1.

One of my favourite things to do is to play the piano. Since I was a young boy, my mother used to play the piano for me before I went to bed every night and I was always mesmerized by the sense of co-ordination between the hands and the mixed yet beautiful melodies that the piano let out. When I told my mother that I wanted to start playing the piano, she encouraged me, playing along whenever I was stuck or confused and supported me every time I wanted to quit. And I kept going with the piano, even when I felt like I wanted to quit, because from the moment I first heard my mother playing, I knew that my dream was that one day, I would play like my mother or maybe even better than her.

Just a while ago, I passed my 6th grade piano exam with an A+ but I really have to hand the credit over to my mother and my piano teacher because my teacher has taught me many new skills and progressed with me since I was four, so she knows exactly how to help. And to be frank, without my mother, I would have quit many times, but she always encouraged me, pushed me even further. I really cannot thank them enough and I feel like I owe them more than possible.

2.

I’ve always loved swimming as a child to now. As a young child, my parents decided to introduce me to the public pool in our apartment complex. At that time, my friends had already started going into the water, step by step but I was just standing by the edge, staring into the swirling blue of the pool. The first time I went in, I was instantly fascinated by how the water splashed around me and how kicking could make me go forward. I just knew from then that I would swim until I couldn’t swim anymore.

Recently, I have received two ribbons, first place for breaststroke and second for the individual medley, after going to the regional carnival to represent my school and zone in breaststroke. But I really have to give most of the credit to my swimming teacher, John, for helping me push through any barriers or difficulties to reach that point of achievement in swimming, and my brother who I trained with before the swimming carnival. I also thank my parents and everyone else for supporting the costs and effort of my swimming classes and without all these people, I wouldn’t have made it that far.