



# Bridger News



March 1, 2009



## From the Principal

Dear Bridger Families,

It's hard to believe, but Spring Break is almost upon us. Schools will be closed the week of March 23 to 27 and families will be resting up or just having fun. But until then, we have a bunch of work left to do. State benchmark testing begins in March for grades 3 through 8. Please remember to send your students to school prepared to do well—be sure they get plenty of rest and good food. Help them wake up on time and get to school before the final bell rings at 8:45 a.m. Your children will do better on state tests when they are rested and ready to tackle challenging questions.

As we move toward the end of the year, we are keeping our fingers crossed that our budget concerns will be resolved in a manner that is best for our children's education. We have added days to the school year to help make up for snow days last December. While some may predict the budget shortfall will bring an early end to the school year, we continue to work toward a solution that will keep our children learning through mid-June as originally planned. Please be sure to make your voices heard on this important educational matter. You can take an online survey to voice your budget opinions at <http://www.pps.k12.or.us>. Watch for more school district budget information coming to you soon.

Tina Daily  
Principal

### Important Dates to Remember in March:

- Monday, March 3—Dr. Seuss Day
- Thursday, March 5—Immersion Tour, 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- Friday, March 6—NO SCHOOL, Teacher Planning Day
- Tuesday, March 10—PTA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 12—Immersion Tour, 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- Friday, March 13—"Nightingale" Dramatic Production, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, March 13—School Choice transfer deadline, 5 p.m.
- Thursday, March 19—Makeup Spanish Immersion Night, 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, March 20—Talent Show
- Monday, March 23-Friday, March 27—SPRING BREAK, SCHOOL CLOSED



## The Nightingale

*By Hans Christian Andersen*

*Come with us and watch  
as the noble  
Emperor of China learns  
that real treasures cannot be found  
in jewels and possessions,  
but rather in truth  
and in friendship.*

**Friday, March 13th  
at 6:30 pm**

Performed by the students  
at Bridger School



## Immersion Tours Continue

Tours of Bridger's Spanish Immersion Program will continue this month on Thursday, March 5 and Thursday, March 12, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. To sign up for a tour of the Immersion Program, call the Bridger Office at 503-916-6336.

**NO SCHOOL**  
**Friday, March 6**  
**Teacher Planning Day**



## Notes from the Music Room

February has been a good month for our students in grades 4 and 5 in their recorder study. I am very pleased with the progress they have made in learning musical notation and playing in an ensemble. Please ensure that your child keeps their recorder in a safe place – away from younger siblings and pets – and that they remember to bring it with them to school for music class. Recorder is the first wind instrument children learn to play, and is a good first step toward learning other woodwind instruments like the flute, the clarinet or the oboe in high school band programs.

I am happy to report that we have received enough applications for our March Talent Show to go ahead with this project. I am always pleased to see children who are keen to share their abilities with their peers and am glad to provide a safe and fun opportunity for them to perform. Our Talent Show will be held the Friday afternoon just before Spring Break (March 20<sup>th</sup>) and it would be wonderful to have some supportive parents in our audience.

Last, but certainly not least, we are just a couple of weeks away from our drama production, *The Nightingale*. Our cast includes students from grades 4-8, and our crew is made up of the most amazing and dedicated parents I have had the privilege of working with. I urge everyone to come and see our performance on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Remember, supportive and enthusiastic audiences are key to successful performances.

Talk to you next month,

*Erica Lindgren*  
Music Specialist

## Does Your Child Know the Rules of the Road?



Bridger PTA will sponsor a Bicycle Safety Education Class May 22 through May 29 at Bridger School. Classes will be 3 to 5 p.m. each day. Bicycles, helmets and safety vests will be provided as part of the course held in cooperation with the Bicycle Transportation Alliance (BTA). You can sign up starting in April. Stay tuned for details.

**Spring Break**  
**March 23-27**  
**All Schools**  
**and offices closed**

## Original Works Art Fundraiser



The PTA is sponsoring a school-wide art project. Your child is currently creating beautiful artwork in class.

We will send home the artwork and ordering information on March 9th. You will then have an opportunity to order a variety of items (mugs, magnets, night lights, t-shirts, etc.) with your child's own artwork featured on every product. Orders are due back by March 16th. Final products will be sent home the week before Mother's Day.

## School Choice Transfer Cycle Ends March 13

Portland Public Schools 2009-2010 Transfer Cycle for elementary and middle schools ends March 13 at 5 p.m. All School Choice paper or online requests must be submitted by that time.

Families who are interested in applying for a school other than their Neighborhood School may investigate options available by visiting the PPS website [www.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.pps.k12.or.us). From the main page, click "Schools" on the left hand menu and find a redesigned gateway page with general school information and address look-up features. Families can also click on a new page called "Explore," that offers an introduction and links to numerous services and school options.

