



# CROSSROADS

*Holy Family Catholic Academy*

*November 2024*

*Making God's goodness known, educating for life.*

Aloha families and friends of HFCA,

This November, our campus will be buzzing with exciting activities starting with All Saints Day Mass on November 1, a Scholastic Book Fair on November 12 - 15, a faith-based student retreat on November 19 focused on the theme God's Road Signs, our monthly Walk with Jesus Friday on November 22, and our Thanksgiving Mass and Turkey Trot event on November 26!

We would also like to wish all Veterans a very happy Veterans Day and remind parents there is no school on Monday, November 11. To honor Veterans Day, our students will create cards for the residents at the VA Community Living Center on the Tripler campus, an annual community outreach event that means so much to the kūpuna who receive them.

We have much to be grateful for this year and appreciate that you are all part of our Holy Family 'ohana. We pray you have a wonderful Thanksgiving break!

Take care, and God bless,

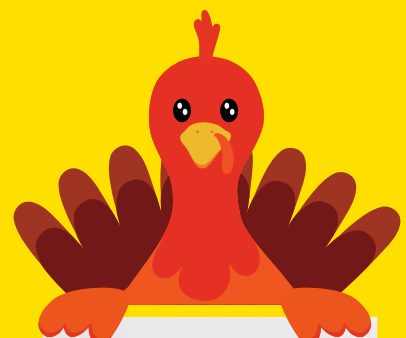
Dr. Celeste Akiu, Principal

## Supporting Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation

We will be raising funds and awareness for the Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation (HCCF) during November, and invite our HFCA 'ohana to join us in supporting this wonderful local organization. Homerooms will engage in a friendly competition to raise funds and help our keiki learn the valuable lesson of helping community members in need. Cash or check donations may be sent to homeroom teachers or the HFCA business office with the homeroom noted.

This is our third year supporting HCCF, which assists, supports, and advocates for the needs of children diagnosed with cancer, their families, and long-term survivors of childhood cancer. The Foundation is dedicated to the children who are battling cancer, to those who have survived, and to those who survive in our hearts.

Our support of HCCF will culminate with a Turkey Trot event on Tuesday, November 26. Please watch ParentSquare for more information on how your family can participate in this community outreach opportunity, as well as parent volunteer opportunities!



**HFCA Turkey Trot!**  
**November 26**

# HFCA Strategic Plan

HFCA established a Strategic Plan in 2020 with four primary “pathways” to organize our priorities: Family, Maintenance and Modernization, Learning and Nurturing Environment, and Enriching Experiences. We highlight our progress in our monthly newsletters. We will update our strategic plan in the spring of 2025, after our goals are solidified as part of our accreditation process in February.



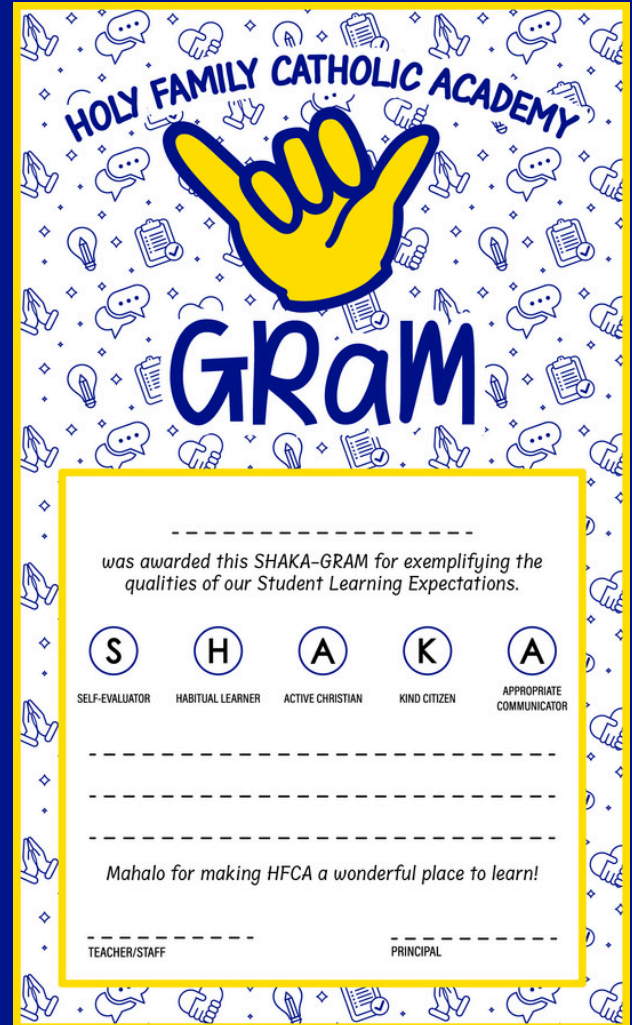
## November Highlight: Updated SHAKA-GRAM Program

We are happy to announce an update to our SHAKA-GRAM program, which is a great example of our Learning & Nurturing Environment pathway, as well as our Family pathway. Our SHAKA-GRAM celebrates our Student Learning Expectations (SLE's) which are skills, abilities, and behaviors we require our students to routinely practice during their enrollment at HFCA.

The mnemonic S-H-A-K-A is used to help our students recall the main themes of each SLE, including Self-Evaluator, Habitual Learner, Active Christian, Kind Citizen, and Appropriate Communicator.

We updated the program after we received thoughtful feedback during our last Coffee Chat with Admin. We are excited to recognize all recipients each week (no more random drawings) and provide more information detailing why your child earned a SHAKA-GRAM.

Each SHAKA-GRAM certificate will be returned to the recipient so that you can celebrate this achievement at home as well!



## Next Coffee Chat with Admin



Friday, November 8, at 8 am.



Please join us for our morning assembly and sign in at the Main Office after we sing our school song.



We will meet in the Laulima Room, located by the flag pole.



## HFCA Fall Book Fair!

November 12 - 15

Please see the ParentSqaure post for more information on how to set up an eWallet for your child(ren), and parent/guardian volunteer opportunities to help out at our book fair!

## Early Release on February 21, 2025

Due to our accreditation process, we have amended the student dismissal time on Friday, February 21, 2025, as follows:

- **Preschool:** 12:00 - 12:30 pm
- **Grades K - 3:** 12:15 pm
- **Grades 4 - 8:** 12:30 pm
- *No after-school care will be offered.*

*Mahalo for your support as we complete this important process for HFCA. We appreciate your understanding and kokua (help)!*

## Dennis Uniforms Update

Dennis Uniforms has abruptly closed its Oahu store and ceased operations as a company. Fortunately, we have identified a local company that will handle our uniform needs moving forward and will share this information soon! If you have any concerns about Dennis Uniforms or uniforms needs for your child, please email Dr. Akiu at: [cakiu@hfcawahawaii.org](mailto:cakiu@hfcawahawaii.org)

To inquire about our PTG Used Uniform Sales, please contact [uniforms@hfcawahawaii.org](mailto:uniforms@hfcawahawaii.org) with the type of uniform you are looking for, in addition to size and quantity. Mahalo to all the families who have donated their uniforms so that another family may benefit!



## SY 2025-2026 NEW STUDENT Applications available in FACTS Family Portal!



### ***Do you need to apply an additional child to Holy Family Catholic Academy?***

Please login to your FACTS Family Portal. In the menu, click on "Apply/Enroll" then click on "Application".



### ***Do you have a family member, friend or colleague interested in applying?***

The application is on our website at [www.hfcawahawaii.org](http://www.hfcawahawaii.org) and we offer a \$350 incentive for every new family that you refer, who enrolls and completes the school year. The \$350 credit is applied to your final 2025-2026 tuition payment on FACTS.



### ***Do you know about our updated sibling discount program?***

In the spring of 2024, we updated our sibling discount as follows:

- 1st child:** Full tuition
- 2nd child:** 10% off
- 3rd child:** 20% off
- 4th child:** 30% off
- 5th child and beyond:** Free tuition

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# HFCA PTG Update

We are happy to announce our PTG executive committee leaders and are grateful they are willing to volunteer their time for our school community. A special thanks to Mr. MacMaster who works closely with our PTG each year as our Admin Team liaison.



## **PTG General Meetings for the Year**

December 5, February 6, April 3  
7 pm, Zoom Meeting - link will be shared on ParentSquare day-of.



## **Upcoming PTG events:**

Christmas Tree Fundraiser until 11/12!  
Panda Express fundraiser on 11/27!  
CPK fundraiser in December!  
Family events in planning stage!



Pictured from left to right: Jessica Ing Brahan, Maureen Paparo, David Caneda, Jill Tamminga, Brian MacMaster and Tara Lilleberg.  
*To reach the PTG, please email: [ptg@hfcahawaii.org](mailto:ptg@hfcahawaii.org)*

### **Jill Tamminga - Lead**

Jill served as PTG Secretary last year and looks forward to another great year leading our PTG. Jill works for a defense contracting company conducting research in the machine learning and artificial intelligence space and previously served in the Navy as a Naval Flight Officer in the E-2C Hawkeye and the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye. In addition to serving on the PTG, she volunteers on our School Board. The Tamminga's are a Navy family with three children, including Max (2024 graduate), Tess (7th grade), and Jojo (2nd grade).

### **Jessica Ing Brahan - Secretary**

The Brahans are a Coast Guard family new to HFCA and are happy to join the Wildcat 'ohana. Jessica has previous experience as a guild secretary at a Catholic school in Connecticut, and 10 years of experience in the educational field as a teacher and school psychologist. We are blessed to have her as our PTG Secretary this year! Jessica has three children at Holy Family, including Dianne (5th grade), Destinee (2nd grade), and Eva (2nd grade).

### **David Caneda - Treasurer**

This is the Caneda family's third year at HFCA and as parishioners of Holy Family Church. David will serve as our PTG Treasurer this year, serves on the HFCA School Board, and manages our used uniform sales. Born and raised in Oahu, David is a self-described country boy who graduated from UH and left Hawaii in 1992 to pursue a military career. After serving 21 years in the US Air Force, he returned to the islands in 2022 with his 'ohana and has two daughters who attend HFCA, including Kailani (8th grade) and Malie (6th grade).

### **Tara Lilleberg - Member-at-large**

This is the Lilleberg family's third year at HFCA, and they are a proud Navy family. Tara served on the PTG last year as a Member-at-large, and is happy to continue her role this year. Originally from Newport, RI Tara's father served in the Navy and she grew up all over the world. She has a background in event production and hospitality which she puts to good use volunteering at Holy Family. Tara has two children at HFCA including Callan (7th grade) and Kiera (3rd grade).

### **Maureen Paparo - Member-at-large**

This is the Paparo family's fourth year at HFCA and as parishioners of Holy Family Church. Maureen has previously served as PTG Vice President and Treasurer and is honored to be Member-at-large this year. The Paparo's are a Navy family with six kids. Their youngest son, Michael (7th grade), attends HFCA and is an Altar Server for the Church.



# Halloween Fun at HFCA

Halloween is always a fun day at HFCA! The campus was buzzing with excitement as students admired each other's costumes, and our upper grades hosted a parade for our preschool students, offering a fun and safe way for our youngest learners to experience Halloween. Father Dario introduced a Saint costume contest this year, and we were impressed with the facts each participant could recall about their chosen Saint. Mahalo to our families who participated!





# All Saints Day Mass

We gathered for All Saints Day Mass on November 1, hosted by students from 4A, who provided the readers, gift bearers, and students who read poetry for a reflection on the contributions of the many Saints we honor.



## 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!

