

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

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Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

With a Heavy Heart

Sadly, I know not for how long, we close today. It would be wholly remiss not to write and, albeit briefly, attempt to touch upon a theme that has been a near constant in staff briefings and incidental dialogue for some time. Occasionally, we are fortunate in that everything aligns, whereby learning becomes somewhat superfluous. This is very much how it's been at Thomas Jones in recent months. Many of our pupils, from the Nursery to the Year 6 scholars are amongst the most gentle and assiduous we have known. Their loyalty and kindness is humbling. It is very much with this in mind that I feel compelled to send my heartfelt apologies that we find ourselves obliged to suspend things here at the school, for a while at least.

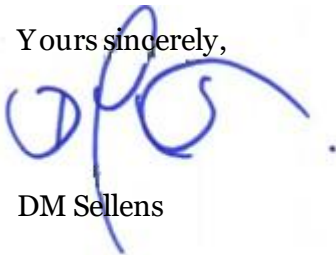
The packs that teachers have prepared for each pupil should afford stimuli and sufficient challenge in the coming weeks. Regardless of the Department for Education's decision to jettison formalised assessments, it is crucial that all pupils read as widely as possible and remain focused going forward. I am optimistic we will reconvene sooner rather than later.

As of the first week after the Easter holiday, should schools not have re-opened, we are already considering ways of communicating with families weekly to supply on-going learning resources and ideas. Please check the Coronavirus Update tab on our website for further details and announcements in regard to home learning guidelines.

Fiducia, Sine Timore

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your trust, warmth and encouragement. The Latin phrases 'Fiducia, Sine Timore' ('Trust without Fear') and 'Esto Perpetua' ('May What We've Established Last Forever') resonate hugely.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens