

# THOMAS JONES

*an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school*

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Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Beautiful Creatures**

*'Been a long time, little donkey, through the winter's night'*

Today was a non-uniform fundraising day at Thomas Jones. Pupils arrived wearing their smartest clothes. Student Councillors are determined to collect at least £500 towards the Devon Donkey Sanctuary Charity over the next week. This organisation supports the rehabilitation of these beautiful, much maligned creatures, many of whom have been mistreated by their owners. Voluntary contributions will be gratefully accepted, however modest.

## **Thrust of Improvement**

Looking ahead, it is vital to safeguard what has been achieved, whilst ensuring on-going improvements are entirely fit for purpose. The mainstay of development continues to focus on the notion of 'exacting', the cornerstone of our pedagogy. The thrust of enhancing what exists will centre around the curriculum and scrutiny of learning outcomes. The Leadership Team's grasp of the nuances of each cohort are comprehensive. Expert moderation of children's progress provides clear information detailing which pupils are below or above age-related expectations in their learning. The annual evaluation document will be updated in full in the summer term. Work has already commenced on formulating a new improvement plan.

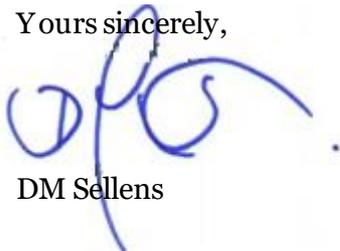
## **Extending Our Reach**

Visits as part of the Teaching School venture continue to showcase expertise. Effusive in regard to the content of the professional development on offer, a number of subject specialists and heads of department from both primary and secondary settings are keen to engage further.

## **Our Resolve**

Term finishes at 1.30pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Pupils return on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Learning over the remaining nine and a half days is hugely important. There is no denying that the last year has been remarkably successful. Despite the ubiquitous challenge, this has further galvanised our resolve to ensure all pupils shine. I am frequently humbled by your generous and kind words of encouragement. On behalf of the staff team, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your trust, partnership and unerring loyalty.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens