



Head Notes

Aloha WCS 'Ohana!

Benefit Auction planning is going full steam ahead! We are right on track to produce a fun, engaging, and profitable benefit. Parent Volunteers have been working hard to solicit donations from local businesses and artists, Nicole is tracking those donations through the office, and Auction Chair Crystal is coordinating all the logistics. Tickets will be available soon for sale at just \$60/each.

Although fully engaged in what is happening right now and for the remainder of this academic year, we are also looking ahead to next year. We've had an unprecedented number of families turn in their Letter of Intent to Return form, reflecting confidence in the school and program. Mahalo for your support! The Admissions Open Houses have brought new families to the school in all Levels, although Level 1 continues to be the main entry point for new families. We are excited about the year ahead as the strong interest from the community and the vote of confidence from our WCS 'Ohana promises a bright future for the school.

A hui hou, Amy

Enrollment for 2009/2010

Thank you for turning in the Letter of Intent to Return for your child for the 2009/2010 school year. WCS Enrollment Agreements, complete with re-enrollment details for Tuition Management Systems, will be coming your way at the end of this month. To secure your child's enrollment at WCS for the 09/10 school year, **the \$500 deposit is DUE by March 13.** Financial Aid applications are also due by March 13. If you need a financial aid application packet, please see Nicole in the office. For those of you with children entering our kindergarten program next year, the application packets are due by Friday February 27th.

Accreditation Update

The HAIS/WASC Accreditation Site Visit Team will be here March 1-3, 2009 to meet with board members, faculty, staff, and parents as they write their report and make their recommendations to the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). **Please note that the team will be making a presentation to the WCS school community on Tuesday, March 3, at 3:30 p.m. to discuss their findings. You are encouraged to attend!** If you have any questions about this process, please drop by the office or give Amy a call. Mahalo.



Dates to Remember

Friday, February 27 – Priority Deadline for new Level 1 (Kindergarten) applications

Sunday - Tuesday, March 1 - 3 – HAIS/WASC Accreditation Visit

Monday, March 2 – Literacy Day Celebration

Tuesday, March 3, 3:30 p.m. – WCS Community Meeting with HAIS/WASC Team to share accreditation report

Thursday, Friday March 12 & 13 – Student Led Conferences; no classes

Friday, March 13 – Deadline for Financial Aid applications for the 09/10 school year

Friday, March 20 – 'Ohana Kupuna Day early release, No Kukui Club

Saturday, March 21 – Annual Benefit Auction ~ SAVE THE DATE!

March 23 - April 3 – Spring Break!

Monday, April 6 – Classes Resume

Many Mahalos

Thank You to Aline Arnouts, Kelly Barrick, Anne Head, and DeeAnn

Spikerman for volunteering to help with our Garden party.

Thanks to those Parker Students too! We

couldn't have done it

without you and all of our keiki who joined in on such a beautiful day. Our school looks gorgeous.

Mahalo nui to our Auction Committee for putting in so much work already: **Crystal Pagano, Nicole**

Vedelli, Jon Vedelli, Anne Head, Zizi Zolten, Robin Paraiso, and Kelly Barrick.



Benefit Auction

Waimea Country School Annual Benefit Auction will be on

Saturday March 21, 2009 at the **Kings' Grille on the Golf**

course of Waikoloa Beach

Resort. Doors will open at

5p.m. for all to enjoy Artwork

from Hawai'i Island's best as well as goods and services from many local businesses. Please visit our web site

(www.waimeacountryschool.org) to view the Auction Catalog. Join the party featuring live

performance by Sam Keliioomaluu. Cocktails and heavy pupus will be served. Tickets are just \$60.

Purchase your tickets now by calling the school office at 885-0067 for a fun evening party in support of Waimea Country School.



Volunteers Needed for Auction!

We need a solid team of volunteers to work the Auction—setting up, acting as “runners” for the silent auction and “spotters” for the live auction, cleaning up, helping with food service, etc. If you are working the auction as a volunteer, you do not need to purchase a ticket but get the benefit of being able to bid on items (great deals!).

Volunteering is a great way to be part of the party and support the school. And **we need you!**

Please contact Amy for details. Mahalo.

Student-Led Conferences

This March 12th and 13th, we will be conducting Student-Led Conferences for all students in all Levels. These conferences are an important part of our authentic assessment program. By asking students to take the lead at their conference, they are fully engaged and held responsible for their learning. Teachers are working with students now to prepare for their conference.

Student-Led Conferences are scheduled for 40 minutes each, and all conferences will be held over the two days. Please watch for information coming home next week with more details about the conferences, including the schedule and how you will be signing up.

Tardiness Policy

There seems to be a lot more of our keiki getting to school later. When this happens not only are the classes interrupted but our kids have a harder time getting into the swing of the morning routines. Please make it a point to get the kids to school on time. The bell rings promptly at 8:00 a.m. If students are on the school grounds when the bell rings, they should go directly to class. If a student arrives soon after the bell rings (up to 8:15 a.m.), he or she should go directly to class to minimize the impact of the tardy. The classroom teacher will mark the tardy on the attendance slip. Attendance slips are sent to the office at 8:15 a.m., so a **student arriving after 8:15 a.m. should go to the office to sign in with Mrs. Vedelli.**



Recycling Facts



The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) announced that program's redemption rate is up 4 percent from last year's rate of 68 percent. The current rate represents more than 680 million containers recycled during 2008.

Keep recycling and make a difference! WCS earned \$116 last month from donated HI-5 recyclables—did you know you could donate these to us at the redemption center? Do it!