

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

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Thursday 19th July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer

*'It was the time of these: of sudden
Plenty, of slow hours and
Actions, of diamond haze
And dust on the eyes'*

Laurie Lee

Incongruously, in the context of the fine weather we've been enjoying, younger pupils have effusively shared stories of how they were woken by thunder and lightning last Friday evening. It is hard to comprehend that we were able to proceed with a special event to say goodbye to departing staff in our exquisite Nature Garden. The torrential downpour was not widespread and other parts of the city remained entirely dry, such is the localised and rather idiosyncratic micro-season that appears to be the norm at the moment.

Book Ends

Tomorrow, we bid farewell to Year 6. Modest and unassuming, at their best, each and every scholar is an evocation of what can be achieved. It has been a privilege teaching them English. Their sense of wonder and curiosity, juxtaposed with an assiduous ethic is humbling. 97% achieved the expected national standard in English and 100% in Mathematics, with 48% achieving at 'greater depth' in Writing. 66% of pupils achieved the higher standard in reading, 79% in grammar and an incredible 83% in Mathematics. I'd like to take this opportunity to again thank members of the staff team who have championed and cajoled this cohort over the last eight years and in particular Ms Lindsay Johnson who taught them in the Nursery and Mr Tommy Towers who has been their class teacher in this important final year.

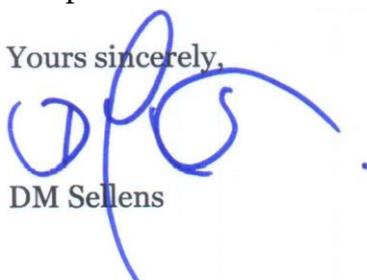
Cakes and Honey

I am most grateful to those of you who baked the exquisite cakes yesterday. I gather they sold in huge numbers and raised a significant amount of money. It has been a bumper harvest in terms of our bees, with over a hundred jars of honey expected by the end of the season.

End Point

Not for the first time in recent weeks, I have been disarmed by your kindness. Cards adorn my desk, affording insight and words of encouragement. The last twelve months have been hugely successful and this is in no small part as a result of the mutual trust that exists between us. I hope the forthcoming holiday is gentle and restorative. Please ensure your child reads as widely as possible. I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 4th September.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens