

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

St. Mark's Road | London | W11 1RQ

020 7727 1423 | www.tj.rbkc.sch.uk

Friday 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Bookworms

'Learning starts with reading'

Latimer Upper and Holland Park Schools had study days today. This afforded the opportunity for former pupils Greta Guttenstein and Dimitri Aris to visit, albeit briefly. Whilst scholars at Thomas Jones, both of the aforementioned children excelled. It is their shared view that, in no small part this reflects the fact both are veritable 'book worms'. Musing on the recent past, Greta commented 'The stronger I became as a reader, it transformed my capacity to think and write'. In assembly, Dimitri implored pupils to commit, in real terms. 'Learning starts with reading' he boldly effused. During the half term holiday, please ensure that time is put aside to read with your child. Older pupils will benefit from absorbing extracts of a broadsheet such as the Guardian or Observer. In regard to younger pupils, visits to the library or if fortunate, local bookshops Lutyens and Rubinstein, Daunts or Waterstones, can reap rewards.

Impressive Attendance

All pupils arrived promptly this morning, and it being a non-uniform fundraising day, dressed in an array of smart clothes, their notion of tardiness by now acute, with an eager and overtly cheerful demeanour. Attendance in recent weeks is an impressive 97%.

Harvest and Victorian Urchins

The many successes of the last seven weeks include Harvest Festival and Year 2's sublimely parred back performances of marvellous songs, 'Chuck-Chuck' and 'Fresh Bread'. On Wednesday, pupils arrived in anticipation of spending the day attired as Victorian chimney sweeps, workhouse orphans and street urchins. Not deterred by the fact that The Ragged Museum at Mile End remains closed, Mr Jason Dass made the decision that if his class could not visit the museum, he would bring the essence of the museum to Thomas Jones.

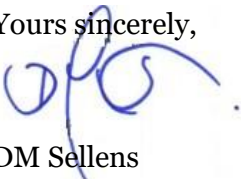
Great Expectations and More

Since returning in September, the Year 6 scholars have eagerly explored Dickens' Oliver Twist, Oscar Wilde's The Selfish Giant, Blake's The Tyger and John Keats 1820 sonnet, To Autumn. In other words, it is 'business as usual', with exacting aspirations no different now than in previous years. If anything, we have become even more pedantic in our resolve to ensure that every child shines. Pre-pandemic visitors were frequently disarmed by the standard of the Year 6 writing. I attribute much of the success in this discipline to the quality of the literature that is taught. If recent essays scribed by some of the current cohort are anything to go by, it is fair to say we have great expectations of them.

Wholly Remiss

It would be wholly remiss not to mention the new children who joined us in September. They are all absolutely delightful, including those who have embarked upon an odyssey of sorts in the Nursery.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens