

# THOMAS JONES

*an Ofsted outstanding school*

St. Mark's Road | London | W11 1RQ  
020 7727 1423 | [www.tj.rbkc.sch.uk](http://www.tj.rbkc.sch.uk)

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **In Our Hearts**

*'With tremulous cadence slow, and bring  
The eternal note of sadness in'*

Matthew Arnold

Next Tuesday is the fifth anniversary of the Grenfell Tower fire. At 10.20, pupils and staff will pause and reflect during a two-minute silence. On behalf of everybody here at Thomas Jones, Deputy Head Ms Lindsay Johnson and I would like to take this opportunity to send our heartfelt wishes to all of those affected by what happened on that dreadful night.

## **Eager Palaeontologists, Recital and Clay Figurines**

Reception have eagerly embraced the opportunity to learn about fossils this week, culminating in them becoming palaeontologists and 'discovering' their own 'dinosaur' in the sand tray. Older pupils have intricately crafted exquisite clay evocations of owls, robins and sparrows, some of which are temporarily on display in my office. Looking ahead, our string musicians, pianists and choir will perform in a special recital in the hall on 12<sup>th</sup> July.

## **Prestigious Award**

Usually loath to single out individual children for praise, I occasionally feel it is apt. Year 6 scholar Nina Billard Sarmadi has heard the marvellous news that she has been awarded First Prize in the annual Sylvia Plath poetry writing festival. This prestigious accolade reflects Nina's remarkable prowess as a writer.

## **The Organic Café**

One of the first schools in the country to introduce healthy lunches for pupils, we have certainly come a long way, with provision transformed over the last twenty years. This week, our chefs have prepared an array of dishes, including a delicious beetroot salad, penne arrabiata and apricot couscous with wholemeal rosemary bread. The roasted cauliflower and broccoli cooked in olive oil with thyme I sampled yesterday is amongst the finest I have tasted.

## **Closer to the End**

There are now only six weeks remaining of the summer term. Positively, large numbers of pupils have 100% attendance and the majority 97%. Research shows a clear correlation between the amount of time spent in lessons and children's self-esteem and achievement. Sometimes even missing a single lesson can be hugely detrimental.

What is also unequivocal is the impact that reading together at home can have. The local library is a remarkable resource, right on the doorstep of the community it serves. Rubenstein's on Kensington Park Road, Daunt's near Holland Park tube station and the Notting Hill branch of Waterstones all have an extensive collection books for keen younger readers.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens