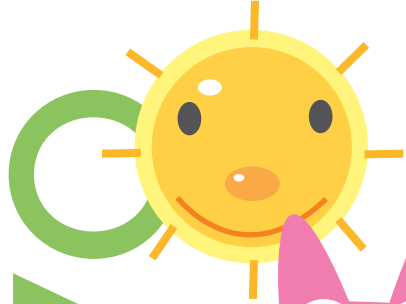


# hoops & yoyo

newsletter 4



# holla!



hello and welcome to our latest newsletter! before we get into all the fun details, though, we HAVE to ask our pals in the united kingdom – HAVE YOU SEEN BOB AND MIKE? even as you read this, they may be prowling in your neighborhood. (well, not prowling, really. bob sorta zips around when he goes from place to place, and mike has more of a friendly lope.) any-hoo, bob and mike just left for the u.k. to talk about hoops&yoyo to some companies from other countries (very many other countries. we're talking multiple continents. wool!) so if you live in london or bradford and you see a guy zip by with a smart looking loper, get a photo and send it to us – it might be bob and mike, and we'd like to know what they do when they think we're not watching. was there other news? yes, there was. but we seem to have gotten a little excited about the bob and mike trip and temporarily not remembered the other news. it'll come back, though. let us forge ahead! .



## fan of the month: irene

this is cool. irene, our fan of the month, was nominated by another fan. she lives in hong kong and was introduced to us by serene. (serene, though, lives in london. isn't it a small world?) irene is an accountant, pianist and student of japanese. she works in a trading company, and is apparently quite the charming hoops&yoyo enthusiast – rumor has it that her hoops&yoyo yelling board is on all the time and she turns up the volume on her message board before she leaves her desk. (NOTE: if you work with irene, please write and let us know if this is as charming for you as it is for us.) serene reports that irene loves the following things: the color pink, ice cream, and someone named jeff who may be either a boyfriend or a hamster. (NOTE: if you are jeff, please write to us and tell us whether or not you are a hamster. we were hurrying when we read the email about you. sorry. that's impolite. if it turns out you ARE a hamster, though, you MUST write to us! a writing hamster would be the best!) irene, as you can see from the photos, is cute, lives in a beautiful place and has nice friends. life is so good!

# hoops&yoyo favorites

## coffee

h: big 'ol laté

y: mint mocha with whipped cream

## song in i-pod

h: "lost memory" — sammi cheng

y: "now or never" — elvis presley

## recent dvd release

h: napolean dynamite (...of course...gosh!)

y: elf

## current chocolate snack

h: pocky

y: chocolate covered anything



## more about bob

### bob's early work



bob has worked on many things at hallmark. mostly humor, though, including shoebox cards. (perhaps you've heard of them? shoebox is a tiny little division of hallmark.) when bob got interested in animation, he thought he might want to do e-cards for hallmark.com. he applied for a job there by doing a series of very short animations of an unlucky boy, and submitting them to the big bosses. in this one, the unlucky boy is training a mean dog to jump through a hoop. is this some kind of autobiographical metaphor? we don't know. might just be a little animation about an unlucky

boy and a mean dog. either way, it's pretty cute. (if you can't see the animation here, download the newest version of acrobat reader: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html> if you still can't see the animation, we'll put it on the site eventually.)

## e-mails you gotta read

we love our email pals. they introduce us to all kinds of new experiences. we read the letters and have new favorites we never knew we had, we feel like we've traveled places we've never been, and we think of doing strange things. See for yourself:

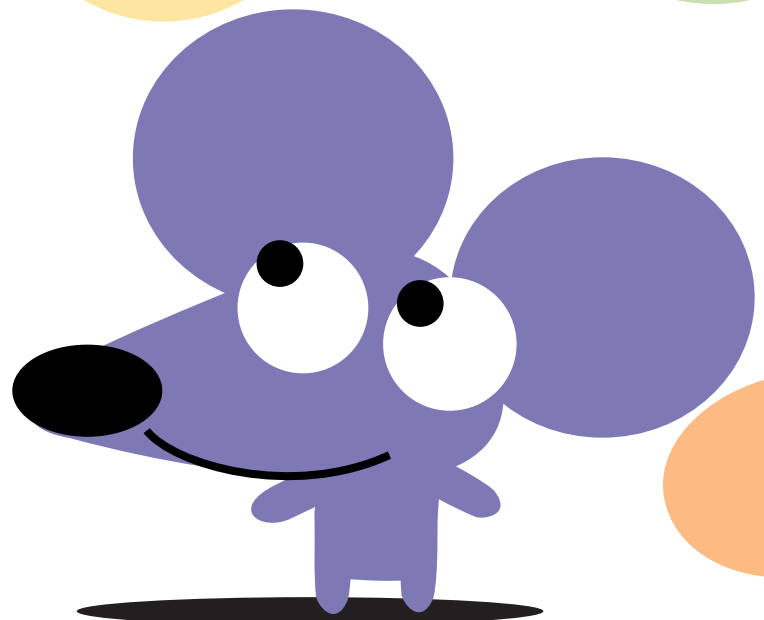
**isabelle** has let us know that one of her extreme favorites is "one foot of whipped cream on one centimeter of pie." this is a great idea, and we can't believe we haven't already thought of doing it.

**lolo** reports that she touched a mole (yes. a mole. the small earth-dwelling mammal.) on the nose the other day. we've never done that. we've never even imagined doing it. but now...

**adri** says she went to the budapest zoo one afternoon on the "49th tram, which is a very, very old tram but it's unique". it kinda makes you feel like you're in some kind of romantic movie, rolling down the streets of the old city. especially the extra part about going to the chain bridge and fisherman's castle.

and here's a really beautiful little thing **alexandra** wrote: "you say in your newsletter that you can't believe how many people all over the world write to you. do you know why? you must...but if you don't, it's because you are full of love and friendliness (and sugar). we ALL need that so much. sometimes the world can be a hard place. we need you because you make it better."

we really, REALLY can't believe how nice people are! (and yes, alexandra, you did make us cry.) please keep writing to us, everyone – we love your letters!



## things to looky look for:

there's so much happening in hoopstown and yoyoville!

**bob finished a new and very cute e-card** before he went to england. you will definitely want to see it. (do NOT miss it if you have noticed that valentine's day is coming!)

**we've thought up some new downloads** since our last newsletter, like the audio files. they're pretty fun, and you can use them in amusing ways. (write us if you do – we love that sort of thing.)

**and the biggest looky-looky of all** – if things work out from bob and mike's trip, hoops&yoyo will be available in OTHER COUNTRIES! it's not a sure thing, but think positive thoughts, and come back to *hoop-sandyoyo.com* for updates – we'll let you know when and where things are happening, if they happen. (it's true. you might be able to go to finland or england or china or argentina and our boisterous buddies would be there to greet you!).

