

Friday 24 April 2020

**“So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit”**

Dear Blackfen students

Happy Friday to you all. The above quote is from a very famous poem which you might have heard over the last few weeks (Idris Elba has been reciting it on the BBC). The full poem is listed below. Why don't you read it out aloud to someone else in your family?

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,
When the funds are low and the debts are high
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.
Life is strange with its twists and turns
As every one of us sometimes learns
And many a failure comes about
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up though the pace seems slow—
You may succeed with another blow.
Success is failure turned inside out—
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell just how close you are,
It may be near when it seems so far;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit

The first 2 lines probably sum up how you have been feeling at times over the last five weeks – the focus is particularly on the word trudge. However, even if you are trudging (walk slowly and with heavy steps, typically because of exhaustion or harsh conditions) you are still moving forwards and we continue with the journey that we are on.

Keep looking forward, don't look backand most of all DON'T QUIT.

With my best wishes to you and your family this weekend.

Matthew Brown