

QUICK NEWS

CHINESE NEW YEAR

For many people around the world, the New Year is celebrated when the clock strikes midnight on 31st December. But the 2018 Chinese New Year begins on Friday, 16th February.

Chinese New Year takes place on a different date each year because it is based on the lunar calendar. A lunar calendar is based on the monthly cycles of the Moon.

Celebrations take place across the world, with parades, lion dances and fireworks. Children also traditionally receive 'luck money' on New Year's Day. The money is gifted in red envelopes, as red is thought to be a lucky colour.



A traditional Chinese New Year dragon dance

PLASTIC THREAT

Tiny bits of plastic in our seas are a big threat to some of the world's largest sea creatures.

A study found that sharks, rays and whales could be at risk from serious contamination. That's because these animals all take in a lot of water through their mouths when they catch prey. This water is contaminated by plastic, so the plastic also gets into the animals' bodies.

The plastic could be affecting their digestive systems and even causing enough damage to kill them.

People are being asked to reduce their plastic waste to help tackle the problem.



Whale sharks take in lots of water through their mouths when hunting

WW2 BOMB

A "severely damaged" World War Two bomb was found on a construction site in Hong Kong. The bomb was made by the United States and dropped on Hong Kong because it was occupied by Japan during the war.

More than 4,000 people were forced to evacuate the area, as police worked overnight to disarm the 450kg (992lbs) wartime explosive.

It is the second bomb to be found in Hong Kong within a week.



The bomb in Hong Kong



QUICK NEWS

Look at the 'Chinese New Year' story.

- 1) When does Chinese New Year begin?
- 2) Why does Chinese New Year take place on a different date each year?
- 3) Give one example of how people celebrate Chinese New Year.

Look at the 'Plastic Threat' story.

- 4) What is a danger for sharks and whales and other sea creatures?
- 5) What are we being asked to do to help make the problem better?

Look at the 'WW2 Bomb' story.

- 6) Where in the world was the WW2 bomb found?
- 7) How many bombs have been found in the past seven days?
- 8) Why was this place hit by the US (United States)?