

# NEWS CORNER

The latest news and information about  
Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary.

Mulberry  
Wood Wharf Primary

Outstanding  
and good in  
all areas.

Ofsted, May 2025

20 Brannan Street, London E14 9ZR  
admin@mulberrywoodwharf.org  
www.mulberrywoodwharf.org

Outstanding in  
Behaviour and  
Attitudes

Good in Quality  
of Education

Good in  
Leadership and  
Management

Outstanding  
Personal  
Development

Outstanding  
Early Years  
Provision

Friday 16th  
January 2026

## Sarah Jane's Reflection of the Week

What a brilliant week it has been here at Mulberry Wood Wharf! Our focus has been on "Being Active" – one of our core values – and we think about this not just in terms of our bodies, but our minds too.

Across the school, children have been active in so many ways. Physically, we've seen energetic playtimes, focused PE lessons and lots of enthusiasm for moving, stretching and trying new challenges. Mentally, we've seen children concentrating deeply, solving problems, reflecting on their learning and showing real resilience when things feel tricky.

Our clubs have officially launched this week and they have gone really well. I absolutely loved taking Maths Club. We packed so much in! A particular highlight was playing a strategy game with Noah in Year 2, he was very impressive, and then taking on some of the Year 3 children in a quiz. They definitely made me question some of my answers!

Maths can be so much fun and it takes so many different forms. It's not just about numbers on a page or formulas to remember. We use maths naturally all through the day, often without even noticing:

- Planning journeys and working out how long they will take
- Cooking and estimating ingredients rather than always weighing them
- Sharing food into equal portions (fractions in action!)
- Telling the time, organising our day and meeting deadlines
- Saving, spending and making choices about money

Maths lives in real life. Have a think about where maths appears in your own day and try to include your child in those moments.

It might be measuring ingredients, estimating how long it will take to get somewhere, sharing snacks, or working out the best value in the shop. These everyday moments build problem-solving, reasoning and mastery skills in a really meaningful way.

A parent recently took their child to Maths World near the Southbank. We're going to look into taking a group there in the future and weaving it into our curriculum, but you might like to consider it yourself for a weekend or school holiday trip.

You can find more information here:

<https://mathsworlduk.com/>

Naimah and Lucy have also attended a course all about maths mastery as part of their professional development. The learning they brought back to school and shared with the team was fantastic and will really strengthen our teaching. There's also a brilliant website called NRICH which is full of practical problem-solving activities:

<https://nrich.maths.org/problem-solving>

I used it a lot when I was teaching in the classroom and I still love it.

Coming up soon, our Year 3 children will be launching their financial literacy project. Each child will be given £5 to grow – our very own mini entrepreneurs! I cannot wait to see the business plans they come up with.

Superhero lunch was a real success this week, with lots of children feeding back how much they enjoyed it – both the food and the fun atmosphere. We also had lots of fun learning a song in singing assembly this week, linking to our Dreams and goals topic, called 'For me'. Here's the link to the song if you can would like to practice and I'll add the lyrics to the newsletter at the end.

<https://www.whiteknights.wokingham.sch.uk/pupils/jigsaw-songs-and-lyrics/>

Have a lovely weekend. I'm having a relatively relaxed one – I'm going to try and do some exercise for myself, and then I'll be managing my time around my 5-year-old's very busy schedule!

"Every day is a good day to move your body." Joe Wicks

# Tiger Class



This week in Tiger Class, the children have enjoyed an exciting week of learning inspired by Little Red Riding Hood in the Arctic. Through storytelling and role play, they explored how the familiar tale changes in a cold, icy environment, developing their imagination and communication skills.

It was lovely to see the children start to write sentences in their Big Write pieces! The children investigated Arctic animals and habitats, comparing them to the woodland setting of the original story, and used descriptive language to talk about ice, snow, and freezing temperatures. In maths and continuous provision, they counted Arctic animals, built snowy landscapes, and solved simple.

We were disappointed not to go on our trip to Cubitt Town Library due to a power cut, but we are very excited for our trip to the **Soanes centre on Wednesday 21st January!** Please ensure you have given permission on Arbor for your child to attend



# Blue Whale Class

The children have been asking some wonderful big questions in class recently, including: What if Little Red Riding Hood lived in the Arctic?

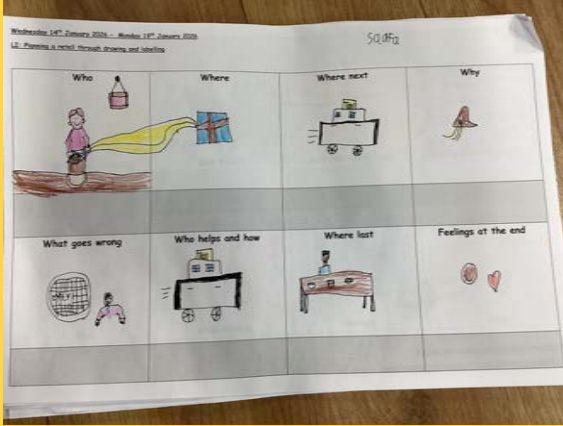
This curiosity has inspired them to remake the story, reimagining Little Red Riding Hood on a chilly journey through the Arctic. Along her trail, a polar bear makes a dramatic appearance! Through this storytelling, the children have been sharing ideas, using their imaginations, and building on their understanding of a very different environment.

As part of this work, we have been learning about Arctic animals and exploring how they survive in such cold weather. We discovered that polar bears keep warm thanks to something called blubber. Blubber is a thick layer of fat underneath an animal's skin that helps keep heat inside their body, a bit like wearing a very warm coat all the time. It also helps animals store energy when food is hard to find.

This is also a reminder that we have our **trip to the Soanes Centre next Tuesday.** If you would like to join us on the trip, please let Marwah or Olga know.



# Lion Class



This week in English we have really enjoyed and engaged with our new story 'Thank you Omu!' We began the week by making predictions by looking at the front cover. We then listened to the story and wrote our ideas about what the little boy in the story may have written in the card given to Omu. We have now begun looking at the story in parts and drawing ideas to represent each part of the story. Next week we will add some key vocabulary to our plans.

In maths, we have been exploring numbers 11-20, learning how many tens and ones make up each number. We used dienes to build the numbers and then represented them through drawings to support our understanding.

In Geography, we recapped our knowledge of the seven continents and five oceans. We learned that there is an imaginary line around the Earth called the equator. Countries that are far from the equator are generally colder, while countries closer to the equator are warmer.

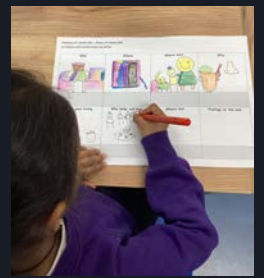


# Panda Class

Panda Class have had a busy week!

This week in English, we have begun reading a wonderful new book called Thank You, Omu! The story explores important themes such as sharing, food, appreciation, and kindness. The children have thoroughly enjoyed engaging with the story, making predictions about what might happen next and discussing the characters' choices. We have also started planning our retell of the story, with a focus on identifying the key points and understanding the sequence of events. The children are developing their ability to recall details and use expressive language when sharing ideas. Please encourage your child to practise retelling the story verbally at home - it really helps build confidence and strengthens their comprehension skills.

In Science this term, our focus is on plants, including trees. The children have been introduced to the word "purpose" and have been exploring the purpose of different parts of a plant, including the stem, leaf, roots, and flower. They have been investigating how each part helps the plant grow and survive. We also looked at wild plants and discussed where to find them. It was fascinating to hear about the different plants the children have discovered in their local environment! This topic links directly to our half term project, for which we have sent home resources. The children are excited to care for their plants and observe how they grow over the coming weeks. We can't wait to see their progress and the final results - it promises to be a very exciting and hands on learning experience!



# Elephant Class

We have had another busy and successful week in Elephant Class, and the children have been working hard across the curriculum.

In Maths, we have been learning all about money. The children have been practising recognising coins and notes, finding the total value of different amounts, and making equal amounts using different combinations. They have shown growing confidence when working practically and solving problems.

In Geography, we have started our learning about the continent of Africa, with a particular focus on Kenya. Pupils have been using atlases and globes to locate Kenya and describe its position in the world. They are also beginning to name and recognise other countries within Africa, developing their geographical vocabulary and map skills.

We are also very proud to share that Elephant Class were the proud recipients of the Lining Up Superhero Trophy this week. The class have worked exceptionally hard as a team to make smooth transitions at the end of playtime and return to class ready to start their learning promptly.

Well done, Elephant Class!



# Penguin Class

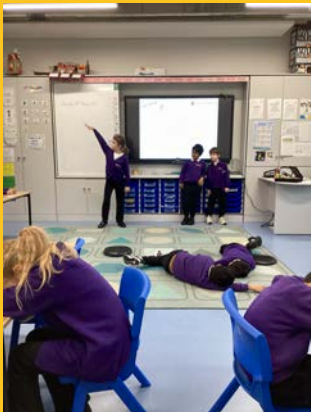
What a successful second week of term we have had!

In English, the children have been exploring persuasive letters linked to our class text *The Day the Crayons Quit*. They discussed how to share opinions clearly and how to persuade the reader by giving reasons. The children practised using powerful vocabulary and sentence starters to make their writing more convincing, and they loved writing from the point of view of the crayons!

In Science, we began investigating different materials and their uses. The children explored a range of everyday objects and discussed why certain materials are chosen for specific purposes. They thought carefully about properties such as strength, flexibility, and waterproofing, and enjoyed explaining their ideas during class discussions.

In Geography, we started to explore Kenya. The children located Kenya on a map and learned that it is a country in Africa. They began finding out about its climate, landscapes, and some key features, and are excited to continue learning more as we compare Kenya with London over the coming weeks.

Well done Penguins, for another fantastic week of learning. Thank you, as always, for your continued support!



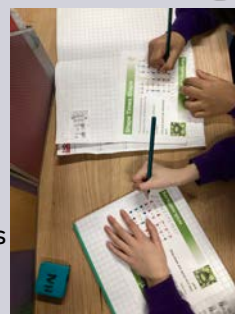
# Koala Class

This week in class, the children have been diving into “show, not tell” in their writing. They worked incredibly hard to bring their characters to life through dialogue, thinking carefully about how to make conversations sound realistic and engaging. We experimented with different ways to express emotions and actions through words, showing great creativity and perseverance, particularly impressive given our slightly changed routine this week.

In Maths, we focused on a range of multiplication methods and began exploring strategies for division, all while reinforcing our place value knowledge. The children tackled a fun multiplication challenge using shapes, which encouraged them to apply their problem-solving skills in creative ways. They demonstrated impressive focus and teamwork, even when adjusting to our new schedule.

In Science, the class completed an investigation into friction. They explored how different materials affect movement, making careful observations and recording their findings. The children showed excellent curiosity and persistence, testing their ideas thoroughly and thinking critically about the results.

It's been a busy week full of creativity, curiosity, and problem-solving! The children's hard work and adaptability, especially with the change in routine, has been wonderful to see



## LORNA'S UPDATE



Every day at school counts, and this week has been a brilliant example of how much our children gain from being fully involved in school life. Creativity is one of our school values and it is one that I feel particularly passionate about. I love seeing children's creativity come to life in lessons and I am always delighted when they bring their work to share with me. This week, **Avyaan from Y3 Koala** talked me through a truly fantastic picture he had drawn, showing an imaginary world he had created in his head. His picture features invincible robots, humans travelling by a range of animals or by boat, alongside buildings and an ocean. The originality of this work really stood out and it reminded me of the rich, imaginative worlds created by much-loved authors such as Philip Pullman, JK Rowling and Peter Bunzl. I cannot wait to see what Avyaan creates next! Why not encourage your child to explore their own imaginary world at home, whether through writing, drawing or role play?

There is always so much happening at Mulberry Wood Wharf, and every single day brings valuable learning experiences, social development and moments that help children grow. This is why regular attendance continues to be so important, as it ensures children are able to benefit fully from everything school has to offer and do not miss the small but significant moments that build confidence and understanding over time. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support with attendance and for reinforcing the message that every day at school really does count. Special shout out to Koala class for 94% attendance this week!

# stars of the week

Value of the week:

**Active**

**Blue Whale Class: Pharrel and Mahamed**

**Tiger Class: Lina and Ady**

**Panda Class: Kaira and George**

**Lion Class: Dylan and Amaya**

**Elephant Class: Dylan and Idris**

**Penguin Class: Rayyan and Max**

**Koala Class: Khamiyah and Arielle**

# ATTENDANCE!

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

The attendance trophy this week goes to:

**Koala Class - 94%**



**GOLD - 91+**

**SILVER - 95 - 97%**

**BRONZE - 90-95%**

Clubs start  
from Monday  
12<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026

What snacks  
should I pack?

CLICK HERE



Mulberry  
Wood Wharf Primary

Only snacks

Children in Reception through to Year 2 take part in the National Fruit Scheme, which means that a range of fruits and vegetables are provided every day. Year 3 Reception children are also provided some school taster meals with healthy options.

© Mulberry Wood Wharf

School Closed on  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
February 2026  
for School INSET

National  
Storytelling  
Week  
Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026

## MENU week 3

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Mains</b> <small>HAPPY TUMS</small>	Sweet & Sour Chicken Served With Soy & Ginger noodles (G,E,So,Su)	Classic Shepherd's Pie (Ce,Mk,So)	Grilled Piri Piri Chicken (Ce) Served With Spicy Rice	Baked Lamb Lasagne (G,Mk) Served With: Chef's Salad (none)	Battered Fish Fillet (G,F) or Battered Sausage (G,Su)
<b>Veggie</b> <small>MEAT FREE</small>	Sweet & Sour Quorn Served with Soy & Ginger Noodles (G,E,So,Su)	Vegan Puy Lentil Shepherd's Pie (Ce)	Cauliflower, Potato and Chickpea Curry (none)	Vegan Lentil Bolognese (Ce) Served with: Spaghetti (G) Chef's Salad (none)	BBQ Veggie Hotdog (G,So,Su)
<b>veg</b> <small>EXTRA GOOD</small>	Asian Salad	Steamed Carrots	Coleslaw (E)	Whole Green Beans	Garden Peas or Baked Beans Chunky Tartare Sauce (E) Ketchup Lemon
<b>Carbs</b> <small>FUEL FOOD</small>	Prawn Crackers (Cr,Su)		Steamed Wholemeal Rice	Garlic Bread (G,Mk,So)	Oven Baked Chips
<b>Dessert</b> <small>SOMETHING SWEET</small>	Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit Yoghurt	Fresh Fruit Yoghurt

*Jacket Potatoes, salad bar, cold desserts and fresh fruit available daily.*

**THE FRESH LITTLE ALLSTMENT**  
SEASONALLY FRESH, PERFECTLY PICKED

**JANUARY LEEKS**

**FEBRUARY PARSNIPS**

**MARCH KALE**

**APRIL NEW POTATOES**

Look for this logo on the menu to try a yummy seasonal special!

**Dates**  
19/01/26 - 09/02/26  
09/03/26

Halal options are available every day

**Allergens:** *Please note the allergens shown within these menus are subject to change.*

Ce = Celery    F = Fish    L = Lupin    Mu = Mustard    Se = Sesame Seeds  
Cr = Crustacean    G = Cereals containing Gluten    Mk = Milk    N = Nuts    So = Soya  
E = Eggs    Mo = Molluscs    P = Peanuts    Su = Sulphur Dioxide

### Healthy Lives Families Newsletter

<https://signup.es-mail.co.uk/Signup/d7ef81e9f0a6a2760e48c3610959fb34>



Top Performing Borough in London for Healthy Schools

**CLICK HERE**

Link

### Home Learning Opportunities

<https://www.mulberrywoodwharf.org/pupils/mulberry-learn-2/#tab-id-7>

At the Mulberry Schools Trust, we are proud to nurture ambition from the very start. Our newest publication, Going Places 2025, celebrates the incredible destinations achieved by our Sixth Form students – showing what's possible for every Mulberry child in the future. Read more and be inspired here:

**CLICK HERE**

<https://bit.ly/48i3GqH>



## For Me (Dreams and Goals)

### VERSE 1:

I,  
I will be,  
I will be,  
Be the best that I can be.  
Yes you'll see,  
I will be,  
Be the best that I can be.  
Take your turn, you can do it too.

### BRIDGE:

Driving forward,  
Taste the passion.  
I can see it,  
I'm in pole position.

### CHORUS:

I know to reach the top that  
I must climb,  
I must climb way up high,  
I'm gunna' reach the sky.

I will, I can,  
I'm moving on with hope.  
Don't look back,  
Don't look back,  
Don't look back, see,  
I'm doing this for me.

## For Me

(Dreams and Goals)

**VERSE 2:**

I,  
I can be,  
I can be,  
Be the best that I can be.  
Yes you'll see,  
I can be,  
Be the best that I can be.  
Take your turn, you can do it too.

**BRIDGE 2:**

Take that first step,  
Make it happen.  
Seize this moment,  
That's what dreams and goals  
are made of.

**CHORUS**

**BRIDGE 1+2**

That's what dreams are

**CHORUS**

Future doctors,  
Future actors,  
Future teachers,  
Let's all sing it together.  
Future pilots,  
And the writers,  
Future chefs,  
And future fire fighters.  
We're the laughers,  
We're the smilers.  
The future's bright,  
Now let's all sing this together.

**CHORUS**