

# THOMAS JONES

*an Ofsted outstanding school*

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Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **World Bee Day**

Today marks World Bee Day, a global celebration of bees and the role they play within our ecosystem. The UK is home to 250 species of bee. At Thomas Jones, we are determined to continue to play a part in protecting bees' habitats. Photographs at the main school entrance show Year 3 pupils tending our hives earlier this week.

## **Jubilee**

*'I may be right, I may be wrong,  
But I'm perfectly willing to swear,  
That when you turned and smiled at me,  
A nightingale sang in Berkley Square'*

Next Friday, we will celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Following a special assembly and choir performance of A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square, there will be a 'street party' in our grounds, complete with 1940's style bunting and cucumber sandwiches. Pupils are expected to wear their smartest non-uniform clothes.

## **Attendance**

I am loath to publish weekly attendance figures, no matter how impressive these may be. In isolation and without context, they do not afford sufficient insight. It is only when attendance is calculated over an entire year that one can ascertain whether or not it is a strength. However, at the request of some parents, this week's attendance is 97%.

## **Authentic Rendition**

*'Make no mistake, this going to be perfectly splendid'*

Auditions began yesterday for CS Lewis' 1950's masterpiece The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. This will be performed in July, an ultra-parred back staging of this much-loved story. Casting of the roles of Aslan and Mr Tumnus, the faun, and the four protagonists, Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy, has been far from linear and is testimony to the immense raw talent of our pupils.

It would be wholly remiss not to briefly comment on last week's Year 6 SATs. From the Reading Comprehension test, to the Mathematics Reasoning exam and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling papers, pupils conducted themselves with grace. On Monday they begin a four-day, three-night residential visit to the Isle of Wight. They will spend time visiting Carisbrooke Castle and the Roman Villa at Brading, sailing around the needles and Trinity Lighthouse at Covehill Bay and, mid-week, be treated to a traditional cream team at Godshill, an exquisite thatched-roofed, timber-beamed village.

## **Reading Together**

This weekend, please make every effort to read with your child. In the case of pupils in Year 5 especially, ensure they are reading the National Geographic magazine or a portion of the 'I' newspaper, The Guardian or Observer. Even in short bursts, the impact will be palpable and can have a profoundly positive impact.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens