

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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GFES students spend day with Tony Parker

Students in Celia Barragan's fifth-grade class at Goodwin Frazier Elementary took Tony Parker around the world.

Parker took those same Comal ISD students on a pretty incredible journey as well for their reward.

Barragan's class beat out others entries from around the San Antonio area in the "Around the World With Tony Parker" essay contest.

Their prize was a trip to the Tower of the Americas at Hemisfair Park in San Antonio, where students met and had a question and answer session with the Spurs point guard, watched a 4-D movie complete with oversized viewing glasses, and then traveled with Parker 750 feet up to the top of the tower to get the best view in the city.

Their day wasn't close to being complete. Parker came up with a crafty move similar to the ones NBA fans are used to seeing him pull on the basketball court.

Parker, Barragan, GFES principal Cheryl Lucas and the students snuck away from the large contingent of media that were filming the event, bound for an unknown location.

Soon, students in Barragan's class realized Parker was taking them directly to his house, where they got to meet his two pug pups and play some hoops on Parker's private basketball court.

"A friend of mine started screaming when we realized where we were going," GFES student Cruz Peña said. "It was the nicest house I've ever seen. I don't know if my friends or family will believe me when I tell them where I went."

What started as an offer from Barragan to her class to enter the contest, turned into an amazing experience for her students.

“They worked on everything on their own,” Barragan said. “They created every single page of the book by hand. This was an amazing day; I don’t know how I’m going to be able to top this the rest of the school year.”

Parker said it was that personal touch in the book, which included things like his receiving a basketball as a present at age five in France, trips to places like Guatemala and Peru, and even his wedding with Eva Longoria, that made Barragan’s class the winners.

“I loved all the drawings,” Parker said. “I have a special place for it in my office. It is a very unique book and one I will treasure.”

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IN PHOTOS:

Spurs guard Tony Parker reads the book Celia Barragan’s class at Goodwin Frazier created for him as students Luis Iglesia and Olvin Canales look on. It was part of the “Around the World With Tony Parker” essay contest. Students met with Parker at the Tower of the Americas and then took a surprise trip to his house to shoot some hoops.

Tony Parker watches a 4-D movie at the Tower of the Americas and Goodwin Frazier Elementary student Clarissa Garcia Dealba watches Parker during an amazing day Celia Barragan’s Goodwin Frazier Elementary fifth-grade class spent with the Spurs point guard.