



# PACA NEWS

DECEMBER 2012 EDITION

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PACA's Middle School had the privilege to watch Brazil's # 1 Table Tennis player, Cazuo Matsumoto, give a demonstration in the school's gym. Cazuo has represented Brazil at the 2008 and 2012 olympics in the sport...

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This year PACA set a record for college visits. A total of 43 colleges came to our campus to speak with our seniors. Besides that we also were invited to attend various fairs at other locations...

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**MR. ROBIN RUGG**  
Superintendent

# ACCREDITATION UPDATE

The PACA staff, along with help from parents, students and board members, has been busy since the end of last school year getting ready for our upcoming AdvancED/ACSI dual accreditation visit.

A team of four educators, who will represent these two organizations, will be on the PACA campus from April 22 - 24 evaluating all aspects of the school. Staff members have been compiling documents, writing reports and evaluating the school in five specific areas, which are:

1. Purpose & Direction
2. Governance & Leadership
3. Teaching & Assessing for Learning
4. Resources & Support Systems
5. Using Results for Continuous Improvement

Another important component of the accreditation process is gathering stakeholder feedback. A [parent survey](#) was given last semester and those results can be [found by clicking here](#). Also, this semester parents, students and teachers completed surveys which were generated by AdvancED. Thank you to all of you who participated in this survey process. It is essential that we are able to receive constituent feedback and surveys are a key vehicle in doing so.

We will use the start of second semester to finalize the reports and information that will eventually be turned in to each of the accrediting organizations. The official reports will be submitted in March, about a month before the visiting team arrives on campus. Thank you for your support and prayers during this process. It is essential that we have these opportunities to be reflective about our school and its practices and how we can continue to take the school forward. If you have any questions regarding the accreditation process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## WHAT IS ACCREDITATION?

Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools, and designed primarily to distinguish schools adhering to a set of educational standards. The accreditation process is also known in terms of its ability to effectively drive student performance and continuous improvement in education.

## Accrediting Organizations:



PACA has been accredited with Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) since 1985. To find out more about AdvancEd and SACS, please visit their website at [www.advanc-ed.org](http://www.advanc-ed.org).



PACA has been accredited with Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) since 2003. To find out more about ACSI, please visit their website at [www.acsi.org](http://www.acsi.org).



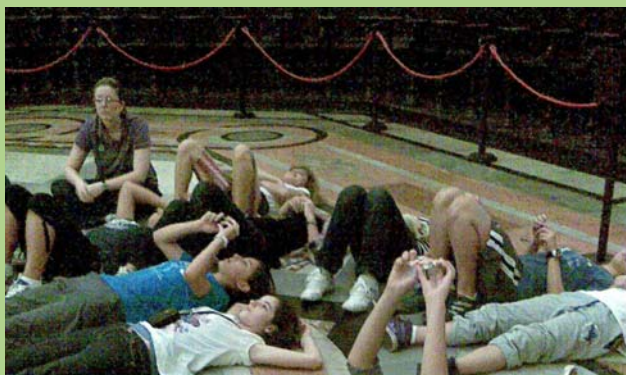


## Passeio, Café e História

No dia 26 de outubro, os alunos do 7º ano, juntamente com as professoras Eliana Rocha, Isly Franco e Kendra Wiebe, fizeram uma excursão ao Centro Histórico de Santos.

Visitaram o Museu do Café, onde funcionava a Bolsa de Café no período da República Velha, passearam de bondinho no Centro Histórico e subiram o Monte Serrat de onde é possível ver toda a cidade, além de relacionar os locais avistados com a exposição feita pelo educador André (do Museu do Café). Depois dessas aventuras, demos uma paradinha no MacDonald's para "recarregar as baterias".

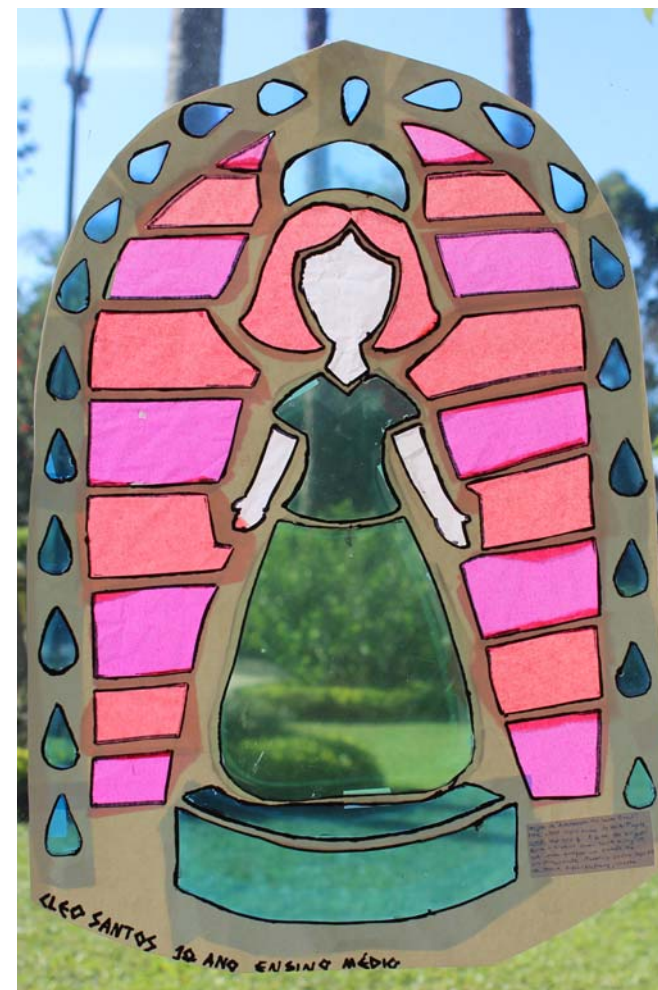
O passeio foi muito produtivo, pois além da aquisição de conhecimentos históricos, tiveram a oportunidade de interagir num ambiente extraclasse.



## Arte e Leitura

Projeto criativo de Literatura (10º ano), interdisciplinar com ARTE, após a leitura do livro "A Demanda do Santo Graal".

Proposta: Padronização de VITRAIS medievais.

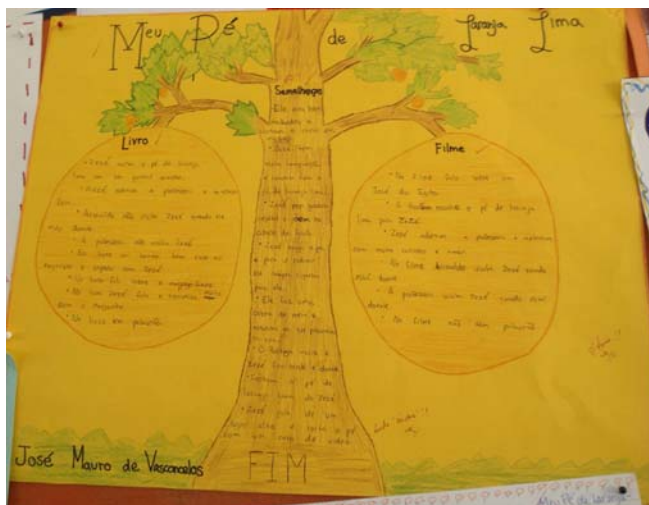




# DIAGRAMA DE VENN

Projeto de Leitura ( 7º ano) sobre o livro *Meu Pé da Laranja Lima*, de José Mauro de Vasconcelos.

Após a leitura, os alunos assistiram ao filme e confeccionaram o Diagrama de Venn comparando livro e filme. Atentem para a criatividade dos alunos.



# SIMULADOS

Neste primeiro semestre, o simulado da PACA seguiu moldes do Exame Nacional do Ensino Médio – ENEM.

O objetivo do simulado não é só preparar os alunos para fazerem o exame, mas também colocá-los no ambiente, situação e tempo como acontece no Enem oficial, além de usar essa ferramenta como avaliação externa de nosso programa como um todo, exigência também do nosso órgão de *Accreditation*.

A prova é uma cortesia do cursinho CPV, muito bem elaborada com questões que trabalham a interdisciplinaridade, uma importantíssima habilidade exigida dos alunos do século XXI.

Acreditamos ser uma ótima oportunidade para nossos alunos que ficarão ou não no Brasil testarem seus conhecimentos nesse tipo de avaliação. A nota do aluno é computada em nosso banco de dados.

O cursinho nos tem fornecido as correções, tanto das provas objetivas quanto da redação e envia gráficos de desempenho bastante completos.

# CESPE

Concluimos o processo de análise do relatório da 6ª ***"Avaliação Externa de Competências em Língua Portuguesa"*** realizada pela Universidade de Brasília, por meio do Centro de Seleção de Promoção de Eventos (CESPE), sob a direção da AASB, Associação das Escolas Americanas do Brasil. Nesse relatório, são fornecidas informações sobre o desempenho em Língua Portuguesa dos alunos do 5º ano do Ensino Fundamental (5th grade), do 9º ano do Ensino Fundamental (9th grade) e do 2º ano do Ensino Médio (11th grade).

Nessa testagem de 2012, foram avaliadas escolas americanas localizadas em Brasília, Campinas, São Paulo, Curitiba, Porto Alegre, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador e Belo Horizonte em comparação com as parceiras (escolas brasileiras localizadas em cada uma dessas cidades).

A preocupação da Associação AASB e da PACA, após 6 (seis avaliações), não é mais validar a competência do nosso programa de Língua Portuguesa comparado às escolas nacionais, pois já temos dados suficientes para essa validação, mas utilizar o relatório como um instrumento efetivo, de caráter pedagógico, para avaliação e autoavaliação da prática educativa cotidiana.

A avaliação deste ano letivo de 2012/2013 foi marcada para o mês de maio com a participação de 10 escolas associadas à AASB.



# PRESCHOOL FUN: PLANTING, COOKING & MAKING FRIENDS

MS. JULIA CHRISTNER  
Preschool Coordinator



The carrots we grew in our garden!



Dona Ana teaching us how to make carrot bread.



Celebrating Children's Day with new friends from Arca das Crianças!



Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Colossians 3:12



We love our new tree house!





MS. JENNIFER KIERSTEAD  
Elementary Principal

# READING CONTEST: BE A READERSAURUS



Each year in the elementary school at PACA, we choose a theme to explore and spend a month cultivating a love for reading.

This year's Reading Contest "Be a READERSaurus" was kicked off with a great play from the 3rd grade students.

We also had parents joining their children for a morning of activities, art projects, music, games and videos about dinosaurs.

The purpose of the Reading Contest is to encourage students to read every day, establishing the habit of reading for pleasure and strengthening reading skills.



The scariest dinosaur of all:  
the Superintendentaurus!



3rd grade students presenting a special educational presentation on dinosaurs!



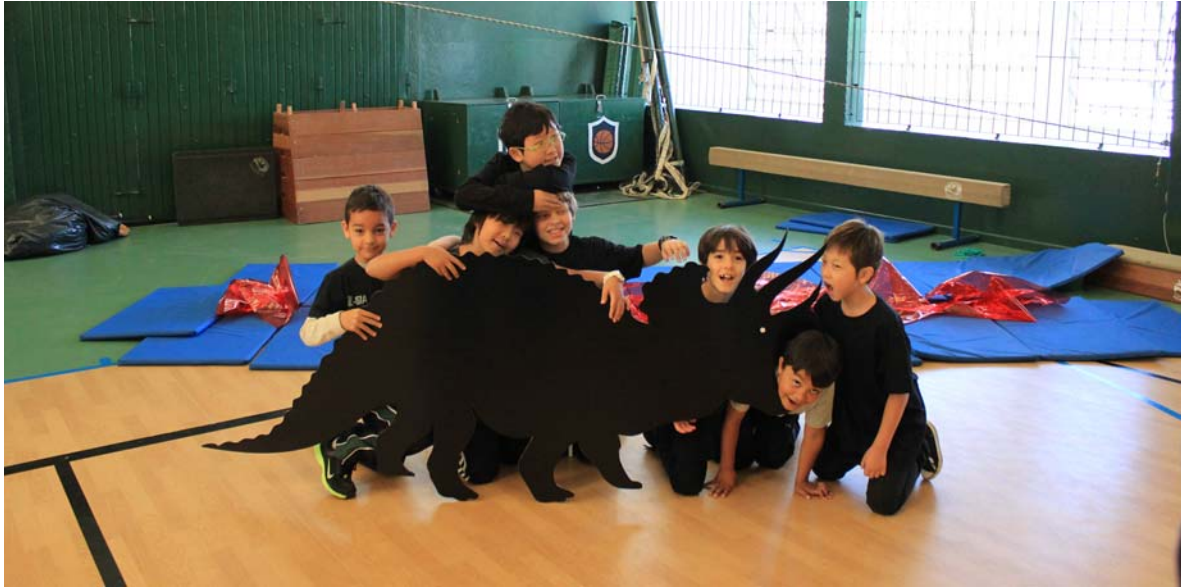
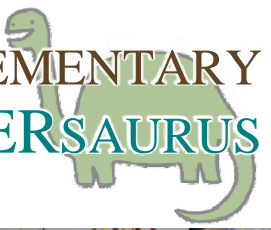
4<sup>th</sup> grade students painting fossil eggs as part of the art activity for the Reading Contest.



A fun PE activity: knocking out a T-Rex with a "boulder."



# ELEMENTARY READING CONTEST: BE A READERSAURUS



Dinosaurs kept mysteriously showing up at different locations on campus.



5th graders making fossilized eggs!



We even had a special story teller on this day, Mrs. Cindy Epp.



Students had to jump and run away from the scary T-Rex.



There was also a ropes course to help students get away from the hungry dinosaurs.



# LIVING OUT THE SCHOOL THEME

## STUDENTS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

This year's school's theme verse, found in Colossians 3:12, gives all of us a challenge to "clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." From preschool through high school, our students have made enormous efforts to live out this theme by helping raise money, donate clothes, walk several kilometers to double some funds, sing carols, hug children, and give Christmas gifts to less fortunate families.

Our students are making a difference by being the loving hands of God as they have blessed others. Here is a list of how our students made a difference this semester:

- Preschool and Elementary students raised over R\$5.000 money through the "fill the baby-bottle project" and for completing their goals during the Walkathon. All proceeds went to Casa Limiar to buy milk formula for babies. They also bought Christmas gifts for the families of PACA workers such as the guards, maintenance crew, and cleaning crew.
- The Elementary students sang Christmas carols at a retirement home, bringing tears and joy to several hearts.
- Middle School students raised over R\$1.400 for Lar Efrata as part of a Walkathon event and gave free car washes to teachers and employees.
- High School students raised close to R\$2.000 to help Casa Semear install windows and plumbing to a "favela" home. They also organized a Thanksgiving clothing drive to bless three organizations that work with disadvantaged children (Casa Abba, Lar Efrata, and Lar Tia Edna).





# CHESS CHAMPIONS

Karen Hoshino from 6th grade and Meilin Hoshino from 2nd grade participated in the World Youth Chess Championship 2012 that happened in the city of Maribor, Slovenia. The WYCC 2012 hosted over 1584 players from 92 countries with over 8712 chess games played at this event.

Karen and Meilin represented the country of Japan and competed in the girls' U-12 and U-8 categories. They finished in the following placements:

Karen Hoshino : 44 place (with 6 victories in 11 rounds)

Meilin Hoshino : 79 place (with 4 victories in 11 rounds)

Due to her performance this year, Karen received from the World Chess Federation, FIDE (Fédération Internationale des Échecs), the award of Woman Candidate Master, a life-long title.

The two sisters would pray before each game and throughout the game. Karen had several opportunities to share her faith to the Japanese delegation.



# TABLE TENNIS PLAYER



PACA's Middle School had the privilege to watch Brazil's # 1 Table Tennis player, Cazuo Matsumoto, give a demonstration in the school's gym. Cazuo has represented Brazil at the 2008 and 2012 olympics in the sport.

According to the ITTF website, Cazuo is ranked # 1 in Latin America and ranked # 92 in the world. Along side with Cazuo, he brought along Katia (# 5 in Brazil) and Vitor (# 1 non-federated open player).

It was a great opportunity to see a very explosive and fast pace sport live in our gym. After showing some techniques, Cazuo gave 3 chances to several students to try to return 1 of his serves. A few managed to put a ball back into play winning an autographed paddle rubber, but all had great fun trying.

A special thank you to Macarrão Alfa (<http://www.macarraoalfa.com.br>) for making this possible.



# RECORD NUMBER OF COLLEGE VISITS

This year PACA set a record for college visits. A total of 43 colleges came to our campus to speak with our seniors. Besides that we also were invited to attend various fairs at other locations.

We also hosted the International Students Network fair for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> and the Linden high school/summer program fair for our 8-10<sup>th</sup> grade students. This second fair offered our students a chance to do summer programs or semester long exchange programs in the United States and Canada.

Below is a list of all the college/universities we hosted this semester:

*Bryant University, University of Chicago, Stetson University, Skidmore College, Union College, Hamilton, Colgate, La Fayette, University of British Columbia, Loyola Marymount, Stony Brook University, Samford, Pace, Tennessee Wesleyan, Florida International, Bentley, Parsons School of Art, Iowa state University, Jacobs University (Germany), Franklin University (Switzerland), Les Roches (Spain), The University of Toronto, California College of the Arts, European University (Spain), University of New Brunswick, Sienna Heights, Ferris State, Quest, Rollins, Kettering, Gordon College, Liberty university, Goshen College, Furman, George Washington, St. John's, Baruch, Wheaton (MA), Franklin and Marshall, Regis college, Ecole Hoteliere Luasanne, IE University (Spain), HEC Montreal, and 60 others from the fairs we attended.*

# ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM BACK TO THE MANGER

What happens to a group of church kids who discover the janitor's time machine? They travel through time but always landing on the same day - the church's annual caroling outreach.

You get disco music from the 70's, alternative rock from the 80's, big band music from the 40's, and bebop music from the 50's.

The church kids discover the importance of helping people and how their church started the annual caroling outreach to help families in need. That's how they meet Hank Olsen, a poor kid whose mother is picking up a food basket provided by the church. It's when they all finally get back home that they realize that their very own Pastor Olsen was that boy Hank.

Once you go back to the manger and see God's greatest gift, you are never the same.

This annual event showcases the amazing talents God brings to PACA through our students. We are blessed to great students and great teachers.

Thank you Elementary students for such a great program!







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**IMPORTANT DATES FOR NEXT SEMESTER:**

**January 28**  
**First day of school for all students.**

**February 11-13**  
**National Holidays - Carnaval**

**February 23**  
**Candlelight Dinner by the Junior Class.**

**April 13**  
**International Festival "Celebrating the Nations."**

OUR MISSION IS TO NURTURE  
AND DEVELOP YOUNG PEOPLE,  
THROUGH QUALITY EDUCATION  
ROOTED IN BIBLICAL TRUTH,  
WHO IMPACT THEIR WORLD  
THROUGH CHRIST.

## New Playground Equipment

PACA's elementary and preschool students got new fun playground equipment. After searching several vendors, the school found Suzana Cadaval ([www.suzanacadaval.com.br](http://www.suzanacadaval.com.br)), a specialist in creating safe, beautiful and environmentally sustainable playground toys for children. Our students love the slides, rope courses, walkways, and treehouses. On a very windy day you can see the propeller on top of the big tree house spinning really fast!

