

# Ka Lau

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## Enrichment Program continues to offer exciting opportunities

One of the most successful and popular programs at LCPCS continues to offer exciting extra-curricular activities for a variety of ages. Quarter 1 options this year included an art club, a computer coding club, tutoring, dance, automotive and wood shops, and the Mahope Program. Quarter 2 is busy with more dance, a continuation of the wood and auto shops, an animal care club, a running club, disc golf, the coding and art clubs, yoga, Hip Hope (which will focus on the positive messages of the Hip Hop culture and music) and a "Wahine Day Spa" class wherein girls grades 6 through 12 will focus on healthy, natural lifestyles and beauty treatments, as well as learn about inspirational women and women's issues.



*Volunteer Emily Hunt leads 2nd and 3rd-graders in a yoga class after school.*

Sadly, the Mahope Program funding was not renewed, and is ending in December. Mahope has been a highly successful after-school program designed to strengthen math and science skills in middle school students through hands-on experience in Hawaiian cultural practices and values. The Mahope Program has been providing the funding for the second bus run, which has been taking students home from all the enrichment activities, but other funding sources are being investigated, so stay tuned on that.

LCPCS would also like to offer the DOE after-school program, A+, as one more option for working parents whose students need after-school care. However, it has not yet received the minimum number of applicants. Please consider signing up for this program! For more information, go to [www.lcps.com](http://www.lcps.com) and look under the announcements tab.

Much of this is made possible by volunteers, or by paid staff who volunteer countless additional hours to make it happen. We thank them for their time and dedication. This kind of innovation is what being a charter school is all about!!



*First-grader Sophia Russo with volunteer Juliet Higgins learning about spiders in the animal care club.*

## Student and staff field trips offers hands-on appreciation for area history



*Seventh-grader Cairi Solomon-Torres plants kalo at Koholālele Forest*

This fall, LCPCS has been partnering with Hui Mālama i ke Ala ‘Ūlili, a non-profit group devoted to fostering place-based ancestral knowledge, healthy eco-systems, and strong, self reliant ‘ohana with the capacity to live and thrive in Hāmākua for generations. In July, the entire LCPCS faculty and staff joined members of Hui Mālama i ke Ala ‘Ūlili for a field trip to the Koholālele forest in makai Pa‘auilo. The school staff learned the mele, oli and pule pertaining to the area, in keeping with this year’s school theme, Mālama Palikū, which focuses on the importance of taking care of our earth, our neighborhood, our school, and one another.

Likewise, in October, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders visited the forest. After a bumpy trip down an old cane haul road, students hiked into the restored mala (garden), where they learned the mo‘olelo (legends) of the area; the history of ‘Umi-a-Līloa (a famous ali‘i born in that ahupua‘a); and the effect of the sugar plantations on Hāmākua. Seaside helped restore the coastal native forest by removing invasive grass and trees, planting native medicinal garden species, and learning the Hāmākua method of planting kalo, which involves using kukui leaves to enrich the soil.

Further field trips are planned for other grades. For more information about Hui Mālama i ke Ala ‘Ūlili, as well as information on how to volunteer, go to [www.alaulili.com](http://www.alaulili.com).

## Seventh-graders host Halloween bash



A good time was had by all on the (dark and scary) evening of October 28, when the 7<sup>th</sup> grade threw a Halloween party for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. “It was a fun, positive, safe event,” says teacher Aaron Mickelson, designed to provide an example of the kuleana the

6<sup>th</sup> graders will show next year, when they, in turn, welcome the new middle schoolers. Students brought in handmade spooky treats, played games, watched a movie and held contests. Kudos to Bob Zellner and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade hosts, with an extra thank you to students Lynsey Morrison, Aliza Gonzales, Amaya Barrientos, Jaselyn Mahoe-Subica, Reese Baun and Aubrey Wicks, who took on much of the organizational responsibility.



*Kindergartener Karlie Nobriga-Jose has her hearing checked recently at a vision and hearing screening conducted annually at the school by volunteers from the Lions Club.*