

MARCH 2026 Newsletter

PAUOA ELEMENTARY

2301 Pauoa Road, Honolulu, HI 96813

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

808-587-4500

Principal Hosoda's Message



Upcoming Events

- 3/2 - ASP & AST Session 4 Registration Begins
- 3/5
 - ASP & AST Session 4 Ends
 - Gr. K Manoa Heritage Center
- 3/13
 - Pauoa Fitness Challenge
 - Preschool Play Day
- 3/16 - 3/20 Spring Break
- 3/26 - Kuhio Day State Holiday
- 3/30 - ASP & AST Session 4 Begins
- 3/31 - Summer School Registration Opens
- 4/1 - Quarter 3 Report Cards Sent Home
- 4/2 - Mele on the Lawn
- 4/3 - Good Friday Holiday

Can you feel it? Spring is near, which means the days are getting a little longer, the weather a bit warmer, and there is anticipation for Spring Break. March is a transformative month at Pauoa because it's a time when the foundational skills built over the 7 months begin to blossom into independent mastery.

As you can see from the Upcoming Events on the left, there will be a lot of things happening in March and beginning of April. The Fitness Challenge sounds like a great opportunity for our students to show off their health and fitness. Then in April, Mele on the Lawn is shaping up to be a fun event with live music and food trucks. More to come as these events get closer.

We will continue to offer Parent Sessions to help strengthen our partnership with you. Our hope is to support you with opportunities to better understand ways to help your child on their educational journey. Be on the lookout for our next session.

If you participate in March Madness, all the best with your bracket.

Pauoa Ohana PTA

Aloha e Pauoa 'Ohana! Happy March!

We hope everyone had fun at our Pauoa 'Ohana Bingo Night!! Mahalo nui to all the families who participated and supported the bake sale, either by donating food/drinks or by purchasing goodies. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes, donated to the lucky number drawing, volunteered their time, and/or helped clean up. Congratulations to all our winners!!

Third quarter is almost finished! We have one more event this quarter.

Friday, March 14
Pauoa Fitness Challenge

Have a safe, happy, fun, and restful spring break!

Please email PauoaOhanaPTA@gmail.com if you have any questions.





Thank You



So appreciative of Grandma Nohea who come to turn in her shopping receipts when she sees a Box Top to donate to Pauoa

Thank You

Thank You



Kindergarten

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

Aloha Kindergarten Families!

A huge shout to our kindergarteners for celebrating their first 100 days of school at Pauoa!

As the quarter comes to an end, we are excited for our upcoming events including our Pauoa Fitness Challenge, Field Trip to Manoa Heritage Center, and our Read Across Pauoa events! The kindergarteners continue to work hard every day demonstrating the skills learned and applying their knowledge in more complex tasks.

Please continue to read to your child daily, practice their sight words and skills in their homework folder.

Keep it up Kindergartners—we are so proud of you!

The Kindergarten Team



First Grade

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

Aloha Families,

The 3rd quarter is coming to a close this month, and the end of the school year is just around the corner. Your children have been giving it their all every day, and we are so proud of the progress they have made! To keep their skills sharp, please have your child continue working on iReady Reading and Math, as well as their reading log, over the break.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful break, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on March 23rd!

Mahalo,
First Grade Teachers



Second Grade

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

🍀 Happy March, Second Grade Families!

- 🕒 Please **be prompt every day** to maximize learning. School **starts at 8:00 a.m.** and **ends at 2:15 p.m. (Wed. 1:30 p.m.)**
- 💻 **i-Ready Diagnostic #3** will be taken in **late April/early May**. Please continue to do **i-Ready math and reading lessons, practice IXL math skills, and watch BrainPop Jr. math videos** at home to prepare for our upcoming final diagnostic.
- 📊 Continue to practice **fluently adding and subtracting within 20** using mental strategies. (Math 2.OA.2 - **Know from memory all sums of two one-digit numbers.**)
- 😊 Quarter 3 ends on March 13th. Keep **reading daily** and continue to **work hard** to finish this year off strong!
- 🌸 **Have a fun and safe Spring Break!** No school Mar. 16-20.

Thank you for your support at home!

Grade 2 Teachers 😊😊😊💕

Second Grade

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

🌸 Happy Lunar New Year! 🌸

💖 Happy Valentine's Day 💖



Third Grade

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



Aloha 3rd Grade families!

And just like that...March is here! Here's what we will be working on this month. In reading, we are continuing to work with literary texts, focusing on the structure of stories, plays and poems to build understanding within texts. In math we will be focusing on fractions. Please continue to have your child practice their basic multiplication & division facts at home. We are also encouraging students to complete iReady lessons in school and at home. The students have been enjoying their drama education learning from the Drama Alliance Program.

As a reminder, we start our Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) preparation in quarter four. If you have time at home, please visit the website and get acquainted with these smarter balanced assessments with your child. There are example questions for your information and usage. These practices will help your child be even more prepared for the assessment that is coming up in the last quarter. Here is the website: [Starting Smarter](#).

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions. Thank you so much for supporting your child! ☺

Aloha,
Grade 3 Teachers

Reminders:

- Read Across Pauoa and Sprit Week - March 9th-13th
- Last day of the quarter: Friday, March 13th
- Pauoa Fitness Challenge: Friday, March 13th
- Spring Break Week: March 16th-20th
- Prince Kuhio Day Holiday: Thursday, March 26th

Fourth Grade

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

Aloha 4th Grade Families,

We are so proud of our students' hard work as we wrap up the 3rd quarter! As we look toward spring, we have some exciting events and important assessments on the horizon.

Read Across Pauoa, will be a wonderful week to foster a love of reading throughout our school community. Keep an eye out for more details on special activities and dress-up days coming soon..

Looking ahead: The Alliance for Drama Education (ADE) practices will officially begin after Spring Break. Make sure your child is ready to jump back into action once we return! Look out for more details next week.

Official state testing (SBA) begins in early May. You can support your child at home by encouraging them to:

- Read Daily: Work toward those monthly reading goals.
- Stay Consistent: Complete iReady and IXL HW weekly.
- Practice: Use the [[Smarter Balanced Practice Tests](#)] to get comfortable with the digital tools and format.

Finally, Spring Break is almost here! We hope you and your family have a wonderful, relaxing week off. Whether you are traveling or enjoying a "staycation," we hope you find time to recharge.

We look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready to finish the year strong when we return!

- Grade 4 Teachers

Fifth Grade

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

On January 14, 2026, our 5th graders learned what it means to save lives and be a superhero. Adults from the State Department of Health and an organization called “Kids Teaching Kids to Save Lives Program” came to our school to teach our 5th graders how to perform life saving CPR and how to use an AED if someone were to have a cardiac arrest. We hope they will never have to use what they learned but if they do, they could save someone’s life someday.



The third and final i-Ready diagnostic is right around the corner.

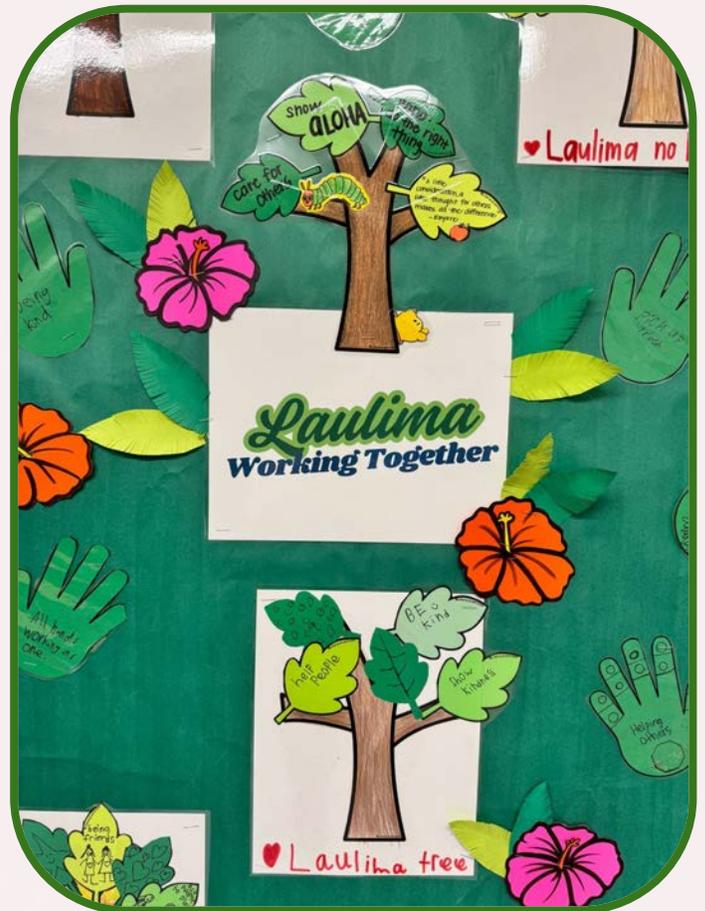
Please be sure to encourage your child to remain steadfast with their learning mindset, completing all classwork and homework assignments with quality, and continue to have a positive attitude. The teachers are striving to prepare students to be independent in their academic skills, work habits, and actively engaged in their learning. This is essential for achieving success as they transition into middle school. Please have a safe and restful Spring Break. Let’s be ready to return to school rejuvenated in order to endure the challenges during the fourth quarter.

Resource Department

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



B7 Students brainstormed ways they can show Laulima in their community.



Student Supports

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



April 18 - See you there!!

Register Today!

Keiki (ages 5 - 12)

\$25

8:00AM HST

10:00AM HST

Registration - Early \$25 (end 3/18/26), Regular \$30 (3/19 - 4/4/26), and Late \$35 (4/5 - 4/17/26)

Other Family Members (ages 13+)

\$15

8:00AM HST

10:00AM HST

Registration \$15 (ends 4/17/26)

Little Runners (age 4 and younger or with strollers)

\$15

8:00AM HST

10:00AM HST

Registration Early \$15 (end 3/18/26), Regular \$20 (3/19 - 4/4/26), and Late \$25 (4/5 - 4/17/26)

Participant Registration Includes

- **Keiki** - Running Bib, Finisher T-Shirt, healthy snacks, and free participation in Wellness Fair and Active Zone
- **Other Family Member** - Running Bib only
- **Little Runners** - Running Bib, Finisher T-Shirt, Snacks

Keiki age 8 and younger **MUST** be accompanied by a registered adult.

No same day registration and limited to 1,600 participants, so sign up early!

Each Student Registration **earns \$10 back to Pauoa school's PE program!**

Come out, JOIN US!

This vibrant event is designed to bring the whole community together to celebrate a healthy, active lifestyle through the pure joy of movement. Whether you're sprinting, jogging, or enjoying a leisurely stroll with the kids, the Rainbow Run is all about making fitness fun for every age and ability level. It's the perfect opportunity for families to unplug, get outdoors, and create colorful memories while prioritizing physical wellness. Join us for a day of laughter, fresh air, and a healthy dose of family bonding—one colorful step at a time!

Specials

Physical Education (P.E.) - Mr. Asuncion

Good morning, Pauoa!

There was plenty of energy and excitement out on the big field as Pauoa Elementary School crowned its Fastest Class for the second semester of the school year!

In an action-packed, all-school challenge, each class had just four minutes to run as many laps as possible around a measured course. Teamwork, determination, and school spirit were on full display as students pushed themselves to achieve some truly impressive results.

And now — the moment we've been waiting for — here are the fastest classes by grade level:

In **Kindergarten**, Room D2, Ms. Cambra's class led the way! Thirteen students completed an outstanding 99 laps, averaging 7.62 laps per student.

For **Grade 1**, Room B4, Ms. Bierwert's class took top honors. Sixteen students ran a combined 143 laps, averaging 8.94 laps per student.

In **Grade 2**, Room C4, Ms. Guzzardo's class powered ahead. Seventeen students completed 168 laps, with an impressive 9.88 laps per student.

For **Grade 3**, Room D6, Mrs. Wong's class came out on top. Twenty-four students ran 221 laps, averaging 9.21 laps each.

In **Grade 4**, Room B8, Ms. Chung's class raced to victory. Sixteen students completed 155 laps, averaging a strong 9.69 laps per student.

And in **Grade 5**, Room C9, Ms. Zeng's class led their grade with 170 laps from eighteen students, averaging 9.44 laps per student.

And now for the big announcement...

With the highest per-student average of 9.88 laps, Room C4, Ms. Guzzardo's class has earned the title of Pauoa's Fastest Class for the second semester!

Congratulations to Room C4 — and congratulations to every single student who gave their best effort. Your perseverance, teamwork, and school pride made this event a fantastic success!

FASTEST CLASS CHALLENGE SCORESHEET

Each class will run around the outside of four cones as many times as possible within four minutes.

The class with the highest **average laps per student** will be crowned the **Fastest Class in the School!**



HOMEROOM	# of Students	# of Laps	GRADE	Average Laps per student
D2 -- CAMBRA	13	99	K	7.62
D3 – HAMADA	18	102	K	5.67
D4 – SALCEDO	18	134	K	7.44
B3 – SANBEI	16	137	1	8.56
B4 – BIERWERT	16	143	1	8.94
B5 – KEITH	15	125	1	8.33
C2 – OBAYASHI	17	147	2	8.65
C3 – RICKARD	17	163	2	9.56
C4 – GUZZARDO	17	168	2	9.88
D6 – WONG	24	221	3	9.21
D7 – CHANHBOURY	21	164	3	7.81
D8 – LAU	21	172	3	8.19
B8 – CHUNG	16	155	4	9.69
B10 - TAKESUE	19	162	4	8.53
C8 – TAKAHASHI	21	198	5	9.43
C9 – ZENG	18	170	5	9.44
C10 – SHIGEZAWA	19	171	5	9.00

Specials

Computer Science - Mr. Sutherland

Why AI?

Most of us remember when technology first felt like it could read our minds. For our students at Pauoa Elementary, that feeling is everywhere, from the voice assistants in the kitchen to the autocorrect on their tablets. Without a peek behind the curtain, all of this stays in the realm of magic. This year, our 3rd grade students are getting their first taste of AI, moving these tools out of the "supernatural" and into the understandable. It's about giving our Keiki that moment where they realize a computer isn't actually thinking. Instead, it is just sorting through a massive pile of examples provided by people.

Waiting until high school to explain these systems means we are playing catch-up with a generation already influenced by them for a decade. Bringing these conversations into the Pauoa classrooms early feels less like a technical requirement and more like a basic life skill. There is a specific kind of confidence that grows when a student realizes they can actually "teach" a computer to recognize their pet or a local leaf. We aren't just teaching them to code. We are giving them the agency to navigate an automated world as the ones holding the map rather than just following the prompts.

Hawaiian Studies - Kumu Imada



Title I/Curriculum Coordinator

Mrs. Nakamura (Front Office)

Happy March everyone,

A last reminder for the **School Quality Survey, SQS!** Our family return rate right now is about 50%. If you need to take the survey, the link/QR code is below. Please take some time to voice your thoughts; we value your feedback.

- 1 survey **per** child at Pauoa. (Ex: If you have 3 children at Pauoa, you will fill out 3 separate surveys)
- Feedback is anonymous.
- The questions cover topics such as the safety and well-being of your child and your satisfaction and your involvement/engagement with the school.

Here is the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2026SQSParent>

Or, here is the QR code:



The **deadline** for the survey is **March 12, 2026.**

Thank you for your support!

Dates of interest:

After School Programs and Tutoring

- March 6 - Last day for Session 3
- March 2 - 5: Session 4 registration
- March 11 - Session 4 confirmation and waitlist letters go home
- March 30 - May 15 - Session 4
- March 31 - Registration opens for Summer School at Pauoa
- June 4 - July 2, 2026 - Summer School at Pauoa

If you missed Session 4 registration and would still like to register, please visit our After School program site to check if there are any programs still open.

- Go to our school's website, <https://pauoa.k12.hi.us/> and click on the "Parents" tab. Then click on "After School Program Registration" to get to the website.
- OR go directly to the site, <https://sites.google.com/k12.hi.us/pauoa-afterschoolprograms?usp=sharing>.

Take care and be safe,

Mrs. Nakamura

lisa.nakamura@k12.hi.us

EL/ML Coordinator

Mrs. Newton (Library)

Multilingual Learners

WIDA ACCESS assessment has been completed. Test results should be available in early May and I will share them with you prior to the end of the school year.

Parent Involvement

The Pauoa Fitness Challenge 2026 is almost here! If you're interested in volunteering, please click the link below to sign up. Please note that only parent volunteers will be able to watch the event. Don't miss this opportunity to get involved and be part of the excitement!

[2026 Fitness Challenge Volunteers](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084AAEAB28AAFAC70-62775993-2026)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084AAEAB28AAFAC70-62775993-2026>

Health Aide

Mrs. Ladines (Front Office)



Front Office

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

Kindergarten Registration ongoing

Kindergarten Registration started on Feb. 1st. Do you have a sibling or someone who lives in the district that will turn age 5 by July 31, 2026? If you reside in the Pauoa district you may begin to register for Kindergarten. If you live outside of our district, please make sure to follow the GE process and submit to your home school between (Jan 02 - March 01, 2026). **Add'l Kinder info may be found at:

<http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/ParentsAndStudents/GradeLevelOverview/Kindergarten/Pages/home.aspx>

Start your school days by eating healthy breakfasts at the cafeteria. Look for the month's menu on our website.

Thanks,
- Amy -

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<https://www.boxtops4education.com> 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.



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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