

## HOME AWAY FROM HOME

by:

**Marites P. Banzon**

*Teacher III, E.C. Bernabe National High School*

Metaphorically speaking, a house is not a home and there is a big difference between the two. A house is just a physical structure. It is just a façade taking a space. The talk about a house centers on the materials used, its cost, design, and location. While home is about the elements that make it a place of love. A home is a house where love prospers. It is a place of safe and refuge, of love, of acceptance, and understanding. Students always hear their teacher or even their parents say that they should consider their schools as their second home. But what really makes a school a second home of students?

Yes, your school is your second home. Just like your home, schools give you food to gain strength, which you can use in your everyday battle. But it is not the literal food that you think. Schools give you knowledge. It gives you intelligence. In reality (Willms, 2003) found out that educators cannot assume that students with normal or above-average literacy capability feel a sense of belonging at school or value educational accomplishments. It lets you consume significant learnings that will guide you as you face the challenges of life. It lets you eat ideas, principles, and insights that make you a person of wisdom and of value.

Your school is your second home for it protects you from outside harm. Just like your home, your school safeguards your safety and security while you are inside. It offers refuge to those who are battered by life. On the other hand, according to (Hapitan, 2019) it was heartbreaking to see the situation in public schools, the lives of each and every Filipino who struggles for education, for their ambitions, and for their own personal aspirations in life. There is comfort and solace inside its four-cornered walls. At some

point, you might think that these walls isolate you from the social undertakings but please know and understand that it only embraces you until you reach your full potential. One who is ready to sail on unchartered water.

Yes, your school is your second home. Your real parents might not be there inside as your go-to person when you feel like crying, tired, broken, sad, or just happy. But you have your teachers who can also offer their genuine love to you. They are always willing to listen to you and to your stories of love, joy, success and even your heartbreaking stories. They are there to support you on your growth. They will guide you, teach you, and let you soar when the time is right. Your teachers are not only there to teach. They are also there to care for you, to nourish you, to guide you, and most importantly to love you as their own child. Given these points, (Marin & Brown, 2008) while education's primary goal is to educate adolescents intellectually, schools are increasingly being asked to produce socially competent, physically fit, and politically engaged youths who will take these attributes into society.

You see, a school is a place of love. Your teachers together with your classmates and friends make your stay truly worthwhile. They give you thousands of memories that you will never forget in your life. It is their love to you, that makes school magical. Their love propels you to achieve greater heights.

And when the time has come that you need to leave, please remember that your school will always be your second home. The tears you shed, the laughter you give, the love you shared will always remain together with your memories. Your school is your second home and I think there is nothing more beautiful to know that you will always have a place in this home.

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