

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

St. Mark's Road | London | W11 1RQ
020 7727 1423 | www.tj.rbkc.sch.uk

Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Fir Trees and Cinnamon Candles

*'The bleak twigs overhead,
In full-hearted evensong
Of joy'*

Thomas Hardy

With fir trees exquisitely adorned in the hall and main entrance, and cinnamon candles brightly lit, there is an undeniable frisson of wonder at the moment. Both of this week's concerts were sublime, in no small measure because of the responses from the large number of families who attended. Lindsay Johnson, Rachel McCombe, Leo Faulks and Polly Holmes deserve much praise for their exactitude.

Visceral Message

As is our tradition, the Year 6 scholars have been studying Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. This short story continues to resonate despite being nearly 200 years old. Living in an age that can be so terribly arch, I feel it important that we revisit the notions of being empathetic, selfless and kind whenever possible.

Fundraising

Last Friday, our school community came together to support our autumn term cake and uniform sale. An astonishing £500 was made in less than an hour. Huge thanks to those parents and carers who organised this important fundraiser, with the support of Polly Holmes and Scott Gourley. Everybody who attended commented effusively about the warm and effusive mood of the event.

Portobello and Poetry

*'Portobello is a heavenly place,
No words can express the market's grace'*

Budding poet, Year 5 pupil Fatima Farooq has had one of her compositions published in the Royal Borough's North Kensington News magazine. Entitled Portobello Market, it is an ode to the sounds and sights of the stall holders, antique shops and eclectic quality of everything that can be found there, ranging from exquisite foods and curiosities, to vintage clothing and brightly coloured fabrics. The poem ends with the lines that appear above.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens