



GRADE SIX
92nd COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

There's a saying that goes, "The fireworks begin today. Each diploma is a lighted match. Each one of you is a fuse. "

Fr. Karel S San Juan of the Society of Jesus, Ateneo de Zamboanga University President; Mr. Marco Alfino V Miranda , our Honored Guest; Mrs. Pilar C Agraviador, Grade School Principal; Mrs. Nimfa F Mabalot, Assistant Principal; Mrs. Marilyn I Mariano, School Registrar; Engineer George G Ledesma , Ateneo de Zamboanga University Alumni Association Vice-President; members of the grade school faculty and administrative staff, parents, my dear co-graduates, good evening.

I humbly stand before you today with mixed emotions of sadness, happiness, fear, excitement, and triumph. We did it!

Today marks an ending of that chapter in our lives called grade school. We put to memory the six years we have spent as elementary students, we acknowledge the people we have encountered, the trials we surpassed, the joy and tears, the fun and laughter. Today is indeed special because more than anything, it is living proof of what we have overcome to show to you all that we are ready to take on the next step, the next chapter in our academic life: High School or Middle School.

When I first came to the Ateneo as a Kinder 1 student, I found it hard to accept defeat, I always wanted to be the best, to be always the winner, always number 1 and I would feel so bad if I was not. Over the years I have learned that in order to appreciate more the triumphs we have in life we have to bear a few failures and defeats as well.

More importantly, this institution has taught me to love God and love others expressed in humble service to others and putting one's talents to actively engage in

the life and mission of the church; get out from our comfort zones and go to the frontiers equipped with the Ignatian values of Cura Personalis, Companionship, Magis and Excellence in reaching out to others -particularly the poor, the powerless and marginalized in society, and to always live -out our motto wherever we go and whatever we do : Pro Deo et Patria, in the service of God and country.

I am honored to be a part of batch 2015, a batch of wonderfully outstanding individuals who are themselves talented in different fields. On this note, I would like to express my gratitude to those who have made my achievements possible.

I would like to thank God first and foremost. I would also like to thank my parents, for the unfailing love, support, guidance, encouragement and never ending patience. All my achievements are also very much yours. Thank you to my Mommy Lola, for always being there for me, to Lola Bibing and my Titos and Titas.

To all the teachers I have had here in the Ateneo, thank you. I would like to specially mention Teacher Von Lumayag, thank you for believing in me. To all my friends, classmates, batch mates, thank you for making my grade school a truly memorable and enjoyable experience.

On every ending starts a new beginning, new challenges, a long road bringing new opportunities. But we will be unafraid, for we are ready. A. A. Milne said "Always remember, you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

Let us not be daunted by what lies before us. St. Canisius said, "If you have too much to do, with God's help you will find time to do it all."

Batch 2015, once again, CONGRATULATIONS ! shine bright and blaze a trail.

Now, let the fireworks begin!

Renzo Bryle DR Sontillano
Valedictorian