

Friday
12th June
2020


CARLISLE
DIOCESE



THE MAP

The Map has arrived. Cumbria arcs up the wall of the spare room; orange contour lines and miles of coastline and the thick blue line of the M6 racing alongside the Pennines. Morven went into the office to pick up some stuff, and drove The Map out to my house. Before Heads Huddle this week I faffed around with sticky fixings and, after several drunken alignments, managed to get The Map straight and dignified on the wall.

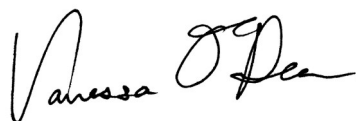
The Map is stickered all over, little colourful dots singing of your schools. Orange for VA, blue for VC, red for academies, green for Good Shepherd MAT and yellow for foundation schools.

I love The Map. It has been witness to years of work by the education team, on the wall in the office, issuing a strange mix of challenge and reassurance. Challenge because I look at it and know how much there is to learn about you, your communities and your schools. Reassurance because when I take a moment to stand quietly before it, I know that this task is so much bigger than us as individuals, in this moment in time. The Map helps me keep perspective. It reminds me of my humanness, that I am a created being with lots of questions and few answers.

Some days I can accept this. Other days (a lot of days) I can't. On those days I WANT a life map. I want to know the answers, I want to nail it DOWN. I want to sagaciously solve all problems that come my way. Problems to do with work and home; problems like a resistant homeschooling child, what to do next to best support a colleague, a sister's ongoing illness. I am a little Eve, reaching for knowing.

I love The Map, and I love the Prophet Isaiah. Not just for the wondrous passage about soaring on wings like eagles. Isaiah 30:15 says, "in repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength." *In quietness and trust is your strength.* Our strength to deal with the problems we face is not generated within us. We are not the map makers. Real strength comes when we enter the silence, stop reaching for the knowing and trust that God, the Master map maker, will show us the way.

God bless you all,



education@carlisle-diocese.org.uk



If by Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!


CARLISLE
DIOCESE

Heads Huddles W/C 15th June

Wednesday 17th June 2020 @3.30pm

Invitations and notes from the previous meeting will be sent next week

Any queries or if you would like to receive the notes from any previous 'huddle' contact

education@carlisle-diocese.org.uk



The Blessing UK

At this unique and challenging time in the United Kingdom over 65 churches and movements, representing hundreds of others, have come together online to sing a blessing over our land. Standing together as one, our desire is that this song will fill you with hope and encourage you.

But the church is not simply singing a blessing, each day we're looking to practically be a blessing. Many of the churches included in this song have assisted with supplying over 400,000 meals to the most vulnerable and isolated in our nation since COVID-19 lockdown began. This alongside phone calls to the isolated, pharmacy delivery drops and hot meals to the NHS frontline hospital staff.

Our buildings may be closed but the church is very much alive!

Lyrics:

**The Lord bless you And keep you
Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn His Face toward you
And give you peace As we receive, we agree, amen**

Amen, amen, amen

**May His favor be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children, and their children**

**May His presence go before you
And behind you, and beside you
All around you, and within you
He is with you, He is with you**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUtl3mNj5U>

