

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 8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Bestowed with Effusive Comments

*The sky is low,
Clouds are mean,
A travelling flake of snow'*

Emily Dickinson

It sounds glib, I know, with such anguish forever present, but this first week of the spring term has been incredibly rewarding. Despite some potentially hazardous dynamics arising, the sun has shone, with a few flurries of snow, and we've been bestowed with effusive comments from families and prospective parents alike. Earlier this morning I wrote to staff, acknowledging their remarkable positive energy and thanking them, for the exceptional exactitude that takes place behind the scenes. This must not be taken for granted.

Applications Deadline

The deadline for applying to join Reception in September 2021 is next Friday. If the sheer volume of enquiries from a universally discerning group of parents in recent weeks is anything to go by, we are expecting a high number of applications. In the past, those naming us as their 1st choice school has been humbling, with a five-year mean average of 250 applications per year for 30 places. Applications for the Nursery should be made by the end of this month.

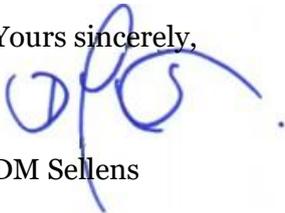
Recalibration

This weekend, please ensure that time is put aside to read with your child. It is crucial that some routines continue as per normal during the pandemic, and this is one of the most important. Older pupils will benefit enormously from reading extracts from the I, the Guardian or Observer newspapers. Crudely, the more a child reads certain kinds of literature, the stronger he or she will become, and in turn, the more robust as a learner.

Turning an Obtuse Situation on its Head

One of the frustrating elements in regard to the national lockdown is that nobody, for sure, knows how long it will last or indeed what the likely parameters are, going forward. This whole episode will end, but sadly not yet. It is, ultimately, what it is. Here at Thomas Jones, we will continue to do what can to turn an overtly obtuse situation on its head and to make it work on our terms.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens