

# THE 2 GREAT GIFTS

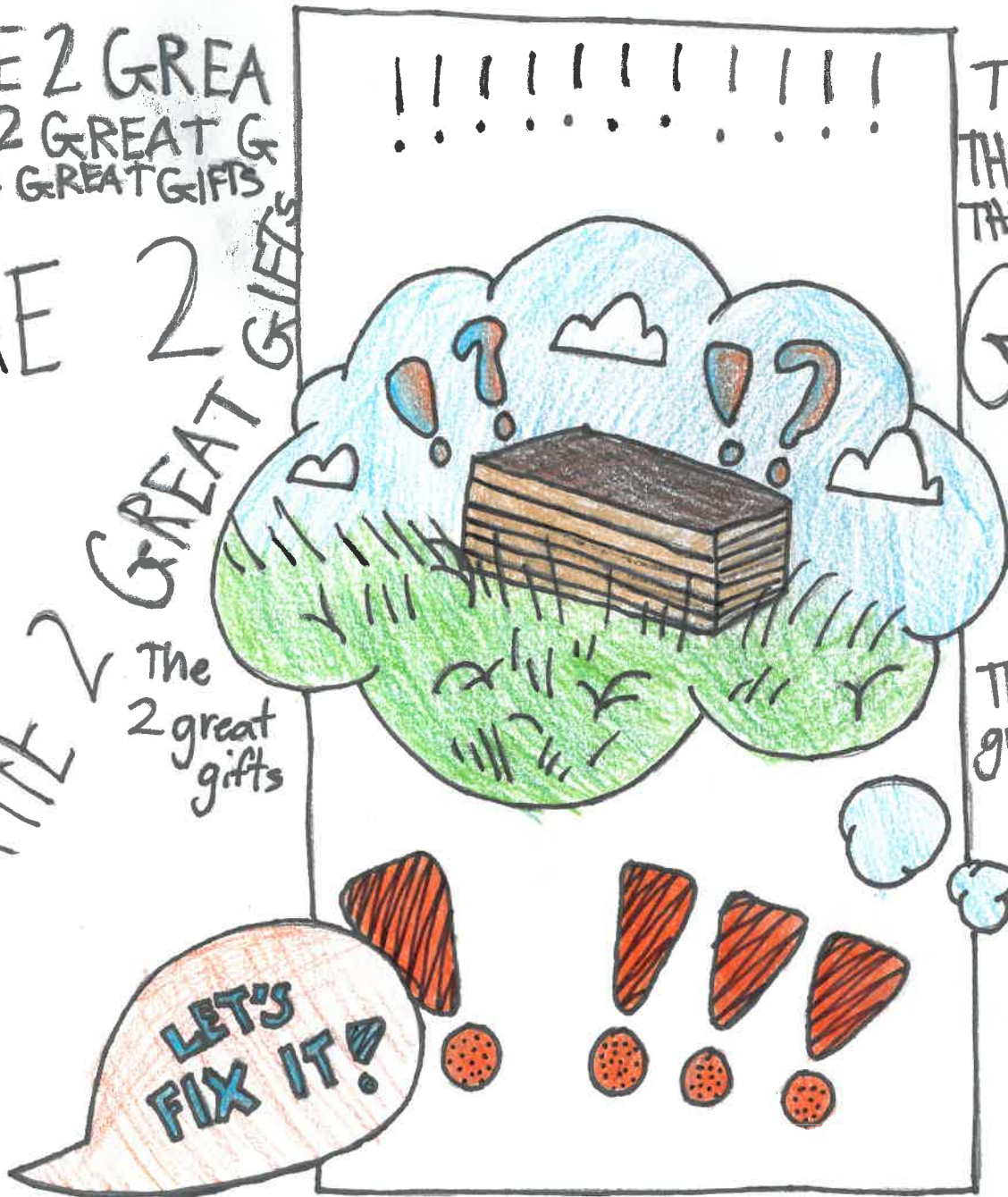
THE 2 GREA  
THE 2 GREAT G  
THE 2 GREAT GIFTS

THE 2 GREA  
THE 2 GREAT  
THE 2 GREAT GIFTS

THE 2 GREAT GIFTS  
THE 2 GREAT GIFTS  
The 2 great gifts

GREAT G

THE 2 GREAT GIFTS  
The 2 great gifts  
GREAT GIFTS



The 2 great gifts 

Inspired and Illustrated by Grade 3A Class 2020-21

Written by Mrs. Millard, Grade 3A's Teacher

Dedicated to: Mr. East, - Mrs. Mar  
/ and /  
Amelia



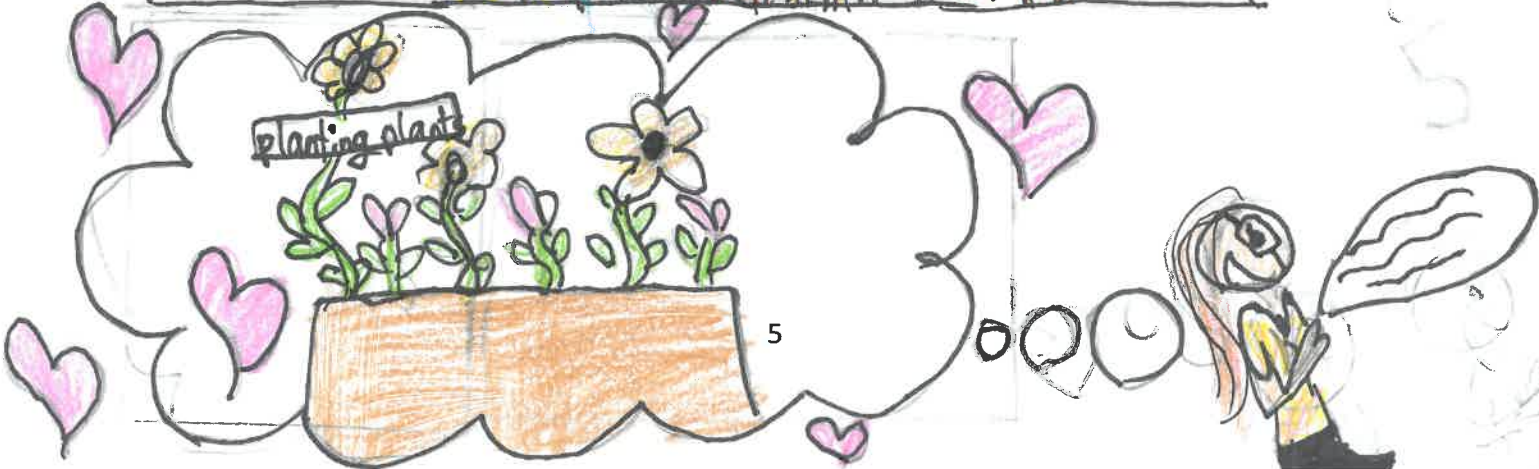
In this world where there is a lot that is broken, a Grade 3 class observed a problem on their playground and worked together to solve it for their whole school. Before we tell you the story of the school's problem and our class' solution to it, we need to begin with the story of two gifts our class was given.



The first gift was from a girl named Amelia. Amelia, who was in Mrs. Millard's class the previous year, gave her some sunflower seeds to plant in her garden that spring.



Once the sunflowers had gone to seed in her garden that fall, Mrs. Millard brought the dead sunflowers to school. Students harvested and saved the seeds for spring planting. Mrs. Millard invited Amelia to our harvest and gifted her seven sunflower seeds in thanks. Mrs. Millard told the class her dream of planting sunflowers in the school's planter boxes.





The second gift was from a teacher named Mrs. Mar and her class at Upper Sumas Elementary. Mrs. Mar and Mrs. Millard have been friends for a long time. When Mrs. Mar heard about Abbotsford Christian School's covid cluster, she sent a gift of 20 tulip bulbs from her students to Mrs. Millard's students.

These tulip bulbs were no ordinary flower bulbs! They were in fact friendship flowers. They were symbols of remembrance. The tulip bulbs were to be planted in memory of Canadian soldiers who had died in World War II to liberate the Dutch people in Netherlands.



(there were more tulips than that)





Even though they were a gift, the bulbs looked rather strange to our class. Many students thought the bulbs looked like onions. They treated them with respect though, honouring the memory and celebrating the friendship between Canadians and Dutch.



Our class drew our bulbs using our magnifying loupes. We wrote poems about the tulip bulbs. We read how to plant them and how to protect them from squirrels with netting over our garden soil.



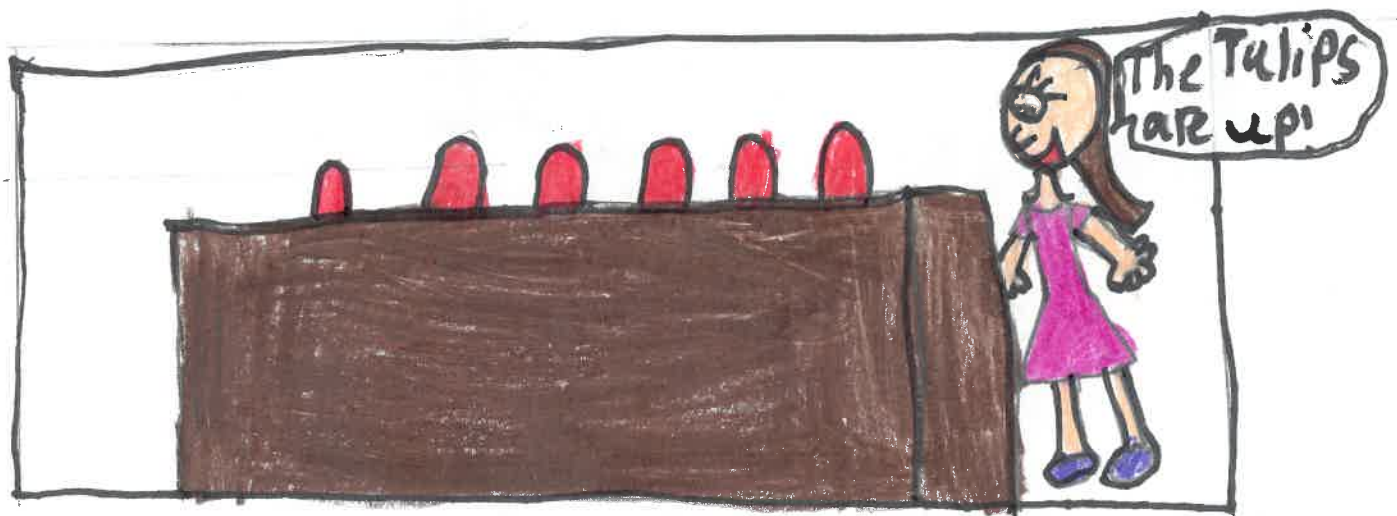


We planted our tulip bulbs in a garden of remembrance one day in November in one of our school's garden boxes. We remembered the lives lost. We honoured the friendship the flowers represented.

Before

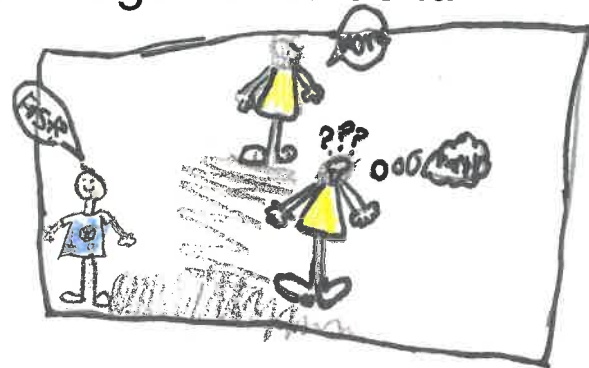
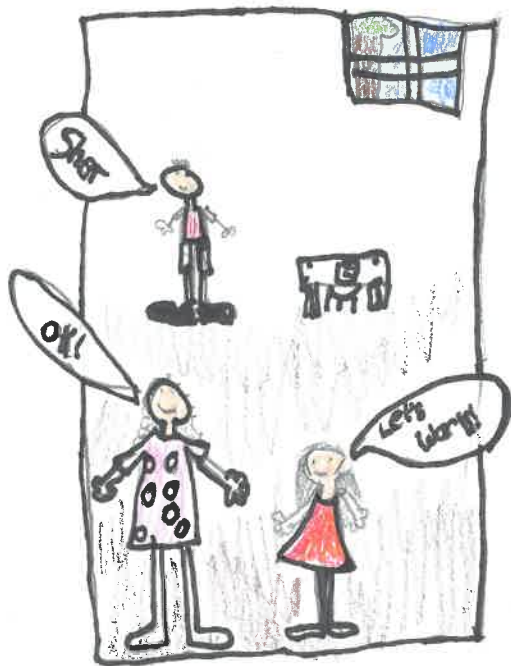


After



Before the tulip bulbs, we had never really noticed or even cared about the garden boxes. Now we checked on our garden box often waiting to catch a glimpse of the bulbs sprouting. On January 25<sup>th</sup>, our first bulbs sprouted!

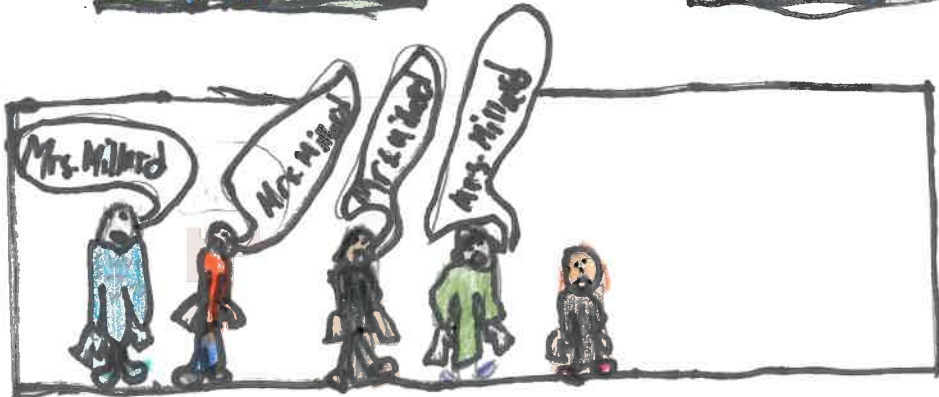
Mrs. Millard divided our class into teams to start taking care of the tulip bulbs and the rest of the garden boxes at our school: the gardeners, the communicators, the historians and artists and the plant experts. Taking care of the garden boxes was a big job and we had to work together to do it!



So they work together.



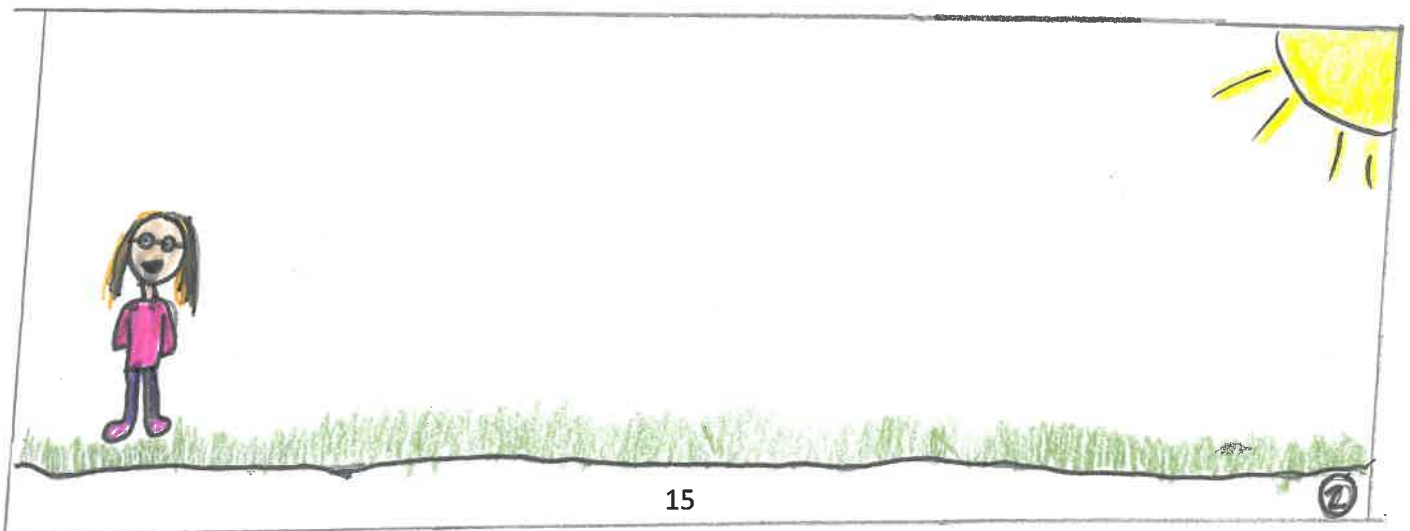
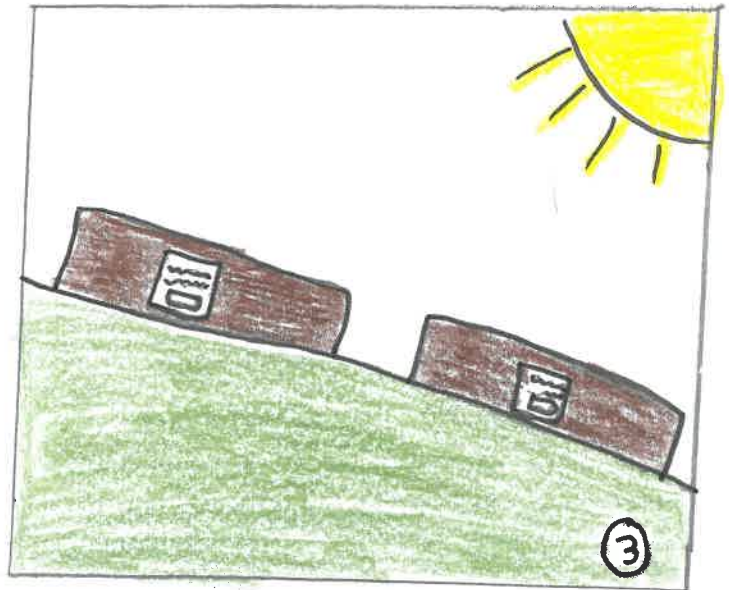
You might be wondering right about now, what the problem in our story is. Students began reporting to Mrs. Millard that other students in our school were going to damage our sprouted tulip bulbs.



The garden boxes had not been in use for a long time. Students were jumping and climbing in the boxes during recess. Lots of students were collecting rocks, sticks and pinecones inside the boxes.



Our class decided our tulips were in danger and the boxes needed to be fixed! We decided we should make signs explaining our project to all students. The artists made a sign and we all posted them on our boxes.



The communicators made a loudspeaker announcement for the whole school. They explained our project and asked students to respect the boxes by looking at the flowers, but not standing or jumping in and on the boxes.





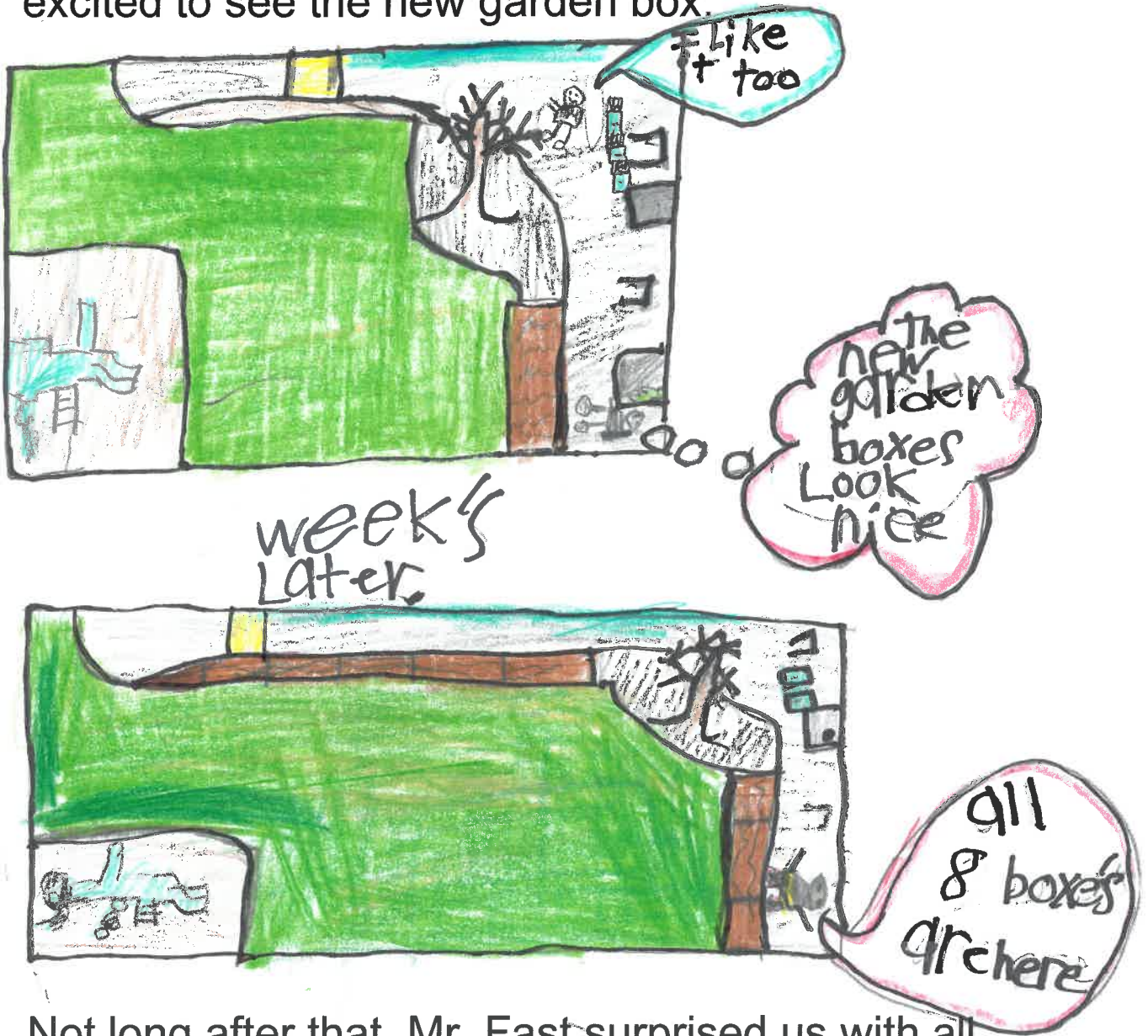
Mr. Fast who takes care of our playground came to visit us so we could find out how to fix the boxes. The more we looked at our boxes, the more we wondered if it is was just students playing causing the boxes to break. Mrs. Millard had us read and learn about erosion because the garden boxes were eroding. The boxes were built on a hill and the years of rain and snow had caused them to break down along with students jumping and standing on them.





Mr. Fast and Mrs. Millard decided the garden boxes had to be built in a different place. Our class drew plans of where the best place to put the garden boxes would be. We brought our tape measures to school and did a mock-up of an area for the new garden boxes with Mr. Fast.

One morning we arrived at school to see our very first garden box built by Mr. Fast! We were all so excited to see the new garden box.



Not long after that, Mr. Fast surprised us with all eight boxes being completed! We made signs telling students to watch for flowers coming soon to the new garden boxes. Instead of avoiding the boxes, we wanted students to be curious about them!

Our class has planted our sunflower seeds inside planter pots. We will plant our sunflower seedlings in our new garden boxes soon!



I'm confused, compost for Sunflower seeds.

nest egg



his

I love flowers

off get it.

I'm kinda confused still.



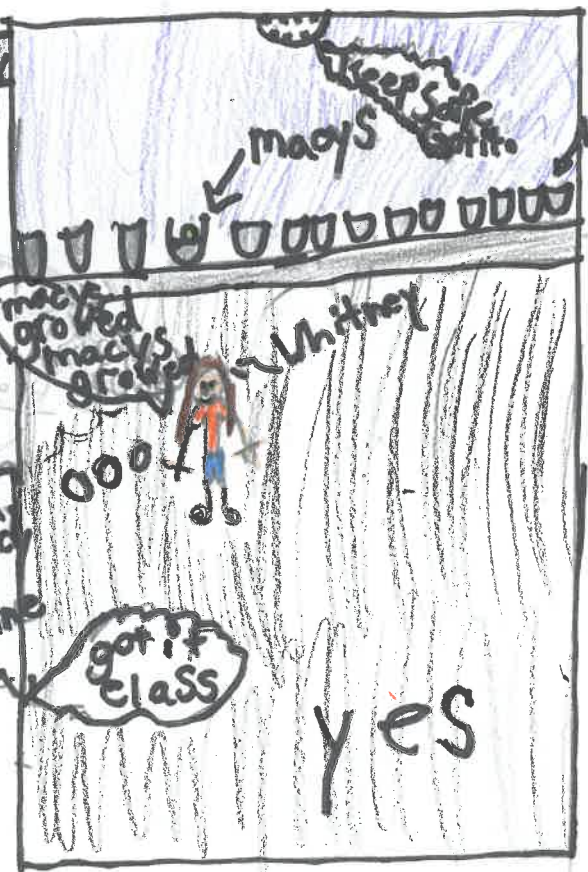
Bring go go

I'm bored why are they growing

I made that go to the garden

Schools almost done

nest egg



Keep safe with

macy's groved macy's groved

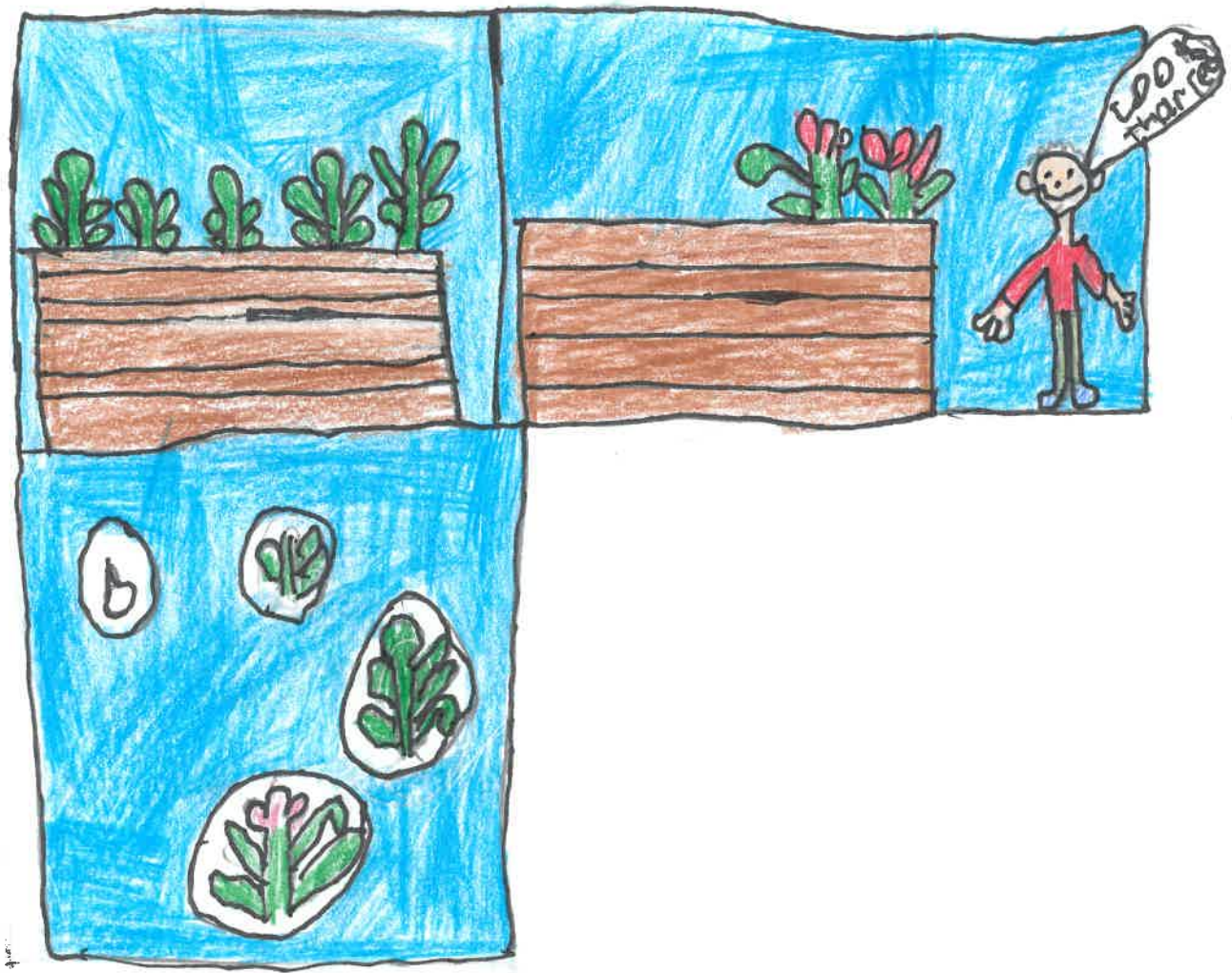
Whitney

got it class

yes

his

You might wonder what happened to the tulip bulbs that sprouted. We observe and measure our friendship flowers each week. Many tulips are now over 20 cm tall! One day soon, we hope our tulips will bloom so we can see their colourful blossoms. We won't forget the story of friendship and remembrance when we see them bloom.





Our class decided to gift many of our harvested sunflower seeds to Mrs. Mar and her class. We thank them for their gift that inspired us and will inspire Grade 3 students to care for our school's garden boxes for years to come.