

1st May 2020

Dear Marown Class,

I wanted to say "Hello!" and let you know that I am missing you all. I know this is all a bit strange. I'm sure your family is helping you to understand why not being at school right now is important, but you don't need to worry. We're all thinking about you.

I was thinking about all the good times we shared and it really cheered me up to think about how brave and resilient you have all become and to know that you'll be being creative and resilient at home right now!

Do you remember when we went to Castle Rushen and learned so much from our visit? I'm sure you will remember those great castle diagrams which you took such care with and were so proud of. I hope you still remember the miniature castle models which you so patiently created.

It makes me proud when I think about how hard you worked to look after our beach when we went on our class litter pick. Bill was so impressed by your determination to find all the tiny pieces of plastic! I'm sure we all look forward to a day when we can enjoy visiting the beach again together!

I smile when I remember our visit to Southlands, how considerate and caring you were and how much the residents enjoyed your visit and marvelled at your creative card making! Maybe if you think and talk about the fantastic times we've had, you'll feel happy too.

I hope you are staying safe and remembering to wash your hands! Maybe you've been keeping healthy whilst indoors and joining in with Joe Wicks each morning. Guess what – I have! I hope you had some fun over the Easter holidays and had a chocolate egg or two...or three.....or...!! (It's a good job that I *am* joining in with Joe Wicks!)

I wonder if you have been enjoying the weather and if you have been able to go out with your family. I have been on a few walks and spent lots of time in the garden during the sunny weather. My garden is neat and tidy now and it's good to see the bulbs and flowers doing so well in this weather. This always cheers me up! Cutting my lawn also makes me happy!!

I have baked cakes and cookies with my daughter and they have been eaten very quickly! I've also enjoyed drawing and painting while I've been at home. Do you remember the great transport drawings we all did? You made such a good job and were really impressed with yourselves – so was I! Well, I've been practising some similar drawings at home. Perhaps you have too.

I have had fun with my family playing board games like 'Scrabble', 'Chess' and 'Cluedo'. It's been challenging, as both of my children are very competitive teenagers! I haven't won many games - YET!! I'm using my Growth Mindset, being resilient and trying to improve! But it doesn't *really* matter who wins, it's just enjoyable to have some fun and to share time together, isn't it?

I have been enjoying planning home learning for you. It's been very different planning challenges and activities for you to do at home. I hope you have found some things fun, challenging and interesting and that you've been able to remember some of the things we were practising in school. Don't worry if you're struggling to get much done right now. As long as you are trying your best, using your learning muscles and managing to read every day, that's all I ask. Spending time with your family is the most important thing. I have found it quite difficult working in this way, but when I think about you all, I know it's worth it.

Our theme for this term is about 'Our Island Environment' and 'Animals'. You'll have probably noticed this already from some of the home learning activities and challenges.

I hope you have been able to choose some ideas and been imaginative and creative with your home learning. Keep going, keep being creative and imaginative and keep safe!

I really miss you and can't wait to see you all again.

Mrs Shaw