



April 2019 | Vol. XXV, No. 29

Lancers bound for VEX and VEX IQ World Championships

Four **Lancer Robotics** teams are packing their bags – and robots – bound for the **VEX** and **VEX IQ World Championships** from April 23 to 26 in Lexington, Kentucky.

With their debut, the VEX team (*below right*) of freshmen **Kammiee-Marie Ardo**, **Ayla Hakikawa** and **Nanami Mehring** will be the first Academy High School team to qualify and compete in a VEX World Championship event! They secured their spot after a strong performance at the **Hawai'i VEX State Championship**, including winning the event's "Design Award."

Under the leadership of **Advisor Peter Park**, three teams of fifth and sixth graders (*above*) will compete on their level in the **VEX IQ Elementary World Championships**:

TEAM 2436A

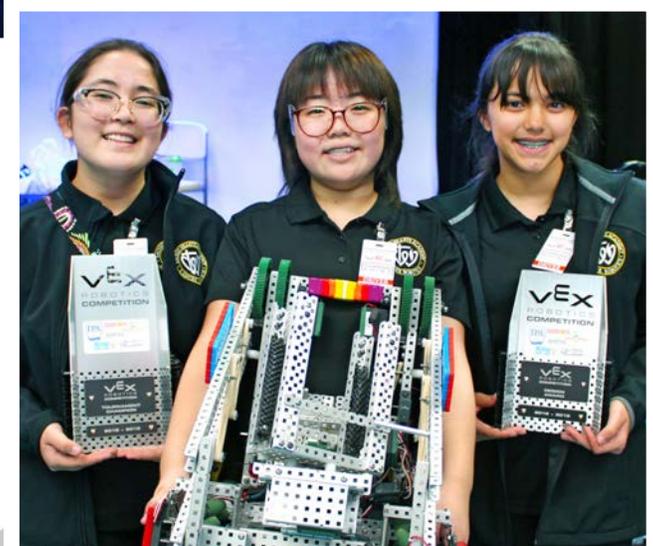
▶ **Gabrielle Castro**, **Lindsey Dimaya**, **Sara Inao** and **Sadie Takaki**

TEAM 2436B

▶ **Mikena Gillis**, **Elia Hakikawa** and **Anastasia Lee**

TEAM 2436C

▶ **Alyssa Giang**, **Lauren Kealoha** and **Zoe Lee**.



From the Head of School

PREPARING FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

The school is gearing up for the 2019 to 2020 school year. Students in grades seven to 12 have completed the first stage of their registration of classes, Karen Muramoto has finished her official admissions testing and cleaning and work crews are organizing for the summer's work.



At this time of year, the business manager and his staff are involved in the process of ending a school year while preparing for another.

Randy Iwashita shares his gratitude to parents for completing their re-registration for the upcoming school year. Those parents who have not returned their registration intentions for next year can expect a call next week as the school confirms all class rosters.

On April 12, Bishop Larry Silva came to campus to eat bagels and spend time with the seniors. The visit, sponsored and planned by the Diocesan Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, was filled with the Bishop conversing with the seniors about their plans for college. He also encouraged them to stay connected to their families, classmates, school and Church, and he reminded the students that Jesus loves each of them as they embark on another realm of their lives and prepare for college.

The Juniors Prom is slated for this weekend at the Alohilani Resort Waikiki Hotel, and Girls Got Grit presentations are scheduled next week for community supporters. Also, the Campus Ministry team is preparing for the Easter Paralyturgy on April 18 at 8:30 a.m. in the Gymnasium, and parents and members of the school 'ohana are invited to attend.

Betty White

Book readers answer correctly to take Nene Jeopardy crown



For the category "Sacred Hearts," the correct question "answer" was "What school won the **Nene Jeopardy** competition on March 29?"

Going into the Final round, the Academy team was leading their challengers from Kahului Elementary School, 3600 to 2400. After some strategic wagering, the Academy participants answered the two-part final question perfectly and took the competition with 4700 points!

Nene Jeopardy, patterned after the popular, television game and played virtually using Google Hangouts, tests students' knowledge of the 30 books nominated for this year's **Nene Award**.

It is one of a number of activities and competitions building excitement and interest leading up to the announcement of this year's Nene Award-winning title on May 4.

Congratulations to the winning team of fourth grader **Claire Burke**; fifth graders **Mary Burke, Ka'ano'ipua Kahuli, Bailey Leong** and **Sophia Westly**; and sixth grader **Ainsleigh Kasprick!**

For the next round on April 15, the Academy team will serve as the game "hosts" responsible for asking the questions, keeping score and running the game.

Mahalo to **Laurel Oshiro**, who coordinates all of the Academy's numerous Nene Award activities and inspires the Lower School students to read, read and read daily!



Team captain leads team at Regional and qualifies for top award

The 2019 **Lancer FIRST Robotics** team, under the leadership of junior **Captain Katelyn Amoroso** and **Co-Captain Kiara Flores**, capped off their competitive season at the **Hawai'i Regional** on March 27 to 30 at the Stan Sheriff Center.

Tasked with this year's challenge of conquering "Deep Space," the Lancers achieved two prestigious accolades at this competition – Amoroso was one of two finalists named from the State for the **Dean's List Award**, and the team won the **"Safety Award."**

After modifying their robot based on what was learned after competing in the **South Pacific Regional** in mid-March in Australia, the Lancers improved on their finishes from previous years at the State Regional, ranking 14th among the 34-team field.

Kudos to **Advisor Peter Park**; the team of **Amoroso, Flores, Kammiee-Marie Ardo, Christina Dang, Ayla Hakikawa, Morgan Harrison, Nanami Mehring, Sharyn Paronda, Katie Rebugio** and **Jenna Tanna**; and their dedicated community mentors.



ABOVE: Advisor Peter Park, members of the Academy's FIRST team and mentors Tracy Hakikawa, Madisyn Sim and Bridgette Ardo at the Hawai'i Regional



PATH TO FIRST DEAN'S LIST

The prestigious **FIRST Dean's List Finalist Award**, sponsored by **Dean Kamen**, one of the founders of **FIRST Robotics**, recognizes the dedication and leadership of the program's most outstanding secondary school juniors and sophomores.

Awardees of this prestigious award provide outstanding leadership to their robotics teams and have increased awareness about FIRST and its mission in their communities – enhancing their technical expertise and accomplishments in the process.

Junior **Katelyn Amoroso** (left), who was nominated by **Peter Park**, was presented with this award after completing an interview at the **Hawai'i Regional**. Her work will be judged for a national award at the **World Championships**.

Amoroso has been a catalyst for the team's many outreach endeavors. During one effort at the Blaisdell Center during the holidays, Amoroso and her teammates introduced and fostered interest in robotics among the 2,000 children and family members who participated!

Have a favorite type of pi?

On **March 14, "National Pi Day,"** the fourth graders focused various facets of the mathematical concept related to circles, **3.14**, or **pi**.

Among the class' themed activities that day, the students (*below left*) measured the circumference and diameter of circular objects and dis-

covered that when these are divided, the result is pi!

The fourth graders also watched a Brainpop video about pi and read "*Sir Cumference and the First Round Table.*"

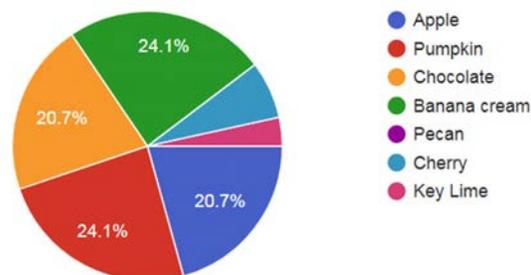
The March 14 festivities would not be complete without exploring the

other kind of "pie" – so the students conducted and tallied surveys about favorite types of pie, made (*below right*) a "pie graph" with their findings and sampled some tasty varieties of delicious, pastry pie!



Which of the following is your favorite kind of pie?

29 responses



Big number of books swapped in Lower School Library

To foster reading literacy and introduce students to varying literary genres, the **Lower School Library** held its annual "**Big Book Swap**" on March 28 and 29.

Judging by the large number of items changing hands – an amazing 675 books – the event was an overwhelming success!

Because of the abundance of donations, the Junior Kindergarten students were able to take home a few free books! And, after all the "transactions," about 100 extra books were added to the Library's collection, saving the school almost \$1,000 in new book purchases for the year.

Coordinator Laurel Oshiro extends "mahalo" to parent volunteers (*above*) **Rhonda Kostiha** and **Jodi Leong** and (*not pictured*) **Beth Pinkerton** who helped sort and organize the donations and staff the Swap exchange.