

# THOMAS JONES

*an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school*

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Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Le Morte d'Arthur**

*'Whoso pulleth out this sword of stone and anvil,  
Is rightwise King born of all England'*

Yesterday, Year 1 shone in a marvellously deft staging of Sir Thomas Mallory's *Le Morte d'Arthur*, a reworking of the legendary tale of intrigue and tenacity and magic. The costumes, set and especially the witty script were exceptionally accomplished. Pupils' representations of Arthur, Guinevere, Merlin and the Knights of the Round Table impressed and disarmed in equal measure.

## **Mono-Prints and Sculpture**

The start of the spring has seen the launch of a plethora of new enrichment ventures, including an art initiative led by Ms Verity Handyside. This has involved the crafting and intricate painting of clay pots and the producing of bold, graphic mono-prints of fruit inspired by Paul Cezanne. Pupils have also experimented with charcoal. Next week, they will begin the process of sculpting geometric mobiles, using wire, influenced by Alexander Calder. Shortly, the focus will shift to weaving, using fabrics and traditional methods.

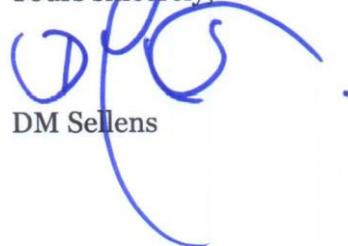
## **In Contention**

Our football and handball teams continue to excel. It is the view of coach Ms Molly Manners that both of the above are in contention to win one or other of the borough's league trophies this season. Frequently training in the damp and sometimes driving rain, the squads have earned their stripes and a place at the proverbial top table. It is, though, their camaraderie and aspirations for one another that is so humbling. I cannot begin to capture how proud everybody is of a group of children who have given so much and committed with such effusive energy.

## **String Recital and Ostinato**

Earlier this week peripatetic tutors Brikelda Silla and Francisco Jimenez led a masterclass, performing to a packed school hall. Periodically, I strongly advocate showcasing exactitude. It is anticipated that our string musicians will perform together in the summer term, taking inspiration from Brikelda and Francisco. Year 3 pupils have recently taken part in an interactive workshop with percussionists from the Royal College of Music, composing and experimenting with ostinato and syncopation. On Tuesday, choir master Miles D'Cruz and opera singer Isabella Haile sang excerpts from *Madam Butterfly* and traditional Jewish folk songs. It is crucial we continue to expose pupils to a rich variety of different musical genres.

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens