LET'S CELEBRATE WITH A BALL!

By Kathy Fong

Let’s Celebrate with a Ball! This is something a king might say to his queen, but at Ka Pa’alana it’s what everyone is saying. Why? Because last month we celebrated all that we learned through our study of balls!

There was so much to celebrate!
Their sizes, their textures.
Their patterns and colors.
Everyone played with them

Sisters, brothers, fathers, and mothers!

We learned balls could roll
Some rolled pretty far
And other balls bounced
Nearly as high as the stars

What are balls made of?
That question’s quite fantastic
Maybe leather or cloth,
Or rubber or plastic

We kicked them, and squished them
And tossed them around
Some babies tried eating them
Some made funny sounds

Skeptics may ask
You call this education?
What would you call
Inquiry and investigation?

By Nessa Banas

You can bounce and roll it.
You can catch and dribble it.
It can be a circle or an oval.
What do you think it is? It’s a ball!

After months of exploring, studying, and investigating balls, it is time to celebrate. HOPE kumu met with the mākua to discuss how best to celebrate all that their keiki learned and experienced about balls in this unit.

Toddler and Pre-K classes had a Show and Tell to celebrate their knowledge. The toddler class explored Rube Goldberg ball ramps. The Pre-K class made a pendulum using different materials and demonstrated if and how it worked. Keiki talked about the processes and experiences from planning to creating their final projects.

Keiki read thanksgiving books for Literacy Day and created a Thankful Poster. They shared things they are thankful for and ways they can show gratitude.
By Pua Aquino

Welina mai kākou!

If you ever watched people paddle a canoe, you have witnessed the perfect example of lōkahi, or unity. In the late 1700s, Europeans who visited the Hawaiian Islands remarked at how impressed they were with the way a canoe filled with eighteen paddlers on each side were able to paddle in unison. Each paddler would move to the right and to the left with each other, functioning as one unit. Paddling in a canoe is a beautiful depiction of lōkahi. Each person in the canoe plays an important role in moving the canoe to its destination. If one person stops paddling, it will slow the canoe down. The same can be said about the way people function as a family and as a community. When we all work together, the possibilities are endless and accomplished more quickly.

Let’s all try our best to do as this ʻōlelo noʻeau states, “Pūpūkahi i holomua,” which means, “Unite in order to progress.”

Why Family Traditions Are Important

By Tara Linhares

Family traditions are something families look forward to, especially during the holiday season. Traditions bring meaning to celebrations and create special bonds within the family. Since the holidays are coming up, it is the perfect time to start these traditions.

Some examples of family traditions are: baking cookies, drinking hot chocolate, decorating the house, sending holiday cards out, etc. These small traditions done consistently can help tie the family members together, and also fosters positive memories for your keiki. It is also more likely that your keiki will continue these traditions when they become adults with their own families.

Traditions are important and there is no better time to start than now!