Dear Parents and Carers,

**Still More, Later Flowers for the Bees**

*To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells*  
*With a sweet kernel; to set budding more*  
*And still more, later flowers for the bees,*  
*Until they think warm days will never cease,*  
*For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.*

John Keats

Both our hives afforded riches in August in the form of one hundred jars of honey. Beekeeper Ms Camilla Goddard is effusive in regard to the colony, which, I gather, continues to be unusually harmonious. Gardening Club begins again next week. Eagerly anticipating armfuls of carrots, onions and courgettes, pupils involved in this venture are emphatic that the forthcoming harvest will be plentiful.

**Reading Together**

In previous newsletters, I have referenced Le Mythe de Sisyphe, Albert Camus’ philosophy of the absurd. You may recall that Sisyphus, a figure of Greek Mythology, is condemned to repeat forever the task of pushing a boulder up a mountain. Keen to avoid this plight, despite advocating reinvention, some of what we do cannot be adapted without losing its validity. Reading together at home is one such example. This weekend, please consider visiting the library or a bookshop with your child. In the case of older pupils, ensure they read a part of the National Geographic magazine or a portion of a broadsheet like The I or Observer. Even in short bursts, the impact will be palpable and can have a profoundly positive impact.

**Tripartite Responsibility**

‘Were I to wish for anything, it would be for a sense of the potential, for the eye which, forever young and ardent, sees the possible’.

The words of Soren Kierkegaard define our shared enterprise at Thomas Jones. It is the desire of the Leadership Team to see a robust tripartite responsibility throughout the year ahead, a genuine partnership between child, parent and school.

Yours sincerely,

DM Sellens