

# P.A.C.T. PRESS

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## Resource Center News

We are pleased with the smooth start to the school year. It is such a treat to begin our school year in our beautiful new home! Our classes are going well too. In fact, we had enough students on the waitlist to add some classes. And speaking of classes, if you want to know how your child is doing feel free to email or leave a message in the teacher's box so that they are able to respond to you when they can give you their undivided attention.. Sometimes illness, workshops, or emergencies come up for our teachers and we don't have substitute teachers for our classes , so be sure to make note of class cancellations in your calendars as teachers make you aware of them. Also, make sure that we have the most recent phone numbers and email for you in the event that we have to call with last minute class cancellations or emergencies. We will also post class cancellations on our website at [www.natomascharter.org/pact](http://www.natomascharter.org/pact) whenever possible. In fact, we want you to make a habit of consulting the website for any and all information you may need, events, newsletters, meeting notes, etc.

Also, we have a new meeting time for KORT (parent support group) and CHES, (classical education support group) meetings this year . The new meeting time will be from 12:30 - 2:30 on Wednesdays. CHES meetings are the first Wednesday of the month (except for April) and KORT meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month (April's date may be subject to change depending on STAR test dates/times). Come join other P.A.C.T. Parents as we network to support each other and sculpt our program to meet the needs of

our students and families.

We want you to enjoy our new home but also ask you to be considerate of others when working at P.A.C.T. by working quietly, using quiet voices, and cleaning up after yourself before you leave.



## PACT Closed

On Monday, October 5th PACT will close at 12 Noon for professional development. All classes that begin at 11:30 am or later will be cancelled. Students are still required to have a full day of instruction on this day.

We will also be closed a full day on October 19. That is NOT an instructional day.



## Check the Website

Our website has up to date information about happenings at PACT!! Check our website frequently to keep in the loop!

<http://www.natomascharter.org/>

## Important Information to Remember

10/2 Family Game Night, 6:30—8:30

10/3 Landscape Beautification Day, 8:00—12:00

10/5 PACT CLOSED @ 12:00 —4:00 p.m. for Staff Development

10/5 Discover Scuba Diving, Dolphin Swim School, 6:45—8:30

10/7 C.H.E.S. Mtg., Conference Room, 12:30—2:30

10/8 Cashore Marionettes, Simple Gifts, Mondavi Arts Center UC Davis, 12:40—2:30

10/16 Grace Foundation of N. California, 9:00—2:00

10/19 - Staff Dev. Day—PACT closed

10/20 St. Jude Fund-raiser Kick-off, P.A.C.T., 11:30-12:00

10/21 K.O.R.T. Mtg., Conference Room, 12:30—2:30

10/21 Scholastic Book Orders Due

10/27 California Academy of Sciences & Steinhart Aquarium, 9:45 a.m.

## P.A.C.T. Extravaganza

The 6th annual P.A.C.T. Extravaganza is scheduled for May 27th this year. This is both our Open House and Silent Auction Fundraising event. Last year we raised over \$1,500 for our students! To make it a success again this year, we need all of our P.A.C.T. families to plan for this event in several ways.

First of all, start saving your student's projects, reports, and best work for display at our Open House. Ask your Educational Advisor to help you with ideas!

Secondly, plan to invite family and friends to attend and see the wonderful work that P.A.C.T. families do. We know that there is a world of homeschooling that most people don't see and we want to show it to them!

Thirdly, we will be forming committees to help organize and plan this event so that preparation is shared by all. Some of the committees include: event set up, food, silent auction donations, entertainment, and event clean up. We encourage you to bring your talents and help out! See Shelly Shaw for more information!

Finally, we are in need of donations for the silent auction. Donations could include new items donated by our families, gift certificates, movie tickets, etc. We know how creative our families are and how dedicated you are to making this program a success, so please join in and help us to make this a night to remember for everyone.



## P.A.C.T.'s Winter Boutique

Attention Crafters and Entrepreneurs! Our Annual Winter Boutique will be held on December 9th this year. Each year our families set up booths that include crafts, food, and holiday items. We'd like to encourage crafters, artists, entrepreneurs, and bakers wishing to sell their goods to start planning now to participate in this annual P.A.C.T. event. More information will follow.



## Reduce, Reuse, & RECYCLE

With the growing need to be more conservative with our resources both financially and environmentally, each month PACT Press will feature a corner dedicated to **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**.

In the article you will find helpful tips on how you can conserve at PACT, home and in your community.

October Feature⇒ **REDUCE** the amount of copy paper by:

- copying with the 2-sided function
- providing advisors with original student work instead of copies
- only copying what you know you will use

REMINDER: place any "bad" or unused copies in the recycle bins located near the copy machines

For more information on paper conservation and quick facts visit: <http://www.woodconsumption.org/products/paper.pdf>

November Feature: **REUSE**





## Wish List Items

We have a wish list for anyone wanting to buy supplies to earn parent hours. \$15 worth of supplies equals 1 hour. See Shelly if you have any questions.

### Wish List

Antibacterial wipes  
Paper Towels  
Kleenex  
Hand Sanitizer, 60% Alcohol or better  
Bottled Water  
Paper cups  
Plastic cutlery (forks and spoons)  
Paper plates  
Bulk #2 pencils - Ticonderoga  
construction paper  
medium binder clips  
Gift cards from Jamba Juice, Starbucks, grocery, department, Office supply stores or Home Depot  
Sharpies (ultra fine) black  
Donations for the Open House Extravaganza  
Money at \$15 per hour

*Donations of Hand Sanitizer (60% alcohol or better) and Kleenex are worth*



## St. Jude Math-a-thon

Our P.A.C.T. students will once again have the opportunity this month to participate in the St. Jude's Math-A-Thon! This is an opportunity for our students to help children who are less fortunate than themselves. St. Jude's works to find new treatments for cancer, sickle cell, and other diseases. Last year we raised almost \$1,000 with only 13 students participating. This year we hope to have more participants and to surpass that amount. If you choose not to participate, please consider donating to our event. Our students simply solicit donations from friends and family to support them in completing a math booklet at their grade level. Please pick up your St. Jude's Fundraising consent form from your Educational Advisor. For information go to [www.mathathon.org](http://www.mathathon.org) or contact Lynda Malka. The kick off will be held at P.A.C.T. on Tuesday, October 20 at 11:30.



## P.A.C.T. Yearbook is BACK

The P.A.C.T. yearbook committee is pleased to announce this year's yearbook, bursting with photographs, student portraits, activities, highlights, and of course...space for special autographs. The smiles and memories of our year at P.A.C.T. will be captured in a yearbook containing many exciting features.

### **We need your help!**

Please take lots and lots of pictures on your field trips and throughout our 2009-2010 school year. You may burn them onto a disc or come into our Computer Lab where Mrs. Chapman or one of the yearbook students will help you with your pictures..



## Emergency Procedures

There may come a time in the near future when you come on campus when an emergency drill (or possibly the real thing) is in progress. Please be aware of your surroundings whenever you arrive at our building and come on campus. It is also essential that you sign in and out whenever you come on campus so that we know who to account for in the event of a real emergency.

If you come on campus when a "Lock Down" drill is in progress, you will notice that the windows will be covered and doors will be locked. The correct thing to do is to return to your vehicle and leave campus immediately. If your parent has already left, seek shelter inside at the front desk.

If you are on campus as the alarm sounds and are not yet to your destination, enter the nearest classroom and report to the adult in charge.

If you arrive at P.A.C.T. during an evacuation drill, you will notice a sign on the door announcing the drill, an empty building, and students and teachers on the sidewalk across the street from the school. In this event, please leave your vehicle and join us on the sidewalk and stay there until Mrs. Malka issues the all clear signal.

We are working on having our flag holder installed outside the front door in the near future. We will place a red flag in it to alert you when an emergency drill is in progress. It should be easy to see as you approach the building.

Please discuss these procedures with your student so that he/she knows what to do in an emergency.



## Brain POP

The K.O.R.T. group has used our fundraising dollars to purchase an unlimited school license for BrainPOP Jr., BrainPOP, and Brain POP Spanish version. Please keep our username and password secure. You may get these from your advisor or the front desk.

Our subscription is active and ready to go! You'll now be able to access BrainPOP, BrainPOP Jr. and BrainPOP Español at school and at home, 24-hours a day. When you're ready to get started, simply log in with our username and password. Be sure to explore the various resources Brain POP has created to help you get started and make integration into teaching your student as easy as possible. To explore these resources, follow the link below

[http://www.brainpop.com/educators/new\\_subscribers/](http://www.brainpop.com/educators/new_subscribers/)

Don't forget to register on BrainPOP Educators, their free and rapidly growing professional community, featuring free lesson plans, graphic organizers, video tutorials, and more.

Enjoy!



## Call to Artists



Are you an artist? Would you like to be published? Then the PACT Yearbook Staff needs you! We are holding a competition for the 2009-2010 Yearbook Cover.

This year's yearbook theme is:  
**Pass Go...Collect 2010**

Please place your entries in Mrs. Chapman's box before October 19th...don't forget your name on the back of your entry. **Good Luck!**

## NEW Online Parent Forum

P.A.C.T.'s new website has many features available to support student learning and facilitate home-to-school communication. At our recent K.O.R.T. meeting, parents asked for a place online where they could communicate with each other.

In response to this request, we created a Parent Forum that can be found on our website under the "Family" heading. Using this and other features will require a secure login. Once logged on as a user, any activity can be traced back to the author. **Therefore, it is important that all users keep their username and password confidential.** Each user must have an independent login.

Create your own login by going to the P.A.C.T. website and complete the following:

- Click on **login** on the upper right hand corner of the home page
- Click on **Create New User Account** tab
- Choose and fill in a meaningful **Username**
- Enter the **email address** at which you would like to receive the emails from the website. **Please make sure the email address is correct as the approval email and password link will be sent to this email address.**
- Enter your **First Name and Last Name**
- Contact Information-**Enter the name of your youngest child in the P.A.C.T. Program** (for cross verification with the form you have sent to us).
- Create New Account- Once you have entered all the information, click the **Create New Account** button to save the information you entered.
- You will receive an email acknowledging the registration.
- You cannot log in yet.

The school staff will approve the account. Once the account is approved, you will receive an email that will provide you a link to login and choose a secure password.

**To obtain your account approval, please sign a letter in the front office and return it to Lynda Malka, P.A.C.T. Coordinator. This document will be used as a cross reference to activate your account.**



## PACT Playroom

PACT Playroom Adult supervision is required for children to use the playroom. Only children infant through Kindergarten may be in the playroom. Please do not let children stand on or pull on the safety gate to the playroom. Please clean up after your children before you leave the playroom. Following these simple rules will make the playroom safe and pleasant for all.



## Landscape Beautification Days

Where: NCS Campus  
What: Helping to keep our campus beautiful  
When: First Saturday of every month  
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (April - October)  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Nov. - March)  
Open to: Staff and NCS parents (no children please for their safety.) This is a community building effort to achieve pride in our campus. This is also an opportunity to earn parent hours. Sign in/out at the MPR.

### 2009-2010 Scheduled dates and times:

October 3	8:00—12:00
November 7	9:00—1:00
December 5	9:00—1:00
January 2	9:00—1:00
February 6	9:00—1:00
March 6	9:00—1:00
April 3	8:00—12:00
May 1	8:00—12:00
June 5	8:00—12:00

If you have gloves and/or landscape tools, please bring them.

## Attention: PACT Parents & Business Owners!

### Advertise to be Recognized!

The P.A.C.T. Yearbook is one of our favorite traditions at our school. Be a part of the tradition and insert an advertisement for your place of business! To order a business ad, please see one of the yearbook students or Mrs. Chapman in the Computer Lab.

Prices are as follows:

To Sponsor a Page	\$ 20.00
Business Card Ad	\$ 35.00
1/4 Page Ad	\$ 50.00
1/2 Page Ad	\$100.00
Full Page Ad	\$200.00



## Book Orders

Did you know that P.A.C.T. offers you the ability to order Scholastic books all year long? Look for the book order forms in the library. Simply obtain an order form and flyer with instructions for ordering, fill out your order and return it to the Shelly Shaw by the designated date. We will contact you when your book orders arrive! In addition to expanding your home library with quality books, PACT earns points to obtain free books for our Resource Library with every book order!



## Purchase Your Yearbook TODAY!

This year it's easier and cheaper than ever before to purchase your PACT Yearbook. The PACT Yearbook Class is pleased to offer you the 2009-2010 Yearbook at it's lowest price ever!

**The 2009-2010 Yearbook is only \$33.00  
until December 31st.**

In 2010, our yearbook prices **WILL** go up!

Please don't wait...  
take advantage of our early bird special.

We have three options for you.

1. Purchase online @ [YBpay.com](http://YBpay.com) (EASY)  
Online you have the option to personalize your yearbook for \$3.00 or purchase a "Zoom" for \$2.00 .
2. Purchase from a yearbook representative at the yearbook table
3. Purchase at the PACT Front Desk.

***Come visit us at the yearbook table and enter to win a monthly drawing for FREE Yearbook Personalization or Zoom!***

