

Hola Seniors and Senior-itas,

Well this is it. The Big Adios to Laguna. And of all of the possible years, you had to choose 2020. Nice! It has been said that there are years that ask questions and years that answer. Well 2020 is a big, fat questioning year. Since the day you were born, 2020 was always destined to be a questions year, but who could have predicted this bizarre train wreck? You probably thought 2020 would gently ask questions like will college be hard? Or will people like me? But it turns out that 2020 questions are not destined to be done by a sweet auntie with a poodle and pink lipstick. Rather this year's questions are being handled by a couple of tough interrogators with a fondness for bright lights and brass knuckles. And that's ok! You'll be fine. But just in case, here is some advice.



Whenever I find myself in a questioning year, I remember the wisdom once shared by an elementary school teacher. "You can't control the waves, but you can learn how to surf." So forget about making a bunch of firm plans. In fact, I would forget most absolutes all together this year. The next 12 months will come at us how they come at us. Trying to control them is like trying to grasp water. Some weird waves are headed our way so don't gasp, Splash. Don't control, Surf. Let's be honest. So far, 2020 sucks. So embrace the suck. Frolie with it. Surf it.

I can guess what you're thinking. Thanks, Chimmy, that's a bunch of crappy advice. How am I supposed to do that? Here is a news flash from your future: It's mostly all good. College is good, work is good, and raising your own kids is good. Now as you sit on the cusp of two worlds, please, promise me one thing: While you are busy being the best citizen, and maybe even the best V.P. of Post-Pandemic Dollywaggles, don't forget to nurture and feed that best kid who is still in there. Long after 2020 is a distant memory, there will be more years that question and challenge you. Don't forget to check in with your inner 5 year old. The kid who would aim for the puddles and play in the mud. Let that sweet, naive 5 year old throw mud at your questions. Let your rebellious, irreverent inner 14 year old have a whack at it, too. There is a lot of wisdom in the developmental stages you have just passed through. Don't lose that!

Legendary surfer Skip Frye said it best:

"Ponce de Leon sailed the ocean in search of the Fountain of Youth, when all he had to do was jump over the side of his ship."

Go Ahead. Jump in. Frolie. Splash. The water is fine.

With Love & Respect, Paul Chimney