

The First
PMA Student
Newspaper

ISSUE 3



MEET THE
CLASS OF 2019
PROFILES



TECHNOLOGY NEWS
CHROME BOOKS AND
MACBOOKS



HOW TO THRIVE IN
HIGH SCHOOL
ADVICE FROM 10TH AND
11TH GRADERS



THE PRIDE

SUMMER SCHOOL EDITION



How To Be Outgoing and Thrive in High School

Many students have asked me how to be popular or be more outgoing. Here's some advice to have the best freshman year. I enjoyed my first year at PMA, made a lot of new friends and was finally active in school. My freshmen year started and I made a ton of friends by being a friend. I was determined to be more active and join clubs. So I joined CLIK Club (Technology), Ambassadors, and Cooking Club. Time for some tips and tricks to be more popular and outgoing. **Number one rule is to be yourself, don't change yourself just to fit in. Now who you are and your values.**

Be authentic. Rule number two is to join a club/sport. You make friends easier this way and it looks great on your resume for college. Always be open to people; having small talk with them can lead to a friendship. Stand up for yourself. You can't let people walk all over you. If you stand up for what you believe in and what your parents taught you and know when to defend yourself, values and beliefs, you'll actually gain more respect and make more friends. My last tip is don't act like you're too cool to care. High school won't always be fun and games but your future depends on it! Don't be that kid who doesn't care about their grades or what's going on in class and then finds themselves failing. Failing is not cool! Pick good friends that will help you succeed. *by Jesse Oros, 10th grade*

MEET THE CLASS OF 2019!



Hello, my name is **Ruben Bustamante** I graduated from St. Dominic Savio School. Football and Technology have made a dramatic impact in my life, they have both gotten me through hard times and they are both very entertaining hobbies. My last four weeks at PMA have been a blast. Every morning I am excited to wake up and make my way to PMA, that fact that it's summer no long crosses my

mind. I am very glad that PMA has established this summer program for freshmen. With this summer program it gives us freshman a sense of what the next four years have in store for us.

I have learned plenty of new things this summer.. In my English class I have learned about how to annotate a book and the importance of annotating. I have also been taught how to recognize the elements of a Jane Schaffer Paragraph. In my Research and Digital Literacy class I have also learned many things. I have learned how to code, type faster, how to use apps for education, how to use iMovie and WeMovie, the importance of Digital Citizenship, and how to create a Weebly website! In only four weeks I have already made tons of memories the most memorable thing I have done would have to be getting to know all of my new friends and teachers.

I am looking forward to many things at PMA. I am very interested in continuing my Catholic education at PMA. My Catholic education is something that is very important to me and I am very glad that PMA has just that. I'm looking forward to being part of the basketball team this coming season by being on this team it opens a lot of opportunities in the future. There are a lot of clubs at PMA that I plan to be part of. The CLIK club would have to be the club that I'm most excited about.

I chose PMA for mainly two reasons. I have been around the PMA environment thanks to my 3 sisters who attended before me, there is always positive vibe around PMA. Every time I step onto this campus it makes me feel as if I belong here. There are so many opportunities here at PMA that can help us achieve things later in the future, this really caught my attention to attend this high school. **Some advice that I would like to give my fellow classmates would have to be to make the most of everyday. By doing this you'll have the best four years of high school. It's always important to have a positive vibe around the school.** Overall I am very happy to attend this school for the next four years. I am very happy about all the opportunities that PMA offers to all of us.

Leadership at PMA



Mr. Rubalcava
Principal



Mrs. Zozaya
Vice-Principal



Mr. Ramos
Dean of Students



Mr. Raymundo
Director of Student Life



Ms. Nicdao
Director of Educational Technology

Not Pictured

Ms. Santos
Director of Development

Mr. Sedano
Director of Athletics

Mr. Delgado
Director of Marketing and Admissions



Ms. Arias and Mrs. Graciano:
Academic and College Counselors.



See Ms. Arias for all Power School concerns.
DArias@piusmatthias.org



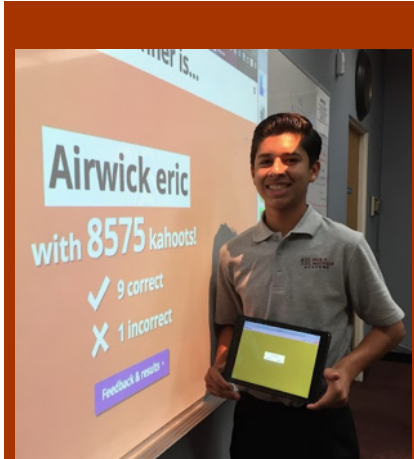
My name is **Aria Rebollo**, I am a proud graduate of St. Lawrence of Brindisi. I'm really into music, art, writing, reading, sports, and skateboarding. During my last few weeks I have learned to present and interact in ways I would never have thought of. Since arriving at the front door I have been exposed to many opportunities. I have literally always dreamed of attending PMA. My mother graduated in '97 when the school was just Pius X, so I was kind

of influenced by that. Her experience sounded so great that I wanted to create my own great experience. My most memorable moment so far was the first day when my parents dropped me off. I felt this new kind of independence. I realized that I'm growing up and now its up to me to get to where I'd like to. I look forward to learning new information, studying, homework, trying out for sports, joining clubs, going to games to support my school. I am very thankful for my parents because they work hard, and they inspire me. **My advice to my classmates is try new things. There are so many new doors open to us, who knows where they might lead?**



Hello! My name is **Natalie Mendoza** but you can call me Nat. I am apart of the class of 2019 at St. Pius X- St. Matthias Academy. Before I started attending PMA, I was a student at St. Emydius School in Lynwood for 8 years. I was born in Los Angeles and have a passion for all things music. The last four weeks have been

incredible. My amazing teacher, Ms. Nicdao, has made summer school an entertaining and educational experience. I have met many kind people that I can call friends. I have learned to use so many different websites, apps, shortcuts, etc. My favorite lesson that we have had is either learning code or using the Makey-Makey. The most memorable thing that I have done while being at PMA is making a music video which I am to show to my class tomorrow. I am looking forward to having a fresh start when school begins. **My advice to my classmates is to stay organized. It is hard to stay on task when everything is all over the place.**



Eric won the first Kahoot! game played in class.



Lizzie helps Paloma with her Hour of Code.



Jada and Brandon work on their Makey-Makey project.



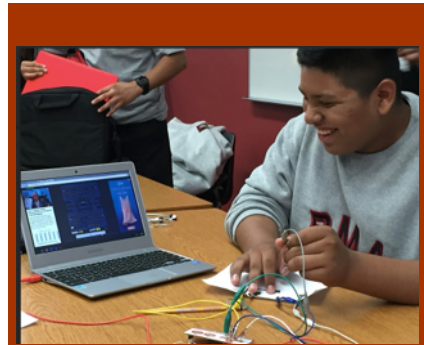
Hi my name is **Fernando Colin**. I came from Our Lady Of Lourdes in East LA. I like to go hiking. I have a 23 year old sister and a 5 year old brother so that makes me the middle child. My parents never finished school and wanted the family to succeed so they sent me to a private high school, the first in my family to ever be in Catholic Education/Private school.

My last 4 weeks at PMA summer school was an amazing experience for great opportunities to communicate, learn, and grow. I had to work on projects, speeches and websites. I noticed my higher level of self confidence while the 4 weeks at PMA. I am more outgoing than I was before thanks to Ms.Nicdao and Ms.Rudolf-Dib. I learned how anything can affect someone and the way people look at you. Any little comment can change everything. Another thing I learned at PMA was Be Confident, Be Inspired, and mostly Be Prepared as our teacher provide and explain to freshmen class. The most interesting part of PMA is really EVERYTHING!! My most memorable moment in PMA was the 4th week when we had to make a video for Ms.Nicdao class. Anthony, Laneya, Silvia and I made a reverse video where everything is reversed even the song. That project really boosted up my self confidence. I am really looking forward to events, and to really hang out with friends and just have the most exciting 4 years of high school. **My advice for you is Be Confident, Be Inspired, and Be Prepared. These will help you through life and most likely for your 4 years in PMA.**



My name is **Brandon Gaston**. I am 14 years old. My birthday is December 29th. I was born in and currently reside in Los Angeles, California. I love to cook and take selfies and have a strong interest in fashion. My last four weeks at PMA have been nothing less than AWESOME! Over the past four weeks I have increased my typing WPM, learned code, how to use iMovie, and many more great

techniques. I chose PMA because I knew that they would be the perfect environment for me to focus on my personal development and embrace diversity. The most memorable thing I have done so far was being able to use the Makey Makey in my Digital Literacy Class. At PMA I am looking forward to meeting new people, learning new things, and have fun! **My advice for you is that life is what you make it, so make your life at PMA the BEST!**



Elvin shows how to play PacMan with his device.



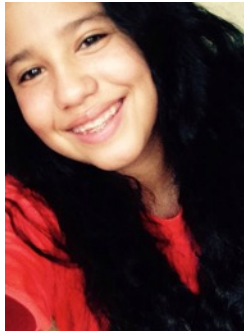
Eric and Molly work on their strawberry Makey Makey



A group demonstrate their Makey Makey Project.



Miriam presents her research topic with Google Slides.



Hi, my name is **Daisy Cabrera**, I graduated from St. Emydius and I'm honored to be a recipient of Onward Scholar. As I start my journey at PMA I am excited for a new beginnings and challenges that will be coming in the next four years. Since I started PMA everything was new to me. It's a different environment in which I see how diversified PMA is and I like it. The first week was pretty weird because I was so used to my old school that I did not have a clue on how things

would be here at PMA. I immediately started enjoying the school and the teachers. As the second week came around, I was getting comfortable with the teachers and my fellow freshman. I had a few friends from my old school to keep me company but I then met other students who I became friends with. I became fond of math, a subject I disliked so much before. It is all thanks to Ms. Collins who has made math fun. I started to learn more things about technology and am amazed at how much technology will help me at PMA. Thanks to Ms. Nicdao because she has taught us about all these amazing things you can do with technology. The third week, I was out of my comfort zone and it felt great. By the fourth week, I was finally comfortable with this new environment. I have learned many new things at PMA that I know will help me throughout my four years here. I have learned to become more responsible and that excuses and not allowed here. Also, I learned that it is okay to be yourself and not care about what anyone says. I did learn somethings academically. For example, the different ways of math and how to use Google Classroom, Google Docs, and Google Drive. I learned about digital citizenship and how it was so important that you do not post anything private on social media. By far, the most memorable thing I have done at PMA is iMovie week. I had so much fun recording and editing. It is fun that we got to use our imagination to come up with a movie, skit, or music video. It was the best week for me. **Advice for my fellow freshman is to study hard, get good grades, and try not to procrastinate. Procrastination is a bad habit to have during these years of high school. Do your best this first year at PMA, find study habits that will help you become a better student and I hope you have a great freshman year and a great time at PMA.**



Meet the CLIK Summer School Assistants

For the last four weeks, several students have volunteered to come to summer school and take time out of their schedules to help Ms. Nicdao with the new freshman technology class. These students are:

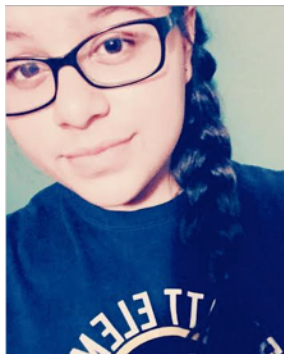
- Ivan Ayala (11th)
- Daniel Espinoza (10th)
- Samantha Nacayama (11th)
- Jesse Oros (10th)
- Sebastian Chavez (11th)
- Jennifer Ordonez (10th)
- Genesis Ruezga (10th)
- Kayla Ortega (10th)
- Katherine Valle (10th)
- Jelene Trejo (10th)

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER!

AUGUST

- **12th:** Freshman Orientation and New Parent Meeting
- **13th:** Freshman College Trip and Welcome Back Bash (5pm)
- **14th:** First Day of School, All class orientation (Minimum Day)
- **24-28:** Freshman ASB Campaign Want to be in Student Council? See Mr. Raymundo for more information.

ALL STUDENTS must have an approved device ready by the first day of school. NO EXCEPTIONS.



Hi, my name is **Michelle Vara**. I came from St. Emydius school, and I live in Lynwood. I love Harry Potter, playing the guitar, hanging out with my friends, playing rugby, and my favorite animal is a zebra! Before I started summer school in PMA, I was terrified of all the new faces I would be seeing. I thought that everyone would look at me differently, but the people here at PMA made me feel like family. I have grown closer to the students and a few of the teachers who make

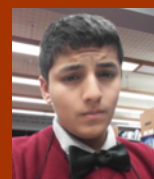
me feel comfortable. It is awesome to see how well the school can make you feel like family instantly! These past 4 weeks have been so much fun. It all started out as every student as a stranger, but we all slowly became friends. Although we are still shy around people, it is ok! Everyone is nervous to talk to someone new, which means that we all feel the same way. Some may think differently than others, but that does not stop them from being who they are. **If you are afraid or nervous to do certain tasks, you should know that the people around you are feeling the same way. So be confident because at one point in everybody's lives they will have to experience the same thing.** Also, my advice would be: **do not procrastinate and to study hard.** Procrastinating is a big issue, and it is incredibly hard not to do. We all want to succeed in life, and by doing what we are told to do will make our lives easier in the end. I thought that no one will want to become good friends with me, but I started to talk to a person who shares the same interests as I do. I am looking forward to trying new things that involve either academics or athletics. I chose PMA because I thought it would be fun to go to a high school that is not only proactive to the school, but to society as well. It is impressive to see how the technology at PMA is helpful. It helps the students become creative, and allows them to have fun at the same time.

Make these years at PMA count!



Students of the class of 2019 get to know each other on the 2nd day of summer school with Student Bingo.

ADVICE from the CLIK ASSISTANTS



Congratulations! You are in high school! Here are some tips on thriving for the next four great years at PMA.

Pace yourself, when starting a project or studying for a test don't expect to just give it one go and finish it all at once.

When looking at studying for a test make dates and amount of time for when you shall study. With projects do things similarly.

Make dates of when you will finish a certain part of said project.

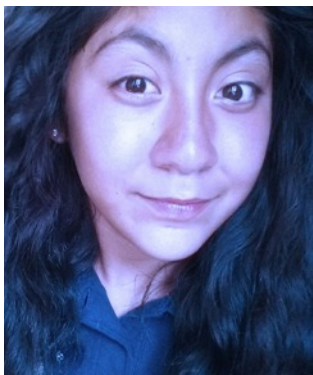
An example would be if you have a project due January 5, 2016. So you finish the written section by Jan 2nd and you finish the main project by Jan 4th. This will make your project easy and simple. The problem comes when you can't find the project.

Second, **stay organized.** The first mistake that will happen if you're not organized is you can't find your homework so that you can turn it in. If there's one thing that feels terrible it's doing the work but not getting credit for it. Some ways to do this would be having folders and notebooks for each subject.

Keep your locker neat and organized.

Take short stretch breaks. Never over work yourself and if you ever feel overwhelmed listen to music to unwind a bit. You are now ready for your first year.

Have a great time make tons a friends and be the best you that you can be.



Hello, my name is **Guadalupe Garcia** and I come from St. Lawrence of Brindisi in Watts. I am 13 years old and I am now currently attending St. Pius X- St. Matthias Academy. Let me tell you a little bit about myself. I come from a great family of four and am proud to be Catholic. Anyway, to tell you a little bit about me, I first want to start off with telling you that I LOVE to sing because it just helps

me concentrate a little more on whatever I am doing. I like to run and play sports. Some of the sports I play are volleyball, basketball, soccer, and I also run track. I also like to volunteer and give community service.

Anyway, my experience at PMA so far has been amazing. I have made new friends and I am enthusiastic about starting the new school year. These four weeks at PMA have taught me many things about the school. But before I get to that, I want to mention why I chose this school in particular. While I was still in the 8th grade, I applied to schools such as St. Mary's Academy, St. Bernard High School, Rolling Hills Prep, and of course, St. Pius X- St. Matthias Academy. **The reason I chose PMA was because I felt that if I continued the co-ed school and the Catholic environment, I would feel as if I was still at SLB.** St. Lawrence has lead me to this school, and I thank God for that. As I applied to PMA, I was also given the opportunity to be an Onward Scholar.

What I have learned from PMA so far is the fellowship between the students. I like the way that not all the sophomores and juniors look at us as just "freshman". They actually helped us to get to our classes the first week of school and some of the other students talk to us as if we were part of their family. What I look forward to at PMA are the school activities and community service because this is my vocation, to help others. **Some advice that I give other students is not to get into drama because that will not lead you anywhere. Also, do not try to do things just to be the popular kid** because after all, you will just ruin your reputation and will be popular for something you would not like.

This is ME.



Hello freshmen!

I am Samantha Nacayama (11th) and here are some helpful tips to prepare you for Finals. Some people may have told you that freshman year has the easiest

finals. That is not a reason for you to be super confident and not study for them. Finals in freshman year are easy if you have been preparing for them all semester long. **Being prepared and never losing focus is a great way to**

prepare yourself for finals. When finals week arrives keep calm, do not freak out, remember that you have been preparing yourself little by little throughout the semester. If you do not understand a topic that you were taught sign up for tutoring and ask for help, teachers are more than happy to help you understand that topic. You can also create a study group with friends or people in your class period to learn the topic in a way you will remember it. **Being organized is a big part of being successful for finals.** Knowing where all your materials are for each class is helpful since you may now easily go back to study or review from them. A great thing to do to your notes is to **highlight the very important points that will help you for the test.** When points in your notes are highlighted it stands out which will help you memorize it and will be easier to find it in your notes. During finals week getting enough sleep is very important since you want to be very alert on the day of your exams. **DO NOT stay up late and try last minute cramming, this really does not stay in your head.** The best study skill is setting up a schedule for each class and how long you will be studying for it. By having this study schedule done you will have everything organized and you will get enough rest each night to be fully prepared for your finals. While taking your finals do not try to rush through all the questions. Read through every question and through every answer option carefully. If you do not know the answer at that moment go back to the question try not to spend too long on one question. When you read through the test always answer the ones you know first. I hope these tips help you out not only for freshman year but for the rest of high school. Best of luck to all of you.

My name is **Arianna Villegas**, and I am 14 years old. I graduated from St. Raymond School in Downey. I am an honored member of the Onward Scholars Program. I'm an only child, but am part of two big families which include my cousin Roselyn who is also in the freshman class here at PMA. I enjoy swimming, playing golf, reading, singing, volunteering at a head and neck cancer group at USC, and crocheting. My favorite show is Glee and I love the color pink. I also like watching movies, playing violin, and spending time with family and friends. The last 4 weeks here at PMA have been very enjoyable for me. I've become familiar

with the school campus and have gotten to know my classmates better from my brief time here.

So far, I've learned how to better use my computer and about the effects of digital citizenship, but I've also learned about taking a new experience and making the best out of it. The most memorable experience this summer was creating a music video for Ms. Nicdao's class.

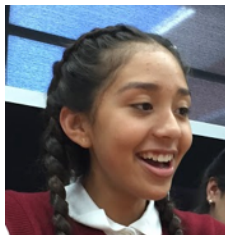
At PMA, I plan to join and start a club, play a sport, and achieve the best grades possible. I am very excited for the new school year and all the upcoming events.

Being freshmen, we will begin a new journey of our academic life that starts at PMA and have the opportunity to make our time something special.

There are a few things we all need to keep in mind as we start our first year here. Everyone wants the same things; good grades, friendships, and a school where we can all feel at home. First of all, be adventurous and try new things. Joining a club or sport in high school can be a great way to try something different that may benefit you in the future. You'll find that our school has much more to offer than you think.

Next, **make new friends by being a friend.** You'll soon learn that your friends will help you a great deal throughout your next four years. But you will also need to understand that popularity isn't everything. **When you're applying to college, they won't ask you how many followers you had on Instagram or how many people wanted to hang out with you.** Besides meeting new people, you'll soon find that completing your homework and studying are really important.

Don't try to be perfect because no one is expecting you to be, so just be your best. Remember that these next couple years are what you make of it. The amount of effort you put in will equal the amount of compensation you receive later. **Most importantly, remember to keep Christ in your life to guide you daily.** Lastly, have fun throughout your next four years here at PMA. They will go by very quickly, so enjoy every moment. Good luck!



Hello my name is **Fatima Vazquez**.

I come from St. Emydius. I live in Lynwood and I like

competitive swimming. My last four weeks at PMA have been the best; I have met new and amazing people like teachers and classmates. When I first started summer school at PMA I was scared because several people had told me not to come here. But I am very glad that I didn't listen to them. In these four weeks I have learned several important lessons. I learned important English skills that I will use throughout my high school years and in life, I learned how to type faster that I use to before (now looking back I think I typed like a grandma), and I learned easier ways to do math problems and I was able to understand math more. Something I look forward to doing in PMA doing is being a part of the yearbook staff, I want to do this because being a part of the yearbook staff at St. Emydius was very fun so having the chance to be in the yearbook staff at PMA would give me a new experience. **One piece of advice I could give my classmates is that you shouldn't care if people like you, never change yourself for someone who doesn't like you because no one can ever be like you so never be someone you don't want to be or feel uncomfortable being and always be yourself.** The reason I chose PMA was because the receptionist at my school told me that I should come here, I started finding out more about the school and I started liking it more. One person had told me that she didn't recommend me this school, but **I am glad that I didn't listen to them because it is one of the best decisions I have made.**



My name is **Elizabeth Morgan!** and came from St. Raymond. I live in Downey with my mom, and two brothers. People usually call me Lizzie or

Liz. I love to watch Japanese anime and read Japanese manga! PANDAS ARE MY LIFE!! They are so cute and cuddly, I love them!! Dancing and singing are my favorite things to do I am very shy once you first meet me, but after a bit, I start to talk a LOT! At first I was really scared of high school until I began summer school at PMA. My image of high school, was a scary school with evil teachers, bullies, and so many long boring classes. My experience here at PMA is totally different from what I was expecting! After only my first week, I felt so much a part of the PMA family! We all may be different personalities, and cultures, but here at PMA we all are brothers and sisters in this school! I have learned a great amount about how to treat people, and not always follow the latest trends or the status-quo! Be yourself, do what you like to do, no one will judge you here! Get out there and JUST DO IT!!! I also learned to be creative, and think outside-the-box, when doing school assignments, or anything else, (thanks Ms. Nicdao)! There are so many happy and great memories I have already made! The best times I've had this summer was reconnecting with old friends and making new friends, right here at PMA (SHOUTOUT to Valentino, Moises, Arianna, Erika, Ryan, Michelle, and Ivan). Everyone at this school, staff and students have been super sweet and friendly. I honestly can't wait to come back, and start my high school adventure here in a few weeks. I am very excited to be learning biology this year, and more about technology! I had a choice between PMA or Downey High School. I was leaning more towards Downey at first, but after visiting PMA, I felt more welcomed and comfortable! I kept it from my mom, that I wanted to go to PMA, because I thought it would be too much money for her alone to deal with. When she found out how I felt about PMA, she told me, "don't stop doing what you want to do, just because of my struggles" and she said she would find a way for me to go here. I love my family, and thankful for their support. I am so happy we are going to be joining the PMA family!!

PROUD TO BE A WARRIOR--CLASS OF 2019

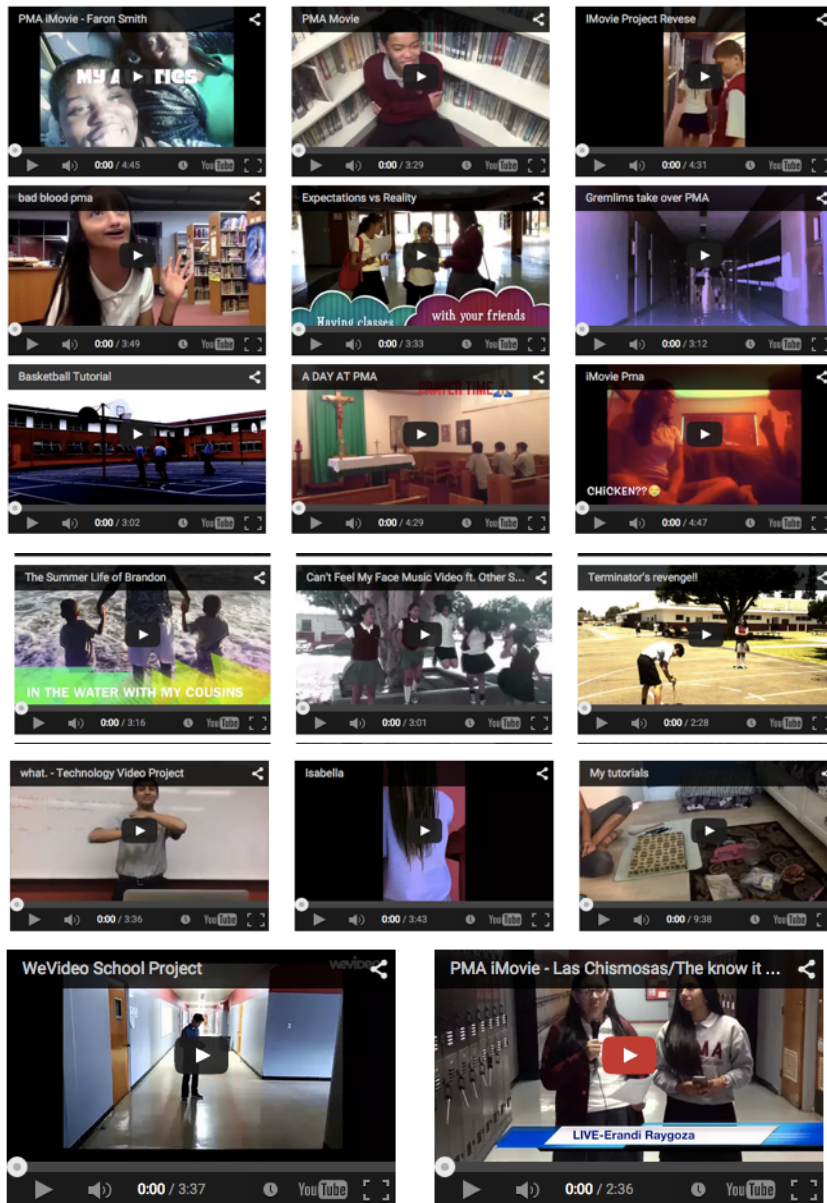
FILM FESTIVAL

On Friday, July 17, we watched movies that were directed and edited by various individuals and groups of the Research and Digital Literacy Class. For the videos go to pmafreshmantech.weebly.com (Click on Week 4).

Period 1 Movies

Period 2 Movies

Period 3 Movies



THE WARRIOR FILM AWARDS

BEST MUSIC VIDEO
"Bad Blood" Remake

Natalie, Arabella, Ana,
 Arianna, Kayla, and Erika

MOST CREATIVE STORY
"Aliens in PMA"

Darwin, Gregory, Aria and Guadalupe

BEST Tour of PMA
"A Day at PMA"

by Ruben, Eric and Miguel

BEST Original Concept
"Expectations vs. Reality"
 by Michelle, Alexis,
 Sophia, and Miriam

MOST PROFESSIONAL
LOOKING VIDEO

"The Mystery at Ardis Street"
 by Valentino

Best Original edited Video
"Reverse"

by Fernando, Laneya,
 Anthony and Silvia

Funniest Video

"Chicken" by Izbeth and Alondra

BEST MOVIES OVERALL
 (Highest rated/voted)

"Gremins Take Over PMA"
 by Natalia, Mariana and Cornelio

"Technology Video"
 Darren, Benji and Estella

"Las Chismosas"
 by Sydney, Erandi, Britney,
 Alejandra, Beverly and Yobanna

HONORABLE MENTIONS

"Netflix Night" by Jada
 "Family and Song" by Faron
 Tutorial editing by Paloma
 "Can't feel my Face Medley"
 by Daisy, Fatima, Magaly, Molly, Gaby

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Dear Parents of the Class of 2019,

I have received inquiries regarding the choice with a Chrome book or Macbook. After a year of researching what devices were best for our scholars and consulting with teachers on what devices would best work for the classroom, we agreed - a laptop was needed. Chrome books and Macbooks provide a range of apps and opportunities for students to learn about technology and through technology. The PMA Tech Team has received requests for debilitating viruses to be removed from other brands of PCs. Each PC has had over a thousand viruses. Chromebooks and Macbooks are less susceptible to viruses. They are actually the most proactive and secure devices for learning. All work and files are on the cloud; Google Drive.

Chrome books range from \$149-\$999 depending on features. The Macbooks range from \$999-\$3,200 depending on features. Both can do essentially the same things we want students to do in class.

Our current infrastructure is capable of handling devices and monitoring their activities online while at school. I will be conducting Tech Classes for parents in the future to match the tech skills your child is being taught. Make sure to sign up during the New Parent Meeting on August 13, 2015.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at FNicdao@piusmatthias.org

Thank you,
Ms. Nicdao



Macbook

The Macbook Air and Pro are recommended for school use. These laptops come with preloaded state of the art software for music and movie editing. Apple sets the industry standard.



Chrome book

No viruses. All online in the cloud. Unlimited memory storage for Google Apps for Education (GAFE) Schools. This machine has revolutionized technology in the classroom,

WEBSITES TO VISIT

- www.piusmatthias.org
- PMAFreshmanTech.weebly.com
- PMACLIK.weebly.com