

No.10  
11.01.19

# Monken Hadley CE Primary School

*'Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a real blessing.'* Psalm 127:V3



## Dear Parents & Carers

I hope that you had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break. The children have certainly returned to school refreshed.

Unfortunately, Mrs Dickinson has left Monken Hadley due to personal circumstances and we should like to thank her for her dedication and hard work.

Ms Colesa, our new Willow teacher started working with Willow class this week. Ms Colesa has quickly settled in and I hope that you will get to know her over the next few weeks.

The last week of school finished off the term in style with a fantastic Christmas lunch, a lovely Carol Service at St Mary the Virgin Church where the orchestra and choir performed so well. Grateful thanks go to our cooks Mavis and Esther, Julia and Mrs Campaniello for providing musical accompaniment at the church and to all the staff and parents who put in extra hours, purchased costumes and made scenery and props to put on our very own Monken Hadley theatrical extravaganza!

We have lots to look forward to this term and hopefully you have all had time to peruse the calendar of events that went out before Christmas.

## Teaching and Learning at Monken Hadley School

Here at Monken Hadley most of our teaching strategies are driven by 'formative assessment', also known as 'assessment for learning'. This year we have used the work of; John Hattie, 'visible learning' and Shirley Clarke on assessment for learning.

Formative assessment is an integral part of teaching and learning. It contributes to learning through providing feedback. It should indicate what is good about a piece of work and why this is good; it should also indicate what is not so good and how the work could be improved. Effective formative feedback will affect what the pupil and the teacher do next.

Every lesson must have a clear focus so that children know what they are learning about, we call these lesson objectives. We break down the objective into small steps so that children are clear what they have to do to achieve the objective. We call these success criteria.

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Seek what is good, treasure what is true, do what is right.



## Marking

Teachers spend a great deal of time marking children's work. Marking and feedback are essential tools for ensuring that children learn more effectively. Children understand what they are aiming for, and they can provide strategies for success and ways to move forward. Effective marking and feedback to children is one of the key factors for improving learning through assessment. Children need to understand the purpose of the learning, how to make improvements, and be given specific time to respond to comments or feedback.

### What is the difference between marking and feedback?

Marking is the annotating of a piece of written work, using words, symbols and grades. It is usually in a written form, but can be verbal, especially for young children. Children need acknowledgement that their work has been looked at, but 'in depth feedback' is given when appropriate. Less detailed marking is often supported by oral feedback. Feedback may consist of a dialogue between teacher and child, a group or a class, and will provide pupils with information about how they performed in relation to the learning intention/objective(s), and the next steps necessary to improve the work.

### What Impact does marking have?

Effective marking helps children become better learners by giving a clear picture of what they have done, and what they need to develop. It gives recognition and praise for achievement, provides suggestions for the next learning task, enables parents to understand their child's strengths and weaknesses and identifies targets for individuals or groups of children. Quality marking also ensures regular dialogue between teacher and child and suggests individual strategies for improvement.

Please chat to your children about these strategies and they will tell you more.

## School Lunches

If your child has school dinners (Years 3-6) the cost of each meal is £2.34, £11.70 per week or £67.86 for the half term (up to and including Friday 15th February). Please make payment using the School Money service. Half a term's notice needs to be given for any changes. Due to ordering supplies, pupils should either be on school dinner OR packed lunch each day not a combination of both.

Ms Simpson

## Governors' Fund

Thank you to those parents who contributed to the Governors Fund. This contribution is fundamental to our school.