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Catholic Schools celebrated across nation

The 2017 **Catholic Schools Week** celebrations concluded on February 3 with the **Annual Conference of Catholic Educators (ACCE) Mass**, presided over by **Bishop Larry Silva**, and continuing education program on campus.

The Academy extends thanks to parents and families for their commitment and priority to providing a quality education based in faith-formation to the over 900 students attending Catholic Schools in the Islands.

The challenge of providing a commitment of hope and faith where students can grow in Christ is not without obstacles, but educators in Catholic Schools are focused on carrying out the mission and fulfilling the theme of this year's celebrations of **"Inspiring Minds. Sharing Faith."**



Erika Torres, Chanah Tanioka, Catherine Palmer, Bishop Larry Silva, Kimi Tokunaga and Leah Farias-Ornellas



From the Head of School

CELEBRATING WORK OF COUNSELORS

Next week, our students and staff will recognize and honor the members of the Counseling Department, (from top right) Randy Fong, Angela Dolan, Marcia Chaddock, Anna Miyashiro and Fiona Hayashi.



Sacred Hearts is fortunate to have a hard-working, dedicated and caring crew of counselors whose main goal is to ensure that students succeed, both in the classroom and beyond.



Counselors play many roles. Most important, they are advocates for students, making sure their needs are heard and addressed.



Counselors are often moderators, helping students experience positive relationships with their peers, teachers and members of their families.



Our counselors are also consultants, helping students develop an understanding of themselves and their challenges and assist them in reaching resolution to various challenges.



Your daughters also see counselors as planners, especially in relation to their daily schedule and getting ready for graduation and college.

To each of our counselors, thank you for the work you are doing for our students!

Betty White

Championships go swimmingly

The Academy's swimmers, who compete as part of **Pac-Five**, made a splash during the regular season and at the **Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH) Championships** on January 27 and 28 at Punahou School.

Junior **LeGrand Pound** led the charge by winning her second League title in the 200-yard freestyle event and taking the runner-up spot in the 100-yard freestyle race.

She also helped propel the Wolfpack to a first-place finish in the 200-yard freestyle relay and a second-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay event, where they were just edged out by Punahou. Pound swam the anchor leg in both events.

The girls' Pac-Five swimmers finished second in the team standings at the Championships.

With the league season completed, Pound is now looking to score a third consecutive win in the 200-yard freestyle event at the **Hawai'i High School Athletic Association (HHSAA) State Swimming Championships** at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa on February 10 and 11. She will compete in the freestyle 100-yard event as well.

After notching good times during the ILH regular season, Pound's teammates, freshmen (*not pictured*) **Kylie Swann** and (*below with Pound*) **Jennalyn Wong** and juniors **Julia Oehlers** and **Kaianali'i Rosa-Grace** have qualified to vie for the relay titles at the Championships and will compete under the Academy "flag."



Robotics successfully crosses over on road to Championships

The Academy's **VEX IQ Robotics Program**, under the overall direction of **Peter Park**, continues its upward trend tackling this year's "**Crossover**" **Challenge** after successful meets on January 21.

At the **ai'o Leeward Elementary VEX IQ Tournament** at Pearl City High School, **Team #2436A**, the Vendiola sisters, finished second overall and won the **Robot Skills Award** for the top combined score for Programming and Driving Skills. And, **Team #2436B** finished third overall.

That same day at Hanalani Schools, four other Lancer VEX IQ teams tested their Crossover skills at the **Royal Robotics Open**.

Team #2437A, comprised of seventh graders, continued their winning ways, finishing first overall and earning the **Teamwork Champion** and **STEM Research Project Awards**.

Also achieving top the overall rankings were Team **#2436C**, which took second place, and **#2437B** in third.

Based on their strong performances during the season, the aspiring programmers from these five top-finishing teams have qualified for the **Hawai'i VEX IQ State Championships** on February 20 at the Hawai'i Convention Center.

The remaining two groups, **Team #2436D** and **#2436E**, are entered in the **Island Pacific Academy VEX IQ Challenge** this weekend, with hopes of qualifying for the Championships.

And, if they are successful, Park and the Academy will have an astonishing total of seven teams vying to compete against the best national and international teams at the **VEX IQ World Championships** in Kentucky in late April!



ABOVE: Sadie Takaki and Sara Inao fix a part on their robot; **RIGHT:** Kira Chu-Maxson and Tehya Ordonez practice their driving skills.



WHO'S ON THE TEAM?

#2436A> Abigail Vendiola and Aureanna Vendiola

#2436B> Madison Iwashita and Hyatt Yoshioka

#2436C> Lauren Kealoha, Reese Machida and Sophia Ramos

#2436D> Gabrielle Castro, Sara Inao and Sadie Takaki

#2436E> Kira Chu-Maxson, Ellen Ha, Cocomi Mehring, Tehya Ordonez and Sophia Pedrosa

#2437A> Kammie Ardo, Ayla Hakikawa and Nanami Mehring

#2437B> Clarissa Michelle Ishii Babauta, Han Nguyen, Katie Lynn Rebugio and Sydney Shiroma

Superheroes spotted on campus

The Academy's teachers were honored as "superheroes" at the **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** on January 25 – because of their "super skills" in the classroom.



This annual event is sponsored by the **Parent Organization**, and according to **Levin Matsukawa**, its president, (above with members of the Organization), "This event is a small way of thanking the faculty and staff for all the time and effort they dedicate throughout the year to benefit our daughters. Without these, 'heroes,' the school would not be able to put together the programs and activities that make the Academy experience special!"

Keeping with the theme, the teachers enjoyed a hero-themed buffet and pooled their "superpowers" together to tackle some tricky game challenges.

Exemplifying distinguished demeanors

The Academy was well-represented at the 2017 **Distinguished Young Women of Hawai'i (DYWH) Scholarship Program** on January 8 at Mamiya Theatre by three seniors who epitomize its tenets.

For this national scholarship program, students prepare months in advance and participate in five areas – scholastic evaluation, interview, talent, fitness and self-expression.

This year, (below right) **Kailanianna Ablog** was selected by her peers as the recipient of the



the "Spirit Award," given to the participant who personifies the spirit and energy of the program, and she earned a cash scholarship.

Also representing the Academy (left with Ablog) were **Justine Sison** and **Adrienne Del Rosario**.

Students make special deliveries

The **Junior Kindergarten (JK)** students in **Carrie Knebel's** class recently went "behind-the-scenes" at the **Post Office**.

They learned about the roles and responsibilities of various Postal Service employees, explored how letters are sent and delivered through the mail and even "mailed" and "delivered" some packages and letters of their own in the class' Postal Station.

Using what they learned during this exploration, the students are excited to send their very own postcard with a special note addressed to their family using the Postal Service – with special delivery slated in time for Valentine's Day!

