

To Whom It May Concern,

Alice Brown Elementary sprouted the beginning of the pursuit to many of my future endeavours. Having spent eight years of my life at Alice Brown, I have learned that taking initiative allows for true success in achieving one's hopes and dreams. There were many great moments in Alice Brown. But personally, it is the connections to others that spelt my greatest moment at Alice Brown. From being a classroom monitor, to a crossing guard, to a "big buddy", these roles which I had taken on taught me the values of being a leader. They form the foundations within me to grow in my character, leadership and service to society. I want to continue to ensure that I leave a distinct positive impact on my community, as Alice Brown has had on me.

One very specific example of the importance of the connections to others is at the end of every school year. Alice Brown would hold its annual Sports Day, an event that would bring all members of the school community together. We would be split into teams by colour, and then often argued that blue team always won. It was all fun, friendly competition within our classroom, where we would participate in various events such as the potato sack race or the balloon popper competition. My favourite memory was the tug-o-war at the end of the day where everyone pulled the rope in unison showing the teamwork we had built throughout the school year. School spirit blasted out the walls of the school, causing everyone to be filled with joy. What amazes me is that the reward at the end of the day was often just a freezie. Something so small and yet it could bring together a group of people. The day consisted of laughter, excitement, and encouragement. It is moments like these that I cherish and will forever remember about Alice Brown.

Alice Brown has and always taught me the importance of creating lifelong connections to others. Though friends come and go throughout life, I know that I will remain with those that have stuck by my side since kindergarten. I have been able to see their growth as a person as well as been on their journey to achieving their goals for the future. I am truly thankful to my friends that have stuck with me until today and I know that each one of them will never stop dreaming and pursuing after their goals. I am excited to see where life takes them. They have taught me live life to the fullest as well as to not dwell on what I do not possess, but be thankful for what I have and to seize opportunities in life to make contributions to society which will in the long run, make the world a better and happier place for us all to live in.

At this moment, I would like to thank my amazing teachers for shaping me into the person I am today. Their impact on my life has guided me into the direction of my dreams. The connections with them have exemplified the beauty of creating a positive pathway for those around you. They have not only taught me simple addition, cursive writing, and spelling, but important principles of life that one must demonstrate. The principles of the school of being safe, trustworthy, accountable, and respectful will remain within me forever. Every teacher

played a key role in my development, not only by being one of my first role model, but an inspiration to always strive for greatness. They have created a determined, motivated, and resilient human being filled with passion. I would also like to thank them for making learning so fascinating through playing a spelling game called "Buzz Off You", learning poetry through modern songs, and competitive math flashcard competitions as well as seeing the potential within me before I even knew it was present. They are the people that are the main influencers in my early childhood development and continue to inspire me to never stop aspiring to reach for the stars.

It has been five years since I said goodbye to Alice Brown and now I will soon be graduating Brookwood Secondary. As I say goodbye once again to my high school, I reminisce my past and thank those that have brought me to where I am today. I will soon be attending the University of Toronto in September to pursue a Bachelor of Arts (Architectural Studies) and a Bachelor of Science (Mathematics) to continue to make lasting memories just as Alice Brown has done for me.

I am grateful for the precious moments and time I had spent at Alice Brown Elementary. The sweet memories that I have constructed will never be forgotten. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to write the Alice Brown Scholarship. If chosen as the recipient of the Alice Brown Elementary Scholarship, I will humbly represent my beloved elementary school to the best of my ability and continue to create meaningful and supportive connections with the rest of the world. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Kaita