

Dear Sargasso Class,

Hello everybody! How are you? I am missing each and every one of you and think about you each day, mostly wondering what you are getting up to at home. I like to think that you are all having fun with your families, doing lots of reading and making sure you keep fit and healthy in the sunshine each day. My nieces in Australia are also in lockdown and they have enjoyed doing puzzles, making houses and neighbourhoods out of old boxes and doing drawings and paintings. Maybe you could try some of these activities? You are all so creative and I know you would be able to make some beautiful craft at home with your families.

Just like you, teachers also need to stay at home. I thought maybe you would like to know how I have been spending my days. I have been calling my family in Australia most mornings. The time difference means that when it is morning here, it is night time on the other side of the world. It is strange to see my family members in the dark when it is so bright here in the mornings!

I have also made sure that I keep fit and healthy by going for a walk or run each day in my local park. There have been so many new ducklings in the ponds this spring. Clissold Park has two ponds in it and there have been turtles spotted there recently. Each day on my walk, I count how many turtles I can find. One day I saw 10 of them! Maybe next time you go for a walk, you could count all the wildlife that you can see? It would be great if you could keep a tally chart for each animal, and then create a pictograph at home. It's always nice to link your maths learning to real life.

I have also been doing yoga or pilates each day, and have been pleased with how many online classes there are. Joe Wicks has also been creating daily PE lessons online which you should try!

The thing I am enjoying most about lockdown is how much reading I have been able to do each day. I find it to be very relaxing and I love getting lost in a good book. I hope you have been reading every day with a family member. I have also been enjoying talking to friends through video calls. Some of the teachers have been doing a weekly video quiz, which has been lots of fun!

Just like you, the teachers have been kept busy at home with schoolwork. We are busy preparing online learning for you all. I hope that you are all doing some online learning each week. We are also spending a couple of days at school every few weeks to look after the small number of children that are still in school.

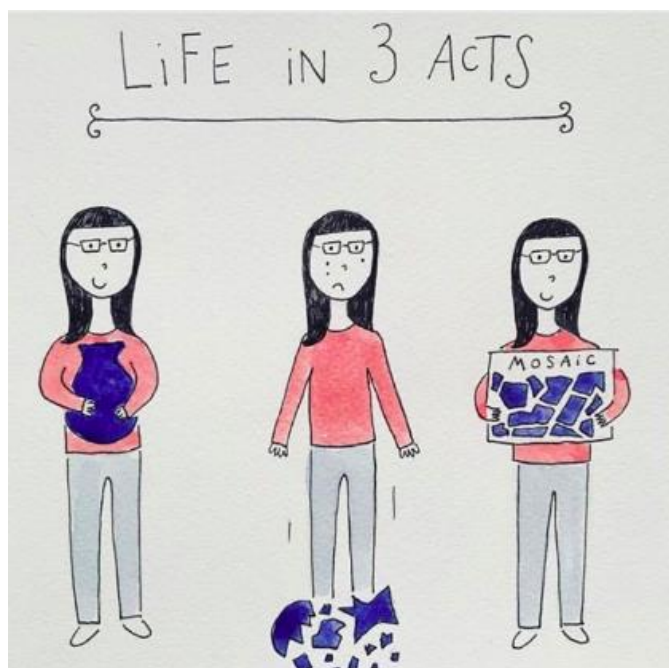
I am really missing you all and I am looking forward to the time when we can all see each other again. It's a very strange time, but I hope you are being helpful at home and enjoying spending so much time with your families. I think this cartoon really sums up this time in our lives.

It would be lovely if you could write a letter back to the class to tell us all about your life during lockdown. You could take a photo of your letter and send it to admin@benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk or keep hold of it and share it with me when we are back at school.

See you soon,

Meredith

P.S I have attached some photos on the next page if you are interested!



A turtle in the pond at Clissold Park!



The beautiful old house in Clissold Park that I walk past.

