

(Carelien & Thayden)

When I write, I reflect on all the moments that inspire me. I pull out past experiences and keep them alive by remembering senses and emotions.

When I draw, I take the world I see and recreate it through my pencil. I can see lines and textures come to life on the page and I'm transported to another place.

Each of us views the world in a slightly different way.

We can't all share the same opinion or understanding of how the world works.

What would be sad, though, is if all our individual voices were silenced and locked inside journals or sketchbooks forever.

We need to release our ideas, share our insights, learn from each other, and be uplifted by all the colours and harmonies of multiple voices joining together.

People of the world, where there is hatred, violence, and apathy...we wish there be love, peace and hope.

(Justin & Caitlin)

When I find myself overwhelmed by the dismal facts or statistics of our world's reality, I think of the integral connection we have as humans.

Although we can seem so different, we face similar challenges and we share the same earth. Our basic needs are alike and we all deserve the same human rights.

We can't close our eyes to the needs of others. We need to recognize and face the problems that exist around the world and in our own communities.

We have to use our voices and decide where and how we can join together to be heard.

Kindness and compassion are never forgotten. Standing up for what's right is never wrong.

Let's have some faith that a few good deeds can change the world for the better.

(Hannah)

This journey has been the greatest joy of my life so far. I have cherished every moment – every new friendship, every awkward mistake, every unexpected surprise, and every wonderful step it's taken to bring me back home to my friends and family. Now I'm in my own community and my own city and I'm thinking there are so many people here who I don't know yet! I want to hear more stories and learn from other people's experiences and perspectives. I want to reach out and make connections with unfamiliar faces in familiar surroundings. One stage of my journey is over, but now it seems I'm standing in the middle of a bridge. Behind me lie all the lessons I've learned so far – and all the precious people whose paths I've crossed. Ahead of me lie all the terrifying and deliciously exhilarating possibilities. Who will I become? How will I choose to treat others? How do I want to be remembered in this life? I feel I'm about to find out!



Grade 6 Class (written by Claire Haig-Halsall and Alex Roth)

We are taking away this person's fear.

We are taking away this person's hunger.

We are taking away this person's loneliness.

We are taking away this person's sadness.

We are taking away this person's pain.

We are taking away this person's hopelessness.

We are taking away this person's desperation.

We are taking away this person's loss.

We are taking away this person's hate.

We are taking away this person's darkness.

We are taking away this person's burdens.

We are taking away this person's sorrow.

We are taking away this person's misery.

We are taking away this person's broken heart.

I am free.

We are free.



