



## **OUR VALUES-THEMED STORIES & PICTURES COMPETITION**

### **Young children's inspiring awareness of the power of values**

This was our fourth annual **Stories on Values** competition for children aged from 7 to 11 to mark [World Values Day](#) in October and once again, the judges had a difficult task choosing the best stories and pictures from the host of inspiring entries that poured in.

We received a raft of powerful and imaginative pieces of work from children in Bosnia-Herzegovina, India, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Spain and around the UK and remarkably, some of the stories were in English as a second language.

The winning story "**Always Be Kind**" by 11-year-old **Shaheer from Elmwood Junior School**, Surrey, UK tells the story of a 9-year-old orphaned, homeless boy, who just about manages to earn enough each day for a meagre amount of food and yet he gave his only apple to the Queen of his country, disguised as an old woman begging for food - and this kindness transformed his prospects.

The Runner Up was **Toby** from **Sri Sathya Sai Spiritual Education** in London with "**Kindness Is Golden**". This is an uplifting account of how a young boy called Geoff constantly helps his father, who has multiple sclerosis. On this occasion Geoff accompanies his dad to the hospital where he gets a special wheelchair that brightens his life considerably and means the family will be able to enjoy outings together far more easily.

There was a delightful array of pictures with prizes being awarded to 6-year-old **Sofia** from **Capel Manor Primary School** in London for “**Kindness Is My Magic**”, 9-year-old **Bhavish** from **Samsidh Mount Litera Zee School - Vidyanarayapura** in Bangalore, India for “**Save Trees**”, and 8-year-old **Ambiya** from **Manor Junior School** in Essex, UK for the series of illustrations in her story “**The Jungle Adventure**”.

We would like to thank and congratulate ALL the children who took part in this year’s competition for their amazing submissions. From both the stories and the pictures, the quality of their thinking and sensitivity about what is valuable in life shines through and their ability to convey such profound thoughts is a reflection of the life-enriching values education work taking place in their schools and being further supported at home by their parents, carers and others.

### **This year’s winners**

Here are this year’s prize winners. The schools can feel very proud of these pupils. The storywriters have won book tokens for their school libraries worth £150 for the Winner, £75 for the Runner Up and £25 for each of the highly recommended stories.

Place	Story	Author	Age	School	Country
1st	Always Be Kind	Shaheer	11	Elmwood Junior School, Surrey	UK
2nd	Kindness Is Golden	Toby	9	Sri Sathya Sai Spiritual Education, London	UK
<b>HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:</b>					
	Everlasting Happiness	Grace	9	Living Values Children’s Education Foundation	Nigeria
	Living Better Lives	Joy	10	Living Values Children’s Education Foundation	Nigeria
	Love And Kindness	Shreyas	10	Samsidh Mount Litera Zee School – HSR Extension	India
	Teamwork Always Wins	Pranav	8	NIVE – New Horizon Public School	India
	The Brave Friend	Eeshan	8	NIVE – New Horizon Public School	India
	The Cunning Fake Fall	Lorenzo	9	Holme Grange School, Berkshire	UK
	Picture	Artist	Age	School	Country
	Kindness Is My Magic	Sofia	6	Capel Manor Primary School, London	UK
	Save Trees	Bhavish	9	Samsidh Mount Litera Zee School – Vidyanarayapura	India
	The Jungle Adventure	Ambiya	8	Manor Junior School, Essex	UK

All the prizewinning authors and artists have been awarded a personal copy of [The Big Think Stories Book](#), a compilation of the stories for ages 7 to 11 that feature in our new values programme for children aged 4 to 11, [The Big Think](#). The illustrations in this book were by Galia Durant, our Pictures judge for the 2019 competition.

### The Judges

We are most grateful to our panel of three innovative, inspirational Stories judges, all of whom want children to thrive and get the very best start in life and know just how empowering carefully chosen values can be: [Ed Mayo](#), [Dr Paquita de Zulueta](#) and [James Minter](#).



*Ed Mayo*

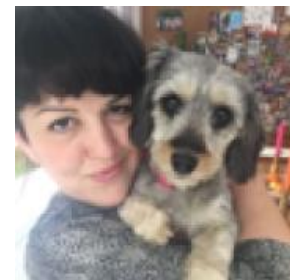


*Dr Paquita de Zulueta*



*James Minter*

We also much appreciate the care [Galia Durant](#) took when deciding on the best pictures. Galia's talents are very evident in the illustrations she created and the songs she composed and performed for our programme **The Big Think**.



### Stories on Values Booklet

We will be publishing a PDF booklet with the top entries identified above along with many of the other very worthy pieces of work sent in. Early in 2020 it will be available to download, free of charge, from our website. Every child whose work is included will receive a congratulatory certificate.