

Transcript of Making History (30.21 minutes)

(Image of Jim Friedman, film producer and World Creativity and Innovation organiser)

Hey young people of County Durham, I heard about the incredibly creative stuff that you are doing all the way over here in the middle of the United States. My name is Jim Friedman, I teach at Miami University and I was blown away by the amazing stuff you're doing that make the world a better place especially during this pandemic. You are everything we love about creativity. You go beyond your first right answer, you think outside the box and you approach problems in new ways. You are who I want to be when I grow up. The world needs your creativity and I'm excited to celebrate your accomplishments with you and the world. Continue to embrace your creativity, tackle new challenges and come back to celebrate with us every year.

Congratulations to all of you on your hard work and I look forward to seeing you all at County Durham's World Creativity and Innovation Week and day celebration.

(Video of drone footage of County Durham with text County Durham is making history)

(Image of a mining statue and fields)

2020 a year of challenges, a time in history that will be talked about for generations to come. Everyone has been affected in some way.

(Image of two happy children cuddling each other)

(Image of girl sitting in her bedroom eating)

(Image of girl holding laptop)

(Image of young people holding bags and lanterns with text 'One day this Covid thing will end.')

We couldn't hug our families, we couldn't see our friends, some of us couldn't go to school. Education, employment, industry, and hospitality shifted in ways that people never imagined. Hundreds and thousands lost their lives.

(Image of young girl staring out of a window)

The people of County Durham are strong and resilient showing courage, perseverance and commitment to finding new ways of doing things even in the most challenging times.

(Image of children laughing and smiling)

(Image of young person playing guitar)

(Image of child in sensory environment)

In spite of the most difficult circumstances children, young people, schools, settings and community groups have been creative and innovative in their responses to the Covid-19 pandemic. We want to show you how.

(Image of child participating in a science experiment, smiling)

These are our stories and we celebrated them with pride.

Image of drone footage

(Slide showing 'During Lockdown, The Turrets Youth Theatre created a time capsule to help us remember how it felt. This is Week One.)

(Slide showing 'The Coronavirus Time Capsule')

(Slide showing 'Week 1 – The Beginning' The Corona Virus Time Capsule)

(Images of 6 young people saying 'hello')

Hello, hello, hello, hello, hello, hello.

It's the 9th of April 2020. This is a time capsule. It is a record of who we are right now. It is a record of the time for when the Coronavirus came. When all the schools shut down and everyone got told to stay inside.

(Image of young girl putting something in her wardrobe and closing the door)

(Image of girl sitting in her bedroom eating)

We are a group of teenagers staying in our bedrooms, in our living rooms, in our kitchens.

(Image of a young person, shutting the fridge door).

Our lemon groves.

(Image of young person throwing 2 lemons in the air)

Our bathrooms.

(Image of young person in bathroom)

From our homes in a place called Teesdale, in a place called Barnard Castle, in the United Kingdom.

(Young person holding her laptop showing the Union Jack on the screen).

In Europe, in the world, in the next few weeks or months. No one knows how long really. We're not going anywhere. So, we're going to film ourselves every week so that we will remember what it was like. What we did, what we didn't do and how we felt, because this has never happened before, and it may never happen again. This is our Coronavirus time capsule and it starts now, now, now, now, now, now.

(Slide showing The Coronavirus Time Capsule)

(Slide showing In Lockdown with Catchgate Primary School – 23 March 2020)

(Image of Boris Johnson)

From this evening I must give the British people a very simple instruction 'You Must Stay At Home'.

(Images of inside classrooms, video of school and home life during lockdown)

(Slide showing Life will return to normal ...)

(Images of school and home life)

And we'll be waiting here when it does. Stay safe, stay, strong, stay home.

(Slide showing schools, settings, children and young people have adapted creatively to new ways of learning).

(Image showing personalised learning videos from Staindrop Primary School).

(Image showing children at Louisa Nursery and Facebook comments).

(Image showing children at Escomb Primary School painting a rainbow)

(Image showing teacher with child at Villa Real School)

(Image showing young adult doing sign language at Villa Real School).

(Slide showing making slime with The Meadows)

Hi guys, today we are going to be making some smelly slime. How does that feel Liz? So, it's starting to come together now. OK. All nice and gooey and you can snap it as well.

(Slide showing Student Enrichment Programme. Schools and settings have found creative ways to continue extra-curricular activities.

(Image of students from Durham Sixth Form on a Teams meeting).

(Slide showing Pride Society).

(Image of flag)

(Slide showing Schools and settings have continued to approach the curriculum creatively. Here's an example from Evergreen Special School).

(Image showing Evergreen Primary School's name plate).

(Image showing teacher and pupil carrying out experiments)

We're quite well known for our 'Science Week', erm, all the staff and children always get on board as do the parents and we always finish it with a science fayre where parents are invited in to come see what the children have been learning in the classrooms and we have our very own science detectives and stem engineers who are always doing their bit. Science is accessible to all children you know at Evergreen we have a range of children with diverse and complex needs and every child can participate and engage in science here at Evergreen and we wanted that to still go ahead this year so we just had to be a bit creative and we thought well we have done everything else virtually surely we can do Science Week virtually so that's what we set about to do. So, our science detectives set about applying.

(Video showing science detectives recording what they do)

Science detectives are recording what they would usually do during Science Week and at the fayre. They are just recording themselves doing it and that will be available for all the other children to see. 'Elizabeth can you help Harley cover his hand in the blubber'.

(Image showing child helping another child to cover their hands in the blubber).

See if you can stay longer than 24 seconds. We aim to put a science fayre virtual video together so that parents can see a science fayre virtually. There's a lot to be said I think for the other skills that they have developed during this time especially with using computers, using you know technology and a arrange of different ways and being so adaptable as well and I think the staff have really really been on board and been very innovative with their ideas so we are quite proud of all of the staff and pupils for that here.

(Slide showing Children have approached learning and creative and innovative ways....)

(Slide showing Science with Finchale Primary School)

(Slide showing The Solar System. Students were asked to design their own solar system)

(Slide showing Ava. Ava took advantage of the season and used snow. She coloured the snow with paint. Allowing for more creativity, Ava should have a better understanding about the subject)

(Image of snowy bench with coloured stones on it)

(Image of happy child standing next to the snowy bench)

(Slide showing Phoebe a keen baker who wants to be a contestant on Junior Bake Off, Phoebe decided to bake a cake with the planets in our Solar System on the top)

(Image of cake with the planets of the Solar System on top)

(Slide showing The Anderson Shelter by Jamie. Jamie build an Anderson Shelter from snow. He used plastic 'curver' boxes to make the 'snow bricks', filling all the gaps with snow, except two holes for windows.

(Images of the Anderson Shelter)

(Slide showing and they have developed new talents...)

(Slide showing Keeping Creative and Innovative with Bishop Barrington School)

(Slide showing pupil being creative)

(Images of different slides: Anonymouse project, science, music, PE

Slide - even learning new tricks - pupil from the Woodlands learning a magic trick.

Video image of young child doing messy play.

Image of Croft School has Got Talent competition

Croft Community School ran a talent competition

Video of a child making food in the kitchen.

Video of a child doing physical activity

Video of a child doing karate

Video of a child playing the drums

Video of a child playing the piano

Slide - Children have used poetry to express their feelings.

Poem Bleeding unaware by Megan Patterson

You dismissed your own feelings to give yourself to others.

I'm aware you can't find love in yourself, so instead you love another.

You called yourself a liar when you struggled to come up for air.

But the only liar is the one in your head that says exhaustion's only fair.
You cannot let yourself fly because "oh, what if you fall"
You're trying so hard to climb when this mountain looks so tall.
You refuse to swim because "oh, what if you sink?"
So you let it go and smile at others whilst your bleeding, unaware, in this drink.
You try and hold on whilst you are holding yourself back
Tell me void, really, how logical is that?
Let yourself break, let yourself shatter
Because at the (bitter/sweet) end of this, what does it really matter?
And by that I mean, what do they matter
And you think you are lying on borrowed time, but trust me child, none of us are stealing
Live your life the way you want, but I beg you to keep living.
Slides of creative writing project.
And written raps to express feelings about Covid 19
No Art for Christmas by Jackass Youth Theatre #iamcreative
Jackass Youth theatre video,
Images of two girls outside
Yeah MC Duff, you know how it is
MC R in the house
MC Styke in the hooooouse
MC Appo in the house
Yo yo yo, let this MC in the house
This Corona virus
Galore so indecisive
The rules are convincing and so devisive
Families sit like chocolate orange slices
But everyones plugged in to their own devices
Its hard to see through all this fake news
So many stats and stories I'm trying to read through
Guidelines wind me up like a yoyo
I'm so mad I want to

There's hope my friend

One day this current thing will end.

And we'll be together soon.

Slide - children of County Durham have turned to arts to express themselves.

Langley Park Primary School - happy holidays slide

Images of writing and things pupils at the school have made

Photos of things children from The Oaks School have made

Images of work that Belmont Community school have produced

Slides showing images from Bishop Barrington School photography competition

Slides from Beamish and Pelton Federation school showing images of work pupils have produced.

Images of creative work from pupils of Durham Sixth Form Centre

Slide from Sedgefield Community College visual arts at SCC

The class of 2020 exhibition

Slides showing creative work of pupils from Sedgefield Community College

Schools and settings continued to celebrate events throughout the year.

Celebrating VE Day with Positive Steps Nursery

Videos of adults and children dancing and moving and union jack flags

Slide showing a child with bunting and union jack flags saying stop the spread

At a time when we had to stay home new national and international connections were forged.

Natalie partnered with a childminder in Margate to develop connections between children at different settings.

Hi Everyone, I'm Natalie and this is Rebecca and we are from the North East of England in a small pit village in County Durham. We are here to talk to you today about our collaboration with Rachel and what we've done during the pandemic for the children. You'll see a lot of photos of Gingy from our setting who went down to Margate as we couldn't due to the pandemic so he had lots of fun there and Sabine the Starfish came up to County Durham we first met Rachel during our chat about an accreditation we are continuing to work towards and decided to start a partnership in communicating between the two settings for the children. The children have had just so much out of what we've done already, we've connected with Rachel through the use of something we call Happy Paws and the children really enjoy receiving post. Overall we've had some really great feedback from the children, they're really excited when our post arrives and I know that Rachel says that her children feel the same way too. We hope to continue this collaboration and give the children a little bit more joy and excitement.

Slide - Lunar New Year with Wingate Primary School

Video image of Wingate Primary School.

Wingate Primary School explored China and the Lunar New Year

The children made lanterns, designed their own willow plates and even learnt Chinese.

Pupils enjoyed video calls with international students, learnt dances and Kung Fu.

As well as learning paper cutting, Chinese cooking and Mandarin.

Image of five pupils outside holding Chinese lanterns that they made.

Pictures of images of pupils work displayed on the wall depicting Chinese New Year.

Video images of students from Wingate Primary in the school hall.

Video Children in the school hall singing a song in Chinese with willow pattern paper plates and Chinese lanterns that they have made.

(Luna New Year with Wingate Primary School, showing Wingate Primary School sign, Wingate Primary School explored China and the Lunar New Year, children made lanterns, designed willow plates and learnt Chinese, enjoyed video calls with international students, learnt dances and Kung Fu, as well as learning papercutting, Chinese cooking and Mandarin)

(Children holding up the lanterns that they have made, image of classroom boards showing Asia Week and different drawings and images relating to it)

(Children all stood together, singing and dancing a Chinese song, holding up drawings and lanterns they have made, applause at the end)

(New connections have been made through technology such as Durham's first County-Wide Youth Council being established, screenshots of TEAMS calls from the Youth Council)

Forced to move online has been a blessing in disguise for the Youth Council. Despite the barriers of having to connect digitally to people you have never met before and the barriers of organising and coordinating digitally. But the silver lining has been that the ease and frequency to which we have been able to connect and once the ice has broken, we've been way more productive than I could have ever imagined being face to face. Being one click away from a meeting as opposed to miles, has made meetings of up to four times a week less of an abnormal occurrence. In addition, it has been our ability to adapt to technology being able to spread a survey far and wide. All in all despite these turbulent times, the Youth Council have still been able to champion the youth voice to its followers.

(Durham Federation have completely transformed timetabling to meet the needs of their students)

It was hard over lockdown cause I was just didn't have the motivation to even get out of bed. But then coming back to school and everything's just like changed and getting back into routine and it's good like being able to have a normal life again and the lessons all day are good cause you don't have to like worry about going to different lessons and forgetting everything.

My reading and I went up a year and a little bit on my reading.

So when we opened school back up, we obviously had to assess risk and minimise the risk and maximise on learning time. So we made the decision to remove any waste of time and for us that involved you know movement around school. The decision was then taken to erm block curriculum time together both in half day sessions and in full day sessions. So that those half an hour of minutes which would've ordinarily been spent moving from one subject to another, were then given back to each subject area and children could return to school and have an in-depth learning experience

every day. And erm it also meant that we could really assess students and find out where the gaps were and have intensive sessions to close them.

So with the lessons all day you can remember more and also it's a lot safer.

We normally just do one topic for the whole day. If we were to be doing it in an hour a week, we'd have to go back and remember what we were just learning before and we remember what we've just done so we can go onto the next task.

What we erm didn't realise I suppose is, the many benefits that we've seen from this model.

My grades in science have gone up a lot cause erm we were able to do more in class.

It's like the teachers are able to explain it in more depth when you have more time to do it.

When children are educated at home, er there is a danger that there will be gaps in their knowledge and understanding. The model that we've employed having whole days of subjects has meant that we are very very clear on where those gaps are. And we're very clear on where those gaps need to be filled. Our year 10 and 11 progress data and in line with GCSE gradings erm is suggesting that they are going to make more progress than the previous cohort who had a more traditional timetable model. And what are students are telling us is that in September they don't really want to revert back to having five single lessons in a day.

Like I've I've moved up in grades and I never even thought I could do it like in some of my lessons I never even thought I would get a 4 now I'm on like a 6 it's mad.

I'll think we'll learn more this way (Girl on the left: Yeah) than moving around every hour. Like I think personally I've learnt a lot more this way (Girl on the left: Yeah same) plus there's just less disruptions cause people aren't coming in later and cause we're all in that one place like all day or for half a day.

(One moment in History with Lumley Primary School)

My names Charlotte Nicholson and I'm the history coordinator at Lumley Infant and Nursery School. When we went into lockdown last year, we knew that we were living through history and so decided to make a time capsule full of our memories at that time. We invited the children at home with their families and the children of key workers in school to make something really special to go in our box. We were overwhelmed with the responses and received rainbow artwork, painted pebbles and even some poems. And it was so lovely to come back together in September for all of the children to share their experiences of the lockdown, to share their er mementos that they've made and to put everything together into our time capsule. We sealed it up and I can't wait in years to come to open it up and to remember one moment in history.

I wried a poem and I painted a rock.

I made some soap and I wanted to wash away all of Coronavirus and germs.

I made this rainbow because erm other people had made some rainbows and stuck them on their windows.

Our friends at school.

We put some very very special things in our time capsule.

(Music plays, images of children holding rainbow drawings and the time capsule)

(Virtual Christmas Concert with Durham Music Service)

Good evening and a very warm welcome to our first ever virtual ensembles Christmas concert. It's been a year like non other but despite that the music really has played on. We haven't been able to meet as usual this term, so from September we launched our virtual music centre. We have six groups, who meet weekly over webcam, and we can't wait to share their music making with you tonight. So sit back relax, enjoy the festive music. And a very Merry Christmas to you all.

(Virtual music group playing Christmas songs over webcam)

(Keeping Creative with St John's Catholic School & Sixth Form College, student playing brass instrument)

Before the time of devastation, we overlooked our exceptional health services with little admiration. You waited, hoping someone notices. The world was given a pandemic, coronavirus was here. Everyone began to be sympathetic towards you and your career. Everyone across the nation, clapping on a Thursday night at 8. For you are the foundation and we will await. So we will all aid and stay at home while you dominate this pandemic that is so tiresome.

Lockdown lately at St Johns has been a really positive experience for staff and students. We've adapted very quickly to the circumstances and we've found that lots of our students have really excelled in their study. As head of music, we have encouraged our students to be creative, to participate in performances, (girl playing guitar in background) to get away from the screen and they've responded to that really really well and we're very proud of their efforts.

(student starts playing the guitar). I think the lockdown has actually enabled staff and students to use technology to a massive advantage and we want to continue to allow our students to use technology in a more creative way. To be thoughtful about their response in their learning and to enhance their response with that technology.

(Thank you to the following: lists everyone involved)

End of video.