

Extraordinary Times



By Rhine Class

April - May 2020

At the end of 2019, a new type of coronavirus began making people sick with flu-like symptoms.

The novel coronavirus was a new strain of coronaviruses that had not been previously identified in humans. On February 11, the official name of the virus was announced as COVID-19 with 'CO' standing for 'corona,' 'VI' for 'virus,' 'D' for disease and '19' for the year it started.

By March 11, COVID-19 was declared a pandemic as it was spreading very quickly.

The government decided schools needed to shut to slow the spread.

So on Friday 20th March we left Rhine Class to learn at home.

During this time we have had the opportunity to try new things. We have learnt new words like coronavirus, surreptitious and social distancing and found new ways to keep in touch.

In this book we share how we have felt in our diaries, our time capsules - History in a bag and some posters we created to remind people to keep safe. We have thought about who are heroes are, what we are grateful for and how to help others.



Coronavirus, Qs and As:

What is Coronavirus?

Coronavirus is a new virus which spreads very easily. This is why we need to stay at home. Viruses are germs which affect us in different ways. Coronavirus affects the respiratory (breathing) system. Antibodies kill many viruses but we haven't got the ones that fight coronavirus because it is really new.

What happens next?

No one really knows when this world PANDEMIC will be over, but in the UK over the coming days, weeks and months we will be doing normal activities once again. For now SOCIAL DISTANCE and stay alert, control the Coronavirus and save lives.

How can we help?

We are already helping a lot by staying at home, but not visiting friends, not going to school and washing hands thoroughly with soap and water for AT LEAST 20 seconds all help. Make hand washing fun! Sing happy birthday twice or another song and wash your hands to that.

Is there a cure for Coronavirus?

Not yet, it is a BRAND NEW virus. This one causes an illness called Covid-19. When we are ill with the Coronavirus we have a persistent dry cough, a high temperature and an

ache all over. Some people have to self-isolate because they are either 70 or above or an underlying health condition like cancer or asthma.

Is there medicine for the Coronavirus?

Paracetamol can relieve symptoms for a while, but DOES NOT prevent you from catching the coronavirus. Scientists are working non-stop to make a medicine or vaccine to kick the coronavirus out of the UK/world. Vaccines are injections that prevent serious diseases such as measles and mumps from having outbreaks. As Covid-19 is new to us humans we haven't got a medicine or vaccine. Medicines can make illnesses affect you less. Vaccines work by putting a small amount of dead germ cells into the body so ANTI BODIES can practice fighting the disease in us.

Remember this WON'T last forever and be responsible when you go out. We may be apart but never alone. We ARE all in this together.



By Freya

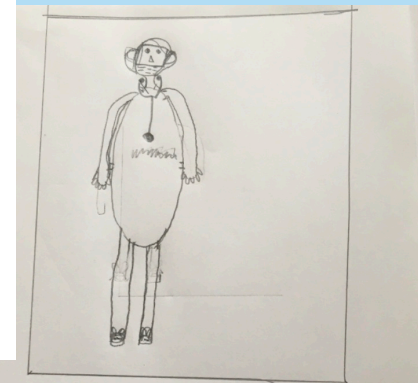
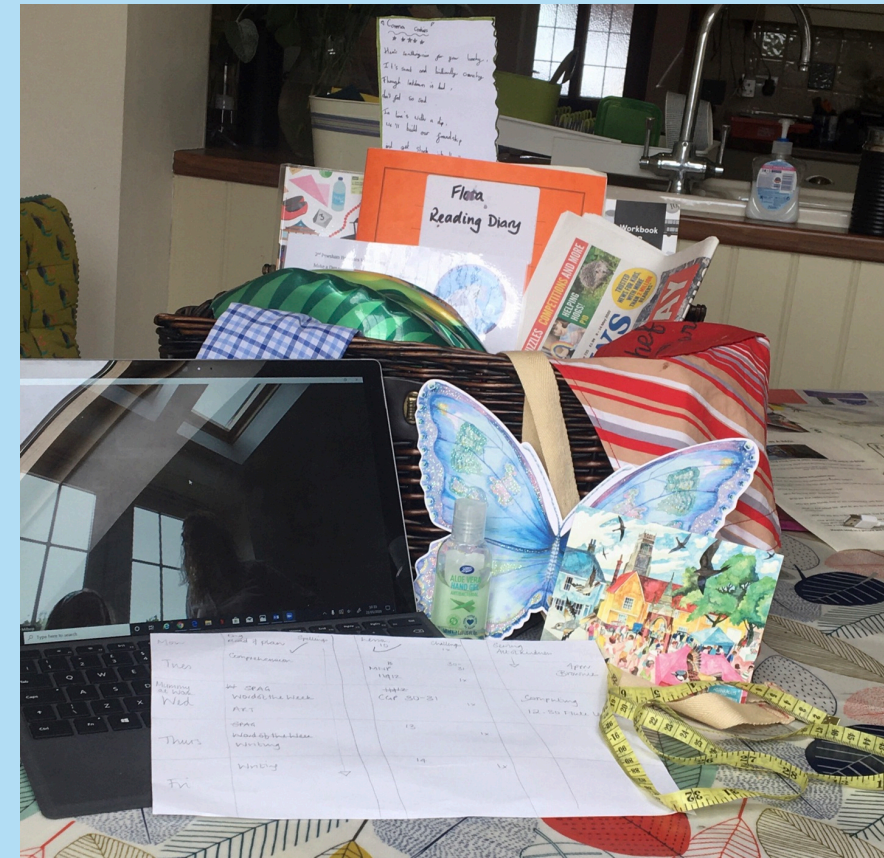
Dear Diary

It's the beginning of Week 9 of Lock down, and so much has changed for me. There are very few people wandering around the town, but when I have been through town on my bike on Saturdays there are lots of people in town. Last Week I had a virtual Brownie sleepover using Zoom (but we didn't sleep with Zoom on as we slept!) At the start of the Lock down I had no Idea what Zoom was, but as I have got further into the Lock down I have started to realise what Zoom was. My guinea pigs, Fudge, Snickers & Oreo are allowed outside all day because we are at home every day so we can keep an eye on them. When Mummy is not at work, she is my teacher so she can help me with my learning. Daddy goes to work in the study because that is where his laptop is and he is sometimes on video calls but he is working hard all day long.

I find it really difficult not seeing my friends and staying 2 metres away from everyone who is not in my family because I miss playing on the flip bars with Anna, Trinity and Freya. I miss fun at school and I'm sad because we won't be able to do the school play or have ice creams/lollies. This year there will be no Leavers' Assembly or Sports Day. FOSS won't be able to organise the Fair nor will there be a flash mob at the village Fete. In our family, we've had to organise two Lock down birthdays as well as VE Day 75 Celebrations and Easter. We've made them fun by ourselves as we have played games such as hunting for sweets and chocolate and a new game we've christened 'Get Bobby!'

Although it's been quite tricky, I've had lots of fun doing Joe wicks and swimming in the ocean blue swimming pool in our neighbour's shimmery green garden, I've also been on bumpy bike rides. At the end of all the hard work my family and some other friends from different families from other areas of Chippenham and we do a zoom and Kahoot on Friday. Perhaps what I love the most is the fact that I've cycled 14 miles. Some afternoons I've been busy playing racing demon, the most dangerous game ever or I've been busy cooking or sewing.

In the future, at some point, Lock down will END and I will go back to school so I can see my friends and play on the slippery silver flip bars. Although I am hoping that the Lock down will be over soon, when I look back at Mummy's photos on her phone, I see how much effort we've put into having lots of fun staying at home and I hope we remember how to have fun at home. I am so grateful for my family, my Guinea pigs, the internet and the NHS but I think my final wish is that I really hope Lockdown will be over before my 10th birthday on 11th July!



Doctors are my heroes because they are helping sick people get better. Everyday it's very busy and hard for them. Also they are putting themselves in danger by helping people suffering from COVID-19. Some doctors are living away from their families and that's a herooic act.



By Flora

20/05/20

7

Three things in human life are important:

- The first is to be kind.
- The second is to be kind.
- The third is to be kind.

Dear Diary,

Henry James

It feels like I've been in lock-down forever now, like there was nothing before this life. Life feels ~~stagnant yet~~ ^{like this is the real life} ~~stagnant~~. There are so many changes. Not allowed to play football (practically my whole what I've been doing all my life), at least there is one good thing my Dads home and not going around the world but there are even more changes for the worse e.g. Not being able to see or play with my friends, my parents teaching me and many more. There are also many challenges to face in this life as well:

* I've never felt so bored and lonely in my life, because I'm an only child I've got no other ~~children~~ ^{children} - consequently I need to find my own entertainment.

and my previous life feels distant*

Although there are many negatives in this life, there are still a few positives; I know I've already mentioned this but my Dad being home, fresh bread (made by my Dad) another thing is I'm doing a lot more reading (I read 10 Percy Jackson's and 5 of them had more than 500 pages in a week, I highly recommend them; I'm already re-reading them!)

o To play with

My highlights would probably be: my 16.5K bike ride, Movie night every fortnight (last week it was Rouge One) and a takeaway from the Spice-Merchant every 1-3 weeks.

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There are quite a few things I miss but the main ones are probably: school, football, and my friends; and all of this is thanks to Covid-19.

Alexander

Draw or place a photo of your hero here:



Anna (in Africa)

My hero

Explain what makes this person a hero to you here:

Anna is a hero to me because

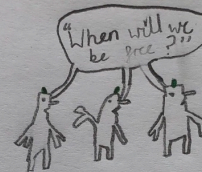
She is my God Mother and a doctor/consultant of respiratory medicines at ~~Nottingham~~ ^{Nottingham} hospital. ~~In~~ ^{Trinity Woodall on Fitter} a special mention. She has gone from 20 to 200 people to look after in Intensive Care Unit.

Whilst this is happening she is a Mum to two children and one of them has had their GCSE's.

Last year they went to Africa and built a health care facility for the local community.

(She also play Another one of my reasons is because she played for Cambridge F.C.)

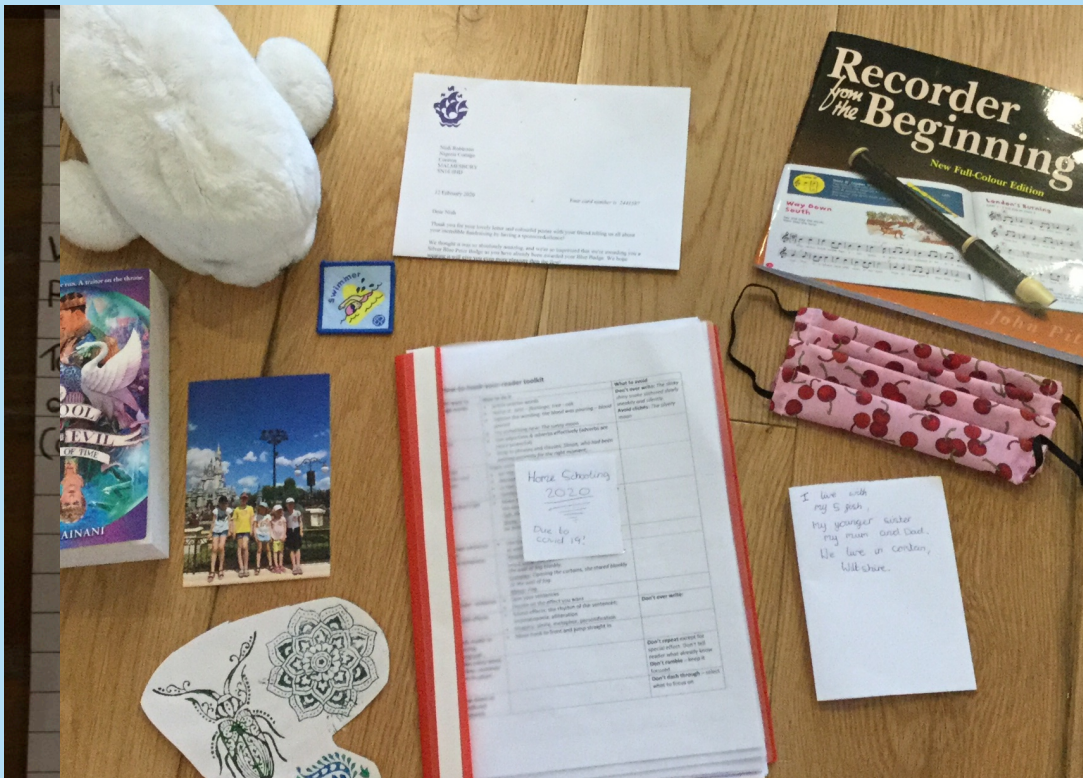
Stick man stayed in the family tree, whilst stick 3 asked "when will we be free?"



STAY ALERT, CONTROL THE VIRUS
SAVE LIVES

By Alexander

By Alexander



Dear Diary,

It's gone by so quick! Lockdown has created so much panic and silence, ~~to~~ keeping us trapped inside our own minds.*

This is unlike anything we've seen before, an unexpected door blocking our path, education and love. Our school learning is now at home: no more strict schedules, no more friends.

This is the new normal.

We don't realise how much Covid 19 has changed us. For example, ZOOM has been our saviour, our gateway to seeing friends and family,



beautiful

Whilst we've all really appreciated the NHS and their amazing ability to fix the people we love most in the world and we have all become so much more independent as a community.



Being stuck at home, not being able to go anywhere, has amplified feelings of loneliness and isolation. Though I long to see my friends (physically), I have really enjoyed my home-schooling. The only downside is on Mondays, Wednesdays and half of Thursdays my ~~my~~ Mum & Dad work so it's quite chaotic! This pandemic is to blame.

There are times where this is all a blizzard of nerves and confusion and I wish it was all just a figment of my imagination.

Amongst all this, there is so much to enjoy, like to in my house we have spent so much more time as a family. Home is a much more 'comfy' place to work in, with familiarities familiar surroundings in my every look. Plus, we can stay in our P.S.'s alot longer on the days we're not doing Joe Wicks! We have also gotten so much fitter over this period because we're going on 5-7 mile walks and I'm doing runs - two every week - additionally to my strength sessions and Joe Wicks!

This journey of fear and excitement has brought me memories I will ~~nothing~~ never forget; A spa day, P.E with Joe, virtual glue lessons and days of pure fun and games.

Beneath all this chaos, I know one thing - if you ~~just~~ dig deep enough there'll always be hope.

By Niah

Lock down and school closure....

Exactly two months ago to this day our school year ground to a halt, SATs cancelled, schools closed and people asked to socially distance. Social distancing means that you or any other human must stay at least two metres away from each other. The old and vulnerable were instructed to stay at home for 12 weeks and everyone was told to wash their hands regularly.

On the Sunday evening we gathered around the TV for Mr Mop heads speech. He changed his instructions from social distancing to full lock down. This meant that everything apart from essential shops closed and people were told to work from home.

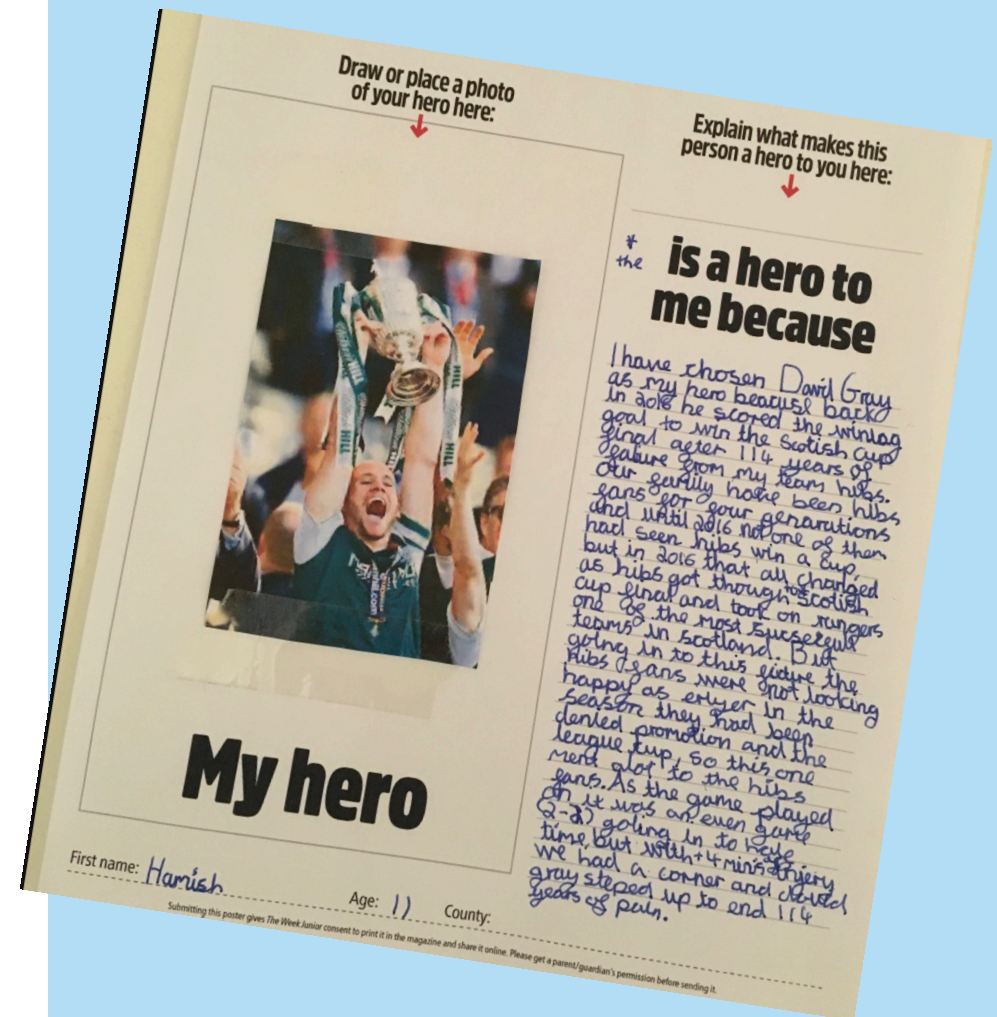
Home school was fun at first and we were keen to start by 9am every morning little did we know this would not last! Once school work was finished, usually by lunch time, I would hop on the PS4 and play online with the boys. Every evening after Dad had my Dad had finished his work, we would go out for our one exercise of the day. This exercise soon involved Me, Mum and Archie peppering Dad with reasons to buy a puppy. You will be happy to know I took it upon myself to do EXTRA CURRICULUM work making a poster with all the pros and no cons of owning a dog. Dad was very stubborn at first but after days of whittling him away, the day finally came where he would allow us to get a dog. He took it upon himself to make a strict contract on what he would and would not do with the dog e.g. I will not pick up any excreta produced by the dog.

We found the puppy we wanted. She was a sprocker spaniel (cocker and Springer mixed together), she was only a week old and had to stay with her mum, brothers and sisters for 7 more weeks!

During these weeks each day became ground hog day...school work, PS4, Exercise, food then sleep...school work, PS4, Exercise, food then sleep you get the gist.

Finally the day came..Wednesday 20th May we would go to pick up the puppy we called her Libby, she is so cute.

So the new groundhog day has begun...puppy eat, puppy sleep, puppy sleep, puppy play, puppy eat, puppy poo...and no sleep for us!!!



By Hamish

Dear diary,

Week 9,

Home schooling. Well... it goes well. Maths is totally the hardest. English is the easiest. Usually I finish lessons early but sometimes I don't. At break and lunch I either be a nurse in the doll hospital or play on my electronics. As there are no clubs, I fill my time with gardening, cycling, reading and other activities. There has been some beautiful weather lately so I have been playing outside A LOT.

The only problem with home schooling is I miss my friends. As an only child, because we are not allowed to see friends, I find I get quite lonely because I don't have anyone to chat to. Video chats really help that. I like throwing parties over vid, gossip and sometimes I get my two best friends chatting together for a surprise. We also sent Nan to live with her friend so she wouldn't be lonely, apparently she's loving it!

As her brain still needs stimulating, my dog, Fudge, loves me making problems for her to solve so she gets treats. One problem is I put chicken on different layers of paper and roll it up and she has to find the chicken. I have only been shopping once and that was for gardening. I can't go to supermarket because the force masks don't fit me. Mum and Dad had VERY IMAGINATIVE lockdown birthdays. Dad had cut outs of his friends and M had V Stratford Upon Avon!

I make observations from my bedroom window Wednesdays were:

10:00 Sydney MOWS her lawn

11:30 Lily and Tyler go on their bikes

Lily is in the same jumpsuit as me but 3 sizes smaller. Tyler is wearing Avengers things. The silver van's back doors are open. Quarter to twelve Sydney goes in. Twilight, my pet mouse throws a piece of food into the pod. Lily is holding a watering can and Tyler a tennis racket - so random!

Freya



By Freya

Maxwell's diary entry

Dear diary,

This new disease: covid-19 has turned my life up-side down. If it wasn't as big a problem as it is now, I, and all other children in England, would be enjoying a normal day at school, not social distancing ourselves. But it is a problem, and now my ears are just filled with the blustery sound of wind howling and the happy chirping of the new-born baby chicks, instead of how to solve arithmetic, and where to put a subordinate clause in a sentence.

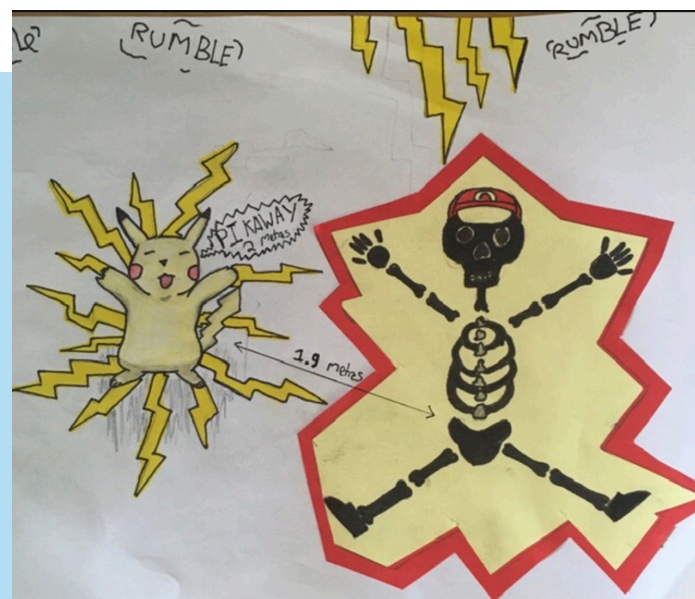
I can't believe so much of my life has changed in such a little space of time. For example: all my learning is now either online or has to be printed off first, all my hobbies, like swimming, football, lacrosse and scouts, inside and out of school have been cancelled, meaning I should find different things to do inside of the house. I also can't visit friends and family alike; as we have to do our own little bit in protecting the NHS.

Instead of using the internet as a way to play games, I'm using more often to catch up with the people I'm not seeing in person. This is good, because if I didn't; I can guarantee myself I would feel very distant to the outside world,

but, zoom for instance, helps prevent that, and is helpful in many other ways as well.

School is very different as well, my mum (cook, receptionist, head teacher, teacher, deputy head, teaching assistant and everything else) is doing really well, and she's encouraging me every step of the way, to stay positive and get on with my work before the deadline, in which it is to be handed in, sneaks past us. I (with my sister) take turns in cooking our meals: dinner, breakfast and lunch throughout the week, and if I say so myself, I'm cooking superbly!

This moment in time: the lockdown, will be in the history books for a very long time, I will be able to say I was a part of it, with many happy memories I will be able to tell people what I went through: virtual meetings, PE with Joe, long walks and big bike rides, fantastic cooking and in the end I will tell them we always had something to keep us going.



By Max

Dear Diary,

Lockdown has been hard on everyone, especially me, and with all the transition work for secondary school too. I still do the same work as if I were to go to school though, and that helps a lot. I think the hardest part of lockdown is the loss of time with friends because ~~it~~ they help me get through my work.

Although I miss my friends I can still talk to them on gametime which does help a lot, it's just not the same as seeing them every day. Joe Wicks helps me keep fit as I'm alright for exercise.

I went shopping a few weeks back and the car felt like it was other-worldly, even though we were only going 50 miles an hour it felt like 100! I do think lockdown has helped me with things that I can do when I'm bored (read, play in the garden). I think I'm quite lucky because I can go in our fairly big garden and down to the swing in our local wood (which is very green).

I really hope lockdown ends soon, but until then I will have to try to cope, it will be difficult but I will try.

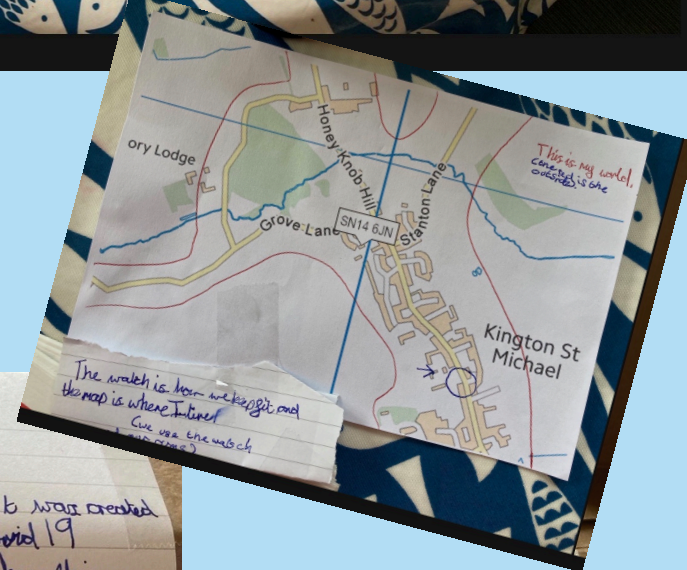
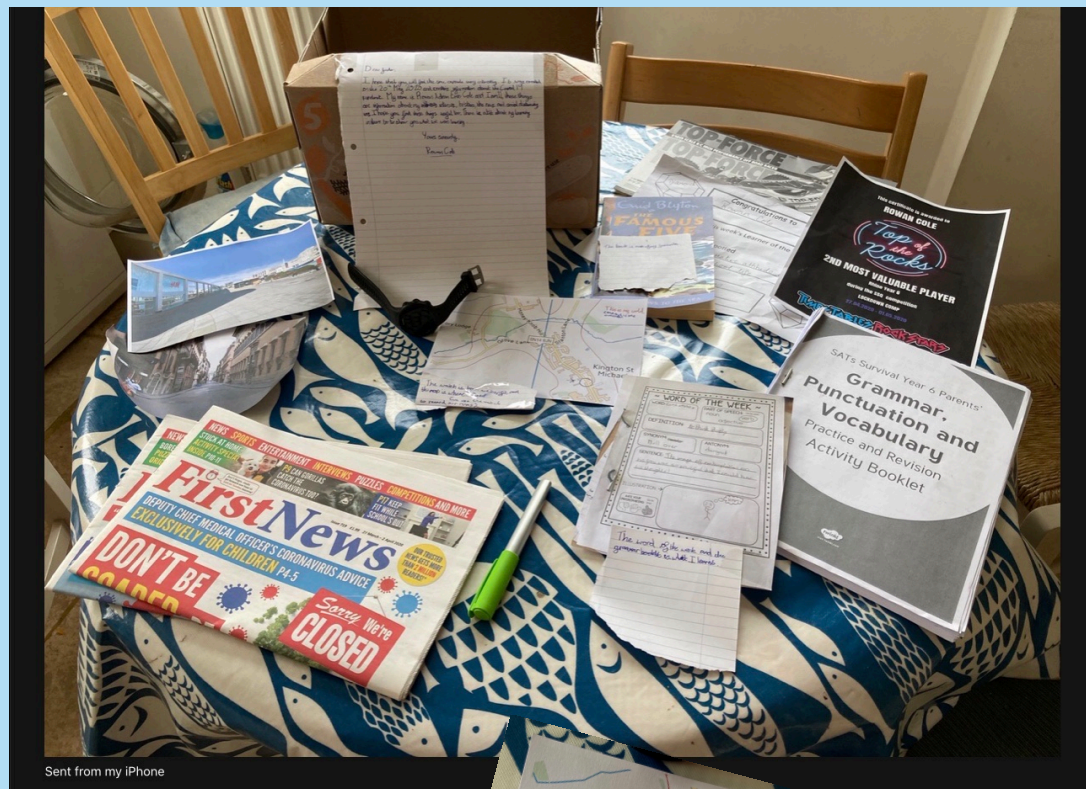
Rowan

Dear finder,

I hope that you will find this time capsule very interesting. It was created on the 20th May 2020 and contains information about the Covid 19 pandemic. My name is Rowan Adrian Eric Cole and I am 11, these things are information about my interests, hobbies, the news and social distancing tips. I hope you find these things useful too. There is a bit about my learning in there to show you what we were learning.

Yours sincerely,

Rowan Cole



By Rowan

Monday 18th May

In the morning I got out of bed and I had breakfast. After breakfast I got dressed and we then we went on our morning walk, we go around our estate and walk over the old bridge near the park we also go in a field and see if the cows are there.

When we got home, I practised my Piano and afterwards did Maths and I think I did well. After that it was break time, in break time I played on our PS2. And then after I did that, we had English, in English we started doing the "I'm grateful for..." worksheet and finished off my First News and it was fun (you can see mine on the school blog- I think). After English we had our lunch break and watched T.V.

On other days I have been doing Tae Kwon Do by zoom and same with my Piano lessons. I practise my Piano every day. I also made scones once and I ate them every day and they tasted nice. We also got a reply from LEGO when we wrote to them about our new Mixels ideas, they were very nice and we are happy that we got the reply. We can send the letter to you if you want.

Diary Extract.

So just before I start I have to say that lockdown is driving me mad! So this isn't a particular day just... A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN ASHLEY! (Basically me, so let's get on with it!)

So in the morning I woke up read my book (it was diary of a wimpy kid) and me and Raimone went downstairs and ate our breakfast (I had weetabix). We got dressed and went on our walk and we go by the field (the cow field) and then we pass the school. When we get home I practice my saxophone and I'm very good at it but I'm asloved as a ~~dr~~ drill. Then I do my maths - I'm getting better - then we had our break.

Next was English I did the first news (and for break you wouldn't want to know) and sometimes for a "fun break" we go on the trampoline so I guess it could be our sports, after English it's lunch (and again lunch isn't worth explaining).
: (we do other English).

Then after lunch on Wednesday I do saxophone lessons at 1pm. In the afternoons we sometimes do much computing and once the other day we sent a letter to LEGO and got a reply, we ask lego about making another series of lego mixels so that was great!

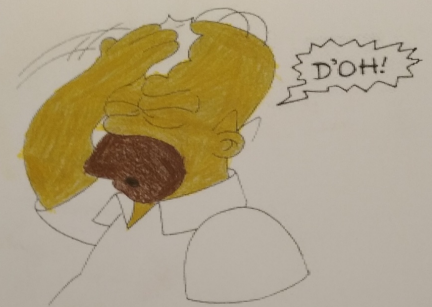
I hope you enjoyed this because I enjoyed writing this.

To Grandad,

I know it must be hard for you to self isolate in this difficult time so I thought I'd send you a card to cheer you up. I've also put in here some glower seeds in here for you because I know you like spending time in the garden.

I can't wait to see you again and give you a hug. Keep yourself well and stay safe.

Love from Joseph xxx



REMEMBER HOMER.....

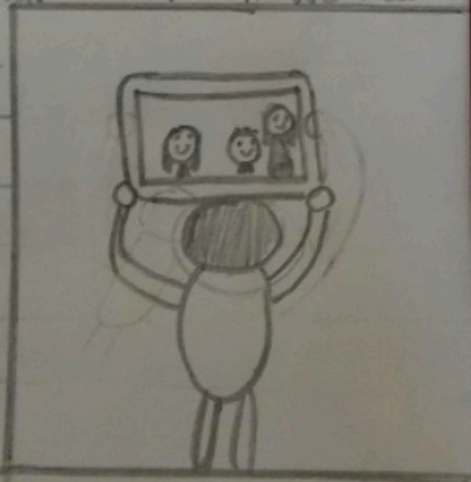
- Stay at home unless
- To exercise, work or shop **BUT**
- Stay 2 meters apart from anyone outside your household.
- Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds.



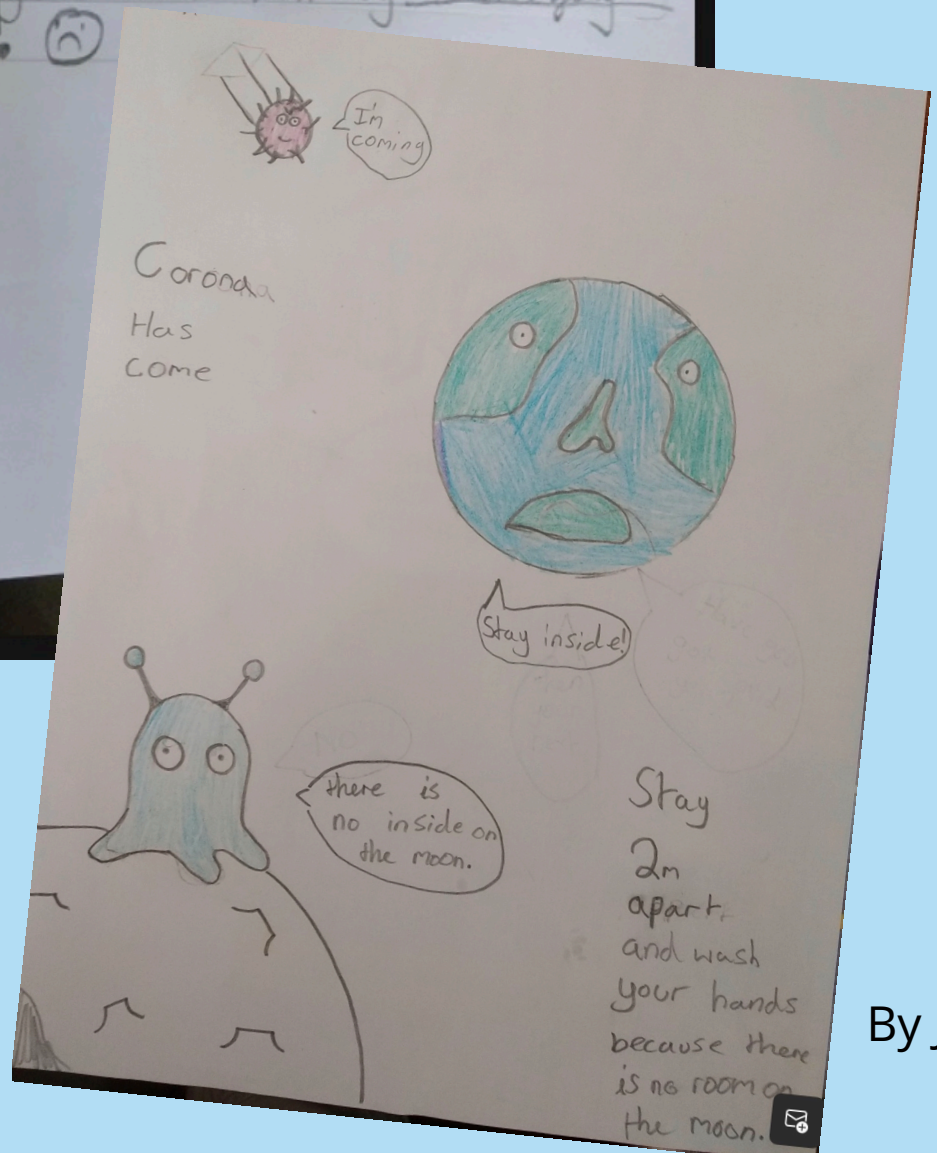
By Joseph

Dear Diary,

This is day one of corona lockdown. I thought that it was going to be a nice, relaxing day but no it was just like a normal school day, though my Mum was the teacher. I managed to speak to my cousins as well as do my work. We had the whole day talking to each other. For lunch we had sandwiches mine was Pate, it was really nice. Then we did English (my ok subject). I called my cousins back to take my mind off things.



Looking into the future, I wonder how long this will last? I am desperate to see my friends again. I also want to go to the beach again and see all my family in person not over tech. ~~could~~ Could this last till next year? I hope not otherwise I won't be able to start secondary and I will have to stay at home with my ~~annoying~~ sister!! 😞



By Jamie K

Extraordinary Times!

My life has changed in a ton of ways i cant really count them but i can tell you some of them!

Usually i would spend most of my money at the shop down the road but now its like a life or death situation if you just go down to the shop and have a wander-round the shop your life has definitely been changed since you'd probably be kicked-out since you should be as quick as you can and RUN! as quick as you can so you don't see your friends and have a chat (well by the i mean not 2-meter distanced i mean like UP AND CLOSE) You just run for your life, like a tiger chasing you you don't stop and definitely don't, look, back the main rule, if someones behind you you should let them care about the fact how your in-front of them like how you would with someone in-front of you,

My time in lockdown

Dear Diary,

When the lockdown was first announced I was dreading what was about to come however I have now come to terms with these strange times.

School work.

I have been enjoying the school work because it is easier to set up my own routine and I find that makes it easier. Also doing the Joe Wicks school workouts makes it easier to concentrate throughout the day. Every day I enjoy doing maths no problem because it is easy to follow now we have it online.

Hobbies.

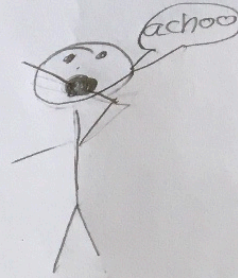
I have had a variety of hobbies over this time and they have been helping me to keep busy. My first main hobby is playing video games with my friends which is a very good way to keep in touch. My second main hobby is going on the trampoline which has proved to keep me active I also made myself a challenge to land a front flip every day!

Although I'm coping in these times I'm excited to go back to normal and see my friends and family and I hope that whoever reads this is keeping safe in these weird times.

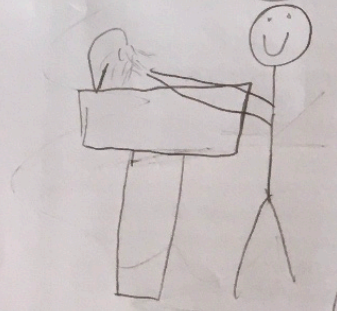
By Charlie

CORONAVIRUS

What is
Coronavirus?
The coronavirus
is a virus they are
are tiny germs that are
so small you can't see
them. They are light
enough to be able to float
in the air in tiny drops
of water. Some of
these germs get inside
you they can make you
ill.



How can we
help?
Wash your
hands for the
length of time
it takes to sing
happy birthday
twice. If you
need to wipe or
blow your nose
use a tissue and
put it straight
in the bin.



Is there
a cure for
Coronavirus?
There is not
a cure yet,
but scientists
are making a
completely
new one.

