

Wednesday 29 April 2020

“When the well is dry we will know the worth of water” Benjamin Franklin

Dear Blackfen students

Well, summer seems to have disappeared but it has been replaced, for a short time, by much needed rain. I know that the plants in my garden will feel more comfortable after the soaking of yesterday.

I was reminded, when I was thinking of water, of the journey I took running 26 plus miles to do the London Marathon in 2016. What kept me going on that journey? One thing was the support – it was great to see Ms Carter and Ms Shaw at various different points on the route, another was the charity I was running for – Young Minds and the final thing, of course, were the water stops along the way. At one particular water stop I was greeted by a student who is now in year 11 with a bottle of water and a “well done, Mr Brown”. I will never forget her smiling face (and I do remind her about this every now and again!!!). Of course, on the journey we are on we must make sure that we constantly refill our well or our reservoir because, without the encouragement of others and the hydration the road ahead will be difficult.

So, on your journey, pause for breath, smile, take in some water and fill your reservoir, because you need to keep going. Most importantly, encourage each other with positive reinforcement. Know the worth of water and the worth of a smile.

With my best wishes to you and your family.

Matthew Brown