

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 23rd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Idle Bee Keeper

*'I know each one by heart,
Feel each hive beat with the need for air'*

Local Notting Hill resident and author of 'The Idle Bee Keeper', Mr Bill Anderson, visited earlier this week, affording an expert view. From the spring, it is likely that we will adopt an altogether more 'organic' method when tending our hives. This makes sense, given the fact we are committed to, where possible, preserving the natural world without resorting to the use of pesticides. Bill has kindly agreed to lead an assembly about the importance of honey bees and the Earth's ecosystem in October.

1940's-Style Garb

Next Friday, Year 5 will arrive in full 1940's-style garb, as part of a World War Two history venture. Sporting an array of flat caps, waistcoats, brown paper name tags and faux cardboard suitcases, the children will immerse themselves in learning that pertains to the Blitz and evacuation. Such topic-based events are hugely beneficial. Employing technology, including 'Now Press Play', a device that affords an interactive experience with precisely defined sound, can add a visceral dynamic.

Berets and Scholars

Year 6 girls have, this week, modelled the Thomas Jones midnight blue beret, by now an integral element of autumn and winter uniform. Although the popular straw boaters will appear, these will, primarily only be worn for special occasions. The boys, quite rightly, requested that they too wear something that singles them out as scholars and as such, will periodically wear navy blazers.

Crisp and Brighter Days

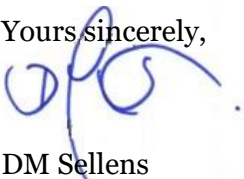
*'Leaves curl in splendour,
Red, yellow and brown,
Crisp under wellies, through parks in town'*

Sadly, London's parks and gardens are likely to be sodden and muddy this weekend. The above lines from Freddie McKeown's poem 'September' are a celebration of autumn at its finest. Let's hope we can enjoy some crisp and brighter days again soon. Despite the damp start this morning, pupils arrived promptly, their notion of tardiness acute, with an eager demeanour. Attendance from the start of term to the end of this week is an impressive 97%.

Oversubscribed

The deadline for applying to join Reception in September 2023 is 15th January. Tours for prospective families and pupils will commence shortly. You may recall that earlier this year, there were an astonishing 230 applications for 30 places. Indeed, we are full to capacity in every class. This bodes well and is testimony to the school's enduring popularity.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens