

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 26th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Celebratory Moments

*'The end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time'.*

There were plenty of celebratory moments last term. Our priorities going forward are, as always, to sustain the quality of what has been achieved and to further improve. I want all pupils to shine. The thrust of our professional development programme is triggered by rigour and an uncompromising set of standards and the scrutiny of outcomes remains absolute. Insightful, visceral teaching is, by far, the single most influential factor and the most ambitious venture continues to be the revisiting of precisely what is taught.

Always a Frisson

Traditionally, the period from late April to July is exemplified by the notion of eager anticipation when everything is at its most rewarding. With punnets of strawberries at Sports Day, June's string recital, the school journey to the Isle of Wight and staging of the Year 6 play, and the Nursery venturing to Kensington Palace Gardens for their annual Teddy Bear's Picnic, there is always a frisson.

Renowned Etymologist

World renowned etymologist, Dino Martins visited yesterday. Dino went on a tour with Councillor Catherine Faulks and spent time interacting with pupils from across the school, including the Nursery, before leading a fascinating Year 6 honey bee symposium. Such visits are invaluable.

Safer St Mark's Road Initiative

After much toeing and froing, and a fair amount of delay, we were delighted to launch the 'Safer St Mark's Road' initiative last year. However, on a number of occasions recently, our loyal and trusted parent and carer volunteers have struggled with capacity. The future success of this important enterprise is dependent on a wider group of families affording support. Please, if you are keen to help, I'd be most grateful. Any expressions of interest should, in the first instance, be directed to Year 4 teacher Scott Gourley.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens