

A9 NEWSLETTER

Thank
You!

ALOHAYAMA

Important Dates:

- June 6th Hayama Sports Day
- June 19th Teachers Preparation Day - No School
- June 20th Field trip - Morinaga Angel Museum
- July 4th Parent Teacher Conference

Preparing for the spring festa “Alohayama” was a joyful and exciting time for the students. The whole school buzzed with energy as everyone helped create decorations, practice songs, and prepare booths for the big day. One of the highlights was the ukulele performance—students had practiced for weeks, and their cheerful Hawaiian tunes brought smiles to everyone’s faces. The festival was filled with laughter and color, with face painting, fun games, and hands-on craft activities keeping everyone busy and happy. The air was filled with the delicious smell of food, from sweet treats to tasty snacks. It was a day full of sunshine, music, and unforgettable memories.



Preparing for Sports Day has been an exciting and energetic time for the students. With bright smiles and determined spirits, they've been training hard each day—practicing sprints, relays, obstacle courses, and group events. Laughter and encouragement fill the air as they learn their team chants, proudly shouting them with growing confidence and unity. The students are not only building strength and coordination, but also learning the true meaning of teamwork. They cheer each other on, support one another through challenges, and understand that every role—big or small—matters. Sports Day is more than just competition; it's about coming together, doing your best, and celebrating everyone's effort.





"Aloha Together"

A Collaborative Celebration of Diversity and Creativity

This mural, created for Spring Festa "Alohayama," is a vibrant expression of our school's unity, spirit, and diversity. Every student from Grade 1 through Junior High contributed a handprint to the rainbow—a symbol of inclusion, togetherness, and the shared path we walk as a community.



Around the rainbow, colorful birds take flight—each one unique, painted by students in A9 (Grades 5 and 6). They reflect the beauty of individuality and the strength that comes from diversity. Beneath the waves, ocean animals painted by A8 (Junior High) add a sense of depth, reminding us of the creative voice each person brings.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Students calculating interest gained from various deposits over different time spans and interest rates gain vital skills in financial literacy and numeracy. Through hands-on activities, they learn how simple and compound interest work, how time and rate affect the final amount, and how to compare different financial scenarios. This not only reinforces their understanding of percentages and multiplication but also helps them grasp real-world applications like saving, investing, and borrowing. Understanding interest prepares students to make informed decisions in their future—whether it's choosing a savings account, evaluating a loan, or planning long-term goals. It's a key step in becoming financially responsible adults.

SCIENCE – GRAVITY

Learning about gravity helps upper elementary students understand why objects fall and how the world works. It builds a foundation for future science learning and encourages critical thinking through hands-on experiments. Gravity lessons connect to everyday life and spark curiosity about space. By exploring how gravity affects motion and balance, students also develop problem-solving and engineering skills, making science fun, meaningful, and relevant to their lives.



Testing Ideas

LANGUAGE ARTS

Fifth graders learning about fairy tales through the story of Minli and the Man in the Moon from *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin are taken on a magical journey filled with wisdom, courage, and imagination. As they follow Minli's adventure to find the Old Man of the Moon and change her family's fortune, students explore classic fairy tale elements like quests, magical creatures, and moral lessons. They discover how the story is inspired by Chinese folklore, connecting them to a rich cultural tradition.

Through discussions and activities, students analyze themes like hope, gratitude, and the power of storytelling. They learn how characters grow through kindness, bravery, and cleverness—common in fairy tales around the world. Reading about Minli's determination and the stories she hears along the way encourages students to think about how we all seek meaning and connection in our lives.



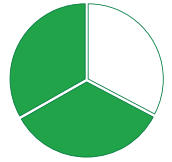
Sixth Grade Students are learning about the U.S. Constitution are stepping into a key part of American history and civics. They explore how this important document was created, why it was written, and how it shapes the government today. Through stories about the Founding Fathers, the Constitutional Convention, and the debates between Federalists and Anti-Federalists, students begin to understand the ideas of democracy, freedom, and the balance of power. They learn about the three branches of government—legislative, executive, and judicial—and how the Constitution ensures that no one branch becomes too powerful. Discussions about the Bill of Rights help students see how individual freedoms are protected, and they begin to make connections to their own lives, such as freedom of speech or the right to a fair trial.

By studying the Constitution, students not only gain knowledge of American government but also develop a sense of civic responsibility. They learn that laws and rights matter, and that being an informed, active citizen begins with understanding the foundation of the country's laws. It's a powerful and inspiring lesson in how rules, rights, and responsibility all come together in a living document that continues to shape the nation.





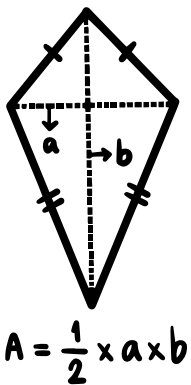
MATH



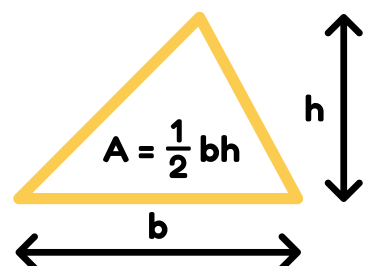
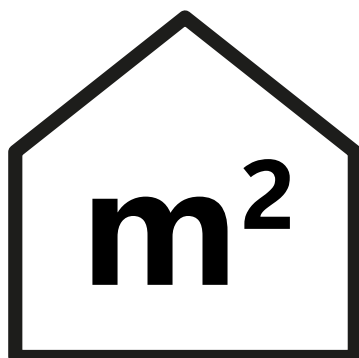
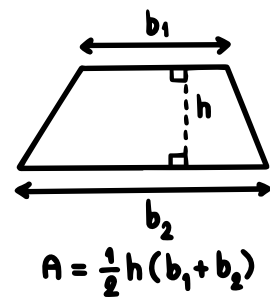
Fifth graders dive deeper into fractions by learning how to find common denominators, especially when adding or subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. They discover that by finding a shared multiple of both denominators, they can rewrite each fraction with the same base, making subtraction or addition much easier. This builds their number sense and strengthens their understanding of how parts relate to a whole. When it comes to multiplying fractions, students learn that it's as simple as multiplying the numerators and the denominators—often using real-life examples like finding the area of a rectangle with fractional sides or calculating part of a quantity. Division of fractions introduces new ideas, such as “how many times does one fraction fit into another?” or using the “flip and multiply” method (multiplying by the reciprocal), which is often introduced through visual models and practical problems, like sharing or grouping.

These concepts not only challenge students to think flexibly, but also help them see fractions as useful tools in real-life situations—like cooking, building, or budgeting. With practice and visual support, students build a strong foundation for more advanced math.

Sixth Grade students are learning to calculate the area of different shapes and are developing important problem-solving skills that connect directly to the real world. By using decomposing and composing strategies—breaking complex shapes into simpler ones and then reassembling them—they begin to see how shapes work together. For example, they might turn an irregular figure into rectangles and triangles to find the total area more easily. These skills help them not only understand geometry more deeply but also apply it in everyday situations like measuring a room for new furniture, planning a garden, or designing a sports field. Learning area through hands-on activities and real-world examples makes math both practical and engaging.



$$A = \frac{b \times h}{2}$$



LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

Learning Japanese enhances memory, focus, and problem-solving skills. It introduces a new culture, encouraging respect and curiosity about the world. Studying a second language improves communication and listening abilities. Japanese also strengthens understanding of language patterns, which supports literacy in English. Through songs, games, and writing, students stay engaged and motivated. Learning Japanese builds confidence and opens doors to future global opportunities and friendships.



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