



September 2016 | Vol. XXVIII, No. 8

Trio garners national attention for merit

The mission of the National Merit Scholarship Program (NMSP) is to recognize and honor the academically-talented students of the United States. The program promotes a wider and deeper respect for learning, encourages the pursuit of academic excellence at all levels of education and shines a national spotlight on exceptionally-talented individuals.



The Academy has a trio of students receiving recognition for their efforts in the *National Merit Scholarship Program*, a prestigious academic competition which earns recipients collegiate scholarships.

High School students enter the program by taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)-National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test during their sophomore and junior years.

From these 1.6 million annual entrant scores, a pool of semifinalists with the highest from each state are designated, and *Taryn Wong* qualified as one of Hawai'i's semifinalists, scoring in the top one percent of seniors in Hawai'i. She will complete additional requirements to be considered as a national finalist.

In addition to Wong's recognition, senior *Megan Backus*' scores earned her "Commended Student" status, and classmate *Ellie Ramirez* was honored for her outstanding scores and qualified as a National Hispanic Scholar.

ABOVE: College Counselor Randy Fong, Lisa Wong, Brian Wong, Taryn Wong, Jaime Ramirez, Ellie Ramirez, Peter Backus, Megan Backus, Kim Backus and Head of School Betty White

From the Head of School

RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING AND ACADEMICS

Much time is spent at Sacred Hearts on relationship-building activities – relationships with peers, family and God. Several are already in full swing!



The sixth graders had their team-building Retreat on September 23, under the direction of the LIFE team, the Academy's Christian leadership team of 12 seniors. The seniors returned to campus Friday afternoon after their Retreat at Saint Anthony's in Kalihi Valley. But, perhaps, the most exhausted girls will be our seventh graders who have spent the last two days at Camp Erdman with lots of team-building and several rigorously physical exercises.

The Lower School students in grades Junior Kindergarten to five, perhaps not quite as busy as their older sisters, have completed their ERB standardized testing and are in the last lap of their first quarter.

Academic reporting will be on the forefront in the next two weeks. Parents, please be on the alert for reports and appointments.

Parents of all Kindergarteners will be scheduled for Parent Conferences, and parents of students in other grade levels will be scheduled according to their daughters' reported weaknesses. However, even if conferences are not required for your daughter, always feel free to request one.

The students and faculty will be on Fall Break on October 7 and 10, but the school and administrative offices remain open.

Betty White

Lancers love it when their plan comes together

The *Lancer Sporter and Precision Air Riflery program*, under the direction of *Coaches Carlton Lum and Fred Sanidad*, is on renewed and energized footing with members of the team reporting that their "plan is coming together."

With five matches on the books, both the *Junior Varsity (JV)* and *Varsity* squads are turning in season high aggregate scores, with many of the athletes shooting their personal best.

The Lancers scored a double win last weekend, with both the Varsity and JV shooters upending Mid-Pacific Institute (MPI), the defending 2015 league champions.

The Varsity Lancers ended MPI's undefeated status, winning in a dramatic fashion by only one point!

The Varsity is led by junior *Dorothy Sanidad*, who leads the *Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH)* individual standings by three points; classmate *Angelica Castro* is just one spot outside of the top ten.

Junior *Brianna Ho* leads the JV effort, currently ranked fifth individually. Sophomore *Maile Fox* sits in tenth, and *Logan Shiroma*, also a sophomore, is two spots behind.

The JV squad takes on Saint Francis School on October 1, and the program closes the regular season on October 8 versus Kamehameha.



Can you see what I sea? Marine world comes to life

The marine world came to life when the second graders visited the *Living Marine Art Center* on September 14.

Exploring the Center's interactive displays, the students discovered different ways

marine creatures protect themselves in their natural environment. From feeling pokey spines and squishy skin in the touching tanks to seeing sharp teeth to observing camouflage colors, the students got a vivid picture of survival skills in action.

During this learning trip, the students, including (right) *Sophia Lee* and *Selina Lam*, also got to "make and take" a Gyotaku fish print as a memento of their visit of the undersea world.



Sofia Graham
and Kaila
Kim-Ng



Was that a magic flute?

Melodic music filled the Conference Room on September 22 when *Christopher Molina* visited campus and performed songs using a Japanese bamboo flute.

Molina, from the University of Hawai'i's East-West Center, entertained the Japanese language students in *Nami Grafia's* and *Lisa Matsushita's* classes with music many had never experienced before.

The visit helped the students develop a greater appreciation for this style of music, an integral part of Japanese culture.



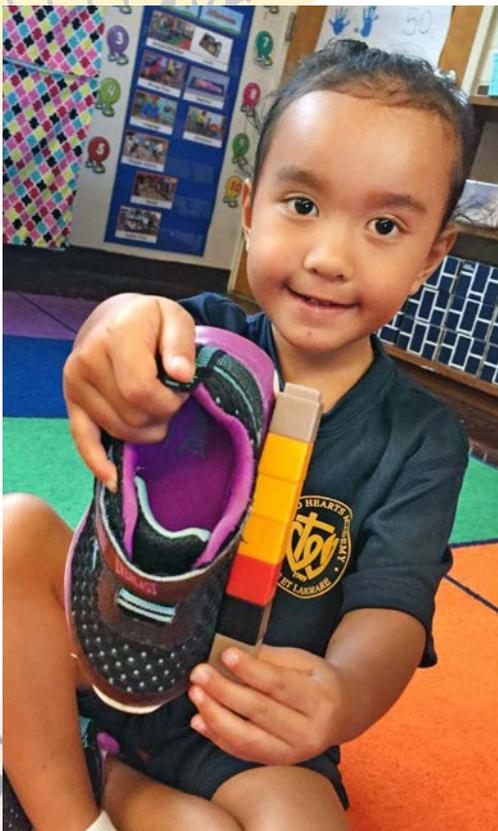
Sizing things up one step at a time

The preschoolers in *Carrie Knebel's Junior Kindergarten (JK)* class increased their mathematical thinking skills during a recent activity centered on "measurement."

Using non-standard measurement tools, the youngsters explored the length of their shoe!

During the process, they were introduced to describing things using mathematical terminology, such as "longer," "shorter," "large" and "small."

The students also were challenged to discover new, innovative ways to measure objects, and the creative measuring tools they discovered included crayons, stuffed animals and even their own classmates!



ABOVE: The aspiring mathematicians compare a length of unifix cubes used for measuring their shoe size with that of a classmate.

LEFT: Using unifix cubes, the Junior Kindergartners carefully measure the size of their shoe.