

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

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Friday 28th May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Exquisite Figurines and a Sublime Rendition

*'And singing still dost soar and
Soaring ever singest'*

Christina Rossetti

Earlier this week, with great sensitivity, Year 5 crafted clay evocations of British garden birds. These delicate sculptures, including representations of woodpeckers and robins, will be painted in an acrylic glaze. This morning, the Year 4 choir performed a sublime rendition of the Beatles' 'Black Bird'. Executed with poise and an uncompromising, shared resolve, their rendition of this much-loved 1968 song was disarming. Maxim Obradovic deserves praise. His solo elicited 'coos' of admiration from the assembled audience.

Sou'westers at the Ready

On Tuesday, Year 2 ventured to the Holland Park Ecology Centre, clad in Thomas Jones rain attire and sporting our signature midnight blue sou'westers. Fortunately, it did not rain for long and the class were able to pond-dip and explore mini-beast habitats. Keen environmentalists, Mitzi Guttenstein and Ines Hernandez-Kwon, summed up the essence of this educational visit 'we patiently unearthed invertebrates that resembled fossils, trekking along a muddy slope to study them from a distance - despite this, one creature appeared to faint but pleasingly recovered - the highlight for most of our peers were the newts'.

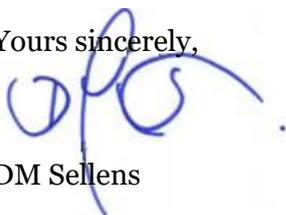
Evaluation and Enrichment

All families have been sent an annual evaluation to complete, on this occasion electronically. I would be most grateful for your support concerning this questionnaire. Despite the pandemic, Thomas Jones is significantly oversubscribed and indeed full to capacity. We remain financially buoyant. Attendance is an impressive 98%. Most important by far, there continues to exist a near-magical ambience. The school is gentle, exactitude is paramount and pupils are celebrated. I appreciate that some families value our post-3.20 provision, in the form of clubs and enrichment initiatives highly, but for the majority it is still the quality of that which is afforded in regard to learning that resonates most profoundly. Rest assured the above will resume in September.

Wholly Remiss

Auditions began this week for the Year 6 scholars' staging of Dylan Thomas' 'Under Milk Wood'. This play will be performed in July, possibly if fine weather allows, in the Nature Garden. It would be wholly remiss not to briefly mention two children who have recently joined us. Nina Billard-Sarmadi and Nicole Neberekutina are both delightful new additions to the school.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens