

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

St. Mark's Road | London | W11 1RQ
020 7727 1423 | www.tj.rbkc.sch.uk

Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Crisp and Brighter Days

*'Leaves curl in splendour,
Red, yellow and brown,
Crisp under wellies,
Through parks in town'*

Sadly, London's parks and gardens are likely to be sodden and muddy this weekend. The above lines from Freddie McKeown's poem October are a celebration of autumn at its finest. Let's hope that we can enjoy some crisp, brighter days again soon. Despite the wet and exceptionally windy start this morning, pupils arrived promptly, their notion of tardiness by now acute, with an eager and overtly cheerful demeanour. Attendance is an impressive 98%.

Hockey and Netball

Thomas Jones' remarkably deft Sports Coach, Ms Ana Cheang returned on Tuesday and disarmed pupils and staff alike with her insight and exacting aspirations. Keenly anticipating netball and hockey matches, older pupils are optimistic that at some point there may be an opportunity to compete against Chepstow House and Fox Primary School. Traditionally, our various teams' commitment to these initiatives is humbling, sometimes training in fog, driving rain and even on occasion the odd snow flurry. Last week, the Reception class had their first ever PE lesson. Remarks from both pupils and staff were most encouraging. Peripatetic music lessons have now re-commenced. The accomplished sounds of cello, violin and piano can, once more, be heard in the West Wing of the building, prompting a universally positive response.

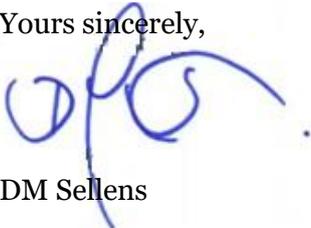
Great Expectations

Earlier this week, the Year 6 scholars began to study Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist. Last month they immersed themselves in Oscar Wilde's The Selfish Giant and Blake's The Tyger. Later this term, they will explore Romeo and Juliet and Rupert Brooke's The Soldier. Pre-pandemic visitors to the school frequently commented effusively in regard to our Year 6 writing. I attribute much of the success in this discipline to the quality of the literature that is taught. If recent essays scribed by the current cohort are anything to go by, it is fair to say that we have great expectations of them in regard to this final and incredibly important year of primary education.

Wholly Remiss

It would be wholly remiss not to briefly mention the new children who joined us in September. They are all absolutely delightful, including those who have embarked upon an odyssey of sorts in the Nursery.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens