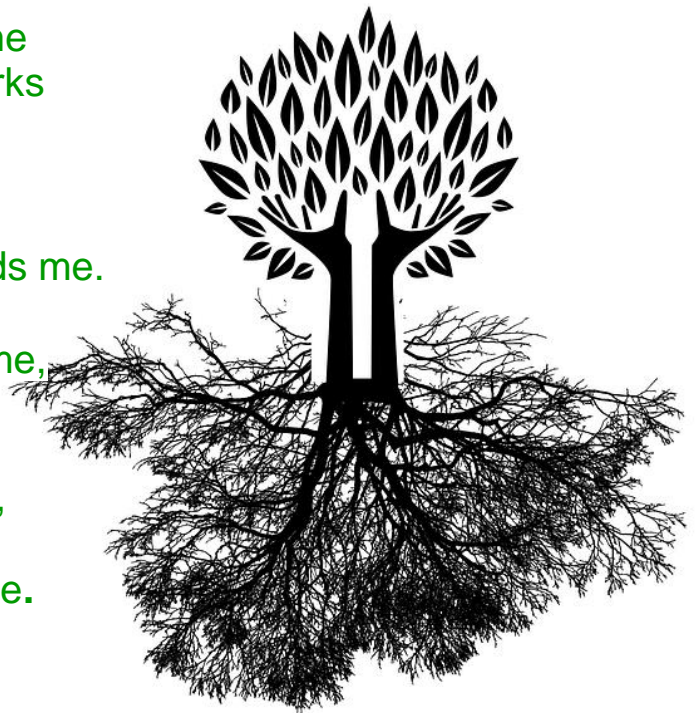


Each student was asked to write a paragraph using a tree as a symbol of strength. This is a powerful piece of writing by Julia from Willow Park School.

Roots

The roots reach deep, holding me
As the wave of frightening remarks
Hit me like a wall of bricks
Collapsing on my head.
I stumble; almost fall,
But the strength of my roots holds me.
Ugly! Doesn't know how to talk!
Stupid! The remarks roll inside me,
But I know they aren't true.
I smile.....
My roots that reach to my family,
My feelings know,
That none of that will ever be true.



What are the roots that hold you together when you need to be strong?

Love?

Determination?

Self belief?

Friendships?

Julia wrote this as prose, and her teacher sent it to me at Rainbow Poetry. I could see the potential for this to be poetry, as it had a rhythm of its own.