

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 7th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Seventh Anniversary
*'Then leaf subsides to leaf,
Eden sank to grief,
Dawn goes down today,
Nothing gold can stay'*

Robert Frost

Next Friday is the seventh anniversary of the Grenfell Tower fire. Pupils and staff will pause in a special assembly, and reflect during a 72 second silence. On behalf of everybody at Thomas Jones, Deputy Head Lindsay Johnson and I would like to take this opportunity to send our heartfelt thoughts to all who were affected by what happened on that dreadful night, and especially the large number of families from the past and present whose lives were, and continue to be, impacted upon most profoundly.

Closer to the End

From Monday, there are less than thirty teaching days remaining of the school year. As we rapidly approach another end point of sorts, I'd be grateful for your support in ensuring that all pupils continue to go to bed early on a Sunday evening and every night during the week. I'd also like to see all pupils arriving before the bell is rung at 9.00am. Attendance from September 2023 to the end of last half term was 97%. It is crucial that pupils do not miss any lessons. Learning will be absolute right up to and including Friday 19th July.

The Greatest of Gifts

'One of the greatest gifts an adult can give, is to read with a child'

Please ensure that you read with your child as much as possible over the next few weeks. The stronger pupils become as readers, the more capacity they will have to probe and explore. Older scholars should be in a position to absorb a portion of the 'T' newspaper, the Guardian or Observer. An alternative is the National Geographic, a magazine that never fails to engage and stimulate.

Strawberries and Cricket

Like autumn, winter and spring, summer resonates in its own unique way. Much of the mythology that surrounds this time of the year, arises, I suspect, from memory. As a six year old boy, June seemed to last forever, with seemingly endless sunny days. For some, a punnet of strawberries and the sound of willow on leather, or the cries of seagulls and exquisite light, are symbols of the starting point of the season. In a nod to the above, pleasingly, older pupils have started to play cricket again. Rest assured, classes will jump at the opportunity to utilise fine weather, as and when it returns, with teddy bears' picnics and sporting events on the agenda for later this month.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens