

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Musical Staging and Harvest Donations

*'It is the Harvest Moon, on gilded vanes,
Deserted on the curtained window panes'*

In the past, your generosity has been humbling at Harvest, with large numbers of families contributing to this important annual event. Treats such as jars of honey and marmalade, cakes and other delicacies have traditionally been donated. Class councillors, accompanied by Polly Duarte, will take everything, however modest, to the elderly residents of Thomas Darby Court immediately after Year 2's musical staging of *The Little Red Hen* on Thursday 9th October.

Flats Caps and Name Tags at the Ready

Last week, our Year 5 scholars arrived clad from head to toe in 1940's-style garb, as part of an interactive 'Bringing History to Life' Day. Sporting an array of flat caps, brown paper name tags and faux cardboard suitcases, the children immersed themselves in learning that pertained to the London Blitz and evacuation. Such topic-based events are incredibly beneficial. Employing technology, including 'Now Press Play', which provides an 'audio adventure', it is, I feel, worth mentioning that were it not for your generosity, in the form of fundraising, the school would no longer be in a position to purchase such a resource.

Next month, Year 6 will venture to the William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow. Associated with the 19th Century British arts and crafts movement, Morris was a gifted textile designer and poet. His inventive use of pattern in no small part will form the nucleus for this visit, one that will include a print making workshop.

Mittens and Bobble Hats

Just this week, the weather has dramatically changed. It is now very much autumn proper. I've noticed far more pupils are choosing to wrap up in the mornings, wearing Thomas Jones' berets. This is marvellous. Please do ensure your child's name is clearly marked inside. For families who are still contextually new to the school, we sell midnight blue mittens and scarves as well as the forever popular cable knit bobble hat.

Oversubscribed

The deadline for applying to join Reception in September 2026 is Monday 12th January. Tours for a large number of prospective families and pupils have already commenced. You may recall that earlier this year, there were an astonishing 230 applications for 30 places. We are, once again, full to capacity with long waiting lists for every class. This bodes well and is testimony to the school's enduring popularity.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens