

Friday 6th July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Athleticism, Grace and Elan

Both of the recent Thomas Jones' Sports Days were hugely successful. In the context of events that are increasingly singled out as highlights of the summer term, I'd like to thank everybody who attended one or the other of the above. There was a humbling frisson, such is the remarkable level of athleticism, grace and effusive energy demonstrated by pupils from across the school.

Avoiding the Pedestrian

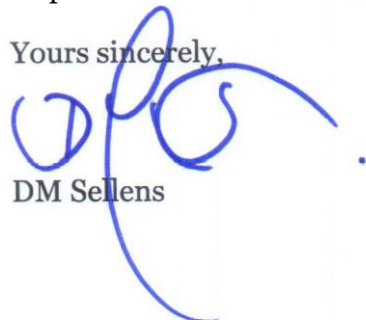
'You are marvellous,
And the Gods wait,
To delight in you'.

Charles Bukowski

Avoiding the pedestrian in regard to the Year 6 play is not linear. In past years, *The Selfish Giant* and *The Wind in the Willows* were sublime. Our boys immersed themselves in ballet, dancing with a conviction that made this particular element of *The Snow Goose* so memorable in 2014. The following year Dylan Thomas' *Under Milk Wood* represented us at our most inventive. 2015's *Peter Pan* resonated on an emotional level, in no small part because of the remarkable acting. Excelling in their performance of *Romeo and Juliet* in 2016, the scholars embraced the opportunity to challenge themselves beyond what anybody thought possible.

Last summer's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* further reinforced our resolve to challenge any preconceived notions of what can be achieved. Inevitably, thoughts turn to the fact that the current Year 6 cohort will shortly depart. I'm loathe to say 'move on to bigger and better things', because this diminishes the magnitude of what each individual has achieved. Mid-next week, they will immerse themselves in an innovative staging of Robert Louis Stephenson's *Treasure Island*.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens