

Ka Lau

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March is National Reading Month!

LCPCS is planning a ton of exciting tributes to the love and value of reading during National Reading Month!

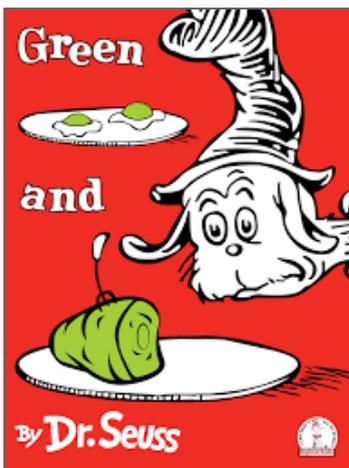
The LCPCS/Scholastic Book Fair, which will run from Monday, February 29 through Saturday, March 5, will provide brand new books for purchase at rock bottom prices in the LCPCS art room. There will be books suitable for kids and young adults. Parents and community members are also invited to attend. The fair will run before school (7:00 to 8:00 am), during lunch (10:30 to 12:30 pm), and after school. It will also be open on Saturday, March 5 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, and on the evening of Tuesday, March 1st, to coincide with an 'Ohana Read Aloud evening. Don't miss this chance to support your school while scoring some great deals on some great books!



Fourth-grader Christian Jimenez reads recently in his classroom.

On Wednesday, March 2, parents are invited to **Parents and Pastry** from 7:00 to 8:00 am at the book sale. Free pastries will be provided for young readers and their parents.

Also, take an opportunity to relax from your busy schedule and come to the **'Ohana Read Aloud Evenings**. They will be held on March 1 and March 15, from 5:30 to 7:15 pm. Following the FREE 'ONO DINNER, toddlers and school-aged children will gather in grade level groups with volunteers who will read stories and assist with some fun reading-related activities. Adults will receive simple handouts with book lists, and learn some tips about reading aloud with children. There will also be some great stories from special guests, and a lucky drawing. On each of the two nights, the **grand prize is a Kindle Reader** plus an accompanying gift card!!



On Dr. Seuss's birthday, Tuesday, March 2, the morning will kick off with **green eggs and ham** for breakfast and a surprise morning assembly to celebrate the magic of reading with elementary grades.

On Friday, March 11, 12:30 to 2:15 pm there will be a **Parent Workshop** about the importance of reading aloud, held in conjunction with the Laupāhoehoe Library. Free refreshments and books for all attendees. (For the 'Ohana Read-aloud Evenings and the Parent Workshop, please RSVP by calling the school, at 962-2200.)

National Reading Month continued from page 1



Monday, March 14 is **Pajama Day**. Elementary students are encouraged to wear pajamas to school, and bring a pillow and small blanket. At 1:00 pm, all students and teachers will head to the gym with their favorite books. First, special guest authors will read aloud, and then the kids will have some time to experience the luxury of a good read. No sleeping!

Read-a-thon, March 2 through March 16. During this 15-day period, elementary Seaside students will log their in-school and at-home reading time, having asked friends and family to sponsor them for the minutes they read. Teachers will help students set individual goals, and classes will have group goals to earn prizes as well. The school has set a goal of 25,000 minutes for the 15 days, and if students reach this goal, they will be rewarded with a free dress day. In addition, the students with the most pledges and hours logged will win Wal-Mart and Target gift cards. Parents are encouraged to help their children meet their reading goals.



And to wrap it all up, there will be a special **reading celebration** on Tuesday, March 29 at 1:45. The exact nature of this event is a closely guarded secret, but it should be a blast.



Seasider Spotlight



Denise AhChoy

Denise AhChoy comes from a large extended family, and many of its members have ties to the school. She herself graduated from LHES in 1997, and her son is currently in the 5th grade. She worked at LHES before the conversion, then spent roughly four years working as a preschool teacher before coming back to LCPCS in 2012. This is her second year in the lead EA position. Ms. AhChoy is also the Social and Emotional Learning Program Assistant. “She’s a very positive influence on campus,” says Director Okoye.

With her EA hat on, Ms. AhChoy manages the EA schedules, makes sure there’s coverage, decides where each of the EAs will go when changes need to be made, and generally makes sure that everything is running smoothly. The EAs assist the teachers in the classroom, and help the students as needed.

As SEL Program Assistant, she is excited and gratified to see results of the program reflected in student behavior. “I see [the kids] using their words more,” she said. “Talking more about issues instead of fighting. I’ve even seen a high school kid doing that.”

When not at school, she says, she loves to read and take her son to the beach. We hope that Ms. AhChoy has plenty of opportunities to combine those activities after her busy days at LCPCS.