

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 28th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

On the Lookout

To further support their understanding of food chains and plants, Year 2 visited the Hyde Park 'Look Out Centre' last week. The children participated in an interactive seminar where they scrutinised four different habitats. Studying invertebrates with magnifying glasses, pond dipping and observing the behaviour of newts and toads, pupils also conducted a 'meadow sweep' with nets and birdwatched with binoculars. All the time they were learning from expert ecologist, Dr Alec Jones, who was, I gather, exceptionally insightful.

History Society Venture Forth

The History Society recently ventured into the City of London to explore the Roman amphitheatre and City Wall at Vine Street. The site was hugely engaging. Amongst other subjects, the budding historians were particularly keen to extend their knowledge of gladiatorial combat. The journey from the amphitheatre to the Roman Wall took in some iconic sights, including the Bank of England and the Gherkin. At the Roman Wall the group, comprising of pupils from across the school, immersed themselves in a fascinating display showing 2,000 years of artefacts that had been excavated nearby. Later, they moved on to St Dunstan's in the East Garden, for a picnic lunch on the grass in the ruins of a church that dates back to the 12th Century, and was bombed during World War Two. The final stop of this fascinating education visit was to the Monument – the well-known landmark to commemorate the Great Fire of London in 1666. All told, humanities leader Melissa Kiley described the day as 'a whirlwind tour of some key moments in the history of this marvellous metropolis'.

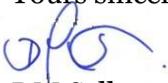
Saatchi Gallery

Some of our pupils' paintings and sculptures are being exhibited in an art show on Sunday 7th July at the Saatchi Gallery in Sloane Square. Family members who are keen to see the above are encouraged to arrive at the main entrance of the gallery between 3.30 and 4.30, where art leader Polly Holmes will be in attendance. The pieces that will be exhibited were crafted in workshops at Thomas Jones. Every class took part in a printing workshop around the theme of 'kindness to animals, the world and ourselves'.

String Recital

Last Friday's string recital was humbling. Compositions by Bach, Beethoven and contemporary cellist David Darling were performed with grace, and deft touch that belies pupils' tender years. It would be wholly inappropriate to single out any individual, such was the quality of what the audience were afforded. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank peripatetic cello, violin and viola tutor Brikelda Syla and music leader Rachel McCombe for organising this important annual event.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens