

July 11-15



### Dates to Remember

**Wednesday, July 20**

Water play-please  
bring bathing suit  
and towel

**Thursday, July 21**

Last day of summer  
school

Family breakfast  
pot-luck

8am-1030am

**July 22-July 29**

**SUMMER**

## I Love Pizza!

This week, we made pizza again using ingredients from our garden. The journey from garden to pizza is a multi step process that began long ago when we planted our basil and tomato. The children used scissors to snip the basil practicing their fine motor skills. Everyone had a turn to add ingredients to the blender for the pesto sauce and to push the button. Once the pesto sauce was made, we then had to make the dough. First, we combined the ingredients, then we left the dough to rise in the sun. Later, we had to kneed and stretch the dough and put it in the oven. When it was ready, we added the pesto sauce, tomatoes from the garden and cheese. It was delicious! Multi-step projects can last for days, weeks, or even months. Over time and with repeated experience, children deepen their understanding of a topic. Our garden will continue to be a source of ongoing learning and hands on investigation as we move forward into our new school year. We will build on the experiences that we have shared this summer and engage in a deeper look at our native plants and their uses.



## Library Visit



On Thursday, we ventured to the Kahului library. Before the trip, the children were told that they could choose one book from the library to bring back to school. At circle time, we asked them what kind of book they were thinking about selecting. Answers ranged from bugs to dinosaurs to princess. When we arrived at the library, the children helped each other to find certain categories. After hunting for the right book, we all gathered on the rug for a story time. We checked out with the librarian and headed back to school. Everyone was very excited about their book and read them on their blankets before nap time.

Through this process, we were able to gather some information about the children's interests which can then inform our planning and help us to build our connection to the child.

Numerous studies have been conducted that profess the benefits of reading aloud to preschoolers. According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), a division of the U.S.

Department of Education, children who are read to at home enjoy a substantial advantage over children who are not:

- Twenty-six percent of children who were read to three or four times in the last week by a family member recognized all letters of the alphabet. This is compared to 14 percent of children who were read to less frequently.
- The NCES also reported that children who were read to frequently are also more likely to:
  - count to 20, or higher than those who were not (60% vs. 44%)
  - write their own names (54% vs. 40%)
  - read or pretend to read (77% vs. 57%)

At home, a routine can be created of a book before bed or first thing in the morning. Making it a daily habit will help your child create that habit for themselves in the future.