

April 4, 2013

Dear Denis,

On behalf of our students and faculty at The Independence School, I would like to sincerely thank you for your recent visit and presentation. The stories and experiences you shared with our students about the wonders of Asia and its peoples and culture will be remembered for a long time. Since it became available online, I have used your film, *In the Footsteps of Marco Polo*, to accompany my geography lessons on Asian countries and as a reference in our class discussions on global awareness. Your unique and interactive style created an immediate connection with our middle school students who were captivated by your journey and inspired by your message about global education. You allowed our students to enter the world of Marco Polo; but more importantly, you opened their eyes to the plight of disadvantaged people and children around the world. A desire to make a difference and a need to facilitate change in the world became the overall themes of your visit. Our students got the message.

Please know that you will always be considered a friend of The Independence School. You are a true educator and, in every way, embody the spirit of our school motto, "Inspire, Dream, Achieve."

We look forward to your returned visits in the future.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

Mr. Christopher Novak
Teacher of Social Studies

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Inspire, Dream, Achieve