

NEWS CORNER

The latest news and information about Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary.

Sarah Jane's Reflection of the Week

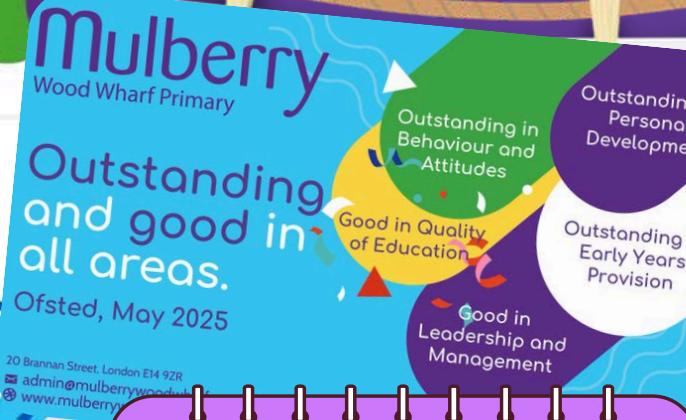
Can you believe it, that's another half term already wrapped up! Time really does fly when creativity, curiosity and learning are in full swing. As creativity is our value of the week, it feels particularly fitting to reflect on just how much imaginative thinking, exploration and expression we've seen across the school.

We have certainly squeezed a lot in.

Just this half term, Reception enjoyed their visit to the Soanes Centre, exploring the natural world with great enthusiasm. Year 1 visited a local church, deepening their understanding through real-life experience. Year 2 had a fantastic trip to the Half Moon Theatre, and Year 3 visited Trinity Buoy Wharf as well as the British Museum, wonderful opportunities to bring classroom learning to life.

In school, we welcomed storyteller OJ to mark Storytelling Week, filling our halls with imagination and powerful language. We marked Safer Internet Day using Tech She Can resources, encouraging children to think critically and responsibly about their online lives, and we took part in Children's Mental Health Week, reminding ourselves of the importance of kindness, to others and to ourselves. And of course, alongside all of these events, the children have continued to work incredibly hard in every lesson, every day.

I have been especially impressed this week by Year 2's artwork inspired by William Morris. Their printing techniques were thoughtful and detailed, and the buzz in the classroom was incredible, true creativity in action. I also thoroughly enjoyed reading Year 3's newspaper articles about Mount Vesuvius and its impact on Pompeii. What an extraordinary way to step back in time and bring history alive through writing.



Friday 13th
February 2026

It was also fantastic to see parents and carers attending the NSPCC Safer Internet workshop. They certainly gave us all food for thought. If you haven't yet watched the online materials, I strongly encourage you to do so. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/free-online-safety-group-workshops/> And I also shared some materials earlier in the week, via Arbor, from the DFE.

We have also marked the Lunar Festival in school, celebrating the richness of our community. As we move into the half term break, some of our families will begin Ramadan, a time of reflection, prayer, generosity and community. Others will be observing Lent, perhaps starting with Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day!). These moments are important opportunities for children to learn about and respect different faiths and traditions.

Thank you, as always, to our families for your smiles, support and positivity, it truly makes such a difference. I would also like to thank all of our staff for their hard work, unconditional kindness and unwavering commitment to every single child.

A reminder that Monday 23rd February is an INSET day, so school will be closed to pupils. We will welcome families back on Tuesday 24th February at the normal time. On the INSET day, staff will be engaging in professional development alongside other schools across the E14 area, with a focus on excellent inclusive practice. The programme is looking incredibly strong, with a wealth of expertise being shared. Lindsay and I will also be contributing by leading a workshop on Early Years, sharing practical examples of how we support pupils in Reception.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break. I'll leave you with a fitting thought as we celebrate creativity this week:
"Creativity is intelligence having fun." - Albert Einstein

Key dates for next half term for the whole school, class dates will be shared in the half term curriculum share

- 23.02: school closed (inset)
- 24.02: school reopens
- 25.02: y1 phonics screening (parents) 9-9:30am
- 27.02: special assembly 'Baba Marta'
- 6.03: dress up day for world book day
- 9.03: British Science Week
- 17.03: St Patrick's day
- 19.03 or 20.03: school closed for Eid
- 27.03: Eid party day (non uniform/party clothes)
- 27.03: school closes at 1pm (no jags)
clubs will not run w/c 23.03

Growing Readers and Writers

A huge thank you to all our families for the incredibly kind and generous donations to our school book swap. It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm and support. Because of your contributions, every child was able to take home a book of their own, helping us ensure that reading is something everyone can enjoy.

Moments like this are only possible because of the strength of our school community. Your kindness has allowed pupils to discover new stories, become proud owners of new books, and build excitement around reading. I can't help but wonder which books you all chose to take home. I hope you enjoy diving into your new story, as well as exploring the many other books available in your reading wallets and online through Oxford Owl. Perhaps you'll even be inspired to make a visit to your local library.

During half term, children can also take part in a fun competition: designing a future World Book Day book token. Get creative, be bold, and have fun bringing your ideas to life.

As we look ahead, I'd also like to remind you about our upcoming World Book Day celebrations on Friday 6th March. This year, we're encouraging families to reuse and recycle costumes. Half term is a perfect time to get creative together and make a costume from things you already have at home.

You'll find some ideas below to help spark your imagination.

[NBT_WBD-competition-entry-form.pdf](#) You can hand in your design on the first week back and we get them sent off!

Thank you once again for helping us nurture a love of reading across our school.

Shireena (English Lead)

Design a National Book Token competition

NATIONAL BOOK tokens

Special guest judges

Go All In on your creativity!

CLICK HERE

What's Coming Up:

World Book Day 5th March - Year 3 Readers to Canary Wharf

World Book Day Dress UP 6th March

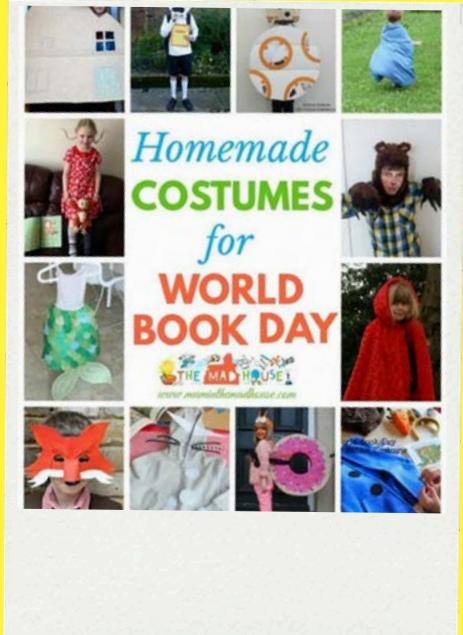
Author visit - Lucy Noguera 11th March

Cosy Read - Reading in PJs

Give Me 10

Core book Challenge

World Book Day Costume ideas



A message from our Chair of Governors



"A belated Happy New Year to all pupils, parents and carers, staff and your families. My name is Mark Traynor and I am the Chair of Governors. It is such a privilege and a pleasure to be involved with Mulberry Wood Wharf. I have been delighted to have visited the school a number of times, including attending a recent Friday assembly and it is so clear that it is a school which is joyful, nurturing and fiercely ambitious for its pupils. Sarah Jane and I meet every couple of weeks and I visit the school as often as I can – no hardship when the children are all so happy and engaging. You will all be aware of the delays in completing the upper floors of the school, however, the Trust is working closely with the local authority and other interested parties and we are very hopeful that all works will be completed in time for the next school year commencing in September.

For anybody who might be interested, I have been involved with Mulberry Schools Trust as a Trustee since its formation in 2016, having previously been a Governor of Mulberry School for Girls for three years before that. When I am not being a Governor or Trustee I am a solicitor specialising in commercial property law, with a focus on schools and other educational bodies as well as charities generally. I have been with the firm Bates Wells for over 20 years. I live in Bermondsey with my wife, Marie-Claire, and daughter, Connie, who is nine and likes Lilo and Stitch. I am really looking forward to the next few years working with all involved with Mulberry Wood Wharf to build up (literally as well as figuratively) the thriving school community here."



Nature Learning at MWW

Nature, Wellbeing and Learning at Mulberry Wood Wharf

At Mulberry Wood Wharf, we are deeply committed to supporting children's mental health and wellbeing, and we know that time spent outdoors and connected to nature plays a powerful role in this.

Across the school, we are developing a thoughtful approach to nature-based learning, led by Marwah, which looks at how we can meaningfully weave nature into children's everyday experiences. This includes exploring how our playground spaces can be developed to include more natural elements, as well as how we can, over time, make mindful use of the rich outdoor environments that surround our school community.

Nature-based learning supports children to slow down, notice the world around them, build resilience and curiosity, and develop a sense of care for their environment. Outdoor experiences also lend themselves naturally to cross-curricular learning, encouraging observation, creativity, questioning, collaboration and reflection.

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we also want to inspire families to tap into the benefits of nature beyond school. Simple experiences such as walks, noticing seasonal changes, visiting green spaces, or spending time outdoors together can have a hugely positive impact on children's wellbeing. We will be sharing resources and ideas to support this, so families can explore what works best for them.

This is an area of work we are excited to continue developing carefully and purposefully, and we look forward to sharing more as our nature-based learning offer grows.

We've now created a Nature section on the school website ([press here](#)) which includes lots of practical activities families can do together, and it would be great for the newsletter to signpost parents there. We can also link to external resources such as Tree Tools for Schools, which has some brilliant, simple outdoor activity ideas that families can easily try at home:
<https://treetoolsforschools.org.uk/categorymenu/?cat=activities>



Tiger Class



This week in Tiger Class, we have been busy learning about Valentine's Day and Lunar New Year. It was lovely to see children independently writing Valentine's letters and cards to each other and their teachers.

We enjoyed listening to a BBC Storyland story all about the Lunar New Year and the animals' race. In Maths, we have been focusing on doubles to 10 – identifying our doubles through song and dominoes!

We are particularly enjoying learning to count to 100 through different exercises and songs.

We have also been busy continuing to practise for our upcoming performance of The Gingerbread Man next half term – the children will have received their parts in the show today! We hope you are all looking forward to a well-deserved half term rest – we are so excited for all of the fun activities that we have planned for next term!



Blue Whale Class

This week, the children have been busy celebrating Valentine's Day. We have been talking about the people we love in our families and enjoying lots of Valentine's-themed fun. The children have loved making Valentine's cards, creating love potions, and designing their own Love Monster artwork. It has been wonderful to see so much creativity and enthusiasm throughout the week.



Alongside our Valentine's celebrations, the children have also been learning about Lunar New Year. We are lucky to have many families who celebrate Lunar New Year, and the children have really enjoyed sharing and talking about the traditions they practise at home.



Lastly, the children also took part in celebrating Pancake Day. We talked about why Pancake Day is celebrated and enjoyed learning about the traditions behind it. The children had lots of fun decorating their pancakes before happily eating them all up! The decorating process supported the development of their fine motor skills as they carefully added toppings, as well as encouraging creativity as they designed their own pancake creations.



We hope you all have a wonderful time celebrating with your families.

Lion Class



This week in English, Lion Class finished writing their letters as Traction Man using their own planning templates. It has been wonderful to see so many children independently using finger spaces, capital letters, full stops, and their phonetic knowledge in their writing. We have also had a go at publishing our completed pieces, taking special care with our handwriting and presentation.



In Maths, we have been learning about fact families. This key skill helps us use the same three numbers to create different addition and subtraction number sentences. For example, if $7 + 3 = 10$, then we also know that $3 + 7 = 10$. If $10 - 3 = 7$ then $10 - 7 = 3$.

During our Science session, we learnt about two different types of trees: deciduous and evergreen. We explored how deciduous trees lose their leaves in autumn, while evergreen trees keep their leaves all year round.

This week we have also been enjoying and discussing a range of stories about kindness, friendship and positive play. These are such important aspects of school life, helping us to build positive relationships and create a happy and supportive classroom environment. As we come to the end of this half term, it's been a pleasure to see how all the children have progressed in their individual learning journeys. Well done and have a lovely half term!

Panda Class

We've reached the end of a busy and exciting half term! It's been a few eventful weeks, and we've all had a lot of fun learning and growing together.

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week, and we took time to discuss the things that help us feel happy, what we enjoy doing, and where our safe and special places are. It's been wonderful to see the children building confidence in expressing their emotions and feel comfortable sharing their thoughts.

In class this week, the children have been working on writing letters in the past tense, imagining themselves as Traction Man and describing his exciting adventures! They've been incredibly creative with both their writing and illustrations, bringing their stories to life.

As we head into the half term break, it would be fantastic if you could support the children at home by practicing writing sentences. Encourage them to use phonics to support spelling, and remind them to use capital letters, finger spaces, and full stops in their writing. This will help them continue to develop their writing skills.

We hope you all have a wonderful half term holiday, and we can't wait to hear all about what you get up to! Take care and see you soon!



Elephant Class

Year 2 have had so much fun putting the finishing touches on their William Morris inspired printing this week.

The children designed and created their own print blocks using foam sheets, then used paint rollers to press and repeat their designs to form eye-catching patterns. I was incredibly impressed not only by the high quality of their outcomes, but also by their independence in setting up printing stations and using resources appropriately and responsibly. Their repeated prints look fantastic!!

It was brilliant to see pupils bringing in their home projects and confidently sharing their knowledge about money around the world. We were amazed by the creativity and effort that went into the unique outcomes, including posters, booklets, picture frames, money cut-outs, and even large cupboard posters. Well done to all the children for their fantastic fact-finding, careful assembling, and confident presenting to the class. A huge thank you to parents for engaging so positively and supporting your child to produce such wonderful outcomes.

In Maths, we have begun our learning on division through sharing into equal groups. Learning new concepts this term has taken a great deal of resilience, and I am very proud of how all pupils have continued to develop their maths skills. Using concrete resources, alongside stories and real-life examples, has really helped to deepen understanding. The children especially enjoyed solving problems such as "Lucy has double the amount of money as Shireena. Shireena has £6. How much money does Lucy have?" Their enthusiasm and growing confidence have been wonderful to see.

We also spent time learning about Safer Internet Day, discussing how to stay safe online, make sensible choices, and know who to talk to if something worries them. The children engaged thoughtfully in these discussions and showed a growing awareness of how to use technology safely and responsibly. Pupils created poster on how to stay safe when online.



Penguin Class

We can't believe we've reached the end of Spring Term 1! The children have worked incredibly hard this half term, and this week has been a wonderful way to finish.

In Science, the children conducted an experiment to investigate absorbency. They tested three different materials to find out which one absorbed the most water. The children carefully observed, compared results, and discussed their findings like real scientists. After testing the materials, they concluded that cloth was the most absorbent. They did a fantastic job working methodically and sharing their ideas.

Following our experiment, the children used their scientific learning to support their writing.

In English, they have been focusing on instruction writing, using their absorbency investigation as the basis for their work. They practised writing clear steps in the correct order, using time conjunctions and imperative (bossy) verbs. It was wonderful to see them apply their real-life experience to their writing so confidently.

This week, the children also took part in a special Internet Safety Day webinar. They learned about how to stay safe online, the importance of keeping personal information private, and what to do if something makes them feel uncomfortable. The children contributed thoughtfully to discussions and showed a mature understanding of how to use the internet responsibly.

Well done to all the children for a fantastic half term. We are so proud of their effort, curiosity, and positive attitudes. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for Spring 2!



Koala Class

What an incredible half term Koala class have had! We've had a week full of learning, creativity, and fun as we wrapped up the last week of term.

We kicked off with Children's Mental Health Week, encouraging our children to reflect on themselves and others, and to express their individuality. As part of this, we created our own portraits, celebrating how we each belong to the Mulberry Wood Wharf community.

In maths, we explored mass and capacity, connecting our learning to real-life situations to make it meaningful and exciting. The children engaged enthusiastically, applying their knowledge in practical ways.

Our English lessons saw children writing and publishing their very own news articles about Pompeii. They remembered the events brilliantly, incorporating key facts and crafting powerful descriptions of the volcanic eruptions. We are so proud of their work!

During history, we investigated Roman artefacts, and the children wrote thoughtful predictions about life during the Roman era, drawing on the stories and artefacts we explored together.

To celebrate a fantastic half term, we ended the week with a marble treat, watching a movie with cuddly toys in hand. It was a wonderful way to relax and enjoy time together as a class.

The children have had an amazing and eventful half term, and we hope they enjoy a well-deserved, restful break. We look forward to seeing them refreshed and ready for the next exciting term!

LORNA'S UPDATE



This week has been a brilliant snapshot of the energy, progress and pride that fill our school each day.

A strong start matters, and being on time is such an important part of that. Our first lesson every morning is reading, and it is crucial to children's progress across all subjects. Reading strengthens vocabulary, deepens understanding and supports learning right across the curriculum. When children arrive promptly, they are ready to dive straight in and make the most of every opportunity. Thank you for your continued support with punctuality.

This week in Year 2 Penguin, it was fantastic to hear Siyuan's mathematical thinking while tackling division problems. In Year 2 Elephant, pupils brought great enthusiasm to their science learning as they tested the absorbency of different materials.

They then channelled that excitement into instruction writing, clearly explaining their method and findings.

I also had a sneak peek at Reception's upcoming show and was absolutely blown away by their enthusiastic singing. Their confidence, smiles and sheer enjoyment lit up the room and are a wonderful reflection of how far they have already come this year.

Special shout out to **Blue whale class for 95% in their attendance!** Your commitment to being in school and ready to learn truly makes a difference.

As we reach the end of half term, thank you for your ongoing support. I hope all our families have a fantastic February half term, whatever your plans are, and fingers crossed for some blue skies!

stars of the week

Blue Whale Class:

Tiger Class: Shuyang and Felix

Panda Class: Luke and Irie

Lion Class: Emily and Malik

Elephant Class: Valentino and Baishi

Penguin Class: Helen and Lalani

Koala Class: Aila and Inaaya

ATTENDANCE!

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

The attendance trophy this week goes to:



Blue Whale Class - 95%



GOLD - 91+
SILVER - 95 - 97%
BRONZE - 90-95%

Value of
the week:

Creativity

Calling All Inventors

Build, test,
and create

DUE

Monday
9TH MARCH
2026

DESIGN AND BUILD YOUR
VERY OWN INVENTION AT
HOME, THEN BRING IT INTO
SCHOOL TO SHOWCASE TO
YOUR CLASS. WE CAN'T WAIT
TO SEE YOUR BRILLIANT
IDEAS COME TO LIFE!



EYFS GINGERBREAD MAN SHOW

Thursday 26th March 2026

SHOW TIMINGS: 9:30AM AND 2:00PM

We would like to inform parents that there will be two show timings. To ensure that all families have a fair opportunity to attend, we kindly ask that you attend only one show so please book your preferred slot by talking to the class teacher.

Thank you for your understanding and consideration.

Ramadan

MUBARAK

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we look ahead to March, we are very much looking forward to celebrating Eid with our school community.

We would like to remind families that the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, who set the term dates that schools follow, have identified provisional dates for Eid as either Thursday 19th March or Friday 20th March. **The exact date of Eid will be confirmed on Wednesday 18th March**, following the sighting of the moon and parents and carers will be notified **via Arbor and the website**.

Please note that the school will be closed on the day that Eid is observed. **This means the closure could be on Thursday 19th March or Friday 20th March**, and families will be informed once the date is confirmed on Wednesday 18th March.

As Ramadan begins later this month, we would also like to take this opportunity to wish our families a peaceful and blessed Ramadan.

Kind regards,

Sarah Jane

WE ARE HIRING

MATERNITY COVER RECEPTION CLASS TEACHING ASSISTANT

Mulberry Wood Wharf
Current Vacancies



- **Closing date:** 12pm Wed 25th Feb 2026
- **Interviews:** Wed 4th March 2026
- **Start:** March 2026 (specific date tbc)

APPLY NOW

WE ARE HIRING

KS1/ KS2 TEACHER

Mulberry Wood Wharf
Current Vacancies



Closing Date: Monday 2nd March 2026
Interviews: Tuesday 10th March 2026
Start: September 2026

APPLY NOW



**WE ARE
HIRING**

MID DAY SUPERVISOR (Lunch Supervisor)

**Mulberry Wood Wharf
Current Vacancies**



Closing Date: On going
Interviews: On going
Start: ASAP

APPLY NOW



Mulberry

Wood Wharf Primary

Spaces
Available in
Year 2



We currently have
limited places available
in our Year 2 classes.

Book a personal tour with our Headteacher
and see our school in action.

Arrange a visit

Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary
20 Brannan Street, London E14 9ZR

020 8713 0183
mulberrywoodwharf@mulberryschooltrust.org

www.mulberrywoodwharf.org

@MulberryWW



Part of the
Mulberry
Schools Trust



Celebration Report

Mulberry Schools Trust
2024-25

Published January 2026

Mulberry
Schools Trust

A young girl in a purple swimsuit and goggles is smiling in a swimming pool. The background shows the blue water of the pool.

Make a splash with intensive swimming lessons!

Get aheadstart in swimmingthis Spring half termwith our short,intensive swim course at Mile End and York Hall Leisure Centres. Perfect for beginners needing extra support and building confidence before heading back to school.

 16-19/20 February

 Daily 30 minute lessons

 4+ For ages 4+

 Smallclasssizesforfocused learning

Fun, friend ly lessons with teachers supporting beginners in the pool!

Book your place today!



January 2026

QMUL (DENTAL INSTITUTE) WORKING IN COLLABORATION WITH TOWER HAMLETS AND MULBERRY WOOD WAHRF PRIMARY

Dear Parent/Carer Locally, some of our children have poor dental health. We recognise that this can affect children and they may have difficulties eating, speaking and sleeping. We would like to support the local community in improving children's dental and general health by supporting the SUGAR SMART Campaign in Tower Hamlets.

What does the SUGAR SMART Campaign involve?

The SUGAR SMART Campaign promotes healthy living and raises awareness on the impacts of sugars on health by working with local schools. All activities are in line with national guidance and PSHE within the curriculum.

- The Dental Institute at Queen Mary University of London is setting up collaborations with local primary schools.
- Dental students under supervision from a tutor will be giving health education messages to children in Key stages 1 and 2 (Years 1 to 6) and in some cases children in Reception
- Children will also take part in a classroom based activity, which raises awareness on the amount of sugars in drinks and food.
- Children in years 3-6 will complete a short survey at the start of the sessions and again at the end of the session to assess the benefits of healthy education messages.

Dates for the school visit

We have timetabled the school visit for the 10th March Tuesday.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support.

Huda

Huda Yusuf

Huda Yusuf
Professor of Dental Public Health
Dental Institute
Queen Mary University of London
h.yusuf@qmul.ac.uk