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“l really liked the CRDG staff, they are really nice and my teachers are too. To me, this was the best summer ever!”
- Rene Yoshimura, LJ Reporter

We asked students, teachers, and staff:
If you could describe the 2018 Summer Program in one word, what would it be?

Here are the results...

Minecraft
by Cassidy Bramlett and Tyler Lee-Kobashigawa

Mr. Ryan Hironaka and his teaching assistant Alexis Asuncion teach the Minecraft class in the choir room at Castle Memorial. Students in this class learn how to use their creativity and team work to complete challenges.

For example, the students had to make massive structures and figure out dimensions. Mr. Hironaka teaches students to build with patience and perseverance while letting creativity and imagination go wild.

Mr. Hironaka always tells his students to work hard during the challenges, “learn how to deal with people who don’t want to play nice, because there are going to be some people who don’t go by the rules, but we must not let them get to us.”

By the end of the week, small groups would have constructed rides and attractions similar to those found at Disneyland. “Working as a team has been the most exciting part of the class. My group was able to complete our project like the ride Space Mountain,” says JJ Carvalho.

Overall, Minecraft has been an enjoyable and exciting experience for the whole class.
Robotics with VEX
by JJ Carvalho

Robotics VEX is taught by Mr. Ryan Hironaka in room 119 at Castle Memorial in the morning. Mr. Ryan teaches middle school and high school.

What they do in the Robotics VEX is they race every other day which gives them time to build a robot. Each team designs, builds, codes, and programs their own robot.

“Applying basic STEM concepts to a competitive atmosphere keeps the students engaged and makes lessons feel more real,” says Mr. Ryan. He adds, “beginners are able to learn quickly through the units to progressively increase their VEX knowledge and skill level.”

Last week Friday, the girls raced the boys using car robots. The girls won the race and got to go on break as their prize while the boys had to stay in the classroom and start a new project. Hannah Hirata, one of the students I interviewed said, “the reason why I chose this class is because I like robotics, so my dad suggested it. What I like about Robotics VEX is that I get to build and I like building.”

World Cup Highlights
by Lucas Ordonez

Last week, France advanced to the semi-finals after beating Uruguay 2-0. Belgium advanced after knocking out Brazil 2-1 leaving no South American teams in the Cup. Croatia beat Russia in penalties 3-4 sending themselves to the semi finals. Finally, England beat Sweden 2-0. In the semis, Belgium lost to France 0-1. Also, England lost to Croatia 1-2. Now the World Cup is between France and Croatia. Who will score the winning GOOOAAALLL!!!!

Stacked Warriors
by Reese Akana

According to ESPN.com, the Golden State Warriors may be a seven-time champion with the help of Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, Draymond Green, Kevin Durant, and their newest player, DeMarcus Cousins. This week, Cousins signed a one-year contract for $5M. “Cousins thanked New Orleans and its fans on Twitter,” says ESPN’s Adrian Wojnarowski.
Field Trip to Ka Leo Newsroom
by Tyler Lee-Kobashigawa

On July 10, the Little Journalists went to the Ka Leo O Hawai‘i newsroom located at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa campus. While they were there, they learned new things about journalism. For example, they learned about formatting and what not to do like create fake news. Sarah Taniguchi said, “I enjoyed this excursion because one of the editors and the team helped us with our communication skills and helped us gain confidence.” Another classmate, Lucas Ordonez said, “The advisor, Marc Arakaki, told us about a writer a few years ago who made up stuff for the newspaper. As writers, we need to be credible.”

Open House
by the Little Journalists

CRDG Summer Programs hosted the annual Open House on Thursday, July 12. First, parents and relatives of students visited the registration tent and received a map of all the classes on campus. Then they found the classes that their child was enrolled in and looked at some of their work. Some students presented to the visitors about their projects. Sarah Taniguchi from the Little Journalists class said, “presenting to parents was a good practice for me. It helped me get out of my comfort zone.” Tyler Lee-Kobashigawa said, “Having relatives come was kind of tense; I didn’t know what they were going to say about my work.” Even though there was a scheduled fire drill that morning, students and relatives remained unaffected and continued their visit. After, students ate lunch with their loved ones and watched a slideshow and a short film. Open House continued after lunch for the afternoon classes and continued until 1:30pm. Cassidy Bramlett said, “it was a good experience for parents and relatives to see what their kids were doing this summer.” JJ Carvalho said, “I’m happy that my dad came. It was a fun day.”
Open House photos by CRDG Staff
Drama Production
“The Greatest Showman”
by Sarah Taniguchi

On Thursday night, the Drama: Stage Production put on an adaptation of “The Greatest Showman,” a 2017 musical film starring Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron, Michelle Williams, Rebecca Ferguson, and Zendaya. The film follows a visionary who rose from nothing to create a worldwide spectacle.

Various students played the roles of characters. In this performance, students danced, sung, and each of them had a unique role.

Student Chris Georgiev played the lead role as P.T. Barnum. He was surprised that he had the opportunity to be this role because this is his first year in drama class. Chris said that he enjoys the dance numbers, specifically “Come Alive”. This dance is the show’s opening performance that has all of the students snapping and pointing to the audience. He was very nervous to perform because he’s never done anything like this before.

Brody Leong played the role of the Irish Giant and The Mailman. Brody likes the “Other Side” song where Barnum convinces Phillip Carlyle to leave his privileged, uptown life to join his circus. His favorite part was the finale.
Last Day: Splish, Splash, Water Play
photos by CRDG Staff