

The EMW Mentor

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Letter from Beijing

Xin nian kuai le!
Happy Chinese
New Year!

This month we are featuring our Academic and HR Manager, Maggie Whale from New Zealand.

Maggie first started working with EMWChina as a teacher in 2005. She became a manager in 2008 and has since been providing support to all our teachers.

Maggie is an adventurous lady who loves to travel

and explore new places. She recently visited Shaanxi province where she visited villages where people live in caves, and stumbled across a beautiful lake resort in the middle of nowhere.

She is known around the office for her generosity. Whether it's candies for new years, gifts from New Zealand or words of support.

So we hope that you enjoyed your new year and that you are prepped for



Maggie in Hobbit with a fellow traveler.

another exciting term in China!

-The Beijing Office

Interviews and the Website

In March we will be contacting you all asking whether you would like to continue teaching with us for another year. We will send you a schedule with interview times so that I can call you and have a chat to discuss your options. If you are undecided, it is better to have a chat and we can put your name on the list. So give

it some serious thought between now and then.

We are currently updating the information for each school on the website. Please take some time to read what we have written about your school and send Xavier any improvements you think necessary. You might also like to send us some fun pho-

tos of students from Halloween or Christmas parties. If there isn't any information about your school there, please send us some.



Now that you have all had a great holiday – don't forget to send in your holiday snaps and a small description of where you went so we can use it for future newsletters.



Movie Ideas—Ron Downs in BCIT Wuxi

I did a film genre lesson with my Pre-Intermediates. Although it was a lot of work finding, downloading, censoring, collating and timing trailers to fit into a fast paced lesson, it was worth the effort.

It was going great: we went through the different genres then they watched several trailers back to back, recording film name and genre. Then they watched a seven minute action scene from 2012 and wrote a description, and for the grand finale they watched a three minute scene in Chinese from the same movie with the task



of translating the gist of the scene into English. The whole class looked dumbfounded, then someone found the courage to tell me that it wasn't mandarin but a local language/dialect so they couldn't

understand it. Ha ha! A trap for young players. Anyway the lesson attendance and participation were excellent and they absolutely loved it. It was wonderful to see excitement and laughter from the class.

I got all the material off the net and used a variety of genres, such as fantasy, action, romance and musical. I got most of the trailers from these sites:

- <http://www.traileraddict.com>
- <http://www.trailerspy.com/>
- <http://www.movie-list.com/>.

They list current or upcoming movies.

New Years in Pingdingshan

Pingdingshan Wellent Bilingual School in Henan province recently had a New Year party for the primary (elementary) students.

Ian Clinton, one of our teachers, was asked to be the MC along with two students. As you can see from

the photos, the costumes were amazing as were the wide range of performances - from Martial arts to Chinese opera, from dancing to juggling. Ian had no idea he was teaching such talented individuals as this side rarely shows itself in the classroom.

