



## *“My name is Karen and I am the Data Analyst for Early Break.”*

*Now, I think you have to be a certain “type” to enjoy numbers and statistics and often people will glaze over when you “talk data” but it is a fascinating and useful tool which plays an important role in all aspects of business/life and allows important financial/social decisions to be made with confidence.*

*COVID-19 has thrown the world into turmoil and uncertainty, and data analysis is playing a major part in the decisions being made to fight this terrible virus.*

*How life has changed for every person on the planet - and it has changed with remarkable speed. As I sit typing this “blog” I am deafened by the silence. Now anyone who knows me will know I am pretty deaf to start with but this is a very different deafness.*

*The lack of transport noise creates an eerie but calm silence – and there are new things to behold – the clear empty skies, the purer air quality, the gift of time (for many of us) to reflect. And for those without that gift of time - those on the front line who are amazing and are putting their lives at risk for others, I hope the Thursday night applause in some small way helps carry them through.*

*Personally, I am taking pleasure in watching nature carry on as normal – flowers blooming, birds busy collecting twigs for their nests - I love Spring, it signifies hope and new beginnings. Spending time with my husband and Betty the cat – neither of whom got the “calm silence” memo for when I am trying to work. Our daily family Skype which is morphing into an episode of the Royle Family with “what’ve you had for tea” the first question asked.*

*For me, these are things to savour.*

*Yes, like many, I had personal plans for this year, and yes there was some sadness that they can’t happen - but they can wait. The big plan for now is to get through this and come out the other side stronger.*

*#Together*