



中華基督教會基灣小學 (愛蝶灣)

CCC Kei Wan Primary School (Aldrich Bay)



Hawaii Eco-cultural Summer Camp

Principal's Message



A Journey of Growth in God's Grace – The Hawai'i Eco-Cultural Camp

Aloha!

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I reflect on our ten-day Hawai'i journey (17 – 26 July) – a pilgrimage of wonder, learning, and unmistakable divine favour. From the very first morning to our final farewell, our Heavenly Father marked each step with signs of His faithfulness: the majestic rainbow that arched over our path, the living classroom of volcanic fire, and the quiet whispers of creation that spoke louder than any textbook.

How can we not give thanks for His perfect timing? On the very eve of our visit to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, the Kilauea crater began to glow and flow – not by chance, but as a vivid, unforgettable “living lesson” prepared just for us. Even the locals remarked, “You are truly a blessed group!” Indeed, we saw with our own eyes that the earth still groans and sings of its Maker.

One of the deepest privileges was worshipping in the oldest Christian church in the Hawaiian Islands – Mokuaikaua Church, built in 1823 from volcanic lava stone. Standing beneath its white-washed walls and elegant interior, I felt the fervent hearts of the early missionaries who crossed vast oceans to share the Gospel. In that sacred space, we were reminded that the love of Christ transcends every culture and generation.

Every day was a new lesson in wisdom and tenderness:

- the surging lava and steam of the crater,
- the joyful dance with spinner dolphins in crystalline waters,
- and the quiet evenings under starry skies, where we shared songs and testimonies of life.

From exploring Polynesian heritage to practising personal responsibility and teamwork, our students grew not only in knowledge but in character. As the Scripture affirms, “In Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28).

My sincere thanks go to our dedicated team of teachers – Miss Tai, Miss Chan, Mr. So, and Mr. Choi – for their unwavering care and professionalism; to Dr. Morre and the wonderful staff of Hawai'i Preparatory Academy; to our supportive parents; and to every friend who lifted this trip in prayer. May our children carry these blessings into their daily lives – turning wonder into wisdom, and gratitude into strength – as they continue to explore the vast and beautiful world our Creator has made.

“Taste and see that the Lord is good!” (Psalm 34:8) – and indeed, we have tasted His goodness in every sunrise, every lesson, and every smile along this Aloha way.

With blessings,
Dr. Wong Ching Man





Day 1

Arriving at HPA

Alvis Ho Chun Yin

Last summer, I joined a study tour called Hawaii Eco-cultural Summer Camp with other schoolmates. We stayed at the dormitory in Hawaii Preparatory Academy (HPA) for the whole trip.

It was late when we arrived at the dormitory. The sky was dark and it was a bit cool at night, however, we felt very warm when we arrived at the dormitory. The dormitory was big and cozy. There was even an electric fireplace in the living room. There were some board games and a big sofa. I could not wait to spend some good times with my friends and teachers there. The dormitory was way more better than I expected. We all had a good sleep on the first night. And we were all very excited about the coming eight days of our trip.

To conclude, Day 1 was a nice day and it was definitely a good start. We wondered what we would experience during the trip.



Day 2

Cultural Lesson at HPA (Lei Making, Talent Show, BBQ Night)

Patrick Lam Pak Lam

It was a fantastic day. We started off the day by having a delicious breakfast. We enjoyed the refreshing fruit and the salad. After the wonderful breakfast, we set off to the library to have a group discussion about Aloha Aina, which means 'love of the land'. A past student from HPA hosted this activity. We learnt a lot and even got a chance to share our ideas! It was very interesting.

After we finished this activity, it was time to make a lei. Although the tree leaves were a bit stinky, we enjoyed the making process a lot. Making a lei was a bit difficult. We struggled a bit at first, but we mastered the technique and succeeded under the teachers' help. Then the teachers let us relax a bit and we had a running competition and a Dodgebee competition on a big piece of grassland. Our schedule was not full after the lunch, so we decided to play hide-and-seek until the music teacher Mr. So told us to practice for our coming singing performance. I had never tried to sing on a grassland, and we found that enjoyable. It was then time to watch the performance of HPA students. We enjoyed the performance in the comfortable seats, and I was amazed by their skills of acting and singing. We took a photo together before we left. After dinner, we enjoyed a little barbecue. The chocolate marshmallow was delicious. Then the teachers let us play ball games and soccer games with some other foreign students. This fantastic day ended with excitement and fun!



Day 3

Farmers' Market, Hapuna Beach, Volcano Lesson at Dormitory

Scarlett Ho Wan Tung

On Day 3, we went to two main places. We set off very early to the Farmer's Market. There were a lot of things to buy such as fruit, macadamia nuts, local treats and more! A shopkeeper from one of the stalls even gave a schoolmate fresh coconut juice for free. Besides, there was an area in the middle of the market for people to perform there. We saw a man playing the guitar and a group of women performing hula dances. It was great.

After that, the teachers added an activity. It was going to the Hapuna Beach! We played with the sand and in the water. Some schoolmates played with the sand. But most of us went very near the water and played with it. The teachers even brought a beach volleyball for us to play with! Even though we were all soaked in water after playing, it was still worth it.

We quickly went back to our dorm to clean up after all of that. After resting for a while and having dinner, we went back to the common room. Principal Wong quickly went up to the front and showed us a video about volcanoes. It showed everyone that Hawaii is formed by a lot of volcanoes together which made us all curious about what we would see the following day.

Day 4

Akaka Falls, Volcano National Park, Kilauea Military Camp

Thea To Ki Kwan

On the fourth day of our trip, we went to Akaka Falls. We were all amazed by the views. It was a very long waterfall, and it was stunning. We closed our eyes, heard the water falling, and felt the nature. There was a pavilion where we could overlook the whole view. We sat there and enjoyed it very much.

After that, we went to Volcano National Park. We didn't expect that we could see the volcano eruption at first. When we arrived at the park, we were very surprised. We really did see it erupting! The red lava slowly flew out, as slow as a tortoise. We were very thankful that we could witness such an incredible moment.

At last, we went to the Kilauea Military Camp. It was a camp for the soldiers a long time ago. Now, it is a hotel for tourists to live in. We had a delicious packed lunch there. The view there was quite great that there were many trees and a lot of grass. We played on the basketball court too!

This day was really remarkable. We have learned many things from it. The most important thing that I have learned is the importance of protecting the earth. Earth is our home, let's protect our home!



Day 5

Lei Making and Bracelet Weaving Performance at Marriott Hotel, Dolphin Quest Lagoon, Hula Show at Queens' Marketplace

Priscilla Wong Hoi Tung

It was a very memorable day. We first went to the Marriott Hotel to get ready for our performance. The hotel specially prepared some activities for us to do so that we could learn more about the Hawaiian culture. First, we did Lei making. From this activity, I learnt that making Lei actually represented luck and prosperity. We also did bracelet weaving. It was hard at first, but as we kept repeating the same steps again and again, we eventually finished weaving with ease. After we finished those activities, we got ready to perform. It went very well, and the audience liked our performance very much. We were glad.

After that, we went to Dolphin Quest Lagoon to play with some dolphins. We were all very excited because we could interact with dolphins by doing different hand gestures. When we splashed water at the dolphin, it would splash back at us. The staff there also took some beautiful photos of us. It was a very fun and exciting experience.

Lastly, we went to Queens' Marketplace to watch a Hula performance. I was amazed by how the performers could move their hips so smoothly. They probably practised repeatedly to have such a nice performance. We even took our phones out to capture this amazing performance so that we would never forget it. We all enjoyed the Hula performance and had an amazing time.

In the end, we all had an amazing day and enjoyed watching the Hula performance, making Lei, weaving bracelets and playing with dolphins. We will never forget this memorable day.





Day 6

Queens' Marketplace, Hawaii Keiki Museum Performance

Diana Wong Mei Yi

On Day 6, we had a mall tour at Queens' Marketplace in the morning. There were many shops and everyone of us bought souvenirs for our friends. In the afternoon, we got to eat shaved ice with our friends. It tasted delicious. The staff there were very nice, the portions were very big, so we had to share it with each other. Then, we even got the chance to sing at Queens' Marketplace. Many tourists watched our performances, we were glad that they enjoyed our performance very much.

There was a koi pond at the Queens' Marketplace. There were a lot of Koi fish in the pond. We had a lot of fun feeding them. This was the first time for most of us to feed the fish.

After that, we went to Hawaii Keiki Museum in Kings' Shop to learn about science. There were a lot of machines about science. We learnt more about STEAM through the games that we played.

In the evening, we had some activities such as board games, and we played beach ball with others in the dormitory. It was relaxing, we really enjoy the activities on Day 6.



Day 7

Lesson at HPA , Ukulele Lesson, Certificate Presentation, the Marriott Hotel Swimming, Disco Night

Mavis, Wong Wing Ching

On Day 7, we had a lesson at HPA. It was about different phases of the moon. We even used some Oreo biscuits to make different phases. I thought that was interesting because we could learn the phases of the moon by doing crafts. I loved that the teacher told us "Learning through the entertainment". It made me pay more attention to what the teacher said.

Then, we had a ukulele lesson. We learnt how to play this instrument, and we also played a song together.

Next, we went to the Marriott Hotel to swim. We were all very excited because the pool there was beautiful and we could swim with our friends. We were really thankful to our teachers for taking us there.

After dinner, we had a disco night. We danced happily and crazily. The teachers even danced with us!



Day 8

King Kamehameha Hotel, Atlantis Submarine, Ali'i Drive

Jonas Suen

I woke up, waiting, thinking what it would be like in a submarine. "Y'all ready? It's the day when we go on the submarine trip. It will be a long way there," said one of the teachers. "So now, let's have breakfast and make sure your water bottle is full. Alright?"

And so we did. The breakfast was scrumptious. We were full of energy. We couldn't wait for this once-in-a-lifetime trip!

After a long ride in the old-fashioned yellow school bus –which in Hong Kong, is very very rare. After we arrived the hotel, we looked at some paintings of a pirate, showing every single piece of his life.

The thing I had been wanting to do came true. While we were waiting for the ride, we read a magazine about the submarine's company and looked at the amazing souvenirs. The one I liked was the telescope that was very tall.

Here we entered a pier and waited more for about five minutes. Then, a ship came. I was puzzled once again. Then, one teacher told us, 'That's the yacht we'll use to go to the submarine.'

The ship sailed for quite a while and the submarine was there! We queued one-by-one for the hatch and climbed a scary ladder. Someone didn't want to go down, so it did take quite a while.

Little by little, the submarine went down to sixty metres. The seabed was full of corals. They were destroyed by pollution. I desperately sighed. Suddenly a swarm of little fishes went by and I thought I was in the world of the movie Nemo.

A bit later, the corals were gone and shipwrecks were found. The shipwrecks became apartments for fishes.

"...And now, we're at 100 metres deep in the ocean," announced the tour guide. It was spectacular. A little fish accidentally bumped into our submarine but it looked like it was saying hello to us.

Up we went, back to the surface, we went to Ali'i Drive to buy souvenirs. I bought a bag of candies for my family. My brother enjoyed it a lot.

This sure was one of my favourite days of my life. It ended with a tasty dinner and a good night sleep.





Day
9/10

Home Sweet Home

Naomi Choi Tsz Chin

On the last day, we students emerged out of our warm bedsheets at three o'clock in the morning, then got dressed and carried our suitcases from our dorms to the lobby. Everyone was tired but missing the dorms.

We then got on the school bus to Hawaii Airport, and shortly after, we got on the plane. As we were on the plane, we reflected on the school trip to Hawaii.

The school trip to Hawaii was an unforgettable experience that blended education, adventure and culture. We gained deep appreciation for the island's beautiful ecosystem. These weren't just sights from a textbook, they were also real wonders we could see, touch, smell and more. The trip also taught us the 'aloha' spirit—kindness, compassion and unity.

The most valuable part of the trip was bonding with classmates and teachers outside the school. The bonding made us learn about teachers more and build stronger friendships with our classmates. These moments really fostered a sense of belonging.

In conclusion, this trip not only made us enrich our knowledge, but it also created unforgettable memories. Mahalo, Hawaii. For the lessons that will stay with us forever.

