
Day 127 - Monday 27th July @ 11.04pm

I feel like I've been punched in the stomach.

This may be not only the worst day of lockdown, but one of the worst days of my entire life.

So, my friends are all seeing each other tomorrow whilst I'm being left out. I... feel so many emotions I've not felt in months. I thought they were my friends, apparently not.

So, it's short tonight, but for good reason. My friends are leaving me out and I've probably annoyed my best friend.

Please fix this.

Until tomorrow.

Day 126 - Sunday 26th July @ 11.24pm

Today wasn't the greatest.

We visited grandparents for a while which was nice to see them again. It's strange seeing family more often since the change in lockdown.

I played for a wee while this afternoon with friends but they all eventually moved on to competitive which made me feel not the best. I brought it up with a friend who seemed supportive but I really don't know anymore.

Please bring back the past couple of weeks.

Until tomorrow.

Day 125 - Saturday 25th July @ 11.50pm

See yesterday's entry: nothing has really changed today.

I played with friends today which was awesome to be able to but I still can't do competitive so... I feel slightly left out (of course unintentionally and it's all on me).

I just feel worried about playing it and messing up in front of friends.

Thanks anyway for the great past couple of weeks so far!

Until tomorrow.

Day 124 - Thursday 24th July @ 11.53pm

Today's been quieter, but still really good!

Tonight I played with friends for a short while and then played with one friend in particular for a while after that which was really fun.

Thanks for the past 2 weeks so far, it's been incredible. Hopefully it keeps going like this.

Until tomorrow.

Day 123 - Thursdsay 23rd July @ 12.01am

I'm so sorry I'm late, it's been a great night.

This morning, as usual, was pretty quiet until this afternoon when I played with a friend for a while which was really really fun.

Later on in the day, another friend came on and taught me a few new helpful tricks which was really nice to have. I'm so glad I have friends who know the game.

Tonight I then played with all of my gamer friends from 9pm until about 11.30pm which was awesome. I got a great 4 kill from my ultimate ability which was really great for my second week playing the game.

Thank you so so much for the past few weeks. It's been more than amazing: it's been outstanding.

I can't wait to see them all again.

Until tomorrow.

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Day 122 - Wednesday 22nd July @ 11.53pm

Today has been... outstanding.

This morning, we visited family and it was really nice to talk with them more normally inside than before outside. Of course we're nowhere near normal yet but it's still progress.

Tonight, I played a video game with 4 other friends until 11.30pm, which was beyond words. It was so fun and one of my friends helped train me a bit because he had been playing the game a lot longer than me, which was really really helpful.

I can't thank you enough. Thank you.

Until tomorrow.

Day 121 - Tuesday 21st July @ 11.45pm

I can't believe I'm actually saying this, but another really good day!

It started with going with my family to Dumfries House for a nice walk and some fresh air, and it was kind of our first family trip out of our village in three months.

I then gamed with friends for the rest of the day, which has been really nice. Whether or not I see them before schools opening, (however much I would like to) I'm so glad I've been talking to them and I can't wait for schools to reopen so I can finally see friends regularly again.

A huge thank you for these past few weeks. I just... it's been perfect. *chef's kiss*

"I've got to go, see you later!" as I sign off with friends.

Until tomorrow.

Day 120 - Monday 20th July @ 11.43pm

Today's been really really good.

I went to get my blazer fitted today and although I don't love the idea of a blazer, I'm glad we've got it sorted early so we don't have to worry about it before schools go back.

I've been playing with my friends for the rest of the day which has been pretty nice. I'm now on level 28 which technically means I can play competitive but I don't think I'm ready for it yet.

My headset arrived today so that means I can finally talk to friends and hear the game at the same time! Thank goodness!

As always, thank you. It really has been a good week since last Monday when I only just got the game.

Until tomorrow.

Day 119 - Sunday 19th July @ 11.46pm

Another good day!

It began like every Sunday should, with a lie in and then Drag Race with breakfast. We're almost at the finale of All Stars 5 and the top 3 is so good!

We then went to visit my mum's side of the family for a bit and it was nice to see family again and have some sense of normality back.

Tonight I played a video game with friends for a while which was really really good. I'm almost at Level 25 which means I'm almost eligible for competitive but I think I've still got a lot of work to do before that mode.

I am also very excited for tomorrow as I've ordered a new headset with mic so I can game better, as I'm currently using my phone for Discord and trying to half listen to the game from my speakers. Hopefully it's a great quality headset!

So, yeah! Please keep up the good work!

Until tomorrow.

Day 118 - Saturday 18th July @ 11.59pm

Today's been really good, actually.

It started off pretty chill, as a Saturday should be, with lying in bed and playing some games on my computer.

Later on in the afternoon, I played a video game with a friend for a while and then my group of friends later tonight until about 10.30pm when we all broke off for the night.

Some really good banter and conversation, and a really nice atmosphere again.

Thanks for this week and I hope it continues this way.

Until tomorrow.

Day 117 - Friday 17th July @ 11.45pm

Another good day!

This afternoon I played with a friend for about an hour which was really fun. It's nice to just talk to someone about life, returning to school, missing friends and such.

This evening I played with more friends for a bit which was also really nice for the same reason. Having a bit of structure and friends who you talk to regularly really helps.

Unfortunately, Discord just disappeared and shut down for a while tonight, abruptly ending our conversation and it only came back up after everyone had disappeared for the night. A shame but hey, that's the internet during a pandemic for you!

Hoping this weekend echos the theme of this week: socialising and having fun in light of recent times.

(I am SO glad I bought this video game.)

Until tomorrow.

Day 116 - Thursday 16th July @ 11.42pm

A good day! Not as good as previous but still good I guess.

This morning I had to go to the orthodontist for the first time in 3 months to get my braces tightened and now they kind of hurt. It's strange as I usually don't feel any sort of discomfort but I guess I'm just not used to it today because I've not had it in so long.

The rest of the day was a bit boring, up until this evening. None of my friends were on as they were all already occupied with other stuff so I was just a bit lonely. This evening, I played with friends which was good and we did quite well.

I feel, as with every day it isn't perfect, some kind of worry, but it goes away quickly when playing with friends most of the time. Hoping this week continues on the themes of yesterday and Tuesday and I can see them soon in real life without the restrictions of lockdown or WiFi failing.

Until tomorrow.

Day 115 - Wednesday 15th July @ 11.19pm

Another really really really really good day.

I've played a video game most of the day with friends and it was a really fun time, talking and playing.

Tomorrow I've got the orthodontist which isn't fun but otherwise I'm hoping for the same as today; a really good day talking to friends.

Thank you.

Until tomorrow.

Day 114 - Thursday 14th July @ 11.50pm

Today was insanely good.

I woke up this morning and began my day speaking to my friends that I work with for a youth organisation and it was really nice to catch up with them after a wee while of us all not being free at the same time. A good laugh with great friends.

Then, I opened a video game and began my first full day of playing when one of my friends invited me to play and I played with friends from 1.30pm until about 11pm. I began to get to grips with the game and it was really good with my friends supporting me.

I'm hoping tomorrow continues with this really good style of day.

Thank you.

Until tomorrow.

Day 113 - Monday 13th July @ 11.46am

Today's been the strangest day.

I woke up feeling really anxious and worried, as usual. I spoke to my parents earlier in the afternoon about how I was feeling anxious and being over worried and they totally 100% understood what I was saying.

We've decided to call a GP in the morning to book an appointment so I can speak to a doctor 1-to-1 about how I am feeling.

Tonight was kind of good, actually. My friends all started playing a video game I'd heard a lot about but never actually played. The start of the call made me feel a bit sad, mostly because I felt left out as I am not an avid gamer (I've just started getting into a different video game) and from my friend's streams it looks like a hard game.

I gave in and bought the game so I could join my friends. The game took hours to download, so unfortunately I couldn't join all of them (maybe that's a thing I should be grateful for) but I played a few quick games with some friends and they kinda showed me the ropes a bit. It's fast paced and crazy but I hope I can get the swing of things.

So, I don't know where I'm at, at the moment. One moment I'm at the peak of Mount Everest, the next the belly of a volcano. I hope I can feel better, like tonight but more permanently, soon.

Until tomorrow.

Day 112 - Sunday 12th July @ 11.22pm

Today's been everything and nothing at the same time.

I went for a walk with my family to the beach today and it was really nice to get some fresh sea air for the first time in months. It also felt nice to be more unplugged and escape from the house.

Today, I've felt really anxious about my best friend and worrying that I'll lose our friendship amongst other stuff. I've thought long and hard and I think I may have some form of anxiety. I don't know if it's just me overreacting but I'm going to speak to my parents over the coming week about how I feel and maybe speak to my GP.

I'm a really bad worrier, so I think that may be the cause.

If I do have anxiety, I don't want it to beat me or get me down; I don't want it to define me or rule me out of opportunities because it may look like it would make me anxious with more on my plate, when in reality I keep myself busy to not overthink or worry.

So, I don't know. I feel happy knowing that I'm just overthinking, but I'm worried about the source of the overthinking.

Time will tell, I guess...

Until tomorrow.

Day 111 - Saturday 11th July @ 11.46pm

It's been an okay day.

After yesterday, I've been feeling a bit better about everything, especially talking to friends. I now understand a bit more about how not talking to friends doesn't necessarily mean they don't want to talk to you.

It's not really been busy today, a lazy Saturday. I've still not watched this week's Drag Race All Stars 5 or the first episodes of Canada's Drag Race. All Stars 5 just feels cheap and the challenges are awful; Canada looking good however!

I'm hoping I feel better about lockdown in general soon and the impact it'll have on my mental health long term. I know we're in Phase 3 and technically not in lockdown anymore but not feeling safe or able to see friends properly without social distancing just hurts.

Yesterday was great. Can it continue?

Until tomorrow.

Day 110 - Friday 10th July @ 10.26pm

Well, you certainly didn't disappoint.

Tonight, though small, has been one of the best days of lockdown. My emotions have been everywhere but tonight has really gave me everything I need out of lockdown.

I've worried throughout lockdown that I'm going to lose friends. Early on in the year I moved social circles constantly until I settled at my friends now. This all happened in late January/early February. Because of this, I've worried since they all knew each other since nursery, I'd be the outcast.

But tonight, I'm proud to admit I had a good cry. After sending my friend a few paragraphs about how I was feeling about friendships and lockdown, he sent me some of the most amazing things I've heard from my friends. My favourite line, translated from Snapchat language to English, is "You're still honestly one of my best mates, no matter what." After this line, I was away, crying like a toddler for about 10 minutes. He also said "I could literally talk to you once a month and you would probably still be one of my closest mates." I just... my best friend really is the best.

We had some problems with food tonight, particularly Uber Eats missing our whole order, but that was able to be sorted, and has been majorly shadowed by tonight.

I'm away to go and rewatch the videos of me crying like a baby reacting to the message. Thank you.

Until tomorrow.

Day 109 - Thursday 9th July @ 11.57pm

It's been an okay day.

Again, I haven't really played with anyone or talked through voice with anyone today.

I downloaded the iOS 14 and iPadOS 14 public betas today and they are amazing! Can't wait to run them this weekend and test out the waters.

However, today marks a huge milestone. The end of Phase 2: tomorrow we move into Phase 3 with many changes coming.

Scotland has had quite a journey, and I'm glad in the direction we're going.

As phase 3 begins in... 1 minute, I ask. Please make tomorrow and the rest of this phase (and year...) better. Fingers crossed...

...and... we're here. Phase 3. Here's hoping.

Until tomorrow.

Day 108 - Wednesday 8th July @ 11.35pm

Similar to the 2nd of July. Bit lonely.

Haven't really talked to many today outside of family. Went a short visit to one pair of grandparents for a wee while.

Just sad times. Please let some change happen tomorrow for the better. I beg of you.

Until tomorrow.

Day 107 - Tuesday 7th July @ 11.39pm

Today's been.. *sigh*.

I've not talked through voice chat to many friends and basically played on my own today.

I went out to TESCO for the first time in over 3 months which was an EXPERIENCE and I was so shocked to be there and see how strange and different it was with COVID-19 safety guidelines.

I just feel done in constantly, worried, missing friends. Lockdown is taking such a toll on me right now and it's scaring me that I might lose friends even if they say they like me, that there's something wrong.

Can't wait for this to be over.

Please, someone, bring something positive into tomorrow. I beg of you.

Until tomorrow.

Day 106 - Monday 6th July @ 11.43pm

It's been an okay day.

I spoke with a friend today but otherwise it's been pretty quiet.

Hopefully tomorrow gets better.

Until tomorrow.

Day 105 - Sunday 5th July @ 12.02am

So sorry I'm 2 minutes late: I was busy messaging friends.

Today's been interesting: I talked to some friends and got my wardrobe in. That's about it.

Hopefully this week brings some hope.

Until tomorrow.

Day 104 - Saturday 4th July @ 11.48pm

Tonight's been good!

I talked with my friend and played with him for a while which was great. It's a sigh of relief to be able to keep contact during this difficult time.

Otherwise, it's been a meh day. Not bad, just uneventful really.

Hoping tomorrow brings even more greatness than before.

Until tomorrow.

Day 103 - Friday 3rd July @ 10.55pm

Tonight has been... much much much better. Much better.

We watched Hamilton (for me the second time of the day) and it was outstanding (unsurprising).

And I talked to my friend tonight. Thank god.

Thank you for saving this week.

Until tomorrow.

Day 102 - Thursday 2nd July @ 11.50pm

Today's been... meh.

Haven't done much, haven't really voice chatted to anyone. Just feeling a bit lonely at the minute.

Hamilton is released tomorrow on Disney+ and I CANNOT WAIT!

Hoping to catch up with a friend tomorrow. Hopefully this week improves.

Just you wait.

Until tomorrow.

Day 101 - Wednesday 1st July @ 11.28pm

It's been... okay?

Not boring, just not really that fun. That's really all?

Hopefully this week improves.

Until tomorrow.

Day 100 - Tuesday 30th June 2020 @ 11.06pm

I can't lie, today's not been great at all.

This morning, the good thing was we managed to get tickets to see SIX the Musical at a drive-through venue in September. That's brought our spirits up.

However, the rest of today hasn't been so great. This afternoon, I was bored out of my nut and eventually played with a friend but for some reason it just didn't feel the same as usual.

It's just felt a bit different this week. A bit weird. I just want to see my friends again, and I really hope they're still my friends by August.

I just... want to escape from this madness. What I would do for just a day with my friends again.

Today is the last day of June, and the last day of Pride Month. It's not been the best pride month with all of the pride events cancelled, but it's been okay. I feel more for those closeted or out but unsafe at home who are often forgotten about during this time.

I hope July is a new leaf. A new story. A change in the direction for the better. Please don't ruin it. For me, for all of us.

Until tomorrow.

Day 99 - Monday 29th June @ 11.57pm

Today was a low point.

It was a bad day. I haven't really talked to anyone properly and I feel like I've done nothing positive.

The beginning of the holidays have probably created more problems than positives. It just ensures that I have loads of empty time to think about my problems and anxieties. I'm hoping I can talk to a friend tomorrow and can chat about life. It's a mental time. Until tomorrow.

Day 98 - Sunday 28th June @ 11.50pm

Today wasn't exactly better.

All I really did today was play some games by myself. My friends weren't really on today or they were on playing a mode I'm not good enough to play so... yeah, that was fun.

I then wanted this evening to play with my friend as we haven't really talked much on the phone today but he was busy so I couldn't do that either.

This is rubbish. Lockdown is rubbish. I want to see my friends again.

Until tomorrow.

Day 97 - Saturday 27th June @ 11.55pm

Today was... okay.

It's been average today. I had a meeting and played some games but it just feels... mediocre.

It's the start of the summer and all I want to do is go out with friends.

Tomorrow will hopefully be... better I guess?

Until tomorrow.

P.S. Still waiting on bed: yay.

Day 96 - Friday 26th June @ 11.53pm

Today's been... kinda boring.

I haven't really done much except play a few games on my laptop.

My new bed was supposed to be delivered but it's now lost.

However, I got into college for a school-college course in August on mental health! Woo-hoo!

Hoping tomorrow gets better.

Until tomorrow.

Day 95 - Thursday 25th June @ 11.51pm

Tonight was really fun.

Today's been great actually! We had my sister's Leavers Assembly today and I went a nice walk during it.

Tonight I've laughed a lot. My friends and I wrote a song about one of our other friends for like 2 hours. Then my friend's little sister came on to the call and it was quite funny.

Tomorrow is the last day of term! Woohoo!

Until tomorrow.

Day 94 - Wednesday 24th June @ 11.52pm

Made it just in time before midnight.

Today was same old: gaming, some meetings and a small amount of school work. Nothing new.

Maybe, it'll be different tomorrow...

Until tomorrow.

Day 93 - Tuesday 23rd June @ 10.33pm

gamer A good day!

Today, all I did was play games and nothing else. I had no school work due today so I had a day to myself. It was fun, but I was pretty bad at some points... but hey, it's just a game.

The Deputy First Minister/Education Secretary John Swinney today announced that the Scottish Government's new plan is to try and get all pupils back in August, a swift u-turn from last week's blended learning initiative, which is now being kept as a contingency plan. Our school and local authority I think are now in panic mode wondering what's happening next after planning for blended learning all week.

Nothing much else for today. *sigh*

Until tomorrow.

Day 92 - Monday 22nd June @ 11.25pm

Today's been another good day!

It started off with me worried so much about bothering people and harassing them about games, but eventually I played for a while with one of my friends.

Later on in the day, I had a call with the panel I'm working with for the research project. It was really nice to meet the people I'll be working with and talk about the current situation.

This evening, I played even more on my laptop with my friends. It was really fun and I didn't actually do badly; although... I did earlier today. Hey, I've improved, if even slightly.

I'm hoping tomorrow continues what I've found to be a really good weekend into a really good start of the week. So...

Until tomorrow.

Day 91 - Sunday 21st June @ 11.52pm

This may have been one of the best days of lockdown. Trust me.

So, this morning out of the blue, I turned on the computer to play one of my favourite PC games when my friend who I haven't really talked to messages me asking me if I want to play. So we play for an hour and it's fun and I really enjoy it.

So after that I log off, and continue with my morning. Today was Fathers Day which was really nice especially as my dad is alive and well after this week's incident.

So we give him his presents and his card and after breakfast I return to my computer and play some more of my game.

After that, I went to visit my grand parents and great grandparents, socially distanced of course, for Fathers Day. We haven't seen them in a couple of weeks so it was so nice to see them again.

Coming home from visits, I opened the game to find the friend that I was playing with earlier was playing it still. So I messaged him asking if I could join when he suddenly adds me to this DM group on Discord.

Tonight, I played so much and we won. It was amazing to have that experience with my friends.

So, yeah. Today's been amazing.

Until tomorrow.

Day 90 - Saturday 20th June @ 11.10pm

Today's not been the best. Meh.

We haven't done much today: all I've done is play video games and we quickly popped out to TESCO.

I'm hoping tomorrow (Fathers Day) might be a bit better.

Until tomorrow.

Day 89 - Friday 19th June @ 10.55pm

Today was... delightful.

It was just the best day I've had in lockdown.

This morning, I woke up at 9am, a nice lie in, and then finished all of my school work for 2pm, and I didn't have a lot!

This evening was the real highlight. Myself and one of my great friends facetedimed with our sisters ruining our sanity. We had a great night and agreed it was the best night in lockdown.

Thanks for a nice day. The hope is still there.

Until tomorrow.

Day 88 - Thursday 18th June @ 10.58pm

Today's been... an improvement of sorts.

First things first, my dad arrived home safe this evening. After a long day and a half in hospital with an operation this morning and having recovered for the rest of the day, it was time to come home. My whole family was so relieved that he's safe and that he's also back home to get some rest.

Today also was the end of the Phase 1 chapter of this COVID-19 crisis in Scotland, tomorrow opens a new chapter of Phase 2. I'm so glad we have further changes tomorrow: everything is moving along and we'll hopefully be back to some sort of normal soon.

I really enjoyed today, in particular, as I talked to one of my greatest friends over voice call for the first time in months. We chat over Snapchat every day but we finally managed to find time to have a good catch-up. We talked about everything for over an hour and I even got to talk to his dog. I just felt so... whole today talking to someone who's been supporting me the whole way through this.

And so, this chapter ends. But a new chapter begins in... 58 minutes. And so, change is in the air.

Until tomorrow.

Day 87 - Wednesday 17th June @ 11.01pm

Today was... a disaster. I was right not to be optimistic. This week HAS NOT gotten better.

It started when I woke up at like 6am and watched the whole first season of Love, Victor even though it's not out in the UK and might never be.

The day then continued to progress as normal: small amounts of school work, doing stuff in the hut and fun stuff like that.

Then it started raining. Like it went from 0-1000000 in about 20 seconds. My jacket caused literal puddles on my floor when I eventually came back in as I stood in the rain for AGES.

But then... all hell broke loose. I heard the panic in my mum's voice as she shouted to my sister and I to hurry downstairs immediately and get ready to get in the car. She delivered the news that my dad had severely sliced his thumb and would need to be

taken to the Emergency Department (formerly known as Accident & Emergency) to get checked out.

We rushed quickly to the hospital and my dad went in expecting to get an x-day and then some stitches so he could be out by dinner time. This wasn't happening.

We got a phone call from my dad in hospital explaining that he would be staying overnight as they wanted to get a closer look at his thumb. He'd really damaged it and they wanted him under general anesthetic tomorrow to do so.

So, tonight is a different kind of sad. Not just lockdown sad: it's a horrible feeling kind of sad.

I don't know what's going to happen next. I suppose...

Until tomorrow.

Day 86 - Tuesday 16th June @ 10.55pm

It's been... interesting?

I finished all of my school work by 10am, a new record for home learning.

I had an interview at 2 on alcohol in my area: really interesting 30 minutes.

Otherwise, today was... meh.

Hopefully this week gets better, but I'm not too optimistic.

Until tomorrow.

Day 85 - Monday 15th June @ 10.13pm

sigh Monday.

It's been an interesting day. I've felt a bit more motivated than most days, probably because I had so much work due for today that I HAD to be motivated.

The way I did work today was:

- Start work for half an hour
- Sit on my bed for an hour doing nothing
- Repeat

(I forgot to finish this so, I guess...)

Until tomorrow.

Day 84 - Sunday 14th June @ 10.22pm

Today's been... meh.

It felt like a rewind of yesterday: same stuff on with nothing else really in between.

Hopefully this week brings opportunity. Hope. Something other than the feeling that I've felt for the past three months - defeated.

So, this is short but hopefully it will get better.

Until tomorrow.

Day 83 - Saturday 13th June @ 11.12pm

Today's been... mediocre.

I've not had a hug from friends in ages. I miss that. I really do. Especially my male friends. They're great support. What on Earth am I saying?

I had to facilitate a meeting today which was quite tiring. Tomorrow I'm interviewing and that's going to be a bit quieter I think.

Otherwise, it's been a boring day. Maybe, tomorrow might be.. something? I don't have high hopes.

Sorry this is short: it's been a long day.

Until tomorrow.

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Day 82 - Friday 12th June @ 11pm

Friday. Depressing but fun!

It's been a day as strange as any other. It started god knows when, and it just kind of didn't exist.

My first real memory of today is this morning waking up, then jumping to 1.30pm when MY FIRE STICK WAS DELIVERED (WHOOOP WHOOP!) then 4pm when I remember waiting until 5pm for the Daily Briefing and then getting a Chinese at 7pm. After 7pm, I actually do remember most of the night.

We watched Artemis Fowl tonight, which may be one of the worst films in existence. I cannot believe that would have been shown in cinemas to customers who would pay specifically for that film.

As mentioned, my Fire Stick arrived today. I'm now only staying in my room for the next 5 years.

I've been talking to my great friend about life as usual, keeping me sane through the day.

Hopefully tomorrow, in which I'm busy from 1.15pm-4.30pm (exact same on Sunday) is going to be a bit better than the usual lockdown Friday. *sigh* WAIT! Drag Race comes out tomorrow!

Until tomorrow.

Day 81 - Thursday 11th June @ 11.52pm

Meh. It's been a short day.

Today has been yet another of those strange days that just doesn't exist. It began at like 8am, I blinked and it was 1pm and suddenly it's 10.30pm.

I managed one piece of schoolwork today, the record for this week tying with yesterday, and I'm not surprised. I've had a real lack of motivation this week.

I'm so glad to be talking to one of my really great friends daily still. It feels good to have someone to talk to each day and have some moments during lockdown with.

Tomorrow ends this working week. Thank goodness.

Until tomorrow.

Day 80 - Wednesday 10th June @ 10.34pm

I'm sorry... day what? Day 80?!

It's been yet another boring day. I did some work, talked to some people and suddenly it's 10.35pm and I'm back to the end of the day.

Today, Boris announced Phase 2 plans starting Monday for England. All I can say is, I'm glad I don't live in England, with their 'bubbles' that mean that people living alone can go and join with another household. Shops and zoos reopen on Monday too, which is great!

And so ends another day. Bring on... Thursday.

Until tomorrow.

Day 79 - Tuesday 9th June @ 9.21pm

Did today actually happen?

Today's felt non-existent. I woke up at like 8am and blinked and suddenly it was 11.45am. Like, how?

I managed to attend a live maths lesson today on the straight line which was meh, it's maths so it can't really be given any positive adjectives.

I also attended yet ANOTHER Zoom meeting about something I'm volunteering for at the weekend, fun!

So, I'm going to go and think about how time is a lie for the rest of the night.

Until tomorrow.

Day 78 - Monday 8th June @ 11.30pm

Today's been... strange to say the least.

I started today on a mattress on the floor waiting to get my room sorted. I'm now in my bed, comfy and warm.

I finally was able to move back into my room tonight after a weekend of decorating and madness. It feels so good to be able to jump back into my bed and have my own personal space. Only problem is I have no door... oops!

Other than that, today's been pretty uneventful. I had some problems with my Google Chromecast which refused to work with my router, forcing me to buy an Amazon Fire TV Stick 4K to be able to watch stuff on my older TV. But hey, I get Disney+ on Fire Stick, so an upgrade of sorts at least.

I'm back in my room, and happy. I might actually be able to do some school work tomorrow in peace!

Until tomorrow.

Day 77 - Sunday 7th June @ 10.24pm

What a Sunday.

And I say that because it's been uneventful.

We visited my mum's side of my grandparents today and it was great to see them after so long. I really have missed my family and I can't wait until we can hug and properly get back to proper family time.

We managed to finish the room and it's been a long week of decorating. Hopefully tomorrow I can actually be in it!

Something to look forward to, we're hopefully going to a small family barbecue next Saturday to visit my aunt and uncle from my dad's side.

Today celebrates the first time since lockdown began that the death rate for Scotland (and also Northern Ireland) is ZERO. We are going somewhere!

So, tomorrow starts a new week. What will it bring? No-one knows yet.

Until tomorrow.

Day 76 - Saturday 6th June @ 10.49pm

Today has been painting and nothing else.

This weekend we've decided to decorate my bedroom after painting my sister's from Tuesday - Thursday. It's been mental.

There's been so much paint and so much chaos. I have no idea where I'm sleeping tonight but we'll see.

So otherwise, I'm going to go and watch Keeping Up with the Kardashians.

Bye!

Until tomorrow.

Day 75 - Friday 5th June @ 10.51pm

Today was mediocre. We went to TESCO but really did nothing else.

Tomorrow we're starting to redecorate my room, and that's... something.

Until tomorrow.

Day 74 - Thursday 4th June @ 11.32pm

Today's been... a day of sorts.

My sister's room was finished today and thank god it was. It's the product of 3 days hard labour.

It's been a shorter day, with meetings galore and no structure AT ALL.

I had a meeting with the head teacher of my school this morning, and it was SCARY to talk to him, especially since I slept in and came into the meeting 30 minutes late. Oops.

That's me done, especially since it's late and I need SLEEP.

Until tomorrow.

Day 73 - Wednesday 3rd June @ 12.01am

One minute, okay?

It's been a strange day. I've not done much but a lot has happened in the outside world.

The Madeline McCann case has been reopened with a new suspect, which I feel like I've heard before. I hope that this does lead somewhere, but I feel like I have a sense of déjà vu.

It's also been the continued protests for George Floyd and Black Lives Matter in America and now globally. They inspire me everyday with their bravery and motivation.

That's about it.

Until tomorrow.

Day 72 - Tuesday 2nd June @ 11.11pm

Relief.

Tonight, I tested negative for COVID-19's antigen test. That gave me huge relief.

I'll update more tomorrow, for tonight it's time to rest.

Until tomorrow.

Day 71 - Monday 1st June @ 10.27pm

And 2020 is the gift that keeps on giving...

Today I got tested for COVID-19. The test was horrible and I would not like to do it often but I got tested and that is the main thing. I should get results by tomorrow night or Wednesday morning, here's hoping it's negative.

Otherwise, nothing else really happened today. I had 4 hours of sleep so I've been up and down in energy and feel so dead. I managed to get through a Zoom quiz with some friends which was good for once.

Tomorrow I'm really anxious about. I could be finding out whether I have COVID-19 or not. Yes, it's unlikely but it's still possible.

I'll update tomorrow with the all important results if I get them.

Until tomorrow.

Day 70 - Sunday 31st May @ 10.09pm

What a wild day.

Today has, by a mile, been the strangest day of this COVID-19 pandemic for me. It started where tomorrow finished: I'll recap what happened yesterday quickly as I didn't have the chance to fully explain it.

Yesterday, I came down with a horrible fever and was really ill last night, after having migraine headaches all day. I felt really tired and low energy. My fever, at its peak, reached around 39.2 degrees Celsius last night.

This morning, I felt a bit better and have been recovering today. However, I still have had a bit of a temperature today still and we've decided to book me a COVID-19 test for tomorrow.

That's something I thought I'd never have to say. Tomorrow is going to be a crazy day and I'm just hoping my test comes back negative.

So, more importantly than ever...

Until tomorrow.

Day 69 - Saturday 30th May @ 9.55pm

Short short and sweet, I've had a fever and am going to bed.

Until tomorrow.

Day 68 - Friday 29th May @ 10.02pm

Day 1 of Phase 1. What a day.

We're officially out of complete lockdown into a hybrid form, which changes some rules meaning we can actually have social contact for the first time in 2 months.

It's been one of the sunniest days of lockdown, with me needing to open my window and turn on my fan. I've had a vest on for most of today except when I had a nice surgery with my local MP on how the UK Government are incompetent about conversion therapy.

Scots have, as a whole, seemed much happier today. We've escaped from what was 2 months of isolation into a better world, where we're building everything from the ground up.

A highlight of today was a reply to my DM to Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon after I had messaged her thanking her for her commitment to the safety of young people, in which she told me I'm going to be twice the leader she is one day. I have to say, I didn't think I could love our First Minister any more than today.

And so, it's a new phase. New opportunities. A new chapter. What's to come? Who's to say...

Until tomorrow.

Day 67 - Thursday 28th May @ 9.15pm

The last day of 'lockdown'.

What a day it's been. A day of hope, a day of mystery and a day of wonder. The same feelings that will probably be portrayed tomorrow.

Tomorrow, Scotland enters Phase 1, changing lockdown as we know it. What will happen next, who knows. But it's certainly something that shows the end of the tunnel is getting nearer.

As I close on this evening, I close on the lockdown chapter as we know it now. Tomorrow is not only another day, but another chapter in the story of COVID-19.

Until tomorrow.

Day 66 - Wednesday 27th May @ 12am

Just in the nick of time.

Today's going to be shorter as nothing's really happened today. It's been a strange Wednesday indeed.

The news has been awash with the continuing issues of Dominic Cummings. It's ridiculous he's not looked at what he's done with any sympathy yet.

Boris Johnson was interrogated by the UK Government Liaison Committee today and it was both fun and ridiculous to watch. Yes, he's a bumbling fool that can't answer a single question but he's the one running the UK.

Otherwise, today's not really been that interesting. Tomorrow will hopefully be more important with my call about the research and I've got some work to finish too.

Until tomorrow.

Day 65 - Tuesday 26th May @ 9.41pm

Today was... a Monday alright.

It was an interesting day. The Government has been at the centre of the continuing Cummings controversy.

The Health Secretary Matt Hancock's press briefing was painful to watch, with him talking right over the press and not allowing follow-up questions.

Otherwise, today I've been tidying my room up for my cabinet to move out of my room so I've been really busy with that!

I've got nothing else left for today, other than to say that it's been strange and it'll be even stranger later this week, with a meeting with Mr Rose and SLT over the future of education...

Until tomorrow.

Day 64 - Monday 25th May @ 11.01pm

Well, today was a car crash.

But no, I don't mean my day personally. It was actually okay: I didn't really do anything except research RuPaul and watch the drama unfold in the UK Government.

Which brings me to the main issue of today. Dominic Cummings has been the centre of a huge controversy surrounding his alleged breaking of lockdown during a time when he had symptoms of coronavirus.

And his story itself is flimsy and contradictory, but what was worse was the press conference he held today to try and address and put everything to bed. He did, in fact the opposite.

It was originally at 3pm, but it was pushed to 4pm. The BBC and other broadcasters then started getting ready to cover it at 4pm, however Cummings didn't turn up until 4.30pm, which was a huge embarrassment.

He then proceeded with one of the most pointless statements in history about his whereabouts, with one of the most bizarre points being that he claimed he drove 30 minutes to check his eye test. Yep, because what I did on my last Specsavers eye test.

The question portion wasn't much better, perhaps even better than before. The media, rightfully, tore into Dominic Cummings like a lamb to the slaughter: he served himself on a golden platter to the press. He dithered on answering questions and looked like a total buffoon.

Boris' press conference at 7pm was basically damage control (or it tried to be) from the earlier events. The PM couldn't stop going on about washing your hands and staying alert instead of answering key questions from the press surrounding the controversy of Cummings and some unanswered questions.

The whole stunt was embarrassing, idiotic and frankly insulting to the British public wanting answers. He's created more questions than answers and the front pages tomorrow are going to be vicious. I've just looked at The Guardian's front page for tomorrow and already I can see the aftermath of this stunt.

So, I guess I'll see what happens tomorrow? I'm enjoying being really into politics and updating myself on the news on my day off!

Until tomorrow.

Letter to my future self - 24th May 2020

Dear future self,

Hey, it's me! I'm sitting here writing this at 10.56pm on a Sunday evening in lockdown. How are you? I hope you're doing well.

I'm writing this letter to ask you a few things but also to remind you of the good times you've had in lockdown.

My questions are:

- Do you laugh more often? If so, what do you laugh at?
- Have you seen your friends in person? What did it feel like? Did they miss you as much as you've missed them?
- Have you met D-Man's dog yet? If so, is he as much of a good doggi as in the pictures?
- Are you living out the rest of your teenage years in peace, knowing that tomorrow you can wake up and see your friends?

But I'm also here to remind you of the good times you've had in lockdown, like:

- Do you remember the night that you and D-Man exchanged aggressive all-caps messages at 1am about how much you appreciated each others company?
- Do you remember how you watched the whole of Modern Family with your family from start to finish, and how emotional the finale was?
- Do you remember when mum shaved some of her eyebrow off by accident?
- Do you remember the weekly catch-ups on Zoom with YS friends? And how everyone changed their virtual backgrounds on Gav's wall?
- Do you remember the family TikTok?
- Do you remember the amazingly cute photos of D-Man's dog?
- Do you remember the Jackie Cox scandal of '20?
- Do you remember WillNE in a lobster costume?

I sure hope you do. These were just some of the good times you've had, and I'm sure there's more to come.

So, stay sane, remember the good times and tell your friends how much you appreciate them.

Remember the past, and look forward.

Day 63 - Sunday 24th May @ 8.35pm

Today was... good, I guess?

I've decided to write tonight's entry slightly earlier to compensate for the midnight entry last night. I'm hoping that means I'll remember slightly more today than I usually remember at midnight.

It's certainly been a day today. It started for me at 10.45am when I woke up for breakfast at almost midday. We then proceeded to watch some TV for most of the afternoon, before going out a walk.

The walk was strange today. We haven't been out in about a week now and so the walk was more of a challenge than usual. We still enjoyed it as much as we could, even though it was cold.

Today has also been majority about my sister's room being redecorated over the next few weeks. She's elated about getting it painted and new furniture, but that means we've all had to hear about how excited she is all day.

Tomorrow is basically Sunday 2, and Tuesday is Sunday 3 as it's a Bank Holiday I think tomorrow and then ironically an in-service day on Tuesday, but the staff certainly won't be in anywhere. I doubt tomorrow will be so much more different than today or yesterday have been: good, but meh.

I want to quickly write about something that happened after I wrote my late-night entry last night. Just before 1am, me and my best friend shared something that brought some happiness and hope to this whole thing. We messaged each other explaining how much we were glad we were talking to each other through this and appreciate each other. It was beautiful, and may be a highlight of 2020 for me (even though it's not exactly tough competition).

So, I'm taking the optimism that tomorrow is another day, and that some joy may come from the doom and gloom of waiting 'in the dentist's office' as my friend put it for the lockdown to change on Thursday. No-one knows what's happening next: we're just waiting now in anticipation.

"It is an absolute human certainty that no one can know his own beauty or perceive a sense of his own worth until it has been reflected back to him in the mirror of another loving, caring human being." - John Joseph Powell

Until tomorrow.

[EDIT, 9.05pm: Just remembered the interesting events from the UK Government of aide Dominic Cummings today. All I want to say is that Boris is acting incompetent and the UK Government are hypocritical. That is all.]

Day 62 - Saturday 23rd May @ 12.01pm

Sorry I'm late! It's a Saturday!

Today's been a meh day. Not bad but not amazing. We watched Drag Race this morning and then did I don't know what for the rest of the day, which is why this will be short.

But I've enjoyed tonight. I've been watching TV and then came up to chill and watch some eboys so I'm good.

The weird highlight of this lockdown is praising a pen. That's strange but fun.

Anyway, tomorrow *might* be more interesting and less eating food, doing nothing else.

Until tomorrow.

(P.S. I've discovered Nolan Gould and... I'm dead.)

Day 61 - Friday 22nd May @ 11.31pm

Today's not really felt like a Friday.

It's been a strange day, mainly because I feel I don't know what day I've just experienced. It's a Friday, but it's not at all a usual Friday, even by lockdown standards.

Today is slightly more ceremonious as our schools are now off until next Wednesday, giving us a break from whatever hell these 2 months of schooling have been.

For dinner tonight, unusually special, we had a KFC. It was strangely amazing to have that feeling of normal that we haven't had in 2 months, something that brings me hope for the further lockdown changes over the next couple of months.

This has been one of the few days I've actually taken the time to look back at memories pre-lockdown, which has been one of the most surreal experiences in my lifetime. Seeing me and my friends in school having a laugh gives me both happiness and a sense of loss, not having that laughter for over 2 months now.

This is, hypothetically, the last weekend we will have in lockdown in Scotland. That concept brings me so much joy that we are almost there, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Reading some of these past entries, I'm glad to see that progress has been achieved and it has got better.

As this is the last Friday in lockdown, I'd like to treasure this moment, right here right now at 11.41pm. This is the time that the world stood still. 11.42pm. This world has

came to a halt, but the people haven't. Our healthcare workers have been tirelessly caring for our people. They deserve not only recognition but better pay and better treatment. 11.43pm. My friend has just messaged. They've been an amazing support. They've really helped me through this. 11.44pm. I've told my friend how much I appreciate them. They don't know to the extent, but I do. They are one of my best friends.

12.45pm. The time has come for me to go, for now. But I'll be back, as ever, to tell the tale of the time the world stood still.

Until tomorrow.

Day 60 - Thursday 21st May @ 11.06pm

Today's been great! (Or what a day, as my friend has put it...)

Today is my 2nd coming out anniversary. Two years ago, I came out to my close friends and family as gay for the first time, and what a journey I've had. Yes, this situation is not ideal but hey, I got to spend the day with my family.

Tonight to celebrate, we made a rainbow cake. It took a lot of blood, sweat and tears but it was lovely and sweet and the remainder we haven't eaten yet is wrapped up and ready for the weekend.

Another positive for today is that I got an email about a research project I had applied for ages ago entitled 'Growing up during COVID-19' by ECORYS and the University of Huddersfield. They invited me as one of 10 Scots on the panel which I'm thrilled about! It's an amazing opportunity and I can't wait to get started.

The lockdown restrictions exit plan was revealed by the Scottish Government's FM Nicola Sturgeon and I'm so glad. From next Thursday (as long as everything continues on this downward trajectory) we'll be able to see another household and go outside to the park and everything I've missed for 2 months. It's an amazing moment and I'm optimistic that we will get to phase 4 soon enough.

Today's been one of the best, if not THE BEST day in lockdown personally, and I really hope this lockdown is over soon. So...

Until tomorrow.

Day 59 - Wednesday 20th May @ 11.10pm

Today's been the same as most others.

Today has felt like Groundhog Day of most days between March and May of this lockdown. It's been uninteresting and a new sort of normal.

We had food from a local Noodle Bar in town, which was great and we also watched funny fails on YouTube which gave us a chuckle.

The real optimism comes tomorrow, where Nicola Sturgeon is laying out our exit plan out of Scottish lockdown. I'm excited and scared at the same time to see where it'll take us.

Tomorrow marks 2 years of my coming out as gay for the first time to friends and family. It's insane for be to think I've been on this incredible journey for two years already, but I'll comment more tomorrow.

Tomorrow's going to be an interesting and possibly longer entry.

So, for now...

Until tomorrow.

Day 58 - Tuesday 19th May @ 10.46pm

Modern Family is the only TV programme I've seen this month.

Today has been okay, not as optimistic as yesterday and it just seems strangely flatlined compared to a more upbeat and happy Monday (weekdays have been flipped upside down).

I've been chatting with my good friend today, who has been an amazing support. They've helped me in so many ways, more than they'll ever know.

Today feels like it's been the longest day of the year: usually I can blink and it's the end of the day but it seemed slower and I could actually look at the clock and it was only an hour that had passed.

I'm hoping tomorrow brings excitement as the eve of the roadmap so I'm optimistic to see what's happening tomorrow.

That's... really it today. So...

Until tomorrow.

Day 57 - Monday 18th May @ 11.30pm

Today's been good, actually!

I felt more optimistic last night and it seems to have paid off. The Scottish Government announced this afternoon that they're setting out plans on Thursday to ease out of lockdown and that potentially we might be able to see other human life next week.

That is a game changer. I can see a friend! I can sit in a park! I can go outside to play sport! What a good feeling! Except...

I'm in two minds about this. Of course, I love the concept but I'm worried about the prospect of a second peak and being in this lockdown even longer. I'm sure the Scottish Government have looked at it scientifically from every angle and I'm hopeful it works.

I'm also glad that I might be able to see friends I've missed in so long. I can't wait to see them again.

The funniest part of today was hearing a UK Government official in the briefing talk about the 30th of February. This is REAL LIFE.

Anyway, that basically covers today in a nutshell. Hoping tomorrow brings more hope and optimism.

Until tomorrow.

Day 56 - Sunday 17th May @ 11.19pm

Tonight's been a blast!

I'm currently as I type watching the finale of 'The Jackie Cox Show' which is a live drag show online so that you can support your favourite artists. She's doing absolutely amazing and I'm LIVING for it!

Today's been interesting otherwise. We've had an okay day, quite uninteresting until now, with just some schoolwork that I had to do in the evening.

I'm thrilled that we start a new week tomorrow. Full of new opportunities and new experiences. I'm optimistic, feeling more fresh and feeling more happy.

I'm going to go and watch my Season 12 fav, so for now, see ya!

Until tomorrow.

Day 55 - Saturday 16th May @ 11.28pm

I'm ashamed for RuPaul.

Today's entry is going to be a real short one as I'm not feeling great so here's the TL;DR version (Too Long, Didn't Read) of today.

- Watched Drag Race (want #JusticeforJackie)
- Went for a walk (it was so good to get out of the house!)
- Realised it is 2 years since I've come out as gay to my parents and family in a few days time!
- Talked with a friend about a virtual Zoom rave
- Sat for an hour pondering existence

Sorry today's entry is so short but honestly that's all I did.

Hopefully it's longer tomorrow!

Until tomorrow.

(P.S. I've just seen that I used a Shakespeare quote the other day in my entry and it definitely has gone downhill since then to becoming a TL;DR)

Day 54 - Friday 15th May @ 10.53pm

Well, today wasn't awful.

Today I didn't do all that much so this will be shorter than usual. (I'm also feeling extra lazy.)

Today, I started by writing my 1700 word assignment for Modern Studies which I ended up re-submitting twice because I kept finding mistakes in it. It was good to write about and get across the issues that we as a society have faced during this.

I also wrote a stinker of a short story for English which I'm not in any way proud of and kind of hate with a passion.

I've been speaking with friends again which is keeping me sane.

My mask came today which was great as it's a really great thing to have as the lockdown will potentially be eased at some point in the near future.

That's all really for today. I feel dead, but I'm hoping this weekend brings some more hope.

Until tomorrow.

Day 53 - Thursday 14th May @ 12.11am

Please forgive me for being slightly late, I've been busy not being busy!

Today has been a day both amazing and the worst. I managed to order a Sister hoodie from James Charles's new merch store as a pre-order because it all sold out, and luckily I impulse bought a mask from the original sale which was smart because that means I can give my sister a mask too.

It's also been a great day for me as my and my friend really bonded. We miss each other and have been really supporting each other through this. It's been a great friendship to be in with someone so amazing and supportive: we're wanting to see each other and our other friends in our friend group as soon as this is all over and it is safe to do so.

Today has also had its downfalls: it's just been a day that feels quite low and depressing. Young people are being affected greatly by this, especially with regards to mental health, in silence. I really hope that this is brought to proper light after the pandemic is over.

Other than that, today has been pretty uneventful. I'm going to go and try and sleep and dream of seeing my friends and family safely and escape from this nightmare we're all living.

(Sorry it's short, I'm tired and emotionally drained from my deep conversations with my best friend today)

Until tomorrow.

Day 52 - Wednesday 13th May @ 10.30pm

I actually remembered to do this at a decent time tonight. For once.

Today has felt strange. Weird. Fiction. Basically the same way I've described most other days.

I find that I repeat myself constantly with these, just out of habit. I feel like every day feels like Groundhog Day, with no difference or change. Just a constant rotation between some sort of weekday and then a weekend and then repeat. There's no glue to hold together the foundations of what separates Tuesday from Friday or Saturday from Sunday. It's just... a day.

I've had a great day in regards to speaking to my friends. I miss one in particular and we chatted today A LOT which was good. They seem to be going through the same thing of just feeling that each day is repetitive, and we've kind of supported each other through this.

I don't know what tomorrow will bring. Happiness? Rainbows? Golden sunshine? Probably not. But what I'm optimistic about is that it brings hope, unity and some sort of glue to hold together this mess our world is in.

This is the generation that went through this. I am a quaran-teen. And I'll come out stronger. We will all come out stronger.

I know that sounds like a cheesy teen activist thing to say... and that's why I said it. I miss my friends, but I wouldn't sacrifice the lives of innocent people and the amazing healthcare staff to see them.

So remember, listen to Sturgeon and ignore Boris. Where was he at today's conference by the way...

Until tomorrow.

Day 51 - Tuesday 12th May @ 11.39pm

Well, that blew up.

Today was the day I made the decision to open Teams and begin to carve through the jungle of the start of my National 5 course, beginning with Modern Studies. The task was an Added Value Unit on a topic of your choice, and I chose 'tackling coronavirus', mostly because I've been writing about it EVERY DAY FOR THE PAST 2 WEEKS but also because it would be great to talk about the downfalls of the UK Government YET AGAIN.

And, being the flamboyant over-organised gay teen I am, I, on the whim, created a JotForm surrounding how the Governments have tackled the pandemic and how Scots are feeling. Not thinking anything much of it, I tweeted the link out and sighed with relief. Until... ping! Ping! Ping! Ping! Ping! My JotForm blows up and it's got around 50 responses in 1-2hrs. I was blown away by the sheer volume of responses, but was also worried as I had JUST noticed the 100 monthly responses limit (which is a colossal joke by the way) so I tried to work out a plan B.

Whilst I was doing this, the survey decided to keep racking up, and at this current time the original survey has 91 responses and counting. I say original, because I had to create another account to make a new survey so that I didn't go over my limit. I sent out the new link but still people were submitting (and still are even at 11.46pm at night) so I've had to do a mass Twitter campaign and put on the original survey to "go to this link" without being so in your face about it.

I haven't really done much else today. Casual chat with my good friend, drama and Young Scot work to do tomorrow and maybe plan out... and another response at 11.47pm has come through! What am I going to find in the morning?!

Since I have put out my survey almost 12 hours ago now, it has become more and more apparent to me that we need to not only tackle the coronavirus but investigate the UK

Government and the outlandish ways it might ruin our economy even more with their lockdown exit plan. What on Earth are we going to do?

I need to go and recover from the constant notifications, so I'm off to bed soon. I'm going to be dreaming tonight of survey responses, so...

Until tomorrow.

[EDIT: 11.50pm - ...and another one!]

[livingthroughaglobalpandemic](#)

Day 50 - Monday 11th May @ 11pm

Today has been both awful and brilliant.

It began with the headline that was created the night before: UK lockdown was beginning to majorly break down. The Westminster government changing message and putting the whole UK response into jeopardy; leaving Nicola Sturgeon to put the fire out in Scotland. She's done a terrific job today and her speech to the country was a fantastic reminder of her amazing leadership, also mentioning young people and their issues throughout this national time of trouble.

I've also really enjoyed today because I reached out to a friend I hadn't spoken to in a while. It was a pleasant surprise that he wanted to talk and it was interesting and relieving to hear he also was barely interacting with others and these are the signs of the times. I loved catching up and just running away from the news, even for a short while. It made my day a whole lot more bearable.

The worse parts of the day came from the fact I had a 3 hour long Zoom call and the Government was the only thing on social media. The word 'coronavirus' engulfs you into this bottomless pit of this terror after terror that never seems to end. I hope that soon, we can see more positive things on there that don't always result in talking about the national health crisis 24/7.

And so, today might be one of the best days in lockdown so far. I don't know what day we are in yet, but I do know that there is so much more to come.

Social media is a maze, and we're slowly trying to ease through it in one piece.

The joy of hearing from a friend you haven't seen in person in 2 months in lockdown cannot be replicated.

Until tomorrow.

Day 49 - Sunday 10th May @ 11.40pm

Well, that was sort of a disaster.

This evening, the UK Government held Boris's announcement to the nation, about plans to get out of the lockdown in stages, with Wednesday marking Stage 1 of the lockdown easing meaning people can go out more and can sit in parks and enjoy the sun. The only problem? Scotland is taking a different direction.

Except this isn't a problem. Nicola Sturgeon is doing amazingly and I totally agree with her decision to slightly detour from Boris's new ideology of working through this pandemic. The UK Government's new slogan, "Stay Alert, Control the Virus, Save Lives" is not only the most stupid thing I have ever heard, never mind from a Government, but it also is so confusing. How can the UK stay alert from an "invisible mugger" as Boris put it in his earlier statements?

There are mixed messages for sure, but none are coming from the Scottish Government who are clear that we need to stay at home and the only thing that has changed is that we are allowed more exercise. Smaller but more precise steps make more sense than confusing the public with smoke and mirrors.

And it's not just the Scottish Government stepping away from Westminster's plans for UK's new look campaign: the other nations have also stepped away, leaving only England to deal with what may be a catastrophic public nightmare, ruining what small progress the UK have made when compared to what we'll have to do to repair the economy.

On a more non-political note, it's Monday tomorrow (accidentally wrote Sunday and had to correct myself...) and my new mini fridge is due tomorrow. I'm concerned it might not turn up but there are worse things that are a result of this pandemic.

I'm hoping that soon, we get some light at the end of the tunnel that seems to be extinguished by the UK Government's clumsy gambling of the lives of the entire population of England.

Hopefully I can escape this political nightmare soon.

(Sorry this has been extra political today...)

Until tomorrow.

Day 48 - Saturday 9th May @ 11.58pm

Today was... meh.

I'm aware I'm cutting it short today, but I've had another horrible migraine that lasted the majority of the afternoon, so today will be short and sweet as I've not got much to tell.

We watched Drag Race as a family and we loved it, especially Celebrity Drag Race which was the best episode yet! It's almost the Season 12 finale and I don't know what we're going to do on Saturdays when it stops.

That's about it for today. Tonight we watched Britain's Got Talent, but that's about it. Only interesting thing about Saturday night entertainment is the harassment from Steven Mulhern on 'In for a Penny'.

I'm sorry that today is not as long as usual, but it's been a pretty bad day with regards to my health and I just need some sleep to recover. I hope I feel better tomorrow.

Boris announces his new measures tomorrow. That may make me feel worse than I did today.

Until tomorrow.

Day 47 - Friday 8th May @ 10.52pm

I've enjoyed today more than usual.

I'm currently watching the lipsync Season 1, Episode 1 of Drag Race as I've never watched Seasons 1-5 (I'm so shook I never got round to it, but what better time than now!). I also want to have everything watched before All Stars 5 starts on June 5th: the queens were announced today and I'm GAGGED!

I've enjoyed being able to do (mostly) no schoolwork today, it's felt better than having to stress about getting everything in. All I had to do today was a few maths tie ups, which took about 15 minutes anyway. It's been a good day for not being stressed.

I'm so excited for tomorrow as in our house, Saturday is Drag Race Day! We have a weekly tradition of watching all of the new Drag Race episodes together as a family in one sitting. I feel lucky having such an accepting family who I can enjoy these things with.

I had a group call with my volunteer friends which was great: we all had a good laugh and a fun catch-up. We talked about everything from more generally how we're doing in lockdown to more in-depth employment and career paths we all want to go down. I feel I can really talk to them and vent about anything with support. (I missed █████ so much today though, can't wait to see her again...)

It's 11.01pm now and time just feels like a mess (or Jeremy Bearimy if you are a Good Place fan like me). I sometimes don't know the day or the time, and I'm shocked we're already almost halfway through May?!

I need to go and watch this Episode 2 maxi-challenge, so for tonight, it's my time to... sashay... away.

Until tomorrow.

Day 46 - Thursday 7th May @ 12.12am

Yesterday was slightly above average.

I say yesterday because I'm such a stupid teen that I forgot to do this entry sooner, but it's only 13 minutes into Friday and we can't forget Queen Priti Patel telling everyone there's 25 hours in a day so... if the UK Government, our nation's decision maker trusts her, why can't I use her rules of time?

Most of my day was spent procrastinating and doing absolutely nothing until 2pm when I had the longest ever Zoom meeting and after that I left my schoolwork for Spanish and Physics until 9pm and 10pm respectively, which I'm sure has delighted my teachers.

I'm now officially off until Monday due to a fabulous local holiday called the May Day long weekend which is a godsend to end this busy week. I've been able to cancel my alarm, stay up a bit later without worrying and feel like the rest of the week is behind me (except for the maths work due tomorrow).

Our WiFi from BT has been playing up for most, if not all of the lockdown, and my dad got round to phoning them this week about it. The customer service guy was really nice and sent us a new BT Smart Hub 2 that looks so much fancier than our old one. The new WiFi feels much faster and I'm glad we finally decided to complain.

A good thing about yesterday was that my dad delivered parcels out to the elderly and the vulnerable in Glasgow. I don't mean it was good he was out of the house; I'm glad that he is helping to spread the good that is happening in our society right now.

And that's how I'm going to conclude tonight/this really early morning. It doesn't matter if you deliver a food parcel or donate £1,000,000 to the British Red Cross. You've still made a positive impact on someone's life, perhaps more than one. Of course, there is a substantial difference between the two, but the theory and meaning behind it is the same. Any act of kindness will help someone right now.

"That best portion of a man's life, his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love." - William Wordsworth

And with that, I bid you adieu.

Until tomorrow.

Day 45 - Wednesday 6th May @ 11.40pm

We're half-way there.

Spoiler alert. I did not talk that much to friends today. I don't know why; I had the opportunity but didn't 'Seize the Day' (Newsies reference I'll explain in a minute or two). It's difficult for me to say that of course I'll just do it tomorrow because I don't know if I will, and that's a fact of the life we're living right now.

I watched Newsies, the Broadway Musical today and LOVED IT! Honestly, it's one of the greatest musicals to ever exist. My favourite character has to be Crutchie, who just happens to be played by Broadway god Andrew Keenan-Bolger (referenced previously in Day 34). Newsies has everything: action, comedy, amazing music and characters. Watch on Disney+ as soon as humanly possible!

Today was one of the greatest days of my entire childhood. My little sister and I played for most of the late morning, including endless rounds of hide and seek. It brought me so much joy to get that sense of fun amongst this nightmare of a scenario. (We both had great hiding places).

It's Thursday tomorrow, and I'm shook. We're almost at the weekend **again**. HOW? I feel like I was just sitting watching Friday Night Dinner or making masks, but now I'm on day 3 of my S4 course. Time is slipping too quickly...

Today's entry might be a little shorter as I can't really remember much else about today. We went a walk for the first time this week, which felt good, and it also made sure we got some of that Vitamin D. Tonight was also the last supermoon of 2020, and it was so bright, even brighter than Andrew Keenan-Bolger's smile.

I'm going to head to finish the latest episode of Riverdale, the series that never stops making no sense. Series 4 and we're talking about tickle videos and daddy-daughter business rivalry.

Hope tomorrow brings more of a smile and as much joy as I have seeing Andrew Keenan-Bolger in Newsies (no, I won't stop, it's an obsession at this point). Here's to the 7th of May 2020.

Until tomorrow.

Day 44 - Tuesday 5th May @ 10pm

It has been a day... of sorts.

Everyday in lockdown feels like we might soon be one step closer to something. No-one knows what that something will be, but we hope that something can change the course of this pandemic.

Today, I participated in a Young Scot Co-design Project on what I and other Scottish young people thought post-COVID-19 Scotland would look like, feeding into the Scottish Government. We were to write a letter to the Scottish Government 5 years in the future. That felt crazy to me as I can barely think 5 hours or 5 days in front, never mind 5 years. Thinking about 5 years time, I just want everyone to be save, happy and cared for.

Today more than ever I've missed my friends like crazy. All of them. I thought tonight about texting them, but I don't want to intrude. Besides, I feel like currently I don't even know who my real friends are. I'm scared to overstep or intrude or say the wrong thing that would just make it even worse. Sometimes I feel like a real mess.

And there's some moments I feel a real sense of nostalgia. Like tonight, when I read some of my reports from primary and secondary school. There's something about hearing what your Primary 7 teacher said about you make you feel like a wee kid again. Carefree, no stresses or worries.

I think all the time about my stresses now. My friends, my family, who I am perceived as. And I know that is something that you shouldn't worry about, but it's hard not to. Just in case I haven't mentioned it before, I'm gay. Came out in May 2018, almost 2 years ago now. People's reactions weren't bad. Yeah, some people may have teased or some masculine guys may have laughed but for the most part, people accepted me for me. I worry about being the token gay in a friendship group, the one who can't be a real male, the one who is more feminine. The one who isn't a real member of the group. Gender stereotypes still exist, and they can harm everyone.

On a lighter note, we finished Upload and I'm RAGING that that's where the season ends. It was SO good! I'm also really upset because we might not get a Season 2 (if it's even renewed?!) until mid-to-late 2022. Ugh!

I've hopefully got a friend catch-up tomorrow with some of the people I volunteer with, so that should be fun. I also might pluck up the courage to contact a few friends and (not awkwardly) reach out and talk. Just talk. I miss them so much.

It's time for me to go and hunt to watch for what to watch on Netflix before realising I have a ton of work due in this week, so I'm going to head for now. Hope that the world will become a better place soon. Before I go, I'll leave a thought for today.

COVID-19 has shown the unity in **community**. Clapping for keyworkers. Food deliveries to the vulnerable. Catching up with old neighbours you haven't seen in years. That is the silver lining to the cloud over our world right now.

Until tomorrow.

P.S. [REDACTED] is a queen.

Day 43 - Monday 4th May @ 11.11pm

It's been a fun night! Today was the first day of S4, which meant barely anything as I didn't really do work today. I'm going to start tomorrow... I just need to find some motivation. We started watching this fun programme on Prime Video called Upload, which is freaky because it's what I've been thinking about today. I've been uploading all 20,000 photos on my phone to the cloud on Google Photos so I can actually have space on my phone. I've only got 237 photos left, and I've slowed it by coming into this Notes app. (Just went back into it and suddenly there's 300 photos?! Ugh, software is a

nightmare.) I've had a good contact today with some other people. I talked to one of my teachers about how amazing a teacher she is, because she is one of the best teachers on the planet. Period. I got a letter through from my Doctors surgery today as I sent them a free card thanking them for being so inspirational and amazing during this difficult time. They thanked me for my amazing card and it was such a nice experience that can't really be replicated any other time than now. I'm going to try to speak to some of my friends tomorrow; I hope that they want to talk to me. It's difficult during all of this to work out if they actually want to talk to you or just feel sorry for you. I've got to go and finish this episode: I'm hooked! Highly recommend Upload, it's a must watch!

Until tomorrow.

Day 42 - Sunday 3rd May @ 11.28pm

Today's been... like any other Sunday. I feel like we have had some sort of resemblance to a 'normal' Sunday, stay in, watch TV and have a nice night. We've started to binge watch Friday Night Dinner from the beginning because we watched the finale together and loved it. Our task for today was to try and make some face masks (to help protect ourselves, not to give our skin a nice boost) out of old t-shirts whilst we wait for our masks to come from Amazon. We actually got quite far until we needed to sew and our mini sewing machine just wouldn't work... so we're left with some cotton and we're maybe hand sewing them this week? I ordered a face mask from Etsy after the nightmare of the face masks (again, protection from the pandemic) and realised I'd got the last one. It then hit me how in demand we are, and brought me back to the way I feel during the week: that once simple things have become a necessity, a requirement rather than just a nice thing to have just in case. Tomorrow, I start S4. That scares me SO much. This time next year, I sit my National 5 exams. Some may say the most important years of your education are ahead. They say there's no wrong path, but... all A grades would be good, wouldn't it. I'm worried about how I'm going to do, and I'm worried about how the pandemic will affect my exams but I'm hoping it won't or, that the exams are adjusted accordingly. Education won't be the same for years. If this pandemic wasn't happening, (and that's a huge if) I'd be setting out my uniform, getting ready to meet with my friends in excitement and terror and move on to new teachers, new memories and a new phase in life. Thanks to the pandemic actually happening, it's all been taken away. But of course, that's nothing compared to the lives of not only the victims but also the NHS and other critical workers risking their lives to protect others. We may look like we're failing, but we are getting there! *"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."* - Winston Churchill And so on that reflective note, I need some sleep so that my first virtual day of S4 isn't going to kill me (more than it already will).

Until tomorrow.

Day 41 - Saturday 2nd May @ 11.06pm

Today's been... interesting. I've had a really nice day today with the family, and a nice night too. We started off with the new Drag Race this afternoon and moved on to British family entertainment in the evening. I think there was a Government briefing today but I missed it because of how unhelpful and uninformative they usually are. Tomorrow, the Scottish Government is back: I might watch it then. My delivery of goodies came this morning at 8am, when my parents were still fast asleep. I had to enlist the help of my younger sister to manoeuvre the heavy box from Amazon Pantry up the stairs quietly, but unsuccessfully... My room is now fully stocked and prepared. Just waiting on the mini fridge to be delivered next week! That'll keep me sane for the first week of S4 and the manic list of meetings! I've enjoyed spending time with my family during the lockdown, it's been an adventure. Of course I miss my friends, but it's a unique opportunity to have some quality family time for a month or to. It's times like this I miss my family and friends the most though. When I think of everyone else and the memories I cherish with them, it's difficult not to feel down. I'm hoping that I'll be able to see them (in whatever format) soon. Tonight's is a short(er) entry than usual because I'm feeling tired and sad and headachy at the same time. Missing my friends and family is not a good feeling for a usually happy Saturday night before bed. Hoping I can wake up tomorrow!

Until tomorrow.

Day 40 - Friday 1st May @ 10.22pm

What a day.

How is it the first of May already? I can't believe we're on day 40 of lockdown. I was talking yesterday about May bringing hope, and I'm yet to see concrete hope...

Today, as ever, was another day that went in a flash. As ever, I can only remember certain things, like the final of Beat the Chasers (which needs to continue by the way) and finally the first walk outside of the house for this week. I've missed walking and so have my legs as they reverted back to dying after 20m but we made it through the 'river walk' as we like to call it and back home in time for dinner.

Today was my last day in S3. It felt sombre, emotional and difficult to process that that was the end of my junior years of education. Soon, I'd be pushed to the limits with not only curricular struggles like exams but also with social issues such as relationships and keeping myself sane. Starting S4 like this is something I could never imagine but no-one could even imagine this scenario we are in.

Just hit 10.30pm. 8 minutes I've sat trying to put into words how difficult it is for all of us during these times. I've got a Zoom meeting (regular phrase now) on young people's views for post-COVID-19 and what we envision it like for the Scottish Government. I'm doing this, not only to get across the voice of young people, but to keep me active and sane. I'm a hard worker, and I sometimes over-work myself; this is probably the first

time in my teens I've properly relaxed and took some time to breathe. I guess that's a positive from this mess.

I've only just put together the past 3 days' entries. When I started this, I never thought I would have managed to do the next day, never mind over a week's worth of entries. I feel like this is a way for me to look back on how it impacted me and in better times laugh or reminisce with good memories that I write here. I don't know when that will be, but hopefully one time soon.

It's so warm and I'm going to stare at the jet-black sky for a wee while, so:

Until tomorrow.

[EDIT, 10:34pm: As I was staring out of my window, I just remembered I forgot to mention I'm also really excited to get my cans of Diet Coke and sweets delivered by Amazon tomorrow too. What a world we live in.]

Day 39 - Thursday 30th April @ 10.39pm

A rainbow really shone today. It has actually been a pretty good day. And I don't say that often. Right now, everyday feels the same. Everyday feels like a template with a few different events. There are only a few moments of gold dust amongst this madness. A moment like this happened today. As every week, tonight was the 'Clap for the Carers' evening, but with a special difference. Musicians from all over Scotland, including here in East Ayrshire, performed the beautiful 'Somewhere Over The Rainbow' tonight accompanied by the clapping for the key workers. At 8pm, (and all day whilst practising) I sang whilst my younger played the guitar. It wasn't perfect, but it was a moment of bliss, like gold dust amongst this time of darkness. And that is what has made today special. Today, I've also had a good recovery from yesterday's migraine. I managed to get some work done and even helped to save a meeting due to some technical issues. We didn't go a walk, so that has made me feel a bit closed in. I used to hate the thought of a walk, but now I'm actually wanting and expecting it! Boris Johnson returned to the Press Conference today with a bang, announcing the UK is over the curve. I don't really believe that, seeing the staggering numbers every day, and also because of the mass underestimates the Government are taking. He's announcing a plan next week about how they are going to ease the lockdown: so that's going to be delightful. Tomorrow is Friday, the 1st of May. A day of opportunity. A day of new beginnings. May brings hope. It brings some sense of light at the end of the tunnel. A light the UK Government just can't seem to provide. I hope that May brings some progress and saves many lives. I'm now going to go and look at TikTok for 40 minutes before attempting to sleep.

Until tomorrow.

Day 38 - Wednesday 29th April @ 11pm

It's been a wild day. Most of today, I had a severe migraine. I have them quite a lot: most often when the UK Government come on. My family are mostly all sufferers of migraines and some get them more often than others. Mine are usually at random so they come on whenever and wherever. It started when I lost my vision partially, and ended at around 6pm. I'm only now catching up on social media for today, and saw a tweet from a young person about an issue that I had this week: young people not being allowed to submit a question to the UK Government's daily briefing. This issue really annoys me as Article 12 of the UNCRC, signed by the UK, states that young people have the right to freely express their views, especially in a time like this. Young people have the right to ask the questions that affect them; they should have to ask adults to ask for them. My school messaged out our timetables for the next year of school and it has hit me square in the face that I start S4 on Monday. Talking to my friends about it, they all agree that everything about the here and now feels surreal, like we'll wake up tomorrow and it was some strange nightmare we had. But unfortunately, this nightmare is one you can't wake up from. I'm scared I'm going to lose some friendships. I'm scared when I don't message a friend for a while that we'll drift apart or just won't speak when we eventually go back. And that is one of the things that isn't necessarily the worst but one of the saddest parts for young people especially. I said previously that I reached out to a friend I hadn't talked to in what felt like a lifetime (it was actually about 2 weeks) and was glad that they agreed it was only natural that people weren't chatting as often as usual. I'm also glad that we're in some of the same classes, as that small spark of knowing your friend will be in some of your classes can bring just that little bit of joy to your day. I'm having some post-migraine fatigue, so this sounds like a good place to end for this evening. I'm hoping that tomorrow is less migraines and more action. It's also the LAST DAY OF APRIL?! How did that happen? I'm hoping May brings more luck than this year has had already.

Until tomorrow.

Day 37 - Tuesday 28th April @ 11pm

Happy Tuesday! Or is it Monday? I'm lost...

Today has been sort of mismatched. I can barely remember anything I've done today up until this evening. It's mostly felt sort of lifeless and grey.

Except from this evening. We (socially distancing, of course) visited my grandparents and my great-gran to deliver some essentials and catch-up. I loved seeing everyone again, especially my wee great gran who was smiling away from her seat in the front landing. It was bliss to see them and talk to them, even for a short period of time.

I bought hand sanitiser from Boots today, that's really the only thing I remember from this afternoon. It sold out within about 10 minutes of my purchasing it: the mass hysteria of the pandemic I suppose. My mum and sister said that it may be starting to recover, but I think it may be a long time before we can safely retrieve any hand gel anytime soon.

It's crazy to think that I start S4 on Monday. I've been added to tonnes of new Teams groups and we're apparently getting information about next week and timetables mailed. It's exciting but at the same time totally and completely petrifying. What's even worse is that my trumpet will be returning home very soon... I'm sure my family (and neighbours) are going to be delighted.

Tomorrow is hopefully going to be better. I say that with a sense of optimism that we may see a positive change in people's behaviour. I say that in hope that young people suffering with mental health in silence can escape and see their friends, even for a short while, to distract them from the horrific world surrounding them. I say that in hope that self-isolating elderly people like the ones in my family can see their loved ones and feel the love and affection that they deserve: and that some who may not have loved ones can find someone to talk to or befriend. I say that with hope that we can get out of this together. United as ever.

I need some sleep so I can effectively wake up and do very little work tomorrow, so it's time for me to shut my eyes for a while. Wow... today's been a long one.

It's almost Wednesday... or is it Thursday?

Until tomorrow.

Day 36 - Monday 27th April @ 10.31pm

Today has been a strange day.

This morning, I got an expected flood of assignments for school. It wasn't that bad but it is still sad to finish S3 this way.

Boris was back in office and made some strange speech about the coronavirus being a mugger that we are now tackling (what a euphemism) but he wasn't even at the press conference.

My Zoom catch-up with friends today had to be postponed to some point at the weekend due to the floods of work everyone had. It's sad but I'd rather that they are doing well than sacrifice a few hours for a fun conversation or two.

I also reconnected with a good friend who I hadn't talked to in a while and it was good. We discussed how difficult it was to stay connected during the whole situation, and finished on a happy note. I'm glad to have some hints of happiness amongst the mess.

We watched the news as a family tonight in horror at how other countries were doing compared to us, and the tension between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland due to the coronavirus situation differing between them. We also watched how Conservative MPs were playing the NHS for fools and deciding not to pay them anymore *except* if they pass away, and then it's only £60,000 which sounds like a lot but is only really a few years of wages, and can't bring the person back.

The situation we are in now is horrendous. I hope we are saved soon. The light is getting dimmer before it gets brighter.

I've got to go and finish watching the news, but I hope it gets better tomorrow.

Until tomorrow.

Day 35 - Sunday 26th April @ 11pm

Today has been actually really good.

We didn't go on the long walk that we were planning too: I think we would have passed out if we had. We went on a short river walk with my sister finding her love for photography so that was great.

I also found a new group of friends. One of my favourite TikTokers (I know, criminal) has a group chat with some of his closest followers and I had the privilege of being added at 10.30pm tonight. They've been amazing already and so supportive.

Today has also been a really short day. Time has FLEW in this weekend and I am forgetting too often to write my entry today.

The same old talk was on the UK Government's conference today; nothing new except the precious lives lost which have been degraded to a number, a tally on the side of coronavirus.

Tomorrow is the start of my last week as an S3. My last week without worries of exams, stress studying or sleep deprivation. I feel worried as this is a unique experience: changing years during a lockdown. I have no idea how the school are going to do it, and I am worried it may be to the detriment of my education.

I hope that we're actually further ahead in the slowing of the virus, and that an end to this hell of losing precious lives is over soon. I hope that tomorrow is not only the start of a new week, it is the start of winning the war against coronavirus, and saving the lives of our people.

I'm suddenly really thirsty and tired so I need to sleep so I can actually function tomorrow.

Until tomorrow.

Day 34 - Saturday 25th April @ 12.41am

Today (yesterday technically) has went in extremely quickly. Too quickly in fact, that I am sitting writing this at 12.41am on Sunday 26th just as I was about to put off my phone for the night.

There hasn't been much change overall. Pritti Patel was leading the Government conference and I'm so confused as to why: the last time she couldn't count and today she said that a day had 25 hours in it (which makes this entry still valid according to the Home Secretary).

I bought items today from Amazon Pantry for my mini fridge that (should) be coming in 2 weeks, including a 30 can pack of Diet Coke and chocolate. I have no idea what I was thinking but I think I'll enjoy it when it arrives.

My obsession with TikTok has also now gone off the scale. I started with downloading it for a laugh, and during the lockdown it has progressed into commenting on my favourite TikTokers and joining their lives. Some have even followed me back which has made TikTok in general more bearable.

Instagram has also surprisingly helped in making everyone feel more united. One of my favourite Broadway dads Andrew Keenan-Bolger (Crutchie in Newsies Broadway) has replied to me quite a few times and I'm now his Insta son so that's... something.

Tomorrow will probably be feeling the same strange normal way as what is now the usual; my family want us to do a 12km walk tomorrow and I know it's going to happen so I am dreading it. As long as I have my music and data, I'll maybe be a bit happier.

I miss when life was normal, but I'm for some reason enjoying it the way it is now. I feel much safer in these walls than in any other building in the world. I hope the world is a better place soon.

This entry has been a hot mess but it's almost 1am. I need to have some sleep so I can function tomorrow... or is it today? If I'm going with Patel, I can still say tomorrow and still sign off with:

Until tomorrow.

Day 33 - Friday 24th April @ 10.05pm

I've just came upstairs to write today's entry after an evening of light-hearted comedy and entertainment. All of us seem to be a bit happier and upbeat today than usual.

It's strange for me how many things have become normal now that were totally unusual before. Daily walks to the shops instead of nipping out to the car. Talking to neighbours passing by. It's almost as if the population has become... social! *gasp*

It also astonishes me everyday that Donald Trump is the President of the United States throughout this. I was gobsmacked to read that he had suggested to medical professionals about studying if they could inject **disinfectant into people's bodies to kill coronavirus**. Not only is this ridiculous, it's even more ridiculous that other politicians including Nicola Sturgeon, Ireland's CMO and Joe Biden have to confirm to the public not to consume or ingest disinfectant in any form. He has said this evening that he was being **sarcastic** and in no way meant it. I've watched the video numerous times and there is zero hints of sarcasm. How is this man president?

I'd say the same for our Prime Minister, except we haven't seen much of him. In fact, I feel like we've seen everyone but him. One day it's Rishi Sunak, the next it's Priti 'Can't Calculate Numbers' Patel and today it was... someone. I hope that Boris is back next week to show that our PM actually knows what's going on.

On a non-political note, I had a Zoom call with friends today. It's the couple of hours a week like that that help me to not forget, but to store away those thoughts for just enough time to enjoy the company of those I've missed. Zoom and other services are literally keeping families connected together in what would have seemed like an impossible task 3 or 4 decades ago. It's times like this I'm glad that I taught by elderly relatives beforehand how to use their tablets and smartphones.

My finishing thought for today is that I'm glad we have the internet for laughter. People have sought a new-found fame on TikTok, started trends on social media about the silliest of things and came together to mourn the elimination of Jan (watch Drag Race Season 12, you uncultured swine).

The crack of light is getting slightly bigger by the day.

Until tomorrow.

Day 32 - Thursday 23rd April @ 10.08pm

Today has been a strange day. I completed more work than I have all week, I felt more positive going out for a walk and have truly been able to feel safe in what is currently an unsafe world. Amidst this crisis, today has been a glimmer of hope.

Tonight, it was the BBC's 'The Big Night In' fundraising appeal which brought together Children in Need and Comic Relief to raise money to fund the much-needed support for projects saving lives, whilst also donating to the NHS. I've just finished watching it; they raised a whopping £27 million pounds, which the UK Government is doubling, meaning the final amount is almost £60 million pounds.

It was also another 'Clap for Our Carers' evening. Tonight, our street were really involved and we were all united for one cause: our amazing NHS and carers. Social media was buzzing with everyone celebrating our wonder of an NHS. What a feeling to experience. What a day to be alive.

I had the urge to write today's entry many times, particularly in the afternoon, but I'm glad that I'm writing it after watching the outstanding work from everyone involved in tonight's charity appeal, and the amazing Clap for Our Carers evening.

Tomorrow, I'm attending another Zoom catch-up with my friends; the second one of the week. It's small interactions like that, seeing the people that I have created friendships with that I haven't seen in a long time, that make my week. I enjoy the short time I'm in their presence, digital or not.

I'm feeling more optimistic about the future. No longer does it feel like an endless tunnel. I feel that I can see a glimmer of light. That glimmer of hope that we will get through it together. To the future: I hope that we get through. I hope that everyone comes out safe. I hope our key workers are appreciated for the work that they have done. I hope that this will be over one day.

Until tomorrow.

Day 31 - Wednesday 22nd April @ 12.42pm

As I write this, it is a beautiful spring afternoon with the sun in the sky. Any normal day for me, this would be period 5, just before lunch at my school. But this is not a normal day. This is a day in the lockdown of COVID-19.

The UK lockdown began on March 23rd for 3 weeks and was extended on 16th April 2020 for another three weeks. Today is day 31 of the UK lockdown.

The lockdown has proved difficult for many communities and it makes it difficult for people to cope.

Nicola Sturgeon is currently delivering her Daily Press Conference; what's been a crucial news item every day for Scots. The conferences have delivered everything from key lockdown information to the scrutiny of the now former Scottish Chief Medical Officer Catherine Calderwood.

Today, as does every day, feels surreal. On Monday, I had a Zoom catch-up with my friends to chat about life. Time during that stood still: those few moments of happiness in a world of doubt. Yesterday, I had a catch-up with my school friends to discuss extra-curricular activities when the schools go back.

I read yesterday's surreal news with a sense of doubt if it was real, that Scottish schools would be closed until August. I thought then about the same thing I think now, will this ever end? Painstaking days of time melting into a non-linear passage.

But there are glimpses of goodness within this. I've got to see my parents do their work, which has been strange to see what they do whilst I'm at school. I've got to see the wonder of Thursday evenings, 'Clapping for Our Carers' for the NHS and our key workers, who have worked extremely hard to save lives every second of everyday.

It breaks my heart to see the death toll everyday on screen. Every lost person, just a number in history. A tally mark on the score of COVID-19. Currently, it seems like it will never end. That COVID-19 will keep tallying away at the lives of the world. I'm hoping, when this is re-read, that lives have been saved, people have lived through it and loved ones can see each other again.

Until tomorrow.