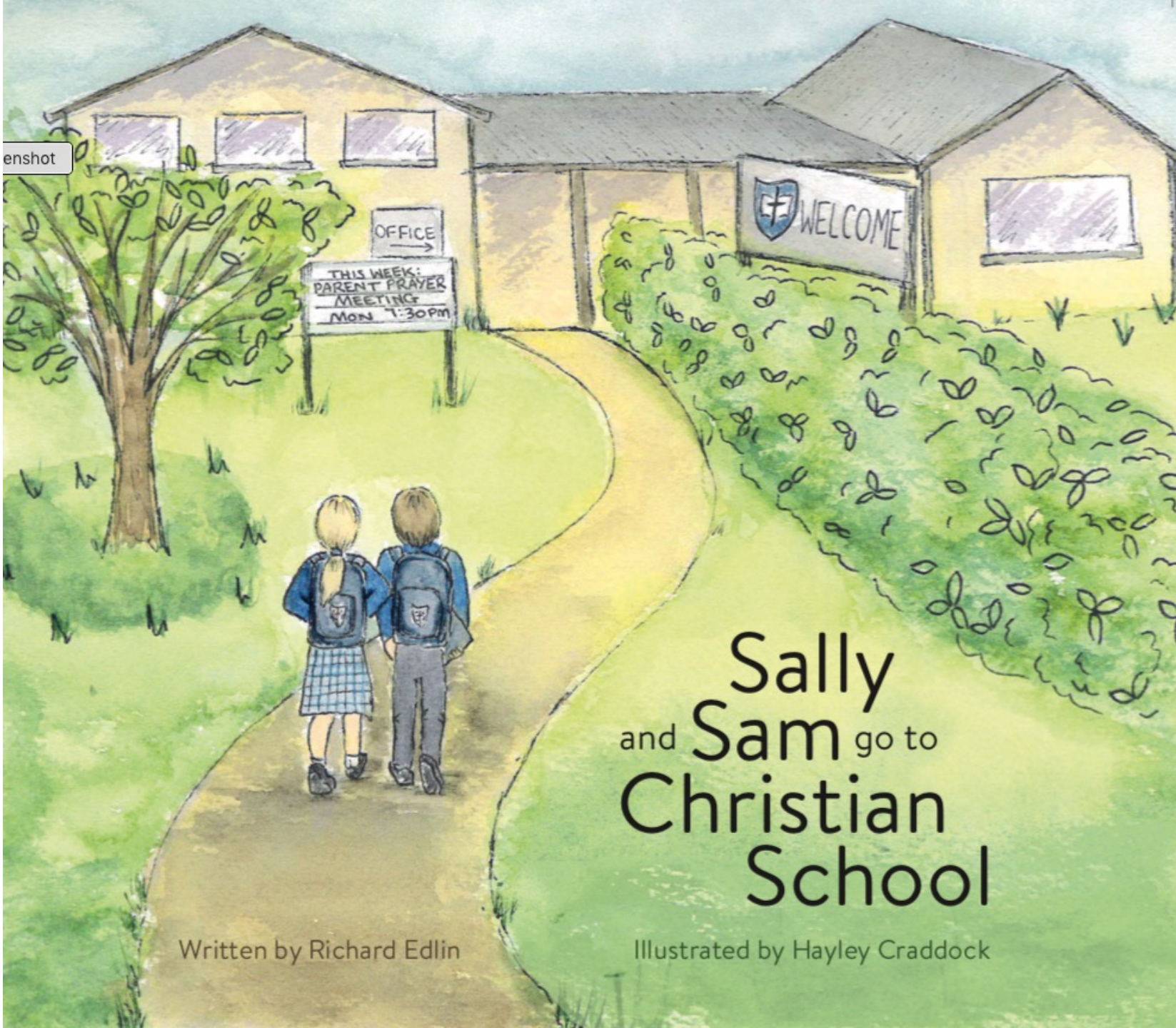


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Sally  
and Sam go to  
Christian  
School

Written by Richard Edlin

Illustrated by Hayley Craddock

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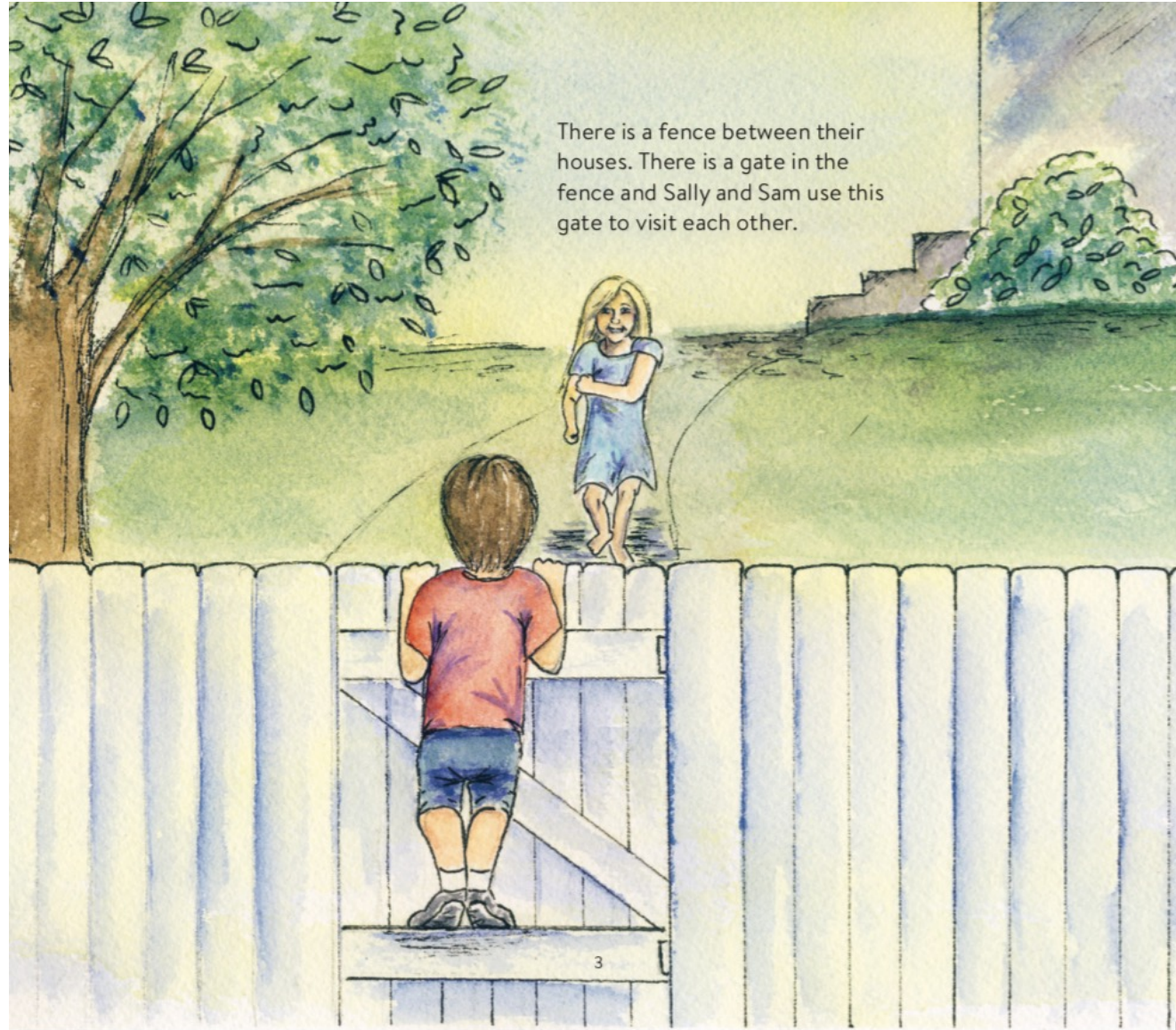
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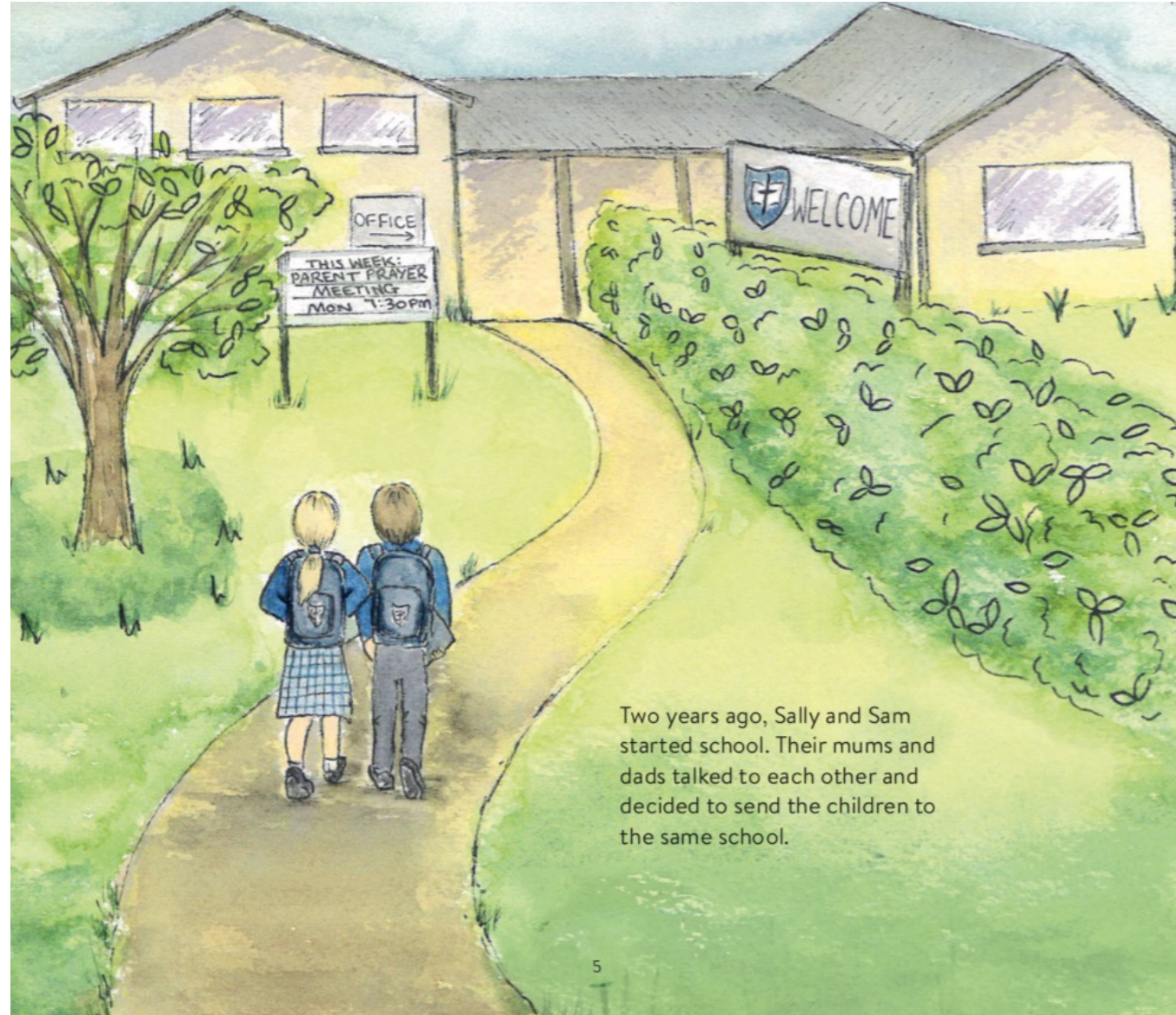
Sally Tenby and Sam Matts are good friends.  
They live in houses that are next door to each other

There is a fence between their houses. There is a gate in the fence and Sally and Sam use this gate to visit each other.





Sam has a dog called Boxer,  
and Sally has a cat called Fluffy.  
Sometimes, Boxer chases Fluffy,  
but he would never hurt her.



Two years ago, Sally and Sam started school. Their mums and dads talked to each other and decided to send the children to the same school.



Sally and Sam's parents are Christians, and they decided to use a Christian school to help them in parenting Sally and Sam.



Sally and Sam love their teacher, Miss Patel.

Last week, she told the children about how a person's leg works, with all the muscles and nerves. She showed them a picture of a leg working, and all the children moved their legs around.



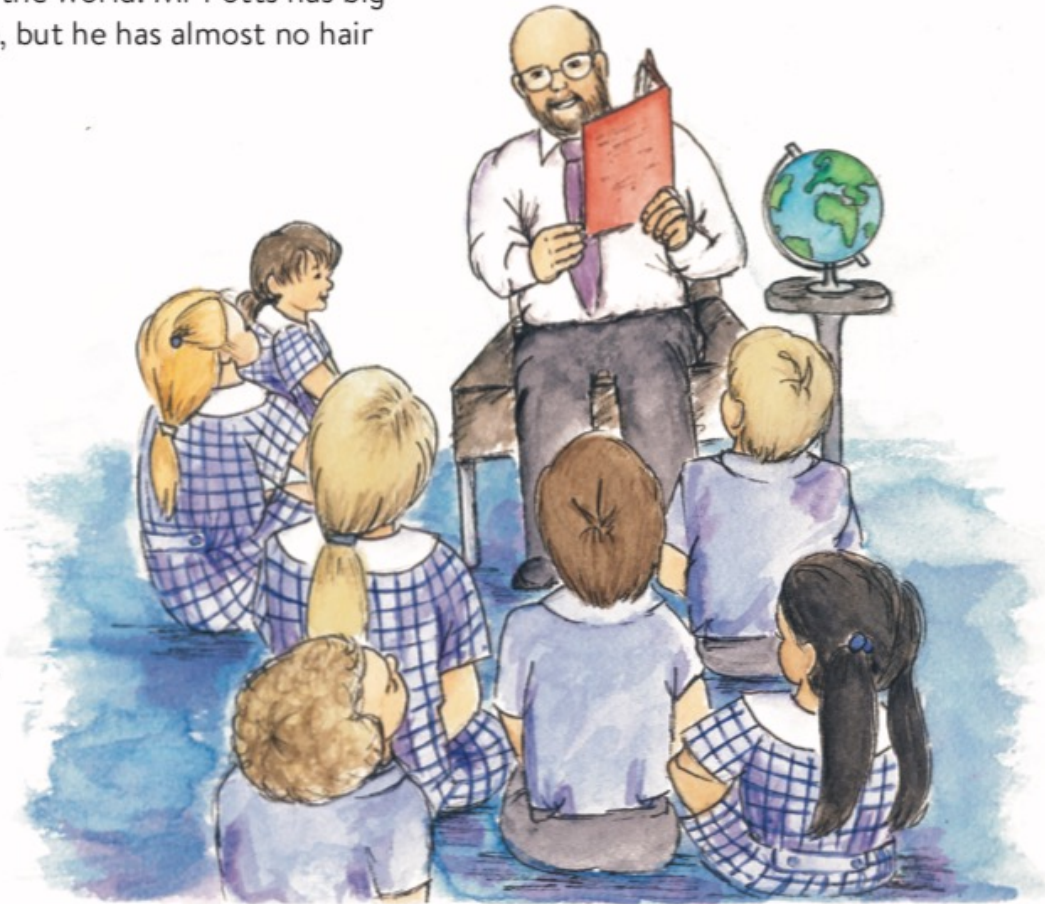


Sally drew a picture of Sam using his leg to kick a ball. Miss Patel said it was a great picture, even if Sam's face looked funny!  
The children agreed with Miss Patel that the story of the leg shows how wonderfully God has made us.



Mr Potts is the school principal. Sally and Sam love it when he visits the class and tells the children stories about the world. Mr Potts has big glasses and a big smile, but he has almost no hair on his head!

The other week, Sam was especially happy when Mr Potts read a story to the class about green eggs and ham. Sometimes Mr Potts tells the children about how Jesus would do things.



Sally is very arty. She draws great pictures and likes arranging things in similar colours and patterns. She is also a very gentle and helpful girl, and she says that one day she wants to be a doctor when she can care for people just like Jesus would.



Sally likes wearing colourful dresses, but sometimes when it has been raining, she also enjoys wearing shorts and playing in the mud with Sam and his dog.

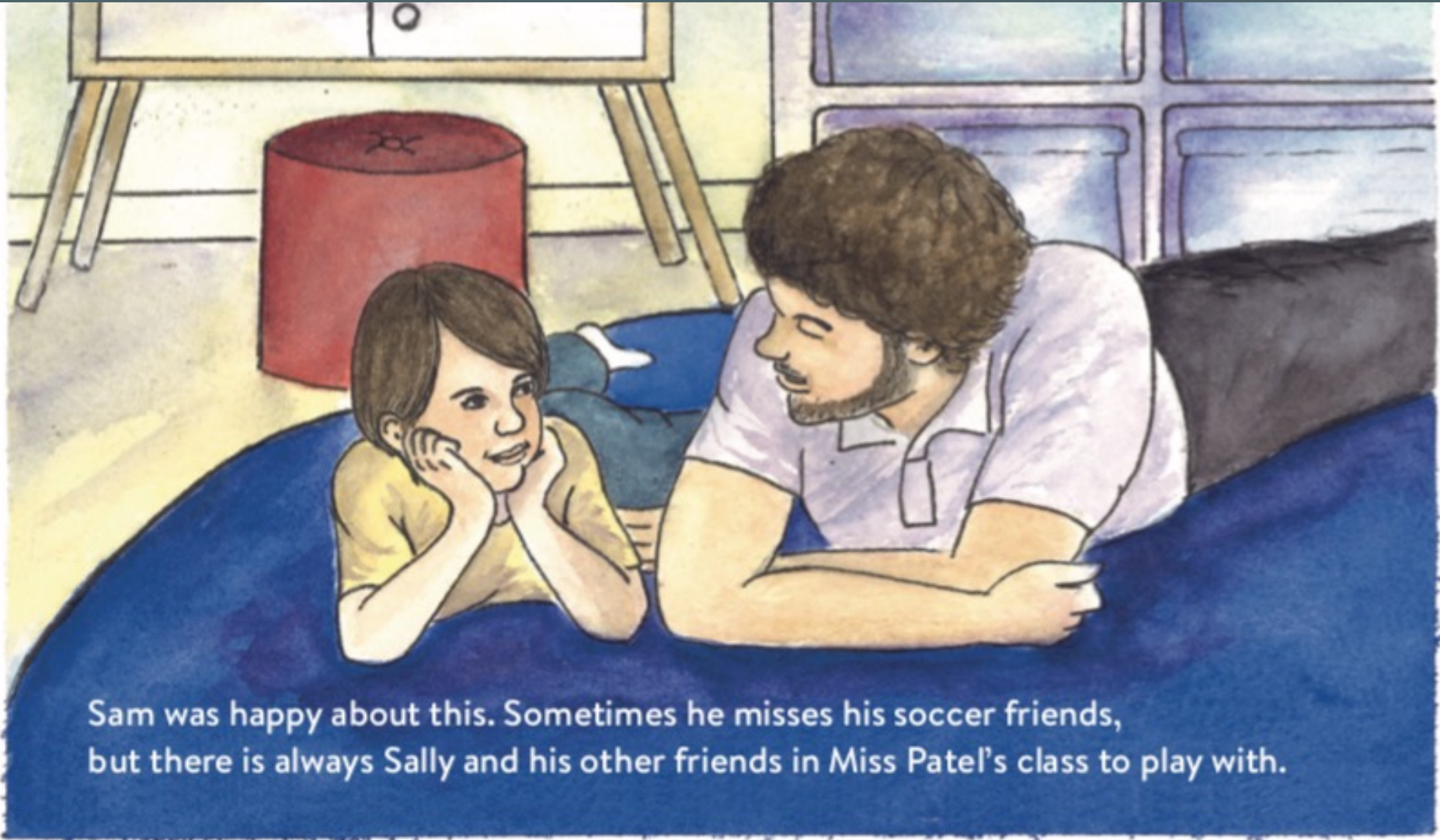




Sam loves sport. He plays soccer on Saturdays – that’s why Sally drew a picture of him kicking a ball. Sam plays for the Wombats team and they have won five games so far this year.

Some of Sam’s friends in the soccer team do not go to the Christian school. Their parents send them to a local school nearby.



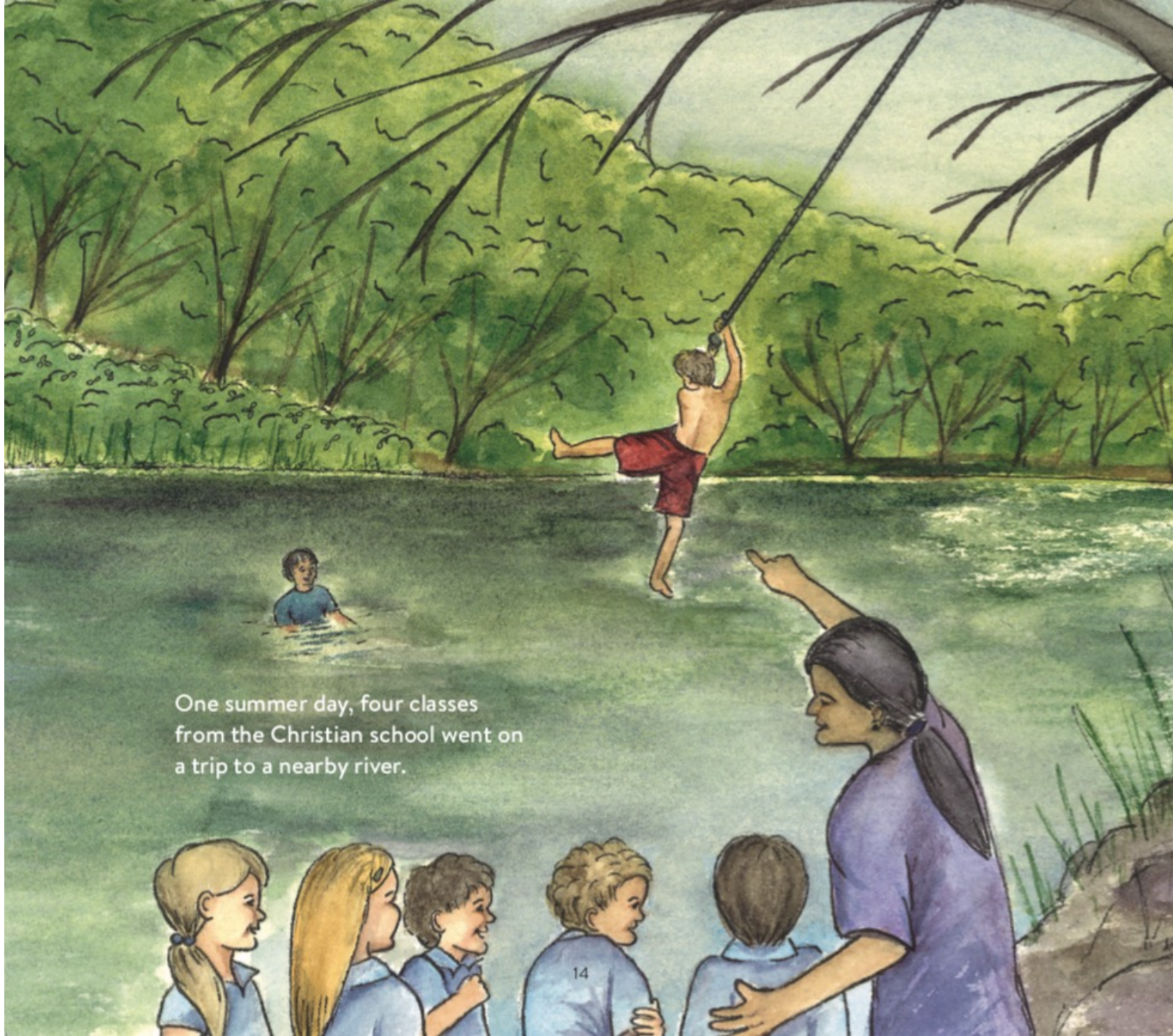


Sam was happy about this. Sometimes he misses his soccer friends, but there is always Sally and his other friends in Miss Patel's class to play with.

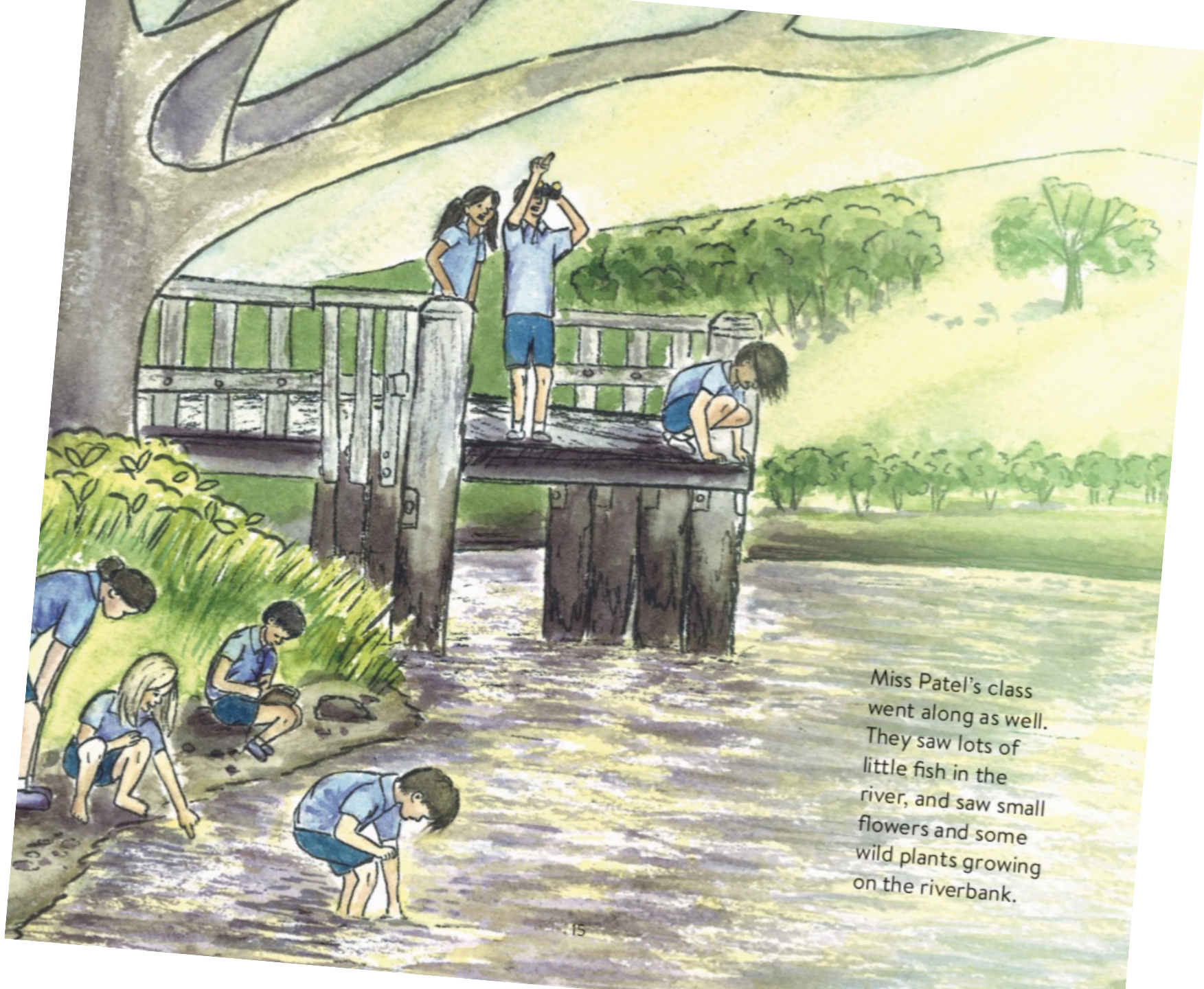
Sam's best subject is geography. He loves learning about other people and how they live. He can point to many different countries on the world globe in the classroom.

He thinks that one day he might be a missionary to India, or maybe serve God at home by planning towns that have nice big open green areas, and that encourage recycling.





One summer day, four classes  
from the Christian school went on  
a trip to a nearby river.



Miss Patel's class  
went along as well.  
They saw lots of  
little fish in the  
river, and saw small  
flowers and some  
wild plants growing  
on the riverbank.





There was a broken bottle on the ground, hidden in the long grass, and Sam cut his foot on the glass. Miss Patel did first aid. Sally watched on.

Sam cheekily asked Sally if she would kiss his foot better. Sally made a funny face and said, "Yuck. No way!"





On the way home from the trip, Miss Patel told that story from the Bible about Jesus washing feet. Miss Patel said that Jesus did this to let us know that he has cleansed our inner dirty feet from sin for those who trust in him. It also was a reminder that we should always be kind to others.

Sally, Sam, and the others in their class grew a little bit more in understanding the gospel of Jesus that day.

In the evening, at story time, Sally talked to her brother Jim, and her mum and dad, about the fun things that happened at school that day. Jim was excited by Sally's story because he would be starting at the Christian school next year. Meanwhile, Fluffy was resting in Sally's lap, purring happily.





When it was her turn to pray, Sally thanked God for her friends including cheeky Sam. She also gave thanks that she can go to a Christian school.

She loved learning about God's world God's way with friends and teachers who also loved Jesus.



Over next door, Sam had had a shower. Now, dressed in his nightshirt, he had a new bandage on his cut foot. With Boxer at his feet, Sam was also having family prayers. Sam and his parents held hands and Sam listened carefully as his mum and dad thanked Jesus for the Christian school. They prayed that its students, including Sam and Sally, would grow closer to God as Miss Patel taught them about God's amazing world, and living for Him in it.

Christian schools are God-centred and child focussed. They challenge students with a celebration of the Lordship of Jesus Christ over all creation.

It can be explained a bit like this:

*When I look out of the window, I see trees, hills, buildings, cars, people etc.*

*I do not see the sun – but I see everything else in the light the sun provides.*

*Similarly for Christian schools: we do not spend all of our time looking at the Son (Jesus), but we look at everything else in the light that the Son provides.*

[Dabney, Wilson & Edlin]

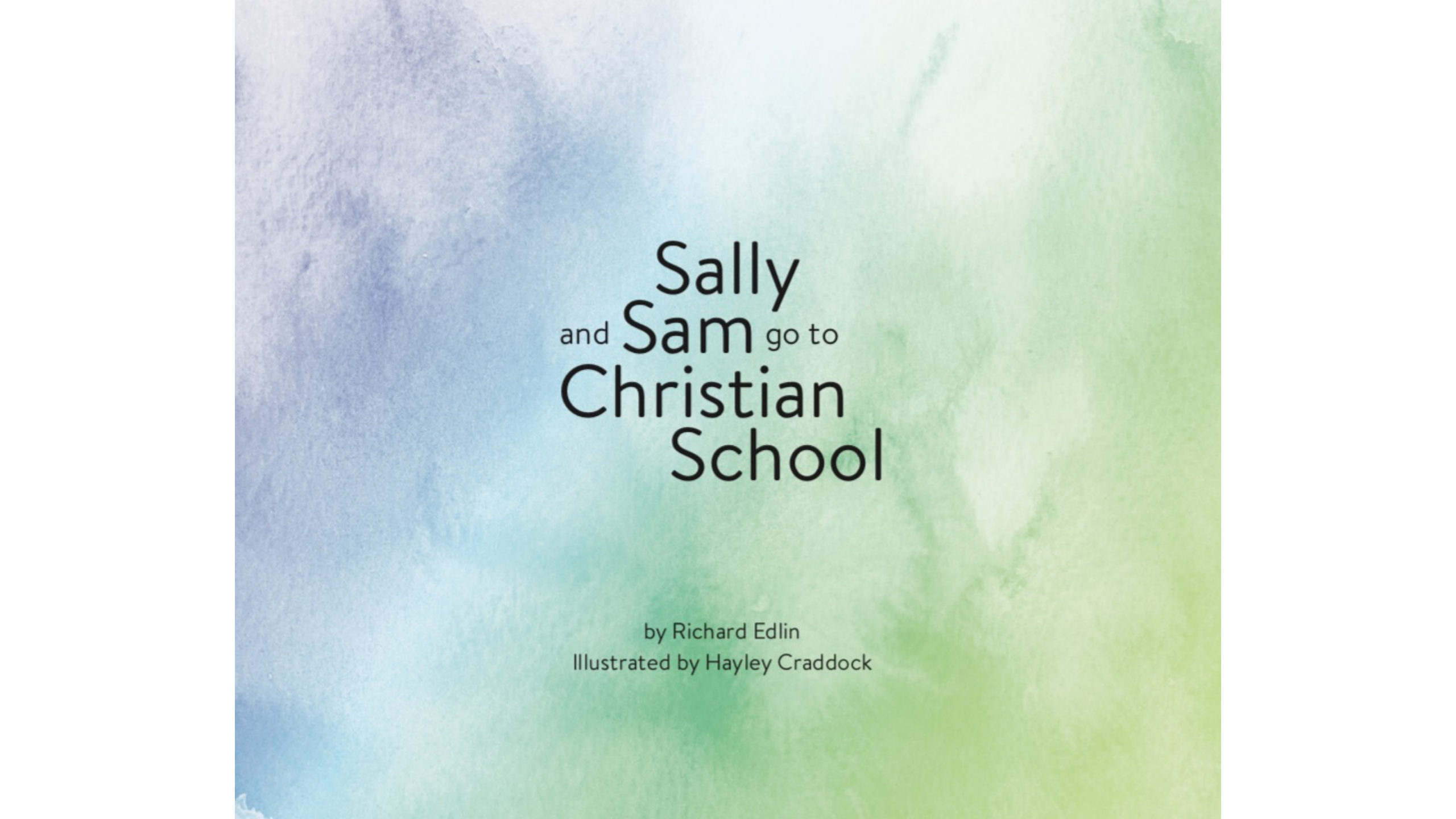


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