

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding school

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Friday 8th March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ramadan Mubarak

In advance of the start of Ramadan and on behalf of everybody at Thomas Jones, I'd like to take this opportunity to send all our Muslim families the warmest of Ramadan wishes.

Evocation of Spring

*'A tiny seed was sleeping,
Underneath the ground,
And the rain came, drip, drop,
And the sun shone down'*

The above lines are a nod to the interactive tableau that our Reception pupils performed yesterday to parents and carers, pupils and staff. The class were attired in an array of exquisite costumes that evoke the notion of spring. The songs afforded a marvellous platform for the class to showcase their joie de vivre, and elicited a marvellously effusive response from the hugely attentive audience. Molly Johnson deserves much praise for her expert direction of the play.

World Book Day

On this occasion World Book Day was a parred back, 'spare' affair. Nevertheless, the main objective of promoting quality books and the value of reading remained absolute. The winner of the 2024 Writing Festival is Year 6 scholar Nichole Neberekutina, for her short story entitled The Lost Planet of Vuno. Emma Jones, who curated the competition element of this annual event was emphatic 'the stories are amongst the strongest that have been written in recent years; it was almost impossible to single out one single composition for praise'. Below appear a few lines from the winning entry.

'Surely Daedalus would not acquiesce and retrieve the component parts for the Thalia craft from his depository of riches? Nell's life depended on it! There, before her, perched high, a treasure in the context, was the machine part she coveted most dearly. The beast snarled. It menacingly inched closer...'

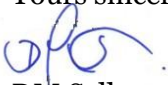
Letter from the Department for Education

I can now share the fact that last year's Year 6 SATs results were the highest in the Royal Borough and amongst the top 1% nationally. The progress made by this cohort measured from the 'starting point' at which they were enrolled to the end of Year 6 is astonishing and demonstrates in real terms our exactitude. Perhaps what resonates most profoundly is that all pupils shone and is testimony to the model we have embraced and championed for many years. Minister of State for School Damian Hinds MP wrote to me earlier this week, congratulating the school.

Big Plastic Count and the Saatchi Gallery

On Monday Polly Holmes and our school councillors launched a new venture that we are eager to embrace. The Big Plastic Count is a national initiative that entails families using a tally chart to record the amount of plastic used at home between 11th and 17th March. Pupils are keen for as many people as possible to become involved. Pupils from across the school have recently crafted some impressive artwork that will displayed at the Saatchi Gallery in June.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens