

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

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Friday 5th February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

When Everything Recalibrates

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

With everything so disjoined, the Thomas Jones community could be forgiven for capitulating and immersing itself in the lock-down. This would be a mistake. It is my view that instead, we should push against the inclination to simply 'tread water'. Whatever is achieved now, however modest, will pay dividends when life returns to a semblance of normality in the spring. Please engage in the home learning that is organised and encourage your child to read as much and as widely as possible.

Winter Enrichment

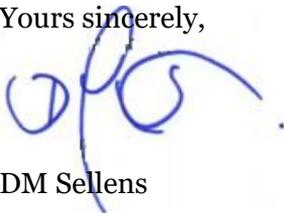
Being here every day against the backdrop of the pandemic is a curious experience. Despite there only being a contextually small number of pupils on-site, it feels so incredibly special. There is laughter and warmth in abundance. More important, much of what is happening is inventive in its scope and execution. Painting and sculpture, hockey and netball, and, in the case of younger scholars, the exploration of ancient cultures, leaves its indelible mark - our intent and ambitions are palpable. The notion of winter enrichment resonates.

Active Fellow

*'I wander thro' each charter'd street,
Near where the Thames does flow,*

Climbing trees, skimming stones, building a camp in the woods and riding my bicycle – these are just a few of the activities I spent endless hours enjoying as a boy. None of the aforementioned cost a penny. Come rain or shine, at that young age, I liked nothing more than being outside. In the current climate, with museums, bookshops and art galleries closed, what better excuse is there than to venture to one of London's many parks or gardens to expend energy? Weather permitting, this weekend, try to engineer a way for your child to exercise, be it linked to imaginative play or a competitive game that necessitates running around. Even going for a long walk will have a positive impact. Stepping away from remote learning and especially from using a computer device should be a priority.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens