



Dear 8B,

Ten years ago, the first iPhone was introduced to an eager public. Mobile phones suddenly became smarter. They began to dominate our lives, since they provided instant information and allowed people to communicate and google non-stop. In fact, when Steve Jobs died, the news flashed up on my iPhone – in German. Even twelve years ago, that would have been unthinkable. None of you can remember the world before smartphones, whereas I can even remember the world before the internet and colour television. Seriously.

When that first iPhone was released, Michael Leunig, the quirky cartoon artist of the *Melbourne Age* and conscience of our generation, published the cartoon above. He meant it, perhaps, as a statement about our desire for instant gratification in a superficial age. Despite that critical element, I thought it would be fun to make up one of my own, with the applications I wanted. For instance, I wanted “Books that can be downloaded on a whim”. A few years later, that option became commonplace. This is the world we live in.

Your task today is to create your own i-Want, with fantastical applications that improve your lives and bring amusement and delight to others. You might for instance opt for a “Sibling-Muter”, “Comeback-Generator” or a host of other vital and useful aids to everyday existence. Draw the smartphone and the apps, make up funky names for them – and then sit back and wait. Some of those apps are bound to become reality, though a “Sibling-Muter” seems relatively unlikely.

Kind regards,  
Ms Green