

The 'Ohana News

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

May 26, 2015

www.WaimeaMiddleSchool.org

Mahalo To Our Court, Our Students, Our Faculty-Staff & Friends & Our Heroes!

Our May Day Legacy Continues!



Aloha Families:

This is the final newsletter this school year but it's not THE END! No matter who we are in the Waimea Middle School 'ohana...it's really a new beginning! As a school, we are more committed than ever to fulfilling our Mission of "empowering all students with the skills, values and cultural understanding to successfully navigate high school and beyond." So the work continues...as it does for our Exiting 8th graders, who we wish the very best on their lifelong voyage of learning! We are so proud of you!

We thank our families as well as our teachers and staff for working together this year to raise the academic bar for students, and we thank our students for working so hard to embrace far more rigorous academic expectations. We also thank our many community partners and friends. It does take a village!

So how did we do? We all have examples to share about student growth and achievement, but according to the Department of Education, the proof will be our year-end Strive HI scores, which won't be released until the end of September. Strive HI will include data on our students' proficiency in reading, math and science; student growth in reading and math; 8th grade ACT results; and progress in narrowing the achievement gap.

For 2013'-14, Strive HI classified WMS as a Title 1 Continuous Improvement School, and we hope to continue this classification based on anticipated 2014'-15 results. Families will receive a letter in late September confirming our results. In the meantime, we are including in this newsletter (See Page 3) specifics about our school's continuous improvement strategies for the 2015-'16 school year, and also, suggestions for how our families can best support their child's continuing success in school. *Together, we are making progress!*

If you have questions, please call me (887-6090 Ext. 227). **Mahalo! Amy Kendziorski, Interim Principal**

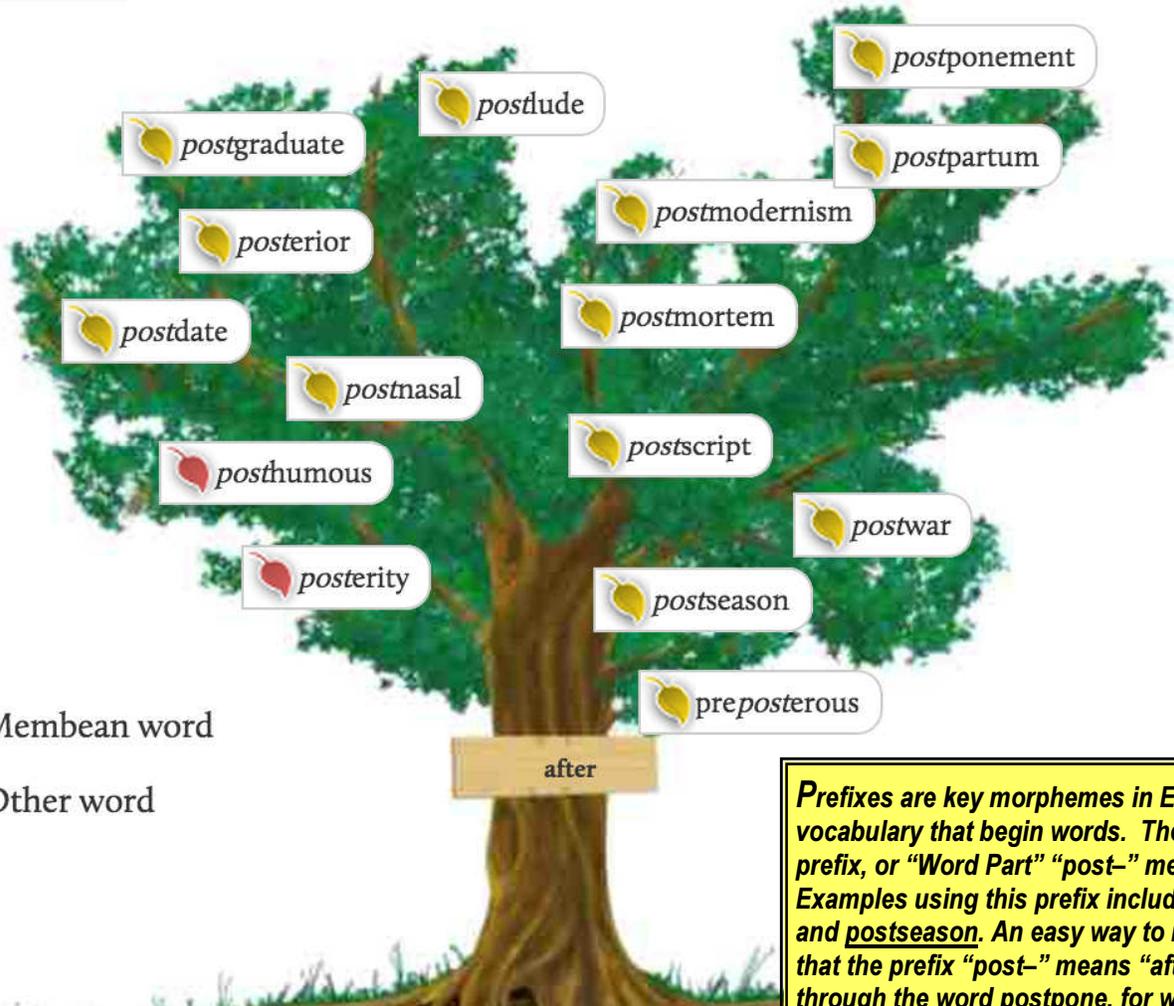
Final For The School Year!

‘Word Ingredient’ OR ‘Word Part’

“Word Ingredients” or “Word Parts” can be added to another word to change the meaning. By knowing the meaning of the “Word Ingredient” or “Word Part,” we can better predict the meaning of the new word – and build our vocabulary.

Vocabulary and reading comprehension are critical skills for middle school students and we have been sharing some of the more commonly used “Word Ingredients” or Word Parts” in recent weeks here in the newsletter. Vocabulary and reading comprehension are critical skills for middle school students and we hope you’ve enjoyed and used some of the “Word Ingredients” or Word Parts” shared. For this final week, see how many of these words you know or can decipher by knowing the “Word Part” ”post-” which means “after”...

post-



- Membean word
- Other word

Prefixes are key morphemes in English vocabulary that begin words. The English prefix, or “Word Part” “post-” means “after.” Examples using this prefix include postgame and postseason. An easy way to remember that the prefix “post-” means “after” is through the word postpone, for when you postpone something, you put it on your agenda to do “after” the current time.



What Waimea Middle School Is Doing To Fulfill Its Mission & Improve Student Achievement In The 2015-'16 School Year?

- 👍 **Setting and monitoring growth goals for all students and sharing student performance data with faculty to guide instruction and planning;**
- 👍 **Sharing student performance data with families to prioritize learning and recognize progress;**
- 👍 **Continuing Accreditation Action Planning and Implementation based on progress to maximize student academic growth;**
- 👍 **Working with the DOE, Ho'okako'o Corp., Kamehameha Schools and other funders to secure additional resources based on student needs;**
- 👍 **Building grade level and department planning time into the school day for teachers to support differentiation and best practice instructional strategies;**
- 👍 **Providing staff training in common instructional practices, including AVID, a proven "best practice" on "HOW" students learn and master the knowledge and skills needed to meet the new, more rigorous Common Core State Standards to be college and career ready; and**
- 👍 **Ensuring reading instruction occurs in every student's day thanks to private donor funding for a Reading Specialist training other teachers to deliver high quality reading instruction.**

How Can Families Help Their Student Be Even More Successful In School And Life?

- 👍 **As a parent or guardian, you can help improve your child's academic progress by:**
- 👍 **Ensuring your child attends school every day on time, rested and with a healthy breakfast - ready to learn;**
- 👍 **Reviewing your child's Planner and homework daily, checking online grades twice a month, and discussing periodic test results;**
- 👍 **Making sure your child knows education is a priority, setting goals with your child and celebrating progress;**
- 👍 **Participating in family events, meetings and conferences;**
- 👍 **Supporting good study habits and providing a quiet place to do homework;**
- 👍 **Talking with or emailing teachers or staff about questions or concerns;**
- 👍 **Turning off the television, cell phones and other electronics and encouraging your child to read -- almost anything - novels, non-fiction, newspaper, magazines, even comic books; and**
- 👍 **Volunteering at school - in the classroom, office or garden! An hour a month or more would be fantastic - and again shows your child you care about his/her education.**



From the moment the pu sounded till the concluding words of "Hawai'i Aloha," both our morning and evening May Day 2015 presentations were exceptional! High Five for all grade levels for their performances and a huge Mahalo and congratulations to the May Day Court for a superb presentation and also for honoring community heroes! We have had many calls and comments from both school families and community friends that this year's program was

"touching"... "chicken skin"... and that they were deeply grateful for either the personal recognition or for that of a beloved family member. Also, from the gym decorations, to the teaching and learning involved in various presentations, to the guidance and supervision throughout the program, to the cleanup – it was quite an achievement. Special thanks to Kumu Pua, Kumu Keala, Kumu Lanakila, Narrators Brenda Case Resendiz and Kumu Ku'ulei, Kumu Kit, and Hoku nominated instrumentalist Bolo Rodriguez, and also to all grade level teachers, EAs and all who helped with setup and cleanup including Warren Tamaye. We also thank Lori Ching, LeAnn DeMello, Andrea Anastacio and Kumu Keala for helping "dress" the court, and our office team - Bernie, Michelle, Kiki, Tanya for patience and coordination and helping direct guests! And to the library staff for their patience! And to Marc Bouchet for filming the morning program, And lastly, we thank former staffer Pristeen Perreira for personally delivering breakfast for the court! **(There are lots more photos and some videos posted on our WMS Facebook page – check it out!)**



Our May Day Court Invited The Entire School-Community To Join in Honoring Beloved Waimea Heroes!



**Waimea Middle School's 2015 May Day
"Malama Honua - Take Care Of the Earth"**

*See many more
photos on Facebook!*



Super Kitchen Teaches Many Lessons



Mala'ai's 4th Free Super Kitchen Dinner was a delicious hit - both with our students who spent time in the garden the day before working side-by-side with Chef Simon and Chef Sarah with Pozitive Living Catering, preparing (and then sampling) ono Japanese Saimin that would be served the next night to families and community friends! A warm Mahalo to everyone who contributed and attended! PS: Chef Sarah, shown here to the extreme right, is a former WMS student who has discovered a career doing what she has always loved - cooking!

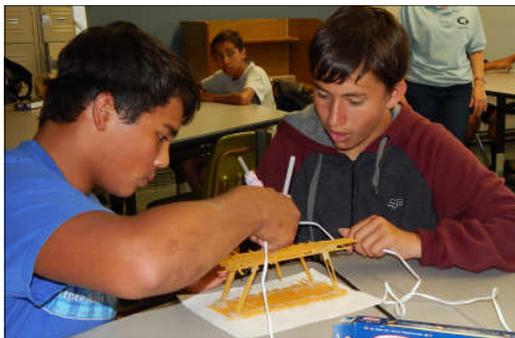
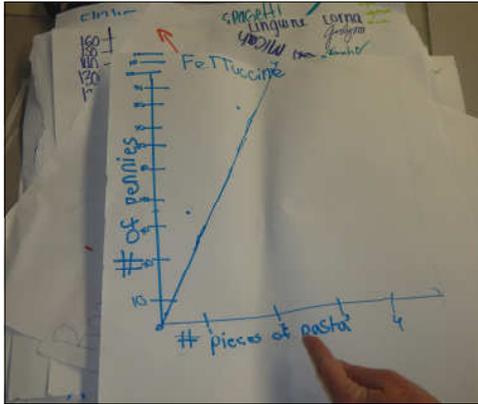


An impromptu kanikapila with Mala'ai friends including Auntie Doris Purdy dancing added to the pleasure of the evening!



Learning The Way Engineers Learn

Student AVID Teams Build Bridge Prototypes To Test Design



Pre-STEM Lab:

- 1) Test materials for strength - Linguine is the strongest!
- 2) Build prototype.
- 3) Weigh the mass.
- 4) Test how much weight it will endure
- 5) Assess what worked or why it didn't...try again!



8th Graders: Please Donate Student Uniforms As A Goodbye Gesture!

We welcome donations of gently used WMS uniform t-shirts by students who are transitioning to high school! We also welcome shirts from 6th and 7th graders who have outgrown still-good shirts.

Another Note For 8th Graders: Sign Up To Take The First Step To College!

Freshmen, as well as sophomores and juniors planning to attend **Honoka'a High & Intermediate** during the 2015-'16 school year are encouraged to sign up to take the **Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT)** in October. It's great practice for the SAT, a college-admissions test. Juniors who take the test may be eligible for the National Merit Scholarship Program, which awards scholarships to student in their senior year. **Deadline to sign up is June 15.** Please email Ms. Daphne Honma at daphne_honma/HONOKAHI/HIDOE@notes.k12.hi.us or call (808) 775-8800 Ext. 3137051 to register or ask questions. Info about PSAT, go to: <https://www.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt>.

Final LAP Meeting Of Year Mon., June 8

WMS Local Advisory Panel, which includes representatives of all school-community stakeholder groups, will hold its final meeting of this school year from **4:30-6:30 p.m., Mon., June 8 in Classroom K-03**. As always, everyone's invited and there's always time at the start of each meeting for public comments.

Included in the agenda will be a report on several recent meetings of LAP's newly formed Family Outreach Committee, which is exploring how to more effectively engage families in the school...and what the school could do to more effectively reach all families to support student learning and achievement.

6th & 7th Grade Families: Please Tend To Year-End Priorities!

Today isn't TUESDAY but we ask all WMS 6th and 7th grade students and families to spend a few minutes this evening reviewing priorities items sent home today in what is normally the TUESDAY ENVELOPE, including:

- 1) **A 2015-'16 Attendance Questionnaire** regarding next school year at WMS! Please also see the back of the flyer if you haven't already set up your cell phone to receive text messages from WMS.
- 2) **2015-'16 SY Bus Application.** As many know, WMS will begin operating its own buses and will no longer contract with a private provider. This has many advantages for our students, families and school but the application is different and we urge families to fill it out and turn it in ASAP — even if you want to defer payment until the school year begins.
- 3) **2015-'16 SY Calendar** including **Gear Up** dates and times!
- 4) **2015-'16 SY School Supplies List.**

Summer School Quite Different!



Meet Melora Purrell, who will lead a team of high energy educators who love science, technology, engineering, math (aka STEM), and the great outdoors, and who together will lead this year's WMS Summer School. Also - meet one of Melora's friends - an ancient native 'ohia tree! It's a glimpse of what the program will include - time outdoors discovering the wonders of nature! There are still a few spots remaining for the 14-day, June 15-July 2 program that includes breakfast and lunch daily, morning and afternoon transportation, and field trips. It's \$50 and scholarships are available. Applications are available in the office and on our school website and Facebook page!

School Lunch Menus

(All Served With Fresh Local Milk)

Wed., May 27: Chicken Pasta w/ Broccoli, Garden Salad & Orange Wedge.

Thurs., May 28: Baked Chicken w/ Hapa Rice, Broccoli & Carrots, Pineapple & Whole Grain Roll.

Fri., May 22: WMS - No Classes! Teacher-Staff P/C Day.

Mon., June 1: Chicken Tenders on Shredded Cabbage, Steamed Hapa Rice, Broccoli & Carrots and Apricots.

Tues., June 2: Soft Shell Taco with Lettuce and Tomato, Potato Rounds and Peaches.

Wed., June 3: Whole Grain Corn Dogs with Potato Smiles, Baked Beans and Orange Wedge.

All menus are posted on our website & Facebook page.

FREE Summer Meals!



Waimea Elementary School Cafeteria has received federal funding to provide entirely FREE breakfasts and lunches daily, Monday through Friday, for all Waimea youth 17 and under! No application process, just come!

Breakfast: 7-8 a.m. Lunch 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Zaylie Turns Love Of Veggies Into \$\$\$\$\$



WMS 6th Grader Zaylie Gentry loves her veggies - especially corn on the cob - and when challenged to create a piece of art in Health Class for AlohaCare's annual Art Calendar, her edible friends became the subject of her art. Now, not only will her artwork be featured in AlohaCare's 2016 Calendar that will be posted in many doctors' offices and Health centers across the state, but she also earned a \$50 cash award! Congratulations Zaylie and Mahalo both to AlohaCare and WMS Health Teacher Mrs. Kara Onaka Winters!

Are You Missing A Hat, Sweater, Jacket? Need One?

Auntie Bernie has a load of "like new" Lost & Found items in the office! If you are missing something or need something - see her ASAP! All unclaimed items will be given to the elementary school Thrift Shop to sell once school is pau!