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Team takes on Jeopardy – Nene Style



The Academy's **Nene Book Club** team of fourth to sixth graders took the "champion" title after an ultra-competitive and thrilling round of **Jeopardy – "Nene Award"**-style.

In this contest, the Academy Club of (above with **Laurel Oshiro** and **Remee Tam**) **Llana Lee, Abigail Aguirre, Bailey Leong, Madison Iwashita, Madeleine Villamil** and **Keira Iwamoto** out-matched a team from Maemae Elementary, 4700 to 1600.

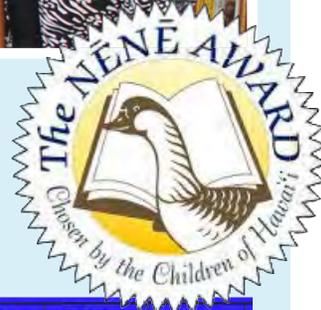
Through this Jeopardy-style competition (*game board and categories at right*), students challenge other schools during a series of about 15 questions that test their comprehension of books on this year's **Nene Suggested Reading List**.

In fact, this year, Iwashita, team captain of the Nene Book Club, read all 30 chapter on the list!

The game is played online, via *Google Hangout*, and this is one of many activities organized to promote reading and interest leading up to the announcement of the annual **Nene Award**.

This award is bestowed on the author whose book has been enjoyed and selected by Hawai'i readers in grades four to six, and this year's highly-anticipated announcement will be made in March or April.

Find more information about this year's Nene Suggested Reading List and related activities at <http://neneaward.weebly.com/nene-jeopardy.html> and www.nene.k12.hi.us.



| Nene Award | Characters | Titles | Setting | Plot |
|------------|------------|--------|---------|------|
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 200 | 200 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| 300 | 300 | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |

From the Head of School

COPING WITH TRAGIC SCHOOL EVENTS

As the Academy and your families began the journey of Lent on Valentine's Day, we were deeply saddened by the shootings in Broward County, Florida, and by the needless and tragic loss of life.



We ask for God's mercy in comforting the grieving families and sustaining the wounded in their healing.

Let all of us unite our prayers and sacrifices for the healing and consolation of all those who have been affected by violence and that we renew our efforts toward working for our communities, nation and the world to be marked by peace.

Regarding this week's tragic event, your daughters may be frightened by what they hear in the media. Often, parents and educators may feel uncertain how to address children's concerns. Very likely, we all have anxieties of our own.

To help you assist your daughters and family members to process these tragedies, several quality resources – recommended by the National Association of Independent Schools – are shared with you in the box at right.

Best wishes for a good weekend.!

Two big events will be held on campus – Saturday's Science Symposium for Girls and Sunday's Lancer Country Fair, and we hope to see you there!

Betty White

Numbers equate nicely for Academy team

The team representing the Academy in the **Oahu Mathematics League (OML)** has posted a strong showing thus far this season.

At the latest meet on January 20 at Roosevelt High School, the Academy mathematicians had their best showing of the season, placing fifth among participating schools!

After four highly-competitive meets, the team is "holding its own" and currently sits in sixth place in the upper division with three events left this year.

OML was founded in 1967 to provide high school students with opportunities to "stretch" their learning through advanced studies in mathematics, ranging from *Algebra* to *Trigonometry* to *Analytic Geometry*.

At meets, competitors have ten minutes to answer three test questions requiring a myriad of computations.



USEFUL RESOURCES IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE PARKLAND SHOOTING

- **Talking to Children About Tragedies**
(American Academy of Pediatrics)
- **Helping Kids After a Shooting**
(American School Counselor Association)
- **Explaining the News to Our Kids**
(Common Sense Media)
- **Helping Children Cope with Frightening News** *(Child Mind Institute)*
- **Helping Children Cope With Terrorism-Tips for Families and Educators**
(National Association of School Psychologists)

Musicians strike magical and award-winning notes



Several of the Academy's talented musicians struck a harmonious tone when they participated in the annual **Oahu Band Directors' Association (OBDA) Solo and Ensemble Festival** at the University of Hawai'i's Music Department on January 21 and 28.

At the Festival, the students were adjudicated, as they performed either a solo or with an ensemble, such as a "duet," "trio" or "quartet."

During their pieces, the musicians were evaluated, and if their performance attained a set standard of quality and excellence, they were awarded medals based on the difficulty of their piece and the level achieved.

Bronze, Silver and **Gold** medals were given for "easy," "medium" and "advanced-level" performances, respectively. **Red** ribbons were awarded for meeting "excellent" standards, and **Blue** ribbons for "superior" standards.

The Academy's musicians, who are coached by **Keith Higaki**, performed superbly, with 29 earning medals for their work! (See right)

2018 OBDA SOLO AND ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL WINNERS

RED-GOLD (Solo)

Daryl Bolosan
Sally Do
Carolei Edra
Xun He
Sola Nagaoki

RED-SILVER (Solo)

Arynn Acdan
Miya Brown
Morgan Garza
Sijia Hao
Rachel Hatanaka
Ahrim Jeon
Yugiao Jiang
Alyssa Kawauchi
Catherine Loiselle
Cindy Nguyen
Jingya Xia
Mier Yu

RED-GOLD

(Ensemble - Group One)
Kelci Deuz
Rachel Hatanaka
Amanda Matsukawa

RED-SILVER

(Ensemble - Group One)
Geraldyn Agunat
Sophia Camara
Sijia Hao
Melanie Oyama

RED-SILVER

(Ensemble - Group Two)
Lauren Chun
Taylor Rayray

RED-SILVER

(Ensemble - Group Three)
Mia Kamisato
Mier Yu

BLUE-SILVER

(Ensemble - Group One)
Alyssa Kawauchi
Ari Yonemura (from Saint Louis School)

Educators reminded there are no SUBstitute for their teaching

Over 100 Academy faculty and staff members were honored by the school's **Parent Organization** at the annual **Teachers' Appreciation Luncheon** on January 31 in the Student Center.

Spearheaded by **Parent Organization President Samantha Spain**, the group's effort was on behalf of the Academy 'ohana's students and parents who experience and witness the outstanding work done daily by these educators.

The program and activities followed the theme **"There's no SUBstitute for your WAY of**



Lower School Media Specialist Laurel Oshiro (fourth from left) and members of the High School Science Department, Erin Flynn, Dawn Robertson, Chelsea Zaniboni, James Bell and Laura Houseman, enjoy the refreshments and fellowship at this year's Teachers' Appreciation Luncheon.

teaching," and of course, featured delicious sandwiches with "all the fixings."

In addition to the awesome meal, this event was a well-deserved break

and "change of pace" for the Academy's faculty and staff, who thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie with their colleagues and the parent volunteers.



School 'ohana becomes helpers for the community!

Members of the school 'ohana pitched in to aid the community during a **"Clothing Drive,"** sponsored by the **Lower School Student Council**.

Students and families from both the **High** and **Lower Schools** "cleaned their closets" and donated new or "gently-used" items during the Drive, staged in honor of **Catholic Schools Week** from January 28 to February 2.

Members of the Council, including (left) **Kylie Ann Anime** and **Macy Markham**, carefully packed 13 large containers of clothing, footwear, bags and more, which was picked up by **Helping Hands Hawai'i** on February 6.