

CELEBRATING WORLD TEACHERS' DAY AT FRAMINGHAM STATE UNIVERSITY

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TEACHES AT: Bangkok Christian College, Thailand

Bangkok Christian College, founded in 1852, has an enrollment of approximately 5000 students from grades 1 through 12. Most students are from Bangkok and speak Thai as their first language. Bangkok Christian College is a school for males only. Hunter believes that “it’s quite well known as an academic and sporting academy and has given Thailand 2 former Prime Ministers.”

SUBJECT AREAS TAUGHT: English, Fifth Grade

HOW DID YOU DECIDE TO ENTER INTO TEACHING?

“I decided to become a teacher way back in 2001, when an old friend of mine, who was teaching in South Korea, randomly emailed me and asked if I wanted to come over and work with her. I thought it sounded very exciting, and given that the Soccer World Cup was being held in Korea in 2002, I decided within a few weeks of her email to board a plane and begin the adventure. I’m still teaching 15 years later.”

MEMORABLE TEACHING MOMENT:

“I have so many fond memories....One particular memory that stands out involved a student who was in my very first class, back in 2001. She was an 8 year old young learner in a small town in South Korea....I got to know her younger brother and her family... and teaching her privately for a year or so even after she left the school at which I worked. We hadn’t spoken in years, perhaps 8 or so, when one day I got a “Facebook request” from her. She had found me and wanted to tell me about her life now. She (So Jin is her name) is now close to graduating from university. She thanked me for helping her overcome her fears of English and for fuelling her desire to travel and see the world. It was great hearing from her and we talk now and again. Something like this makes me feel that I’ve made a difference in some student’s lives, having first known this English speaking adult when she was merely an 8 year old grade 3 student. It makes it all rewarding, doesn’t it?”

World Teachers’ Day is an event promoted by UNESCO and partners throughout the world. It represents a significant effort to raise awareness, understanding and appreciation for the vital contribution that teachers make to education and development across the globe.



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