The prime minister is alone in Downing Street, Whitehall is in disarray and political self-preservation is under way

Hi folks! I want to bring you up to speed with something that's happening today. That is, I've developed mild symptoms of the coronavirus, that's to say a temperature and a persistent cough. And, on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer, I have taken a test that has come out positive. So, I'm working from home, I'm self-isolating, and that's entirely the right thing to do. But, be in no doubt that I can continue thanks to the wizardry of technology to communicate with my top team to lead the national fightback against the corona virus.

I wanna thank everybody who is involved, I wanna thank, of course, above all our amazing NHS staff. It was very moving last night to join in the national clap. But it's not just the NHS, it is our police, it is our social care workers, teachers, everybody who works in schools, DWP staff. An amazing national effort by the public services but also by every member of the British public who's volunteering, an incredible response, 600,000 people have volunteered to take part in a great national effort to protect people from the consequences of coronavirus.

I wanna thank you. I wanna thank everybody who's working to keep our country going through this epidemic. And we will get through it. And the way we will get through it is, of course, by applying the measures that you'll have heard so much about. And, the more effectively we all comply with those measures, the faster our country will come through this epidemic, and the faster we'll bounce back. So, thank you to everybody who's doing what I'm doing, working from home, to stop the spread of the virus from households to households. That's the way that we are going to win. We are gonna beat it, and we are gonna beat it together.

Stay at home. Protect the NHS. And save lives.