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Academy celebrates 106th birthday

While the school's official birthday is September 12, the Academy 'ohana celebrated this 106th milestone throughout the week of September 8.

The major highlights of the birthday events were held on September 11 when "Lancer Pride" permeated campus, evident by the school-colored, yellow and white attire worn by students.

At the "Happy Birthday" Morning Assembly, the school community was honored to host some of the *Sisters of the Sacred Hearts*, and everyone enjoyed a performance by the cheerleaders, songs and fun games.



ABOVE: The Sisters of the Sacred Hearts and second graders Rayne Botelho-Ichimura, Shezelle Awaya-Mara and Yuina Daibo



ABOVE LEFT: Jolene Yoshioka and Alexis Turner, Aisa Yamanaka, Elia Hakikawa and Kathryn Hanifen;

ABOVE: The seniors display their Lancer spirit;

LEFT: The cheerleaders energize participants at the Assembly.



From the Head of School

A BIRTHDAY AND 9/11 PRAYERS



Today was special as approximately 1,000 people gathered into the Gymnasium to celebrate the school's 106th birthday. Students and staff dressed down in school colors; yellow and white balloons decorated many campus areas; cheerleaders excited the crowd; and students played games not usually related to the traditional birthday party agendas.

The student-led prayer focused on the Academy's many blessings, but a quiet moment was appropriately observed to pray for all those affected by 9/11 and for world peace.

Besides Campus Minister Sr. Katherine Francis Miller and Theology Chair Sr. Irene Barboza, five other Sisters, including Provincial Sr. Regina Mary, joined the party. Their loving presence reminded the school community at this enthusiastic celebration that the school's history and roots are tied to the dedication of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts.

Today reminded everyone that we must continually reinforce the Sisters' mission of helping students discover and develop their many talents to be used in service to their families, church and communities.

Best wishes to your family for a change of pace this weekend. Sports are big on Saturday with volleyball, air riflery, cross country and bowling teams in action.

Betty White

City Council honors teachers

In early September, *Erin Flynn* of the Academy and *Amy Yonashiro* from Iolani School were honored by the *Honolulu City Council* and were inducted into its *Honorary Certificate Program*.

The duo are the recipients of the *Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)* and were noted as "Hawaii's finest" when receiving their awards from President Barack Obama during festivities at the White House in August.

Flynn, the High School's Science Department chair, was recognized for her excellence teaching science; Yonashiro for her mathematics teaching.



Hands-on learning all about plants

The first graders' attention is focused on *plants!*

The students, including (below) *Ariane Ng* and *Cherish Matthews*, are learning a myriad of plant facts, such as their various parts and what plants need to survive.

To supplement their classroom learning, the students visited *Lyon Arboretum* on September 1 and were able



to touch, feel and observe actual plants in their natural habitat.

GO LANCERS go!

Air Riflery takes careful aim

With a new head coach and a large number of students who have never participated in the sport before, the current *air riflery* squad is up to the challenge!

The team is guided by *Alex Adkins* (see page 5), whose qualifications include national coaching certifications as well as service in the United States Army as a rifleman with specialization as a sniper and marksman, and his enthusiasm has been contagious and motivating.

The nine-member *Varsity* squad rebounded from a tough loss to Punahou with a solid win versus La Pietra this past weekend with *Aimee Pak, Dorothy Sanidad* and *Angelique Mara* leading the way.

The *Junior Varsity (JV)* boasts 13 members, none of whom have ever fired a rifle before the season, but



Adkins shares, "We have grown and struggled as a team. The team is determined with outstanding spirit to stick together through thick and thin, even climbing Diamond Head together two weeks ago."

Lower School athletes serve for the baseline

The *Christian School Athletic League (CSAL)* and the *Catholic School League (CSL)* provide younger students with outstanding opportunities to learn and develop fundamental skills of track – which the Academy participates in CSL only – and volleyball and basketball.

Fourth grade teacher *Wanda Pila* is assisting *Athletic Director Ryan Hogue* with administrative duties for these leagues.



Currently, the Academy members of the CSAL and CSL volleyball teams, including (left) *Azariah Coleman*, are practicing hard after school each school day under the guidance of *Coaches Merle Sen* and *Shirley Labisores*.

The CSL squad, of students in grades five to eight, will play their first competitive match later this month with the season running through October.

The CSAL team of fourth to sixth graders takes the court in November, with the season wrapping up with a Fellowship Tournament in December.

Big and little sisters explore elements of healthy living

The *Junior Kindergarten (JK)* students in *Sandra Arnobit's* class were thrilled to meet their sixth grade "big sisters" from *Shelly Spence's* class recently.



ABOVE: Sixth grader Isabella Savea helps her Junior Kindergarten "sister," Thalia Hill, research healthy choices.

BELOW: Aylah Davis chooses a picture for Makenna Murray to include in their Healthy Grocery Bags project.



The students became acquainted by working on a nutrition project promoting healthy living.

In pairs, they researched, planned and chose good food choices to fill up their "Healthy Grocery Bags."

After finalizing their "bagged" items, the duos will present their work to the class.

The "sisters" are already looking forward to their next collaboration with joint activities planned throughout the year!

Learning to sing with energy

The Academy's *Select Choir* participated in a workshop with esteemed composer-conductor *Albert Tay* on September 9.

Tay is the founder and director of the Kodaly Academy of Music Singapore and artistic director for the Schola Cantorum Singapore.

He emphasized singing with energy and engagement, motivating the singers not only during the choir's warm-up session but also during two additional songs.

Tay was in Honolulu to present at a conference with *Dr. Alec Schumacker*, the Academy's Choral director.



- From *September 1 to 30* shop at *Foodland, Sack N Save* or *Foodland Farms*;
- Use a *Maika'i Card* when checking out and provide the *school's code – 77123*;
- Earn a tax-deductible donation, which will be matched by *Foodland* and the *Western Union Foundation* for purchases up to \$249.

'Ohana welcomes new members...

New faculty and staff members join the Academy 'ohana this school year in both the Lower and High Schools.

▶ *ALEX Adkins*

Alex Adkins is teaching *High School Social Studies* classes.

He holds an undergraduate degree in History from Virginia



Tech and is a Master's Degree candidate at Columbia University.

Prior to joining the Academy, Adkins taught Economics and United States History at Lake Highland Preparatory School in Orlando, Florida.

Adkins, a former Infantry Sergeant in the United States Army, moved to Hawai'i in June after his wife, an active duty Army officer, was assigned to Fort Shafter.

In addition to motivating his students in the classroom, Adkins is also serving as head coach of the school's riflery teams.

▶ *VERONICA Prislin*

After teaching at Saint Anthony School in Kailua for 10 years, *Veronica Prislin* joined the *Lower School* faculty as a *first grade* teacher.



She has a Bachelor's Degree from California State University-Long Beach and a Master's Degree in Child Development from the University of Southern Mississippi.

As a Marine Corps family, Prislin and her family have lived in a number of places.

Prislin loves cooking and eating healthy. She also is a avid gardner and maintains a vegetable garden at her home that provides fresh beans, kale, cucumbers, herbs, lettuce and more.

▶ *DAWN Tello*

Dawn Tello joins the *High School* as a full-time *teacher mentor*, focusing on the needs of international students.



Retired from teaching in the public school system in Bernadillo, New Mexico, Tello and her husband relocated to Hawai'i, where they are enjoying the tropical climate.

Tello also worked for 16 years with United Parcel Service.

She has two Bachelor's Degrees from the University of New Mexico and a Master's Degree from the University of Phoenix.

Tello takes art classes at the Honolulu Museum of Art School and hopes to earn an art degree in the future.

▶ *DEBRA Tottori*

After teaching *English Language Learner (ELL)* students at Ali'iolani Elementary, *Debra Tottori* joined the *Lower School* as its ELL teacher.

Tottori originally came to Hawai'i after college, and she and her husband then relocated to teach English with the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program in Kobe, Japan.

They moved to Phoenix before returning to Hawai'i to raise their family in 2005.

Tottori earned her Bachelor's Degree in Economics with a minor in Japanese Language from Whitman College and her Master's Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language from Arizona State University.

When not working, Tottori enjoys volunteering with her younger daughter at the Hawai'i Humane Society where they serve as dog washers.

