

THOMAS JONES

an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school

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Friday 13th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Demand

The deadline for applying to join Reception in September 2020 is Friday January 15th. If the sheer volume of enquiries from a universally discerning group of parents over the last few weeks is anything to go by, we are expecting a high number of applications. In recent years 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.

Beginnings and Endings

Quality in the Early Years and at the end of Key Stage 2 has been a 'constant' for many years at Thomas Jones. We do not take this for granted. The challenge does not diminish. If anything, it has become more complex, especially in the current climate. The manner in which we execute teaching and learning reflects the capacity to prioritise resources and time. Strategies employed are inventive. Ultimately, the remarkable outcomes reflect pupils' willingness to embrace what is organised, parents' trust and the insight of a talented staff team, who work tirelessly and do not collude in anything that could be described as dull or predictable.

We Will Remember

*'Solemn the drums thrill: Death August and royal
Sings sorrow into immortal spheres'*

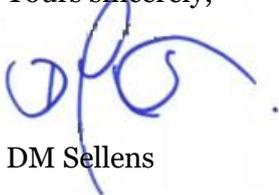
At 10.50 on Wednesday, pupils and staff silently assembled, albeit on this occasion in classrooms, to contemplate Armistice Day and the words of Laurence Binyon's sonnet 'For the Fallen'. Embracing the opportunity to reflect, the focus was the Second World War and in particular the exploits of the ordinary men and women who, against seemingly insurmountable odds, made the ultimate sacrifice.

Exacting Attendance and Context

Loath to publish weekly attendance figures, no matter how impressive these may be - in isolation they do not afford sufficient insight - it is only when calculated over a long period that one can ascertain whether or not this is a strength. At the request of some parents and carers, here are the attendance figures for each class for last half term

Nursery	97.0
Reception	97.0
Year 1	98.0
Year 2	98.0
Year 3	99.0
Year 4	98.0
Year 5	97.0
Year 6	98.0
<u>Total</u>	<u>98.0</u>

Yours sincerely,



DM Sellens