

Hello Archie, Harrison, Ryan, Kieran, Jake, Evie, Ethan, Jack, Faith, Lewis, George, Ollie, Alfie, Jake, Davy-Jae, Tyler, George, Jensen and Lottie,



What a strange week it has been!

It was a very surreal (look this word up in a dictionary!!) moment last week when Mrs Seagrave found out that we were going to need to close the Year 6 bubble in order to keep everyone safe. We were really looking forward to finding out the winners of our Times Tables Rock Star battle and having extra PE time in the afternoon for turning around our learning behaviour. Friday is the day we celebrate certificate winners and count up our team points as well as drawing raffle tickets for those coveted sweet rewards! Instead, we now have to stay at home and separate ourselves from friends and extended family...again. We may be feeling a little sorry for ourselves...

However, let's think about this. I am writing this letter, sat at my kitchen table with a coffee in one hand. I am warm as the heating has clicked on and I am comfortable as my stomach is full of good food. My husband, Alexander and Alice are safe and well and I can phone my mum, dad and friends tonight to catch up on the news. I am sure that you will be in much the same situation in your homes.

Then I think of Richmond, the man in the Compassion video we watched a couple of weeks ago. Living as a child in one of Uganda's largest slums, having to stand up to sleep when it rained, having no food or sanitation and having lost his father. I don't think Richmond, or those children like him, could self-isolate to keep safe. I don't think Richmond would be comfortable and warm when he didn't attend school. How do you think Richmond would feel?

Then I think of Orbisa and her nine children in Ethiopia. If Orbisa catches Coronavirus, who will walk the ten miles to fetch water for her large family? Who will look after her livestock which she relies on for food and milk?



We have received a new letter from Hamza which you can read on our class area of the website. In it, he describes how this year, his family and community have harvested a lot of rice. Rice is a staple crop, a little like potatoes are in Great Britain. Humble, plain food. And yet, Hamza wants to share this with you. He would like to share stories and hear our news.

We may not be able to count up our team points, Class 5, but we can definitely count our blessings! We are warm, we are loved and we are safe. You can be children and, yes, you may have to make temporary sacrifices during this challenging time, but compared to so many, those sacrifices are small.

Use this time to read and expand your knowledge, play games with your family, create some amazing craft and be thinking of ways that we can help others like Richmond and Orbisa to break out of the poverty they live in. Write a letter to Hamza and we can send him all our news and good wishes.



What if today, we were just grateful for everything?

Remember, JOY, Jesus, Others, You.

The good times at school will return next week. Our isolation will end. Let's thank God for all we have and spread His love far and wide!

Lots of love and see you soon,

Mrs Bolton