

To whom it may concern,

January 2024

I have worked in many schools over the last twenty years, and have spent the last eleven or so visiting Marston Moreteyne to run Christmas clay workshops.

It is, by a country mile, my favourite school to work in. Ever.

There is always a happy, comforting atmosphere there. All the staff are welcoming and friendly and the children are always polite and fun to work with.

It is lovely to see each year the children take part in lots of different activities as I am squeezed into a very full programme of wonderful experiences for the children.

Every year I enjoy looking at their amazing art displays in the corridors and in the classrooms. It means a lot to me to see that the children are given lots of opportunities to express themselves creatively. Also, I have never been to a school where the Headteacher plays the guitar and sings with the children in their classrooms. How special is that!

I was very moved on my most recent visit to see how much the school is helping parents who have been hit hard by the cost of living crisis. I am in awe of the staff who have had to absorb this massive extra workload of dealing with the consequences not only of the cost of living crisis, but the fallout from Covid on top of their regular duties. There is a such a strong sense of community and of caring for the wellbeing not just of the children but for their families too.

It has been lovely to see the children grow in confidence with their creative skills and it means a lot to see how, despite general school cutbacks, Marston Moreteyne School continues to ask me back every year as part of its enrichment activities for the children.

Victoria Houghton
Clay Workshops for Schools
January 2024