

# THOMAS JONES

*an Ofsted outstanding school*

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Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

**An Awfully Big Adventure**  
*'First on the right and straight on 'til morning'*

JM Barrie

Auditions have begun for the Year 6 scholars' summer staging of Peter Pan. Such is the quality of their acting, it is proving to be a challenge to cast the roles of Captain Hook, Tinkerbell and the Lost Boys. I have faith that each and every one of this talented cohort will shine. Last week, they tackled the End of Key Stage 2 SATs with aplomb. From the grammar, punctuation and spelling test, to the much talked about reading paper, and mathematics exams, the children embraced the opportunity with brio.

On Monday they will set off to the Isle of Wight for three nights. During their stay, they will visit the Robin Hill Country Park and the Roman Museum at Brading, and be treated to a traditional cream tea in the picturesque village of Godshill. Weather permitting, on Wednesday the class will sail around the Needles and then go on a fossil hunt at Alum Bay.

**Distinguished Friends of the School**

Earlier this week I was joined in assembly by Imam, Dr Mohamed Said, from the London Central Mosque and education officer, Ms Simon Torrey. The main focus was tolerance, respect and acceptance. Both visitors were enormously impressed by our pupils' assiduous responses, as well as their demeanour, engagement and knowledge. Dr Said especially commented effusively about pupils' impressive use of vocabulary. Deputy head Lindsay Johnson and I are keen to engineer further visits of this kind in the autumn.

**Exacting Attendance and 'In Demand'**

Attendance from 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 to 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 was 97%. Some pupils have not missed a single lesson all year, a remarkable achievement. This morning six prospective families met with Ms Emma Jones and spent an hour looking 'round the school, all eager to apply for places in 2024. This bodes well and is further testimony to how we are perceived.

**Strength in Numbers**

The recently launched 'Safer Streets' initiative is proving to be a huge success. However, we are in need of more practical support. If you do have capacity and are willing to volunteer, either at 8.45am or 3.00pm, for about 30 minutes, in the first instance please see Mr Scott Gourley.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens