

Words of comfort



We received a selection of hand-written poems from pupils in Class 6KS at St Matthew's C of E (Aided) Primary School and Nursery Centre in Donnington Wood, Telford in July 2023.

With the aim of providing comfort through poetry, the children were tasked with writing a selection of poems that epitomised their Christian values: Respect, Community and Perseverance.

Inspired by the work of poet, writer, lyricist and musician Benjamin Zephaniah, the children focused on the value 'Respect' and wrote the poems to lift the spirits of residents and patients in local care homes and hospices.

The poems highlight the importance of human connection and how we rely on one another each day.

We wanted to share these thoughtful poems with you, and hope that they provide you with some comfort and an opportunity for a moment of reflection.

People need people,
To talk with
To walk with
To feel happy and nice with,
People will always need people.
To give your life some meaning
And make it appealing,
With kindness and respect
You are perfect,
People will always need people.

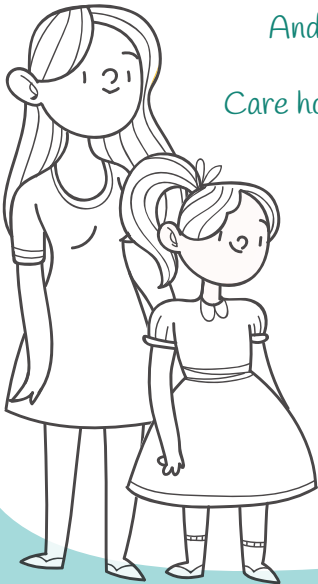
There's not much to do
When there is no one but you,
It's useful to have other people
To please and put at ease,
We would love for you to receive.
People will always need people,
Yes
People will always need people.



People need care homes,
To go to
To have hope
To rely on and to smile at,
People need care homes.
To love and to miss
To bring bliss to people,
It's a blessing to have care homes.
To high five and to cry to
If these buildings are gone
It would be so hard to help,
Without a card to these buildings.

Without care homes,
Who would we share our problems
Who would we share our problems,
Or rely on to care for our health
We always need care homes.
To feel at ease and to keep safe
Care homes are always needed,
To make life appealing
And give life some meaning.

Care homes are needed by people!



People will always need people,
To talk to
To walk to
To cry and rely on,
People will always need people.
To laugh to
To clap to,
People will always need people.

To eat with
To meet with
People will always need people.
To make life appealing
And give it some meaning
It's useful to have other people.
Let's stop making enemies
And let's face the facts,
People will always need people.



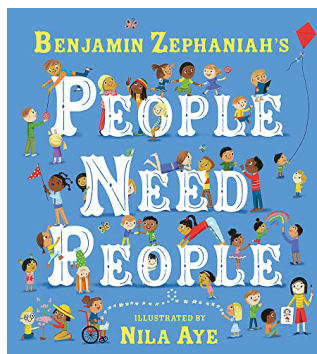
Benjamin's poem 'People Need People' was written before 2020 and became popular during lockdown at a time when the value and importance of connecting with one another was felt even stronger.

The poem was featured on national and local radio programmes around the world.

People Need People is now a beautifully illustrated picture book by illustrator Nila Aye, suitable for children with a reading age of 3 to 5. It asks all of us to be kind and emphasises the idea that people really do need people.

'To please
To tease
To put you at ease,
People will always need people.
To make life appealing
And give life some meaning,
It's useful to have other people.'

There's always someone here for you and your family at Severn Hospice.



People need people,
To walk to
To talk to
To cry and rely on,
People will always need people.
To love and to miss
To hug and to kiss,
It's useful to have other people.
To whom to moan
If you're all alone,
It's so hard to share
When no one is there.
There's not much to do
When there's no one but you.
People will always need people.

To please
To tease
To put you at ease,
People will always need people.
To make life appealing
And give life some meaning,
It's useful to have other people.
If you need a change
To whom will you turn.
If you need a lesson
From whom will you learn.
If you need to play
You'll know why I say
People will always need people

As girlfriends
As boyfriends
From Bombay
To Ostend,
People will always need people-
To have friendly fights with
And share tasty bites with,
It's useful to have other people.
People live in families
Gangs, posses and packs,
Its seems we need company
Before we relax,
So stop making enemies
And let's face the facts,
People will always need people,
Yes
People will always need people.

– Benjamin Zephaniah

Looking for an emotional re-charge or a simple bit of mindful distraction?

We've added some lovely poems to our YouTube channel for you to enjoy at your leisure.

Thanks to the creativity and generosity of the local poetry community – and from further field – we had some wonderful words 'donated' for you to hear.



Scan here
to listen
to more



severnhospice.org.uk



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