

INNOVATIONS

NEWSLETTER

October – November 2021

Adaptation At a GLANCE



Welcome to the 2021-2022 School Year! We are so excited to be back together again on campus. This year we will continue the apropos theme “ADAPTATION” to center all of our learning. As each grade level works on a unit of study that is of interest to their students, they will tie in the concepts learned to the idea of “adaptation”.

- Adaptations can be planned or spontaneous
- Adaptations are necessary for survival
- Adaptations occur as a result of a conflict
- Adaptations can be positive or negative
- Adaptations result in change

How do we adapt? Why do we adapt? What causes a species to adapt? What are the consequences of adaption?



All of these universal concepts apply to any area of study and more significantly to our existence as humans in a community. We are grateful to have the opportunity to implement our hands-on, real life-based curriculum model this year in-person so we can live our theme: adapting as necessary to change, learning to adapt in order to achieve a goal and working together as a community to be empathetic, caring and contributing members.

Teacher Appreciation Week 2021

IPCS Style



Last year brought so many challenges and obstacles none of us could really prepare for. From school closures to modified AB schedules. Distance learning programs and Zoom classes. Cohorts, masks, hand washing stations, social distancing and small gatherings... It was quite a year. What made it work and what got us through it, is the amazing efforts our teachers and staff provided to get our school open, students in the classroom, and in person learning possible. Teacher Appreciation Week gave new meaning to thanking those people who made the school year possible and the amazing families of IPCS really showed how beautiful, generous and wonderful this community is.



The week kicked off with chalk art and decorations provided by students and their families. A welcome surprise Monday morning. On Tuesday, students showered teachers with lei and flowers. Wednesday was the teachers favorite, annual coffee stand. Done a little differently, students from each class took their teachers drink order, crafted their favorite teas and coffee drinks and then delivered them. It was made extra special and cute with hand crocheted drink sleeves made by Lesley Mitchel, Kymani's mom. Thursday teachers were given trail mix bags to keep them going and satiate their snack attacks. The week culminated with an extra special luncheon of catered pizzas and flat breads by Ola Brew and Kona Crust as well as a special gift drawing of donations from parents and their businesses.



MAHALO TO THE PARENTS THAT SPONSORED THE EVENT!

- ❖ Iko & Holly of Anelakai Adventures
- ❖ Frank of Kona Boys
- ❖ Heather of Quill & Feather
- ❖ Manu of Sea Quest
- ❖ Emily Harpster
- ❖ Keri of Kona Coffee Totes

- ❖ Brandi of Kona Barber Shop
- ❖ Uncle Jon of Tacoma & Chevy
- ❖ Blake of Diamond Auto Works
- ❖ Jeannie Chun
- ❖ Abby Arnott
- ❖ Claire Seastone



Campus Beautification

Families prepared the campus, some of them visiting for the first time, for a fun school year by clearing weeds, scrubbing and cleaning buildings and sprucing up many different areas on our beautiful 9-acre campus. Community members and former student families also returned to campus to lend a hand. New garden swings were built, our school vans were cleaned inside and out, outdoor learning spaces were manicured and detailed, classrooms were scrubbed and cleaned to welcome the students back to in person learning.

The work that was done fostered new friendships and a sense of community among our school families and engaged students in creating their learning space. Community was fostered in a socially-distanced fellowship of families and volunteers who shared in a meal at the end of the day of hard work. We thank everyone who was able to contribute to the Ohana effort that Innovations' thrives on – even in this physically distanced, cautious world of COVID. Making it a visible and intentional effort to build community and partner in educating our keiki.



Team Building Elementary Edition

We were excited to start our school year off together with a focus on building community, relationships and a sense of "team" through fun, COVID-safe activities that focused on working together to achieve a common goal, negotiating, having fun in a team-centered effort, getting to know each other and establishing an atmosphere of community. Classrooms worked together across grade levels to complete challenges that required students work together on games such as our "Holey Sheets" game where students navigated a tennis ball across a sheet full of holes - creating games of "aiming" for the holes like you would do on a pool table or "avoiding" the holes to keep the ball "alive".



In our warm summer weather, all of our team building games were played outdoors - taking advantage of the sunshine, grassy areas and cool breeze ventilation. Water relays were a big hit!!! How much water can your team transfer to a bucket from a single sponge? Communication is a big part in being an effective team member. The fruit loops game (students did not eat the fruit loops they were manipulating), focused on ways to communicate with a teammate to create a pattern, design or sorting strategy. Some teams focused on non-verbal communication, some focused-on communication tools that were effective "even" with masks on, some focused on using specific and detailed instructions: ALL in an effort to recognize that effective teamwork is based on effective communication.



Finally, THE PIPELINE. Each group member plays an important role in creating the desired outcome of a team effort. Using small sections of pipe, students on a team needed to determine spacing and speed, cooperate and negotiate as they worked towards moving a ball from one location to the next.

Our campus is alive with students who are getting to know each other. We're learning each other's names and working in situations where we need to help each other achieve a common goal. We are a community and we need to each do our part to create a fun, learning environment.



Team Building

Middle School Edition



On our middle school campus - team building took the form of getting to know each other and working together to define fun, safe ways to enjoy learning together. The culminating event was in line with the Summer Olympics - an Innovations-Style Team Building Olympics. Students worked in "country teams" to compete in various Olympic-like events with a game like twist.

The Olympic sport of rowing was done on scooters - each student on their own scooter navigating a path down the basketball court to quickly move through the course in record time. Discuss Throwing was conducted with a baseball - we have some incredible distances recorded. Coach L. brought out the popular game Corn Hole and teams competed to get the most beanbags into the hole. There was even a gymnastics expo.



Teachers and staff from across the campus participated to model and engage in fun, cooperative games that centered around emphasizing how to work together in fun, safe ways - each contributing to the overall success of the group. We look forward to these fun teambuilding activities setting a tone for the year of a collaborative community of learners working together to create a successful school environment.



UPCOMING EVENTS

October

- 10/25- 10/29- Spirit Week
- 10/29 - Drive-Thru Halloween Event

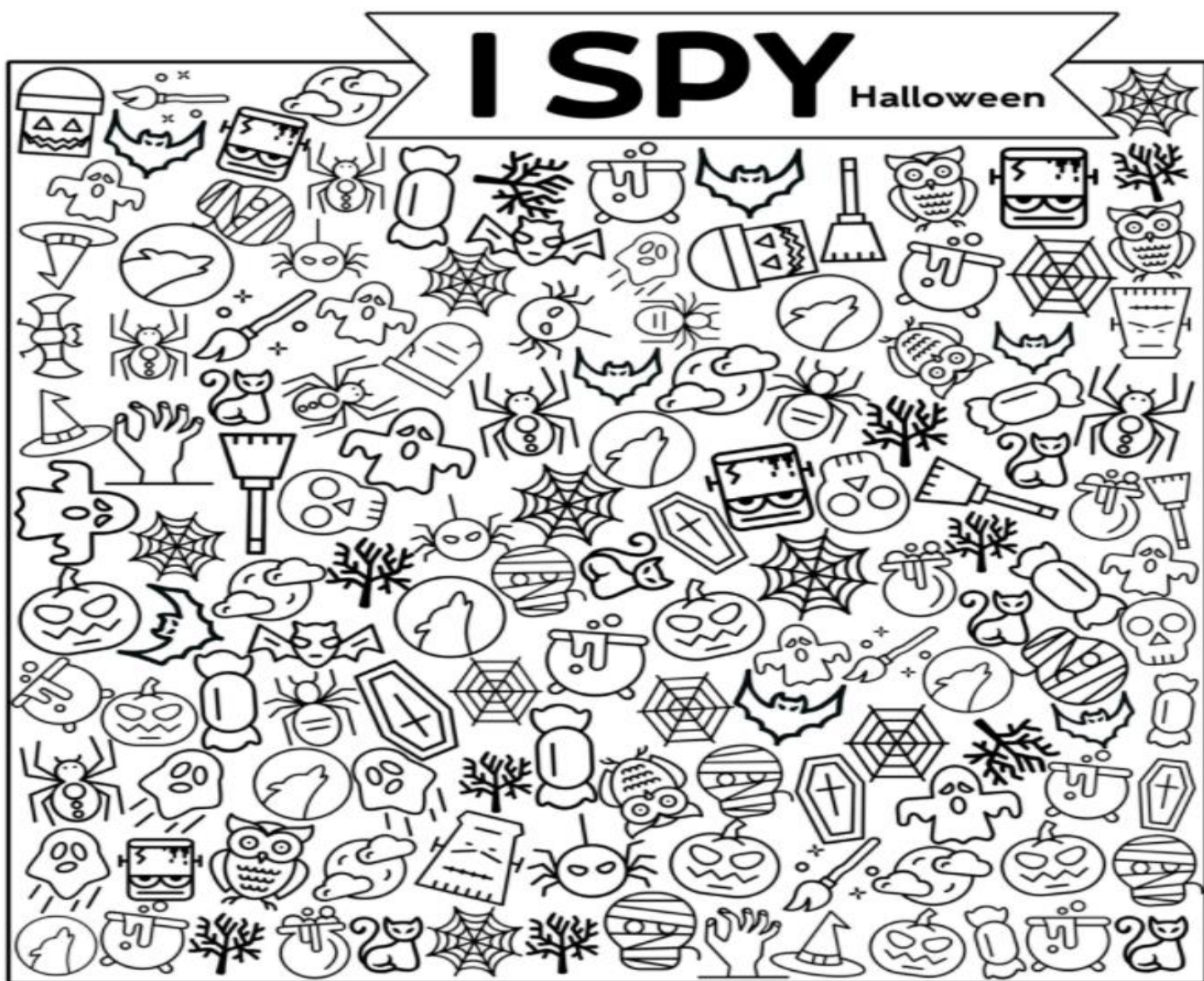
November

- 11/1 - NO SCHOOL Teacher Report Card Day
- 11/11 - NO SCHOOL Veteran's day
- 11/12 & 11/15 - NO SCHOOL, Student Led-Conferences
- 11/25 & 11/26 - NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Holiday



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 NO SCHOOL Teacher Work Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 NO SCHOOL Veterans' Day Holiday	12 Student-Led Conferences	13
14	15 Student-Led Conferences	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving NO	26 Holiday SCHOOL	27
28	29	30				

Can you Spot ALL the Images below?



I SPY

Halloween

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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 |

Can you Find your Way to the Turkey Heart?

