place here on Kaua'i. Their artistic studies and practice are continuing as they started to work with local muralist Kayti Lathrop on planning (and then painting) a mural here on campus, a wonderful legacy for them to have. Stay tuned for the progress.



# TECH CENTER with Mr. McGill



Learning about Computer Science - from Code.org

The Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code" (computer programming), to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort to celebrate computer science, starting with 1-hour coding activities but expanding to all sorts of community efforts. Check out the [Hour of Code tutorials and activities](https://code.org/learn) at <https://code.org/learn>. This grassroots campaign is supported by over 400 partners and 200,000 educators worldwide.

The Hour of Code is promoted each year during [Computer Science Education Week](#), which for 2022 will be December 5-11 (Computer Science Education Week is held annually in recognition of the birthday of computing pioneer [Admiral Grace Murray Hopper](#) on December 9, 1906). Learning computer science helps students nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation for success in any 21st-century career path.

So try out an Hour of Code activity with your student, and learn more about computer science! I strongly recommend choosing the Hour of Code activities created by CODE.org on the site, as they are guaranteed to work well, and are often the easiest for students to understand. If they enjoy coding, it can also make a great activity during the winter break, so students can learn while they play.

Happy Holidays!

- Ryan McGill, Technology Coordinator, Hanalei School

## HANA LEI PTA NEWS



**NEW HANA LEI SCHOOL MERCHANDISE!**

Come see us at:

Princeville Farmers Market: Sat 12/10

Princeville Farmers Market: Sat 12/17

We would like to welcome 4th Grade Teacher Cristina Robert as our new PTA President! Thank you for stepping into this role, and mahalo to Michelle Kanahe-Hudson for serving as the previous President. Hanalei School PTA continues to fundraise for school wide enrichment programs (art, music, PE, etc), field trips, teacher supplies and full teacher lines to support the small class sizes that we all know and love. Come see us at the **Holiday Craft Night (12/13 from 5-7pm in the cafeteria)** to find out how to support our school, keep these programs running and get involved in the fun events we have planned in the new year!

[www.hanaleipta.org](http://www.hanaleipta.org)

[hanaleielementarypta@gmail.com](mailto:hanaleielementarypta@gmail.com)

# Counselor's Corner

School Counselor & Librarian:  
Jana Mahuiki

**Mindful Journaling Club:** Every Thursday and Friday during lunch recess, the Library is open to all 5th (Thursday) and 6th (Friday) students to join the Mindful Journaling Club. During this time students are creating their own journal, from coffee staining paper, to attaching the pages by sewing them together, then decorating the journal and finally we will be reviewing the practice of mindful journaling. This has created a safe space for students to gather once a week and have a moment of calm and artistic outlet. We will be continuing this throughout the year, all 5th and 6th graders are welcome.

**Tele-Therapy Services:** I am very excited to share that the DOE has partnered with a company called Hazel Health that provides at-home teletherapy services. I wanted to share this amazing resource that just became available for any student at our school. The DOE has signed a contract with a company called "Hazel Health", which provides **free at-home telehealth therapy services**. This is an exciting option for families that are looking for more support at home. If you are interested in being referred to Hazel Health, you can contact me through the contact information found below. Once you have been referred to Hazel Health, an intake counselor will contact that parents and set up an intake interview and schedule future counseling sessions with the family.

**As always I'm still available for school counseling services, however Hazel Health is a great at home therapy option.**



**Here to help, here for mental health!**

Hawai'i schools are providing a new community mental health resource, as an addition to our school-based supports.

Hazel Health is a resource that provides short-term teletherapy to K-12 students with a highly qualified licensed therapist, at no cost to families. All visits take place remotely over video chat. Hazel will now be one of several services school teams may refer students to within the existing framework of school-based support, as one part of a student's continuum of support. Hazel will not replace any existing services.

**Have concerns about the following?  
Reach out to your school:**

✓ Anxiety	✓ Motivation
✓ Depression	✓ Defiance
✓ Family Concerns	✓ Anger Management
✓ Trauma	✓ Academic Stress
✓ Eating Change	✓ Identity Expression
✓ Sleep Problems	✓ Bullying
✓ Hyperactivity	✓ Self-Esteem
✓ Grief/Loss	✓ Self-Harm
✓ Loneliness	✓ Relationships
✓ Social Skills	✓ LGBTQ+ Challenges

Therapy sessions with Hazel are a safe space and are always **private and confidential**. Hazel's team of licensed therapists offer compassionate, culturally competent, and multi-lingual care to help students address a wide range of mental health concerns.



**How to Find Me:**

**Physical Location:** I am easily accessible in the Library! Students, staff and parents are welcome to come visit with me there!

**Email:** [jana.rider@k12.hi.us](mailto:jana.rider@k12.hi.us)



Section 1 of 4

**School Counselor Request Form**

For: Students/ Parents/Guardians/ Staff

**Google Referral Form:** If you would like to refer your child for counseling services, you can fill out the Counseling Google Form located on the Hanalei School Website.

# IMPORTANT DATES!

## DECEMBER

## JANUARY

12/2- 4th Grade Makahiki Games@Kilauea

1/4 - Students Return (Start of 3rd Quarter)

12/12 - Picture Retakes

1/13 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Day

12/13 - Family Craft Night 5-7, Cafeteria

1/16 - NO SCHOOL - MLK Jr. Day

12/14 (Wednesday) - 2:05 Dismissal

1/17 - Q2 Report Cards sent home

12/16 - Market Day @ 10:15 (set up at 9:45  
PLEASE SIGN UP FOR A BOOTH!!)

1/26- Hawaii Opera Theater to visit  
(Pirates of Penzance)

12/16 (Friday) - 12:50 Dismissal

1/31- Lions Club Sight and Hearing Checks

12/17- 1/3 - NO SCHOOL - WINTER BREAK

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR  
A HANAIEI FAMILY  
**HOLIDAY  
CRAFT NIGHT!**  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13th  
5-7pm  
HANAIEI SCHOOL CAFETERIA

- \*CRAFTS!\*
- \*JIBBITZ!\*
- \*COOKIE DECORATING!\*
- \*PIZZA & HOT COCOA!\*
- \*HOLIDAY CHEER!\*

THIS FREE FAMILY EVENT IS SPONSORED BY:  
THE HANAIEI SCHOOL FOUNDATION,  
HANAIEI PTA,  
AND HANAIEI STUDENT COUNCIL

VISIT  
*Santa*  
IN PRINCEVILLE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10TH  
1.30-2.30

Princeville Community Center  
across from the Library  
www.princevillecommunity.com

Bring your camera for Santa pics!  
sponsored by the PIRCA Events  
Committee

FROM THE DESK OF  
*Santa Claus*

Aloha Kaua'i!

I asked Aunty Joëll a big favor  
by collecting letters you write  
to me this year! Just place in  
"Letters for Santa"  
mailbox located outside  
Wainiha Country Market.

Make sure you put your  
name and address on your letter!  
All letters will be delivered directly to  
the North Pole by my elves and  
I will make sure everyone  
gets a letter back!

3RD ANNUAL  
HANAIEI TOWN  
*Christmas*  
LIGHTS PARADE  
DEC. 17 6PM

ORGANIZED BY HBA & WAI'OLI HUI IA CHURCH  
QUESTIONS CALL: NANEA OR KAHU ERIC  
808.652.9995 808.651.4143

**FRIENDS**  
of the NORTH SHORE LIBRARY  
PRINCEVILLE, KAUAI

**BOOK SALE**  
Saturday, December 17  
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
@ Princeville Public Library

Browse our book carts outside of the Princeville Public Library, which is located across the street from the Princeville Farmers & Arts Market at Prince Albert Park. We will have books, both fiction and non-fiction, for all ages!

We will also be offering a wide array of FREE hardback and paperback books and DVDs!

We accept:

KEIKI COOKIE • DECORATION CELEBRATION

FREE! December 23, 2022 - 11 AM - 1 PM  
Upper Lanai (By Botanical Gardens)

Anaina Hou will provide free cookies and all the fixings for Keiki to decorate cookies to bring home and share with their family for the holidays. Kids of all ages welcome. Kids under 12 will require adult supervision. Kumu Kehau will be guiding the activity with some keiki mo'olelo. Our elves will be on site to assist with decoration.

Please pre-register at [anainahou.org](http://anainahou.org)  
(so we know how many cookies to make)