

# NEWS CORNER

The latest news and information about Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary.



**26<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

## Blue Whale and Tiger Class news...

As Blue Whale and tiger class approach the milder weather, Little red riding hood is stuck in the Arctic climate trying to deliver a basket of goodies to Grandma. Will she make it? Who will she encounter along the way? As we retell the story and give our individual inputs on the story, we are creating a new version, thinking about the beginning, middle and end. They have created their own illustrations. The children used their Arctic facts to include animals that live in that climate. Alongside storytelling, the children also baked a Victoria sponge cake for Little red riding hood to take to grandma's house. It was an absolute treat that the children enjoyed eating. Blue whale and tiger class are also excited to visit the discovery centre on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January. We want to remind parents that children need to be at school at 8:30am to ensure we have enough time to get ready.



## Updates from Sarah Jane

Every year at Christmas me and my family buy a new board game, my parents, big brother and new family gather round to try and defeat the tiredness that comes when you've eaten a delicious but large Christmas dinner! It's pretty much the same every year, lots of laughter, an argument between my brother I and some quite sneaky, strategic game playing from the quietest voice in the house, my dad!

I have kept all my old board games from the eighties and nineties, and I can't wait for my 3 year old to get a bit older to play them with me. That said, we've started already with some simpler matching and sorting games like snap, grabola and shopping lists. Playing games has such a positive experience on all involved for the reasons I list:

- it gives children dedicated time to spend with family, which can be a tricky commitment to navigate when we have a busy schedule
- Connection and attachment with parent/carers and siblings
- Smiles, laughter and fun - releasing all of those happy hormones which is good for the brain!
- Turn taking skills, stamina and patience
- All games have a strategy, mathematical or knowledge based skills, meaning purposeful learning in a fun and engaging way
- Winning and losing and the feelings this can trigger and how to play respectfully
- Family time - altogether - priceless!
- An alternative to screen time
- Seeing your child's personality when they are playing and having fun and listening to the funny comments that they come out with that you might not have noticed before

You can also make up a game pretty much out of anything, who hasn't played noughts and crosses on a steamed-up window? or thrown a poo stick over a bridge? Tallying the colour of cars on a long journey?

So, let's dust off those old games that will be in someone's loft somewhere or think about the games you played when you were little and then the most important part..... have fun!

# Panda Class news...

Panda class started the week with some wonderful crafting with Panda Class parents. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the children to create sweet decorations for our Hansel and Gretel hook. We have assembled the decorations to create our own cottage in the deep, dark woods. Children have enjoyed reading Hansel and Gretel by Anthony Browne. Yashveer spotted hidden messages in the illustrations that gave us some extra detail about the story. He noticed that there was a witch shadow behind the stepmother, and he thought that was because the character was cruel and unkind.

In Science, children have researched about Charles Macintosh who invented waterproof fabric. Inspired by his work, Panda Class focused on the scientific skill of fair testing to find a waterproof material for an umbrella. Children used pipettes to test materials like plastic, paper, foil and fabric. They carefully recorded their results and discussed their findings.



## STAR OF THE WEEK

### This week's value is Kindness

Panda Class' stars:

Younus

For being a kind and sensible reading partner in Phonic.

Adam

For working extremely hard to learn split diagrams on Phonics.

Tiger Class' star:

Evika

For creating artwork and kindly giving it to others

Blue Whale class' star:

Inaya

For always being herself and showing kindness through her words.

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

**29<sup>th</sup> January** – Blue Whale and Tiger Class school trip offsite

**30<sup>th</sup> January** – **9-9:30am** - Panda Class parent workshop on Maths

**29<sup>th</sup> January** – **2<sup>nd</sup> February** – National Storytelling Week

**5<sup>th</sup> February** – Panda Class offsite visit

**5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February** – Children's mental health week

**6<sup>th</sup> February** – **9-9:30am** - Reception Classes – Maths workshop

**6<sup>th</sup> February** – Safer Internet day

**9<sup>th</sup> February** – School closes for the half term holidays

**19<sup>th</sup> February** – School reopens

Click on the link <https://bit.ly/3OkBybl> For more details of the family fun activity.

## 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:

- Ayat
- Zayyan
- Malcolm
- Inaaya

### ATTENDANCE (Target 97%)

The winning Class this week is  
**Blue Whale**  
**91.7%**  
Tiger 90.7%  
Panda – 89.2%



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## Family Fun!

Creative Spring Arts & Craft

### Parts of a Flower Craft

Learn about the **Parts of a Flower** in a fun and engaging way. This craft by Natural Beach Living is a simple and colourful way for kids to diagram the roots, stem, leaf, and flower.



#### Going on a safari

Go outside on an exciting adventure. Pick up a small rock or touch a plant or flower.

Notice the birds and insects, take a moment to kneel and touch the earth.

Walk mindfully and quietly paying attention to all the sounds, smells, colours around you



#### Three in a line

Make a 3 x 3 grid and write different numbers from 0-20 on it. Take turns to choose one of the numbers. What number do you need to add to it to make 20? Write the answer on a post-it and stick it over the number on the grid. The first person to get three in a line wins!

#### Spring Acrostic Poem

Acrostic poems are a fantastic way to introduce your child to poetry. A great activity for all ages in 4 easy steps. 1. Write your word down vertically. 2. Think of words that describe your thoughts around Spring. 3. Put your ideas on the lines that begin with the same letter. 4. Fill in the rest of the lines to create a poem. Why not write other poems linked to Spring related words such as Leaves, Tree or Sunflower?

Produced by The Parental Engagement Schools and Family Team

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