

*Hey team,*

I hope you had a very enjoyable, if different, Easter. We are truly blessed right now to be enjoying such wonderful weather. It definitely is helping the lockdown feel less awful. I thought I'd share some more of what I've been up to since I last wrote to you all. As before, I've included some pictures that I'll reference in my letter.

I'm still cycling. I've got my personal best for the Guild Wheel down to 1:31:51 (top left). I'm trying to break the 90 minute mark but it is proving very difficult and the conditions need to be good. I tried to go for it the other day but there was a strong wind and in total, even though I busted a gut, I was 6 minutes slower!!! In total, since being in lockdown I have cycled 273 miles. My ambitious aim is to cycle the equivalent distance to the World Health Organisation in Geneva (812 miles away). It's a tall ask and I may not get there, but each time I'm out on the wheel, I'm able to enjoy everything that Preston has to offer. The section from Brockholes through to Avenham Park is glorious. Nice and flat; next to the river; pretty views; gorgeous woods; it's good for the soul.

I've been doing what I can to keep my brain in gear so it doesn't get rusty. And it really did feel rusty on Wednesday for the TTRS battle. It took a while for my brain to kick in. I want to shout out Jensen (who came 1<sup>st</sup>), Lucy (who came 2<sup>nd</sup>) and Oliver (who came 3<sup>rd</sup>). I look forward to challenging more of you next Wednesday. I'm reading books more than I had done previously. I'm currently on a book by a South African comedian that tells his upbringing. It's very funny and quite enlightening, as it shows what life was like after apartheid. Michelle and I have finished two jigsaws now (top right). We have now moved onto tackling a big Lego project. I won't tell you what it is, but I will show you photos of the finished product. There are more than 6,000 pieces to assemble. I'm really enjoying seeing some of you work from the Home Learning tasks I've been set.

Thank so much to those of you who have written me letters, sent me videos of the Roman Timeline, shown me the gardening and drumming you've been up to, sent me some of your drawings, created your own comics, and some of you even find it helpful to wear your uniform to do your learning. Whatever helps you learn, each and every email I have received has put a smile on my face. Please keep sending things through. Just a reminder my email is [d.bateman@leacofe.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:d.bateman@leacofe.lancs.sch.uk)

Michelle and I have finished digging out the trees (middle). It has taken an awful lot of effort, and each night as I go to sleep my body is aching all over. The last tree took us a day and a half to dig out! In total there were 9 trees. I thought there was 10, but just like in a video game, with the final boss, the last tree was two together. But don't worry. I know that we need trees right now, and so because I've dug up 10 trees, I have donated to TeamTrees.org to replant another 10. Our next project is now to try and figure out what we want to do with our garden. As I write this letter, Michelle is creating a scale drawing of what our future garden might look like. I'll show you once it's complete.

I've made the pub quiz a regular event now. Each Saturday evening, with my family and friends, on ZOOM, I host a quiz. It's been so much fun creating different rounds. It's all done on a screen and there have been rounds using emojis, country's flags, the actor Tom Cruise, and many more. I started another type of quiz that uses the letters of the alphabet for the answers. This was very popular so I think I'm going to do more of those.

I'm still cooking too. Michelle and I made hot cross buns last weekend which took all day (we had to wait for the dough to prove) but they were so yummy! I'm enjoying the curry book I got given and made a korma last week. We are now having a curry night every week. It's better than a takeaway by far. I've also started to try and branch out and make a few different dishes. I'm trying to improve a stir fry recipe that I saw and I made my own guacamole to go alongside a chilli we were having (bottom right).

I hope you've enjoyed reading about what I've been up to. If you want to write back, I'd really love to hear from you all and what you've been up to. You can email the letter through to my email ([d.bateman@leacofe.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:d.bateman@leacofe.lancs.sch.uk)) I've attached some photos showing you what I've been up to.

*Stay safe everyone. Love and prayers.*

Mr B





Dan Stirling

April 12, 2020 at 1:50 PM

### Social Distancing #10

1:31:51 - 12/04/2020

1:35:16 - 03/04/2020

1:39:43 - 01/04/2020...

Read more...

Distance	Elev Gain	Time	Achievements
22.89 mi	628 ft	1h 31m	38



2 gave kudos

