

## Primary Years Encouragement – 28.04.2020

Hello CYM

This Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, if my calculations are correct, some of us would have been in lockdown for 40 days! Wow, that's a long time isn't it? We all deserve a huge round of applause, well done for playing your part, you are all amazing 😊

I would imagine you have had many challenges to overcome these past weeks, but I wonder what your highlights have been? Mine have been spending quality time with my family.

I spent a long period of my life working unsociable hours to make ends meet. I often used to say I had failed as a mum and wife, because I was always at work when my children and husband were at home. So to have this time with them now, has been a real blessing for me and given me opportunities to do things with my family that I was too tired to do before.

I am not a person with a high level degree, but I can read, write, add up, do chores and cook. These past 30 odd days or so, I have had opportunities to teach my 22 and 19 year old sons all kinds of things that will help them in their lives for years to come. They are both on furlough leave at the moment, but they are still required to do their course work for their engineering apprenticeships. I haven't got a clue about engineering, but I do know how to help them research, check grammar and put an essay together. With both my husband and I working, we have noticed that the boys are asking to help us with the chores and cooking. 9 times out of 10 we get a 'Mum' or 'Dad' halfway through asking us how to do this and that, but it has been such a blessing to see our boys learning new skills. I have wanted to refresh my fence panels for ages so with the good weather I have thoroughly enjoyed painting a panel here and there. What joy filled my heart when the boys said, Mum could I have a go..... part of me was worried that they were going to make a mess of it....but sometimes I have to get over myself and think..... Let them do it..... how are they ever going to learn..... and let's face it Denise, you are no professional decorator..... look at your imperfections.....

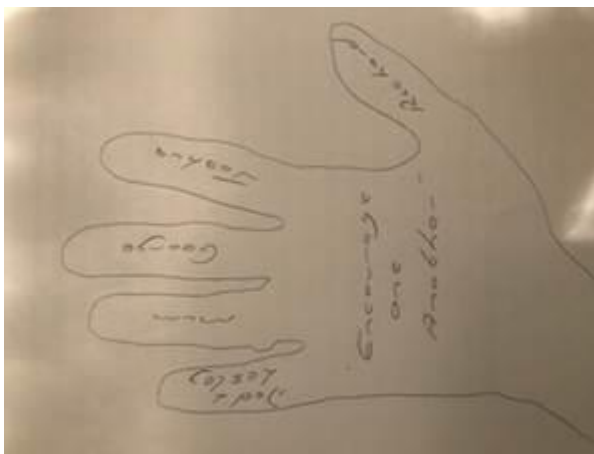
So this weeks' encouragement is about the highlights of spending quality time together and how amazing you all are:-

## Activity

### “Encouraging One Another”

For this activity you will need a piece of paper and a pen so you can draw around your hand.

Once you have drawn around your hand, on each finger write a persons name down who you would like to encourage or pray for this week. Alternatively, you can choose one persons name and write 5 things down you would like to encourage them with this week or to pray for.



## Game

### You will need:

Ring doughnuts - one for each child  
String  
Somewhere to hang the doughnuts

### How to play:

Tie each doughnut with a length of string and then suspend them at the appropriate height for your children. Keeping all hands firmly behind the back, eat the doughnuts!

Enjoy 😊

## The David Banks-Broome Challenge

Challenge No. 5

## **Story**

### **A Poor Widow's Gift (In The New Testament – Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4)**

Jesus and his disciples went to the temple area. They watched people drop money into the offering box. The rich people put a lot of money into the box. Then Jesus saw a poor widow. She put two small coins into the box. "This woman's gift is greater than all the others," Jesus whispered to his disciples. "Even though the woman is poor, she gave all the money she had. The rich people gave a lot of money, but they still have plenty left over."

## **Encouragement**

Whether you are making the food for a picnic on the living room floor, decorating biscuits, matching pairs of socks, repairing a hole in a tee-shirt, watching a film and having a discussion about it afterwards or writing a review, acting out a story with toys or making something out of old materials ready for the tip, you are spending quality time with your family learning new things that will stay with you all for the rest of your lives. Home schooling does not come naturally to a lot of us, but bringing the gifts and talents that you have been so richly blessed with and sharing those gifts with your family is an amazing act of love and patience that will create a stronger family. You may think you have little to offer your children, but believe me, everything you are able to offer them is priceless. Did anyone tell you how amazing you are recently? Well from me.....YOU ARE TRULY AMAZING AND DOING A BRILLIANT JOB RAISING YOUR FAMILY.....

## **Prayer**

Father God

Thank you for the gift of family.

Help us Lord to do our best in these difficult times.

When we get weary Lord, give us rest, when we need patience, give us wisdom.

In Jesus name

Amen

## **Worship Song**

### **The Blessing**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZJFHh93FGc>

If you need any craft supplies, food and toiletries, or just a phone chat over coffee, please call me on 07969959442.

Every blessing

Denise