THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Exquisite Mornings

'An opal holds a fiery spark; But a flint holds fire"

Christina Rossetti's 'Flint' is the starting point for this half term. With brighter mornings forecast, affording opportunities to wrap-up in a Thomas Jones cable knit bobble hat or beret, staff have encouraged pupils to embrace the moment, breathing in the air and pausing to contemplate the majesty of an exquisite morning.

London is the Place for Me

Stereotypes are anathema to our pedagogy and there is no denying the school has a proven track record for innovation. This extends to the curriculum. One particular component part of Year 5's recent learning has focused upon the inaugural journey made in June 1948 by the Empire Windrush, travelling from Kingston, Jamaica to Tilbury docks. In their forthcoming assembly, pupils will perform Lord Kitchener's classic anthem 'London is the Place for Me'.

Sparklers and Moustaches

'Remember, remember, the fifth of November'

Thomas Jones' annual 'Movember' venture will take place towards the end of this month. On this occasion we are aiming to raise £500 towards Cancer Research. We anticipate a contextually large number of pupils eagerly sporting a multitude of faux facial hair, including those who had taken inspiration from recent learning in regard to a humanities-based 'Explorers' topic. Earlier this week, I led a 5th November Bonfire Night assembly, resplendent with sparklers. The notion of a snatched moment of joy resonated hugely.

Clarity of Purpose

One recent highlight is the manner in which pupils have so deftly recalibrated since returning after the half term holiday. Deputy Head, Lindsay Johnson and I, have been disarmed by the palpable clarity of purpose so evident in lessons. From the start of September to the end of last half term, attendance was 97%. Positives aside, the Leadership Team will shortly revisit the Improvement Plan to critically evaluate what has been achieved. Looking ahead to 2026, we will, once again, request your assistance in appraising our relative strengths and weaknesses. In the meantime, rest assured, rigour and aspiration remain absolute.

Christmas Concert Tickets

On Monday, a letter will be sent to all families regarding the 2025 Thomas Jones' Christmas Concerts. To secure tickets for either event (9.30 on the 9th and 10th December) please return the slip with the correct money as soon as possible. In the past, both of the above have been hugely popular.

Yours sincerely,

DM Sellens