

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 6th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Applications

The deadline for applying to join Reception in September 2023 is the end of next week. If the sheer volume of enquiries from a universally discerning group of parents and carers is anything to go by, we are expecting a high number of applications. In the past, those naming us as their 1st choice has been humbling, with a five-year mean average of 230 applications per year for 30 places.

Complimentary Families

*'This is the weather the cuckoo likes,
When showers betumble the chestnut spikes,
And the nestlings fly'*

Thomas Hardy

The last few days have been incredibly rewarding. Despite grey skies and a temperature that would have been incongruous a few years ago, the mild weather elicited a wonderful comment from Nursery pupil Skyler Sorichetti, who keenly remarked that 'the flowers are sleeping'. Bestowed with effusive comments from families and prospective parents and carers alike, this morning I wrote to staff, acknowledging their remarkable positive energy and thanking them, for the exceptional exactitude that takes place behind the scenes.

Attendance, Punctuality and Rain Jackets

Attendance from September to December was 97%, which is contextually strong. Going forward, it is crucial that all pupils attend every day unless there is a valid reason for them not being here. It will not surprise you to hear that pupils who rarely, if ever, miss lessons, excel. Alongside the above, it is important that all pupils arrive before the bell is rung at 9.00. As the damp and drizzly weather continues, it is sensible to send your child to school in layers. There was never a better time for pupils to be attired in a Thomas Jones rain jacket.

Recalibration

This weekend, please ensure that plenty of time is put aside to read with your child. Older pupils will benefit enormously from reading extracts from the 'T', the Guardian or Observer newspapers. Crudely, the more a child reads certain kinds of literature, the stronger he or she will become, and in turn, the more robust as a learner. The local library is open again after the holiday. It has a marvellous collect of children's' books and the staff are forever eager to afford expert advice.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens