



Aikahi Wind Riders

www.aikahi.net

November 2009 / 2009-2010 School Year / No. 3

PTSA Newsletter

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 11	No School – Veteran’s Day
Nov. 16 – 19	Geography Awareness Wk
Nov. 20	No School – Furlough Day
Nov. 25	Turkey Trot
Nov. 26 – 27	No School – Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 4	No School – Furlough Day
Dec. 11	No School – Furlough Day
Dec. 17	Christmas Sing-a-Long
Dec. 18	No School – Furlough Day Second Quarter Ends
Dec 21 – Jan 1	Winter Break
Jan. 4	No School – Teacher Work Day
Jan. 5	No School – PC Day
Jan. 13	Science Fair
Jan. 15	No School – Furlough Day
Jan. 18	No School – MLK Jr. Day
Jan. 29	No School – Furlough Day
Feb. 5	No School – Furlough Day
Feb. 12	No School – Furlough Day
Feb. 15	No School – Presidents Day
Feb. 19	“We Love Aikahi “Auction night
Mar. 5	No School – Furlough Day
Mar. 12	No School – Furlough Day Third Quarter Ends
Mar. 15 – 19	No School – Spring Break
Mar. 26 -	No School – Kuhio Day
Apr. 2	No School – Good Friday
Apr. 5	PC Day Cancelled – School Day
Apr. 23	No School – Furlough Day
Apr. 28	2:05 Release
Apr. 29	May Day Program 12:30 release
Apr. 30	No School – Furlough Day
May 7	No School – Furlough Day
May 14	No School – Furlough Day
Mar 26	Fourth Quarter Ends 6 th Grade Graduation

PRINCIPAL NEWS by Gay Kong

School Activities impacted by Furloughs.

During the past few weeks, I have asked for feedback about our school activities from all of our stakeholders. With less hours of instruction, we needed to prioritize our school activities and find alternative means to deliver activities that we can no longer provide during the school day. In addition to considering the kinds of activities we offer, our teachers voted to convert the April 5, 2010 Professional Day to an Instructional Day. Below is a list of activities that we considered and the results of our decisions.

Science Fair: **Continue** January 13, 2010 @ 5pm. Further details will be forthcoming on our website.

Turkey Trot: **Continue** November 25, 2009.

Catch a Wave Assemblies: **Modify** Monthly via school wide broadcast.

Christmas Sing-A-Long: **Continue** December 17, 2009.

Geography Bee: **Continue** January , Date TBD

Variety Show: **Modify** Will hold as an evening activity. The date TBD.

April 5 Professional Development Day: **CANCEL** Converted to an instructional day.

May Day: **Continue** April 29, 2010. Release time at 12:30 on April 29. Release time at 2:05 on April 28.

Grade 6 Graduation: **Continue** May 26, 2009

Career Day: **Continue** Will hold during school day. Date TBD.

Gay Kong
Aikahi Elementary Principal

FURLOUGH FRIDAY NEWS:

Furlough Fridays are becoming a way of life for many. It is a political issue, and the fate of the school budget will be determined by our legislature. Writing your legislators and the governor is a way to keep this issue on the front burner, even if it is all the way to the normal session in 2010.

The Aikahi District representatives are:

House: Cynthia Theilen

Senate: Jill Tokuda

If you live in a different district please look up your representatives on

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>

When you send a letter, be sure to include your name and street. The e-mails below will send it to all representatives.

sens@Capitol.hawaii.gov

reps@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Let your voice be heard!

Seasonal Flu Clinic

Date: 11/17/09 Time: 8-12

PTSA BOARD ELECTIONS

The PTSA will hold 2010-11 elections in December 2009. Why so soon??? We will be doing this since 3 Board members are 6th grade parents and will not be at Aikahi next year. We would like to elect the new board and spend the spring mentoring them. Parent participation is really important. We realize that every person is different and can give in their own way. The most important criteria is a desire to help and get things done. Please give strong consideration to joining the Board. It's a great experience! We would love to talk to you more about serving, call any us!

Get the latest updates and eBlasts by signing up for eNews at: www.aikahi.net : To receive the latest Aikahi email updates please do the following: 1. Go to www.aikahi.net 2. Bookmark this site!) 3. Go to "School Website" 4. Click on the "Sign up Today" E-mail Update link 5. Enter your name and email address

Directory:

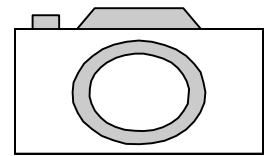
The digital school directory is almost complete, and will be e-mailed out soon. Those who are in the directory will receive a copy of it. If you have not signed up, a supplement will be sent out after winter break if you drop off your form to the PCNC room. Forms are on aikahi.net. Search for Parent, teacher and it will link to forms.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

What a great event! Everyone had a spooktastic time. The playground decorations were perfectly haunting and the crafts and face painting absolutely bootiful. As a bonus, we raised over \$1000 toward the playground. We would like to thank everyone for coming in costume and helping out. In particular, we thank Belinda Lloyd and Lyn Isaacson for leading the effort to host a Halloween party. Also a special thanks to our Kalaheo students (many Aikahi alumni) who joined us and worked all afternoon. They decorated, made signs, worked the craft tables, and judged our costume contest. Our 6th grade boys: Kai, Kole, Josh, Caden, and Carson who did a great job decorating the playground for their schoolmates to enjoy! Jill Butterbaugh for painting at least 50 faces and just couldn't stop until it was dark. Laurie Ahlgren, (who really loves Halloween), donated many of the prizes as did the Richardson family. The evening movie crew lead by Donna Miyamoto did a great job setting up and feeding over 100 people. The potluck was a great success. Aikahi families can really cook! A special thanks to teachers Mr. Jason, Mrs. Pierce, and Ms. Ryan for joining the celebration and helping out!

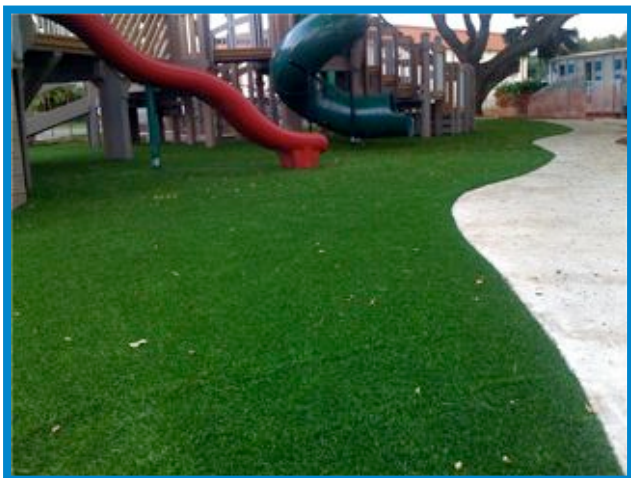
PICTURES

If you took pictures at the Halloween Party, the Playground opening, or other school events please share them with us! We would like to include them in the Newsletter and forward to the Yearbook Committee. Please email them to PTSA Secretary, Kelly Anderson at Anderson_kelly@hotmail.com



PLAYGROUND NEWS

No more orange fence!!!! Yea!!! It's play time! On Friday, October 30, 2009, the playground was officially re-opened. We were very pleased to have most of the organizations and individuals who were instrumental in the ground cover installation, join us at the Re-Opening Celebration. Representative Cynthia Thielen; Ryan Shigatani, Hawaii 3Rs Program; Randy Moore, Deputy Superintendent, DOE; Rory Otto, NyLawn Hawaii; CDR Ben Willkie, VR-51 XO, US Navy; Paul DeVos, Watts Constructors; Bill Pierce, PTSA Playground Crew; and Gay Kong, Aikahi Principal; were recognized for their contribution and assistance, and then they opened the playground to the happy cheers of many children!



The playground has been absolutely packed since that moment!

Our commitment to the playground continues. The school, PTSA and community must work together to maintain this incredible play area. There are projects that we will work on throughout this year and the years to come. We need your support and participation to keep our playground beautiful and safe. Join the Playground Crew and get involved. It's a wonderful way to give to the school and community!

Contact Bill Pierce or Kathy Bryant to get more information.

PCNC NEWS

FOCUS Presents a Workshop for Military Families:
"Keeping the Family on Target!"

You and your child together will learn:

- Steps to identifying and setting goals
- How to set priorities, get organized, and stay balanced
- Tools for the challenges of living in a military family
- Techniques for building good family relations

For Parents and Kids (Ages 8 and up)

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

(RSVP by November 16)

5:30pm - 7:30pm

FOCUS Training Room, Building 3022

To sign up or for more information, call or email:

808-257-7774 / dprice@focusproject.org

Aikahi Students are selling tickets for the Windward Malls Festival of Giving. Students will have a table at the event:

Saturday, November 14, 2009

from 3:00pm – 8:00pm

**Location: Credit Union/Taco
Del Mar Entrance (Upper
Level)**

Windward Mall
CELEBRATES
FESTIVAL of GIVING

\$5 Tickets can be used **Saturday,
November 14, 2009, 10:00 a.m. – 9:00
p.m. AND Sunday, November 15, 2009,
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.** It includes special

store discounts & offers, prize giveaways, entertainment and more as Windward Mall Celebrates Festival of Giving AND the opening of the newly renovated P 'ina Ko'olau Food Court.

Check the website for more details www.windwardmall.com

Return to the PCNC room with payment. Tickets will be sent to the classrooms November 11th. Students will also sell tickets at the school store on Monday the 9th.

We Love Aikahi Night Out News:

We are looking for items/ gift certificates for our silent and live auctions. If you or anyone you know would be willing to donate, please contact Zsuzsa Rodgers @ skrzsrb@aol.com or 228-2414. We promote the businesses that donate. All donations are tax deductible. If you are interested in helping with the event please email Zsuzsa. Let's make this year's auction the best we ever! Proceeds will go to the playground and to support Aikahi programs.

Thanks,
Zsuzsa

NEWS FROM AINA IS

Our Gardens are finally beginning to thrive. Many of our sprouts didn't make it through the HOT weather and the recent rains have been a welcomed change!

Aina IS Garden lesson #2 is now complete. Kindergarten received caterpillars for the classroom and enjoyed watching their life cycle first hand. They built butterfly habitats out in the gardens so that once the flowers open, any visiting butterflies will have a place to rest. Did you know that butterflies need mud to survive? Ask you kids about it!

Grade 1 replanted their sunflowers, practiced measuring the height of their peas and compared the life cycle of the sunflower and pea plants. Amazingly, the pea plants are already bearing fruit, even though the plants are only about 8" tall. Could it be the heat?

Grade 5 completed step two of their carrot experiment by thinning the plants in the variable group. Will carrots grow larger if they are given more space? They also planted a second experiment with beans, using nutrients as the variable. Vermicast, which came from our school bins, is being used as the fertilizer.



The Aikahi Garden Team has worked very hard to complete a team shirt. The creation of the new name, the logo, the silk screening and painting was all a "Team" effort. Every one participated...all 30 kids plus many parent volunteers! The funds for this project came from our proceeds at the Fun Fair last year. The kids have also been out in the gardens planting cucumbers, corn, cabbage, tomatoes, sweet potatoes and herbs. We are all looking forward to the harvest. Our compost bin has not done very well due to lack of green waste, but we are working on it. In November, we are looking forward to a composting lesson from The Green House, at which time we will be filling our compost

bins. So, if any students are planning a community service project or are raking leaves at recess, please put ALL green waste over by the compost bins (near A building). Our goal is to recycle the green waste from the campus and put it back into our gardens as compost!



'Aina IS nutrition docents Lyn Isaacson and Debbie Schatz, and Koky and Josh Jacobs taught the 2nd and 6th graders how whole grains are a healthy choice for giving our bodies energy, and how to read ingredients lists and identify red flag ingredients in our foods. We still welcome the support of volunteer nutrition docents to teach one lesson a month. No experience necessary. Please contact Kelly Perry at Kelly@kokuahawaiiifoundation.org for more information.

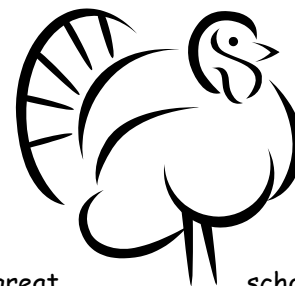
FUNDRAISER NEWS

Great news, everyone! It's the moment we've all been waiting for ... our catalogue products are due to arrive any day! Great American will be delivering our orders this week, so look for information regarding pick up soon. Anyone available to help us organize and distribute would be greatly appreciated! Just call Kamie Hobbs Berkey @ 263-1943.

If you have any questions, let me know!
Many thanks!

IT'S TIME TO GIVE THANKS! THE AIKAHI "TURKEY TROT"!!

Mark the Date: Wednesday November 25th, 2009
and Plan to help!



This is the 40th annual Turkey Trot, a PTSA event that raises money for EVERY classroom. Come help us celebrate and give thanks for our Marine partners, our great school and our fabulous teachers. All money raised goes to our classrooms for supplemental supplies, materials, & classroom needs such as rugs, fans, bookshelves, books, etc. For details, ask your teacher how they use their money!

- The students will run through an awesome obstacle course, and this isn't for just turkeys! Six obstacles!
- Our wonderful partners from the Marine Base will be there too, running, cheering, camo face painting, and crawling along with the students.
- Our fundraising goal this year is for each child to raise \$35.00. Pledge envelopes will go home soon.
- Classroom Awards: \$100 bonuses to the top three classrooms \$50 to next three top classrooms
- **Questions? Contact us: Kate Lloyd, 261- 8027 or Kathy Bryant, 262-6012**
- e-mail: klloyd@hcf-hawaii.org or kathybryant@hawaii.rr.com

TREASURER'S REPORT--OCTOBER 2009

Income:

\$907.69	Haunted Playground Grand Re-Opening
\$938.27	Catalogue Sales (Internet Only)
\$703.19	E-Scrip
<u>\$2,549.15</u>	Total Income for October

Expenses:

\$3,529.35	Playground Expenses
\$2,395.00	State Taxes
\$525.39	School Store Supplies (math templates)
\$241.00	Scholarships for 5th grade camp
<u>\$6,690.74</u>	Total Expenses for October

Angla

YOUR 2009/2010 PTSA BOARD:

Kathy Bryant: Co-President
kathybryant@hawaii.rr.com
262-6012

Debbie Schatz: Co-President
calltheschatz@hawaii.rr.com

Melanie Bailey: Vice President
alohamelaniebailey@yahoo.com
277-5121

Angla Kung: Treasurer
anglakung@hotmail.com

Kelly Anderson: Secretary
anderson_kelly@hotmail.com