

OCTOBER, 2014

e Connect

Star of the Sea School

"Where Learning Never Stops"

Volume 1, Issue 1



Pep Rally Fun

First quarter concluded with a lot of fun and school spirit. Our student council invited the entire school into the gymnasium and led us in school cheers, followed by a volleyball match between our talented boys' and girls' volleyball teams. A special thank you to our student council for organizing the event.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Terra Nova Testing

October 20 - 27

Our annual standardized testing for grades 2-8 will take place during the week of October 20. Please encourage your children to get plenty of rest and eat healthy and hearty breakfasts.

Halloween Fun

October 31

Students are invited to dress up in their Halloween costumes. Friday's mini day will be filled with lots of Halloween fun!

A message from the Interim Principal

It is hard to believe that our first quarter has already come to a close. Mahalo to our star faculty and staff, supportive parents, and sensational students for making my first quarter as Interim Principal such a rewarding and enjoyable experience.



This past month, you may have noticed beautifully-decorated letters that spell the word "belonging" displayed in the lanai. That's because our third graders introduced it as our September character theme of the month. Each month, Star of the Sea focuses on a different trait, instilling core Catholic Values throughout the year. October's theme is entitled "knowledge".

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. The best way to celebrate the month is to pray the rosary.

Please contact your PTG to volunteer for PTG sponsored events throughout the year; and, of course, your presence at our weekly mass gatherings on Fridays is always welcome.



God Bless,

Margaret Ruffo

Third Grade Activities

Third Graders have been busy this past quarter! Camren Cheung in Mrs. Jenkins' 3B Classroom played the Ukulele for his classmates for Show and Tell. The class is also featured in a group activity playing a homophone matching game. In addition, students of 3B have been practicing their writing skills with their 3rd grade pen pals in Arkansas. Mrs. Won, 3A (below) takes advantage of the shady spot on our greens to read to her class.



5th grade Biography Day

Our 5th grade annual Biography Day took place on Wednesday, September 15. Betsy Ross (aka Fifth Grade Reading and Social Studies teacher Mrs. Dianne Zbin) led The pack of inventors, sports idols, famous leaders, and more throughout the school to share their life changing gifts, talents and inventions.



Aloha Kay Botelho!

When one hears the word volunteer, most think of a short-term dedication to a task. Well, Mrs. Kay Botelho's volunteer services do not quite match this definition. Mrs. Botelho began volunteering 19 years ago, following her husband's death. Her daughter, Kathy Botelho, 8th grade teacher at Star of the Sea, convinced her mom to come to school to "help out" every so often, as she felt it would help Kay fill her husband's void. One to two



days a week soon turned into five, and after 19 years of full time volunteering at Star of the Sea School, and at the age of 92, Kay has finally decided that it was time for her to tend to her household chores more frequently.

Kay's daily presence at school will surely be missed. She was the "Jane of All trades" so to speak. Just a few of her responsibilities included tending the front desk, making coffee for the faculty, assisting with our book fairs, and Xeroxing.

A special tribute in Kay's honor was celebrated on our last day of 1st quarter, following our school mass. Kay was blessed with many leis and cards from both faculty and students. She will surely be missed at Star of the Sea.



Thank You PTG

Star of the Sea School is very fortunate to have an active and dedicated Parent Teacher Guild (PTG): a group of parents who work hard all year to promote and support the best educational environment possible for your children and to build solidarity among our Star of the Sea School families. Members of our PTG Board for the 2014-2015 school year are: Lance Monroid, Jennifer Wharton, Meghan Buck, Seong Won Bae, Margaret Rufo (Interim Principal), Cheri Rauckhorst (Teacher Representative), and Jennifer Thompson.



Meet our newest additions to Faculty

Roselyn McMahan Intermediate Math and Science

Mrs. McMahan is a Star of the Sea Elementary and High School graduate. She received her B.S. in Math and MBA from Creighton University. For 7 years, she has taught in various capacities (from Preschool to tutoring College level students) in Washington DC, Japan, and now Hawaii. She loves the fact that she is back home teaching at the very school that started her love of learning!



Sadie Jenkins – 3rd Grade Teacher

Mrs. Jenkins lived in Arkansas for 21 years and graduated from Arkansas State University in 2013. From there she moved to Hawaii where she was a long-term substitute at Les Jardin Academy. She loves teaching in the elementary grades.



Brittany Chapman – Middle School Spanish and ESL

Being a native Southern Californian, Ms. Chapman received a Bachelor's degree in Romance Languages (French and Spanish) from Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego followed by a degree in English as a Second Language. In 2011, she moved to Hawaii and recently completed her MA in French at University of Hawaii. Ms. Chapman has been teaching languages for three years and enjoys creating a fun yet challenging environment where students learn more about themselves and the world around them.

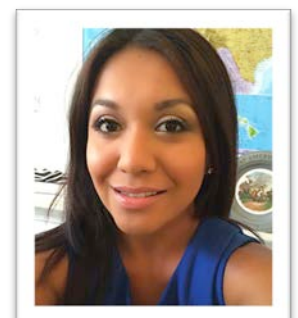


Lydia Green – Middle School English

Mrs. Green recently moved to Oahu from Morocco. She studied Elementary Education, Reading, and Spanish at Western Carolina University. She began her teaching career in North Carolina where she taught for four years. She later moved to Morocco and taught for an additional two years. Her passion is to prepare students to make a difference in the world through their education.

Yurani Fox – Middle School Social Studies

Mrs. Fox earned her degree in Social Science and BCLAD teaching credential from San Diego State University. She worked for the Sweetwater Union High School District in San Diego for over 3 years and then moved to Hawaii in January of this year and obtained her Hawaii Teaching Credential in May. She always knew she wanted to be a teacher as she came from a long line of educators and hopes to inspire her students just as her history teacher inspired her to appreciate the study of world.



Congratulations Mrs. Won



Third grade teacher, Mrs. Won (above) is pictured with her confirmation sponsor, Mrs. Deanna Rasmussen (SOS ESL teacher) and Fr. Frankie. Mrs. Won received the sacrament of confirmation during our school mass in August.

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

On Friday, September 19, 2014, Star of the Sea School's wonderful PTG hosted a very successful night of Bingo. Over 200 participants, including students, parents, grandparents, faculty, and staff joined in the fun event. The evening began with a pizza dinner followed by many exciting "BINGO" moments.

A special mahalo to our "Star" Parent, Mr. Scott Horiuchi, who blesses us annually with his MC talents. I would also like to thank our parents who donated prizes for the event, our parent volunteers, our Star of the Sea School alumni, and our boys' and girls' volleyball teams who assisted with decorating and food preparation and serving.

Our top raffle winner for the night was Grade 1 student, Luke Goodman (pictured with his father) who happily accepted the top prize of the night, an I-pad mini.

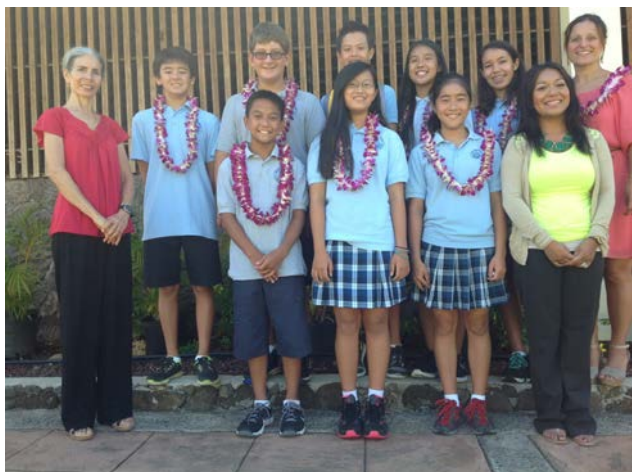


STUDENT COUNCIL

Star of the Sea Student council is the HEART of student involvement. It is the most representative and powerful student organization that organizes various school wide activities and service projects throughout the year. The induction of their newly elected student council for the 2014 and 2015 school year took place on August 29th.

Front Row: Liam Esteban, Rion Kawahara, Sydney Goto, and Mrs. Yurani Fox (advisor);

Back Row: Kathy Botelho (advisor), Ronan Witherwax, Angelo Rufo, Lance Tan, Melia Nishimura, Isabelle Gary, and Interim Principal, Mrs. Margaret Rufo



Middle School Science On the Fly!



For this introductory STEM lab, middle school science teacher Cristina Veresan challenged sixth grade students to effectively manipulate variables in an investigation. In cooperative groups, students engineered a paper helicopter and then changed design elements such as weight or rotor length in order to measure the effect on flight time. Flight time data was then graphed and analyzed. Some students utilized their iPads to measure flight times, collect data, and capture photos and video.

Go for the Goal

This was Star of the Sea's third year participating in the GO FOR THE GOAL National Dress for Pediatric Cancer Day. This is an annual event in September that acknowledges Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month in schools and businesses across the country. Its purpose is to raise support for local children battling cancer. This year, Star of the Sea School proudly raised over \$850.00! Proceeds will be forwarded to Kapiolani Children's Hospital. Mahalo for your support!



iPads purchased for Grades 1-3



Primary Students recently received iPads for classroom enrichment, compliments of our PTG. Teachers recently attended the iTeach808 technology workshop hosted by Sacred Hearts Academy. Continual professional development will be provided for the teachers throughout the school year. Star of the Sea School also received a grant from the Augustine Foundation to support professional development in technology for teachers.