

# LETTER TO MYSELF

Dear Me,

Today, as you apply for the position of Editor for the HSI Newsletter Club, I want to remind you about why writing is such a huge aspect of your life. You're a gifted writer, sure. You already know that from all your achievements, be it the Gold Award in the Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition, the top 5 in every inter-school event you've taken part in (remember Asteria in Sophia's, where your entry got shortlisted in the top 5 out of 70 other entries?), the publishing of your stories in the magazine of every school you've attended, or the fact that you are starting your own blog, 'The Open Notebook', for your CAS project. I'm not writing to remind you about these things, even though it does make you feel good about yourself.

No, this letter is to remind you about why you first picked up that pen, and as a 7-year old, firmly told your parents 'I will be a writer when I grow up!' Do you remember the story? You were in Grade 2. You barely knew how to spell your own name. English class made you afraid, because you knew you would be called out for incorrect grammar. And then, creative writing classes happened. In that, you had the freedom to write whatever you wanted. You discovered a way of expressing yourself, but you weren't aware of your talent yet. You just wrote what you felt like. And it did not seem like you would ever discover your talent, until you wrote that essay on your mother.

It was a simple 12 sentence thing, but there was passion behind it, love behind it. It was a piece written straight from the heart. You were expressing your love for your mother. You had not tried to write something brilliant. You had just written honestly, hoping to show your mother how much you care for her. When it got published in the school magazine, you were on the top of the world!

After that, there has been no stopping you.

You write because it makes you happy. You write for yourself, not for someone else. You write because it makes a difference to you, and that difference makes all the difference in the world (sorry, bad pun). I want you to know that writing is an important part of who you are, and I am so proud to say that it has made you such a confident young woman. It defines who you are, and that definition is one full of vibrancy. Because you wrote it.

I just want to say that I really love every single piece you have written. I know that you have written it with passion, creativity, and imagination. I know that you have written it for yourself. I want you to know that it doesn't matter whether you get the position of Editor or not. Just keep writing. Write for yourself. Write so that it makes a difference, to you and to everyone else.

Keep writing, keep shining!

With sweet words from,  
Me