

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 4th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Eastertide

'Loveliest of trees, the cherry now,
Is hung with bloom along the bough,
And stands about the woodland ride,
Wearing white for Eastertide'

The above lines are a further 'nod' to Mother Nature at this time of the year. I'd like to extend the warmest of Easter wishes to all families from a Christian background. This forthcoming holiday, please ensure that sufficient time is put aside for you and your child to read books together. Reading remains the single most important element of learning. To steal a line from some of our most accomplished 'book worm' Year 6 scholars *'the stronger one becomes as a reader, the stronger one is as a learner'*. Wise words indeed.

Frivolity and Joy

There is no denying that we have a reputation for impressive attendance and high academic outcomes. The quality of art and music is frequently held up as 'exemplar'. Early Years provision and pastoral care are humbling. Last Thursday, though, parents and carers experienced another side to the school, one that frequently happens, yet rarely is celebrated - the element that pertains to frivolity and joy. To all intents and purposes, family members had squeezed into a packed-to-capacity hall to see Year 5's staging of 'Paddington in Peru'. What they experienced was an evocation of what we do best. The performances aside, all of which were accomplished, ultimately it was the sheer sense of 'fun' and 'coming together' that resonated. Huge thanks to Lauren Baker for her expert direction and everybody who attended – it was one of my own personal highlights of the term.

Leather on Willow

'Now in April to the wicket'

The quality of sports coaching at Thomas Jones is exacting. In recent months our girls' football team have excelled. Next term, attention will turn to tennis, athletics, the annual swimming gala, and the beautifully idiosyncratic game of cricket.

Huge Thanks and Bucket Hats at the Ready

I'd like to express my gratitude to those of you who have supported us in recent months. Kind and encouraging comments, insightful communication and generous donations are appreciated by everybody. I look forward to seeing pupils and their families again on Tuesday 22nd April. By way of a reminder, when we return, all pupils are expected to wear summer uniform, including the midnight blue bucket hat.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens