



# COMMUNIQUE *express*

**The Portland French School / L'Ecole Française de Portland**

**March 27, 2009**

**Issue #13**

## MARCH/MARS

Month at a Glance

27.....Croissant Friday

27.....In-Service 1/2 Day

**School closes at 12:30**

## APRIL/AVRIL

Month at a Glance

10.....Croissant Friday

20-24..Spring Break ~ SCHOOL IS CLOSED

## TEACHER 1/2 DAY IN-SERVICE

*Friday, March 27, 2009*

**12:30 SCHOOL CLOSURE,**

School will be closing at 12:30pm in order to include all teachers in this very important team planning.

## STAY OUT OF THE FLOWER BEDS

It should go without saying. Please teach your children to respect the flowers, plants and trees', and not to pick, climb or dig in the flower beds on campus. Many volunteers hours and money have been spent to keep the beds attractive for everyone to enjoy. Also, last summer 40+ hours were spent putting in a drip system and now more time and money has to be spent to fix the damage that has been caused by the children not being properly supervised and destroying it. Instead please direct your children to the spacious lawn.



## INSIDE.../DEDANS...

News Briefs & Communiqués

- MORNING GREETERS
- VOILA L'ÉTÉ /SUMMER CAMP
- ANNUAL GIVING
- NICOLAS BATUM VISITS PFS

## METRO ART CONTEST

**Congratulations to our PFS students for their excellent work in the Metro's Earth Day billboard art contest!** Nearly 2,400 entries were received from elementary, middle and high school students in the Portland Metro-area. From those entries, 161 finalists were selected and **thirteen** of them were our own students!

Congratulations to

- **Juliana Smith (CP/1st grade)**
- **Maël Bradley (CE1/2nd grade)**
- **Max Menikoff & Nora Mick (CE2/3rd grade)**
- **Beck Harper & Sophia Retnani (CM1/4th grade)**
- **Bethan Harper, Laddie Wirth, Madeleine Vessely & Hannah Hutson (CM2/5th grade)**
- **Luca Mallon (6ème/6th grade)**
- **Analies Steensma (5ème/7th grade)**

A special congratulation to Hannah Hutson whose art work was one of the six top elementary designs chosen and she will receive an "honorable mention" award.

Their artwork is currently being displayed in the Metro lobby and can be seen at the Earth Day Show on Saturday, April 4th from 10a.m.-1p.m.

## SUBWAY

Monday, March 30th is the last Subway sandwich day from the previous order. A new order form is included in this week's communiqué. Order forms for the new period are due by Wed. April 1st.

## MORNING GREETERS

Please respect the school's drop off procedures. The drop off areas are there for a reason and not for parents to park their cars and come into the school. By not following the parking guidelines and rules, you are jeopardizing the school's Conditional Use Permit. **We need everyone to comply.** Also, please be courteous to the morning greeters. They are members of our community and volunteers. **Merci!**

### **Greeters for March 30-April 3 are:**

<u>Monday</u> ` D. Wilner-Nugent ` B Wilner-Nugent	<u>Tuesday</u> ` D. Wilner-Nugent ` B Wilner-Nugent	<u>Wednesday</u> ` D. Wilner-Nugent ` B Wilner-Nugent
<u>Thursday</u> ` D. Wilner-Nugent ` B Wilner-Nugent	<u>Friday</u> ` D. Joy ` J. Shotts	

### **Greeters for April 6-10 are:**

<u>Monday</u> ` K. Zappa ` D. Battieste	<u>Tuesday</u> ` P. Yao	<u>Wednesday</u> ` K. Zappa ` S. Cocke
<u>Thursday</u> ` K. Dietrick	<u>Friday</u> ` D. Joy	

## VOILA L'ETE//SUMMER CAMP

Yes, it is hard to believe that summer is almost here, which means no school and of course fun, fun, fun at PFS summer camp. The brochure is available now and can be picked up on the lobby table. If you have any questions, please email Mr. Cheikh at [afca@portlandfrenchschool.org](mailto:afca@portlandfrenchschool.org)

## ANNUAL GIVING 2008-2009

We are nearly 50% of the way toward our Annual Giving goal for 2008-2009, having raised \$29, 115 so far. Donating to Annual Giving is uniquely important because it measures community commitment. 100% participation from our community illustrates to outside funding sources that we are an institution worthy of their support. Thank you for your contributions to the Annual Giving Campaign.

## BLAZERS' FRENCH CONNECTION VISITS PFS

Portland Trail Blazers forward Nicolas Batum, who was born and raised in France, paid a visit to the Portland French School (PFS) on March 24 to meet the students, answer questions, sign autographs, and take on dozens of children in an impromptu pick-up game.

Batum's visit earned PFS broad media coverage, including a feature article in The Oregonian ("Le Dribble, le Shot, le Joke, Voila, le Suave Batum Scores"), an Oregon Live video loop, and spots on both KGW-TV and Fox-12.

Batum, 20, was accompanied to PFS by his mother, Sylvie, and said he enjoyed speaking his native tongue again. "These kids asked very good questions," he said. "They obviously thought a lot about this."

Asked by one child if he ever wanted to have children of his own, Batum nodded. "Yes," he said, "Five, like a team."

Batum also declared that his favorite player was LeBron James, but that Kobe Bryant was the toughest to defend.

The PFS gymnasium was decorated with banners and signs welcoming Batum, including one that declared, "Le'cole Francaise de Portland Adore les Blazers." Batum was greeted by PFS headmaster Elimane Mbengue, who presented Batum with a PFS t-shirt and a gift basket of food, including a wheel of brie cheese that Batum held up to show his mother. Physical education teacher Milan Marsik then conducted a question and answer session with students before producing a basketball that led to an ever-increasing game of one-on-two, one-on-three and, ultimately, one-on-twelve.

Batum is a rookie in the NBA, yet earned a position in the Blazers' starting line-up out of training camp. He is one of only 11 French players in the league.

