

# Ed Team Newsletter



## St. Ann's Model Schools

*"Given the right conditions, all children can learn"*

January, 2011  
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## From the Desk of The Parish Director of Education

Today marks the beginning of one of our most favorite times of the year: our celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Catholic Schools Week is an annual event that celebrates the important role Catholic schools across the nation play in providing an education that emphasizes not only academics, but also spiritual, moral and social values. For 2011, this week occurs from January 30th through February 5th.

This year's theme is *"Catholic Schools: A+ For America,"* which celebrates the fact that Catholic schools are an added value for our nation. Because of their traditionally high academic standards and high graduation rates, all supported by strong moral values, Catholic schools and their graduates make significant contributions to American society.

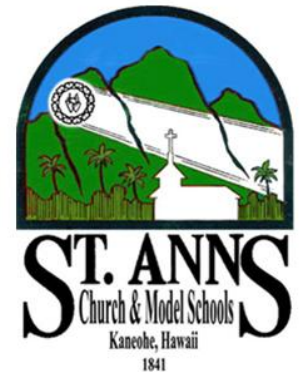
Catholic schools provide a high level of service to local communities because of the many service projects students undertake. Here at St. Ann's giving back to the community and helping others are values instilled in every student from our littlest 3 year olds in our ELC to our high school students in our Confirmation program.

Catholic schools also offer A+ service to our community, state and country by serving students from all economic backgrounds and giving them a strong academic and moral foundation. This solid

foundation enables students to succeed in life, serving in the government, industry, business, nonprofit and educational fields.

Here at St. Ann's, time is set aside to celebrate what makes Catholic education special. Events and activities have been planned throughout the week for our students. This weekend, students will speak at each Mass about the traditions and legacies of Catholic education. They will also express their appreciation to our parishioners for their support of St. Ann's Schools.

On Monday, we will be visited by Kamehameha School's Jump Rope Team and students from the School and Early Learning Center will pair with different classes to complete an activity together. On Tuesday, students will join together for a school-wide service learning activity. This year, students will participate in Jump Rope for Heart and Crazy Hat Day to raise monies for the American Heart Association. Mass in honor of Catholic Schools Week will begin our day on Wednesday, followed by a visit from St. Francis School Band. Thursday will bring about Author's Day where students share their own published pieces with each other. Thursday is also our annual Ethnic Lunch Day where students celebrate diversity with the sharing of food. Students get



February  
Sacred Hearts  
Core Values:

Patience  
&  
Understanding

a day off from school on Friday while teachers attend the ACCE conference with other Catholic educators. St. Ann's, along with our other Windward Vicariate schools, St. Anthony's and St. John Vianney performed at Windward Mall on Saturday from 12noon to 2pm. You are also invited to visit our display at the mall showcasing all three schools. The displays will be on view until

## Gallery of Learning—Discover Your Child's World!



Thank you to those parents and guardians who came out to our Gallery of Learning evening. Parents, students, faculty and staff first enjoyed refreshments and socializing in the food court. Parents and students were then sent to the classrooms where teachers introduced and explained the cooperative model in which we teach. Parents were excited to learn about the cooperative model and now understand what it means to attend a "Model" school. The Dinosaur parents learned how to make a circle using play-dough and used key words to say why it is a circle. The

Dolphin parents learned how to count out seven objects and the Bear parents reinforced the quantitative value of numbers 1 through 6 by counting dots on a die and moving the same number of spaces on a game board. Both parents and students had a wonderful time learning together and parents enjoyed getting an inside look of how their children learn in school. It turned out to be a fabulous evening.



## Snow Day!

After postponing our 2nd Annual Snow Day from January, Mother Nature cooperated by stopping her rain just long enough for our keiki to experience "snow" firsthand. 12 TONS of snow (really crushed ice) were trucked in on Friday, February 11. It took lots of help from parents to spread that snow out to allow for the children to have their fun. We saw snowmen, snowballs and even some snow angels! After playing, each class was treated to hot cocoa with candy canes & marshmallows and yummy Nilla Wafers. Snow play sure is cold & hungry work! That cocoa & cookies really hit the spot. A BIG mahalo to all the parents/guardians & family members who came



out to help with the snow, supervise children & work on the "hot cocoa line." You all help make ELC life a lot easier and much more wonderful!

## Catholic Schools Week Fun!!



Bouncy Ball Fun to earn monies for the American Heart Association!

The "Big School" students partnered with our little ones to make cards for our Superintendent, Dr. Carmen Himenes who will be retiring this year.



Mrs. Yamada shares a special story with the 4-year-olds on Author's Day.

## Thirty Years of Service!

Thank you to Sr. Joseph Mary Cefra, ss.cc. for the many years of service that she has given to Catholic education. On February 4th at the ACCE Meeting for Catholic educators, Sr. Joseph Mary was recognized as a 30-year award recipient. She has taught at Immaculate Conception on Kaua'i, Sacred Hearts Convent and Sacred Hearts Academy, St. Patrick School and presently here at St. Ann where she's been for the last ten years. Sr. Joseph Mary is pictured here with Dr. Carmen Himenes, Superintendent of Hawaii Catholic Schools. We wish Sr. Joseph Mary many years of blessings!

## A Visit from Frank DeLima

Frank DeLima visited our school to share some words of wisdom. In his own special way, these words became fuel for laughter. It was a great way to let young people know that we need to treat each other with kindness. We are in a Catholic school and are fortunate to be able to pray. The daily work of making good decisions, being responsible, and being accountable are tough but that's where prayer comes into the picture. Praying daily is important.

## Second Grade: Fellowship Picnic

2A and 2B planned a luncheon together to share camaraderie and good will. Each student planned a luncheon meal consisting of a sandwich, fruit, vegetable and drink. In addition, a little message or note was placed in the lunch box along with the meal as a token of friendship. The lunch was then exchanged with someone from the other class. A fun time was had by all!



## Moving on to the Districts

St. Ann's Junior High students participated in a school science fair and eleven projects were chosen to represent St. Ann's at the district level. Congratulations to all participants for their hard work. The judges were volunteers who gave of their time and came away with positive comments about their experiences. Mahalo to all of them.



The following students and their projects are going to the District Science Fair:

### Grade 6:

- Keeanna Andres: *Shampoo and Hair Length*  
Maui Gaison: *Bio Mechanics of Pitching*  
Bronson Hakkei: *Heat & Evaporation*  
Kelci Ige & Sydney-J Moses: *Do Different Types of Bread Mold at the Same Time*  
Kaina Tagupa: *Who Produces the Most Amount of Tears*  
Dane Yamashiro: *Hydro-Power*

### Grade 7:

- Stefanie Pillert: *How Does Temperature of Chocolate Change the Melting Time*  
Katie Uekawa: *Can a Potato Light Up A Light Emitting Diode*

### Grade 8:

- Alyssa Nakaoka: *Day, Night and False Memory*  
Kamalani Sordilla: *Best Diaper Ever*

## Aloha to St. Ann's Community

By: Bob Noguchi, Principal of Religious Education



Aloha RE/YM Parents, Guardians and Community of St. Ann's Church & Model Schools! It is truly an honor to be a part of the St. Ann's Parish community and to serve as Principal of Religious Education. Along with my wife and three children, we are new residents to the windward side of Oahu and to St. Ann's Parish. We have been so blessed by the welcoming spirit and warmth of the people here that it has made our transition to beautiful Kaneohe feel like "coming home."

Originally from the island of Kaua'i, I first moved to Oahu in 1986 to attend Chaminade University where I received a B.A. in Religious Studies in 1991. I have taught and have been the Chair of the Religion Department at St. Anthony Jr./Sr. High School in Wailuku, Maui and most recently at St. Louis School in Honolulu. I have worked in religious education for the past 18 years and feel very blessed to be able to serve in a ministry for which I have such a strong passion. It is my desire to bring the same enthusiasm and spirit to my work here at St. Ann's.

In just a my first weeks on the job, I have experienced an outpouring of hospitality and the genuine sense of community that is shared among the members of the St. Ann's family. I look forward to meeting you in person and continuing the wonderful and joyous mission of building the Kingdom of God in our parish community and in our world.

May your new year be filled with the peace and love of Our Lord and Savior.

## RE's Advent Retreat

By: Sylvia Makainai, RE Elementary Coordinator

Our little students from first through third grades, including our children from RCIC-1, participated in an Advent Retreat on December 12th. There were 67 keiki in attendance. We were also blessed to have 39 of their parents join in the learning. All were able to hear, "During Advent we wait in joy for baby Jesus. The season Advent begins our liturgical year! We want to call out to everyone, 'let's prepare our hearts for Jesus!'"

The children made Jesse Tree ornaments and decorated bell shaped cookies. They also made joyful Advent spin wheels to remind them of the joys of worshipping, giving, celebrating and loving the Jesus.

***Dear God, Please continue to keep our students and their parents and teachers in your loving care! Amen!***

## The Season of Advent

By: Malulani Kamanu, YM Coordinator

On Wednesday, December 22nd at 6pm, a lively and courageous group of YM tweens, teens, staff and supporters met at Aloha Nursing and Rehab in Kaneohe. Our mission...to sing Christmas carols for the residents and staff there. Luckily, we had the help of St. Ann's own, Joyful Noise music ministry group.

We gathered at the lanai and warmed up our voices. Then it was time to perform. We sang to the audience's delight - many sang along with warm smiles on their faces. Looking at them, it seemed like our carols conjured up precious memories. When we finished, we passed out Christmas prayer cards. We were thanked and asked to come back next year. It was a blessing to serve those in our community who are homebound. Hopefully, this will become an annual YM event. Mahalo to Joyful Noise and the YM students, staff and supporters who came out that night.

