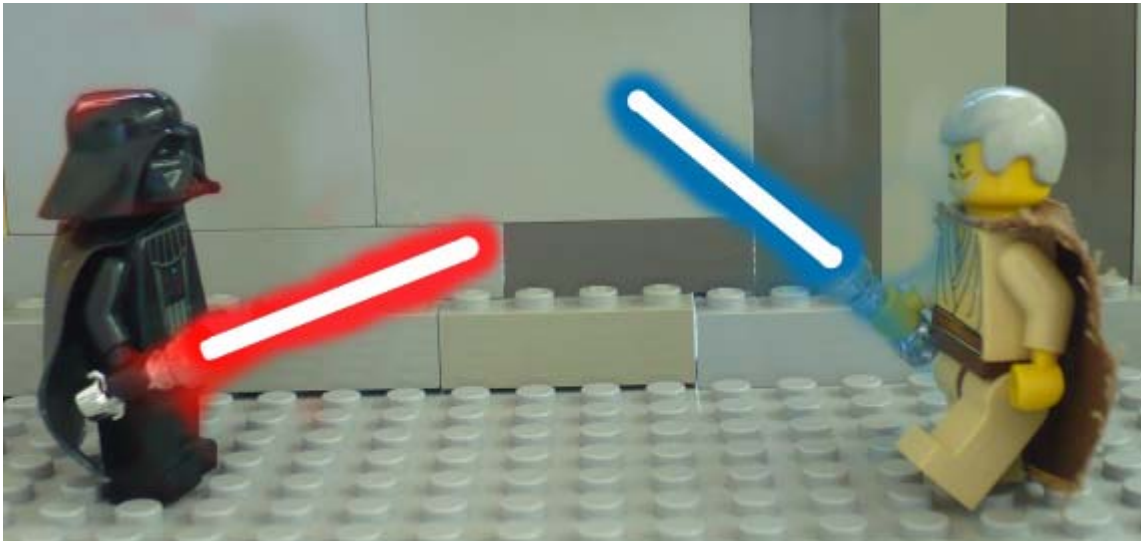**1. Please write about an interest or activity that has been particularly meaningful to you**

I am particularly interested in building scenes from scripts of science fiction or movies. The building process sparks my imagination because I have to visualize what was in the movie or fiction before building. As I indulge myself into the building process, I can even create another scene to be part of the story board, the creative process goes on. In addition, I also enjoy very much the photo shooting and editing part when building the scenes, which hones my problem solving skills and craftsmanship. However, I am limited by the kinds of software that I have at home.

Below is a showcase of a scene that I built upon watching Star Wars Episode 4, where Obi Wan (Ben) and Vader (the Emperor's agent) fought for a rescue mission in the Imperial Space Station. I used lego pieces and photoshop to rebuild the scene where Vader was trying to hunt Ben down.
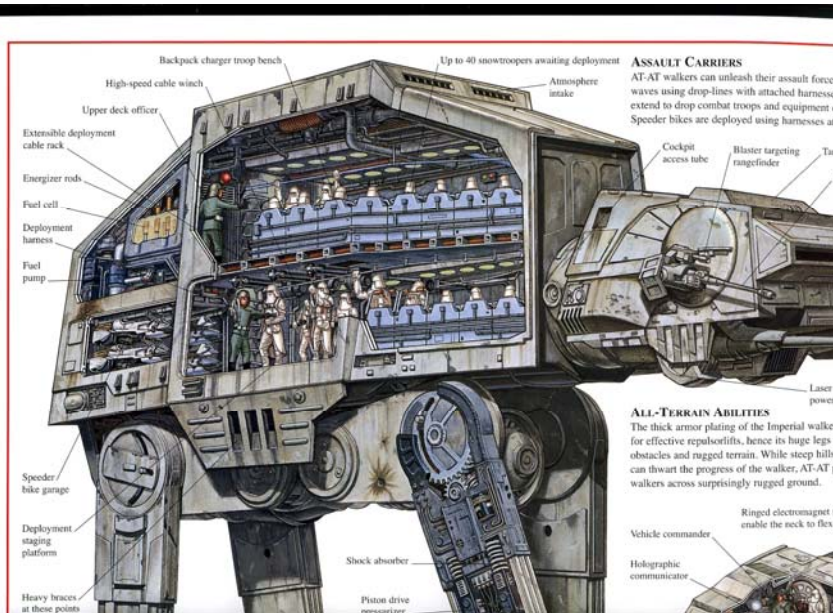

Making the red and blue lightsabers was the most interesting aspect of the task as it evolved over 3 trials. I started with lego lightsaber toy where it was made in different colors of transparent plastic "blade", but the lightsaber could only glow when placed close to light. Upon filming, I believe it would be visually better if the lightsaber could be luminous even without any source of light. So, I tried making my own lightsaber with white paper with transparent plastic wrap around. Since the plastic gives a shiny appearance, so the lightsaber looks as if it is emitting its own source of light on the camera. Nevertheless, the surroundings were still imperfect as it did not reflect any light from lightsaber. So, I used photoshop to make the lightsaber and edit the surrounding.

2.   List three books you have read outside of school.   Which one was the most interesting to you and why?

The Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling and Star Wars: Complete Cross-sections Illustrated by Hans Jenssen & Richard Chasemore are books that I read outside of school, but Star War is definitely my favorite.

The most interesting aspect of the Star Wars book is the detailed description of the different types and parts of the vehicles and spacecrafts in the Star Wars series. After reading the book, I was extremely content that I was able to take a look at the interior of the "All Terrain Armoured Transport" (a giant troop carrier that looks like a camel, look at picture below).

After my first time watching Star Wars with that vehicle inside, I drew sketches of the carrier's interior, trying to imagine how the machine would look inside and attempted to build it with Lego pieces. While I was planning, it took me a long time to figure out that the carrier was not proportionate by using Lego figures. So, I abandoned the plan of building the carrier and started to build the carrier's interior instead.   After finishing the model, I created stories where there was a battle inside the vehicle (see below).

3. There are limitations to what grades, scores and recommendations can tell us about an applicant. Please write a 300 word (for grade 9-12 candidates) or 150 word (for grade 6-8 candidates) personal essay that will help us learn and understand more about you (you may continue on a separate sheet of lined paper)

I am hoping to be a scientist that develop technology to enhance the quality of human life. For example, from movies Terminator and War of the Worlds (about extermination), I had the wild idea of developing some tiny machines with artificial intelligence (AI) programming to seek household pests by its own method. Those movies prompt me to come up with AI pest machines idea because machines in the movie hunted and killed humans, tried to exterminate our kind. So, I was beginning to think what war did human waged in and is still now in battle with? The answer came to me: pests. I believe that we should turn our weaponry not at our own kind, but on our true enemy.

With AI programming, the machine can follow household pests into its nest at night and wipe them out without interrupting humans. I believe this is a viable technology, just like the none-man handled bombers in the United States military, artificial intelligence from computer games and computer USB. Each AI unit has its own mind, programmable to eliminate enemies and capture command posts.

St. Andrew's is a good match to my needs not only because its education can quench my thirst in scientific discovery, but it also empowers me to realize my dream like fellow St. Andrew students.