

DECEMBER 2025

Newsletter

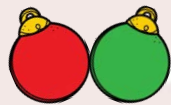
PAUOA ELEMENTARY

2301 Pauoa Road, Honolulu, HI 96813

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

808-587-4500

Happy Holidays!



Upcoming Events

- 12/4 - Book Fair Preview
- 12/5 & 12/8 - Book Fair ALL Day
- 12/8
 - ASP & AST Registration begins
 - i-Ready Diagnostic #2 begins
- 12/10 - McTeacher's Night
- 12/11
 - ASP & AST Registration ends
 - Absentee/Retakes/ Clubs Picture Day
- 12/12 - i-Ready Diagnostic #2 ends
- 12/15 - 12/19 - Pauoa Express Spirit Week
- 12/19 - Winter Fest
- 12/22 - 01/02 - Winter Break
- 01/05 - Teacher Workday

Principal Hosoda's Message

Aloha Pauoa Ohana,

While Thanksgiving traditions may have passed, the spirit of gratitude remains vibrant here at Pauoa. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a supportive community: our wonderful students, engaged families, dedicated PTA, caring staff, and helpful community partners. Working together, we are continually making Pauoa an even better place, and that collaboration is what makes our school truly amazing!

As the weather cools and the excitement builds on our campus, we enter the final month of 2025. December is a special time for reflection, looking back on our achievements this year, and for anticipation as we prepare for new opportunities in the coming year.

Please remember to check the section on the left for our final upcoming events before the winter break. Let's focus on staying healthy and finishing this calendar year strong! We wish all of our families a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season.

Pauoa Ohana PTA

Aloha e Pauoa 'Ohana!

The holidays are in full swing! We have a couple of events coming up and we'd love to see you all there!

McDonald's McTeacher Night Fundraiser

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 4-7 pm

December is hectic? Need dinner plans?

Join some of your teachers and school community
at **DILLINGHAM McDonald's** (in Kalihi, not Liliha)

Pauoa Movie Night

Thursday, January 15, 5:30-7:30 pm

Pauoa Cafeteria

Bentos for presale. Free popcorn. Snacks and drinks available for purchase (bring cash).

Bring blankets to sit on

We want to thank all the 'ohana and volunteers who help and support our school and PTA events and fundraisers. Mahalo nui to all who volunteered at and/or donated to our Pumpkin Carving event: Jen Tanaka, Toma Provenza, Lori Hashimoto, Melissa Goto, Erleen Aoki, Aaysen Demaya, Taylor Maigne Tanaka, Matt Fujita, Michelle Lee, and Kyle Shibuya. Mahalo to all who purchased Diamond Bakery cookies.

We are still looking for **5th grade parents** to join the PTA. Our PTA meets the **second** Tuesday of each month, 5:00-6:00 pm in the school library. Our next meeting is on Dec. 9 at 5:00 pm in the library.

Please email PauoaOhanaPTA@gmail.com if you have any questions. Mahalo and hope to see you at our next meeting!

Mahalo nui! Have a safe and wonderful winter break! Happy Holidays! Happy Hanukkah! Happy Kwanza! Mele Kalikimaka! Hau'oli Makahiki Hou! Wishing you all the best in the new year ❤️



MAHALO

Grandma Nohea for bringing in
your receipts each week to
Support Pauoa's Box Top
program!



Winter Performance 2025
Friday, December 19th, 2025
Starts at 9:00 am until about 9:45 am
Pauoa Elementary Field



Kindergarten

Ms. Cambra (D2), Mrs. Hamada (D3), Mrs. Salcedo (D4)

Happy Holidays to the family and friends of the Kindergarten Team!

December is 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!

The Kindergarten Team

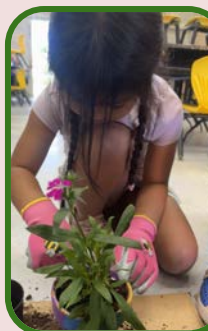
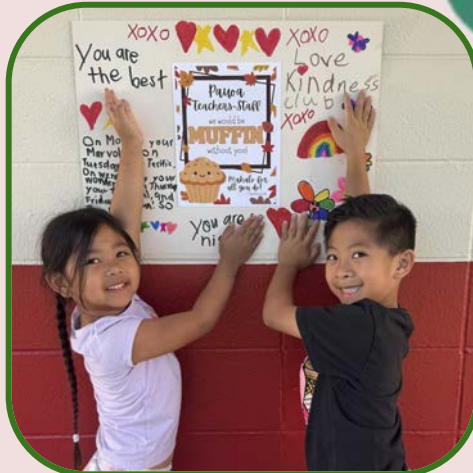




So
thankful



K-2 Kindness Club



First Grade

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 our author study to help prepare students for their final opinion writing. 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 12/22/25- 1/5/26. Your child will return to school on January 6th. 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 🌲**





Second Grade

Mrs. Obayashi (C2), Mrs. Rickard (C3), Mrs. Guzzardo (C4)

❄️ Seasons Greetings, Grade 2 Families! ❄️

Another calendar year has flown by. We are **truly grateful** to 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:

- Our **field trip to the Hawaii Youth Symphony** is on **Tuesday, December 2nd!** Please ensure your child wears **covered shoes** and a **red or Pauoa shirt**, and **arrives at school on time** as the bus will leave in the morning. No home lunch is needed since we'll return before lunchtime. A **BIG MAHALO** to the **Pauoa PTA and our families** for supporting school fundraisers – your generosity helped cover transportation costs and made this wonderful learning experience possible! 😊
- 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. Signing the planner acknowledges that you checked all homework was completed thoroughly and accurately.
- **Winter Break: No school December 22 -January 5.** Students return to school on **Tuesday, January 6th.**

♥️ **Happy holidays!** ♥️

Grade 2 Teachers

Fall Spirit Week Dress Ups



Third Grade

Mrs. Wong (D6), Mrs. Chanhboursy (D7), Mrs. Lau (D8)



Aloha Grade 3 Families!

We are nearing the halfway mark of this school year. The students have worked hard on i-Ready lessons and we are excited to see growth from their first Diagnostic test in August. Please remind your child to try their best on the upcoming midyear Diagnostic Tests.

In ELA, we continue to learn about literary texts and non-fiction texts. In Math, we are continuing to learn about multiplication and division. Last month, we had the opportunity to learn about financial literacy from Junior Achievement volunteers. The students learned that there are different ways money flows and different ways to pay others. Can you name some?

Friendly reminders

1. Remind your child to bring a water bottle daily
2. Please review and sign your child's planner daily.
3. Please have your child clean out and organize their homework folder and backpack each weekend.
4. Encourage your child to do their best on Diagnostic Test 2 to be administered on 12/8

We are grateful for your partnership and various support throughout the school year. Happy Holidays!

Grade 3 Teachers 😊

MAKAHIKI



Third Grade

Mrs. Wong (D6), Mrs. Chanhboursy (D7), Mrs. Lau (D8)



**FINANCIAL LITERACY WITH
JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT**



**THANK YOU ROTARY CLUB
FOR THE DICTIONARIES!**



Fourth Grade

Ms. Chung (B8), Ms. Takesue (B10)



Aloha 4th Grade Families,

This month, our fourth graders had the wonderful opportunity to participate in Bike Ed, where they learned important bike and road safety skills. Not only did they gain valuable knowledge, but they also had a great time! Some students practiced riding through the Pauoa neighborhood, while others honed their skills right here on campus. Everyone did an amazing job—we are so proud of them!

A big mahalo to our fourth-grade families for your continued support in making this a successful year for your child. We are truly grateful for all you do and wish you and your family a joyful holiday season!

Happy Holidays,
Grade 4 Teachers

Friendly Reminders

- **iReady Diagnostic #2**
 - Begins Monday, December 9
 - Please be sure your child has working headphones
- **Pauoa Winterfest**
 - Friday, December 19
- **Celebration Treats**
 - For the health and safety of our keiki, please ensure all treats brought to school are **nut-free**.



Fourth Grade



Fourth Grade



Fourth Grade



Fifth Grade

Mrs. Takahashi (C8), Ms. Zeng (C9), Mrs. Shigezawa (C10)

Aloha 5th Grade Ohana,

Our 5th graders are wrapping up their DARE program this month.

Students have diligently learned about topics in DARE such as making good decisions, signs of stress, confident communication, and more. Thank you to Officer Pratt for the time she spent teaching our students! Hopefully our students will carry these lessons they have learned, with them to the next grades.

Thank you for all the support in making Pauoa's Camp Erdman experience a success!

Students had a blast learning about ecology, marine biology, how to use a compass, how to work together as a team, how to think outside the box, and much more. Thank you to our teacher and parent chaperones for giving up their time to make camp possible for the students.

Upcoming dates:

- **iReady Diagnostic #2**
Begins Monday, December 9
Please be sure your child has working headphones and comes to school on time
- **Pauoa Winterfest**
Friday, December 19
- **Winter Break**
Monday, December 22 - Monday, January 5
Students return to school on Tuesday, January 6

Celebration Treats

For the health and safety of our keiki, please ensure all treats brought to school are individually packaged and are **nut-free**.

Please continue to check your child's planner daily to ensure that he/she is completing their assignments on time.

We are so grateful for the ongoing support and wish you all a joyful holiday season!

Happy Holidays,
Grade 5 Teachers :)

Fifth Grade

Mrs. Takahashi (C8), Ms. Zeng (C9), Mrs. Shigezawa (C10)



Aanndd... off to camp we go!!



Fifth Grade

Mrs. Takahashi (C8), Ms. Zeng (C9), Mrs. Shigezawa (C10)

Camp Erdman Nov

2025



Resource Department

Ms. Hezekia (D1), Ms. Shigematsu (B1), Ms. Oyama (B7)
Ms. Sinchak (C1), Ms. Yamasaki (D9)



Our Unified Basketball Team took home the silver medal at the Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament this past November 22!

Congratulations to our students who practiced after school and showed unity and teamwork during the games!

Thank you to everyone who came to support them!

Student Supports

Stephanie Nguyen (Student Services Coordinator)
and Darin Uetake (Counselor)

Strengthened Sense of ***Responsibility:***

Ma ka hana ka 'ike, ma ka 'imi ka loa'a *
(In working one learns, through initiative one acquires)

I willingly carry my responsibility for self, family, community and the larger society. A sense of Responsibility is demonstrated by a commitment and concern for others. I am mindful of the values, needs and welfare of others.

- a. Come to school regularly, on-time and ready to learn
- b. See self and others as active participants in the learning process
- c. Question ideas and listens generously
- d. Ask for help and feedback when appropriate
- e. Make good decisions with moral courage and integrity in every action.
- f. Set goals and complete tasks fully
- g. Reflect on the quality and relevancy of the learning
- h. Honor and make family, school and communities proud

Parents/Caregivers: Reflect on a - h with your keiki

- What are your areas of strength?
- Where can you improve?
- How are your home values of responsibility and school responsibility similar and different?



SPECIALS

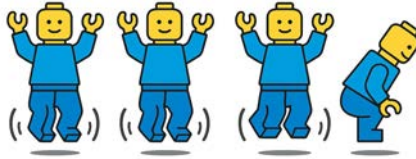
Physical Education (P.E.)

Mr. Asuncion



SPECIALS

Computer Science Mr. Sutherland



In kindergarten and first grade, we talk a lot about patterns because they help our youngest learners start thinking like coders. When children notice what repeats and what changes, they begin to understand how to break a big task into smaller steps. This is a big part of learning how to code.

You can really see this on Code.org. For example, when students help a character move through a maze, they often find themselves using the same steps again and again. Instead of dragging out each block one by one, they learn to use a loop to repeat that pattern of moves. It feels like a little “aha” moment when they realize the computer can repeat the instructions for them.

These kinds of activities help students practice problem-solving, logical thinking, and planning ahead, all in a playful way that fits early childhood learning. Starting with simple patterns now sets them up for success as they continue exploring computer science.

Hawaiian Studies - Kumu Imada



MAKAHIKI 2025

The students of Pauoa learned about Makahiki and its significance to the Hawaiian people.

Each grade level participated in three games to practice what they've learned while grades 4 & 5 showed off their skills and battled for classroom winner, grade level winner and finally school winner!

It was a great competition that highlighted athleticism, strategy and sportsmanship.

Moa Pahē'e
Wooden Dart Sliding

Grade 4 Winner - **Isileli**

Grade 5 Winner - **Ryder K.**

School Winner - **Isileli**

'Ulu Maika
Stone Rolling

Grade 4 Winner - **Jared**

Grade 5 Winner - **Elia**

School Winner - **Jared**

Kukini
Foot Racing

Grade 4 Winner - **Fale**

Grade 5 Winner - **Deja**

School Winner - **Deja**

Title 1/ Curriculum Coordinator

Mrs. 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.

Encourage your children to try their best!

Session 3 AST and ASP:

- Be on the lookout for After School Tutoring (AST) letters during the week of Dec. 8.
- After School Program (ASP) information and catalog is available on our ASP website now.
 - For classes offered by Pauoa, the registration form will open on Dec. 8.
 - For classes offered by outside vendors, you may register on your own at any time; these classes are on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Important dates:

- Dec. 8 - Session 3 ASP registration begins.
- Dec. 11 - Session 3 registration due by 2:30.
- Dec. 12 - Session 2 ends for classes offered by Pauoa. If registered in an outside vendor class, please check the schedule that the director emailed you.
- Dec. 17 - Session 3 ASP confirmation and wait list letters sent home.
- Jan. 7 - 2nd Semester Parent-Teacher conference forms sent home. Your child's teacher will be in contact with you if they feel a conference is necessary.
- Week of Jan. 12 - Session 3 starts
- Jan. 14 - Report cards sent home.
- Feb. 4 - 2nd Semester Parent-Teacher conferences (only if you received a form)

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





ML/EL Coordinator

Mrs. Newton (Library)



English Language Learners

Dear Parents,

ACCESS testing windows starts on January 12 – February 27th. 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

Parent Involvement

Join us for McTeacher's Night on December 10 from 4-7pm!

Come out and support our School while enjoying a fun family evening at McDonald's. A portion of the night's sales goes directly back to our School to support student activities.

A huge thank you to our amazing teachers and staff for volunteering their time and to our wonderful PTA for organizing this event. We couldn't do it without you! We hope to see you there.



Front Office

Mrs. Oshiro, Mrs. Tanoue, Mrs. Fraga-Lino, Mrs. Ramirez



GEOGRAPHIC EXCEPTION SY 2026 - 2027

If you know of anyone who is interested in coming to Pauoa they can fill out the GE Application form, and submit to the home school (for new students) or current school for students (e.g. Outgoing students 5th graders) who are already enrolled. (The home school serves the geographic area of the child's residence.) Outgoing 5th Grade students - please apply for a NEW GE for Gr. 6 if you are not planning to go attend your home school. Submit your request to Pauoa. GE applications for the next school year shall be submitted between January 1, 2026 - March 1, 2026 to facilitate a decision before the end of the school year. You DO NOT need to re-apply for GE once you are accepted at Pauoa. **Please keep the school informed if you have moved residences during your time at Pauoa.**

Don't forget to include with your GE application: SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) and Proof of residency document (e.g. Utility bill).
For more info please visit: Hawaii DOE | Geographic Exceptions:
hawaiipublicschools.org

Return to Pauoa 2026-2027

Please complete the bottom portion of of the Return to Pauoa by **Dec. 12, 2025**.
(Given to the oldest & only in Gr. Pre-K - 4th)

Don't forget to check the box if you have a sibling who will turn age 5 by 7/31/26 too.

Outgoing 5th graders: Follow the memo about your projected school. If you are planning a GE application for Grade 6, see info above for instructions.

BOX TOP for EDUCATION

Please visit

<https://www.boxtops4education.com>
m Box Top have gone digital!

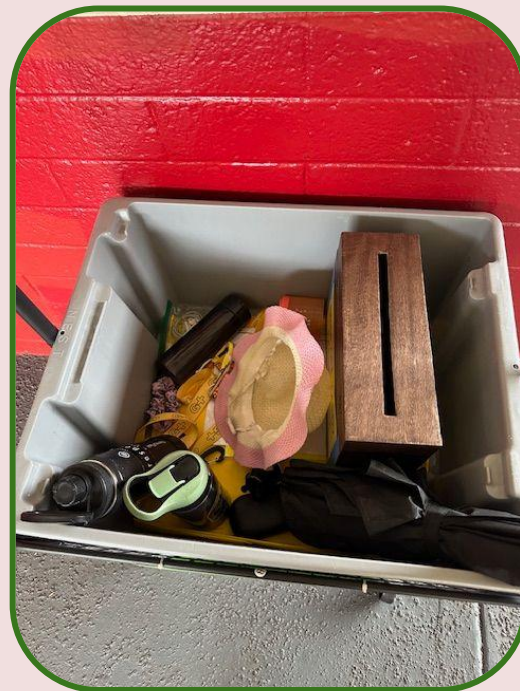
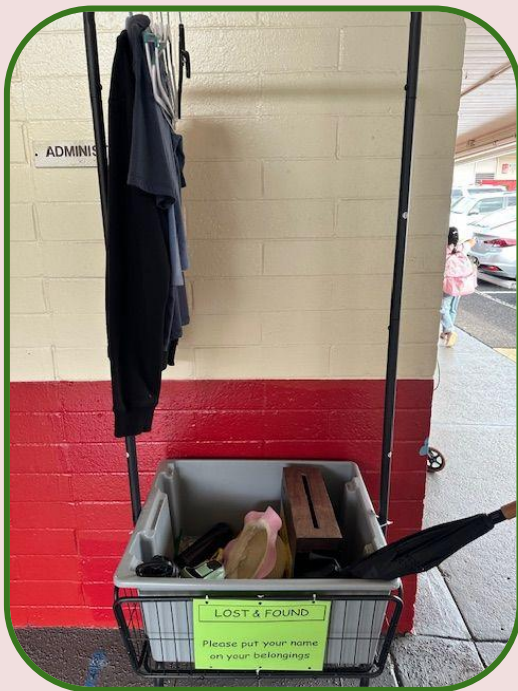
Download the Box Top for Education App from the app store and scan your receipts within 14 days from purchase. It's quick and easy Front Office



LOST & FOUND

Please label all your personal items such as jackets, hats, and hydro flasks etc with the student's name so we can return them to their rightful owners. STICKERS are NOT labels as we can't identify who to return lost items to. During office hours we will leave the items outside our office on the cart. Unclaimed items will be discarded after a period of time.

If you know who it may belong to, please tell them to come claim their lost item.



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