

# December 2023 Newsletter

# PAUOA

# ELEMENTARY

2301 Pauoa Road, Honolulu, HI 96813

<http://pauoa.k12.hi.us>

808-587-4500

## Principal Arakaki's Message



Dear Pauoa Ohana,

I can't believe our semester is coming to a close. There is so much to be thankful for during this time of the year. It is a season full of joy, peace and love. Be thankful for what you have and enjoy this time with your family and friends. Thank you Pauoa Ohana for supporting and partnering with us with your child's education. This is a lifelong journey for your child. Please continue to work with them during the winter break. Be sure that they complete their iReady minutes each week; 45 minutes for those who are on grade level (green), 60 minutes for those less than a grade level behind (yellow), and 75+ minutes for those more than 1 grade level behind (red).

Enjoy the winter break with your child/children by working some family time such as doing a scavenger hunt around the neighborhood, going to the park, planning a meal, baking, doing art, going to the beach, or just watching a movie together. This quality time with your child or children will create stronger bonds within the family. Treasure this time with them because you will never get this time back. Ever!!! Take advantage of this as your child/children are only young once.



### Upcoming Events

- 12/1 - Picture Absentee/Retakes
- 12/11 - K-5 i-Ready Diagnostic #2
- 12/13 - 5th Grade State Capitol Visit (8:30 - 11:15)
- 12/20 - Gr. K - Christmas Talk Story (8:30 - 10:30)
- 12/22 - Winter Break Begins
- 1/5 - Non-Student Day No School
- 1/8 - PC Day, No School
- 1/9 - Quarter 3 Begins





Lastly, as we head into January, it is time for friends or other family members to submit their Geographic Exception form(s) (GE) for families who live outside Pauoa’s boundaries and want to come to Pauoa. **This is for new students wanting to come to Pauoa.** If you know of friends or family who are looking for a school in town, please let them know to fill out a GE form, get the home school principal to sign it and turn in the GE form to Pauoa EL starting January 1, 2024.

Kindergarten GE’s process begins on February 1, 2024. Families must register their child at their child’s home school first, fill out the GE form and turn in to their child’s home school or get the principal to sign the GE form and turn it in to Pauoa as soon as you can for new incoming Kindergarteners who will turn 5 by August 1, 2022. Although the kindergarten GE process begins on February 1, 2024, you may turn in the GE form prior to Feb. 1, 2024.

**For our outgoing 5<sup>th</sup> graders, you will need to fill out a new GE for middle school.** If you have any questions regarding GE’s, feel free to let me know.

Have a fabulous winter break. Stay safe and healthy.

Aloha,

Dale Arakaki, Principal

“Believe to Achieve! Stand up!

Be heard! Let’s excel now!”





November 27, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We need your help. In order to make continuous school improvements at Pauoa Elementary, we are asking for feedback from all stakeholders. As parents/guardians, you play an extremely important role in the education of our students.

We are working with Bradley Geise, Senior Director of Education For The Future. His services include creating a questionnaire, gathering the data, and sending reports for us to analyze. The questionnaire is designed to gather general information about what you think and feel about Pauoa and your relationship with the school. We would like to hear how you are thinking and feeling to help us make improvements.

Please take some time to submit this questionnaire. Our goal is 100% participation. All responses are anonymous.

- Deadline to submit is December 21, 2023.
- One questionnaire per household. (Ex: If you have 2 children at Pauoa, you just need to fill out the survey once.)
- If parents live in separate households, you can submit separate questionnaires.
- You can use either the link or QR code to access the parent questionnaire.

Link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KMR\\_PAR\\_Pauoa](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KMR_PAR_Pauoa)



Thank you in advance for helping us in this important work. As always, please reach out with any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Dale Arakaki  
Principal





# Pauoa Ohana

## PTA

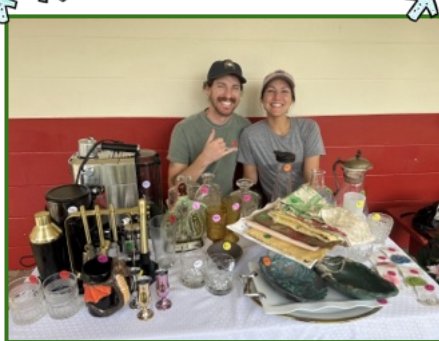
Aloha Pauoa Ohana!

We hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Thank you so much to all the families that participated in our 2nd Annual Community Yard Sale. There were so many good deals and yummy treats. Special thanks to our PTA Member Malia Mariko for kindly offering to take any unwanted items off to the donation center. Please join us at our next in-person PTA meeting in the school library on the first Tuesday of every month at 5:00 PM. We would like to wish you all a holiday season filled with love, peace, and joy. For questions or more information about the upcoming meetings. Call/Text 808-478-6909 or Email [PauoaOhanaPTA@gmail.com](mailto:PauoaOhanaPTA@gmail.com)





# YARD SALE





# GRADE LEVEL NEWS

Kindergarten: Ms. Derby (D2), Mrs. Hamada (D3), Mrs. Salcedo (D4)

Happy Holidays to the family and friends of the Kindergarten Team! December will be another fun and busy month for our students. Your children have worked hard each school day and we are thrilled with the progress they have made. We continue to monitor and celebrate their growth and we appreciate all the support and encouragement you provide. We look forward to seeing your child(ren) staying healthy and maintaining their attendance so that they may take part in all the special academic and enrichment lessons we have planned! Mahalo for the partnerships that enable us to all flourish and succeed! Have a happy and safe Holiday Season!





# GRADE LEVEL NEWS

Grade 1: Mrs. Sanbei (B3), Ms. Bierwert (B4), Ms. Keith (B5)

Happy Holidays Families!

We are almost at the end of the first semester! The first graders have worked really hard and have made a lot of progress. In ELA, we will continue to focus on nonfiction text features and structures in preparation for their final informational piece. In math, students will continue to work on addition and subtraction strategies and apply it to a variety of word problems.

Before break, our first graders will take the second iReady Reading and Math diagnostic test in school. We will be able to see their progress from their first diagnostic and use their scores to help guide our instruction in the upcoming months.

Winter break is 12/22/23- 1/7/24. Your child will return to school on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to do iReady reading and math at home to reinforce their areas of need.

Enjoy the holidays with your families and stay safe. Thank you for your continued support and have a great break!

Aloha,  
First Grade Team



# GRADE LEVEL NEWS

Grade 2: Mrs. Obayashi (C2), Mrs. Rickard (C3), Mrs. Guzzardo (C4)

## ❄️ Seasons Greetings, Grade 2 Families! ❄️

Another calendar year has flown by. We are **truly grateful** for all of Pauoa's families and staff for working together to help our students blossom into the best versions of themselves. Wishing you and your loved ones a wonderful holiday season full of **JOY!**

### Important Reminders:

- Please continue to have your child **complete i-Ready lessons independently at home** aiming for **100% passing rates** to help prepare for the upcoming **i-Ready Diagnostic #2 in December**. Ensure your child gets a good night's rest and has a nutritious breakfast daily, especially during the diagnostic weeks.
- Remember to please **check and sign your child's planner every day!** First, check to ensure your child completed all their assignments correctly. Then, sign the bottom of the planner after. Signing the planner acknowledges that you checked all homework was completed thoroughly and accurately.
- **Winter Break: No school December 22 -January 8.** Students return to school on **Tuesday, January 9th.**

## ♥️ Happy holidays! ♥️

Grade 2 Teachers

Mrs. Obayashi, Mrs. Rickard and Mrs. Guzzardo



**Spirit Week Costume Dress Ups**



# GRADE LEVEL NEWS

Grade 3: Mrs. Wong (D6), Ms. Newberry (D7), Mrs. Lau (D8)



Aloha Grade 3 Families!

Our six months of third grade have quickly passed by and 2023 will soon come to an end. We have been working hard on our i-Ready lessons and we are excited to see improvements from their Diagnostic #1 that they took at the beginning of the school year (August). This month, we will be starting our iReady Diagnostic #2 in reading and math. Please remind your child to try their best on these assessments and in their everyday learning.

In ELA, we continue to learn about literary texts, non-fiction texts and opinion writing. In Math, we are continuing to learn about multiplication and division. Please continue to remind your child to read chapter books and be responsible with their planners daily. Thank you for all of your continuous support!

Happy Holidays!

Grade 3 Teachers ☺





A decorative border of candy canes with red and green bows surrounds the page. The title "GRADE LEVEL NEWS" is prominently displayed at the top center. "GRADE LEVEL" is in green with a white outline, and "NEWS" is in red with a white outline and a subtle snowflake pattern.

# GRADE LEVEL NEWS

Grade 4: Ms. Chung (B8), Mrs. Chanhboursy (B9), Mrs. Takesue (B10)

Aloha 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Families,

During Thanksgiving week, our fourth graders had the wonderful opportunity to learn about bike and road safety through Bike Ed. Not only did they learn, but they also had a blast. Some students ventured out into our Pauoa neighborhood, while others practiced their new riding skills on school campus. Everyone did a great job...we are proud of all of them!

Thank you 4th grade families for ALL you do in continuing to help make this a successful year for your child. Wishing you all a very happy holiday season!

Mrs. Chanhboursy, Ms. Chung, and Ms. Takesue

## Friendly Reminders:

- **iReady Diagnostic #2** - Begins on Monday, December 11
- **Multiplication facts** - Continue to encourage your child to master their multiplication facts 1-10. Here are a few ideas to practice their facts at home:
  - [www.multiplication.com](http://www.multiplication.com)
  - Math Drills Lite app
  - Quizlet flashcards (in Google Classroom)
  - Multiplication War (Have your child teach a family member at home if they haven't yet!)
- **Celebration Treats** - For the health and safety of our keiki, please remember to check that all treats are nut-free.



**B8**







**B9**





**B10**





# GRADE LEVEL NEWS

Grade 5: Mrs. Takahashi (C8), Ms. Zeng (C9), Mrs. Imada (C10)

Happy Holidays! During the week of December 11th, students will be taking the second iReady Diagnostic. Please remind your child to sleep early and have working headphones.

Please encourage your child to keep up with daily assignments in class and at home as this impacts your child's quarter 2 grades. In order to progress to the next grade level, your child needs to show adequate understanding of the grade level standards. If he or she does not meet grade level standards, a second parent conference may be scheduled in February.

Every student participates in school service by helping out in the cafeteria. On their assigned day, students need to come to school meeting the following requirements:

- Covered shoes. (Crocs with socks do not meet safety standards)
- Top with sleeves
- Clean fingernails
- Hair tied back, out of face

Please remind your student of these requirements on their assigned day.

A Classroom Winter Celebration is pending based upon completion of classwork assignments, homework, behavior, and attitude. Due to safety protocols, food treats must be store-bought before allowing for distribution.

Thank you for your support so far in the school year! :)

Merry Wishes From Your Fifth Grade Team

Ms. Zeng, Kumu Imada, Mrs. Takahashi



# GRADE LEVEL NEWS

Grade 5: Mrs. Takahashi (C8), Ms. Zeng (C9), Mrs. Imada (C10)



C9's Gratuitree

C10's First Annual  
BLACK FRIDAY SALE event!



Thank you to families for your donations. We have extra stock for a Holiday sale in December!



# SPED/Resource

# Classrooms

Resource Room: Ms. Shigematsu (FSC, B-1), Mrs. Lum (Grades K-2 (B2), Ms. Oyama, Grades 3-5 (B7)

Ms. Shigematsu (FSC, B-1)



Mrs. Lum (Grades K-2, B2 )

Hi Families,

Happy December! This month we will be conducting IReady diagnostic testing December 11-15. In reading this month we are focusing on vocabulary in addition to comprehension. We will be learning how to better use context clues to find the meaning of unfamiliar words. We will be focusing on informational text. In math we will continue our fluency work as well as focusing on using arrays, order and grouping, as well as place value to multiply. In writing we will move from opinion writing to informational where the students are to choose their own animal to research. We will be celebrating the holidays by studying the different ways in which the holidays are celebrated in various countries to include a reading, writing, and art component. Happy Holidays!





# SPED/Resource

# Classrooms

Ms. Oyama (Grades 3-5, B7)

Aloha B7 Families,

As we end quarter 2, we will be taking our Winter iReady Diagnostic 2. We are learning about factors/multiples in math and expanding our vocabulary with different prefixes and suffixes in OG morphology (phonics). We are also finishing up our animal posters that we researched about using books. Our next step is to present them to the class and turn it into an essay!

If you have any questions, feel free to let me know!

Some reminders~

- Bring a water bottle and necessary supplies to class.
- Come to class ready to learn with a positive attitude!

Mahalo,  
Ms. Oyama



**B7 Thankful Leaves**



# SPECIALS

SEL Teacher: Mrs. Fong (Library)



We are continuing our prevention bullying unit and reminding our students to be a bucket filler. Our theme throughout Pauoa School is “Spreading Kindness” and being a Bucket Filler. “Have you filled a bucket today?” by David Messing is a story read schoolwide. The message in the book is to fill someone’s ‘invisible’ bucket by saying or doing something kind, for example: smile at someone, compliment someone, say “thank you” or “please”, or write a ‘thank you’ note. There are many ways to fill someone’s bucket!! We want all of our students to be bucket fillers not bucket dippers. When you fill someone’s bucket, you fill your own bucket too! “Have a Wonderful and Safe Winter Break!”

Aloha,  
Mrs. Fong



Technology Coordinator/Computer Science: Mr. Sutherland

Season’s Greetings!

As the end of the first semester at Pauoa quickly approaches, Pauoa students are continuing to expand their coding knowledge. For the lower grades, students are refining their understanding of using events, loops, and loops within loops. The upper grades are moving on to functions and conditionals, learning the skills that will help them when we start applying our coding to robotics and microcontrollers in the 3rd and 4th quarters. Good work, Pauoa students!

Mr. Sutherland  
Computer Science Teacher



# Support Staff

## Title I & Curriculum Coordinator:

Ms. Nakamura (Front Office)

Happy December!

As we near the end of our first semester, students are getting ready to take their iReady Winter Diagnostic in Reading and Math. We expect to see significant growth in students' Diagnostic scores. Please help by making sure your child is getting a good night's rest and eating a healthy breakfast when they are taking the Diagnostics. Encourage your children to try their best!

Be on the lookout for our second round of Parent-Teacher conferences. Your child's teacher will be in contact with you if they feel a conference is necessary. (Forms will be sent home on January 10.)

Your child should have brought home a yellow letter on Nov. 27 with a link and QR code to a School Improvement questionnaire. **Your feedback is very valuable to us.** Please take some time to fill out the questionnaire. We would like every family to have a voice. If you misplaced the letter, please find it attached to this bulletin.

Important dates for after school tutoring and programs:

- Dec. 15 - Last day of Session 2 (for Pauoa programs- Mele, Art, Ukulele)
- Dec. 18 - Session 3 ASP & AST registration forms will be sent home
- Dec. 21 - Session 3 ASP & AST forms due
- Jan. 8 - Session 3 confirmation/wait list letters sent home
- Week of Jan. 16 - Session 3 starts
- Session 3: Jan. 16 - March 8, 2024

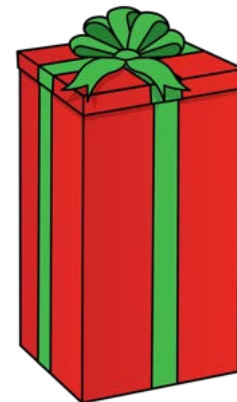
This is a busy time of the year both in school and with family. One of the best things you can do for your child is to keep them on their schedule: be consistent with their homework routines and make sure they are getting plenty of rest. We need them to stay healthy and be in school every day!

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

Take care and be safe,

Mrs. Nakamura

[lisa.nakamura@k12.hi.us](mailto:lisa.nakamura@k12.hi.us)





# Support Staff

## Health Aide: Mrs. Ladines (Front Office)

Greetings!!!!!!

I hope this message finds you in great spirits...and ready to jingle it up this month all the way into the new year!

Hate has 4 letters, so does LOVE.  
Enemies has 7 letters, so does FRIENDS.  
Lying has 5 letters, so does TRUTH.  
Negative has 8 letters, so does POSITIVE.  
Under has 5 letters, so does ABOVE.  
Cry has 3 letters, so does JOY.  
Anger has 5 letters, so does HAPPY.  
Wrong as 5 letters, so does RIGHT.  
Hurt has 4 letters, so does HEAL.

Life is like a double-edged sword... Transform every negative side into an aura of positivity. Choose the better side of life, and see what gifts unfold.

May you keep your spirits free and bright!



## English Language Coordinator/ Parent Involvement: Mrs. Newton (D9)

Dear Parents,

ACCESS Testing window starts on January 16th - March 1st. Parent letter will be sent home after winter break. To prepare for the test:

- Help your child get plenty of rest each night
- Make sure your child eats a good breakfast
- Gets to school on time

Cordially,  
Ivy Newton

**Wishing you a Happy Holiday  
and a joyful New Year!**





# Front Office

Mrs. Oshiro, Mrs. Tanoue, Mrs. Fraga-lino



## Returning to Pauoa SY 24-25

A form was sent to the oldest & only students in grades K - 4, please reply by due by Dec. 14, 2023

## Leaving Early or Homework Requests?

If you are leaving early, we ask that you call the office and/or inform your homeroom teacher so we are able to make a pass for your student's release. If you show up without any notice, it will take some time to locate the student. For any Dr. or Dental appointments, please make sure to turn in your note the following day. Should your child be out of school for MORE THAN 3 days, you may request your homework to your teacher. They will let you know when it is ready for pick up in the office.



## Box Top for Education

Help our school earn money \$.10 cents at a time. Check you grocery items that you may have purchased during the holiday season. Look for the Box Top Icon. Mahalo to Grandma Nohea turning in your receipts to help Pauoa. You may turn in your receipts within 14 days of purchase if you want us to scan it for you.



**LOST & FOUND**

We have a few clothing items (Jackets & shirts) and a variety of hydro flasks which are unclaimed. Please come to get them before we clear them out for donations or disposal. Write your child's name on personal belongings!



***Notice of Non-Discrimination***

*HIDOE will not tolerate retaliation for reporting discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of race, sex, age, color, national origin, religion, or disability, and will take steps to protect those who wish to report the harassment. Please direct inquiries regarding HIDOE nondiscrimination policies to: Section ADA/504 inquiries Krysti Sukita, ADA/504 Specialist Civil Rights Compliance Office Hawaii State Department of Education P.O. Box 2360 Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 (808) 586-3322 or relay crco@notes.k12.hi.us*

*Title VI, Title IX, and other inquiries Anne Marie Puglisi, Director Civil Rights Compliance Office Hawaii State Department of Education P.O. Box 2360 Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 (808) 586-3322 or relay crco@notes.k12.hi.us*