



# CROSSROADS

*Holy Family Catholic Academy*  
*October 2023*

Aloha families and friends of HFCA,

We are excited to have almost completed our first quarter of the school year and are so proud of our students! They have settled into their new classes, clubs, teams, and volunteer groups we have at HFCA. Our little ones are also a bit more confident and comfortable at school and are learning to contribute positively to their classroom communities.

We'd like to extend a special mahalo to our HFCA community for helping us kick off our monthly Community Outreach program with our support of the Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation. Our Community Outreach program is an opportunity to teach our students that it is our kuleana (responsibility) to help our brothers and sisters in need from both a cultural and faith-based point of view. Next up: supporting the Hawaiian Humane Society for October.

We pray you have a wonderful October and enjoy Fall Break with your 'ohana.

God bless,

Celeste Akiu  
Principal

## *Lead with Love for Hawaiian Humane Society*

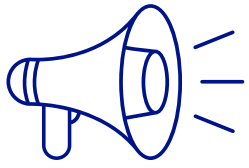


**For the month of October, we will be collecting wish-list items for the Hawaiian Humane Society. Items can be sent to homeroom teachers or the main office. Mahalo for your kokua!**

- New or used leashes (non-retractable)
- Ping-pong balls (used for cat toys)
- Kongs (the bigger, the better)
- New or used dog & cat collars
- New or used towels
- Cat toys (no strings)

**Mahalo to our Kindergarten Team for hosting this community outreach project!**

# *Making God's Goodness Known. Educating for Life.*



## UPCOMING PTG EVENTS

### Save the Dates!

**PTG General Meetings for the Year**  
**Thursdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom**

10/26/2023  
11/30/2023  
01/18/2024  
03/21/2024  
04/11/2024

We are happy to announce that four parents have volunteered to lead our PTG executive committee.

**Mahalo nui for your support of HFCA!**

Pictured left to right: Melissa, Jill, Maureen and Kau'i.



### **Kau'i Kane - President**

The Kane 'ohana has been part of our Holy Family for three years. Born and raised on Oahu, Kau'i is honored to be serving as the President of the PTG and looks forward to working with our HFCA 'ohana. Kau'i is an instructor at Hawaiian Airlines, specializing in in-flight and pilot emergency procedures, where she has 20 years of service. She and her husband have five children, and Ka'ena (3rd grade) and Kawena (PK) attend Holy Family.

### **Melissa Gismervik - Vice President**

This is the Gismervik family's second year at HFCA, and they could not be happier. Melissa has been a student, educator, and administrator of Catholic education and originally hails from Connecticut. She is thrilled to serve on the PTG and looks forward to engaging with the Holy Family community. Melissa is a parent to Henry (3rd grade), Andrew (PK), and Joanna (future Wildcat).

### **Jill Tamminga - Secretary**

The Tamminga's are a Navy family, and this is their second year at HFCA. Jill volunteered for many PTG and Helping Hands events last year and looks forward to another great year with the Holy Family 'ohana. Jill previously served in the Navy and has three children at HFCA, including Max (8th grade), Tess (6th grade), and Jojo (1st grade).

### **Maureen Paparo - Treasurer**

This is the Paparo family's third year at HFCA and as parishioners of Holy Family Church. Maureen served on the PTG last year as Vice President and is honored to be the Treasurer this year. She looks forward to serving the Holy Family community. The Paparo's are a Navy family with 6 kids; their youngest son, Michael (6th grade), attends HFCA and is an Altar Server for the Church.

### **Members at Large - TBD**

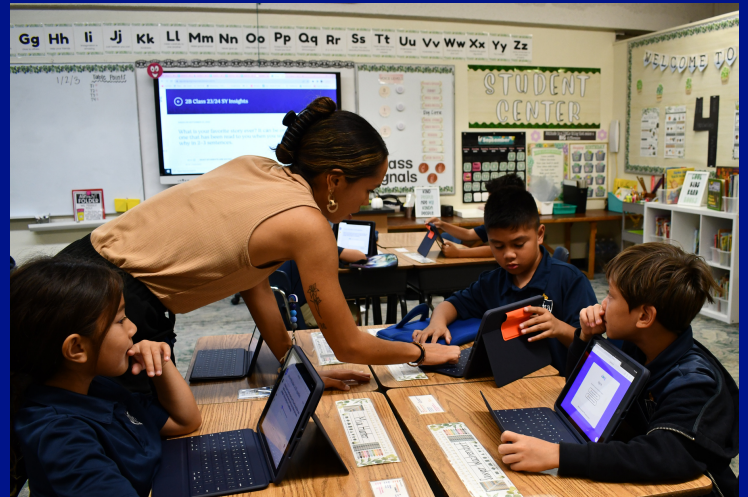
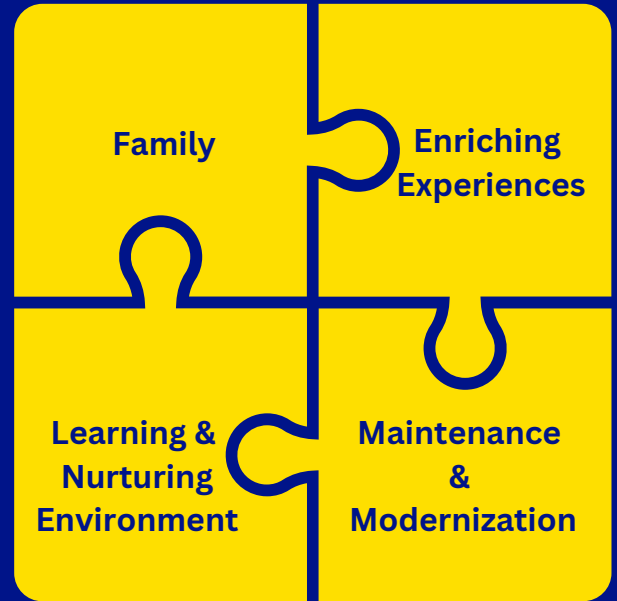
If you are interested in joining the PTG Executive Committee as a member-at-large, please email: [ptg@hfcahawaii.org](mailto:ptg@hfcahawaii.org).



# HFCA Strategic Plan

HFCA established a Strategic Plan in 2020 with four primary focus areas, that we call “pathways”, to organize our priorities: Family, Maintenance and Modernization, Learning and Nurturing Environment, and Enriching Experiences. October focus: Learning and Nurturing Environment - Along Program.

This year, we invested in the Along program to encourage authentic teacher-student connections to positively impact students’ academic growth, well-being, and social development. HFCA teachers can now utilize the Along app to prompt their students with questions and/or incorporate positive offline interactions that are consistent and meaningful.



Ms. Soto (4A) and Ms. Hailee (2B) prompt their students to answer questions on the Along app daily and weekly as a way to ease them into class in the morning and check on their well-being.



Ms. Ashley incorporates a unique question from her current unit every morning on a whiteboard to help ease the dropoff transition, and discusses each answer with her preschool students. So sweet!

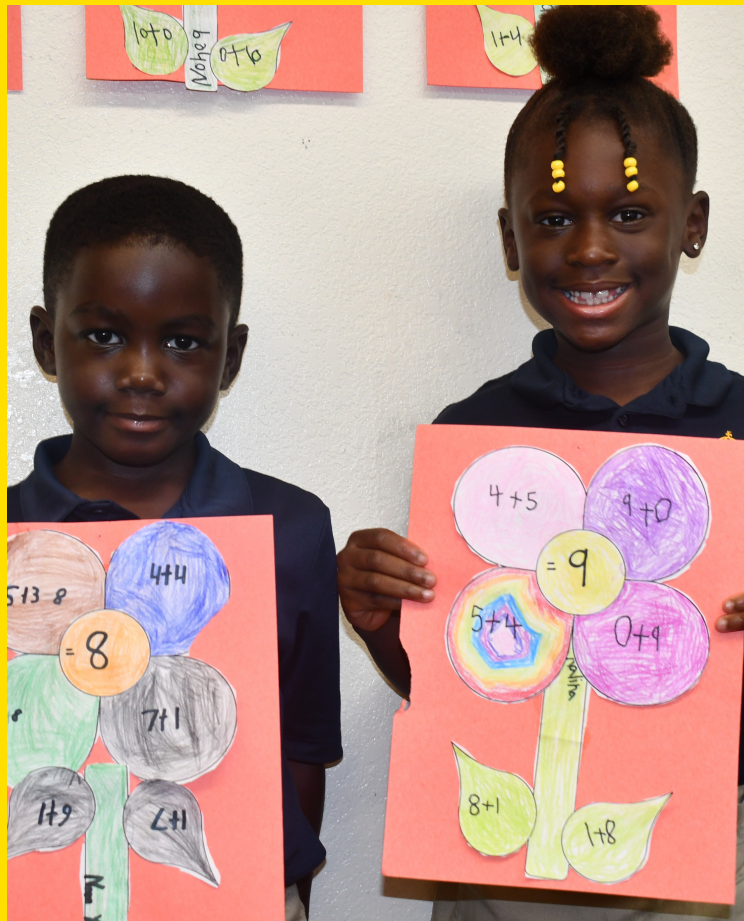


Ms. Hause welcomes students in her 6B homeroom with a greeting of their choice each morning. The kids love it :-)



## Spotlight: Math!

Our students have been busy diving into their math lessons for the quarter and are having a lot of fun engaging with their classmates and teachers. Pre-Algebra students recently completed a project to plan their future careers and lifestyle; students in 1B practiced addition and created beautiful blooms at the same time; 2A created abstract art with straight lines, curved lines, and numbers; and preschool students in Noah's Ark practice sorting colors and counting objects with adorable counting bears.





# September Community Outreach Recap

*Mahalo to all our families for helping us raise invaluable awareness and funds for the Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation. We proudly presented them with a check for \$6,003.20. We also want to thank our teachers and staff for their help and support, the 28 (!) parent volunteers who made this event possible, and a special mahalo to Mrs. Burch for her hard work coordinating the event and everyone who pitched in to help!*





# Let Us Pray

*Good and gracious God, we thank you for the many blessings you have given to us. Grant us your grace so that we may receive your gifts with true gratitude, cultivate them to abundance, and return them generously to you through the building up of your kingdom. Help us to be true ambassadors of your kingdom through our good example, loving concern, and Christian charity. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

- Father Rheo Ofalsa

## Holy Family Catholic Church

Monday - Friday

Mass - 8am

Saturday

Confessions - 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Mass (Sunday Vigil) - 5 pm

Sunday

Masses at 8:30 am, 11 am, and 7 pm

HFCA students attend Mass each Wednesday. We invite parents, grandparents, and friends of HFCA to join us for Mass any time!

