

Dear Patrick Class,

I hope this letter finds you all safe and happy. I wanted to let you know that I am thinking of you and missing you so much!

I know that the situation at the moment is all very strange for everyone, but we are all working hard to do what the government has asked us to do, in order to keep everyone on our island safe. I'm sure your family has explained what's happening in the world and why we cannot be at school just now.

I'm sure some of you are worried about missing school, but you don't need to be. Everything will be fine when we get back to normal life, so you don't need to worry. I was printing out some photos today, from your learning during this year, for your record of achievement folders and it cheered me up no end when I saw your happy, smiling faces on the photos. You'll really enjoy seeing them when you get back! Some of them were from our trip to the beach, your fantastic moon buggies and all the wonderful things you made when you learnt about the Vikings. I have missed doing art with you all, as you are so creative! Maybe some of you have done some vanishing point art, or weaving or made friendship bracelets?

Did you have a super Easter? I hope the Easter Bunny still managed to come! He visited my house with an enormous Cadbury Mini Egg one for me! This is my favourite! I did have to hide it from my husband, as he is the family chocolate demon and will eat anyone's chocolate in my house if he finds it! We all have to hide it away from him in places he can't find it! Not easy I can tell you; he can smell it from a mile away!



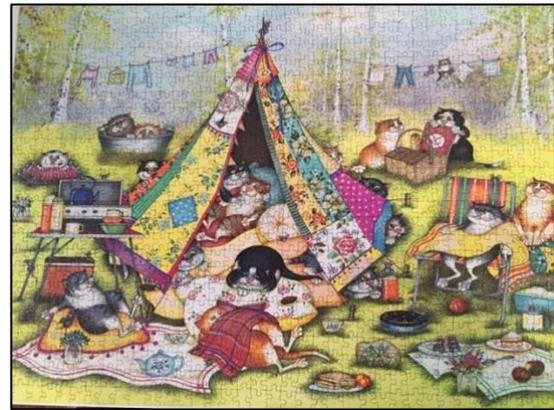
The weather up until this week, has been fantastic, hasn't it? I hope you have been able to spend a bit of time outdoors enjoying the sunshine. My family have done some gardening together. I did most of the weeding that needing doing, but my boys were happy to water some plants for me – the easy part! We have also grown some plants in the house from seeds which we got in little boxes from Marks and Spencer. Don't know if you managed to get any seeds like this? We've got beetroot, radishes, carrots and peppers. They have grown really well and are almost ready to plant outside; we just need to get some compost from somewhere. Maybe now B & Q is open we may be able to get some from there at the weekend. It has been tricky getting supplies with lots of shops being closed!

If you look closely, you can just see the radishes in the photo on the right.



Have you managed to get in to a routine at home each day? Maybe you have been doing Joe Wicks at 9am to keep yourselves fit? I tried his workout a couple of times; it was very difficult! I tried a bit of running instead, but that was quite tricky for me too. I must try to be more resilient like all of you!

I love doing jigsaws and so when I've not been planning your learning, I have completed a couple of jigsaws – 1000 pieces! Took me a while! In this, I was very resilient and used my keeping going muscle, you'll be pleased to know I'm sure.



Planning the home learning for you has been quite a challenge for us teachers, as it's all new for us, but I hope you have been able to try some of the activities and enjoyed doing them. I have had to learn how to use Google Docs (my husband is working from home too, so that's been brilliant for me, as he has been able to help me when I have been stuck). If you haven't managed all the activities and learning each week, it's not a problem, just try your best and do what you can. It's important to stay positive and enjoy spending time with your family too.

I might try to learn to knit next, as this is a skill, I've always wanted to be able to do; or maybe learn a new language? Have you been able to learn any new skills? I can't wait to hear how you've got on during these unusual times and any new things that you may have learned when we get back to school. Miss you all and can't wait to see you!

Keep washing those hands and staying safe and hopefully it won't be too long before we are back together again.

As you all know, I love reading at bedtime. I have read some really good books recently and while I was reading, I came across this little quote, which I especially liked so I thought I would share it with you:

*'The same boiling water that softens the potato hardens the egg. It's about what you're made of, not the circumstances, that defines you.'*

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Ollier

