

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

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Friday 11th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Our Hearts

*'With tremulous cadence slow, and bring
The eternal note of sadness in'*

Matthew Arnold

Monday is the fourth anniversary of the Grenfell Tower fire. Frustratingly, it is still not possible for pupils to gather in the hall. On this occasion, for most classes, assembly will be remote, using Zoom technology. At 10.00, everybody will pause and reflect during a two-minute silence. On behalf of the staff team, Deputy Head Ms Lindsay Johnson and I would like to take this opportunity to send our heartfelt wishes to all of those affected by what happened on that dreadful night.

The Organic Café

Thomas Jones was one of the first schools in the country to introduce organic lunches for children. We have certainly come a long way since then, with provision transformed over the last twenty years. Earlier this week, Chef Aiden Doyle prepared an array of delicious salads, poached salmon and focaccia bread. The roasted cauliflower and broccoli cooked in olive oil with thyme I sampled yesterday is amongst the finest I have tasted.

To Shine in Splendour

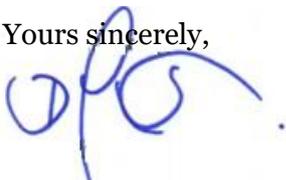
*'Now is the time,
Snatched moment,
To Shine in splendour,
As only you can'*

The Year 6 scholars will tackle their end of year assessments in reading and mathematics on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next week. Above, I have taken inspiration from poet Robert Frost, in scribing a few words to galvanise them. We have every faith they will excel, and embrace what in real terms is a veritable rite of passage before immersing themselves in rehearsals for the July staging of Dylan Thomas' Under Milk Wood.

Exactng Standards and Reading

Large numbers of pupils have 100% attendance and the majority 97%. This represents 97.8% from September 2020 up to the end of last half term. Research shows that there is a clear correlation between achievement, self-esteem and, crudely, how much time is spent in lessons. This weekend, please put aside time to read with your child. Ladbroke Grove library has now reopened. Rubenstein's on Kensington Park Road, Daunt's near Holland Park tube station and the Notting Hill branch of Waterstones all have an extensive collection of literature for younger readers. On Portobello Road, Oxfam sells high quality second-hand editions of many of the same books sold in the aforementioned shops.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens