

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 10th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Prospective Families *'I can't wait to start school'*

There have been many memorable moments over the last six weeks. All new pupils have settled, with an eagerness that is disarming. Attendance is an astonishing 97%. This bodes well and further evidences pupils' on-going commitment in real terms. Fifty prospective parents and carers have attended one or other of our Open Mornings, hosted by Emma Jones and myself. All are keen to enrol their children. You may recall that at the start of the New Year, there were 200 applications for 30 Reception places. The deadline for applying for a place for September 2026 is 12th January.

Exquisite Attire and Enrichment

Cello and violin, netball, and the forever popular history club, as well as various arts and crafts initiatives, are oversubscribed. Older pupils have recently launched a campaign to reinstate the debating society. I welcome pupils' unwavering and single-minded resolve to challenge. Recent educational visits to the National Gallery and Royal College of Music have been hugely rewarding. Next week, as part of an immersive Victorian Day, the Year 6 scholars will venture to the Ragged Museum.

Friday 24th October is a fundraising day. The expectation is that pupils wear their smartest non-uniform clothes. Monies that are donated will go towards our book fund. Details in regard to how best to make a voluntary contribution will be communicated next week.

That Which Resonates *'Makes me end where I began'*

In a climate that can be so arch, it is the robust relationship between the community and the school that resonates most powerfully. In recent weeks, I have again been humbled by the unerring generosity of spirit amongst our families. This was perhaps most keenly felt yesterday, before, during and after Year 2's deft musical staging of *The Little Red Hen*. On behalf of the staff team, I'd like to thank you for your encouragement and trust. In the words of poet John Donne, we finish where we began, with optimism, and a desire to afford each and every child the opportunity to excel in their learning.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens