# 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,

We've had a super week at school with a great deal of fun and learning, as always!
There has been some wonderful learning about significant world religions across the school.
Key Stage 1 have been discovering more about Judaism, Year 4 have been learning about Hinduism, Year 5 about the Sikh langar, and Year 6 about the Eight Noble Truths of Buddhism. It has been a stimulating week of discussion and developing broader understanding. Do read the teacher updates later in the newsletter.
This week I and great discussion with Kaden in Year 1, who came to see to show me his handwriting and explained: "I used a growth mind set Ms. Eyres. You see at first I found it very tricky but now after not giving up I can do it!" How wonderful to hear the children applying our whole school projects like growth mindset in their learning – Great stuff.

Also, this week we have been having moments of "Let be Still" When we come back together after lunch each class has a moment of stillness, reflection and quiet before the afternoon activities!
Week commencing 9 February will be our Wellbeing Week in school, so please look out for diary changes and special activities. It is always a really wonderful week.

A huge well done to the Girls' Football Team who played brilliantly against Livingstone. Even though the result did not go our way, they showed resilience, great team spirit and the ability to play on through a lot of mud. Thank you to the Friends for our new football kit.

We have been thinking of Iranian families during this difficult time in Iran. Our parent Prayer Group included them in their prayers this week. Finally, just a reminder about the Cyber Safety meeting 28th at 7.00pm at Foulds. We really hope many of you can make it.

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

**Ms Eyres**

## Well done to this week's stars!

# Learning at Monken Hadley

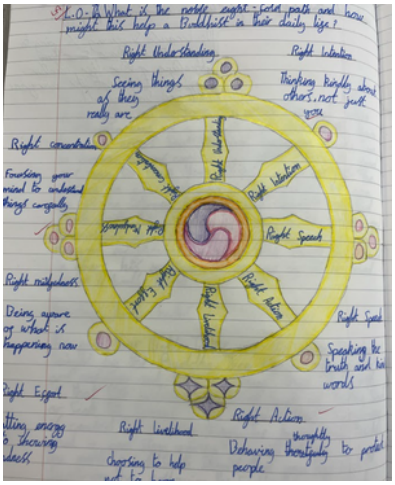
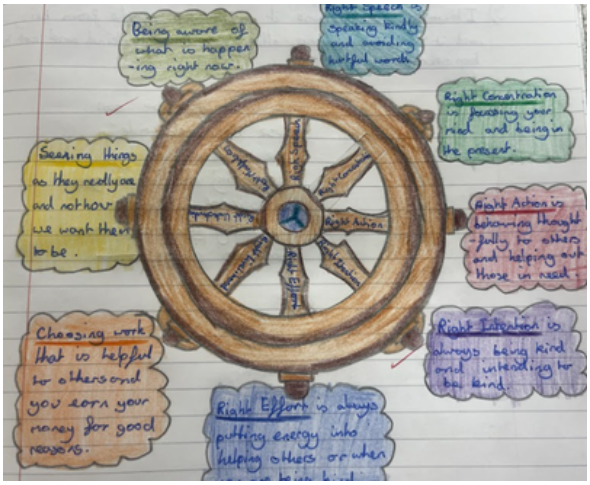
It has been an exciting week in **Willow** and the children have been so keen learning all about owls. We have been doing lots of research so we are able to write a non-fiction text about them next week. We have also been learning all about non-fiction books and how they are different to fiction books. The children in Year One are now able to list the features of a non-fiction text. Ask them!

The weighing scales arriving in Willow was also an exciting event and the children have enjoyed comparing weights and learning the vocabulary heavier and lighter. We also measured how many cube different objects weighed and compared their capacity. The Year One children have continued their learning about numbers to 50 and they have been partitioning numbers to 50 into tens and ones and counting in tens and ones. What a challenge! In our topic lesson we learnt all about how owls bodies are adapted to night time hunting and we labelled a diagram of an owl and in Science, we continued our learning about the winter. As part of our Starry Night topic we had great fun dressing up as workers who work at night.

With memories of their Marmalade Day still fresh, **Chestnut** children have begun learning about the features of instructional texts - 'bossy' verbs (imperatives) and adverbs to go with these. To give you a flavour of the fabulous work going on, here are two examples: 'If you don't like crusts, cut them off.' 'Finally, peacefully eat your sandwiches'. We will start planning our instructions for how to make a marmalade (or lemon curd!) sandwich next week.

In maths, the children have started learning to exchange 10 ones for a ten when crossing a tens number in addition and in science we looked at the life stages of a human being (children can learn to read and write but they definitely cannot own their own house!). Finally, in geography the children have learnt to label features on a map; ask your child whether the duck pond on Hadley Green is a physical or a human feature and you may be surprised by the answer!

**Beech Class** have been working really hard in Science, continuing with our topic on states of matter. This week we conducted an experiment to investigate whether gas has weight. We used fizzy drinks and carefully weighed them before and after removing the fizz, making predictions and observations. In Music, we are making great progress with our djembe drumming and are beginning to work together as an ensemble, listening closely and playing in time with one another.

In **Cedar Class**, the children have been learning about the stories of renowned people's lives. We call these special non fiction stories biographies. In hooked on books, the children read the biography of the great athlete Tanni Grey-Thompson. Everybody was inspired by her life story and how she overcame many obstacles to become a world famous athlete and a member of the House of Lords, who always stands up for what it right. The children also read biographies of Lionel Messi, the great Mary Secole and even Taylor Swift. Consequently, they are now well on their way to understanding the features of a biography and how to write a really good one next week about the manfish, Jacques Cousteau.
In PE, the children really impressed the dance coach, Jade, with their super listening and resilience. What a great start to the exciting Dance Festival project. In maths, it was time to divide and the children explored using counters, part whole models and short division to divide and solve problems. A highlight of the week was RE in Year 4, where the class learned about Hindu shrines that people have at home called Puja. The children made their own model Puja's which you can see below.
Well done Cedar Class!

I must start off this week's '**Oak News**' with a huge shout out to the whole class for their phenomenal work in English! We have been learning and rehearsing the features of a setting description: adverbials of place and manner (written as similes), expanded noun phrases with prepositional phrases, relative clauses and high quality vocabulary. The children have worked so hard on building engaging, high-quality descriptions using these sentence types and I'm looking forward to seeing how they apply these to a setting description of Camp Green Lake next week. In Maths, we have been multiplying and dividing decimals by 10, 100 and 1000 as well as by whole numbers. The children demonstrated perseverance and have made good progress with this. In Computing, we have been exploring the features on Tinkercad and some of us developed 3D models of the Traitors castle. In Geography, we looked at the rainfall and temperature statistics of different cities in Mexico and created graphs to compare them and draw conclusions. Year 6 were learning about the Buddhist eightfold path in RE and created their own. They had some great discussions about how these teachings can be integrated into modern life. To end the week, we experimented with building a range of circuits with different components and made technical drawings of these. A successful week!