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,
I hope this newsletter finds you well. We've had a fantastic week here at school, filled with learning, laughter, and lots of fun. Our core value this term is integrity, and it's been super to see how well the children understand and embody this important principle. We've been exploring Joshua 1:9, and the children have shown great insight into its message of strength and courage. I have challenged them to learn the verse and they are already impressing me!

I have asked the children if they'd like to lead our collective worship, and I'm thrilled to announce that we already have some enthusiastic volunteers. Watch this space for more news on this exciting initiative! Parents when your child is leading we do invite you to come along and watch.

Music Assemblies: Each week we have a lovely singing worship where we learn new songs and sing more familiar songs. One idea I would like to try is for children who play a musical instrument to come share their instrument during one of our assemblies, tell the school a little about it and play a piece / short piece. Hopefully this will encourage children to be more confident in playing in public and also increase enthusiasm and interest across the school. Children can sign up by speaking to me and will be given a date for their assembly. I cannot wait.

Willow Class had a wonderful trip to the V&A Children's Museum. The children couldn't wait to tell me all about their adventures and what they learned. You can read their report later in this newsletter. A big thank you to our parent helpers, Ms. Dodd, Mrs. Hayden, and Mr. Dalton for making this trip possible.

Elsewhere in the school, there's been great learning and a real positive attitude all around. It's a joy to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic about their learning. Do as always read the teacher updates!

Next week is our Wellbeing Week, coinciding with Children's Mental Health Week. The theme for 2025 is "Know Yourself, Grow Yourself" The office has sent an email and a reminder about next week. Please check the emails for what your child needs for the week and our no pens Wellbeing Wednesday. It should be a super week. This is a wonderful opportunity to speak with your child about their well-being, how they understand themselves, and developing a growth mindset. I've included some helpful links below from Place2Be, the Anna Freud Centre and the charity Nip In The Bud Place2Be Anna Freud Nip in the Bud

A gentle reminder that our school uniform is a representation of our school. We like the children to look smart, so please ensure they wear their uniform, including proper shoes no trainers or boots. If your child's hair is longer than their collar, it needs to be tied up and long fringes should also be clipped back. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

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

Ms. Eyres

Willow Class

This week Willow Class have been on a very exciting trip to The Young V&A. We took part in a creative workshop, making food, friends and shelter for Leonard the Lion and then explored the museum, looking at toys through the ages, some amazing doll's houses and the children even put on their own show. The children behaved brilliantly and did our school and themselves very proud. Thank you so much to our parent helpers, who I'm sure slept well last night!

In English we have been continuing our non-fiction writing about farms and place value to 10 and 20 in Maths. In Science, we have explored the properties of different materials and thought about whether they are opaque / transparent and absorbent / non-absorbent. Well done Willow for another brilliant week!

Monken Hadley stars this week are:

Daisy, Anvita, Sophia, Amber and Jemima.

Well done Stars.

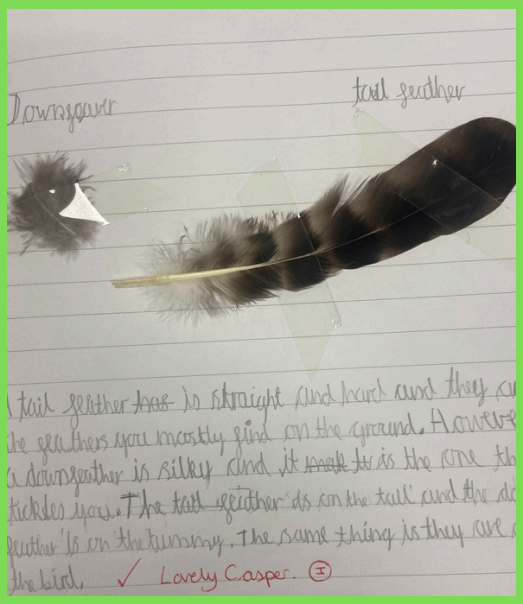
Willow at the V & A

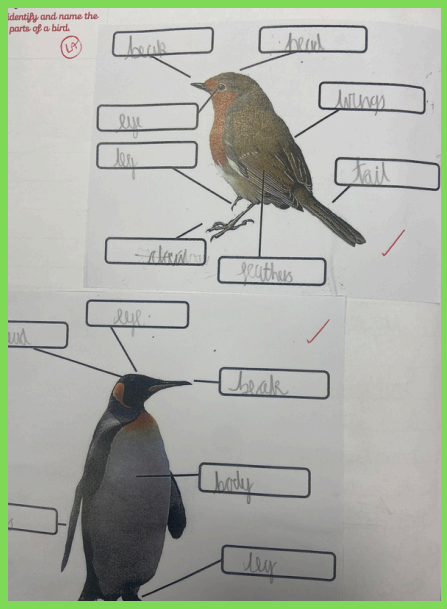
We went to see all the old toys and new toys. We saw ninja turtles and a children's chair that never breaks. We saw a car hanging tied up by strings and a big stage where we did a show. There were lots of doll's houses and one had lovely curtains.

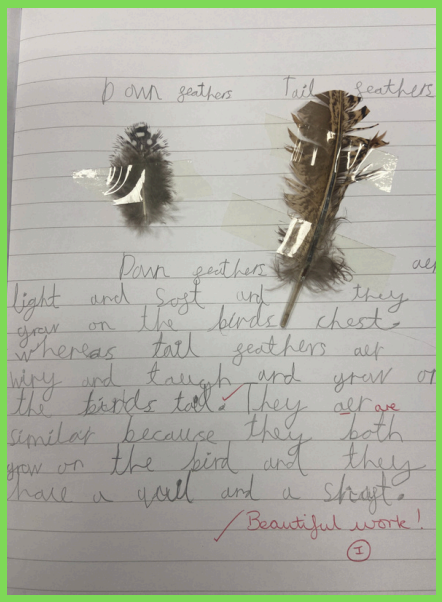
By Sam, Ambrose and Sophia

Chestnut Class

This week Year One have been authors writing their own non-fiction texts about farms and Year Two have been writing a sequel to The Magic Finger - the language they have been using has been astounding and they have blown us away with their creativity. In Maths, Year Two have been learning their ten and five times tables and Year One have continued working with numbers to 50; comparing them using the <> and = symbols. In History we learnt about what an activist is and learnt about some famous activists such as Emmeline Pankhurst and Rosa Parks. In Computing, the children loved listening to Neptune by Gustav Holst and producing art work in response to what they have heard. In Science, we learnt about different parts of a bird's body and the different feathers they grow. What a busy week (as usual)







In RE, Year 2s have been finding out about different Jewish Festivals.

Beech Class

In English, we explored how Mr Fox managed to outwit the three farmers and wrote the next chapter using fronted adverbials. We are very pleased to announce that Mr Fox did indeed escape this time! In Art, the children completed their Anglo-Saxon illuminated letters which will be proudly displayed on the wall. In Maths, we learned about measuring in metres, centimetres and millimetres. The students practised using rulers and metre sticks with great precision and then moved onto calculations using equivalent length.

In science, we explored how animals hear and uncovered interesting facts about snakes, frogs, owls, and dogs. For instance, snakes use vibrations to hear, frogs have eardrums behind their eyes, owls have asymmetrical ears for pinpointing sounds and dogs hear higher frequencies than humans. We worked as a group to create a presentation which we will present to our classmates.

In RE, year 3 children have been exploring the traditions of the Seder meal as part of their learning about Passover. They discovered the significance of each food on the Seder plate and the symbolic meanings behind the rituals. The class enjoyed trying some of the foods which are eaten as part of the Seder and we discussed the themes of freedom and gratitude. We were treated to Theo singing the first part of the song that asks one of the four questions. He very skillfully sang this in Hebrew as he had this memorised!

Cedar Class has had a busy week. In English, the children worked towards writing a diary entry from the point of view of Henry VIII or Catherine Parr. As a warm up challenge and to get them to start to think about how to write action and emotions in a diary they were challenged with writing a diary from the point of view of an object. We had some great compositions, especially Chloe's recount of the day in the life of a computer mouse!

In history, Henry VIII visited the class and Cedar class turned into his advisers. They helped him to decide if he should get divorced and leave the Catholic Church. There were some persuasive arguments on both sides but Henry decided he would like to start his own church and become even more rich and powerful.

In music, the class got disco fever and sang and played some disco classics on the glockenspiel.

Finally, in science Cedar explored friction and tested which surfaces would produce the least amount of friction to propel a toy car across the classroom.

We have had a very busy week in **Oak Class** this week. The children have been exploring the characters further in A Midsummer Night's Dream as well as exploring the language used in the text to describe the forest. They wrote their own setting descriptions and I was incredibly impressed with some of the language they used and their range of fronted adverbials. In Maths, we have started our 'converting measurements' unit and the children are doing very well with this despite how tricky it can be.

In Art, we re-created some natural animal prints using different media and some of these were outstanding. In Science, we were learning about how light is reflected and we made our very own periscopes using cereal boxes and mirrors. We were successful in our mission and the children were very pleased with themselves and how well their periscopes worked. In History, we began exploring slavery and we used a range of sources to help us draw conclusions about what is a slave and how they were treated. All in all, a fantastic week of learning. Well done Oak.