

Dear Parents,

Picture this: a sprawling, fast-moving city. A maze of metro lines. A foreign land. And one 14-year-old, map in hand, quietly deciding she's got this.

That was my daughter yesterday. And I was just there, watching with her older sibling equal parts stunned and proud.

Without any prompting, without a single instruction from my side, she sat down, studied the MTR map, and single-handedly figured out the most intricate route across the city. Then she guided us there — calm, confident, and completely unfazed. Like a little adult finding her footing in a foreign land.

And I just... watched her. Quietly in awe.

She's 14. And in that one quiet moment, she showed me a version of herself I don't always get to see.

It got me thinking — **would I have noticed this on an ordinary day?**

In the middle of school runs, work calls, and the endless blur of screens and schedules... *probably not.*

These small, beautiful glimpses of who our children are becoming so often slip past us unnoticed, simply because we're moving too fast to catch them.

But when we pause — *really pause* — they show us so much more than we expect.

So this is my gentle, heartfelt nudge to you, dear parents, as summer begins:

Take the time. Please. ❤️

Put the phone down a little more. Sit with them a little longer. Wander without a plan. Listen without rushing to respond

And every now and then — **let them lead the way.**

Because it's in these quiet, ordinary moments that something truly extraordinary unfolds. 🙏

Happy summers, everyone.

Until next Monday.

Warmly, **Shivani M.**

