

17<sup>th</sup> July 2021

What wonderful weather we are having, and if you go with old sayings then we are to have 40 days of sunshine as it was sunny on st, switherns day. Lets wait and see only the lord knows and can control the weather. I do like the sunshine so it would be nice.

The school summer holidays are now here, we at nursery carry on as parents jobs don't stop. It is much quieter though as some do take the time off.

Before the holidays we said goodbye to 11 children who are starting school in September, I get quite emotional as have seen some of them from baby's to school age. They make me proud and I know that I have tried to give them the best possible start. I asked them what they wanted to be when grown up, it's lovely to hear.

One said, "a fireman", one said "to look after animals" one said "a mummy" one said "a princess or a butterfly" Lots of lovely things, however two children for the first year said they wanted to be "you tube influencers." I was a little taken aback, as these are 4 or nearly 4 year old's. I only just know how to get on you tube yet alone set up a site and be an influencer. What does it even mean? I began to think of how many people just sit on you tube trawling through looking at these so called influencers.

Then I began to think with my work head on "safeguarding" children been watched by who knows, from anywhere in the world, teenagers or pre-teens getting into who knows what because an influencer says its a good idea. Gone are the days of parents been able to control outside things for the very young. It is quite sad.

We need to protect these young innocent minds, let them be children and as adults be adults who give discipline when needed, so they learn right from wrong. The bible talks about discipline and the need for children to be nurtured and loved.

Bible reading Ephesians 6 v4

Fathers do not exasperate your children, instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the lord.

Later as I was thinking about this "influencers" I looked up influence in the dictionary, "a person or thing that influences others"

So can we be influencers for our Lord? Could we use you tube to share gods love and show a way of life lived for our Lord.

Covid 19 has meant we learnt to use Zoom for meetings, we learnt to use facetime or video calls to keep in touch with friends and family, we used you tube to take part in services, all of which was very alien to me in March 2020.

So maybe this can be a good thing, if the right people know how to use it.

Technology does keep moving forward and we have to learn, but we also need to remember to protect the younger generation and show them how to use technology correctly and safely.

# One More Step Along the World I Go

Daniel Shiells

One more step along the world I go,  
One more step along the world I go;  
From the old things to the new  
Keep me traveling along with you  
And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
Keep me traveling along with you.  
Round the corners of the world I turn,  
More and more about the world I learn;  
And the new things that I see  
You'll be looking at along with me  
And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
Keep me traveling along with you.  
As I travel through the bad and good,  
Keep me traveling the way I should;  
Where I see no way to go  
You'll be telling me the way, I know  
And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
Keep me traveling along with you.  
Give me courage when the world is rough,  
Keep me loving though the world is tough;  
Leap and sing in all I do,  
Keep me traveling along with you  
And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
Keep me traveling along with you.  
You are older than the world can be,  
You are younger than the life in me;  
Ever old and ever new,  
Keep me traveling along with you  
And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
Keep me traveling along with you.