

INNOVATIONS

NEWSLETTER
December 2021 – January 2022

Before we say goodbye to 2021, we would like to go over some of things that went on these past few months. We hosted our first trimester student led conference via zoom.

Each child was given a specific day and time to host a 20-minute personalized conference to share their progress and identify goals with their parents, family and teachers. Even though the conferences were unable to be conducted in person, our students did a superior job navigating through zoom and showcasing their efforts.

Thank you to all the parents and students for being punctual and ready for your conference.



As you dive in deeper into the newsletter, we showcase:

- ❖ Spirit Week
- ❖ Halloween
- ❖ Mauka Mala
- ❖ Elementary Interest Groups
- ❖ WHEEL
- ❖ Kindergarten Performance
- ❖ 5th & 6th Grade Performance
- ❖ What Fills your Heart with Gratitude?
- ❖ Counselor's Corner

We hope you all have a safe and jolly winter break. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, January 4th, 2022!



Spirit Week

This year's spirit week was a blast! We started the week off with crazy hair day for our elementary students and throw back for our middle schoolers. They did not disappoint with their innovative hair and outfits!

We followed with twin day, pajama day, and ended with creative coats. Each student was able to decorate/create their own coats that reflected their interests, aspirations, and family. As you take a look at the photos you will see the different creations that each child thought of and brought to life!

We enjoyed seeing all of our student's creativity shine through the week. A big mahalo for everyone's participation and making this spirit week memorable.



Mauka Mala Festivities

Our farmer's market interest group hosted 3 successful markets this year. Everyone took on a roll during the farmer's market. From selling fresh baked goods, to homemade pesto pasta, and making fresh smoothies; each student played an important role from start to finish. The students raised upwards of \$500 during the 3 markets!! These earnings will help us build a new nursery, chicken coop and worm bin in the mala this spring. This will foster tons of new hands-on learning opportunities for our students.

In our Aina Ed class, our Middle Schoolers celebrated Makahiki in Aina Ed with games like Konane- Hawaiian Checkers, Ulu Maika- Hawaiian bowling, and Haka Moa- standing chicken fight. We made beautiful replications of Kapa cloth and ate fresh poi and Kalua pig.



Interest Groups/WHEEL

Our Kinder through 6th graders got to participate in an array of topics for Round 1 interest groups. We wanted to ensure we encompassed all interests. From trash crafts to scavenger hunts, jewelry making to lights & lasers, extreme sports to tea parties. Our youth even got participate in our first Farmers Market for 2021. We hope you enjoy some of the images we were able to capture!



Our middle schoolers had an array of options for this session. We wanted to create a space where the students could dabble in classes that would expand their current interest and/or elevate them. Students were able to participate in some exercise through CrossFit, fitness and games, Expand their creative minds through Tech and music.



PERFORMANCES

KINDERGARTEN PERFORMANCE

Our kindergarten class put on a stellar first performance showcasing the importance of our community heroes. Countless hours of practice and preparation for this performance definitely paid off! The students in Ms. Hawkins and Ms. Becky's class did not miss a beat as they sang and danced for all of the elementary grades.



5th & 6th Grade Performance

Our 5th and 6th graders put on a performance based on the culmination of their study on "space", "solar system" and the patterns that make our amazing environment work. During their studies, they explored learning concepts through the arts. We believe that art, music and drama are amazing vehicles for learning. They'll never forget to look for patterns in their world after creating this performance. Mahalo to the efforts of Innovations alum Audrey Poggensee who returned to give back in a way that represents her passions and interests.



What Fills Your Heart With Gratitude?

We wanted to share with you all some simple thoughts that Mr. Caleb's students composed recently. Each stanza of the following poem was crafted by a different student in his Advisory class. Our hope is that it lightens your load and helps you to think on things that fill your heart with thankfulness.

I wake up in the morning, take a look outside.
I want to be in the salty, clear ocean.
The surf is brilliant
It's a great day to make memories.
I call my friends, they meet me
And we go for a surf.
We had a great time.
The water was beautiful.
Our day was full of laughs.

I have a lot of gratitude for my family
I enjoy having someone to talk to everyday.
I am thankful knowing that I am loved by someone
That someone has my back no matter what.
I am happy that music is something that connects our
family
Something we all can enjoy at home.

I'm thankful for my phone
social media, texting
I'm thankful for my friends
funny idiots
I'm thankful for food
pokeee!!
I'm thankful for the internet
so, I can search things up

My heart is filled with joy
when I get to stay home
In my fresh sheets
Simple comfort and the
Smell of fresh dough and
Melting chocolate chips
In the oven that is nice and hot

My brother helps me through thick and thin
I will forever be grateful for him
He gives me clothes a lot,
Usually they're too big, but I still wear them
He can be a little bit judgmental.
He loves me and supports me with all his heart
I love my brother.

I'm thankful for my family
Fat brothers, tough love, hate taking pictures
I'm thankful for hali'i
Pretty, short, Pilipino
I'm thankful for my phone
Texting, snap, Instagram
I'm thankful for music

Rap, tupac, dr dre
I'm thankful for knox boy
Funny, handsome, knockhead
I'm thankful for kiani-mai
Cute and chubby

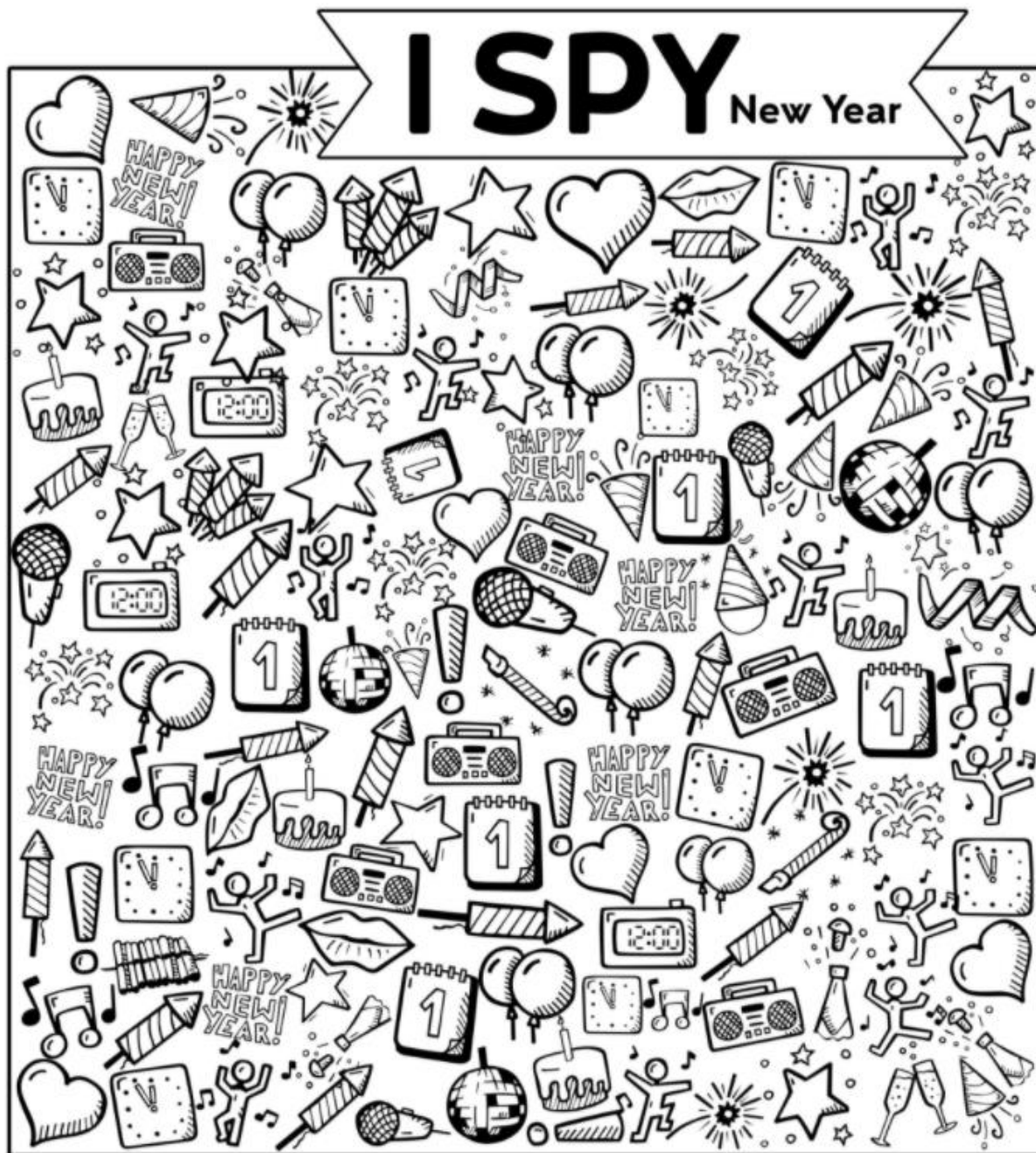
I am grateful for my parents,
They have positively impacted my life.
My mother always keeps me going with her smile and
positive attitude.
My father has played a massive role as a supporting figure
and helping hand.

Every morning, I lay and wander,
My deepest thoughts of truth, and I ponder,
What I am truly thankful for,
I am thankful for my mom,
My dad, my brother, and sister,
I am thankful for the roof over my head,
I am grateful for the food that I am given,
I am indebted to those who have sacrificed the most for
me to be happy,
But what I am truly thankful for is the love that I am given,
The love I have given others,
The indescribable feeling of waking each morning and
sleeping each night,
To the soothing thought of the love from my family.

I'm grateful for my family and friends.
One of the people I used to look up to was my martial arts
teacher Mr. B.
I'm grateful for my dog Kush that I got for free.
I'm grateful for my food and water that I can eat and drink
every day.
I'm grateful for all of my gifts.
I'm grateful that I'm fast and swift.

I am grateful for my friends
They make me happy and support me
We have inside jokes and matching senses of humor
Reliving our memories never gets old
It's even funnier looking back than in the moment
Those moments turned into memories only to look back
on I hope my friends know how grateful I am for them
Every day I think of the new moments to come
And for those moments to become memories

Activity Page



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| 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| 1 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 7 | 4 |
| 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 3 |

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Aloha parents,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and happy during this holiday season. As you may know, I visit each classroom weekly for an SEL (social-emotional learning) instructional time. I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some of the things that your child has been learning about this year.

The beginning of the year started off with a review of Innovations bully policy. The focus was on three specific topics... Innovation's definition of bullying, defining bullying-type behavior and what to do if you or someone you know is being bullied.

The words, Severe, Persistent, and Pervasive, were highlighted so that the students would understand that if a person is having a bad day and engages in some bullying-type behavior, that doesn't mean that they are a bully. But if a person's bullying type-behavior is severe, persistent, and pervasive then that means they're being a bully. Both would need to be addressed but the difference is important.

After covering this topic with the whole school, we then switched to individual topics in each grade level classroom...

1/2 Feelings/Emotions,

- Feelings and emotions can change quickly, and you can have many different feelings and emotions throughout the day
- It is possible to have more than one feeling or emotion at the same time
- Strong feelings or emotions have the power to cause us to do or say things without us thinking about it or being aware of it
- We can learn how to control our emotions and not have them control us

3/4 Qualities/Character/Personality Traits

- There are a wide variety of them
- We have the power to choose or cultivate them
- We can make a conscientious decision each day
- What we choose has an impact on our lives

5/6 Internet and Social Media Awareness

- Be aware of the Privacy Policies of Apps, Websites, and Software Programs
- Privacy Settings- what they are, how to use them and the potential impacts of the different options
- Online Identities- each person develops a Digital Identity or Avatar based on their online activity
- The use of General accounts vs Finstas (anonymous or fake accounts) pros and cons
- The ups and downs of Social Media, what to do when it causes FOMO (Fear of Missing Out), anxiety, or uncomfortable feelings

Providing these SEL instructional times in your child's classroom is always one of the highlights of my day. If you have any questions about what is being presented, please feel free to contact me.

Happy Holidays
Uncle E"

*Positive Mind.
Positive Vibes.
Positive Life.*