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Celebrations mark closure of Academy seniors' tenure

The final bell on May 23 not only marked the end of the school year for the Academy's students, but also the culmination of High School academic experiences for the school's 109 seniors.

After their *Commencement Exercises* on May 26, every member of the *Class of 2018* will join thousands of others as they pack their bags – ready to face the challenges of college. They have been accepted to schools such as Creighton, the University of San Francisco, the United States Naval Academy, Chapman University and Santa Clara University. Others will travel to campuses in the University of Hawai'i system closer to home.

No matter where they are headed, these students leave the Academy armed with a firm academic foundation and are motivated to make the world a better place not just for themselves, but others as well.



From the Head of School

CONCLUDING STELLAR YEAR

As you read this final issue of e-Parentline for the 2017 to 2018 school year, we will be heading into the busiest weekend of the school year – Commence-ment on



May 26 at Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall and the annual Alumnae Reunion Lu'au here on campus on Sunday.

We join Senior Advisor Elizabeth Gabriel in bidding our fondest aloha to the Academy's Class of 2018, whose accomplishments in academics, athletics, leadership and spiritual development are substantial and make the Academy and their parents very proud.

Two other classes recently celebrated another phase of their formal education. The eighth graders had a beautiful Rite of Passage ceremony in the Chapel on May 4, with parents and Academy staff welcoming them into High School; then the sixth graders celebrated becoming Junior High students by enjoying a beautiful luncheon at The Willows with their parents, teachers and administrators.

Summer Session begins on June 11, and the administrative offices will be open throughout the summer – please do not hesitate to contact us if assistance is needed.

On behalf of the Sisters, the Board of Directors and the staff, I thank you for entrusting the education of your daughter to Sacred Hearts Academy. Your cooperation, support and service are very much appreciated. Best wishes for a summer with a different pace!

Betty White

Videographers celebrate on Red Carpet

It was an event worthy of glitz galore during the *Digital Media Club's (DMC) annual Red Carpet Event* on May 18 in the Auditorium!

Over 170 family, friends, educators and supporters joined the 16 members of the DMC in grades four to six for this gala evening event to celebrate their hard work and accomplishments throughout the year.

While the audience enjoyed flavored popcorn, 20 of the best videos produced by individual members and a few "special" creations were shown, along with a hysterical blooper reel – which was one of the crowd's favorites!

At the end of this special viewing, the event became interactive, and the audience voted for the video they deemed "most outstanding."

After these ballots were tallied, the three top vote-getters were presented with the "People's Choice Awards" – (below with DMC Advisor Laurel Oshiro) Bailey Leong's "How To Make Broken Glass Jello" took third; Ofa Tuifitu's "Kind is Courageous" was second; Mikela Ibos-Agno's "Pick It Up" won the top spot.

Each DMC member also received an "Oscar" and a meritorious certificate for their work.

The DMC, under Oshiro's guidance, focuses on helping aspiring videographers create movies aimed at making Hawai'i a better place.



Sixth graders embark on next stage of educational journey



On May 22, the sixth graders celebrated the culmination of their years in the Lower School at an *end-of-the-year luncheon* at the *Willows Restaurant*.

Joined by over 100 parents, grandparents, teachers, administrators and siblings, the students had a "mini-commencement" as they transition to *Junior High*.

Each student's name was called, and their respective homeroom teacher shared something special about each, including some positive comments from classmates.

The sixth graders also staged a program following the luncheon's theme, "*I Believe*" from the movie "*A Wrinkle in Time*," and featured a skit they produced specially for the

event.

The parents attending were extremely touched by the sentiments of 'ohana expressed by the teachers and the sixth graders throughout the luncheon, which reflect the spirit of this particular class, many of whom have been at the Academy since kindergarten.

Students join in annual Capitol celebration of Fr. Damien



A contingent from the Academy (left) joined *Fr. Herman Gomes*, *Bishop Larry Silva* and *Sr. Rose Henry Reeves*, '60, in festivities at the State Capitol in honor of *Saint Damien De Veuster* on May 10, his feast day.

The students performed the special hula "*Kamiano*" in honor of this Saint, who dedicated his life to serving those afflicted by leprosy who lived in Kalaupapa on Molokai in the 1800's.

Rite marks passage of eighth graders into High School

The *Rite of Passage* on May 4 was a jubilant celebration of the Academy eighth graders' completion of *Junior High*, and transition the next step of their educational journey – *High School*.

In the Saint Margaret Mary Chapel, which was filled with family and friends, the students shared words of wisdom and advice about the triumphs and challenges that lie ahead and received their memento booklet and pins to wear next school year.

Attired in traditional white skirts, the colorful *lei po'o* worn by the students and the song they performed, Cecelio and Kaponi's "*It's Been a Good*

Time Together," matched the character of the class, whose effervescence and energy will be missed by *Advisor*

Kaycie Baltanado, Counselor *Anna Miyashiro* and the other Junior High teachers.



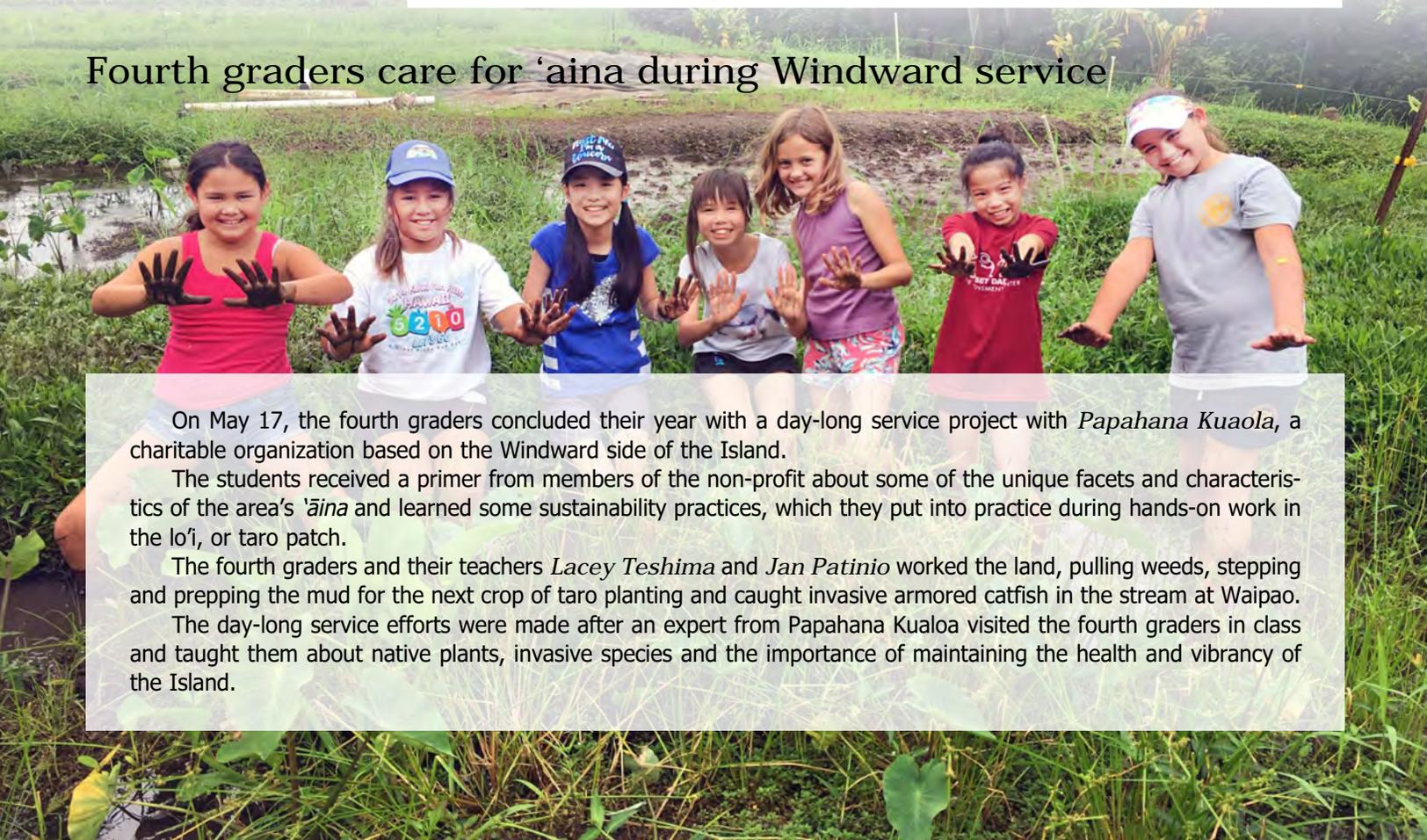
Fourth graders care for 'aina during Windward service

On May 17, the fourth graders concluded their year with a day-long service project with *Papahana Kuaola*, a charitable organization based on the Windward side of the Island.

The students received a primer from members of the non-profit about some of the unique facets and characteristics of the area's *'āina* and learned some sustainability practices, which they put into practice during hands-on work in the lo'i, or taro patch.

The fourth graders and their teachers *Lacey Teshima* and *Jan Patinio* worked the land, pulling weeds, stepping and prepping the mud for the next crop of taro planting and caught invasive armored catfish in the stream at Waipao.

The day-long service efforts were made after an expert from Papahana Kuaola visited the fourth graders in class and taught them about native plants, invasive species and the importance of maintaining the health and vibrancy of the Island.



Musicians and singers close year with aloha

The spirit of "aloha" was clearly on exhibit when the Academy's *High School* and *Junior High* students in the *Band* and the *Choir Programs* took the stage during special end-of-the-year "Aloha Concerts" that featured the deep talents of these artists which have been honed throughout the year.

On May 7 at Mamiya Theatre, *Director Keith Higaki* led the 100-plus *Band* students as they transported the audience during a musical journey of sound. These talented performers truly impressed concert attendees with their myriad of numbers showcasing their range and precision.

Then, on May 11, the singers of the *Choral Program* took the spotlight during their Aloha Concert in the Saint Margaret Mary Chapel. Under the direction of *Diane Koshi*, the *Beginning, Intermediate, Concert*

and *Chamber Choirs* delighted the audience during an artistic evening featuring a wide genre of pieces.

Both Concerts included segments dedicated to the senior members of the *Band* and *Choir*, many of whom have dedicated all of their *Junior High* and *High School* years to fine-tuning and improving their *Performing Arts* skills.

