

PCLC ANCHOR



ICE SKATING EVENT A SUCCESS



See more photos on page 2!

CHECK OUT THE GREENIE PROJECT

Molly Rapske

The last month has presented some exciting volunteer opportunities for the Greenie Club! The club has collected \$55.12 in cans and bottles after a visit to the recycling center. All proceeds were donated to Promise Child.

Last Saturday, two dedicated volunteers joined the Surfrider Foundation to participate in a beach cleanup event in Seal Beach. Working in the pouring rain, they collected 7.5 pounds of trash as well as a small Christmas tree. The Surfrider foundation featured a photo of them and the tree on their Facebook page! Afterwards, they enjoyed a cup of hot coffee and tea to warm up. High schoolers can earn one extra homework pass by joining us for a volunteer opportunity!

Please contact us at greenieproject@gmail.com if you would like more information on the club. We would love to have you join us!



PCLC NEWS

Middle School Valentine's Day Fundraiser:

Our middle school English classes are doing a fundraiser in response to our current poverty research projects. Next week, students will be selling Valentines grams for \$1 each! 100% of all funds raised will go to Promise Child. Students and parents can purchase candy grams to be sent to students during classes on Tuesday and Thursday of the following week. Stop by the table by the front entrance next week and purchase Valentine Grams and change the life of kids in South Sudan!

PCLC Early Registration:

Our staff is already in the initial stages of planning for next year, and we are thrilled at what is in the works! (Hint: we are adding math!) The schedule for the next school year will be posted on March 1, and we will open priority registration for our existing families on March 8. General registration will then open on March 15. More details to come!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Madi Sherrick

1/25

Art-A-Faire (11:00am-6:00pm) in Huntington Beach @ 1 Main St., Huntington Beach, 92648

Cost: FREE to attend

Come down to Pier Plaza in Huntington Beach and shop along the over 50 vendors that sell their handmade crafts. This is a weekly event taking place every Friday and is free to get into.

More info: <http://hbartafaire.com/>

Shark Lagoon (6:00pm-9:00pm) in Long Beach @ 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802

Cost: FREE

On Shark Lagoon nights, visitors can get in to the Aquarium of the Pacific for free and get up close and personal with various species of sharks. This event happens almost every Friday, but details on which days are excluded can be found on the aquarium website.

More info:

http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/events/info/shark_lagoon_nights/

1/26

Bird Talk and Nature Walk (9:00am-11:00am) @ 18000 Pacific Coast Highway, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

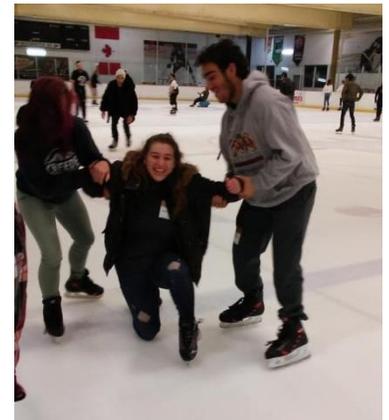
Cost: FREE

On the last Saturday of every month, the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve hosts a nature walk free to the public. This walk includes a tour led by docents to discuss and view some of the over 200 species that call Bolsa Chica their home throughout the year. If you are interested in attending this or future nature walks, email info@amigosdebolsachica.org to RSVP. Their meeting place is across from the Bolsa Chica State Beach entrance, in the South Parking Lot.

More info:

http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org/tours_public.php

ICE SKATING PHOTOS



FRIENDSHIPS: Be There or Be Square

Ashley Pincek

In addition to being a time of experimentation and self-discovery, the teenage years are when strong friendships become more important than ever. A tight-knit friend group offers a sense of comfort, support, and belonging, and helps build confidence. However, without proper maintenance, friendships can become stagnant and even slowly fade. When friendships fade, it is often due to “flakiness,” or the failure to show up.

Have you ever invited someone over, and they replied with “I’ll ask my mom,” only to never respond? Have you ever had to cancel the night before, because something came up that you had forgotten about? And sometimes, friends just plain flake. Everyone has to cancel at some point or another. We are all human, and life happens. But some struggle with this more than others. Sean Covey from *The 7 Habits of Highly Successful Teens*, explains that relationships are like a bank account. In order for a relationship to grow, you must make continual deposits. One form of deposit is a kept promise. What steps can you take to become a more reliable friend?

1. Make a calendar. Paper or digital; it does not matter. Write down every event you need to attend, and anything else that takes up your time. (Tip: When your friends ask if you can go somewhere, say “I’ll check my calendar” instead of “I’ll ask my mom.” It makes you sound exponentially cooler and more grown up.) Making a calendar ensures that no surprise dentist appointments and the like sneak up on you.
2. Get a ride. If your parents can’t take you and you can’t drive yourself, ask to carpool, check nearby bus routes, or ask your grandma to drive. Remember: the earlier you ask, the more likely they will be able to accommodate.
3. Commit. Do not accept invitations unless you are serious about attending and have transportation lined up. Once you have accepted, show up, even if you are invited to a better event. Make sure you get all homework and chores done, so there is no need to cancel last minute.
4. If you do have to cancel, apologize and explain why you couldn’t make it. Although they will still be disappointed, at least they know that you value your friendship.

ADVENTURES WORTH TAKING: Urban Workshop

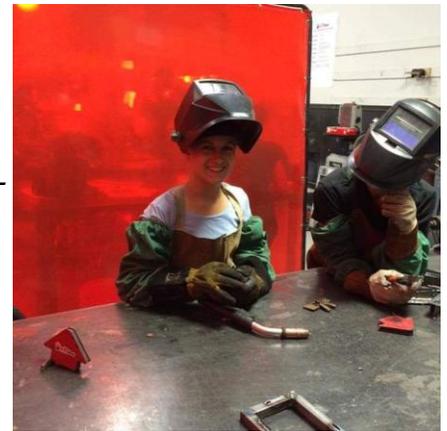
Ashley Pincek

Located in Costa Mesa, the Urban Workshop is the perfect place to learn everything shop-related, including woodshop, metalshop, 3d-



design and printing, silicone molding, laser etching, vacuum forming, silk-screening, basic sewing, and electronics. They offer 5 levels of classes for boys and girls ages 10-16. The classes are offered in 3-hour sessions for 12 weeks, and work perfectly

for homeschool schedules. Classes are pricey, but the Urban Workshop accepts charter funds. Spots are still available for the Spring semester, which starts on January 28th. My sister and I took classes there for all five levels, and though I am not a crafty person, the Urban Workshop has helped me become confident taking on any project. Check out their website! <https://urbanworkshop.net/>



COOKING WITH MADI: Epic Brownies Recipe

Madi Sherrick



Ingredients:

1. 1 cup (2 sticks) of butter
2. $\frac{2}{3}$ cups of unsweetened cocoa powder
3. 4 eggs
4. 2 cups of sugar
5. 1 cup of flour
6. 1 tsp of vanilla
7. $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp of baking powder
8. $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp of salt

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350°F and spray a 9x13 inch baking pan with non-stick cooking spray.

1. In the microwave, melt butter and then add to cocoa powder.
2. In a separate bowl, whisk together the eggs, sugar, and vanilla.
3. Add butter and cocoa mix in with the egg mixture and stir until thoroughly mixed.
4. Add in flour, baking powder, and salt and mix.
5. Pour batter into baking pan and bake for 25 minutes.
 - a. It took me 35 minutes to get to a consistency that set on its own - DO NOT OVERBAKE!

MOLLY'S ADVICE COLUMN

Molly Rapske

Dear Molly,

I can't seem to be able to catch a wave. Do you have any surfing tips?

-Anonymous



Yes, I do!

As someone who has watched many people swim and surf in their life, I feel like an authority on this subject.

To attract waves, you must first get into the water and swim. While I may not be the best at swimming in real life, I have read two swimming guides, and have dreamed about swimming a few times. I believe this activity involves movement of extremities along with breath limitation. For a beginner, swimming in the ocean for the first time will be dangerous, so try in your pool or sink. There are four main strokes involved in swimming, called freestyle (the most simple), breaststroke, spinstroke, and mothstroke. Mastering these basic strokes will give you a basis on which to form your swimming skills.

Once you have accomplished swimming, you must now make the waves want to come to you. To do this, try dressing up in a fun new outfit, offer the water a rose, or make it a tasty dinner. Find out more about the wave's interests, and get to know it. Many surfers find that waves enjoy the television series *The Bachelorette*, *Wheel of Fortune*, and *No Game No Life*. Special "wave whistles" (similar to dog whistles used by trainers), work by emitting a high-pitched noise that only waves can hear. Find a friend to blow the whistle from a boat in the water while you stand on the shore. Doing so will propel the waves away from your friend and towards you. If none of these methods work, find a large spoon and try stirring up the water yourself.

After you have succeeded in capturing the wave's attention, you may now begin to surf. Based on my knowledge of *Soul Surfer*, I believe that you must first find a surfboard, and then obtain some type of swim gear. Your left arm is not needed. Next, use your surfboard motor to propel yourself out to sea (not too far). Once you have reached a suitable point for receiving waves, use mathematical expressions to help determine the speed of the wave. We know that the best waves have an average length of 14 seconds, so the formula for travel time would be $\text{time} = \text{distance} / \text{speed}$. To find out if the wave is a deep water or shallow water wave, we must use the formula for wavelength vs period, $\lambda(m) = 1.56T^2$. So, if the wave is in deep water, use the formula $Vg(\text{meters/seconds}) = 0.62\sqrt{\lambda(m)}$.

Congratulations! You have succeeded in catching waves. o(^▽^)o Now that the waves have come to you, you must be sure that they stay in the water, and do not follow you home. To prevent the waves from stalking you, invest in a corn necklace. Waves despise corn more than anything.

-Molly

MONTHLY POLL

Vans or Converse? Vote here, and the results will be posted in the paper next month!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BD5SCMX>

Last month, dogs won over cats with every vote!



NATURE REVIEW

Julianna Balducci

Fairview Park is a great place to go if you want to hike or see some wildlife! Located in Costa Mesa, this wildlife park has 7 miles of trails and is home to several rare and endangered plant and animal species. The park opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 7 p.m. every day. Here you can enjoy picnics, bike riding, kite flying, hiking, and bird watching. There is even a model airplane flying field! If you enjoy train rides, there is a miniature railroad that provides free rides the third weekend of the month. Fairview has five different ecosystems, all home to many different species, including Snowy Egrets and Coopers

Hawks. In the spring the park is nearly drowning in freshly bloomed flowers which make for beautiful pictures. There is one restroom located at the park entrance. This park offers a wide range of things to do and see, and the best part, it is free to enter!



ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PARENTS: Reading is Recommended!

Nancy Kaser

The recent rainy weather made me wish my big kids still wanted me to read aloud to them. I miss the days when inclement weather meant we would each take our respective spots in front of the fireplace, the dog moving from person to person to be scratched, and enjoy a fantastic written adventure together. Some days we did nothing that looked like school except stay in our pajamas with my kids begging for “just one more chapter” till it was time to start dinner. Sharing so many books together allowed us to make connections and have conversations about our world-view and priorities we might not have discussed otherwise.

Reading to my kids has been my favorite part of homeschooling, and I love to hear that parents are enjoying great books with their kids. If you haven't started this practice in your own homeschooling, I encourage you to begin! I also highly recommend listening to audio books in the car or while doing jobs around the house. Get as many good books into yourselves as you can!

I have recently been asked by several parents for book recommendations outside of the ones I assign in my literature classes. Below is a list of great children's books that I have personally read and can recommend. Of course, my convictions and sensitivities may be different than yours, so use your own discretion!

Most of these books can be found in my classroom library ☺. The Writtenburg Door Library is open to anyone wanting to read! Come find a book and enjoy the adventure with your kids!

Mrs. Kaser's Recommended Reading List (of books she doesn't assign in her classes!)

Esperanza Rising
Trouble's Daughter

Pax

Hoot

Tuck Everlasting

Runaway Ralph

The One and Only Ivan

Wonder

Rules

Eragon

The Railway Children

A Single Shard

Bud, Not Buddy

The Hunger Games series (for older students -very violent, but otherwise clean)

The Maze Runner series (for older students - very violent, but otherwise clean)

The Bronze Bow (our absolute favorite read-aloud we did as a family!)

Crispin

Johnny Tremain

Walk Two Moons

Julie of the Wolves

Bridge to Terabithia

Maniac Magee (some emotionally charged death issues)

Freak the Mighty (some intense subject matter, but a fantastic story)

Summer of the Monkeys

The Percy Jackson series

From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E Frankweiler

Number the Stars

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

Sarah, Plain and Tall

Dear Mr. Henshaw

Stuart Little

The 39 Clues Series (one of my absolute favorite series ever!)

James and the Giant Peach

The Phantom Tollbooth

Black Beauty

Matilda

The Secret Garden

CONTACT US

We love feedback from our readers!

Contact us with your ideas, support, and feedback at

Contact.pclanchor@gmail.org

And give us a follow on Instagram! @pclanchor