

Harriet: *One thing Hannah and I have in common is our love of helping others. Watching the news, hearing about world events, and even walking around our local communities - it's hard not to notice the reality of injustice surrounding us. In fact, the many issues made us feel overwhelmed and helpless. So, we both began getting involved, joining Justice Club, FIRE Carriers, Earth At Academy, taking part in excursions, volunteering and educating ourselves. And, somewhere along this process, justice became more than merely a lofty ideal or an abstract concept. The community of those who helped others, and received help - not that the two have to be mutually exclusive - became a place to belong. A place that allowed us the ability to express ourselves, enact the change that we wanted to see, form friendships and connections, and provide a meaningful sense of purpose.*

Hannah: *We became stronger, with the help of amazing people around us, and wanted to give that gift back to our community. So, we ask you to challenge yourselves this year and join us, to enrich your own and other's lives by standing up for the voiceless, amplifying the concerns of the marginalised, and challenging the status quo when it perpetuates inequality, holding those in power accountable and demanding that every individual, regardless of their background or circumstances, is treated with dignity and respect.*

Right now, there is no shortage of causes that desperately need the strength, numbers and resources of individuals like you. We are currently at an incredibly tumultuous point in world politics, and issues such as poverty, discrimination, and violence are constantly weighing on our society. In particular, we encourage you to keep supporting those caught up in the conflict between Israel and Palestine. It is vital that we hold world leaders accountable for this devastation and ethnic cleansing, and use our privilege and strength both as a nation and individuals to empower those who need it most.

Harriet: *Furthermore, in our very own nation, we are still seeing a devastating gap of disproportionate harm and inequality experienced by Indigenous Australians, compared to non-Indigenous Australians. Especially with the recent passing of January 26th, we should all acknowledge the historical importance of this day. Australia Day is a day of grief and mourning for the First Nations People. A lack of sensitivity regarding the day is only serving to exacerbate the generational trauma and chasm between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous populations.*

Hannah: *As previously mentioned, you all have the power to aid causes such as these, and also those that resonate with you. And of course, we understand that it seems so incredibly daunting as an individual to go up against such injustices. However, you must remember that we are stronger together, and groups such as our Justice Club exist to bring strength in numbers, working together for the change that we want to see.*

Harriet: *What we are hoping to continue this year is developing our relationship with Worawa Aboriginal School, educating students on NAIDOC week and reconciliation week, and continuing to work closely with organisations such as McAuley Services for Women, Mercy Works and St. Mary's House of Welcome. And now, looking at our past achievements with our already passionate Justice Club members, consider how much more we could do if you joined our commitment.*

Hannah: *Every person deserves to live in a world where their rights are protected, their humanity is valued, and their potential is limitless, and remember, that together, we have the strength to work towards this goal.*