

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 21st April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Eid Mubarak

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of our Muslim families 'Eid Mubarak'. I hope that this special day is gentle and full of happiness.

Eager Anticipation

Traditionally, the start of this term is exemplified by the notion of eager anticipation. From April to July, everything is at its most rewarding. With punnets of strawberries at Sports Day, June's string recital, the staging of the Year 6 play and the Nursery venturing to Kensington Palace Gardens for their annual Teddy Bear's Picnic, there is always a frisson.

'Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown'

William Shakespeare

Members of our History Society will shortly attend a conference at City University, the focus of which is the notion of monarchy in the 21st Century. The seminar will afford delegates the opportunity to explore how fiction can inform one's understanding of the past as well as the present. Author Ally Sherrick will, I gather, present to the group in an interactive workshop-style forum.

Jazz Compositions

Year 5 have been experimenting with syncopation, ostinato and discord. Utilising a class set of traditional glockenspiels, the cohort mesmerised and impressed in equal measure, performing a piece inspired by Jazz musician Herbie Hancock.

'Doctor Bike'

Earlier this week, we were visited by 'Doctor Bike', who repaired the brakes and gears of pupils' bicycles. This brand new initiative, reflects the entrepreneurial spirit of mechanic and bike enthusiast Eric Yeung, whose 'regenerate' philosophy is at the heart of this eco-venture. As a school, we are keen to encourage pupils to cycle wherever and whenever it safe to do so.

Safer Roads

After much toing and froing and a fair amount of delay, I am delighted to finally see a section of St Mark's Road closed to traffic from 8.45 to 9.10 in the morning and 3.20 to 3.45 at the end of the school day. Thomas Jones' families have long campaigned for such provision. The parents and carers who have, to date, volunteered to supervise the barriers and ensure that road users acquiesce to the new arrangements, deserve much praise.

Honey Bees

Bee keeper Ali Alzein met Melissa Kiley on Wednesday. Some of you may recall from my previous newsletter that we are eager to welcome a new colony of honey bees in June. Increasingly, it is looking as though this will happen.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens