

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 11th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ardent Endeavour

*'No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace,
As I have seen in one autumn face'*

John Donne

The manner in which pupils have so effusively settled since returning on Monday is humbling. This resonates especially in regard to the Nursery and Reception, with children as young as three years of age demonstrating such ardent endeavour and immersing themselves in the learning opportunities they are being afforded. Attendance across the school is an impressive 98%. This bodes well. The correlation between remarkable achievement and individuals who are so rarely absent is irrefutable.

Cello, Exactitude and Midnight Berets

Later this month, Year 6 girls will model the midnight beret that has become an integral element of the autumn and winter uniform in recent years. The popular straw boaters will continue to make an appearance but mainly for special occasions. Year 6 boys will periodically wear smart navy blazers. The quality of cello, violin and piano tuition at the school is exacting, as evidenced by the deft touch of our musicians, performing with such brio and sensitivity. Peripatetic lessons re-commence at the start of October.

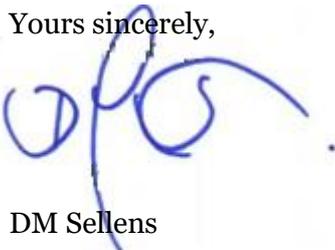
Reading Together

On numerous occasions, I've referenced Camus' *Le Myth de Sisyphe*. You may recall, the protagonist is condemned to repeat forever the task of pushing a heavy boulder up a mountain. Keen to avoid this plight, despite advocating reinvention, some of what we do cannot be adapted without losing validity. Reading together at home is one such example. Please visit the library whenever possible or a bookshop with your child. Ensure older pupils read a portion of the 'T' newspaper, Sunday Observer or the National Geographic magazine. Even in short bursts this will be palpable.

Honey Bees and Butterflies

Plans are afoot to develop the planters outside the Year 2 classroom. Thistles, Snowdrop Galanthus, Budlea, Honeysuckle and Rose Hellebores are just some of the wild flowers that we hope to cultivate to attract bees and butterflies. Then, in the spring, our junior horticulturalists will grow carrots, onions and marrows in anticipation of a bumper harvest this time next year.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens