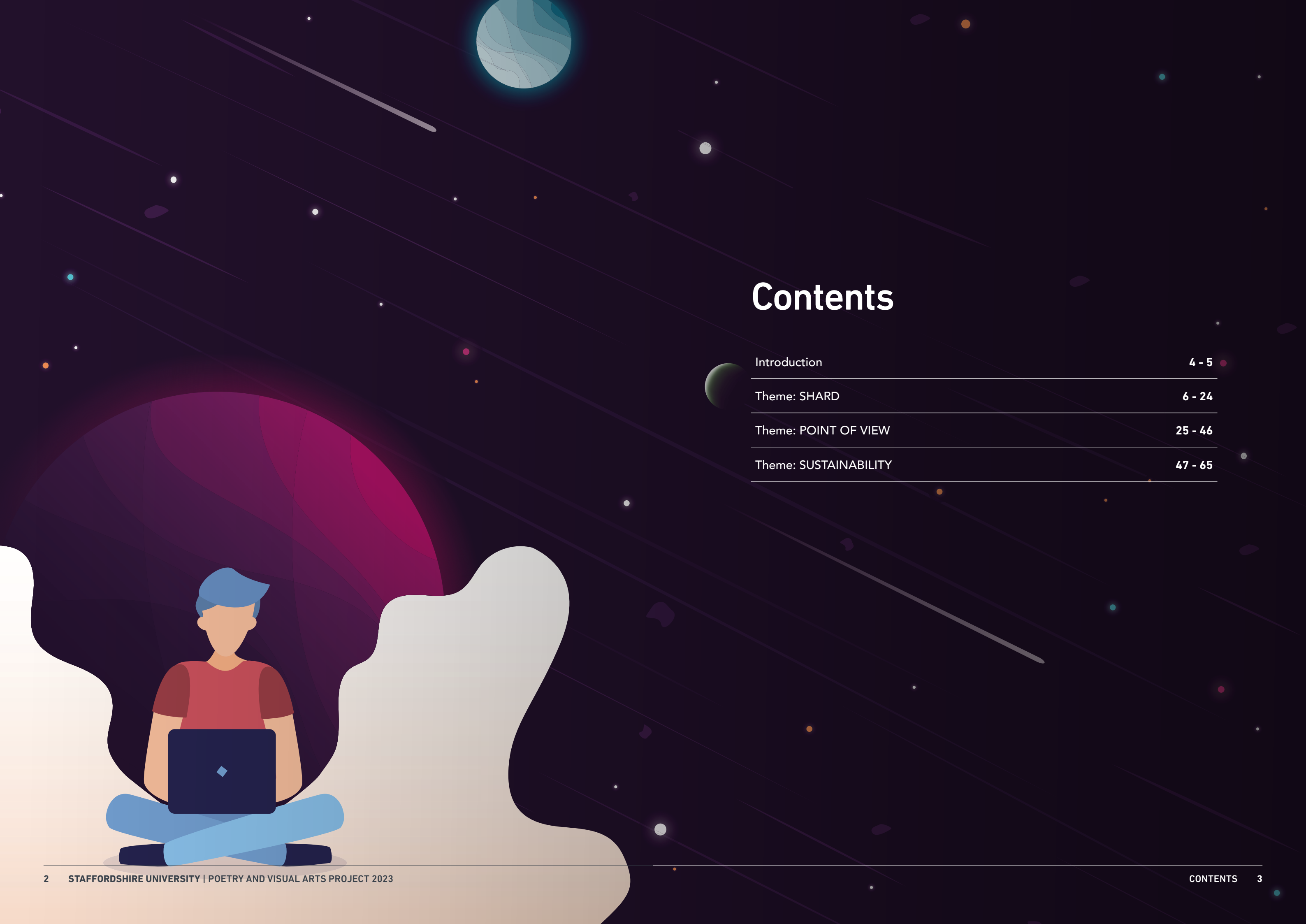


Poetry and Visual Arts Project 2023

A collection of poems and artwork
exploring the themes of Shard;
Point of View; Sustainability





Contents

Introduction	4 - 5
Theme: SHARD	6 - 24
Theme: POINT OF VIEW	25 - 46
Theme: SUSTAINABILITY	47 - 65

Welcome to Staffordshire University's

Poetry and Visual Arts Project

2023

This collection of poetry and visual artwork was created largely by students from Staffordshire University's Institute of Education PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) partner schools. I'm sure you'll agree that we have some very talented young people in our creative county.

The collection includes poems or visual art based on one of three themes:

SHARD

POINT OF VIEW

SUSTAINABILITY



Students from years 7-13 were invited to write a poem or create a piece of visual art based on one of three themes: Shard, Point of View, Sustainability. The themes this year were also chosen by young people from our area. Everyone's contribution was welcome, with all work submitted included in the anthology here. Poems and artwork are also presented in the raw format in which they were sent; there has been no editing. Trainee teachers from this year's English and Art and Design PGCE also read the anthology and offered comments on some of their favourites.

The aim of the project was to give students the opportunity to be creative and have a voice. Submissions were not assessed and there were no mark schemes; we wanted students to enjoy being creative and use it as an opportunity to voice their opinions, vent their emotions, have a little fun and

challenge themselves to do something they've never done before. Sadly, we don't often get the chance to offer this kind of creative opportunity in secondary classrooms.

Finally, thank you to our colleagues in the PGCE department at Staffordshire University who have been supportive of this project from the beginning. Thank you also to the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 PGCE trainees, for creating the student handbook and to the teachers in local schools who have encouraged their students to take part. The most important thanks, however, go to the students who participated and created some amazing, thought-provoking and emotional poems and artwork, leaving a legacy and reminder for future generations.

Rebecca Sherratt

PGCE English Course Leader
Project Organiser
May 2023

Katie Leonard

PGCE Art and Design
Course Leader
Project Organiser

SHARD

*Memories of salt and sand
Of spindrift, foam, eroded hand
Life moved on, but I did not
Adder stone of piteous rock*

*For every piece I gave, content
I count as time I softly spent
I watched as grains did gaily fall
Through hourglasses fairly small*

*She was not mute, finite and gone
But like a star, her fire burned on
A pyre, a hearth, glassmaker bright
She who set the dark alight*

*Yet as the days grew longer still
I, of mud and jaded will
Did peer too close, did pay the fee
As flee she did, away from me*

A shard of me will lie forever
In her eyes, from whence I sever
My cut edges, sharp and whole
I plead to her to mend my soul

From mourning her in 'if' and 'could'
I cannot stop my choking breath
Her life to me is airborne death

I turn and run, but still she's there
L'esprit de l'escalier
Her history is broken glass
Our history, I can't look past

To the blue sky, of hope in vain
She is not there, unduly pain
Snow will sing hell's accolade
Before her memory will fade

So here I lie, a figurine
Purposeless, split at the seams
No tears in eye, but dual crack
Cadaver 'til she comes back

My pieces litter tainted ground
How angels weep at such a sound
But she who holds my sight will find
I shatter still
She left me blind.

AM

SMWCA

I once fell in love with a glass-box name
 Glowing and gorgeous yet all the same
 Enrapturing only in limelight's stage
 Caught in a frame of arduous change
 I once fell in love with a broken-glass name
 Bleeding and giving the greatest of claim
 Upon my weak spine the prophecies rage
 Upon my duress we both play this game
 I once fell in love with a **shard** of a name
 Easy to find and one I should tame
 Like Dionysus' curse did proclaim
'The fool's gold shines, untouched by shame'

AM

SMWCA

Consecrated temenos,	Cracks and breaks
Baptise my will to be.	I am reformed and free
Bring my stone-heart gash	Just pay no mind
To dust	To what you'll find
<i>'Memento mori'</i>	In shards left in decree

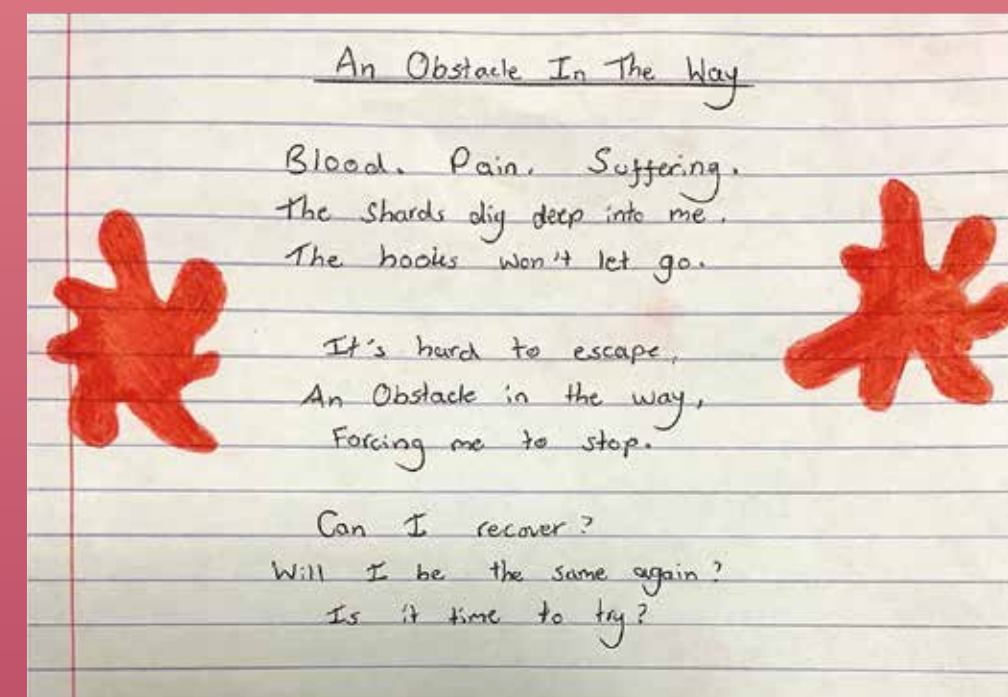
AM

SMWCA

I am a broken clock only right when no one is looking
 I will be the Cassandra of a broken setting
 I will preach a tune through a broken throat
 A ballad that no one will hear
 I am broken
 I am gone
 I am stuck to this world
 I am not long for it
 I am here forever
 And here only for a few hours
 I am broken
 I am everything you can think of
 I am but a piece of the whole
 I will be further broken one day
 Breaks don't get fixed
 They just change a little
 But we are too unoriginal to change things too much

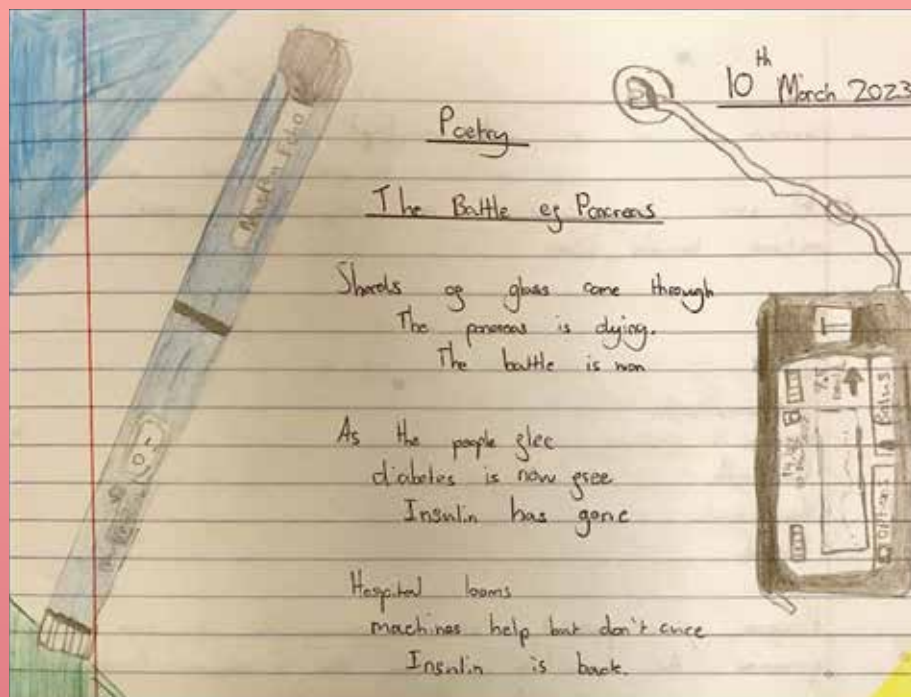
AM

SMWCA



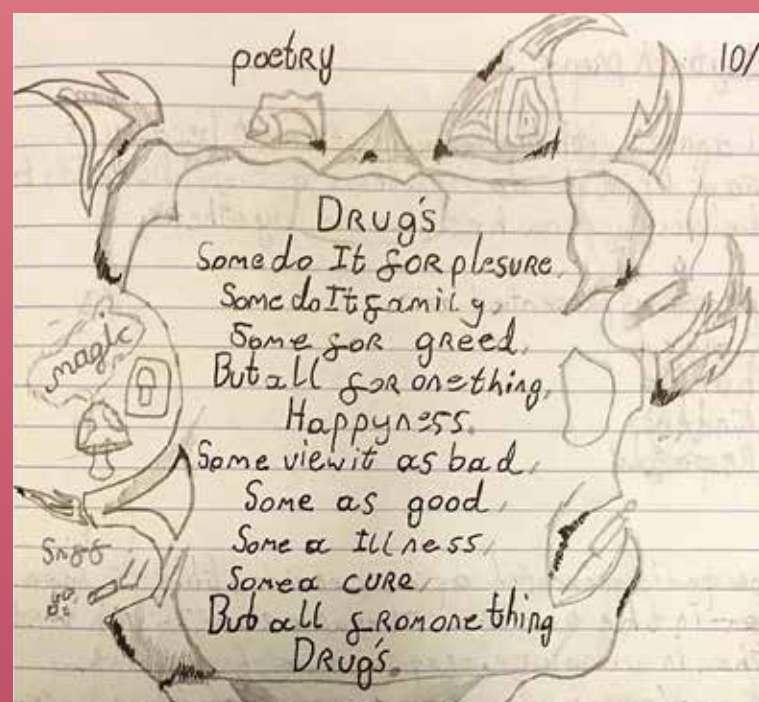
RW

The Orme Academy



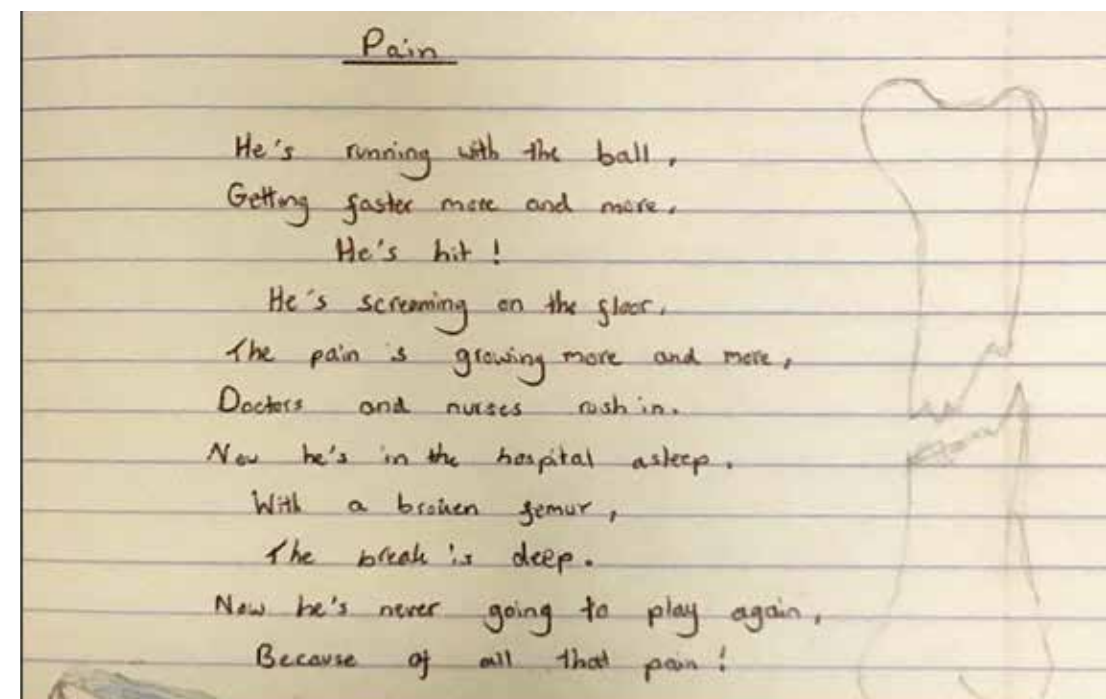
SP

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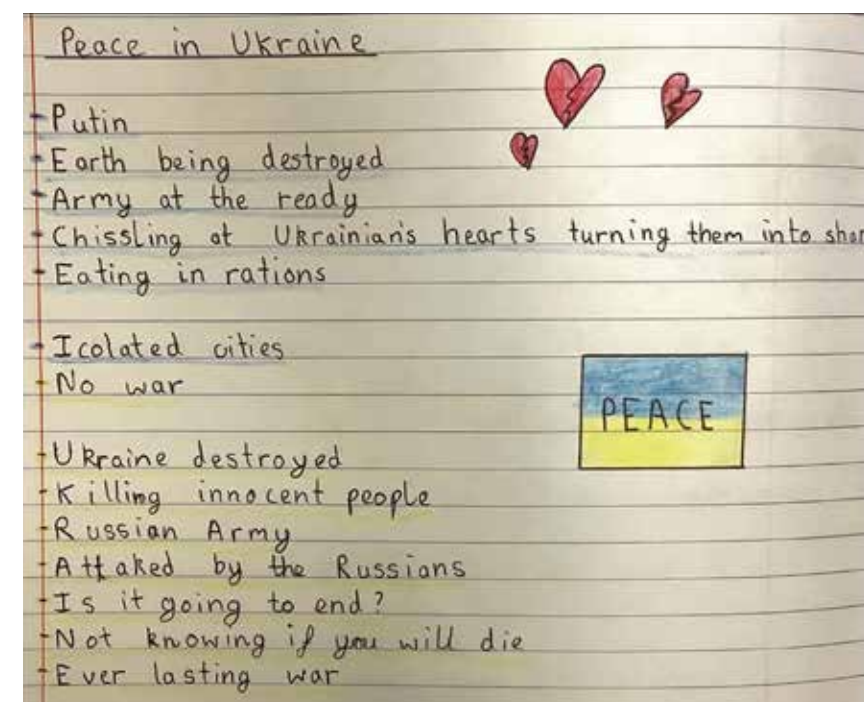
AC

The Orme Academy



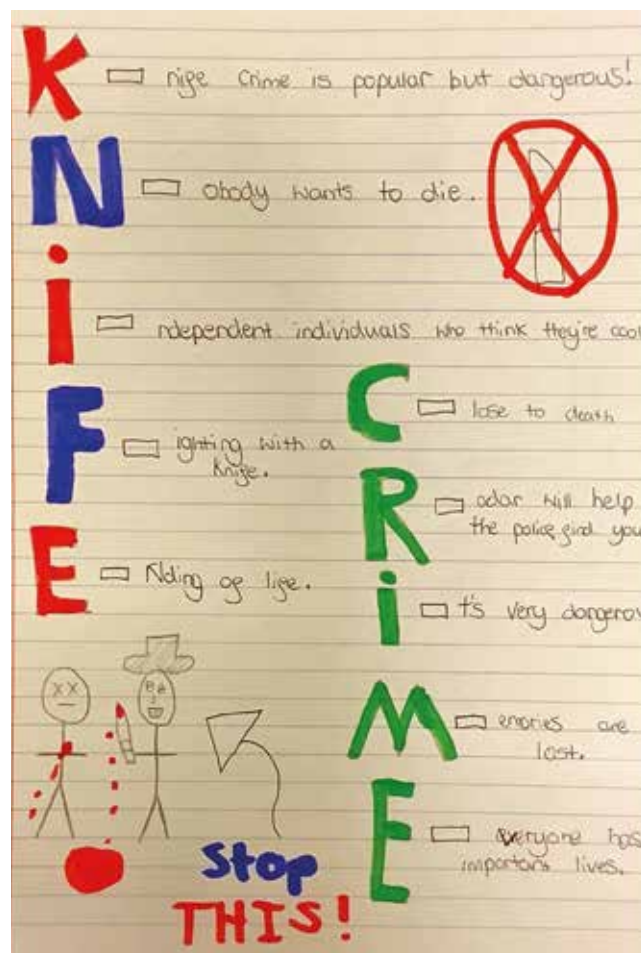
EC

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MC

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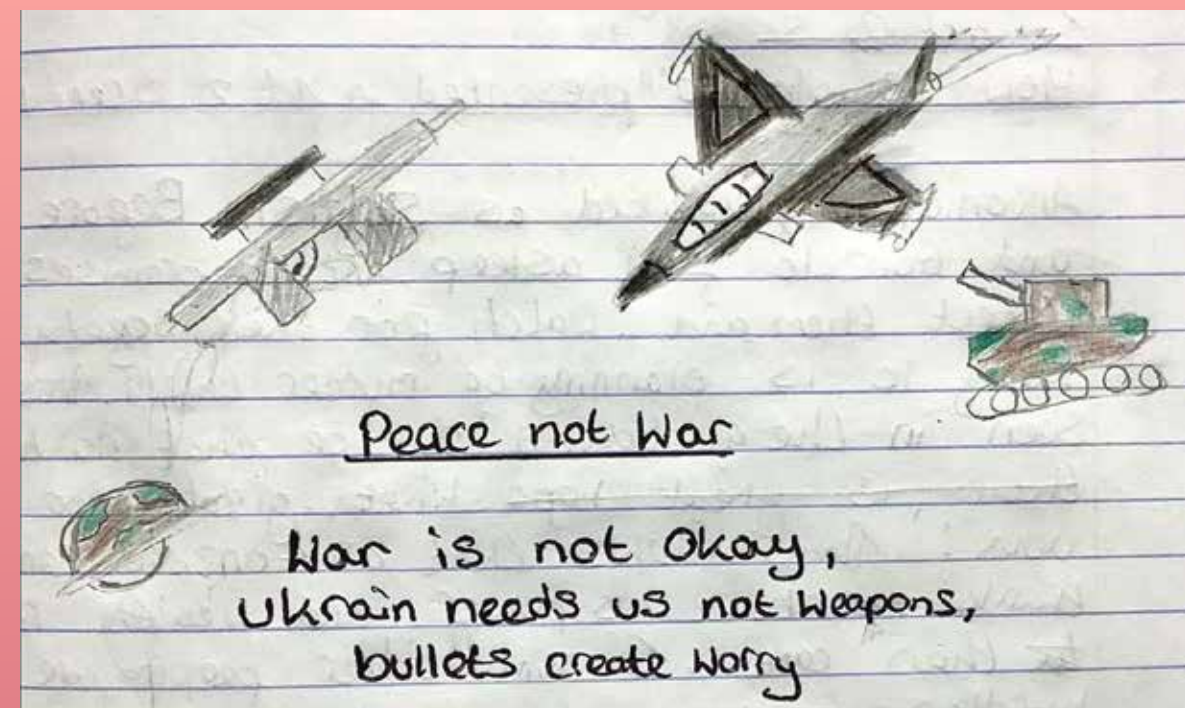


SL

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IM

St Joseph's College



BS

The Orme Academy



AA

St Joseph's College



STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"A lovely representation of shards, giving a deeper more emotive interpretation"
"A lovely emotive piece of work using broken mirrors"

KJ

St Joseph's College

ES

St Joseph's College



FT

St Joseph's College



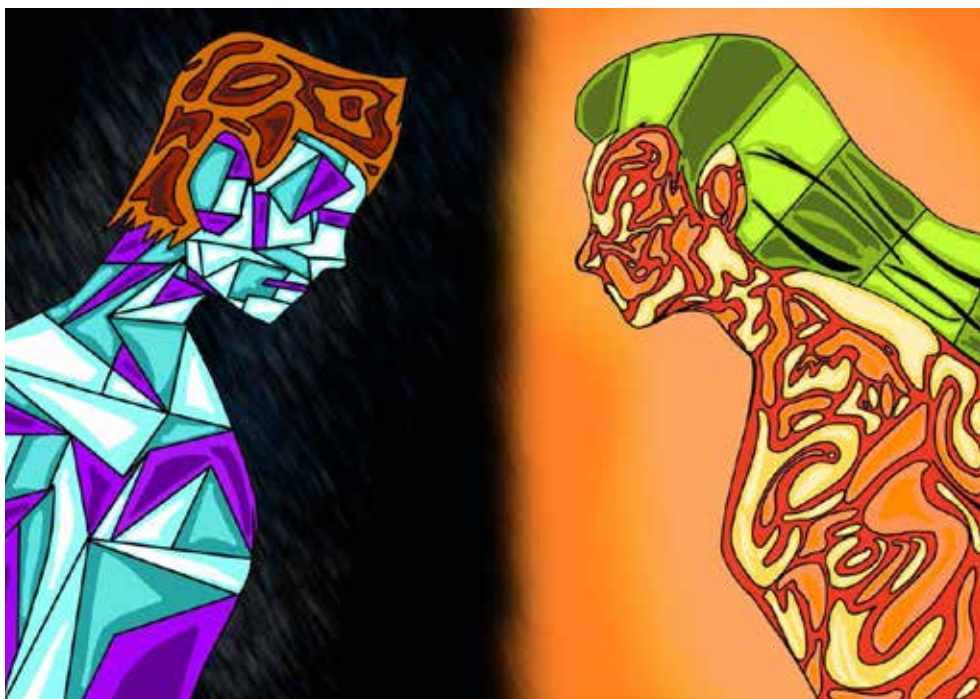
KF

St Joseph's College



GD

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GC

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EG

St Joseph's College



STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"An emotional take on shards looking at bundling the metaphor of a broken heart with the visual representation of it"

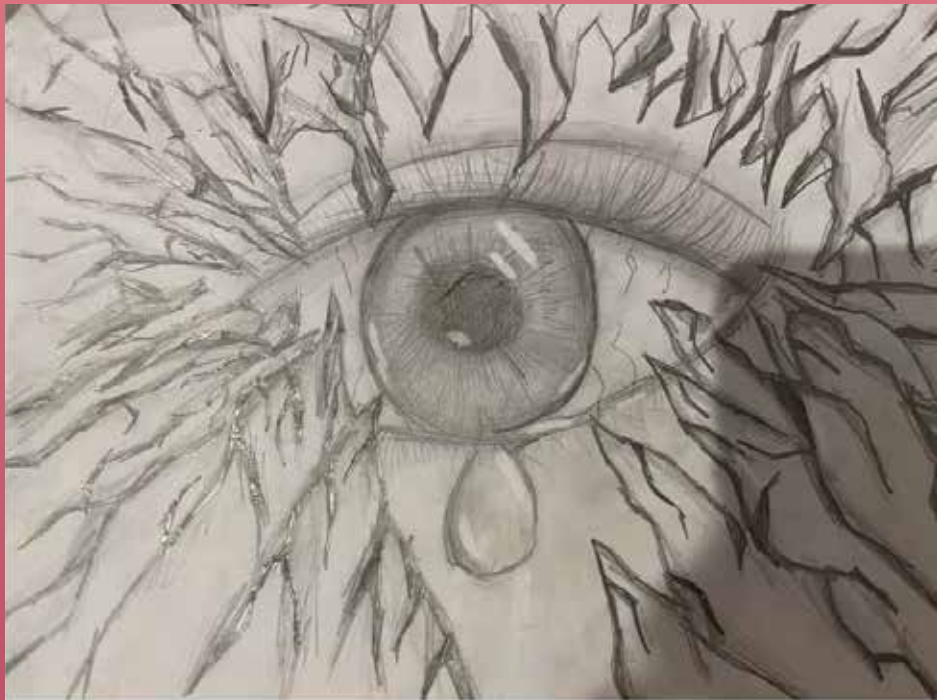
ES

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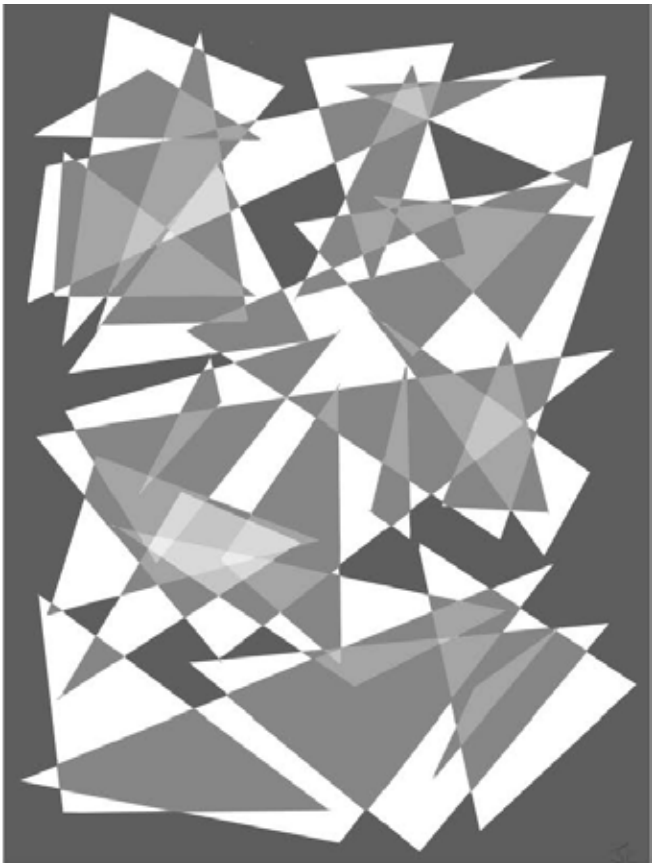
ER

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LH

St Josepe's College



LH

St Josepe's College



IG

St Josepe's College



TN

St Joseph's College

AP

St Joseph's College



SP

St Joseph's College



CM

St Joseph's College



GL

St Joseph's College



JM-A

St Joseph's College



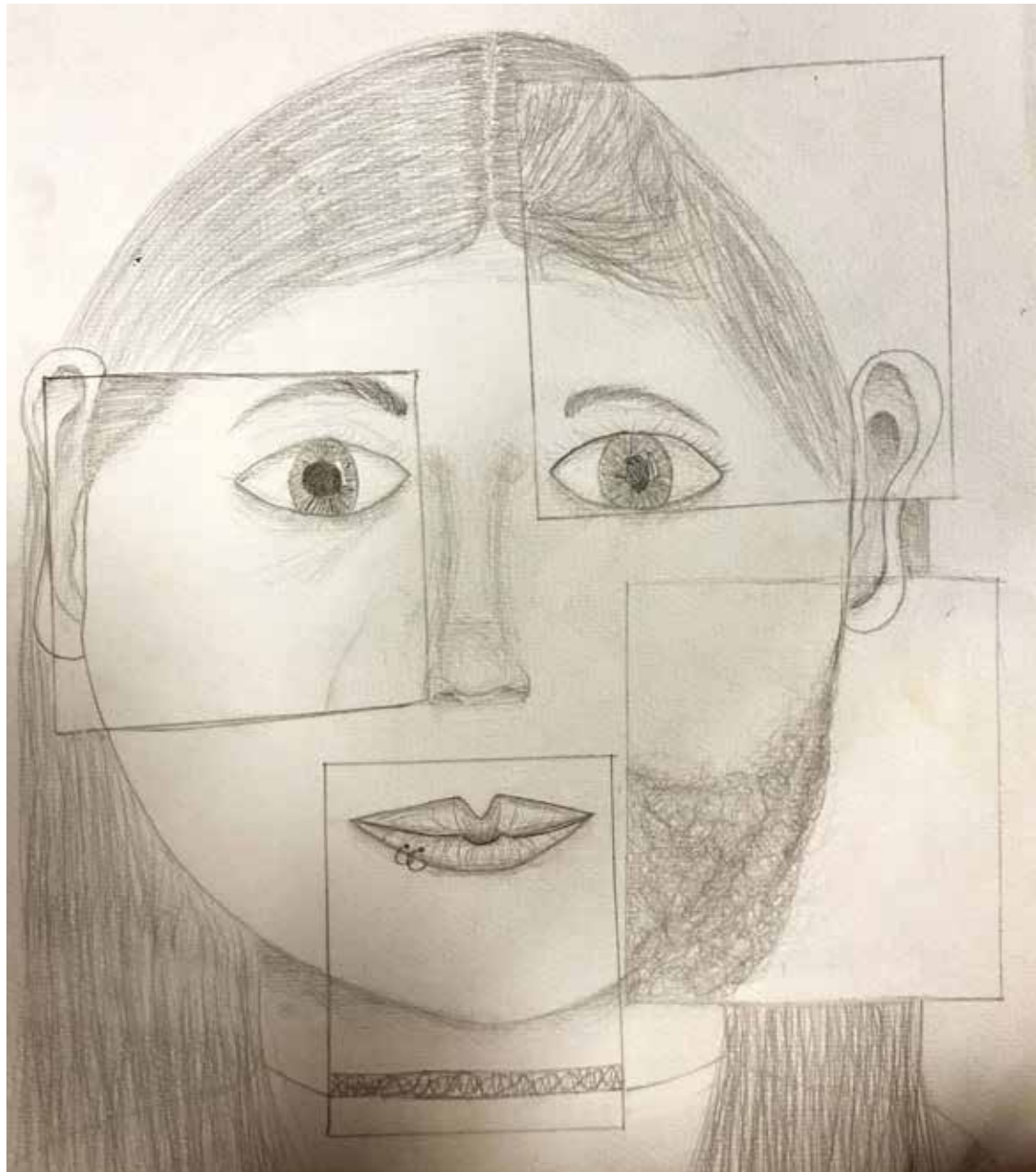
EW

St Joseph's College



LW-J

St Joseph's College



VW

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POINT OF VIEW

Points of View

I want to see from another's point of view
I want to know what they know
and do what they do
I want to see through their eyes
and live in their present
Stop their cries
Experience adolescence

Serial killers are interesting
Their points of view are something new
They don't get a slight sting of guilt
Not even when grabbing a kill
Their minds are complex
Enough to put mine into a hex
They're seen as inhuman
But what does that mean?
They don't just kill everyone
That would make them too keen
I don't think their viewed right
I think they have reasons for their plight
I want to see from their point of view
Maybe it would give me some sort of clue
And maybe just maybe I'd find out why they do
what they do

I want to see from another's point of view
I want to know what they know
and do what they do
I want to see into their mind
and follow their paths
Replay their memories
Relive their past

Doctors are something else
I don't feel I could watch from their point of view
It would cause me stress and concern
They have such busy lives
Working in day and in night
They go through loss and pain
Whilst going through joy and happiness too
It seems chaotic and messy
but kind of in a good way
I could not handle the guilt
The guilt from the loss of a patient
That unlike a serial killer wouldn't have been planned
I know it would live with me for eternity
I couldn't see through their point of view
It would leave me with great despair
A thing which I could never bare

However,
I want to see from another's point of view
I want to know what they know
and do what they do
I want to think of their thoughts
and step into their shoes
Decide on their future
Make them my muse

Don't you ever wonder how people do it?
How they get through life without feeling wounded.
You see others with scars
From surgeries and wars
You see the battles they've fought
from their point of view
But the people without these wounds
You never know what they've been through

So I wish to see from another's point of view
I wish to know what they know
and I wish to do what they do

STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"A beautiful expression of compassion and empathy"

Life is a journey we all must take,
A path that's different for each of us to make.
We search for happiness and meaning along the way,
And hope that we'll find them before the end of the day.

Some find joy in music, others in art,
Some find it in nature, and others in their heart.
It's up to each of us to find our own way,
And create a life that brings us joy every day.

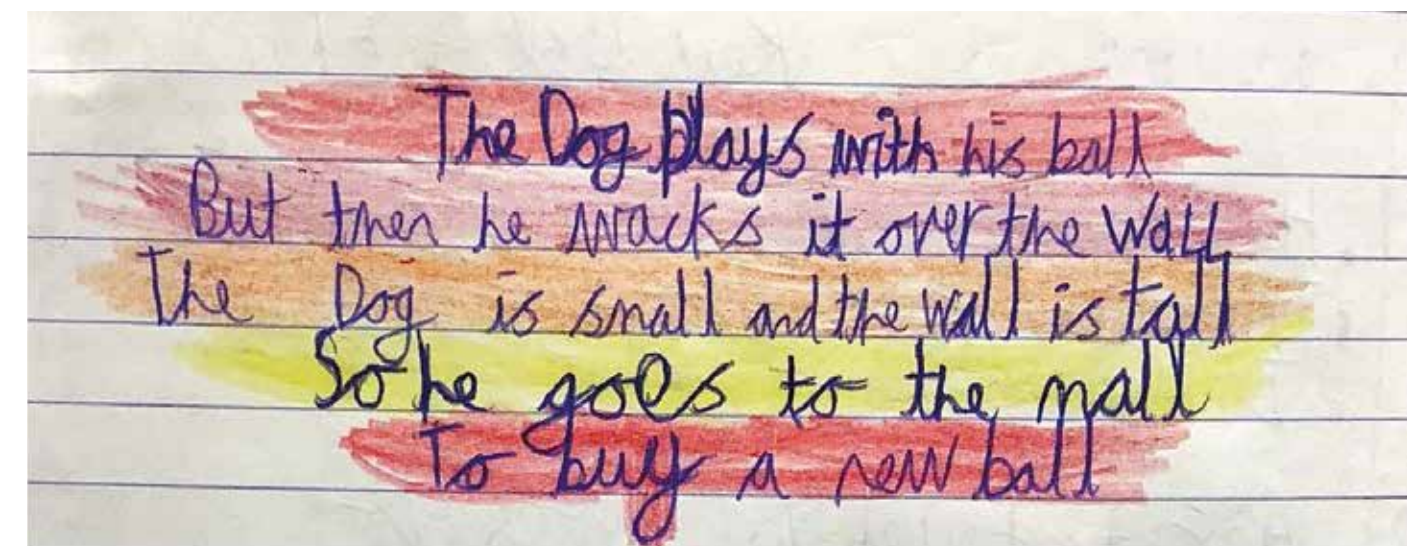
So let us live with passion, and let our hearts guide,
And let us never lose sight of the beauty that's inside.
For life is a journey that we all must take,
And it's up to us to make it a path worth the wait.

MA

STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

St Peter's Academy

"An emotional take on shards looking at bundling the metaphor of a broken heart with the visual representation of it"



SL

The Orme Academy

LW

St Peter's Academy



GC

The Orme Academy

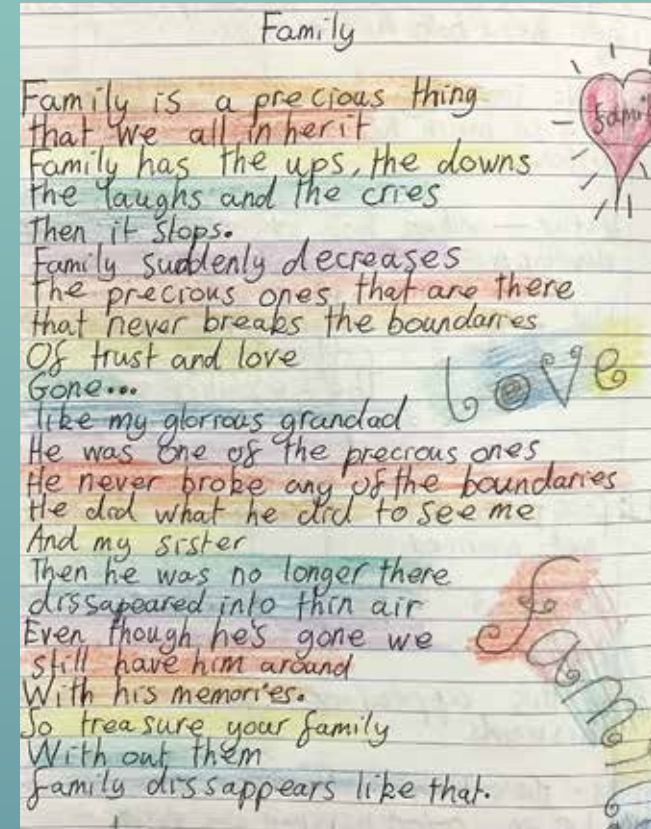


Theme: Point Of View

This picture links to Point Of View because the view of the Cathedral is from my own perspective and from a different side of it rather than it just being taken from the front

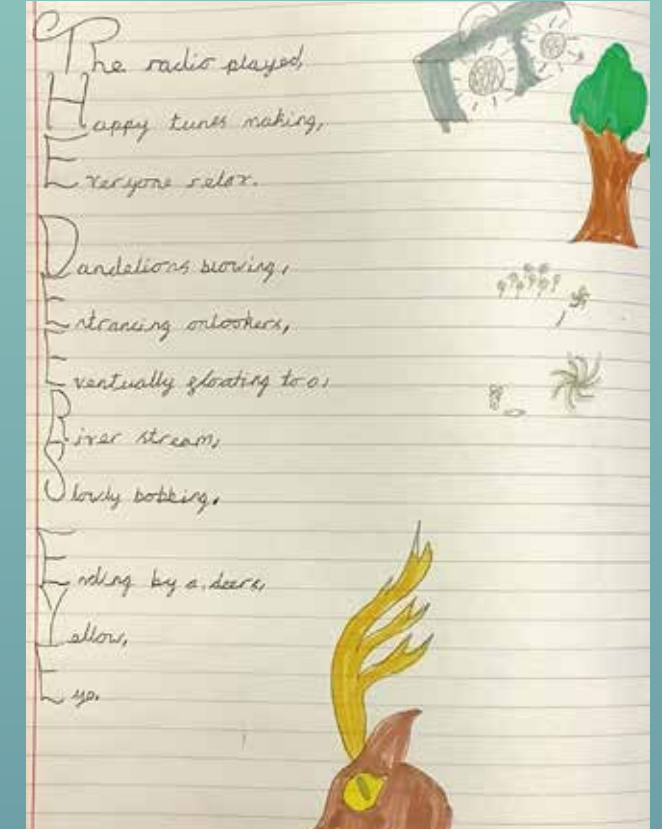
GG

St Joseph's College



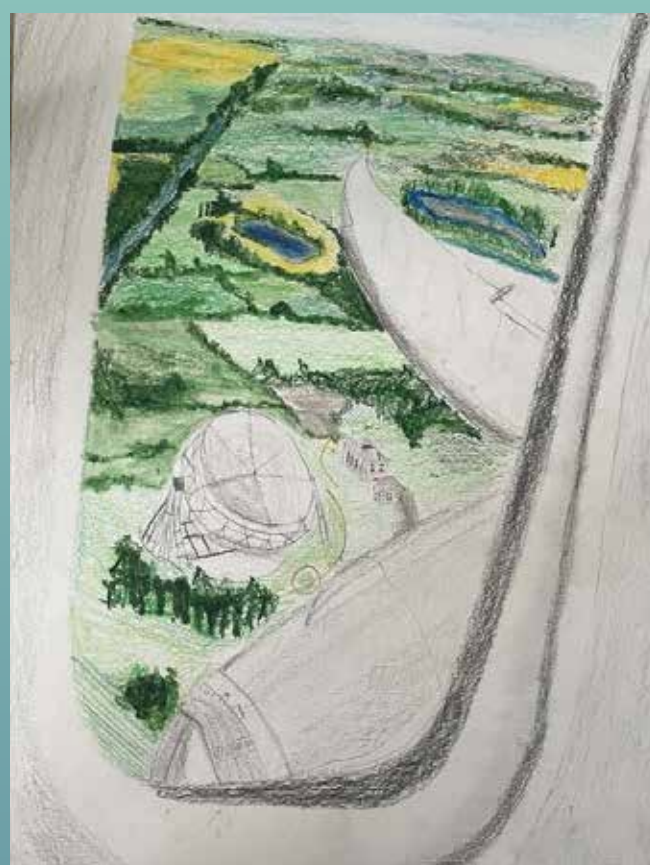
LJ

The Orme Academy



FL

The Orme Academy



KDG

St Joseph's College

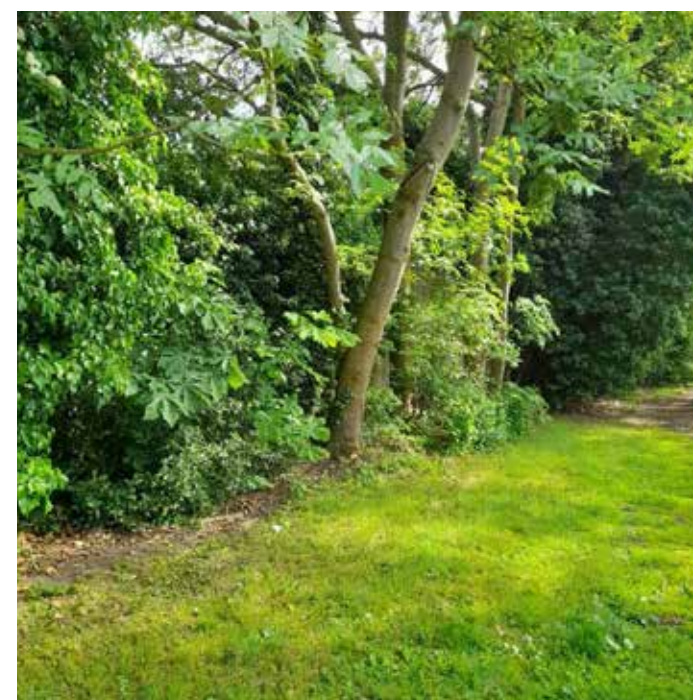
ES

St Joseph's College



LG

St Joseph's College



OL

St Joseph's College



ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College



ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College



ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College



ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College



STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"This makes me think of milestones in a child's first year of life"

"A very well composed photograph. A lovely interpretation of 'point of view'; watching a child intently discovering his world."

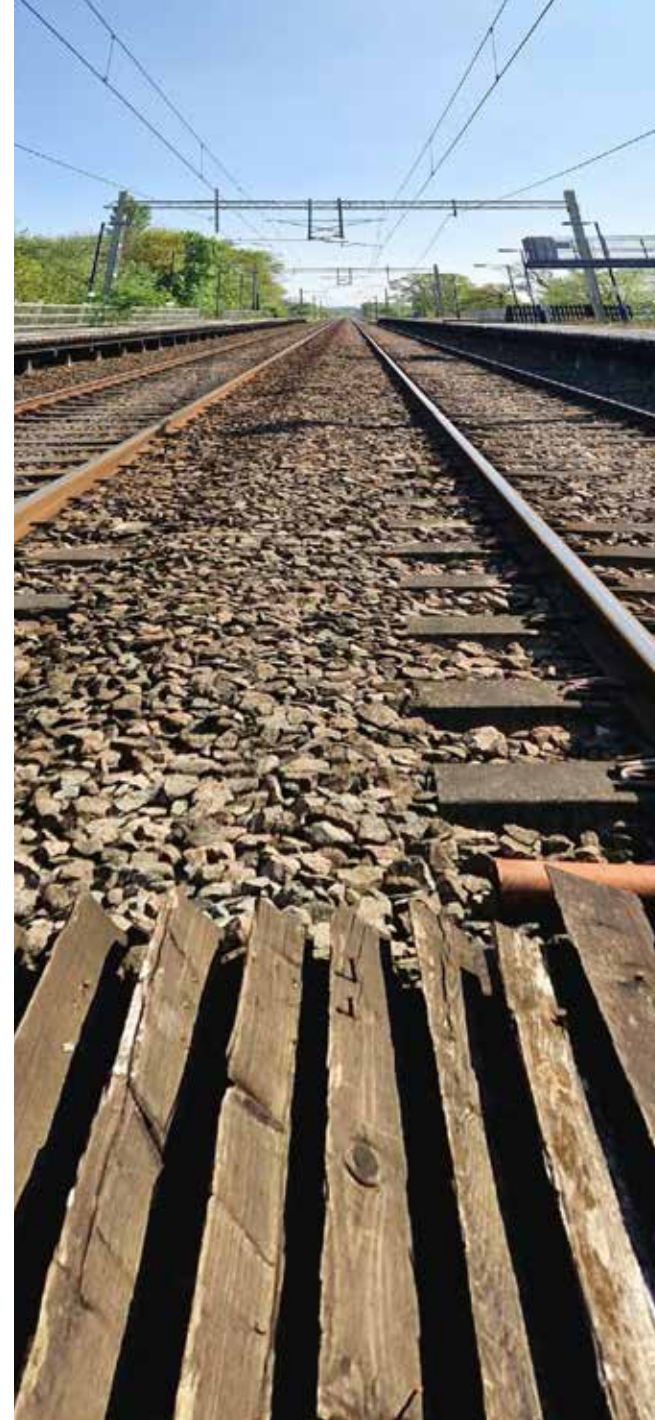
"A lovely photograph composed using the child as a centre point for the image."

ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College

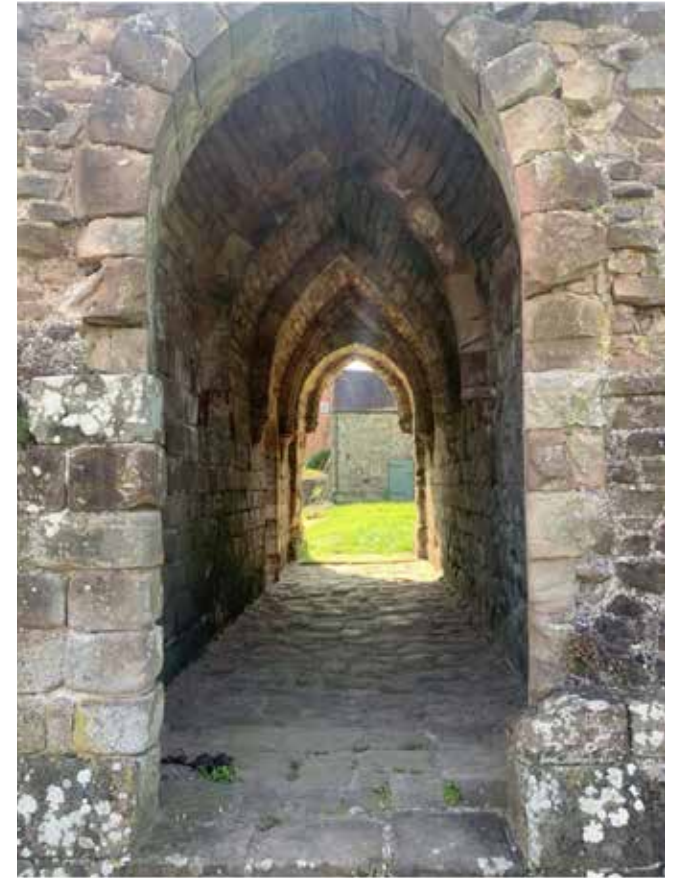
ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College



ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College



NC

St Joseph's College



STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"I think this reflects society and how we share ourselves with the world with modern technology"

"A really lovely take on 'point of view' through a fish-eye lens. Well composed drawing using fluid linework"

LBA

St Joseph's College



EL

St Joseph's College



MG

St Joseph's College

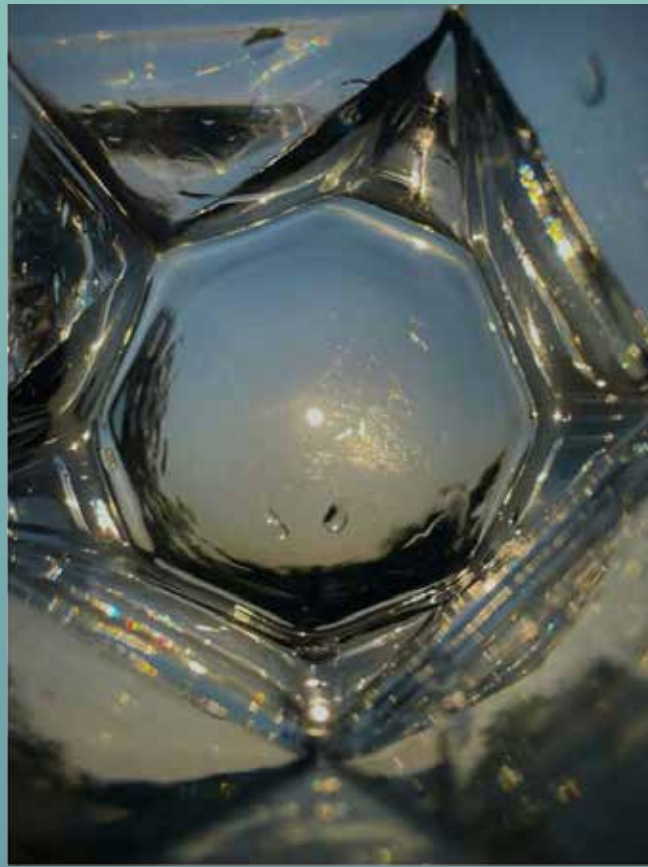
STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"A good take on student life and the carefree environment of being young."



HM

St Joseph's College



JW

St Joseph's College

ANONYMOUS

St Joseph's College



JB

St Joseph's College



EJ

St Joseph's College



STAFFS UNIOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"A nice mixture of mixed media using painting and collage"

AT

 St Joseph's College



AM

 St Joseph's College



JB

 St Joseph's College



JA

 St Joseph's College



LR-F

 St Joseph's College

LA

 St Joseph's College



SB

 St Joseph's College



EC

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LC

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IP

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TM

St Joseph's College



AP

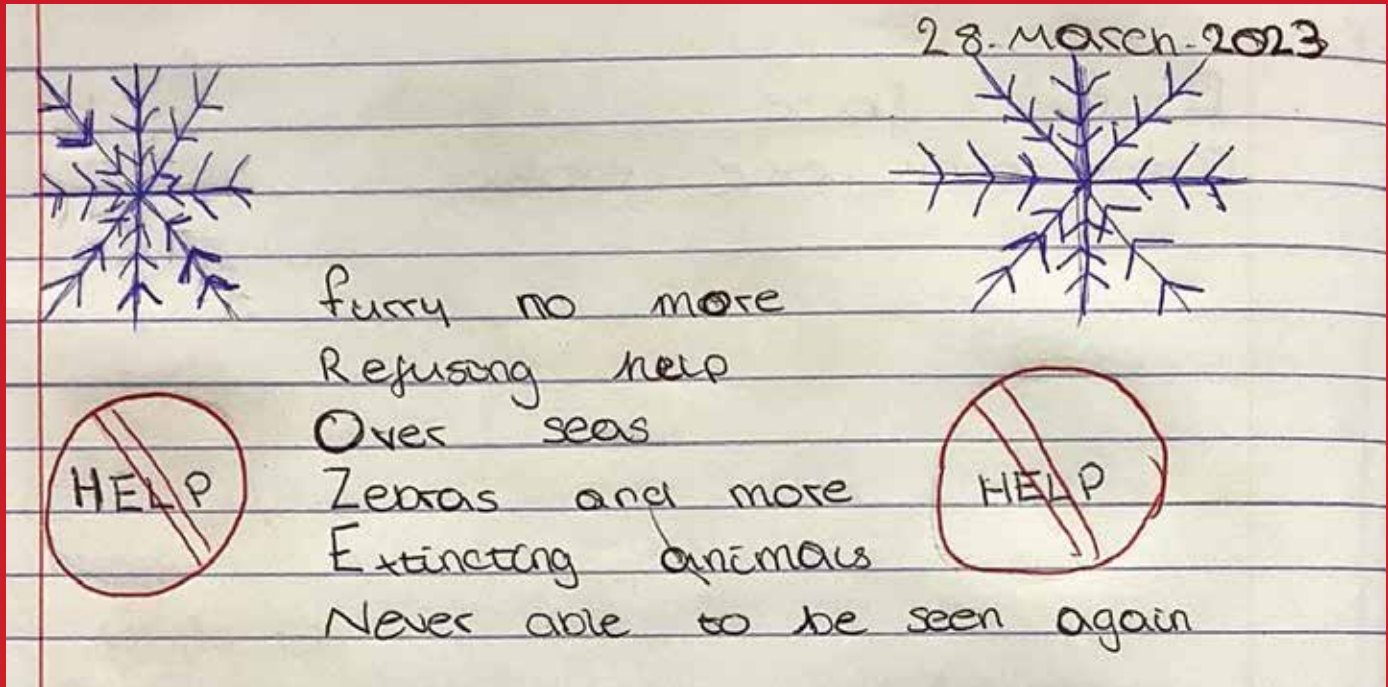
St Joseph's College



IT

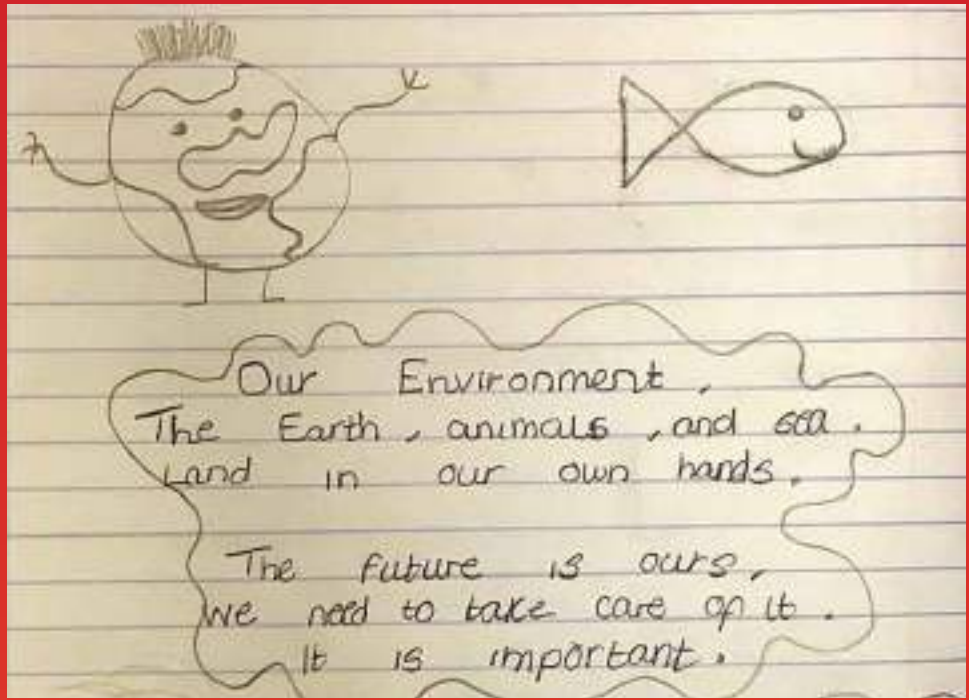
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SUSTAINABILITY



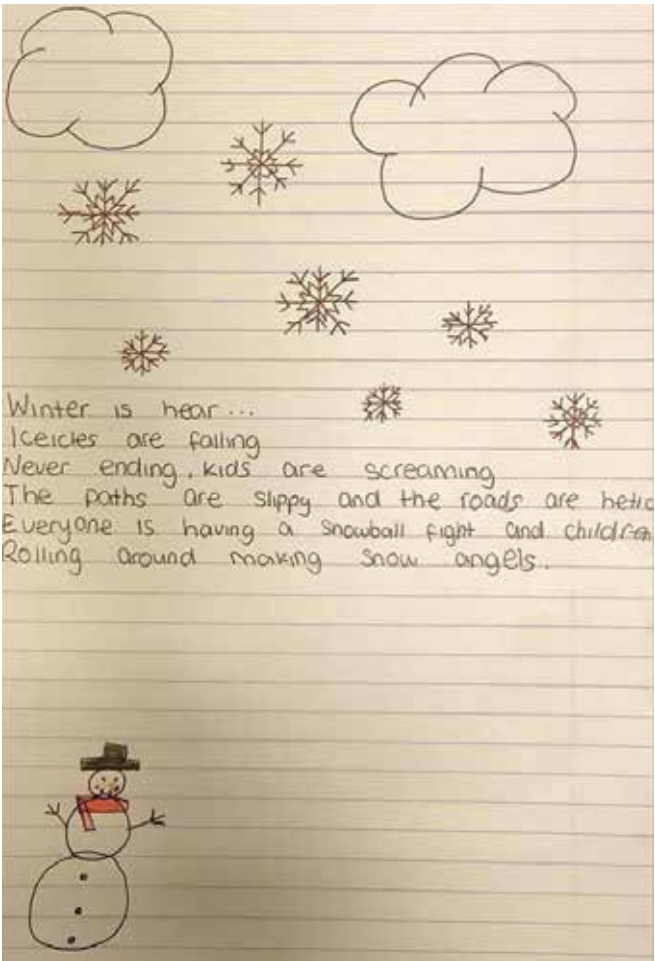
NS

The Orme Academy



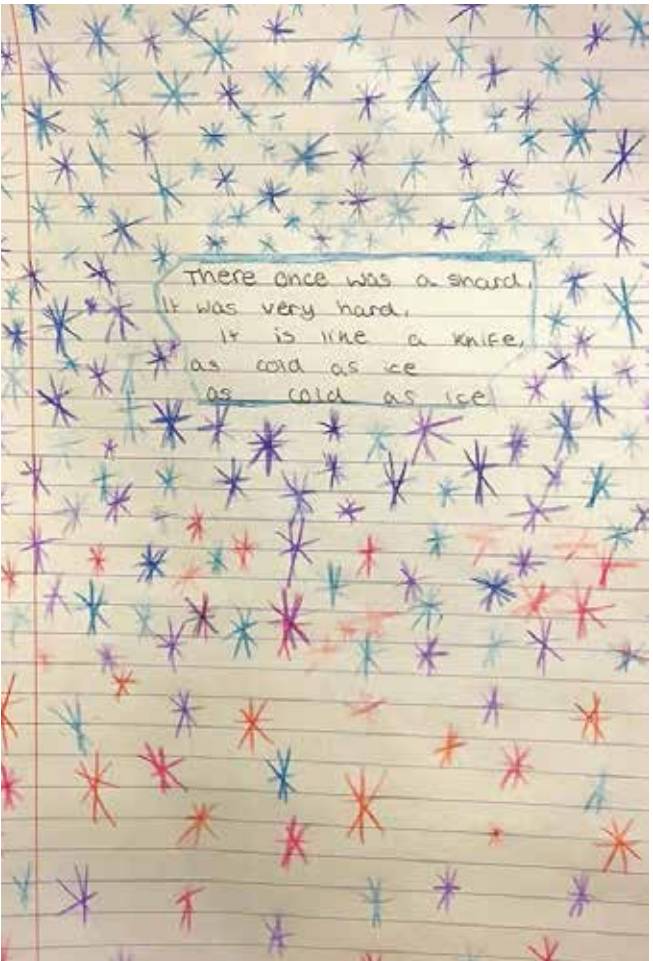
EL

The Orme Academy



RS

The Orme Academy

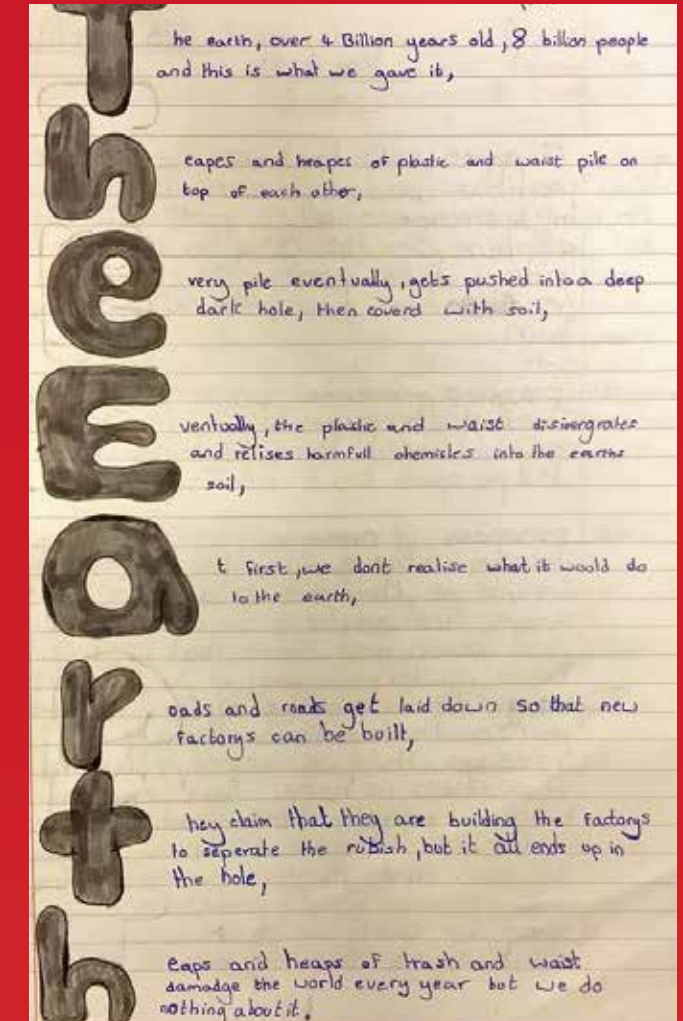
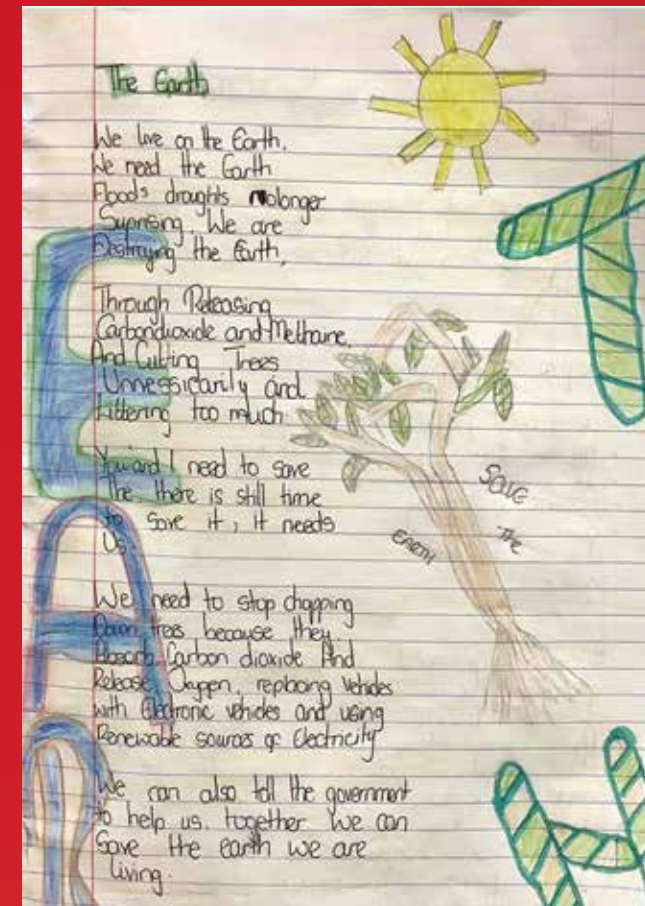
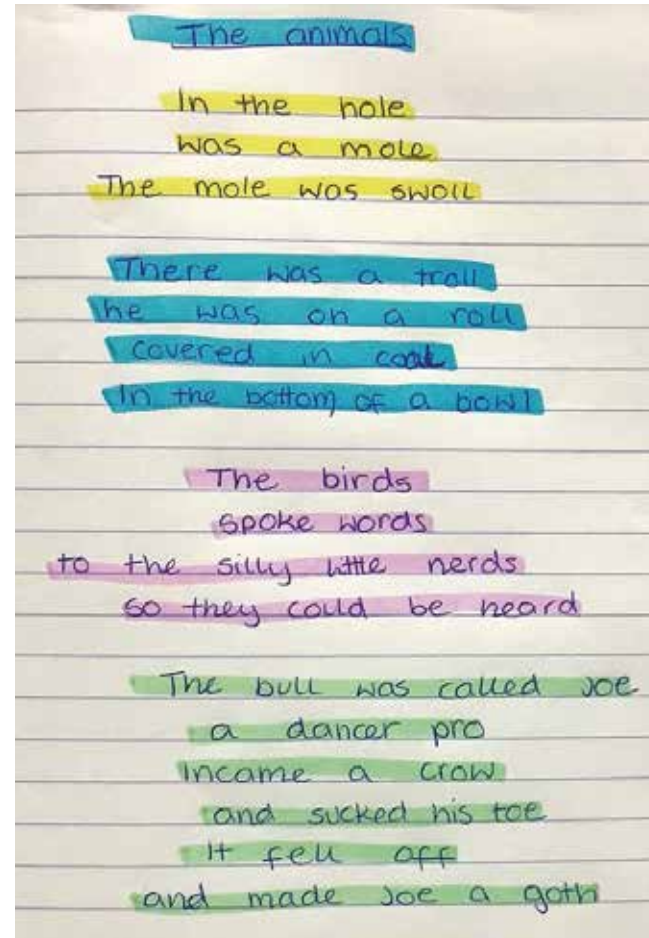


STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"Simple but effective, builds an image in your head."

BG

The Orme Academy



STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"The artwork here is great and the poem works well alongside it"

FW

The Orme Academy

STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"I like that the focus changes for each stanza"

IJ

The Orme Academy

STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

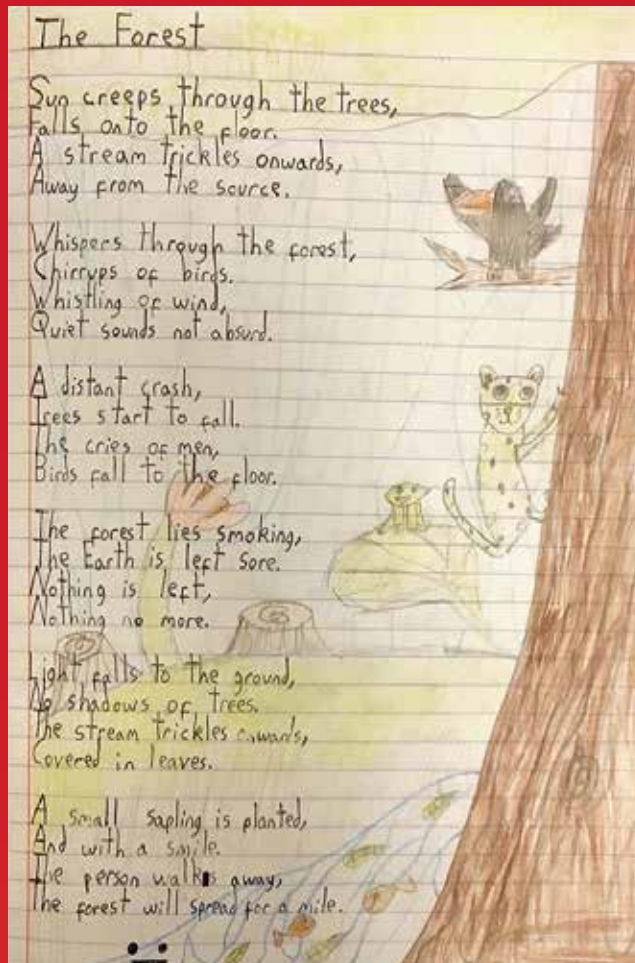
"A powerful poem with language choices communicating a real sense of urgency"

RN

The Orme Academy

RH

The Orme Academy



MJ

The Orme Academy

SS

St Joseph's College



SA

St Joseph's College



BB

St Joseph's College



JJ

St Joseph's College

IH

St Joseph's College



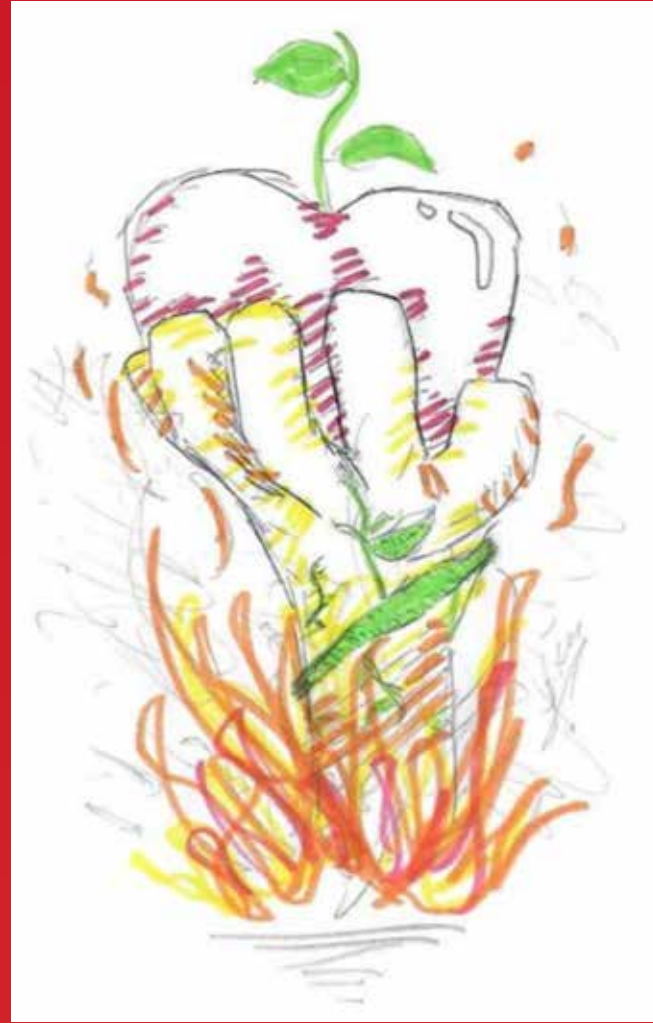
LM

St Joseph's College



FL

St Joseph's College



STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"Very powerful image. The contrast is amazing and brings a vivid image to mind. Reminds me of the 2012 film"

RI

St Joseph's College

SR

St Joseph's College



TAA

St Joseph's College



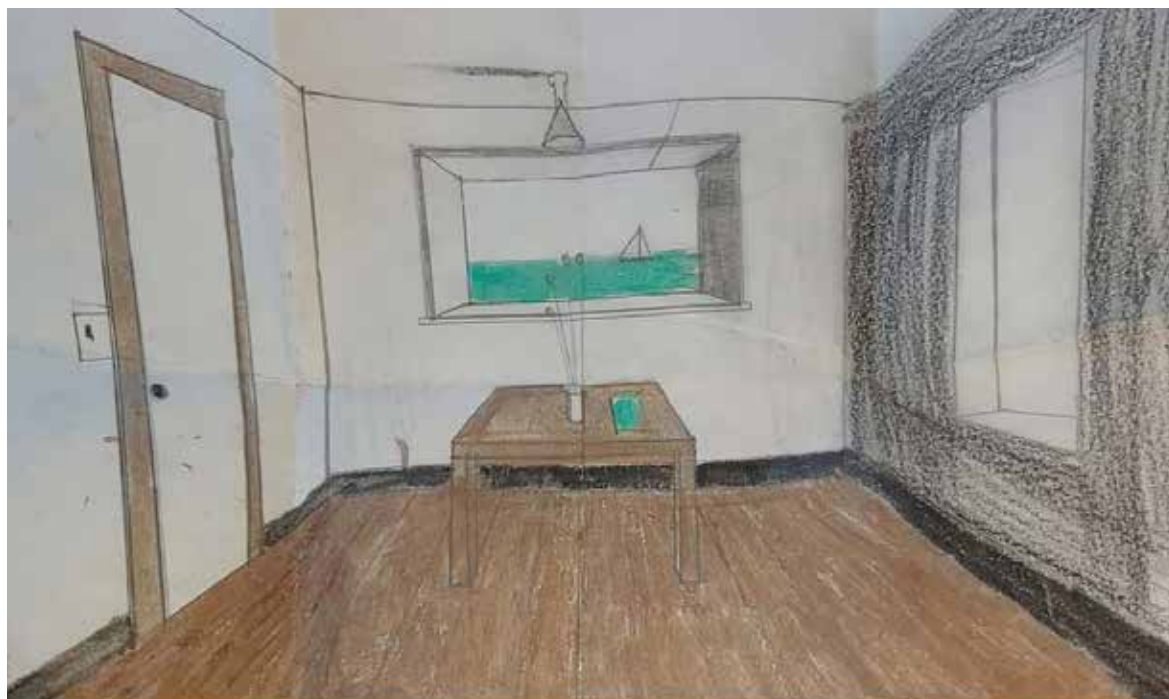
HS

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T

St Joseph's College



SS

St Joseph's College



KD

St Joseph's College

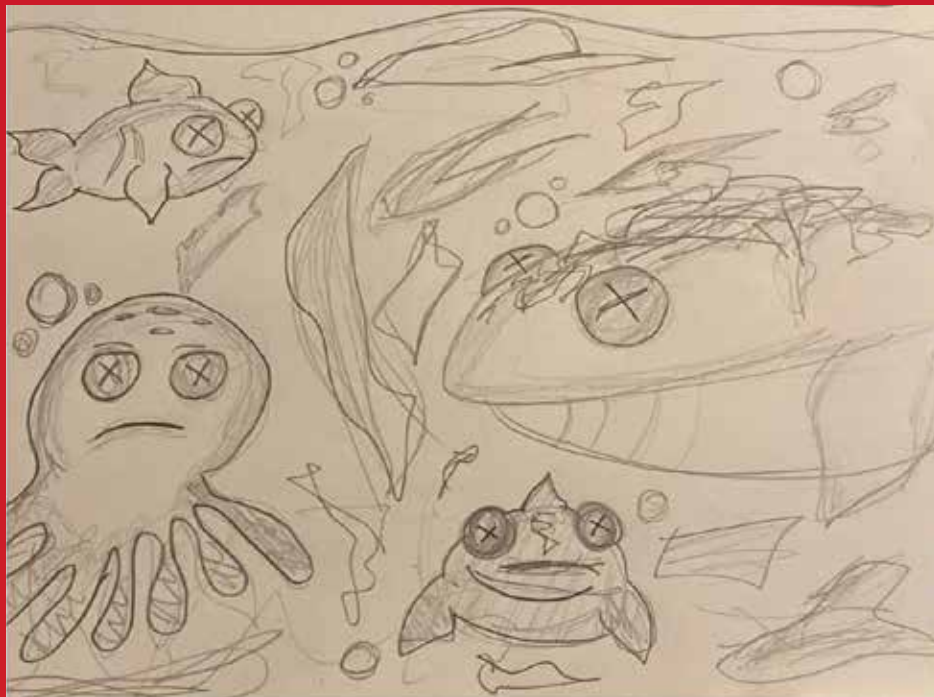
STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"There are some subtly vivid images created here – it sends a clear message"



OD

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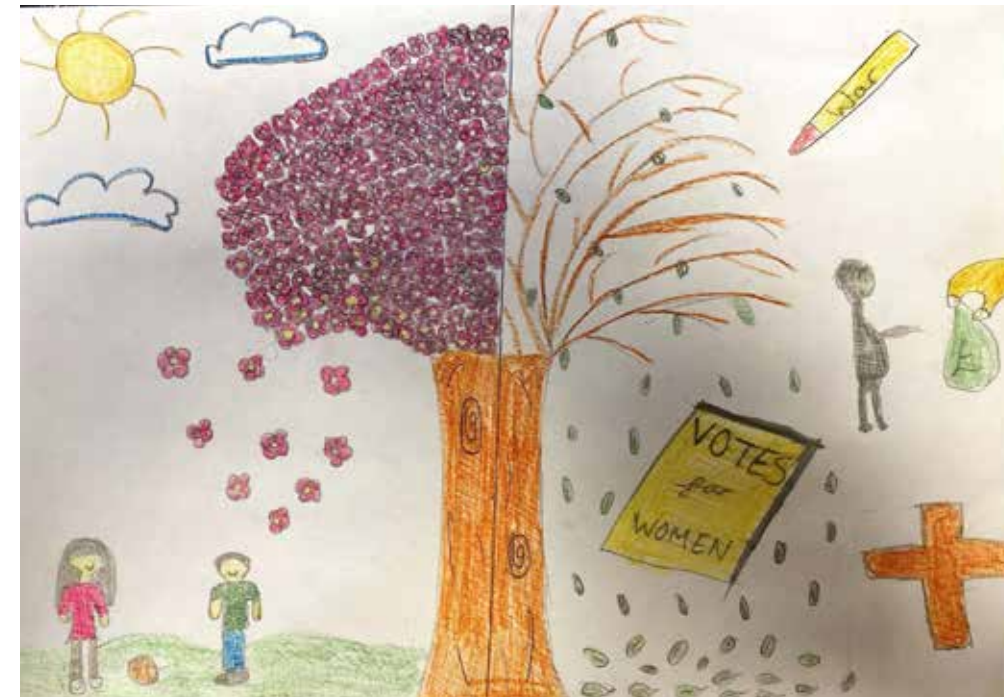
L-RD

St Joseph's College



AF

St Joseph's College



LN

St Joseph's College



CB

St Joseph's College



MM

St Joseph's College

HB

St Joseph's College



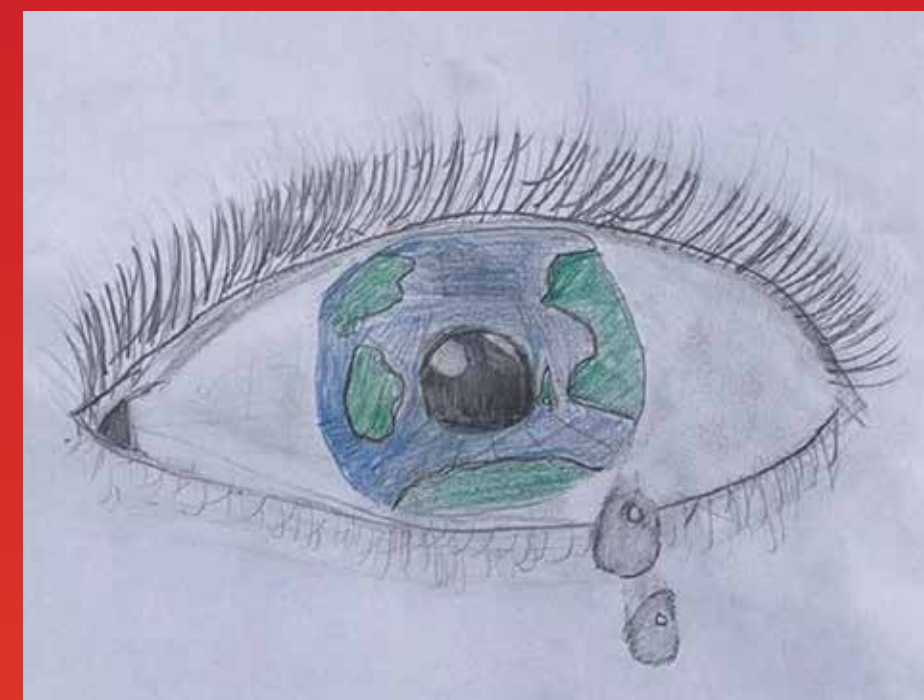
STAFFS UNI IOE TRAINEE
TEACHERS' COMMENTS:

"This is a lovely idea. What lovely work"

"Lovely representation of sustainability through a world in a bottle. Also the glass floating in the sea represents the rubbish that gets disposed of which is detrimental to the environment"

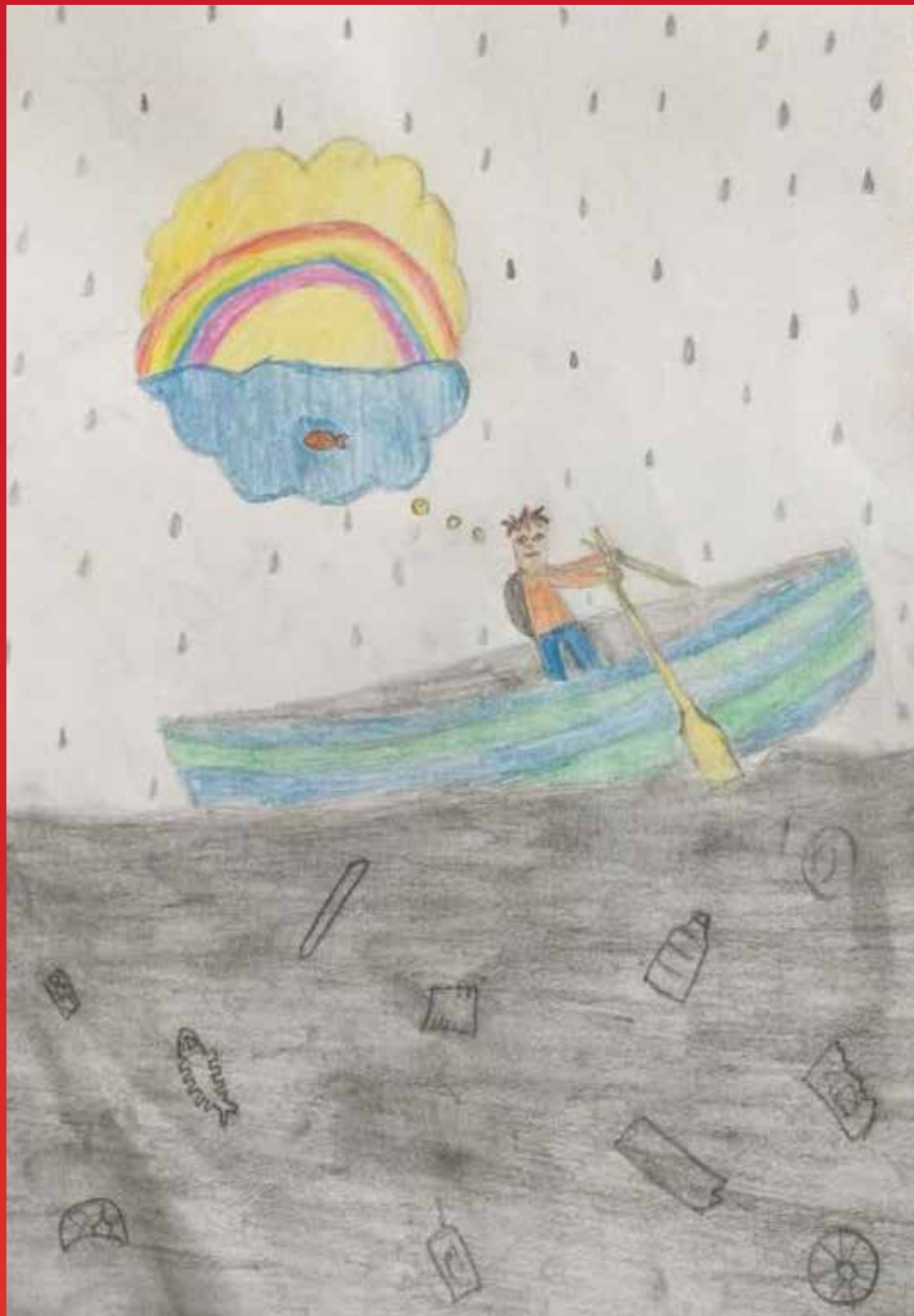
CM

St Joseph's College



TO

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KA

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LT

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Staffordshire University's Institute of Education Poetry and Visual Arts Project 2023, created in conjunction with students from local Secondary Schools and supported by Stoke CEP.

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