

The 'Ohana News

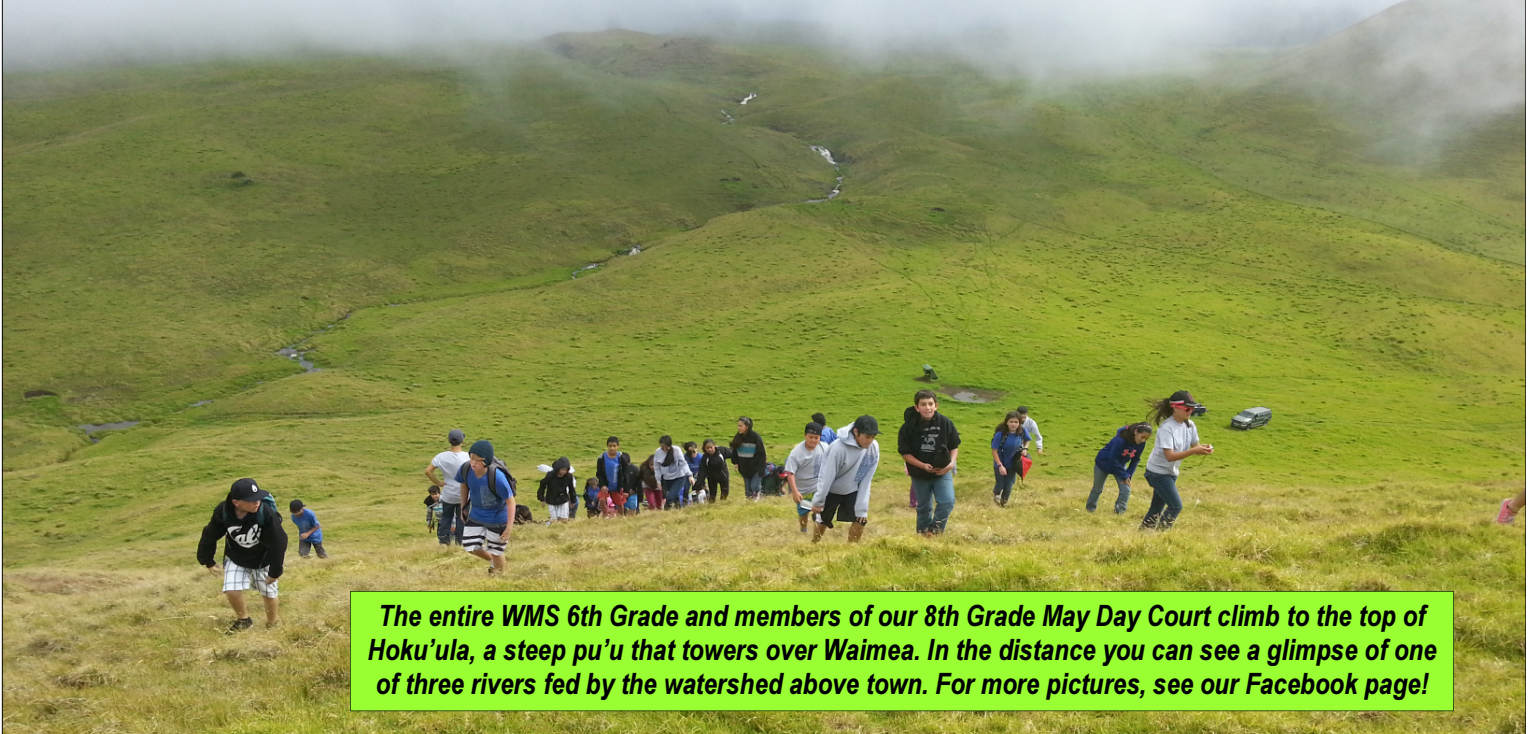
Please Participate in Important Family Events In Coming Weeks — See Below & Page 4!

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

April 22, 2014

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org

WMS 6th Graders Experience Waimea's Unique 'Sense of Place'!



The entire WMS 6th Grade and members of our 8th Grade May Day Court climb to the top of Hoku'ula, a steep pu'u that towers over Waimea. In the distance you can see a glimpse of one of three rivers fed by the watershed above town. For more pictures, see our Facebook page!

Students Thank Mala'ai's New BFF, Ms. Johanna

(We do too!)



Thanks to the pa'ahana (hard industrious work) of community volunteers led by our school garden's new BFF Johanna Tilbury (center), Mala'ai has a beautiful new deck of pavers around its vegetable washing/cooking station! It's safer, too, for all of the students who use this outdoor classroom. We also thank Cable One and Kamehameha Schools' 'Aina Ulu hui for kokua with this dramatic enhancement! Come see!

Please Show Them How Much You Have Learned!

Annual HSA assessments have started and continue for most of the next three weeks — always before lunch. We know everyone has worked hard and this is how we prove it! Families are urged to support their student by being sure he/she gets plenty of sleep, a good breakfast and comes to school on time. We also ask everyone's kokua in keeping campus quiet during testing, too.

Got Grit? There's still time for WMS students to enter the first "Grit" Awards! The prizes are tempting — a \$25 gift certificate from any one of 23+ Waimea shops, businesses or food spots and a total of 30 students (10 per grade level) will be honored. Questions or need another entry form, please stop by the school office or download from the school website or Facebook page.

Two Family Events Tomorrow:

- 👍 8th Grade e-Portfolio Family Presentations: 3-5 p.m. by prior appointment in the computer labs.
- 👍 Incoming 6th Grade Family Orientation: 5-7 p.m. in the school cafeteria. It's free and everyone is invited — an RSVP is helpful but not essential. Families who do RSVP will take home two ready-to-bake pizzas for dinner!



6th Grade Hike Up Hoku'ula & Visit To Anna Ranch & Manau'a Integrates Core Curriculum With 'Ike Hawai'i Lessons & Creates Memories That Will Last A Lifetime!



Photos courtesy of Mrs. Loo, Ms. Case & Mrs. Sargeant Green—To see more, go to www.Facebook.com/WaimeaMiddleSchool

Important School Events

- **High School Sports Fair** : 7-8:30 p.m., Tues., April 22. Thelma Parker Gym. Primarily for current WMS 8th graders planning to attend Honoka'a High next year. See back page of newsletter for more details! .
- **Final Student-Run Mala'ai Farm Stand**: Wednesday, April 23, 1:15-3 p.m. All invited!
- **WMS College & Career Center Open To All Families**: 1:30-4:30 p.m., every Wednesday throughout April. Stop by for an informal talk-story with our **Connecting For Success** staff and learn about supporting student achievement, logging on to **Jupiter Grades**, etc. All families invited! No appointment—just come!
- **8th Grade Family e-Portfolio Presentations**: 3-5 p.m., Wed., April 23. 15-minute pre-arranged appointments in the computer lab with your student.
- **Incoming 6th Grade Family Orientation**: 5-6:30 p.m., Wed., April 23. Cafeteria. For all families with incoming 6th grade students. Free and includes ready-to-bake pizza-to-go dinner!
- **April 30 Deadline To Submit Essay For New WMS Student "Grit" Awards**: Students—this is a terrific opportunity to tell your story about your journey of learning— challenges, obstacles, crisis, conflict, struggle!? And then how you tackled the problem! Prizes will be awarded to 10 students per grade level and include a **\$25 gift certificate** for the local shop, business or food establishment of your choice—see application! Awards to be presented at the **May 14 Family Night!** Contest forms available in the school office and on website. *Mahalo Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gimbel for believing in our students!*
- **K(Arts) Grand Finale at Kahilu Theatre**: Wed., April 30. 5 p.m. Doors Open; 5:30 p.m. Performance. Students to present Kahiko and Chanting, Tahitian and Hip Hop Dancing, African Drumming, Tahitian Basket Weaving and Flower Making and Backstage Production plus Lip Synch! Free, family friendly and not to be missed!
- **Family Science Night**: 5:30-7 p.m., Thurs., May 1. Thelma Parker Gym. All invited—free including dinner! See flyer!
- **Waimea Student-Family-Teacher Art Exhibit**: Kahilu Theatre. All invited to submit original pieces—see back page of this newsletter for details. **Please submit art April 29-May 9; exhibit to run May 13-July 3.** *Free and not to be missed!*
- **WMS May Day Celebration**: Fri., May 9. Two performances with doors opening at 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Thelma Parker Gym. Both programs feature our **May Day Court**. The morning presentation spotlights WMS student performances. All of Waimea joins in for the evening presentation including other schools, halau, etc. Both are free! Special honored guests will be all past Waimea School May Day Queens and Court members! Kokua needed with greenery too; please bring to the gym Thursday, May 8. Also, please wear a lei!
- **Robotics Club & Friends To Participate In Visitor Industry Charity Walk**: Sat., May 10. Once again our Robotics Team and friends will walk for the **Ellison Onizuka Space Center** which has always been very generous with our robotics program and in bringing astronauts to our school. Students to seek pledges for walking.
- **WMS Final Family Night Of The Year For Student 'Grit' Awards & Teacher - Staff 'Culture of Excellence' Awards**: 5-7 p.m., Wed., May 14. Hosted by **The Neilan Foundation** with special guest—24-year-old Cal Tech Chemistry PhD candidate Antone Toutov, originally from the Ukraine. He's a soccer player, gardener, Frisbee expert, salsa dancer, cook and scientist! Will work with students in classes May 12-14. Location to be confirmed. Free and all invited.
- **Waimea Elementary School May Day Celebration**: Friday, May 23. (WMS will have classes this day.)
- **6th Grade Culture Faire**: Friday, May 23.
- **10th Annual WMS Lip Synch Competition**: Wed., May 28!
- **8th Grade Exit Ceremony & Last Day of School For All Students**: Thursday, May 29.
- **Summer School**: Mon., June 9 - Fri., June 27, 2014 -- 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. For current 4th thru 7th Graders attending any Waimea school. Will combine a strong academic focus and skill building with exciting place-based experiences including a weekly excursion. Also includes breakfast, lunch and busing. Student uniforms mandatory and not covered by \$50 fee. Many scholarships available. Applications in school office and on website. **Deadline to apply: hursday, May 29.**
- **2014-'15 School Year Begins**: Friday, Aug. 1. **NOTE TO FAMILIES: Due to a new STATE law, WMS classes will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, except Wednesdays, when classes will conclude at 2 p.m. Busing adjusted accordingly.**

Something New For Families — Especially Important In An Emergency

Text Messaging To WMS Families

At a recent **WMS Local Advisory Panel (LAP)** meeting when discussing how to better communicate with WMS families, LAP member and parent **Colin Miura** suggested **texting**. He said that for him and many of his co-workers and friends, it's the best means of communicating.

As a school, WMS uses **School Connects** to make phone calls and send emails to families but it turns out that this service also offers texting. BUT...the law requires recipients to request texts...we can't just send them.

So, we are now asking WMS families to request receiving school Text Messages. They will be especially useful during emergencies but also for quick advisories or reminders about important school news.

Here's how easy it is to request Text Messages from WMS:

- ☞ From an **SMS-capable telephone** where you want to receive Text Messages from WMS, text the word **Join** to the number: **56360**.
- ☞ If the school's messaging system finds a match for your phone number in its database, you will receive a confirmation message thanking you for joining WMS' school alerts.
- ☞ If the school's messaging system (which relies on numbers provided by families) does not find a match for your phone number in its database, you will receive a message that the number could not be found, and you should contact the school office to add the number to the school's student/family contact information. After your number has been added, please wait at least 24 hours, and then text **Join** again.
- ☞ If you create a **Contact** on your phone with the name of **Waimea Middle School** and the phone number **56360**, then, when you or a family member receives a text from this number, you will know who is sending it.
- ☞ **At any time, you can unsubscribe by texting Stop to the same number.**

Please note: There is no charge for this service from the school but depending on your phone data plan, there may be a charge from your provider. It is entirely up to families to decide if you wish to sign up for text messages.



10th Annual WMS Lip Sync Contest!

Do you have what it takes to be the best of the fakes?

It's that time of year again for WMS students to pick up an information packet for the **10th Annual Lip Sync Contest**, which will be held on **Wed., May 28**.

Entries may either be solo or as a group of 2-6 students (across grade levels is ok).

Grade Level Advisors (Ms. Owens, Mas, Ms. Bowman and Mrs. Onaka) have Lip Sync Contest information packets, which include rules and judges' criteria and an application form, which must be returned no later than **Tues., May 6** to a grade level advisor or Mrs. Mareko.

Then, practice-practice-practice for a one-minute qualifying audition "American Idol" style that will be held shortly after applications are due.

Questions? Please see grade level advisor or Mrs. Mareko.

WMS Students, Families, Teachers Invited To Enter 2nd May Art Exhibit At Kahilu Theatre

For a second year, all Waimea school students, family members and teachers are being invited to participate in a special Art Exhibit at Kahilu Theatre from **May 13 thru July 3**. It's themed: **"E Ola Mau Na Leo Kupuna – The Voices of Our Kupuna Live"** and all art mediums and forms are welcome but must be framed, mounted and/or prepared for hanging or display please. Art submittals must be made between **April 29-May 9**.

The entire community will be invited to enjoy the exhibit free of charge. For guidelines and entry form, see today's Tuesday Envelope, or go to the **WMS website** (Ike Hawai'i page), our **WMS Facebook page**, or contact **Jennifer Bryan** (895-0678) or email anoanodesigngroup@hawaiiantel.net, or **Kanoa Castro** at kanoa@kalo.org.

School Lunch Menus

(All Served With Fresh Local Milk)

Tues., April 22: Sloppy Joe w/ Sweet Potato Rounds, Spinach & Romaine Salad and Apple Wedge.

Wed., April 23: Chicken Pasta w/ Broccoli, Garden Salad & Orange Wedge.

Thurs., April 24: Baked Chicken, Hapa Rice, Three Bean Salad, Pineapple & Muffin.

Fri., April 25: BBQ Pork Sandwich with Baked Beans, Corn, Diced Pears & Whole Wheat Bun.

Mon., April 28: Chicken Tenders on Shredded Cabbage, Hapa Rice, Broccoli & Carrots, Applesauce.

Tues., April 22: Soft Shell Taco w/ Lettuce & Tomato, Potato Rounds & Banana.

All menus are posted on school website & Facebook.

Former WMS Student Ryan Chun Invites You To High School Sports Fair Tonight in The Gym



Ryan Chun

Come meet former WMS student **Ryan Chun** and coaches from many **Honoka'a High School** sports programs from **7-8:30 p.m. tonight, April 22, in Thelma Parker Gym**. They are coming to share important information with students and their families, especially students entering 9th grade next year. The Sports Fair is Ryan's Senior Legacy Project — to fill a need he experienced when transitioning from

middle to high school. The coaches will brief students and families on what's required for various sports, season timetables, etc. to encourage participation. It's free and the entire family is invited! Featured sports include Football, Boys & Girls Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Boys & Girls Volleyball, Wrestling, Golf, Judo, Tennis, Bowling, Paddling, Boys & Girls Soccer, Cross Country, Cheerleading and Swimming. Info: Ryan Chun (854-6162).

WOW! WORD-OF-THE-WEEK:

Con-trast

Definition: The state of being strikingly different from something else

Parts of Speech: Noun

Root Word: "Contrastare" Latin for "contra" against and "stare" stand

Sentence: The day began cold and blustery in contrast to almost two weeks of uninterrupted sunshine.

Why do we feature WOW? Research tells us that improving vocabulary is a "high yield strategy" for student success in reading comprehension. Therefore, WMS teachers agreed to spotlight a Word-Of-The-Week! (WOW!) throughout this school year. To learn more about WOW!, go to the school's website and click on WOW! at the top the home page:

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org