

The 'Ohana News

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR FAMILIES:

WMS Students Will Be Released At 2:15 p.m., Fri., March 13 to reward them for hard work throughout 3rd Quarter! Classes resume after Spring Break on Mon., March 23.

"Waimea Middle School empowers all students with the skills, values and cultural understanding to successfully navigate high school and beyond."

March 10, 2015

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org

All Invited To Mala'ai 10th Celebration!



'10 Years On-The-Ground, 10,000 Hands Strong!'

1:30 p.m., Wed., March 11 in the Garden

Will begin with a protocol chant, pule, student choir singing and then everyone will form a circle around the garden for a picture to be taken by a drone! And afterwards, guests will be invited to make an Aloha 'Aina Flag, tour the garden and enjoy tea and cookies. Students will be released at 2 p.m. Families are welcome - please park outside the back gate and walk in.

Students Team Up To Learn About Using Native Olena to Dye Aloha 'Aina Flags

It's science. It's teamwork and planning. It's also pretty amazing how little finger-sized roots grown in the garden will turn fingers bright yellow as you grate this native olena to make a completely natural dye that turns white fabric into stunning yellow swatches for Aloha 'Aina flags!

WMS students took on the task of dying hundreds of little flags that fellow students will now write messages on...and the flags will then be strung up throughout Mala'ai Garden to send the messages on their way out into the universe!

This is just part of this Wednesday's 10th Anniversary celebration in the garden. Family members and friends of the garden are invited to join in expressing our gratitude to our garden team and to our many partners who have



contributed to creating and sustaining this learning garden, which teaches us so much about life, health, math, reading, science, cultural traditions, beauty, hard work and enjoying the fruits of our labors!

School News & Notes

POGS Banned During School Day: *Effective immediately, POGS use is limited to before and after school, just as are cell phones. If rules are violated, the first infraction will result in confiscation for the day, second for the week with return to parent/guardian, and after that they will be held until the end of the school semester. Questions? Please call the school office.*

We Are Recruiting Our Own Bus Drivers! *Our very own new buses are on the way here to start our own bus service to improve learning options and save money too, beginning with the 2015-'16 school year. We also are recruiting a Reading Specialist. Please go to our website and click on "Employment Opportunities" on the home page to learn more.*

Yellow fingers from grating native olena...

Draft Environmental Assessment Released!

Our 9-Classroom STEM Building Moves Forward

As anticipated, most of the remaining required permits for our **9-Classroom STEM Building** were posted for public review and comment yesterday by the **Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC)** in their bi-monthly **Environmental Notice e-newsletter**.

See the highlighted link below to review the entire packet of documents, which contains lots of detailed information about all aspects of the project. The statutory 30-day public review and comment period runs to April 7, 2015.

Funding for this project was authorized by the 2013 and 2014 State Legislatures and the Governor has released the entire \$14.98 million for the project. Bids were opened recently and the winning bidder is expected to be announced soon. To review project documents, go to:

http://oegc.doh.hawaii.gov/Shared%20Documents/EA_and_EIS_Online_Library/Hawaii/2010s/2015-03-08-HA-5B-DEA-Waimea-Middle-School-New-Eight-Classroom-Building.pdf

Questions? Please call the school office.

School News & Notes

Boys' Basketball Wraps Up Season: *The final game this season will be for our 14U #1 team at 5:15 p.m. this evening, Tues., March 10 vs Parker #3 at Thelma Parker Gym. Congratulations to our 14U boys for a 1:1 match this past Sunday in Pa'auilo, first beating Honoka'a by 2 points, then looking to the Hilo Piopio Bears by just 4 points. The Piopio Bears is a year-round club — which means our boys were up against a well-established team and really did awesome! Warm Mahalo to our coaches and families for supporting our teams and of course, we thank Coach Warren Tamaye for his enduring commitment to our students!*

Spring Break Travelers: *Two groups of WMS students will be winging their way to the mainland later this week:*

Our 8th Grade East Coast Travelers will be heading to Washington, D.C. (including a visit to the White House) and then to Philadelphia and New York City.

Also, our Student Leadership Team will be headed to Orlando, Florida for an exciting opportunity to meet hundreds of other middle school students from across the country and learn new leadership skills!

We thank our teachers, staff and families for making these learning experiences possible and we wish everyone safe travel!

Project Description:

Waimea Middle School is located next to Waimea Elementary on an approx. 26-acre parcel identified as TMK: 6-7-002:015. The new eight classroom building project site is in the south-east portion of the campus, between the Mala'ai learning garden and four existing portable classroom buildings. The portables are to remain with no changes. The new building will provide modern classrooms and laboratories including spaces specifically designed as 21st century computer labs. Although identified as 8 classrooms, during the planning process, original planned spaces were downsized to allow a total of 9 classrooms. Thus, the 2-story rectangular building will include four general classrooms, three science labs, two computer labs, a teacher planning room, one office, one student services room, a faculty center, a conference room and restrooms. Also, to fully integrate the STEM building with hands-on, place-based lessons in the adjacent Mala'ai garden, an exterior mini-amphitheatre is included. The project also includes paving the one way inbound gravel entry drive from Lindsey Road.

Families Invited To Join New LAP Subcommittee

To support student learning and academic achievement, our **Local Advisory Panel (LAP)** agreed at its last meeting to form a **Family Outreach Subcommittee**. This group will hold its first meeting at 3:30 p.m., Mon., March 23 in 6th Grade Teacher Ms. Mundon's classroom (K-03). The group will begin by identifying ways for families to help all students do their best, and also discuss how to support teachers and staff on a regular basis. ***Immediately after this meeting will be the regular monthly LAP meeting from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in Classroom K-04. Everyone is welcome to LAP meetings.***

School Lunch Menus

(All Served With Fresh Local Milk)

Tues., March 10: Baked Spaghetti, Spinach & Romaine Salad, Pineapple & Whole Grain French Roll.

Wed., March 11: Breaded Pork Chop Patty w/ Whipped Potatoes, Edamame & Corn, Apple Wedge & Whole Grain Roll.

Thurs., March 12: Tuna Sandwich on Whole Grain Bun, Corn Chowder, Green Salad & Fruit Juice.

Fri., March 13: Cheese Pizza w/ Mixed Greens Salad, Baby Carrots & Mixed Fruit.

Mon.-Fri., March 16-20: Spring Break - No School!

All menus are posted on our website & Facebook.