



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

25 June 2012

Dear all,

Dear Seventh Grade students,

I was very pleased to receive your letter. I am especially glad to know you had good experiences with exchange students from my country.

My schooling was very important for my career; in addition to the usual subjects that you yourselves are taking, I learned the great value of working hard in pursuit of one's goals. I played soccer as a kid, and still do today, whenever my schedule permits, with friends and colleagues from the diplomatic community in New York. The United Nations has 193 Member States, and I have visited many dozens of them; perhaps, by the end of my term, I will have visited them all. I am pleased to report that I have not had my life threatened during those travels; although a rocket landed near me once in Baghdad, that is little compared to the violence and destruction that so many people face in their day-to-day lives – and which the United Nations works to prevent.

Finally, my favourite part of the job is bringing people together. Whether that means negotiating a peace agreement or enabling children and women to receive life-saving vaccines, I enjoy addressing a problem, seeing what can be done and then making things happen. That is what the United Nations does, day in and day out, across the full spectrum of our agenda, and it is a privilege to be part of it and to make the Organization an instrument of service for the world's people.

I appreciate you writing regarding my recent visit with Mrs. Patterson in May. We have been friends for more than fifty years and I am always touched to meet her again.

The Seventh Grade Class
Good Shepherd Lutheran School
Novato
California



12-05933

my/12/2012

Let me offer my best wishes for your great success as you enter the final year of middle school in September. Enjoy a fun summer holiday, and refresh yourselves so you have all the energy you need to start your next school year and your journey to a great future!

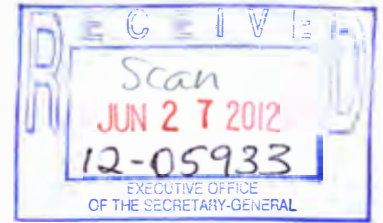
Wishing you all the best!

Yours sincerely,

Ban Ki Moon
BAN Ki moon



Creating Foundations for Life



May 8, 2012

Dear Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon,

The seventh grade is super fun! Our class has 14 students; we have 6 girls and 8 boys. Our size has helped us to be close and united. We are all good friends. When we had exchange students from Korea come and visit us we learned about your experience with Mrs. Patterson. We'd like to ask you a few questions.

1. What did you learn in school to get you so far in your career?
2. Has your life ever been threatened by going to places around the world?
3. Did you play sports as a kid?
4. We understand there are roughly 189 or so countries in the world, have you been to all of them?
5. What is your favorite part of your job?

We have enjoyed our visits with Mrs. Patterson and recognize how special your relationship is, and we hope to have more involvement with Mrs. Patterson in the future.

Thank you for reading our letter and making the world a better place.

Sincerely,

Mckenna Caramucci Jenny Heinlein Taylor Rose Pewitt Caroline Tandrup
Grace Beckmann Peter Hunt Dean Soldatos Caitlin Verhoeff
Ryan Crivello Zach Roesler Austin Marshall
Dante Omoomy Nick Radcliffe Marika Verhoeff
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