



St. Joseph Catholic Academy

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Dear Denis,

St. Joseph Catholic Academy is committed to the development of students of diverse backgrounds and faiths from nursery through eighth grade by providing a well-rounded foundation for future learning and life. Our partnership between school and home utilizes the Gospel message as well as the latest advances in technology and learning to empower students to serve God and each other by being well-mannered, well-educated, responsible, and compassionate citizens of the global community.

On behalf of the school community here at St. Joseph, I write to thank you for the extraordinary experience you provided our middle and junior-high school students last week. Your documentary, *In the Footsteps of Marco Polo*, makes history come to life for its viewers and inspires a young audience to a greater awareness of and appreciation for the world outside the safe confines of their own experiences.

The Q&A following the film was particularly well handled. I sat in amazement at how engaged the children were as they listened to you relive so many of the fascinating aspects of your journey. It was clear that they were deeply touched by your commitment to following a dream and to the courage and resilience you had to bring to bear each day to fulfill that dream. Many life lessons are contained in your story and in the way you recount it for others.

Given that they had all just met you for the first time, I was struck by how quickly they felt connected to you and your adventure. It made me smile to see how many of them wanted to shake your hand and get your autograph.

I imagine that these presentations are enjoyable for you in that they keep the original travels so fresh in your mind. Know that sharing them vicariously with you was as much of an enjoyment for us.

Respectfully,

Luke Nawrocki
Principal



Continuing in the tradition begun by the Sisters of St. Dominic

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