# MONKEN HADLEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

**This month's value is Integrity**

**Dear Families,**

What a fortnight it's been, and despite the incessant rain (and yes, a leak!), nothing has stopped the buzz of learning across the school. I know there are lots of coughs, colds and temperatures doing the rounds, but it's been brilliant to see attendance improving even further. We've had 100 percent attendance twice this week, which is absolutely fabulous. As always, if you ever have concerns about attendance, please come and talk to me.

Last week, Beech Class enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Science Museum. The children's behaviour was exemplary and Mrs. Christofi also commented on our wonderful parent helpers. We are so grateful and I'm sure you all needed a long rest afterwards.

Next week is our Wellbeing Week, linked to Children's Mental Health Week. The theme is This Is My Place" all about belonging and what helps us feel connected. As part of Wellbeing Week, I wanted to signpost a few resources that families may find helpful: https://www.youngminds.org.uk https://www.place2be.org.uk https://nipinthebud.org/

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors, Olivia and Pearl, will also be speaking to the children about how they can support others at lunchtimes and around the school.

Sarah Roth, our Chair of Governors, visited today to talk to the children about learning in RE. She was struck by how confidently they could talk about their learning and relate it to their own personal experiences within our rich and diverse community.

Our football teams have also been out representing the school, showing resilience and kindness in some very soggy conditions. Well done to all our squads, even more impressive given the weather. And thank you to Mr. Beadie for your continued commitment to coaching.

Please take a moment to read the class updates from our teachers and have a look at some of the fabulous work the children have been producing. There is so much to celebrate across the school. And don't forget that Chillax Friday and the school disco are both happening at the end of next week, which will be a brilliant way to round off Wellbeing Week.

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

**Ms. Eyres**

**Stars Of The Week**

# Learning at Monken Hadley

Our lovely little **Willows** have been working super hard this week.

Our Year One's have loved learning all about owls and have been writing some super non-fiction writing about them. Next week we will be publishing these and hope to share them with you soon. In Maths, our Reception children have been learning all about the numbers 6,7 and 8. And yes, they have driven me mad every time I mentioned 6,7 ! Our Year One's have completed their Maths learning about Place Value by learning to count in fives and twos. We have found our topic 'Starry Night' really interesting and the children have loved their Let's Innovate lesson this week, during which they have the chance to share everything they have learnt. They produced some outstanding Night Time posters and blew me away with all the knowledge they have gained over the last few weeks. As we have been learning about the Winter in Science, it was important that we explored melting and freezing and the children were full of awe and wonder when we froze little sea creatures into ice cubes and then had to experiment with how to get them out.

One of our highlights of the week was the Reception children learning the story of Jesus and how he fed the five thousand. We had great fun becoming bakers and at the end of the session the children could all explain the story beautifully. They also shared the bread they had made with the Year One's in our class just like Jesus shared his bread with the five thousand. Well done Willow Class.

**Chestnut** class has transitioned seamlessly from Paddington-style instructions for making sticky marmalade sandwiches to the poetry of 'Under the Love Umbrella' by Davina Bell in English lessons. The children love this book and have chatted about whose love umbrella they are under. They have also started learning chunks of the book by heart, so do ask your Chestnut to recite it ('When big dogs bark...'), complete with actions. We have been working on sentence structure, capital letters and conjunctions and hope to do some more writing and art around the Love Umbrella theme during Wellbeing Week.
In maths, we have been counting in 2s, 5s, 10s and 3s and making equal groups and in science the class conducted a comparative test to see whether children's heads grow as they get older (they do overall, although our results were a bit surprising). Chestnut's 'Out and About' history and geography topic has enabled us to learn vocabulary like 'semi-detached', 'terraced' and 'bungalow' and the children were able to order Barnet homes on a timeline this week (including some of their own). PE has seen the children practising their jumping and skipping, while in PSHE they learnt all about sharing images online.

**Beech** have had a fantastic couple of weeks of learning. Last week, we enjoyed an exciting trip to the Science Museum. A huge thank you to all the parents who came along and supported the day, we couldn't have done it without you! The children had a brilliant time, taking part in a science show all about friction before heading into the Wonderlab, where they explored and carried out hands on experiments.

Back at school, we continued our science learning on states of matter. We carried out an investigation into evaporation, exploring whether temperature affects how quickly clothes dry. This week, we have also been learning all about the water cycle and were amazed to discover just how much water there is on Earth and that we are drinking the very same water that dinosaurs once drank!

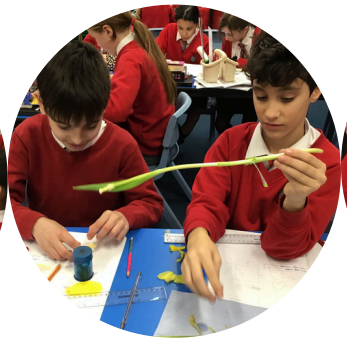
We have made a great start on our class assembly and are really looking forward to performing next Friday. Please take some time over the weekend to practise your lines. In RE, Year 3 continued their learning on What does it mean to be Jewish? by finding out about Passover and even trying some of the foods eaten at a Seder meal.

Finally, don't forget to check out the video of us at the Science Museum. The children enjoyed it and hopefully it really captures what a great day we had!
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qmtGo6NhFivf2ENhhHC2LWrBGHc3Hdru/view

In **Cedar Class**, we have had a busy few weeks learning all about the great oceanographer Jacques Cousteau. Firstly, the children worked as a team to sequence the story of his life and help each other learn his fascinating life story. Then they played a special quiz on the Chromebooks to sequence the events of Jacques life before the children boxed up their plans and wrote their first drafts.

After some editing the children then produced their own Jacques Cousteau books (see pictures).
In maths, the children have been working hard to understand fractions and on Wednesday they enjoyed using some Kit Kats to understand improper fractions and mixed numbers. In geography, the class learned about the ocean zones and made some super fold out books, which are stored in the books.

Last Thursday, it was time to dissect some more flowers as Cedar investigated if all flowers have the same number of petals and stamen. We found out that flowers in the same family have very similar numbers but that it does differ when the flowers are not so closely related. In art, it was time to be inspired by the Great Barrier Reef to create some super foam board prints. On Wednesday, this week, the class learned all about the history of the submarine and made their own submarines with moving propellers. We also enjoyed listen to a few submarine and ocean inspired Beatles songs as well. Finally, in computing the children developed their photo editing skills even further and restored a picture of some rather sad looking coral to its former glory.



Oak Class continue to blow me away with their commitment to achieving the best that they can!! They have written some beautifully figurative setting descriptions of Camp Green Lake and year 6 have also written formal explanation texts to inform readers of the concepts of samsara and nirvana in Buddhism. In Maths, we have been learning how to calculate the area of parallelograms and triangles as well as the volume of cuboids using formulae. In History, we have begun exploring the Maya civilisation. We looked at where Maya cities were situated in Mesoamerica and we also used timelines to plot key events in Maya history. In computing, we have continued exploring and using a range of tools on Tinkercad to build 3D Mexican cities. A super week for all.

**Camp Greenlake...**
**By Tommy**

Long ago, before life and wonder was lost, Camp Greenlake was the destination of a lifetime. As of now, the camp is a barren and desolate wasteland for bad boys only...

Within the deep summer months, everywhere you look the landscape is vast and cracked. Temperatures rise to a high of 95°F and any traces of moist land is found a miracle as the scorching heat bakes the ground 5 metres deep. The stifling heat, that warns the people of Texas of dangers beyond compare, covers the land like a blanket in the bleak mid-winter.

Across the deadly rocks lies a cabin that houses the only green within miles of the camp. Two trees. Two wondrous trees. Between these oaks, is a luxurious hammock. A hammock for the Warden! The warden owns the shade. The warden owns the camp. The warden owns EVERYTHING!

Beyond the tranquil silence of pain, the eerie screech of creatures killing their prey, warns you of scorpions, rattlesnakes and other merciless dangers: rattlesnakes venture beyond the horizon to find prey; it is not safe here; it is not safe anywhere; DEADLY yellow-spotted lizards, hiding like hunters in the shadows, wait patiently in search of just a measly beetle as food to sustain themselves for days. These dead creatures blanket the barren and desolate terrain.

Moods in the air send chills down your spine. Shadowless, prison like scapes turn barren during the calming yet savage night. Strict, uncomforting mutters make your blood run cold.