



Dear ToKers

Yet another year, another long road from the prescribed title analysis classes to the final draft, and another class who works hard, breathes deeply when the tough gets going and plunges head first into writing. We did it! We met the deadline and the essays are now uploaded.

You have to remember that you did your best no matter what grade you end up with. Assessing TOK essays is in many ways subjective, and relies on a global impression marking technique rather than a set of criteria, so differences in opinions will exist.

But let us now focus on what is important, the great accomplishment of last night. You wrote your essays, you suffered through the process and you met the deadline! Congratulations to you for putting an honest real try in the writing process. For allowing us to push you so that you may rise to meet your potential. Thank you for your patience as we gave feedback slowly but surely.

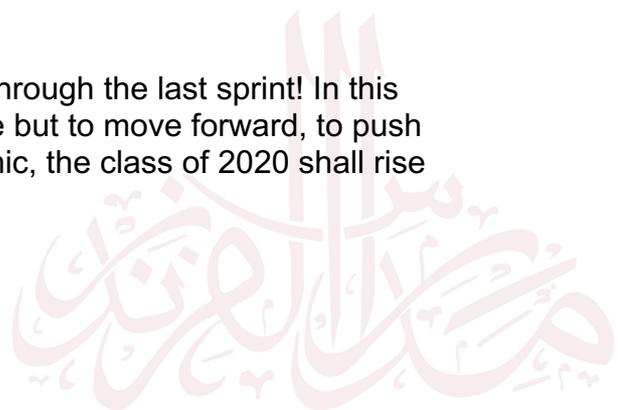
Yet again this year has been a true learning experience for us, one that we will carry for many years to come. And you will always be the COVID-19 class, the class who persevered and will persevere in the face of a historic pandemic.

It is a joy to teach you, and an honor to read your essays and learn about you through your writing. So, thank you for that.

I want to take my hat off (even if virtually) to the true soldier of TOK essays...Ms Aliaa. With the state of emergency, and moving the school to virtual space, Ms Aliaa stepped up to the plate and took over the feedback process. She soldiered through the essays, and every time I would check in, she would say: "don't worry, you get the school up and running, I got this". So please stand (virtually) and show her some love! Thank Ms Aliaa for her patience, love and sense of humor. The time she gave you, came directly out of her time at home with her child.

And please do not forget to thank Ustaz Luai for caring about each and every one of you, and for having the patience to wait for you as you inched your way to completing the task at hand. Thank him for not giving up on any of you. Thank him for sending requests for phone number, even at 11:59 pm! Thank him for his faith in you. His love and patience is that of a father, and his mentorship is that of a true teacher.

We are not done yet, so hang tight as we push through the last sprint! In this tough time, a dark time worldwide, we have no choice but to move forward, to push beyond adversity and into success. From the pandemic, the class of 2020 shall rise triumphant.





We have played enough during the year (well you played a lot, I mainly rolled my eyes and wanted to send you home, ok and got upset sometimes), and had many good times. Now is the time to focus so that we may celebrate on July 5th, 2020!

Sleep tight tonight, but then tomorrow...Get up, show up and never give up!

In Friendship and Heaps of Love
Ms Riyam

