

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 24th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unerring Loyalty, Trust and Kindness

*'Gone were but the Winter,
Come were but the Spring'*

Christina Rossetti

As we say a fond farewell to winter and embrace the spring, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your unerring loyalty, trust and kindness. Since returning after the half term holiday, there have been many positives. This last few days has afforded veritable riches in the form of the hugely successful after school ballet venture, the recently launched 'Young Historians Society', led with aplomb by Ms Melissa Kiley, and on-going success with the Patron's Initiative. It is likely that, by May, thanks to the above, we will, once more, be in position to welcome a new colony of honey bees to Thomas Jones.

Exactng Tableau

Reception's recent class assembly was enchanting. Pupils lit up the stage in a tableau that depicted the changing of the seasons. Clad in a multitude of costumes representing animals and flowers, the cohort were exceptionally bold, and their assembly engaging. Ms Polly Holmes and her team deserve much praise for their bold visioning and exactitude.

Enhancement Project

Five years ago, had somebody intimated that we would be in a position to expand the size of our premises, albeit on a modest scale, I'd have been sceptical. After months of delay, I'm delighted to share the splendid news that the reconfiguration of the former School House, is now more or less complete. The next challenge - how best to fund the furnishing of this space has already begun. At the time of writing, this building will, for now, be referred to as 'the annex'. Longer term, I am keen to explore with pupils and the staff team, ideas for a more appropriate name.

Hockey, Writing Festival and John Keats

Not for the first time this season, the Hockey Team have surpassed their own high standards by vanquishing all opposition. This remarkable achievement will be celebrated in a special assembly. Next month, the Year 6 Writing Festival will, I predict, produce some exquisite short stories on the theme of Landing on a Strange Planet. In recent weeks, the scholars have immersed themselves in scribing essays that explore the notion of 'identity and belonging' with great panache. This weekend, they embark upon an odyssey of sorts, researching the life of Victorian poet John Keats.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens, OBE