

This was a letter written by a head teacher in Singapore

I think it's really important for the teachers your parents and for you to hear.

Dear parents,

The exams of your children are to start soon. I know you're really anxious for your child to do well but please do remember amongst the students who'll be sitting for their exams there's an artist who doesn't need to understand math. There's an entrepreneur who doesn't care about history or English literature. There's a musician whose chemistry marks won't matter. There's a sports person whose physical fitness is more important than their grade in physics. If your child does get top marks that's great but if he or she doesn't please don't take away their self-confidence and their dignity from them. Tell them it's okay, it's just an exam, and they are cut out for much bigger things in life. Tell them no matter what they score that you love them and don't judge them. Please do this and when you do watch your children conquer the world. One exam or low mark won't take away their dreams or their talent and please do not think that doctors and engineers are the only happy people in the world.

With warm regards

The principal

And here's my message

Exams are important but they're not everything. Grades are good but they don't define you. Don't let one exam or one grade define your whole future. There is so much more potential right inside of you and remember as Albert Einstein said everyone's a genius but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree it will spend its whole life believing that it's stupid. Don't let other people's metrics of success become yours.