

January 23-January 27

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**February 3**

Drop off & pick up at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens for our all day adventure

**February 8**

Library visit

**February 13**

Bring in items for bake/craft sale

**February 14**

Bake and craft sale

**February 15**

Park visit

**February 17**

Teacher work day

**SCHOOL CLOSED**

**February 20**

**HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED**

## **Community Events**

**Wednesday February 1**

FPH Uncle Wayne at Carden 5-7

### Joint Productive Activity

The children completed their individual clay volcanoes last week and this week, we made our larger island volcano together. A joint productive activity is a project in which all the members of a group participate in the creation of a final product. The teachers helped create the skeleton of our volcano



using chicken wire and a coke bottle. Then, we all tore newspaper into strips. We are already familiar with this activity as it is the same process for feeding our worms. When children tear paper, they are strengthening small



muscles used for fine motor control needed to write. Each small group helped mix the paper mache adhesive which consisted of flour, glue and water. We dipped pieces of paper into the mixture and covered our wire volcano. Everybody helped. Paper mache offers a great sensory experience for children. Sensory play engages scientific

thinking and creativity. Children use a variety of skills as they participate and it is an activity that allows all children to feel successful. Our joint product of our volcano will be an ongoing project as we add various layers of foliage to it. We had to wait a couple of days for the structure to dry and then, the children painted it. We couldn't decide what color to make it as some children thought it should be orange like lava and others thought it should be black like lava that had cooled down. We set out a mixture of colors and the children finished painting it in two days. It is now ready for it's eruption!



## Say What?

One of the hardest parts of putting your child in a group care setting can be the influences they receive that are no longer coming from you. These influences can be both positive and negative. There has been an influx of “bathroom” talk amongst the children. They think it is hilarious...probably because it annoys us adults so much! It is normal preschool silliness! We have been trying to engage the children in other ways to make each other laugh and reminding them that those words are inappropriate. At other times, we have heard children using more adult language when they are angry. This can be a response to wanting to display power. They have big feelings and they may have seen these words have a big impact. Again, we try to give the children alternatives for dealing with anger. Our classroom community is made up of a variety of children from different walks of life. You may not know why a child is behaving a certain way or what plans are in place for each child but rest assured, we work with each individual to meet their needs and make a safe learning environment for everyone.

## Moving and Stopping: Building Self-Regulation

Young children have a lot of energy and need to move! This week, we introduced the music of Ulalena, a musical interpretation of the history and legends of Hawaii. As they danced, children pretended to be Pele or the ocean depending on the song. We used scarves and sticks as we danced. In March, we hope to arrange a learning trip to Ulalena using funds from our bake sale. Uncle Wayne joined us on Thursday for more music and movement. He sang songs that included times to sit down, stand up and dance. The songs had certain moves and parts for the children and they had to listen and adapt. Self-regulation is

the ability to control one's own behavior and actions. It is very challenging for young children as they are impulsive and egocentric but it is perhaps, the most important skill needed for school readiness. Our light cube game encourages them to stop, look and then act building self-regulation

skills. We played our light cube game this week. When the cube flashes, various colors the children move, when it stops they have to look at the color, check the chart and perform the action next to the color. The children came up with the moves and enjoyed this activity all week. We will play it again next week changing the rules a little.

