

Life in Lockdown

Blog Post 3 – 11th May 2020

Explore this quotation from *Forrest Gump*: “Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you are going to get.”

Your parents will know this quotation, even if you don't. Ask them about it. And, bear with me as I work through this simile with you.

Like you, I am at home during lockdown. I have never been a person for staying at home and enjoying gentle activities such as sewing, arts, crafts, or even writing for pleasure. Everyone tells me that I should make room for these experiences and I think it has been well documented in my assemblies that Mr Rutter has attempted for many years to encourage me to do Art (it is not one of my talents and I am afraid of looking stupid when I do it). Recently, I was gently assisted in this by 7S, who persuaded me to participate in their lino-cutting lesson. They were kind and inspired me to take a risk and try new things. They showed me how to be safe when doing artwork. I enjoyed myself. Now, **that** was a revelation!

So, now that we are in our seventh week of lockdown, I've started to realise that there are things I quite like doing (I can't bring myself to say “enjoy” just yet) that I thought would be impossible. I don't go shopping, but I like unpacking the bags when they are brought home. That could be because I am excited if I see any of the Three Cs: chocolate, crisps or cake. Like a comet, they are rare sightings at my house. I remember fondly the days when one of our students, as part of Young Enterprise, used to make the most divine brownies to sell at parents' evenings. I wish she was still with us. She has gone on to be very successful in her 'A' levels. I miss her and her little chocolatey squares of happiness.

You are now wondering: what has all this got to do with boxes of chocolates, other than brownies being made of chocolate? I suppose it is that lockdown is like a box of chocolates. Chocolates have lots of different centres; some of them you like (praline centres), others you hate (anything with coconut). To be honest, there are no metaphorical coconut chocolates in lockdown. However, I have discovered something that I have forgotten I enjoyed: writing for pleasure, writing to you. Writing is a praline pleasure. Without lockdown, I would not realised this.

What we would prefer to hear about is what you have enjoyed doing in the past seven weeks.

I would like to finish with a photograph from Georgina, who baked these cookies as part of her French work. Congratulations on this achievement. All your



teachers are so impressed with this. Write to AMatyla@stjosephscollege.net with all your ideas, so we can share in all your glory.

