

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

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Friday 7th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Dressing for the Weather

*'Hail, bounteous May,
That dost inspire'*

John Milton

The mantra 'cast not a clout, 'til May is out' resonates hugely at the moment. Recently, we have enjoyed spells of bright sunshine, interspersed with periods of intense rain and a few days ago, hailstones. Please ensure your child dresses for the weather, utilising our Barbour-style jackets or midnight blue cagoules.

Long Established Tradition

The long established tradition at Thomas Jones is that some pupils from a Muslim background are keen to arrive at school on the morning of Eid, resplendent in their smartest clothes, and participate in a 9.30 assembly, albeit on this occasion, a virtual one, before departing to spend time with family. In my experience, pupils take enormous delight in coming together and making their school an integral part of this special day. I do hope you will consider the above as an option for your child.

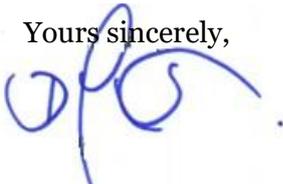
Close to the End

It is difficult to comprehend that with only nine weeks of the school year remaining, we are now, contextually, closer to the end than the beginning. This is particularly the case for the Year 6 scholars, who we will say farewell to in July. With subject matter at odds with the tepid and pedestrian, I have been disarmed by the quality of their ideas and writing in recent months. Essays that explore the notion of identity and belonging, philosophical arguments arising from the study of Theseus and the Minotaur and research about the 1917 Russian Revolution demonstrate an impressive and assiduous ethic.

Cautious Hurrah and a Return to Normality

Year 2 are shortly to visit the Holland Park Ecology Centre. It will be the first time that a class have been on an educational visit since the outbreak of the pandemic last year. This is very much a science-orientated venture. Pupils will be afforded the opportunity to learn about contrasting habitats. As the situation in regard to Covid-19 gradually improves, new government guidance, due to be published next week, will be utilised by Deputy Head, Ms Lindsay Johnson, to review all aspects of the risk assessment. You will be updated once there is clarity.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens