C.S. Lewis received thousands of letters from young fans when his Narnia novels were coming out in the 1950s. He replied to every child who wrote to him. All the original letters from the children were lost, but many of his replies were collected and published in *Letters to Children*.

Reading that collection inspired us to try to recreate the spirit of the lost letters—but now with 21st century children writing and showing how the Narnia novels are still relevant today. Our students were invited to write a “Letter to C.S. Lewis,” as if he were still alive, explaining “how reading and thinking about the characters or episodes in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* have affected you.” The samples below reflect students’ full ability range.

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**Katie**

This book made me look at the world in a different way. I see myself as being like Edmund in the sense that my emotions controlled me. The person I aspire to be like is Aslan because he is calm and truthful. If everyone were like Aslan, it would be a better world.

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**John**

I enjoyed the part where Edmund sneaks off to the White Witch, but the others still show the virtue of love and go looking for him. Reading this book made me realize how important virtues are in life. If there were no virtues, we’d have no friends.

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**William**

Before the Narnian virtues, I struggled with making good decisions. After learning the virtues, I am having fewer problems at school and am able to avoid things that get me in trouble. I have also developed some resilience so I can overcome difficult situations.

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**Robert**

The virtue I am trying to improve in is fortitude because I am not very strong when it comes to standing up for what I believe in. Reading this book made me want to stop lying to myself and stick to what I believe.

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**Edmund’s spitefulness puts his siblings in terrible danger. But what he did is what everybody does. When my parents yell at me for doing something wrong, all I think about is how to do something to annoy them and teach them not to yell at me—and that’s exactly the kind of thing Edmund is doing in the story.**

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**Jenny**

Before the Narnian virtues, I struggled with making good decisions. After learning the virtues, I am having fewer problems at school and am able to avoid things that get me in trouble. I have also developed some resilience so I can overcome difficult situations.

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**Sarah**

My favorite character is Lucy. She stayed true to herself and showed integrity. That inspired me and helped me think about how I can act, and to always do the right thing even when everyone else is doing the wrong thing.