



State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

January 5, 2016

Erin Peshtani
Manor Hill Elementary School
1464 South Main Street
Lombard, Illinois 60142

Dear Erin,

Thank you for sending your Flat Stanley to visit me in South Carolina. Stanley and I had a great time touring the Statehouse and Governor's Mansion.

The state flag is based on a design by Colonel William Moultrie in 1775 for use by South Carolina troops during the Revolutionary War. Colonel Moultrie chose a blue color which matched the color of their uniforms and a crescent which reproduced the silver emblem worn on the front of their caps. The palmetto tree symbolized Colonel Moultrie's heroic defense of the palmetto-log fort on Sullivan's Island against the attack of the British fleet.

The state flower is the Yellow Jessamine, as it is indigenous to every part of the State. It is a climbing woody vine with evergreen leaves and blooms small, yellow, tubular, fragrant clusters. The state bird is the Carolina Wren, which is also found all over South Carolina. It is a small bird with a reddish-brown body, black tail, and a conspicuous white stripe over the eyes. The song of the wren sounds like "tea-ket-tle, tea-ket-tle, tea-ket-tle" and may be heard year-round, day and night, and in all kinds of weather.

Keep up the good work! God bless.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nikki".

Nikki R. Haley

NRH/ld

Enclosures

A handwritten note in black ink that reads "I am proud of you Erin." with a heart symbol at the end.

I am proud,
of you Erin. ♥