

As part of a topic marking the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, children wrote a diary entry to capture her thoughts on the night before her coronation. Although the emotional impact of the event, and the changes to role and duty were discussed as a class, children were encouraged to put themselves into the role, and write from a personal perspective.

Dear Diary

Tonight I am awaiting and almost dreading tomorrow. I will no longer be just Elizabeth, I will be Elizabeth II. A huge role, the biggest role of my life will be thrust upon my shoulders. My life will be changed forever.

I miss my father. It has been a long journey back from South Africa since hearing of his death. I long for him to be here to help me get through this. What would he say to me now that I am about to be Queen?

My whole day will be different, people will treat me differently - I will be different. Everywhere I go, I will have body guards watching over me. Everything I do will have to be accompanied; I will rarely be on my own in a room.

I will no longer be able to visit the places I love to visit or do the things that I enjoy so much now. I will be told what to do and how to behave. Even if I am not up to a concert, or a banquet, I must go when ordered. Everywhere I go I will be the figurehead, the backbone, the walls and bricks of England.

Being Queen of England will mean that my people will respect and look up to me. I will live in Buckingham Palace where my every command will be obeyed. That will be me then, but it is not me now.

Tomorrow, everything will change forever.