MONKEN HADLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

This month's value is Gratitude

Dear Families,

Is it just me, or is everything flying by in a flash? We're already saying goodbye September and hello October! Autumn days are definitely heading our way (please do remember to send your child in with a coat).

It's been another busy week in school with internal audits, parent tours, children heading off to the woods, games on the common, lots of investigating around the school, and our Year 5s getting ready for Cuffley Camp. There's always so much happening!

A big thank you for your generous harvest parcels, which we've taken to church this morning. The children have been practising their harvest songs and are definitely in fine voice! Chestnut families, do ask your children to give you a rendition of Cauliflowers Fluffy at home. Please do come and join us next week for our Harvest Service — it's always a special celebration. There will also be the Harvest service at Church on Sunday at 10:30 - all welcome.

Our House Captains have been busy appointing their committees to make up our school parliament: we have three committees: Nutrition, Charities and Sustainability. Well done to our new members! More news on these to follow.

Just a quick reminder about PE kits. On Mondays, all children (apart from Reception) should come into school wearing their kit, so there's really no excuse for forgetting on that day! Please also make sure your child has their kit in school on other days too — it's really important that everyone takes part.

Looking ahead, Bikeability is coming up the week after next for Year 6. This is such an important opportunity, not just about being able to ride a bike, but learning control and road safety skills. In the past, the children have really enjoyed it and gained a lot from the experience. Do fill in the permissions slips.

Have a great weekend and I will see you all at the gate on Monday.

Ms. Eyres

Learning at Monken Hadley ...

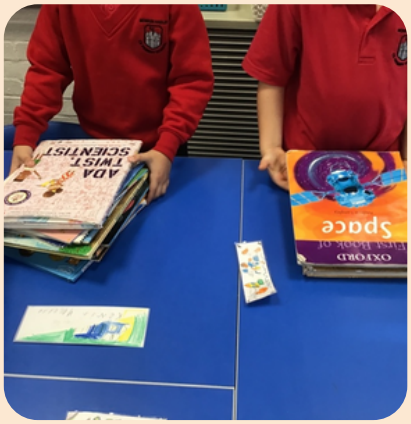
It has been a super week in **Willow Class** this week. We have been having great fun reading “The Naughty Bus” and taking him on lots of adventures around the school, sliding down the slide, photocopying himself and even marking some RE books in Ms. Eyres' office and we have then used these adventures to write our own stories about the Naughty Bus's adventures around school. In Maths, Year One have been continuing their learning about numbers and place value, in particular ordinal numbers, whilst our Receptions have been learning about weight and capacity. In Geography we have been drawing maps to show the route we took on our walk around school and in Science we discussed how trees change in the autumn and we painted autumn trees with cotton wool buds. We even found time for a bit of art, when we continued learning about sculptures and their work. This week was the turn of Jill Townsley who sculpted with lots of different materials. We had a go at making sculptures using plastic spoons and elastic bands !

Chestnut class has been making the most of the autumn sunshine this week, getting outside in our geography lesson when the children were able to jump on chalked maps of the UK. Test them on their knowledge of the the nations of the UK and their capitals!

In Maths, number bonds were the theme of the week, with children experimenting with pairs of numbers to add up to different target sums and spotting patterns in their work.

We caused a lot of chaos on Monday when we decided to sort the entire contents of our book corner into two groups - fiction and non-fiction (thanks to the small but very assiduous group of Oak class members who helped tidy up the results of that lesson!). The next step was to learn what makes a non-fiction text special and to practise our use of the past tense during the rest of the week.

Our science lesson was all about why objects are made from particular materials (wool umbrellas and paper chairs, anyone?). And finally, ... the children developed their keyboard skills on the paintz.app website!



In **Beech** this week, we have continued our learning about light and shadows in Science. We discovered that shadows are made when light is blocked by opaque objects and explored how their size and shape change when we move the light or the object.

In computing, we learned about computer networks and the World Wide Web. We then discussed if we can trust every single website. We learned that information in books is correct and has been checked, but information on websites are different. Anyone can make a website and put it on the web for everyone to see, without checking any facts or correcting mistakes. Then we got creative by making our own fake breaking news stories—watch out, journalists of the future!

In **Cedar Class**, the children have been working hard to write non-chorological reports about the Iroquois people, who are from what we now call New York and Canada. The children have researched all about Native American traditions, culture, longhouses, hunting and the food they loved to grow and eat. The reports have been excellently organised using subheadings, bullet points and using brackets (for extra information).

The class are currently editing and improving the reports and they will be publishing them on Google classroom very soon. In Maths, the children have been learning about negative numbers and how to count past zero. Jonathan and Ada have worked hard to solve some tricky problems.

In science, the children explored the role teeth play in the digestive system and identified the molars, incisors and canine teeth they have in their mouth.

We completed a fun quiz in Nearpod and well done to the winners Theo and Dexter. In computing, the children have continued to explore how computers work and they used algorithms to program the Micro-bits and turn them into animated animals! On Friday, Cedar worked on their slingshot cars as they designed an aerodynamic top of their cars. The next step is to test drive them in the playground. Finally, in RE year 4 were visited by Francesco, who talked to the class about his calling to become a priest because the children were inspired by the story of Moses to find out more about how God calls people to do his work. A busy week, which also saw Mr. Neal and Lottie rescue a grass snake from the Muga!

This week in **Oak** we have been studying OS maps in geography. The children learnt about contour lines on maps and used these to be able to draw the shape and height of a hill or mountain.

In DT, we have been perfecting our sewing skills. We practised how to do a running stitch, loop stitch and cross stitch in preparation for making our soft toys.

In English, we have begun writing a biography about a fictional magician called Lucien Silver and have specifically worked on using adverbials of time and place. In Maths, we have been rounding numbers as well as calculating with negative numbers.

Clarinet playing is going well and the children now know how to play certain notes and sequences. Well done Oak on another great week!