

April 24-May 5

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**May 8**

NO SCHOOL

**May 10**

Walking Trip to the  
farmer's market

**May 10**

Last day to turn in  
Charity Walk pledge  
forms & monies

**May 13**

Charity Walk fundraiser

**May 18**

Library Visit

**May 24**

Park Visit

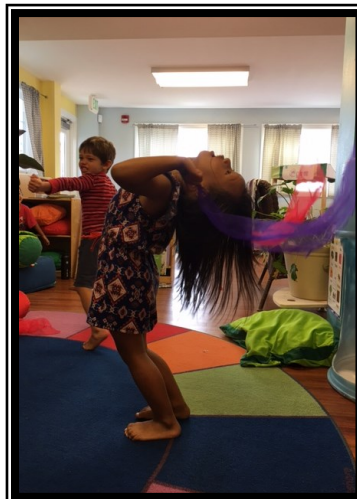
**May 26**

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Uncle Wayne 9am

Pot-luck at 3pm

As our learning trip to Ulalena approached, we reviewed some of the myths and legends that we had begun the semester with. The children were excited to see Pele in the show as well as Maui, Hina and Kamapuaa. The week of our trip, we played the music and watched youtube clips to prepare the children. We discussed expectations in the theatre such as staying seated and being quiet to be respectful of the performers. By Friday, we were all extremely excited! The school bus ride was a long one. We sang songs and held our breath in the tunnel. The children asked about the islands we could see and the name of the mountains. They noticed different types of trees along the way. When we arrived, there were lots of children waiting for their turn to enter the theatre. Our friends waited patiently! When we entered, the children looked at everything in awe. We pointed out the concession stand and the props hanging in the hallway. We took our seats where popcorn and water awaited us. The children were filled with questions about the stage, the show, the curtains...and then the lights flashed! It was about to begin. The show lasted for 1.5 hrs and for the majority of the time, most of the Imua children were mesmerized! Some of them danced in the aisle, they clapped and cheered loudly and laughed out loud at the pig god. After the show, we got to see some of the performers in the hallway. Upon leaving, Tucker exclaimed, "Ulalena is absolutely incredible!" We couldn't agree more, what a fantastic experience!



## Our Imua Theatre



After our trip, we asked the children how we could create a theatre in the classroom. They were full of great ideas! Interestingly, the seats having cup holders was a big deal! We brainstormed that we could represent items such as popcorn, the waterfall, the musician area. The children helped to pack away the animal hospital in the dramatic play center and we rearranged furniture to create our theatre. We used a few platforms for the stage, old curtains, packaging popcorn, doggie stairs, our ticket booth and puppet stand and voila! A theatre was born!

For the rest of the month, we will focus on story telling and acting using our stage area. We will be telling and reading familiar fairytales and having the children act them out as well as participating in other story stretchers such as cooking and craft activities. Retelling a story in sequence is an important foundational skill to reading and writing and something that will be expected of our Kindergarten bound friends. At home, you can enhance this skill by reading daily to your children and asking them who, what and where questions about the story. Focusing on how the characters are feeling also helps with their emotional literacy which leads to higher levels of empathy and understanding. The children will also be telling their own stories which we will then write down and act out. This is very empowering to a child as they see their words brought to life!

