

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

London Philharmonic Orchestra
*'Snowflakes slip from the sky,
Like soft white butterflies,
Brush the trees with their flimsy wings,
Vanish'*

John Foster 1940

The above lines of poetry are a nod to the interactive play that our choir attended yesterday at Cadogan Hall. Pupils and Ms McCombe were attired in 1940's garb, complete with berets, flat caps and waistcoats. Composed by Richard Brown, this exquisite ode to The Battle of Britain, told the remarkable story of a young Spitfire pilot and his radar operator sister. I gather that such subjects as evacuation and 'Digging for Victory' were touched upon, but the main theme, one that resonates hugely, pertained to the importance of family, and the sacrifices that were made by so many people during the second world war.

More Sporting Success

Our girls football team are now, officially, 2023 champions. Last Friday, they returned with the most enormous of gold cups, beaming, having vanquished all opposition. In April they will represent Kensington & Chelsea at the London Youth Games. We wish them every success.

World Book Day and Dance

Incredibly generous of his time, choreographer Louie Spencer spent the day at Thomas Jones earlier this week leading a series of ambitious dance workshops. Traditionally, we try to celebrate World Book Day in a manner that reflects our approach to reading – expansive and uncompromising. The starting point for the above was Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are*. The children's mini-performances encapsulated quality and elicited an overtly positive response from their peers. I'd like to thank the patrons who generously donated funds towards this initiative and Ms Kiley for organising the day.

Palaeontology and Megafauna

Today, Year 3 visited the megafauna fossils exhibition at the Natural History Museum. Highlights of the trip included seeing a woolly mammoth and sabre toothed tiger. Arising from their spring term pre-historic Britain topic, pupils also explored the Treasures Gallery. Upon returning to school, they effused about a giant axe from the Palaeolithic period that they had seen on display. Others excitedly shared what they had learned in regard to the study of fossils discovered by palaeontologist Mary Anning. They were especially in awe of her most prolific find, the skeleton of a Plesiosaurus in 1823.

Inventive Baking

This morning, Mr Scott Gourley curated a marvellously deft baking forum. With a rich assortment of healthy ingredients, Year 4 revelled in wonder, having been afforded the opportunity to be inventive in the kitchen. Eagerly immersing themselves in a project that, ultimately, focused on nutrition, they crafted delicious organic berry and apple crumble, using wholemeal, organic produce.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens, OBE