



SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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13th January 2023

"The only time you fail is when you fall down and stay down."

Dear Parents/Carers,

Learning is in full swing and this week has seen many of the classes begin new units of work for this term! Positivity remains high and we have seen everything from Computing to Science, PE to Music. Well done to all the children for their efforts and for making such a wonderful start to the new year! We have also had a focus in assembly on British Values and how these are considered important in helping us all live happy, healthy and safe lives in modern British society. For further information on this, please visit our dedicated British Values website page [here](#).



Whilst the ink dries on this week's newsletter, our school choir will be busy rehearsing for Young Voices at Resorts World Arena in Birmingham! Young Voices has been taking place for 26 years and the annual event continues to increase in popularity, now touring with around 50 shows

nationally each year. Past celebrity guest performers have included ex-Spandau Ballet singer and solo artist Tony Hadley, British country music duo The Shires and The Voice winner, singer-songwriter Ruti. I don't think we will be disappointed this year either, as we have been reliably informed that singer Heather Small of M People fame will be in attendance! We can't wait! Keep a look out on our Twitter page this evening for a snapshot of the action!

Thank you for your patience with the work that is now commencing on Shobnall Road. If you have any questions about the work, or concerns about how the work is being carried out, then please do not hesitate to look for further information via www.staffordshire.gov.uk/ShobnallRoadWorks.

We hope that whatever it is you are doing this weekend that you have a restful, relaxing and enjoyable one! As always, we look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!



Reception Applications!

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you for the final time that the application process for a reception place for September 2023 will **close** on **15 January 2023**.

If you or a member of your family or wider social circle has not yet applied, the easiest way for parents is online. Further information can be found on the [Staffordshire County Council website](#).

Please ask at the school office if you would like a copy of the letter informing parents about the process.

NSPCC Number Day!

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on **Friday 3 February 2023**! Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it. We are planning to have a fun day of maths activities and will be taking part in Dress up for Digits. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (i.e. football shirt, cap. Netball shirt or even a onesie!) OR get even more creative by dressing up in a maths or numbers theme. To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking for a suggested donation of £1, and we'd love everyone in the school to take part in this special event. Unfortunately, Year 6 will be at Laches Wood but we know they'll be marking the day in their own way and celebrating with us in spirit!



We're really looking forward to all the fun of Number Day, and we really appreciate your support. All the money we raise at Shobnall Primary & Nursery School will make an enormous difference to children today and help the NSPCC be there for children tomorrow.

You can find out more about the NSPCC's work at nspcc.org.uk and to find out more about keeping children safe online, visit nspcc.org.uk/online-safety.

World Religion Day

World Religion Day takes place each January, aiming to promote understanding and peace between all religions as well as mutual understanding and tolerance between peoples from different backgrounds. It is a special day when all religions are celebrated. World Religion Day 2023 takes place on **Sunday, 15 January** and next week, the children will be learning about this special day during assemblies and in class. We thought you might want to know a little more about the day itself, its origins and how it is celebrated around the world:



- People who follow the Bahá'í Faith believe that the main religions around the world share some core ideas, for example, treating other people in the way you would want to be treated.
- World Religion Day was started by the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'í Faith. It began in the state of Maine in the United States as a day for World Peace Through World Religion in October 1947. By 1949, the event was being held in other areas in the US and in 1950, it became known as World Religion Day. It was decided that for one day a year, all religions should be celebrated and their similarities appreciated.
- World Religion Day is celebrated in a variety of different ways. Many people attend special services. The focus of these services is to gain a better understanding of other religions and to celebrate the similarities between them all. It is about promoting the common message to treat each other with respect to create a better world for everyone.

We will be celebrating World Religion Day by taking the time to learn about different faiths from around the world, increase awareness of how many different religions there are, even the smaller, lesser-known ones, speak to others about their religion and take the time to speak to people about their own.



School Council News!

School Council have been working hard to make sure our PE kit across school is more consistent. We have had a look at what the PE kit should be like and how, at times, we have not stuck to the expectations. We understand it is important that during PE we are representing our school and so want to look presentable and match our peers (just as we do in our everyday school uniform). Children have gathered information from their peers and brought it back to the School Council. The information we have gathered will be shared with you shortly. Keep your eyes peeled and in the meantime, please visit the dedicated page on our school website for a reminder of these expectations [here](#).

FREE Uniform!

Remember, we have FREE uniform that is available for anyone who needs it, via our donation service. There is a box situated outside the school office for any parents who have old items that they wish to donate. Please could we ask that these are cleaned and in good condition before placing in the box! Amy Roobottom continues sorting, collating and distributing this. If you wish to contact Amy to ask what is available that you might be in need of, please contact her via amyroobottom@outlook.com.



Thank You from St. Giles!

We were delighted to receive a message from St. Giles this week, which we wanted to share with you...

On behalf of everyone here at St Giles, thank you so much for your kind and generous donation for the hospice.

We've recognised for a very long time that it takes a community to make a hospice and it is very clear that we have never needed you more than we need you today.

We are delivering care to some of the most vulnerable people in our community and there continues to be an ever growing need for our service – your support is vital for us to continue that work.

It takes a community to make a hospice and we couldn't do what we do without you.

Your support means the world to us - thank you so much.



PFA New Year Movie Night – Thursday 19 January 2023, 3.30 – 5.15pm

Please don't forget to purchase your tickets for the PFA New Year Movie Night on Thursday 19 January 2023 for children in Reception to Year 6. Each class have selected their own film to watch in their classroom. Tickets are on sale now at the beginning and end of the school day at the entrance to the key stage 2 playground. They are priced at £3.50, which includes a drink and popcorn or a drink and sweets. Children will need additional spending money on the day if they wish to purchase

any additional snacks that will be on sale. Pick up will be from your child's usual gate at 5.15pm on the day.

East Staffordshire Sports Partnership Boccia Tournament

We are VERY proud of the teams we took to play in the boccia tournament last night! They put in a sterling performance and managed to finish in 2nd place overall. Well done Shobnall! For those of you who don't know much about boccia, it is a sport designed for athletes with high support needs and has no Olympic equivalent. It is a target sport played indoors with soft leather balls and is one of intriguing tactics, incredible skill and nail-biting tension! Well done to all of our children who took part!



Online Safety Tips

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywood movie adaptation ... but why are we still talking about it in 2023? World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game – as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as the potential for online addiction, in-game purchases and simulated violence.

Start the Year Green

We can all make small changes to be a little greener – why not try one thing different this year to be more environmentally friendly? It could be to cut down on car journeys and walk more, or to start buying second-hand clothes.

If you have unwanted gifts from Christmas, take them to a charity shop or sell them online instead of throwing them away.



Hot Lunch Options – 16 to 20 January 2023

W/c 31.10.22, 21.11.22, 12.12.22, 16.1.23 & 6.2.23					
WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Beef Lasagne & garlic bread	Roast chicken with mash potato & gravy	Beef Burger	Fish Cake & Chips
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Vegetable Quiche with baked potato wedges	Quorn Lasagne & garlic bread	Quorn fillet, with mash potato & gravy	Cheese & Onion Roll	Quorn Nuggets & Chips
ACCOMPANIMENTS 5 1.00	Corn on the cob & broccoli Salad bar	Peas & cauliflower Salad bar	Carrots & parsnips Salad bar	Corn on the Cob Baked Beans Chips	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
DESSERTS	5 1.00 Bananas & custard	16 Ginger biscuit	Chocolate & orange muffins	Doughnut	Ice Cream
FRESH FRUIT OR YOGHURT	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
JACKET POTATO AND SANDWICH SELECTION	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection

SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

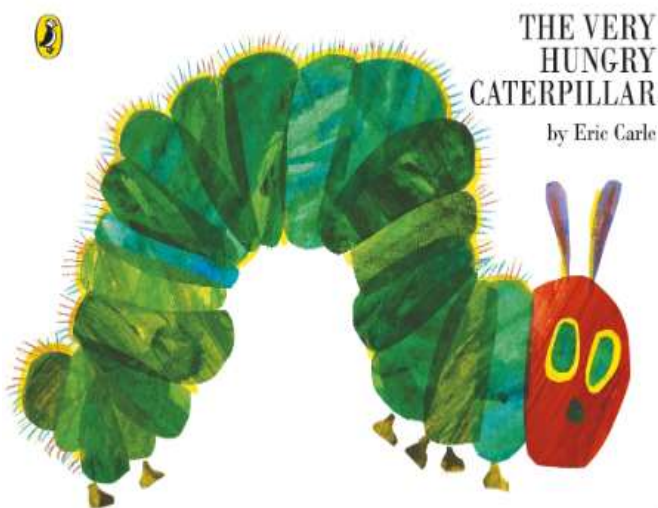
Let's have a sneaky peek as to what has been going on in our classrooms this week...

Nursery

The children have had another busy week in nursery. We have started our new book 'Whatever Next' and there has been some fantastic story telling going on. The children have also completed a range of space-based activities based on our story and the children have been sharing their fun facts about space and aliens! They have really enjoyed their science experiment of making their own craters. All the children were able to point at the craters on the moon and identify the craters on their pebbles that they made. We are so impressed with the hard work that they put into their learning each day.

To work on communication and vocabulary, fine motor skills and mathematics the children have taken part in Drawing Club where they have drawn and shared their ideas based on characters in the story, the setting and where Baby Bear could go on his next adventure in his rocket!

Finally, we finished our busy week by celebrating 'World Religion Day' where we learnt some interesting facts about each religion and had a go at tasting a range of Pakistani food cooked by Mrs Lukman.



Reception

It has been a fun week in Reception as the children explored the theme 'Food Glorious Food.' They had a fantastic discussion and identified healthy and unhealthy foods after listening to the story, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar.'

They then completed some brilliant paintings of fruits with some wonderful detail and created their own junk modelling caterpillars.

During RE this week the children focused on New Year's Resolutions and shared their goals.

"I want to make everyone happy." (Ava)

"I want to get better on my scooter." (Aiyla)

"To colour in the lines everyday and not get out of the lines when I'm colouring." (Mia)

"I want to ride my bike properly." (Arthur)

"I would like to ride a horse through the forest." (Jack)

As part of our celebrations for World Religion Day the children shared their own experiences of their own faith groups and we discussed similarities and differences between places of worship. There was also

lots of active and fun challenges during Commando Joes as the children explored self-awareness with Sophie.



Well done Reception, you are all superstars!

Year 1

Year 1 have been working really hard this week! They have enjoyed their second Forest School session and have thought about how they can work together successfully in PSHCE. In English we are looking at Captain No-Beard's diary entry. In Maths children are working hard in our topic of place value to 20.

Year 2

Year 2, as always, have been busy bees this week. In Maths, the children have continued their learning on 2D and 3D shapes and have enjoyed using concrete resources to support their understanding of the properties of a variety of shapes. In English, Year 2 have been exploring word meaning, show not tell and synonyms. In Science, the children have learnt about what it means to be healthy, what constitutes a healthy diet, and the effect soap has on germs. The children completed two experiments, one looking at the effect of exercise on our bodies and the other investigated how soap gets rid of germs. All of the children were able to make predictions about the outcome of the experiment and record their results in a table.



Year 3

Year 3 have had a super week! They started off the week by learning the 3 times table and are all able to multiple and divide by 3. I am super proud of how resilient the children have been with learning their times tables. In English, we have been looking at our new genre of writing, which is all about writing a narrative set in the Stone Age. The children thoroughly enjoyed being able to explore our new vocabulary. In computing the children were able to demonstrate what they have retained from last year with regards to Scratch. Finally, we have been looking at music where we have been learning a Latin dance.



Year 4

Year 4 have had a fantastic week this week! In maths, we have continued to our multiplication and division unit, where the children have been applying their 7,11 and 12 timetables knowledge to answer a range of questions. In English, the children have been investigating Banksy to unpick whether they believe that he is an artist or vandal. Furthermore, the children also took part in a class debate on this to put across their point of view. Across the curriculum, we have started our History topic for this term where the children have been investigating who the Viking and Anglo-Saxons were. Finally, we concluded the week with the children learning how to create a variety of different shapes and patterns using coding in computing. A brilliant week Year 4!



Year 5

Year 5 have been introduced to their new reading text this week, The Lottie Project. They have thought about what they think might happen in the story.

In Maths, we have continued our focus on fractions, thinking about how we can compare and order them.

Children have also started their new English topic - formal letter writing. They have been reading an agony aunt letter and its reply. The children have explored the language and features of the letters.

In Computing and Music, the children have moved onto their second lessons this week. In Computing, they have used the iPads to practise their video recording skills.

Year 5 really enjoyed our Science investigation on Monday. Our focus was recording data and we found out which ball hit the ground first when several were dropped from the same height. The children made excellent predictions, using the Rocket Words linked to the lesson.

The children finished off the week with a session dedicated to World Religion Day and some quiet DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) time to reinforce reading for pleasure.

Year 6

In Year 6 this week we have been getting stuck into reading *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz. This gripping novel has us hooked and we cannot put it down. We have been concentrating on inference questions, justifying our answers with evidence from the text. In Maths we have been converting and looking at different units of measurement, which we then used to work out problem solving questions. We launched our History topic on the Victorians, where we had to go around the classroom working out the timeline of key events in chronological order. In English we have been looking at poetry and have immersed ourselves into the poem 'A River Speaks' by Joshua Seigal. We have then used this to think of our own examples of figurative language for when we write our own poems. A great week had by all.



Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children aged 7+

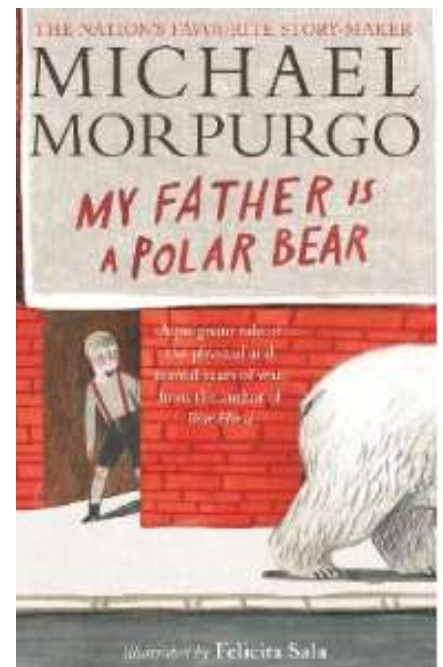
My Father is a Polar Bear

Written by Michael Morpurgo

Award-winning Michael Morpurgo tells a poignant short story drawing on his own experience about a boy's search for his missing father.

Andrew knows that he has two fathers; the one he lives with and the secret one who is never talked about. When his brother shows him a picture of a polar bear in the Snow Queen and says it is his father, he is more confused than ever. But Andrew's father is an actor. He is the polar bear!

Gradually the boys find their way back to their missing father and he becomes part of their lives. Recalling his own childhood as he tells of Andrew's, Michael Morpurgo sensitively captures a little boy's sense of loss and confusion as well as his healing acceptance of the situation.



Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Sabiha N	Oscar M
Year 1	Esme E	Inaaya A
Year 2	Aiza L	Gordon Z
Year 3	Anthony D	Logan J
Year 4	Bonnie H	Paige L
Year 5	Darcey G	Sophie A
Year 6	Basri H	Luke W

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Khalia R
Year 1	Ayesha F
Year 2	Harry K
Year 3	Oliver M
Year 4	Paige L
Year 5	Amelia A
Year 6	Archie G

Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 13.01.23)	186	158	242	210

Position	3 rd – 2 points	4 th – 1 point	1 st – 4 Points	2 nd – 3 points
Running Total	3	3	8	6

Spring Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
PFA New Year Movie Night	Thursday 19 th January 2023
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 30 th January to Friday 3 rd February 2023
NSPCC Number Day	Friday 3 rd February 2023
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 7 th February 2023
PFA Valentine's Disco	Friday 10 th February 2023 (EYFS/KS1 – 3.45pm – 5.00pm, KS2, 5.15pm – 6.30pm)
Parents' Evening	Monday 13 th February 2023, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 15 th February 2023, 4.00pm – 7.00pm
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 17 th February 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 27 th February 2023
World Book Day	Thursday 2 nd March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Reception	Monday 13 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 1	Tuesday 14 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 2	Wednesday 15 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 3	Thursday 16 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 4	Friday 17 th March 2023
Sport Relief	Friday 17 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 20 th March 2023
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 21 st March 2023
KS1 SATs Meeting for Parents	Tuesday 28 th March 2023, 3.30pm, Year 2 Classroom
KS2 SATs Meeting for Parents	Wednesday 29 th March 2023, 3.30pm, Year 6 Classroom
PFA Easter Bingo	Wednesday 29 th March 2023
School Closes for Easter	Friday 31 st March 2023

Diary Dates 2022-2023

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 17 th February 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 27 th February 2023
School Closes for Easter	Friday 31 st March 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 17 th April 2023
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 1 st May 2023
Borough and Parish Elections – School Closed	Thursday 4 th May 2023
Bank Holiday – King's Coronation	Monday 8 th May 2023
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Tuesday 9 th May 2023 to Friday 12 th May 2023
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 26 th May 2023
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 th June 2023
JTMAT INSET Day	Friday 7 th July 2023
School Closes for Summer	Friday 21 st July 2023
INSET Day	Monday 24 th July 2023
INSET Day	Tuesday 25 th July 2023

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OF WORLD WARCRAFT

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

World of Warcraft originally launched way back in 2004, and since then the game has blossomed into a major entertainment property. It's spawned spin-off novels, merchandise and even a Hollywood movie adaptation ... but why are we still talking about it in 2023? World of Warcraft's most recent iteration, Dragonflight, launched last November and marks the game's ninth major expansion. This latest addition has attracted a whole host of lapsed players back to the game – as well as newcomers jumping into the realm of Azeroth for the first time.

ALWAYS ONLINE

World of Warcraft is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Players create a character and head off on mythical quests to earn rewards and become more powerful. The game's environment is absolutely vast, and it can only be played online on PC or Mac – so there's a high probability of young Warcraft fans wanting to monopolise the family computer.

REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As is common with many MMORPGs, World of Warcraft's developers, Blizzard, release regular expansions for the game (usually every 18 months to two years). So although there's still plenty of content for young players to experience right now, there will almost inevitably be a requirement to continue buying future expansion packs, which tend to cost around £50.

IN-GAME PURCHASES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just like its genre contemporary Final Fantasy XIV, World of Warcraft requires a monthly subscription fee to play. It's currently £9.99 per month (although you can get it cheaper by signing up to a longer subscription). There are also many items which can be purchased from the in-game store that don't affect gameplay, but instead offer cosmetic alterations to a player's character.

VOICE AND TEXT CHAT

Because World of Warcraft is played exclusively on PCs and Macs, it's easy for users to type out text messages if they aren't comfortable using voice chat. If you'll forgive the pun, that's a double-edged sword because – although there's less chance of them being harassed verbally – it puts young players at increased risk of being trolled or receiving spam through the in-game messaging function.

SIMULATED VIOLENCE

The fact that World of Warcraft is almost 20 years old means that even its most violent battles look slightly cartoonish compared with the level of authenticity in many more modern games. The exception tends to be Warcraft's in-game cutscenes: animated sections which move the plot onto the next stage. These offer more realistic visuals, but they still aren't overly gory or scary.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

World of Warcraft can trigger a powerful "just one more quest" mentality in players (especially young ones) as they rush to secure the next dopamine hit from levelling their character up or earning a new item or weapon. It's also a game that doesn't have a definite 'end' – because as soon as a player finishes levelling up one character, they can start afresh with another one.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MANAGE PLAYTIME

World of Warcraft can be an extremely enjoyable game to play with friends, but it's important that your child doesn't let their adventures crowd out school work, socialising or anything else they also enjoy. You could, for example, consider imposing playtime limits – such as a set number of hours to play Warcraft per week, or restricting it to particular days or just weekends.

MAKE IT A REWARD

If your child is excited about getting the next World of Warcraft expansion, you could consider using it as a reward for completing their weekly tasks (you could even call them 'quests'!) like tidying their room or doing their homework. This will demonstrate that you're happy for them to play the game but will also help them to build good, productive habits, reinforcing that hard work earns rewards.

SIGN UP FOR THE FREE TRIAL

Warcraft's monthly subscription effectively 'pays' for the regular new content, but there's also a sizeable free trial that lets new players explore the world of Azeroth without paying a penny. Players can play up until Level 20 for free, which is easily several hours' worth of gameplay. If your child does take this option, we'd suggest minimising in-game spending by not linking a bank card to their account.

REMEMBER THE AGE RATING

Due to mild violence and the occasional use of offensive language, World of Warcraft has been rated as appropriate for players aged 12 and over by PEGI (the Pan-European Game Information system, which gives games their age certificate). It isn't really suitable for anyone below that age, so you may potentially have to explain this reasoning to your younger children if they want to play it.

ADVENTURE TOGETHER

Warcraft can certainly be addictive, but playing it together is also a great way to spend time with your child. The game's focus on cooperative questing and battling enemies can make it feel like you've accomplished something as a team, and you'll also be in a prime position to spot any early signs of addiction. Just remember to apply gaming time limits to yourself as well as your young ones!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



NOS
National
Online
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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2011/aug/29/world-of-warcraft-video-game-addict> | <https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/start>

RECRUITING NOW IN YOUR AREA

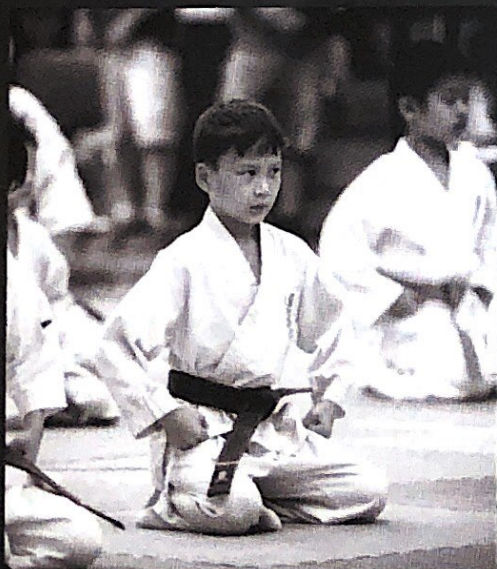
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Join us on 19th January
For a
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