

NEWS CORNER

The latest news and information about Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary.



19th January 2024

Panda Class News...

Panda class received a very special message from Antarctica this week. The video message was sent from Shireena's friend who is travelling in Antarctica. Kate showed the mesmerising, snowy environment whilst mentioning how she is keeping warm in the cold climate. The children learnt to describe the location of the continent and the physical features. Anvit noticed melting ice in the ocean and Maria was excited to see snow-capped mountains. Panda class watched a second video message where they saw a colony of Gentoo penguins relaxing on the frozen continent. Yashveer said penguins like swimming in the water and huddle together to keep warm.

In English, the children have written their own poem inspired by the Sound Collector poem. Before writing their own, they created a whole class poem. Please have a read of it on the last page.



Updates from Sarah Jane

I was watching a group of Panda Class do some Independent study this week using the iPads, it was incredible. Each child scanned a QR code which directed them to some personalised learning on the Read, Write inc portal. They wore their headphones and carried out tasks. I saw learning and progress right in front of my eyes.

I am always cautious about using iPads and 'screen time' and it is something I think a lot about with my own 3-year-old. I believe that digital resources do have their benefits, there are some wonderful apps to 'enhance' learning. We also have a duty to prepare our children for the digital future. Shireena and verity are currently doing some wonderful work on STEM and coding using iPads and Bee bots and robotics.

All that said, I think there is a time and place, digital and online resources should be something used to enhance learning rather than replace learning through other fun and engaging ways.

My top tips are:

1. ALWAYS check an app when you download it and check it is age appropriate. Some games **appear age appropriate**, but they are not
2. Be consistent and clear with **screen time boundaries**. Set **time limits** with children using a visual timer and tell them what you have planned for after the screen time. "Now you can have screen time, in 10 minutes we are going to do a jigsaw/call grandma, make pancakes...." **Stick to the boundary**, children will always try and push it!
3. Check your **parental settings** and do not let children have free rein over your digital devices, there is a duty for us all to **safeguard** our children. Unfortunately, without safe settings, children can be one click away from some potentially disturbing imagery and video content
4. Read first, play first, talk rather than click first, sing, dance, run, cook, make play dough, roll down hills, make snow angels, jump in puddles, make pictures in clouds, be silly and just have fun, a computer game can't even touch the sides of that. **And... our little ones won't be this little for long.**

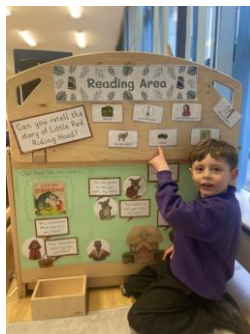
Blue Whale and Tiger Class news...

This week the Reception children have continued to explore winter and the arctic through our big question "What if Little Red Riding Hood's Grandmother lived in the Arctic." We have investigated if salt or sugar will melt ice more quickly. Valentino said "When you move all the salt onto the ice it melts it!" Dev said "It will take time for the ice to melt, so we have to wait." Then the children tested their strength and precision skills by rescuing our toys from Elsa and her ice! They worked together to crack and break the ice around the toys.

The children explored different types of clothing that would keep us warm in the Arctic. Nephi said "She will need warm trousers and boots in the ice!" Natalie said "She will need mittens for her hands, so they don't get cold." The children then created pictures of Little Red Riding Hood dressed for the winter and arctic weather.

The children enjoyed our Drama4All session with Naomi from 'Perform'. They were transported to the Wild West where they had to find the horse with the golden mane. Everyone loved pretending to be cowboys and cowgirls riding through deserts and over mountains.

To end our week the children made scones with jam on Friday for our cooking session. They enjoyed measuring and mixing the ingredients. Everyone enjoyed eating the warm tasty scones.



STAR OF THE WEEK

This week's value is
Respect

Panda Class' stars:

Frederick

For showing respecting and including others with his play and learning

Nikita

For joining in with partner reading and showing good turn taking

Tiger Class' star:

Victoria

For always showing respect towards the teachers and her peers. Stella is a great role model.

Blue Whale class' star:

Stella

For always showing respect by using kind words like please and thank you.

In recognition, all children have been given a certificate and their class mascot to take home for the weekend. We are looking to hearing about the adventures they get up to at the weekend.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

29th January – Blue Whale and Tiger Class school trip offsite

30th January – **9-9:30am** - Panda Class parent workshop on Maths

29th January – **2nd February** – National Storytelling Week

5th February – Panda Class offsite visit

5th – 9th February – Children's mental health week

6th February – **9-9:30am** - Reception Classes – Maths workshop

6th February – Safer Internet day

9th February – School closes for the half term holidays

19th February – School reopens

TABLE OF THE WEEK

Every week we reward children for positive behaviors around lunchtime, such as good manners, playing with the resources safely and with kindness, and trying new food. Well done to:

- Muntaha
- Aliah
- Sophie
- Mehek

ATTENDANCE (Target 97%)

The winning Class this week is
Tiger
95.4.6%
Blue Whale – 93.5%
Panda – 91.1%



Do you know your whispers from your skins? Your Fortnite from your EA Sports FC 24?

As part of the NSPCC Game Safe Festival, we're encouraging parents, carers and those working with children and families to have conversations about online gaming.

GamCare will be sharing expert advice, and you'll hear directly from young people.

Our webinar will help you:

- understand how young people game online.
- learn about tools and resources that support safe play.
- gain the knowledge you need to keep children safe.

7 February 2024, 7pm-8pm, via Zoom. Book your place via this link: nspcc.org.uk/gamesafe/tickets

GAME SAFE FESTIVAL

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

TOWER HAMLETS

Holiday Childcare Scheme

The Tower Hamlets Childcare Scheme offers Ofsted registered childcare.
020 7364 0523
www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs

Ages **3-13** years old

February scheme 2024
12-16 Feb
(1 week)

Bookings now open

Shared Write: Panda Class have created their own funny poem based on some very unusual sounds.

The Sound Collector

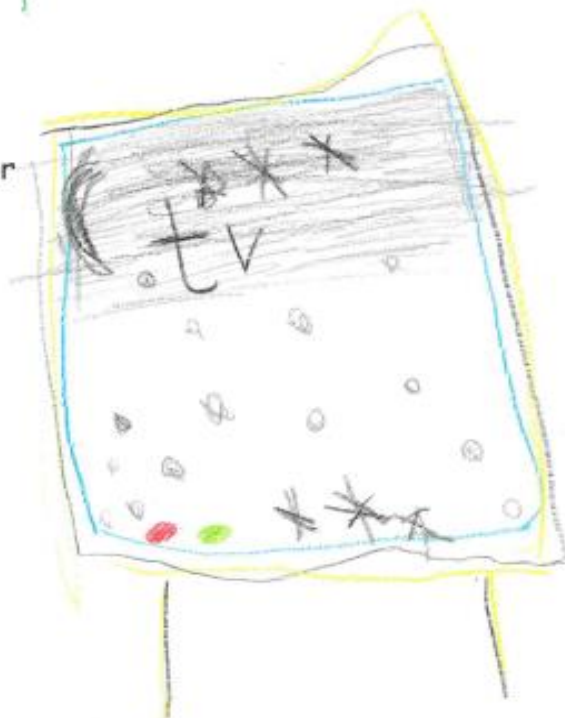
A stranger came this morning
Dressed all in black and grey
Put every sound into a bag
And carried them away



The whistling of a leaf
The bubbling of an octopus
The popping of the teeth
The drumming of a watermelon



The ticking of the alligator
The buzzing of the tv
The humming of the cheese grater
The sizzling of banana



A stranger called this morning
They didn't leave their name
Only left us with silence
Life will never be the same

