

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

And so we have arrived into the ninth week where schools have been partially closed and preparations are now underway for the likelihood that there will be a phased re-opening. As I was thinking what to write a phrase kept coming to my mind...'**2020 Vision**'... and this got me thinking.

Back in January the talk was of 2020 being a new decade and the hope and dreams that this could afford. At that point I doubt any of us even considered that in less than three months' time our lives would be so very different.

2020 is also a type of cricket and was a successful attempt to speed up the game and make it exciting.

For opticians 2020 Vision is perfect eyesight where you can see everything clearly.

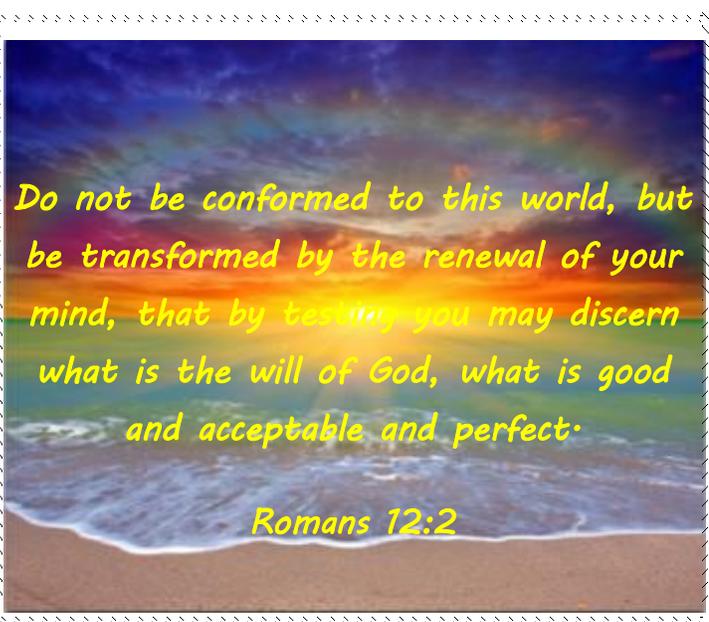
In biblical times God sent visions to people as prophesies. Many of the visions are recorded and have yet to be fulfilled but sometimes we read of visions that were fulfilled into real life events, such as the vision that Joseph had when the angel appeared to him to announce Mary's pregnancy and the vision that Paul had of the man that told him they needed help in Macedonia. It is clear from the Bible that God has a vision for each of us, '*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope*'. (Jeremiah 29:11)

Indeed, vision is essential for strategic plans in all aspects of life and, at this point in time, we are standing at a metaphoric crossroads where we are about to move forward having been in unprecedented times over the past weeks. We are acutely aware of what we have missed but also many of us appreciate some of the things that we have gained.

In schools we have seen the advent of different ways of teaching – those in school ensuring that different age ranges are learning together creatively, those sending work via media platforms considering how and what will actively engage children at home, so many different methods from those that we have 'normally' applied in the past.

We have forged different relationships, worked and relaxed in different ways, discovered perhaps what is really important to us both personally and educationally and as a result have in some way changed on a personal level.

So perhaps for us a '**2020 Vision**' could be the opportunity to reflect on what has taken place recently, reflect on what was we know was good before the lockdown, reflect on what has been even better during the lockdown so that as we move to the next phase we take the best of the past and the best of the present to look out onto an even better future for all in our care.



"THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION IS TO TURN MIRRORS INTO WINDOWS."

SYDNEY J. HARRIS

And one to make you smile...

