

This is my country, where the story starts.

I love **England** with all my heart.

It is not the worst, nor the best,

But definitely different to the rest.



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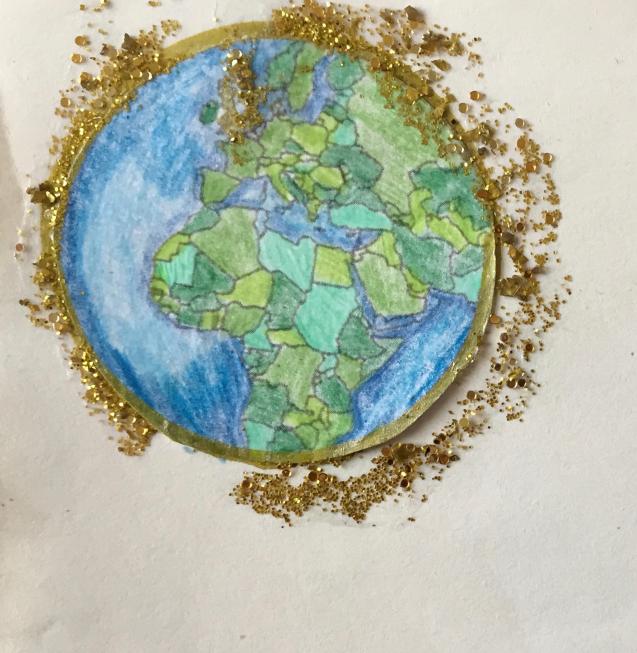
I love Malawi with all my heart.

It is not the worst, nor the best,

But definitely different to the rest.







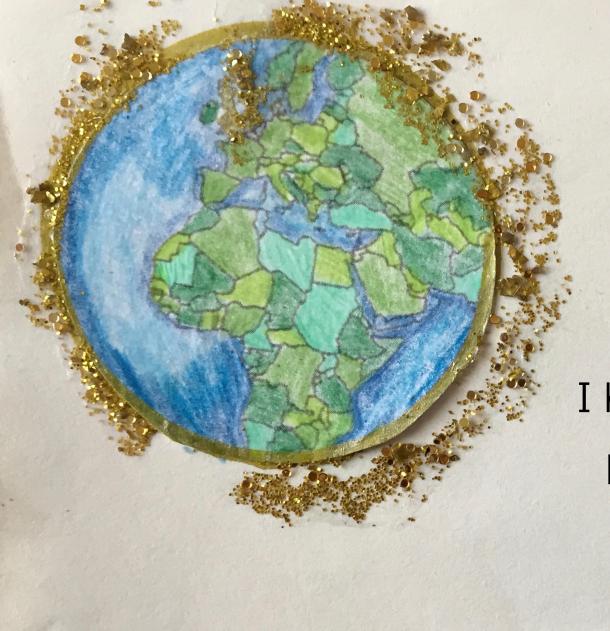
So many books to carry, Doesn't Mum know I'm in a hurry? I've got no strength, I'm feeling weak, If I carry more... I might just SHRIEK!



To pay for school, I must work, Maybe carry some fruit, sticks or birch. Bare foot, the load on my head, Before school starts, I'm ready for bed.







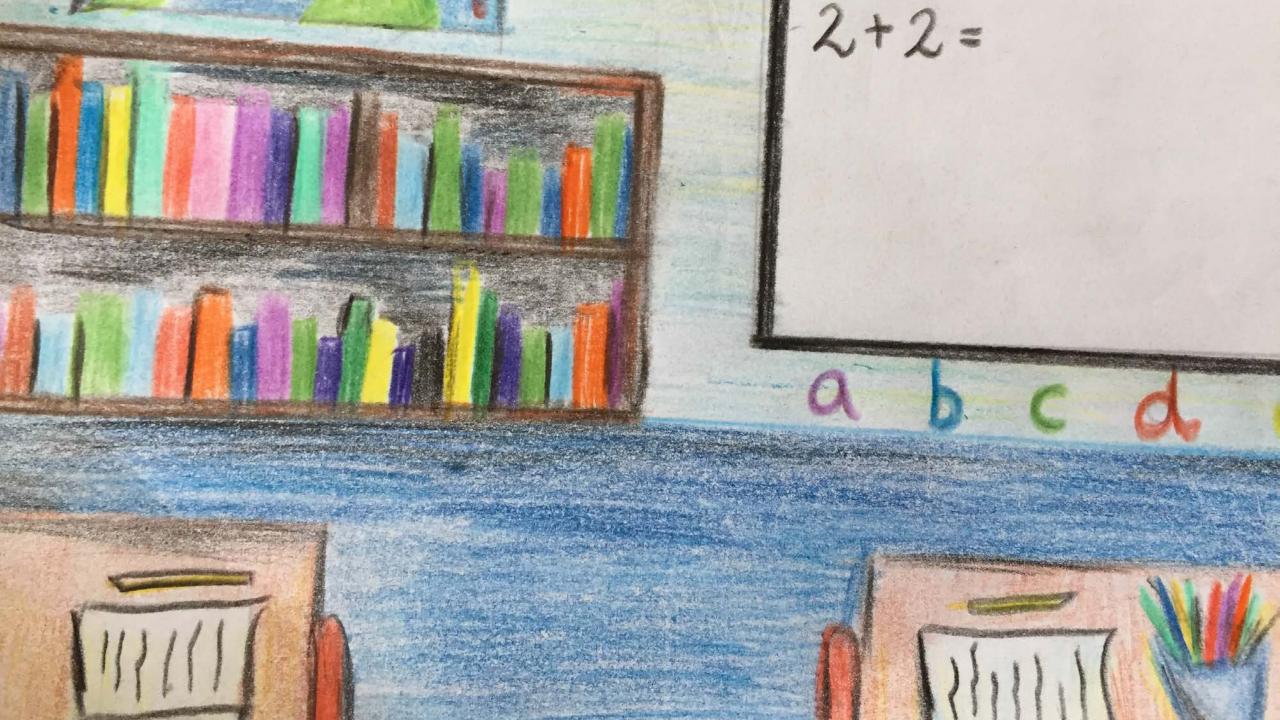
Is it not the weekend yet?

I have learnt so much I might forget.

Nice, bright, colourful classrooms,

Free books and pencils,

so learning blooms.



I can't wait to get to school,

Learning and getting a future,

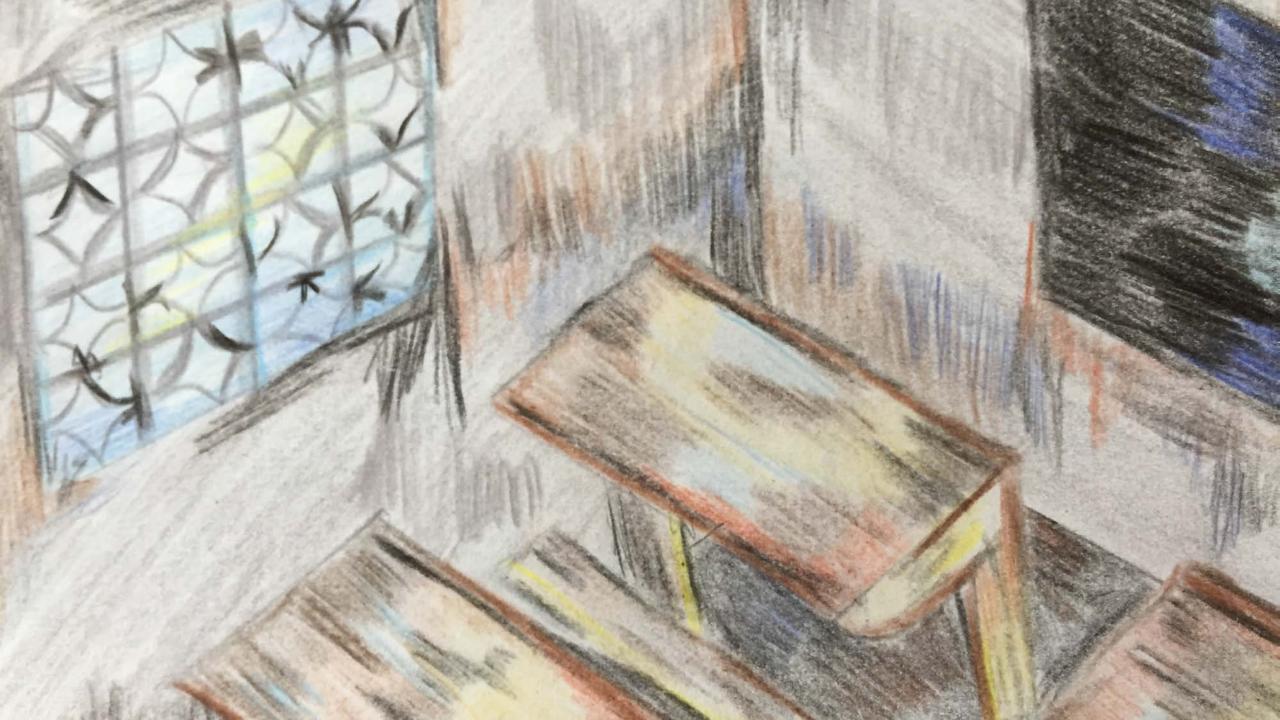
is so cool.

Classes of one hundred peers,

Sometimes no displays,

tables or chairs.







My bedroom is alright I guess....

Can I redecorate? Please say YES!

It has my games, books and toys,

But no TV, unlike the other boys.



My bedroom is so cosy, Minus the bugs, who like to nosey. A mosquito net's a must, Which every night, I tuck and adjust.







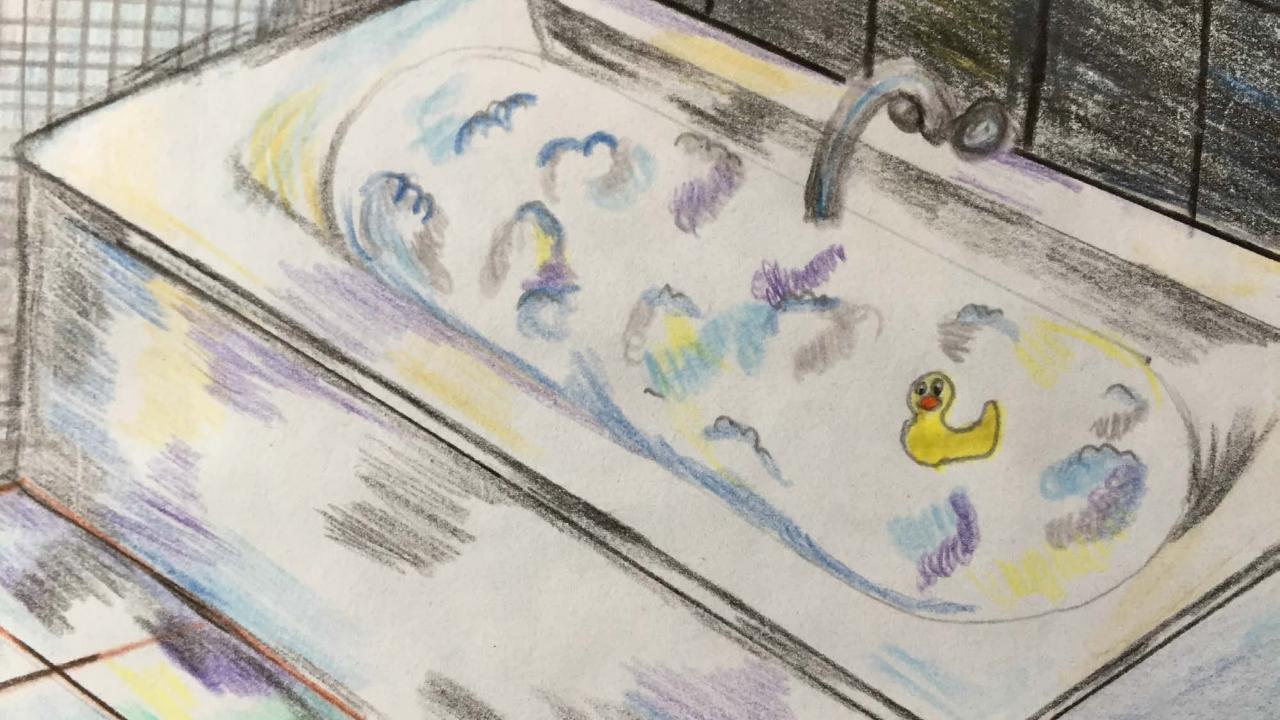
It can't be bath time again?

I refuse to wash until next week then!

Scrub, dip, rub. Looking cleaner.

Rubber ducks and suds

make me keener.



I wake up early to bath, Collect the water from down the path. Luckily, it's been heated, No running water, but dirt's defeated!







EWWWW!

These toilets smell <u>SO</u> BAD!

But, it flushes and closes,

so I'm glad.

Soon it will be clean and white;

Looking and smelling

fresh and bright.



No running water again?
The outside squat toilet
it is then!

Sometimes they'll have no door,

That's when you'll find flies, lizards

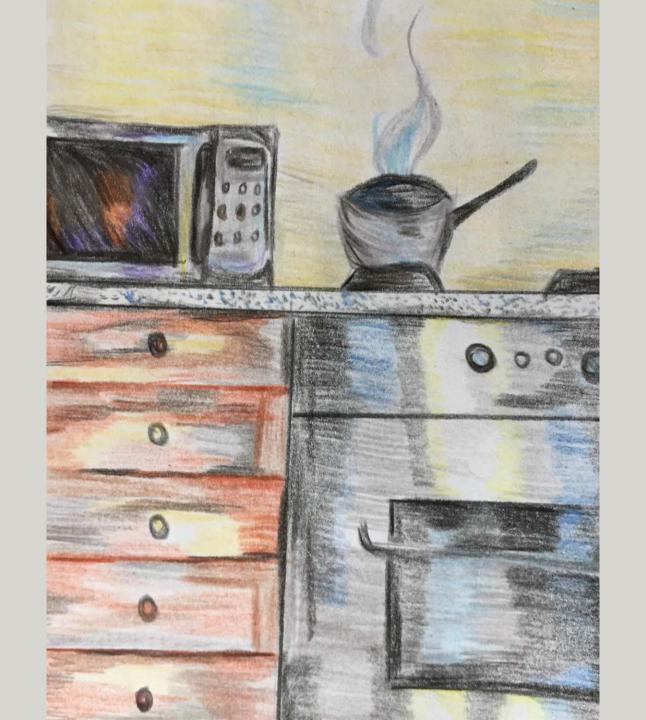
and more.







What is for dinner tonight? Chicken nuggets would go down just right. Microwave, oven or hob, It's so quick with a turn of a knob.



Here is the daily black out, "Where is the electricity?"

I SHOUT.

Cooking tea on an open fire,

The dark smoke and heat

sure make me tire.







So much choice for dinner,

Making a decision is a killer!

Supermarkets have everything,

Carbs, protein, fibre....

I feel like a King!



Nsima or rice for dinner?

The staple dishes are a winner.

Tomatoes, onions and cabbage,

Eating with our hands is no challenge.







I'm very thirsty Mummy,
But EWWW!

NO! Water is yucky!

Maybe a coke or a squash?

With ice cubes and lemons?

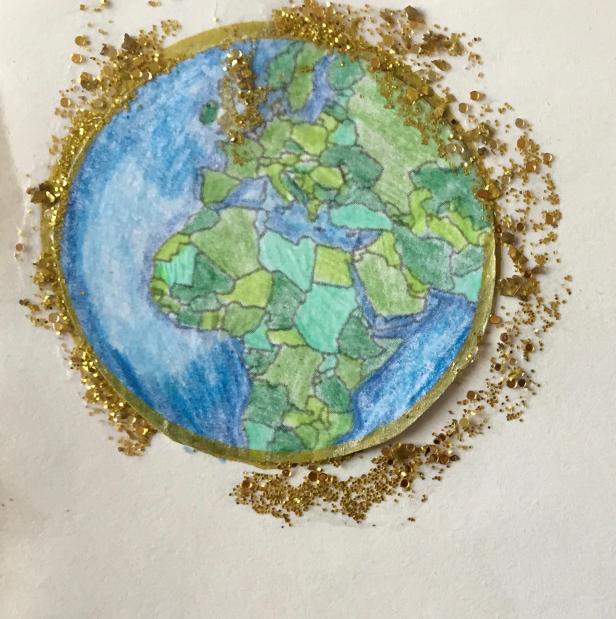
Yes, sip, slosh!



I'm very thirsty Mummy,
I've got no water in my tummy.
There's another water cut,
But the bore hole water
hurts my gut.







Is my top clean, fresh and dry?

The washing machine's great,

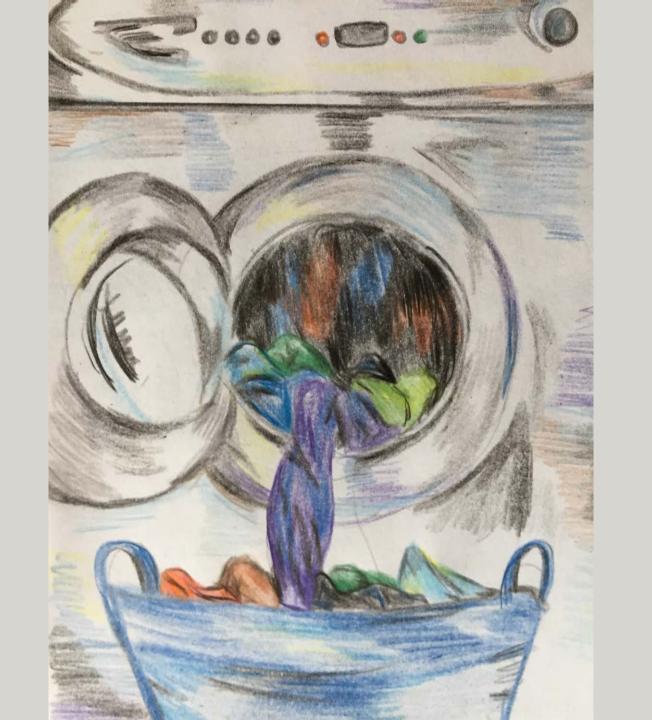
I can't deny!

That tough muddy stain

is gone.

The job is done!

I can put it back on!



Another early start to wash, Must be quick, when there's water to slosh. Hand wash, scrub, rub, wring, This' no quick job, not an easy thing.







I would LOVE some new clothes, Let's head to the high street, I propose! Different colours and sizes, Hunt the selection for the best prices.



I would LOVE some new clothes,

I must head to the market,

I suppose.

Look!

Some nice second hand finds,

Or a tailor will make my designs.







"Get outside, in the fresh air!"

"Only one level left, if you care?"

"Football is a game for the feet, not eyes,

Everyone can enjoy, all allies."



Everyone loves football,

Anyone can play it, OlG or small.

We make it from plastic bags, No trainers needed, no strips, no flags.







It would be good if we could share,

Some love and compassion to make it fair.



A note from the author....

Thank you so much for reading 'One Different World.' I was inspired while volunteering in Malawi, on a project which focused on retaining girls in education. As a teacher in the UK, I can see the benefits and necessity of having a free education. I truly believe schooling ought to be free across the world, to give everybody the same opportunities.

The book is based on my own experiences in both countries. I am sure that the situations described are not accurate or representative of everybody in either country. However, I wanted to show the vast differences that I incurred and make children aware that just 7000 miles away, children are experiencing a completely different upbringing and therefore diverse futures.

I would like to add a special thanks to everybody who was a part of my volunteering experience and my family for always supporting my newest idea.