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Fourth graders explore history and wonders of Maui

The fourth graders gained a new perspective about life in the Hawai'ian Islands during the class' annual spring huaka'i – this year, traveling to the "Valley Isle" of Maui instead of Hawai'i Island.

While sharing some geographical and historical similarities with its larger neighbor in the Island chain, **Maui** boasts its own "personality." Its varied agriculture, flora, fauna and industries provided a trove of learning opportunities for the excited students!

Some of the novel explorations on this year's trip included:

- > Exploring the barren terrain and ecosystems, which resemble the moon, at the 9,500-foot elevation along the summit of **Haleakala** (bottom right); this allowed an examination of erosion, weathering and elevation on the ecosystem.
- > Viewing the impact of humans on native plants and animals and developments after the influx of early European settlers – which have shaped large tracts of the Island, including the growth of the whaling industry and **Lahaina**.
- > Seeing humpbacks and spinner dolphins during a whale-watching tour and learning about the myriad of aquatic species inhabiting local waters at the **Maui Ocean Center**.
- > Learning about new agriculture crops flourishing on farms, such as **Angora Rabbits** (above right) and lavender at the upcountry **Ali'i Kula Lavender Farm**.
- > Examining varied ecosystems on Maui and invasive and endemic flora and fauna, from the **Iao Needle** to the **Maui Nui Botanical Gardens**.



From the Head of School

DISCUSSING PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION

In a sponsorship with the Hawaii Community Foundation and the Cooke Foundation, Hanalei School has invited the community to enjoy a keynote presentation by Alfie Kohn, a renowned speaker and



author who focuses on education. At his presentation on April 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa's Kennedy Theater, Kohn will give his perspective on "Progressive Education" now and in the future.

Although we have chosen to be affiliated with a more conservative and traditional approach to education, it is always advised to have a balanced perspective. These are only a few of the ideas session attendees may hear:

- Students are being forced to memorize so much "stuff" that they won't remember and can be easily accessed on electronic devices.
- Research finds little, if any, advantage to assigning homework, particularly in elementary school.
- Parents must be encouraged to ask, "How much time was sacrificed from real learning to prep for taking required standardized tests?"
- Just because a lesson or a class is harder doesn't mean it is better.
- Education must be developmentally appropriate – discovery, creativity and social interaction cannot be replaced by narrowly-defined academic skills.

On another note, the Academy's FIRST Robotics Team will be in action at the State Meet on March 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Stan Sheriff Center.

Betty White

CTL helps students prep for college

A group of Academy students spearheaded a "Youth Initiated Workshop" on March 6 to help develop independence, visionary thinking and leadership as part of the **Center for Tomorrow's Leaders (CTL)** program.



This particular workshop focused on nutrition and cooking, with specific focus on meals students can prepare in a dorm room using simple, common and fresh ingredients and a microwave oven.

The guidance, provided by a local chef schooled around the world, went beyond simply heating frozen prepared items. Participants, including (above) **Sarah Tamashiro**, made a bevy of tasty – and healthy – dishes, including egg omelet in a mug, breakfast burrito pizza and a loaded baked potato.

CTL is a youth leadership program that engages, equips and empowers Hawai'i's future leaders – specifically, current students.



PARENT ORGANIZATION

ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT AND TREASURER
POSITIONS OPEN FOR
FALL 2019 TO SPRING 2021 TERM

Interested candidates should contact
Rodney Chang at rchang@sacredhearts.org
by April 5.

Elections to be held soon at an upcoming date.

Fifth graders climb heights of abilities during Camp challenges

The fifth grade trek to camp each spring is one of the most eagerly-anticipated activities which goes far beyond just "fun and games" – this year was no different, providing an unparalleled growth experience for each student!

Accompanied by 15 parent chaperones, teacher **Clarie Thompson** and **Dean Melanie Ah Soon**, the fifth graders traveled to the North Shore on March 6 for three days at **Camp Mokule'ia**.

Nestled along the pristine beach and the Waianae Mountain Range, the Camp offered an array of engaging, hands-on activities geared towards teaching students about the area's environment, as well as about each other and themselves.

One of the most memorable Camp "tasks," focused on building community among the class, included the "Bird Box," when the fifth graders worked together – while blindfolded – to navigate an obstacle course at night!

In addition to the group activities, the students were continually encouraged to explore their abilities and build self-confidence in the process. No Camp experience accomplished this better than the "High Ropes Course."

Outfitted in safety gear, the students bravely scaled 40-feet to reach the course, suspended high in the trees.

Cheers and encouragement from their peers on the ground bolstered the fifth graders as they stepped onto the rope and successfully navigated across the line to "conquer" the Course!

For each student, the Camp experience provided invaluable lessons not only about themselves but their class 'ohana as well.



SUMMER PROGRAMS

SACRED HEARTS ACADEMY 2019

- ▶ JUNE 10 TO JULY 12
- ▶ FOR BOYS AND GIRLS IN GRADES PRE-SCHOOL TO 12
- ▶ LEARN MORE: WWW.SACREDHEARTS.ORG

FUN ~ ENGAGING ~ EXCITING ~ INFORMATIVE ~ EXHILARATING

Kauai's environment enhances sixth grade trip experience

Because Kauai is one of the oldest of the main Hawai'ian Islands, it provides a unique setting to explore and conduct on-site learning about processes that shape its ecology and environment. This Island is also rich with history and lore about the ancient Hawai'ians. From March 6 to 9, the Academy's sixth graders eagerly delved into "unlocking" some of these facets during the annual class trip to Kauai.



Among discoveries the sixth graders made during their explorations to some of **Kauai's** natural wonders included:

- > At **Mahaulepu Heritage Coastal Trail**, the students searched along the "living museum" of the Island's southern shore, looking for sand dunes, limestone cliffs and even resting Hawaiian Monk Seals.
- > At **Waimea Canyon Lookout**, (above) the sixth graders were awed by the environmental terrain resulting from the interactive effects of science, math, geography, erosion, climate and rainfall working together.
- > At **Wailua River**, the only Hawai'ian river that can be navigated by boat, the sixth grade group cruised up the waterway to walk through the lush **Fern Grotto** and learned the area's history connected to the Hawai'ian monarchy.



During this trip, the sixth graders also learned about the natural environment and the toll taken by invasive species, and they conducted two service-learning activities. At the **McBryde and Allerton Gardens National Tropical Botanical Garden**, (above right) they replanted native plant species which, once thriving, will be harvested back in the local forest to propagate and rebuild the native stock. They also helped eradicate invasive species and removed tall stalks of overgrowth at **Kokee State Park** with members from **Hui O Laka**.