

# THOMAS JONES

*an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school*

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Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

***'It is sweet on awaking, in the early morn,  
No sound of voice or flute,  
Is like the bird's song'***

Richard Jeffries 1889

Earlier this week, Reception's accomplished staging of 'Spring is on its Way' enthralled and entertained in equal measure. Each performance exuded a joyful quality, their play a marvellous antidote to the harshness of a biting cold winter's day, albeit an incredibly beautiful one. The above represents the end of a half term that has afforded veritable riches in regard to learning. Attendance across the school over the last six weeks is 98%. Our post 3.20 enrichment programme continues to thrive.


### **Still In Demand**

Next month, as a Department for Education designated Teaching School, we are expecting a number of visitors. Teachers and senior leaders will scrutinise lessons and engage in professional dialogue. It has long been my view that far from presenting an extra dynamic, this venture, whilst not always linear, is symbiotic and ensures we remain ultra-accountable. It is crucial that, in a climate that can so frequently be insular, Thomas Jones is expansive in its commitment to support colleagues in settings elsewhere.

***'We are such stuff as dreams are made on,  
And our little life is rounded with sleep'***

Year 4 scholars attended Holland Park School's visceral production of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* yesterday afternoon. The interpretation was intriguing. Exquisitely lit, with deft use of costume, and at the start, clever use of the BBC's Shipping Forecast and an imaginative set, it is no exaggeration to say that the audience were captivated. Looking ahead, I am keen to involve as many pupils as possible in experiencing the immersive and stimulating, be it on a modest scale or something far grander.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens