

The Harbinger Chronicles

April 2022

Volume 1, Edition 3

Your Voice Matters!



www.harbinger.org.uk

Welcome to the third edition of the Harbinger Primary School newspaper. Written by the children, for the school community; our newspaper is published every half term.



Luke with Ruby Class on World Book Day

Harry Potter and Superheros Rule World Book Day

By Sumaya and Adyan

Was that Fiona dressed as Maleficent on 3 March? Did you notice Jubeda was dressed as a witch? Wow, World Book Day had settled on.

It was a fantastic day!

World Book Day, cont'd p 4

First Person

How to Win the Poetry Slam and Zip Zap Zop

By Gaia, p. 2

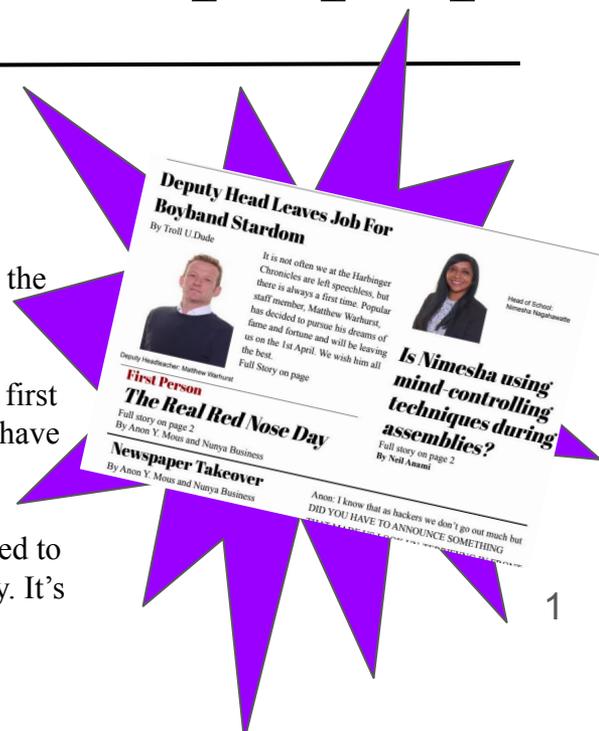
Were You an April Fool?

By Oma

Did you get fooled on April Fool's Day, maybe by picking up the April Fool's version of the *Harbinger Chronicles*? You probably did. Before the two-week holidays, we tricked you ALL!

Now, let's talk about facts. April fools' day takes place on the first of April each year. The 'fools' are pranked, sent on fools' errands, or have jokes told to them.

April Fool's Day supposedly originated in France when New Year's Day changed from April 1 to January 1. So those who continued to celebrate in April were called, you guess it, April Fools!! Don't worry. It's happened to me... anyway – I keep digressing – you guys are all now fools.



First Person

How to Win the Poetry Slam and Zip Zap Zop

By Gaia

I'm here to give you insider knowledge of the Tower Hamlets Poetry Slam. *Insert heavenly music*

It all started when a poet, Zohab, came to our school and taught us all about poetry — well, as much as he could tell us in a day.

We learned about sibilance, repetition and were told that poems don't have to rhyme.

The next day, the chosen students, of which I was one, were announced. (For the next Year 5 cohort, it is suspenseful when you are called out last.)

Then, bouncing in my seat with anticipation, our small guild of finalists waited for Zohab to come and make sure that we had poems prepared for the competition. First things first, when we had met our teacher and prepared ourselves for the worst, we played a game called Zip Zap Zop and I guess that you could say that you shoot each other.

Once we finished playing, Zohab started encouraging us to do a two minute brain dump. One of my fellow contestants wrote down the lyrics to an entire Rick Astley song.

Just before we started drafting our poems, Zohab reminded us that poems don't always have to rhyme. I was certain that he was lying. Now when I re-read my poem, I realize he was right. After the brain dumping we moved into the spare classroom and were split into teams.

Team 1, were the boys; Anas, Abrar, Yaqub and Yanis who wanted to do a group poem. Team 2, were the girls; Aimee, Hana A, Hana R, Saira, Zeinab and I who wanted to do individual poems.

The boys got help from Zohab first (unfair!).

They wrote about the *prosperous metropolis* of Tower Hamlets while us girls wore ear defenders and got on with our work.

Not even once, one teeny tiny bit were we looking at their work; they were competition! I scribbled away furiously, scrunching up drafts, doing rewrite after rewrite, after rewrite. Stressful.

Once we finished writing, we rehearsed. Then, after a google of years, we arrived at Rich Mix, all red and white and black. Everyone tried their hardest to project their voice around the room.

Our host, Cat, got us warmed up by screaming; OOOoooooOOYYYYEeeeeAAAhhh! Then we screamed; OOOoooooOOYYYYEeeeeAAAhhh! Me and another contestant gave it some sassitude and flicked our hair into red school's faces.

Once we destroyed our vocal chords by screeching at the top of our lungs, Cat called "Harbinger school, my fellas, HARBINGER school is going first! Individual poems, please!"

We stood up and stumbled to the stage muttering how the train ride made our legs numb. We lined up in front of the microphones, yanked out notepads and brought them up to our chests.

After calling out our names, we read our poems and then slowly ebbed back to the audience.

While the other contestants from Harbinger muttered in their normal voices not even daring to go anywhere close to the microphones, I stepped forward. Even my breathing was magnified through the speakers! I tried my hardest to show some confidence when I was using the microphone. It worked!! I won!



Harbinger's Poetry Slam participants. Gaia, the winner, is in the middle.

Sport



Isle of Dogs Primary School Cross Country Event: A Good Effort and A lot of Fun

By Eadie



Isle of Dogs Cross-Country at Sir John McDougall Gardens

Last week, about 100 children from schools all around the Isle of Dogs attended a cross-country running competition at McDougall's Park. Everyone worked very very hard in the races. Sadly, no one from Harbinger won first place but we tried hard and that is what matters. Much-needed oranges were handed out at the finish line.

Races were separated by year and boys and girls ran in different groups. The younger children ran one lap of the park and that was quite a lot for them. Year 5 and 6 did two laps. That is the equivalent distance of running from Harbinger school to ASDA and back which is 1500 meters in total, a long run!! It was really hot out so runners were told to bring water and boy did they need it!

The winners received medals. But everyone should feel pride. It is the taking part that matters. Schoolmates cheered for everyone and that is all that is needed to spur you on. You're running and you want people to help you feel confident and happy.

Stand out moments were when the Year 6 team were running and they ran and ran and did not stop.

After the finish line, there was a girl with a stand asking for names, school and finishing position. Some Harbinger rankings: Anja came in 6th out of the Year 6 girls. Miriam came in 13th and Vicki came in 12th. I finished in 9th place for Year 5 girls.

Rivalry: Amber vs. Turquoise

By Musa

The Pirate Ship was very slippery and Turquoise had to share the pitch. And then it was time for the big match.

Amber offered some players to the opposing team for the sake of fairness. Then kick-off started and the game had a boring start.

The amazing duo Toure and Musa were on the pitch. The first goal was scored by Amber class's Arafat. Suddenly, the Amber goalkeeper had blocked vision and Yanis scored a long shot from the halfway line.

Cont'd p. 8

Team Amber

Zayan
Rashid
Toure
Adil
Anja
Romaysa
Ziyaan

Arafat
Madiha
Ummrah
Musa
Amaan

Team Turquoise

Adyan- borrowed from Amber
Yousuf- borrowed from Amber
Sumaya - borrowed from Amber
Dean Yaqub
Yanis Ijazz
Abrar Jayden
Imad Ahmed
Seher

Delilah's Adventure to Buckingham Palace, and KS 1 went too

By Eadie and Yusraa

On Friday, the 11th of February year 1 and 2: Diamond, Emerald and Sapphire classes took a trip to Buckingham Palace as part of their History topic 'Queen Elizabeth II.'

They saw the home of the Queen and watched the Changing of the Guards. They had an incredibly fun time. Eddie, a teacher, said of the excursion, "man those cannons were loud!" The cannons were blasting in the children's little ears like a cannon ball although they still had an amazing time.

Another quote we appreciated was from Tom. He shared that the children had an amazing time in the sandpit. I can almost picture them throwing sand everywhere! The moral of the story is always take your students to a sandpit and no matter how loud the cannons are, they will love you!



Emma told us a terrific story about a police officer holding Delilah so snuggle in to your chairs whilst I say it.

So, Emma asked a kind police officer to hold Delilah for a photo and he said YES! All the children were huddling over in case he dropped her so that resolved in a gorgeous photo.



World Book Day, cont'd from p. 1

Many people dressed up as their favourite book character, for example: Matilda, Spiderman, Cleopatra, Little Red Riding Hood, Flash, Harley Quinn, Batman, Hulk and many more.

Oma was Malala, Sumaya and Eadie, like many others dressed as Matilda. Another popular choice was Harry Potter. Of course, the Disney princess were the most popular for the younger children. Yasim in Jade class was a lion. Jubeda was a witch and Rebecca came in as Sherlock Holmes. Anas from Jade was Flash!

World Book Day was also filled with many fun activities such as: making books in French, reading buddies and even having a special visitor to read a book to classes.

It's a day we all look forward to and love.



Jubeda, left, as a witch and Fiona, right, as Maleficent pose on World Book Day

Fiction

Hope

By Gaia

“How do you know my name? And you aren’t here, are you? You’re magic!” I yelled.

I tried to run but Prometheus grabbed my ankle and burned it. The searing pain shot up through my ankle and swam to the top of my head. My vision went blurry as I carelessly looked around.

“I’m not magic. I am a Titan,” Prometheus announced proudly, “Almighty servant of the King of time. The Table Turner.”

How come I didn’t notice this before? His name. Prometheus.



The Titan of service to the All-Father. But also, one of his sworn nemesis. His words are wise but no one knew which side he was supporting.

“What is your son’s name? What does he look like? What if I don’t like him? True love isn’t true if you don’t love the other person back! Why can’t you choose anyone other than me?!” I yelled, trying to weasel my way out of it.

“Epimetheus, tall, blonde, strong, and handsome...” Prometheus quickly wiggled his eyebrows and looked at me as if I was funny!

Suddenly a thought popped into my head as quickly as Athena sprouting from Zeus’ noggin.

If he was Prometheus’s son, then wouldn’t he have the same appearance? So why did he have blonde hair? And he probably didn’t look very handsome if Prometheus was his father.

I quickly locked the thought inside

my imaginary box and zoned into what Prometheus was talking about.

“You should get going. And remember the gifts that I mentioned Pandora; remember the gifts, “he managed to say just before he disappeared. Gifts? What gifts? HE MENTIONED GIFTS?!”

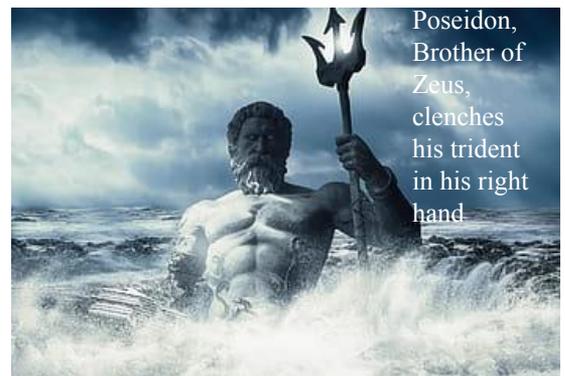
Why didn’t I listen to him? I am so horrible at listening to people. Except that one time. I noticed my mistake just the second that it happened.

I had a blackout and in it I was back on Olympus, the day before I was going to be sent off to Gaea. I thought I would see myself walking into the Shrine of Poseidon, but instead, I saw three gods waving their hands around wildly with furrowed eyebrows and scowling mouths.

I recognized them almost instantly. I saw my godly father, Hephaestus, the one who moulded me out of clay.

Then I saw Poseidon, Brother of Zeus, second from the Big Three clenching his trident in his right hand.

“We will *not* speak of this to Lord Zeus.”



***This is part two.**
For part one, see *Harbinger Chronicles Edition 2.*

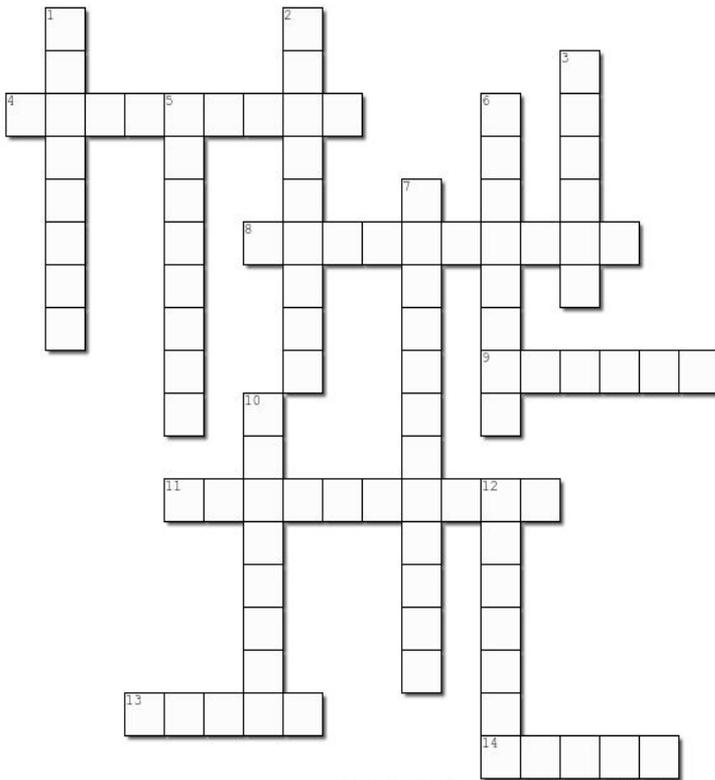


Get Involved!

If you have ideas for our next word game, talk to our team.

Possible themes could include Harry Potter, the Premier League, capital cities, movie titles, and Harbinger School.

We also accept news tips, stories, photos, and story ideas as well as recipes, book recommendations and letters.



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

- 4. where we dine in style
- 8. why we wore red and donated money
- 9. first day of the school week
- 11. our favourite place to play
- 13. the lunch we have on Wednesdays
- 14. Fiona's class name

Down

- 1. the people being taught
- 2. one of Harbinger's values
- 3. last day of the school week
- 5. starting on 4 April
- 6. the end of the school day
- 7. why we got all dressed up in fancy dress
- 10. the people who lead the class
- 12. our head teacher

Clues by Eadie, answers on p. 8

RED NOSE DAY

Is Rudolph Coming to Town? Nope; It's Red Nose Day

By Madiha



Welcome to the world of red noses. I mean it – a red nose.

18 March was Red Nose Day this year. You have noticed how many children wore red! At drop-off Tom was waiting with a paint brush and red paint for the little noses in his class.

The school raised £84 for the red nose day charity. The donations will be sent to the Comic Relief charity and money will go towards projects in the UK and around the world, tackling important social issues.

Here are some quotes from the students about red nose day: "It is strange because most of the children wore red." "Very red." ●.

Did you know that the red nose day charity has raised £1 billion since its founding in 1985?

A Primer

What is Happening in Ukraine?

By Hana

As local journalists, it is our job to report all news that affects the children of Harbinger.

Sadly, we need to report that since our last edition of the *Harbinger Chronicles*, Russia declared war on Ukraine.

You might be wondering how this directly impacts the children at Harbinger. There are many ways. Firstly, children see and hear more than you think. We know that there are things happening and often misunderstand what we hear so need clarity.

Also, there may be children who are directly affected; we live in a very multicultural borough. We would like to try to help ourselves and others to understand what this means to us.

Do you know what's happening to Ukraine?

Russia has decided to invade Ukraine. But why? Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, wants Ukraine to be part of Russia and he doesn't want Ukraine to join NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation).

Do you know what NATO is?

NATO is a group of countries who work together. If one country is been attacked and is a member of NATO, the other countries that are in NATO will help. For example, if United Kingdom was attacked then the United States would come to help.

Is anyone helping Ukraine?

Yes! Some world leaders are helping. These are some of the countries that are helping. US, UK and EU. They are helping by sending troops to the border, bringing weapons and letting people stay in their country. Also, people are letting refugees stay in their own homes.

At Harbinger, we think that you should always help those in need.

Where is Ukraine?

Ukraine has borders with many countries. What countries are next to Ukraine? Russia, Belarus, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania.



Ukraine

A	I	G	L	E	W	H	H	N	Y	T	E	E	E
I	P	D	I	G	V	H	O	T	I	V	S	E	A
S	U	C	S	H	H	N	Y	P	I	U	N	A	S
S	K	Y	T	S	R	T	G	T	E	H	A	A	E
U	R	H	F	A	E	U	I	E	G	C	L	A	Y
R	A	D	P	F	Y	S	Y	S	A	D	I	O	H
L	I	S	A	E	O	S	P	F	I	S	F	A	N
I	N	S	S	P	S	E	E	G	U	F	E	R	A
O	E	A	R	F	E	R	S	F	W	H	Y	P	K
C	H	A	N	G	E	P	O	E	R	E	L	A	O
I	A	O	F	S	S	U	W	A	R	Y	S	E	N
W	C	E	K	F	E	G	H	S	I	Y	T	I	T
A	E	T	H	O	M	E	W	Y	Y	E	A	K	G
E	C	W	H	C	E	U	N	G	H	S	Y	A	P

RUSSIA
WAR
POSITIVE
LIFE
REFUGEES
SAFETY
CHANGE
STAY
SAD
UKRAINE
HOME
WHY
HOPE

Do you know why Ukrainian people are fleeing to nearby countries?

Ukrainians are leaving Ukraine because they aren't safe there right now. Putin's army has bombed hospitals and other areas where there are civilians. Lots of people want to return to their homeland once all this terrible fighting stops.



Coming Soon SATS!

By Gazi

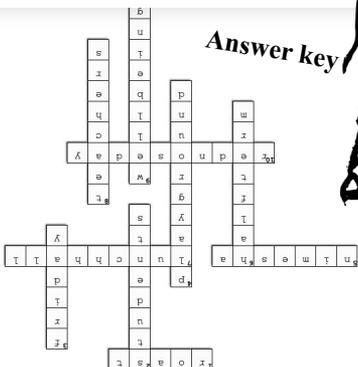
The countdown is on. SATs are taking place on 9th - 13th of May. If you don't know, they are standardised assessment tests administered by primary schools. They were cancelled due to Covid in 2020 and 2021.

SATS inflicts anxiety into students because it is a very important exam. SATs is varied between Maths, Reading, English, SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar). It is also a very pressured time for all year 6's taking the test.

A message from year 6: PLEASE BE QUIET WHEN WE'RE TAKING SATS!!



No peeking!!



Rivalry, cont'd from p. 3

Lloyd, the referee announced that there was only 10 minutes left.

Then he announced eight minutes left. Suddenly, Rashid scored and every one chased him. Another goal for Amber, making the score 3-1! The Amber goalkeeper, Musa, burst in excitement and cried.



Chelsea and Arsenal, two of London's largest football clubs, have a rivalry that extends back to the 1930's, similar to Amber and Turquoise.

Changing of the Guards: Getting Ready to Say Goodbye to Harbinger

By Musa

It is time for a new era to Harbinger. It is soon the end of the Academic Year. This means we will have different people in our years.

For the most part, the students will stay the same, they'll just be in different classes.

But, for those of us in Year 6, we will be heading to new schools – secondary school, and many of us who are used to seeing each other every day won't anymore.

Even more dramatic, some of us have been at Harbinger since we were in the Early Years Unit (EYU) so this is a big deal.

The EYU will have new students attending school for the first time.

From me: Enjoy your time with the elder children at Harbinger and welcome newcomers to Harbinger.

There are going to be changes as well in the New Year and hopefully you can cope with the changes to Harbinger Primary.

To my fellow students in Year 6: I hope you enjoy the rest of your time at Harbinger Primary.

Invasion of the Little Red Riding Hoods

By Oma

Did anyone else notice a plethora of red capes sweeping across school corridors on World Book Day?

The baskets of paper and plastic food (and a water bottle from Amber Classes Lil' Red)?

Yep. You guessed it. That one silly little girl who got eaten by a wolf. And came back out again all bloody and covered in stomach acid – eww!

There was an entire league of them in Opal Class (more on that later), a flock of them in Jade, and Milara in her amazing red dress. Did you catch the Lil' Red fever?

Lurking in Sapphire Class was the fiendishly sly... Big. Bad. Fox. Yep. Not wolf. Fox.

And that fox was a Year 2 teacher we know so well, Tom. Tom, the one who was going to read to Opal that day. Tom, the Big Bad Fox, going to read in Opal, where there was a union of Lil' Reds. Mm. Can't imagine how that turned out.

Tom had a mortifying book. It was called *The Dark*. It was okay. No one got eaten. But if anything happened, I'm sure Sherlock Holmes – Rebecca - was on the case.



Student and Teacher Team Plant Two New Gardens

By Sumaya

Mariya and Emma, student and teacher, have been watering and planting flowers, veggies and lots more in the spare time they have after school.

As I was spectating these wonderful sights, I happened to notice all the different plants. There are: onion shallots, strawberries, hyacinths, alliums and daffodils.

They can be found in the key stage one gardens (out the door in the classrooms) and in front of the office/reception. They are absolutely beautiful! I hope you get to swing by!



Opinion

The Beginning of a New Rivalry

By Musa

This is dangerous. This might just affect Harbinger more than any student dispute, funding issue, or leadership issue ever has.

On a recent Friday, year 5's received a letter to have a residential – they'd get to stay at a place with their friends – trip to Hautbois Activity Center in Norwich. The Year 6 class were obviously incandescent (furious) about this turn of events.



March 2020, the last Harbinger school journey to Hautbois

They really wanted to go Hautbois and it is their last year at Harbinger, so they'll never get to go with their classmates.

The last Year 5's to make the journey were Year 5's in 2020. The day they returned, the lockdown started and the world as we know it changed forever.

After the weekend...

Currently, all the Year 6 students have all the information about this subject.

This was really dangerous for Harbinger. At this moment, this might just be war.

Year 6 are still waiting for the letter.

Watch out Harbinger, and Hautbois too for that matter.

Remember ***I warned you!***



By Musa

Welcome to the *Behind the Scenes*. This where I will show how we produce the *Harbinger Chronicles*.

4th of March we are currently writing our articles but stopped to check out pictures from our team photo shoot.



[04/03 16:17] Anja Kullolli
Eadie be like (first pic) Hi I'm a cute american girl
in england (second pic) WELCOME TO
MY HOUSE!!!!

11th of March we are working at the computers and I am writing the Turquoise VS Amber football match.

There are also new members to the club, Adil, Madiha and Ummrah. But we lost a journalist, Toure. He left and it is his choice. Now the jokes article cannot be made. I am sorry.

18th of March this is the last day of writing our work. We are currently discussing what should go on the front page.

New: The Writers Corner

By Ummrah

We would like to give all Harbinger students the opportunity to write for the *Harbinger Chronicles*.

This half-term, Fiona (class teacher) set Year 6 a task to write a discussion text to share with the rest of the school about something they are passionate about.

Ummrah, the Writers Corner correspondent, selected two discussion texts for this issue.

Well done to Teddy and Sanjida for their fantastic discussions about two endangered species.

If you would like us to publish your writing in the next issue of *Harbinger Chronicles*, please speak to one of the team.

We Need to Focus on Manatees, not Turtles



Manatees eat over 60 different freshwater and saltwater plants and control the growth of water vegetation.

By Teddy (Year 6)

My discussion is about why we should protect manatees.

Because these animals are so important to the eco-system, we need to do everything in our power to protect them.

They control the world's vegetation. This discussion is necessary because nobody is discussing how these creatures are so important. Nobody cares because they think turtles are more important for some reason. They literally do the same thing that manatees do but worse.

So in my opinion we should save the Manatees instead of some dumb living sea rock.

World's smallest porpoise facing imminent extinction

Population has plunged 90 percent in the last six years, says environment group WWF



Should We Save the Vaquitas?

By Sanjida (Year 6)



Vaquitas, the smallest members of the cetacean (made of of whales, dolphins and porpoises) family are in big danger!

These cute little creatures who swim in Mexico's Gulf of California are rare animals. Sadly, they are not far from extinction; there are only about ten left.

Whilst some people may believe we cannot save them, that it's too late; others disagree.

Vaquitas are endangered because some people do illegal fishing, which catches the vaquitas. They are also endangered because pollution in the ocean is very high.

Vaquitas are carnivores that eat small fish and squid. If they go extinct, the food chain will change. In addition to this, the Mexican government will panic. They need to be saved as soon as possible.

On the other hand, many people agree with Vaquitas dying. The reason for this is because many fishers want Vaquitas gone so they can easily catch Totoaba fish.

But that's not all; Vaquitas are very vulnerable in the black market in China.

Furthermore, there are poachers (criminals) desperate for them. They kill vaquitas and sell the body which costs a lot of money. In summary, this shows there are many people who don't care and are happy if they go extinct.

If we don't save the vaquitas, then what is the point of humans. Although, there are some still alive, they need to be saved. We need to stop this threat. Should us humans be extinct instead of the Vaquitas?

The Funnies

BY OMA

