

AMAZING DINOSAUR SPECIAL!

FirstNews

Issue 610 23 February – 1 March 2018

**THE UK'S BEST-
SELLING TITLE
FOR KIDS***



ANCIENT

ANCESTORS

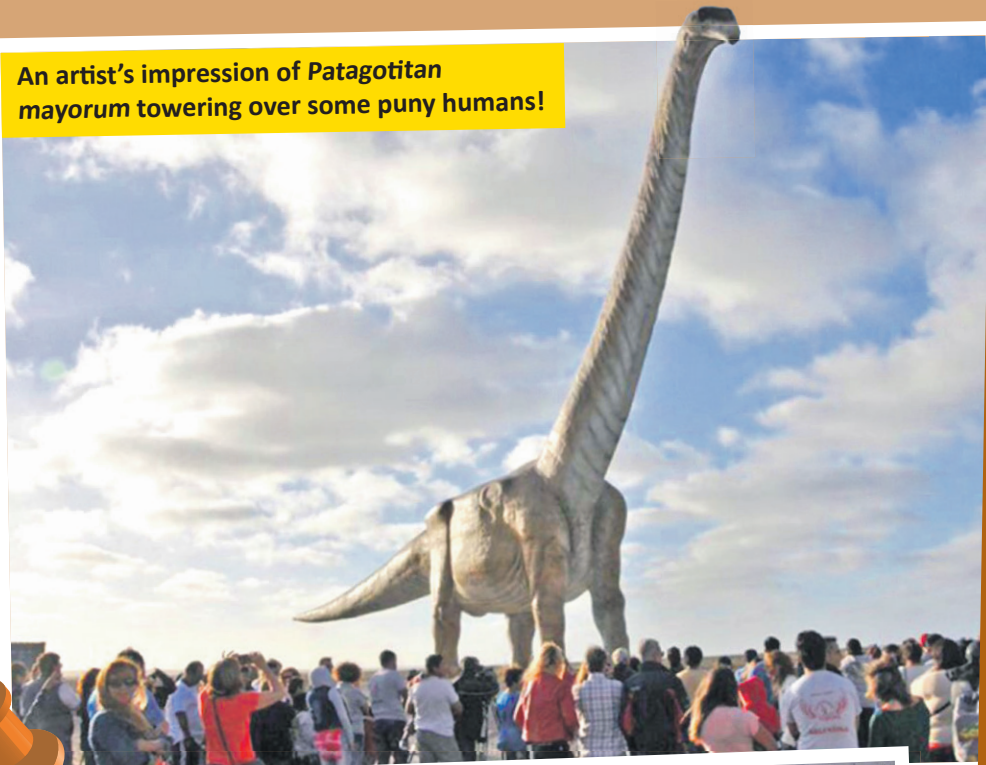
MEET THE CREATURES THAT ONCE ROAMED THE EARTH!

YOUR NORMAL ISSUE OF *FirstNews* IS INSIDE

MASSIVE MONSTERS!

LONG before the first humans were around, Earth was home to creatures so big, that it's pretty tough to imagine them roaming around today! Join us, as we take a look back at the beasts bigger than buses that were once the most powerful things on the planet!

An artist's impression of Patagotitan mayorum towering over some puny humans!



PATAGOTITAN MAYORUM

Average length: **39 metres**
Average weight: **69,000kg**
Age: **Early Cretaceous (100 million years ago)**
Meet the BIGGEST DINOSAUR EVER (or at least the biggest discovered so far!). A whopping 39 metres long, and 6 metres tall from toes to shoulder, the Patagotitan would have been approximately the size of three double decker buses end-to-end, although a whole lot heavier – since your average double-decker bus weighs around 12,650kg, whereas this big fellow would have weighed around 69,000kg (69 tonnes)!

The Patagotitan is thought to have been a gentle giant. For a creature so big, getting up, walking around and trying to run were all pretty difficult things to do, so they'd just graze. They would eat lots and lots of plant matter, ensuring that they got enough energy to support their enormous bodies.
Plus, this giant wouldn't have many predators to worry about. Even the legendary T-rex would have looked tiny next to the mighty Patagotitan!

Jose Maria Farfaglia



A scientist next to the thigh bone (femur) of a Patagotitan mayorum



DID YOU KNOW?

The name megalodon comes from the Greek words for 'big tooth'!

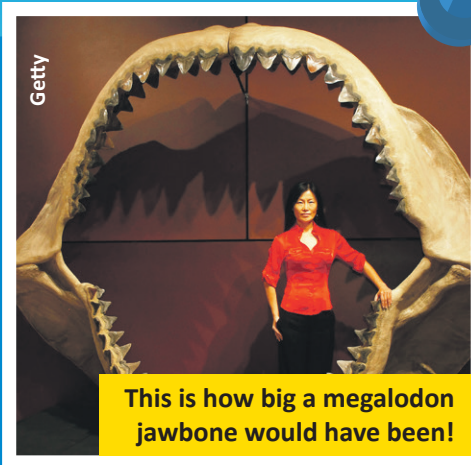


A megalodon tooth (left) next to a great white shark tooth!

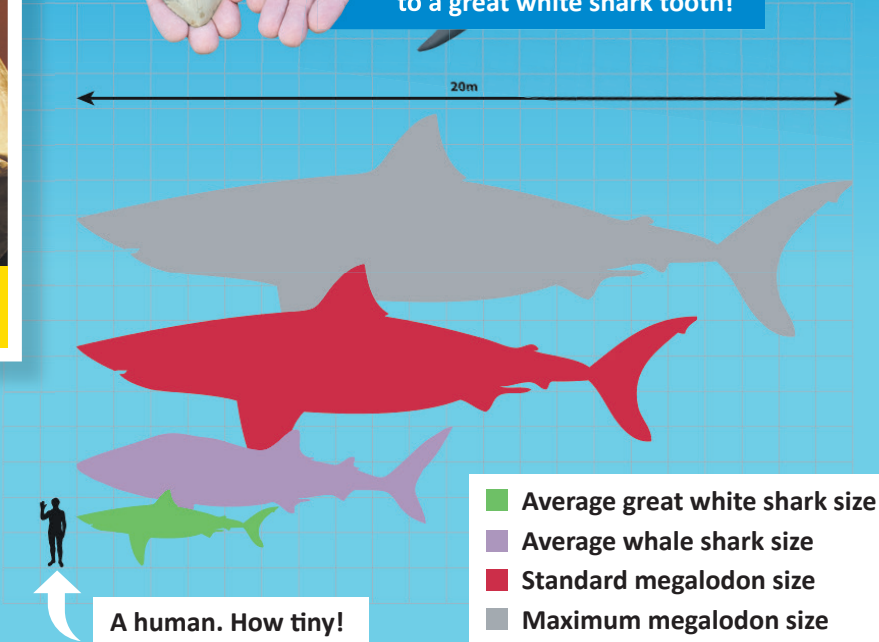
MEGALODON

Average length: **18 metres**
Average weight: **50,000kg**
Age: **Early Miocene-Late Pliocene (2-23 million years ago)**

Three times as big as a great white shark, the megalodon is thought to be one of the biggest predators to have ever existed. Even its teeth were enormous, averaging at around 17cm (7in) long. In fact, back before we understood or knew what dinosaurs were, fossilised megalodon teeth were thought to be the tongues of dragons!
However, the megalodon isn't technically a dinosaur, but is in fact a shark! Not only that, but it's also much younger than the other creatures on here – living just two million years ago (it was just too cool to leave out!).



This is how big a megalodon jawbone would have been!



A human. How tiny!

- Average great white shark size
- Average whale shark size
- Standard megalodon size
- Maximum megalodon size



QUETZALCOATLUS (KWET-ZAL-KOH-AT-LUS)

Average height: **5.5 metres**

Average wingspan: **10 metres**

Age: **Late Cretaceous (67 million years ago)**

Imagine if a giraffe had wings. Not on its back, but like if its front legs were wings. What you're imagining now... that's a Quetzalcoatlus! Thought to have been the largest pterosaur to have existed, the Quetzalcoatlus had a wingspan of 10m (about the size of a telephone pole) and weighed the same as a panda!

While the Quetzalcoatlus definitely had wings, scientists aren't sure whether it actually used them. Due to its great size, it's likely that if the Quetzalcoatlus did fly, it'd do so by launching itself from cliffs and gliding for miles at a time.

Some palaeontologists say that if the Quetzalcoatlus did fly, it could have reached speeds of around 80mph!



TITANOBOA

Average length: **12 metres**

Weight: **1,135kg**

Age: **Paleocene (56-66 million years ago)**

You would have found the massive Titanoboa slithering around in the Colombian Cerrejón jungle – a hot, swampy place that would make the Amazon rainforest look balmy!

Living on a piscivore diet of massive fish, crocodiles and other aquatic prey, the Titanoboa was most like the modern-day water-dwelling anaconda, only much scarier!



GIGANTORAPTOR

Height: **8 metres**

Weight: **1,400kg**

Age: **Late Cretaceous (85 million years ago)**

The largest feathered dinosaur discovered to date, the Gigantoraptor is a type of oviraptorosaur, which means 'egg-thief lizard'. However, new evidence suggests that they didn't eat eggs at all.

This giant creature is known for its ferocity. Armed with long, sharp claws and a tough beak, it would have to regularly defend itself from attacks.

Despite its fearsome appearance, it's likely that this big bird-like creature was in fact a herbivore, since it had a toothless beak – something that's not great for eating meat.



DINO GLOSSARY

CONFUSED about some of the palaeontology vocabulary found in this Dinosaur Special? Don't worry, as we've got all the words you need to know right here. (We tried to make a joke about a theSAURUS here, but just couldn't find the words to do it!)

Organism

Any living thing! But that doesn't mean we're all dinosaurs...

Palaeontology

The study of life that existed in prehistoric times, represented by fossils of plants, animals, and other organisms.

Predator

A creature that survives by hunting and eating other living organisms.

Carnivore

An animal that gets its energy from eating meat, and only meat. All predators are carnivores. Piscivores are carnivores that mainly eat fish.

Herbivore

An animal that gets its energy from eating plants, and only plants. Omnivores (creatures that eat meat and plants) can also eat parts of plants, but generally only the fruits and vegetables.

DINOS IN THE UK!



DIPPY ON TOUR

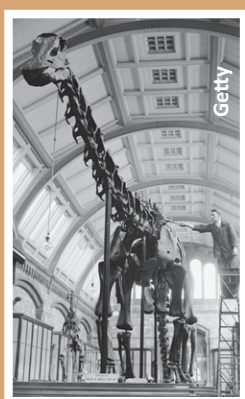
Dippy the *Diplodocus* is probably the UK's most famous dinosaur, known for standing tall in the Natural History Museum in London since 1905.

But Dippy has tired of the same old scene, and is off on a tour of the museums around Great Britain – making stops all over the UK over the next two years.

He'll start his adventure on the Jurassic Coast of Dorset. Visitors can find out about what lived in the seas there at the time Dippy was walking around on land in what's now the USA.

DIPPY FACTFILE

- Dippy is a recreation or 'cast' of a *Diplodocus* skeleton found in Wyoming, USA, way back in 1898. When railroad workers discovered the dino, newspaper headlines read that the "most colossal animal ever on Earth" had been discovered!
- Dippy is one of ten replicas of the original *Diplodocus carnegii* fossil. The others are in museums around the world, including Paris, Berlin, Vienna and Moscow.
- During World War 2, Dippy was disassembled and hidden in the basement to protect it from bombs dropped by the German air force.
- For many years, the *Diplodocus*' head pointed downwards and its tail rested on the ground. That was until new research in the 1960s revealed that the dinosaur's tail would have been held up, to balance its long and heavy neck.



SEE DIPPY HERE

- 1 Dorset County Museum
10 February – 7 May 2018
- 2 Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
26 May – 9 September 2018
- 3 Ulster Museum
28 September 2018 – 6 January 2019
- 4 Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, Glasgow
22 January – 5 May 2019
- 5 Great North Museum: Hancock, Newcastle upon Tyne
18 May – 6 October 2019
- 6 National Assembly for Wales
19 October 2019 – 26 January 2020
- 7 Number One Riverside, Rochdale
10 February – 28 June 2020
- 8 Norwich Cathedral 11 July – 31 October 2020



DINOSAURS IN THE WILD

Fancy heading back in time to see some dinosaurs yourself? You'll want to head to Greenwich in London then, since that's where a brand-new time machine is based.

In it, you'll travel back to the late Cretaceous period, where you'll find an assortment of dinosaurs.

You'll head to TimeBase 67, an incredible research station built in the past, where you'll meet time-travelling scientists who now study real, living dinosaurs instead of fossils. Tour their laboratories, watch them at

work and see incredible sights like young dinosaurs in cages, a dinosaur autopsy and chicks emerging from eggs. Ride across the Cretaceous plains through herds of huge dinosaurs like *Triceratops* and *Ankylosaurus*, then come eye-to-eye with an angry *Tyrannosaurus rex*! Find out more about Dinosaurs In The Wild at dinosaursinthewild.com.



DINO-MITE MUSEUMS

A few million years ago, the UK was home to hundreds of species. In fact, the very first dinosaur to be recorded scientifically was *Megalosaurus*, a large carnivorous dinosaur found in Oxfordshire! Nowadays, you'll have to head to one of Britain's many museums to see the dinosaurs that once made the British Isles their home.



- **DINOSAURLAND FOSSIL MUSEUM – Lyme Regis, Dorset.** Dinosaurland is filled to the brim with fossils and facts! There's everything from fossils of the fantastic four-flipped ichthyosaurs, to the tiniest microfossil.
- **DINOSAUR ISLE – Sandown, Isle of Wight.** Shaped like a giant pterosaur, the Dinosaur Isle museum has over 1,000 fossils – many of them from the Isle of Wight itself, which is thought to be one of the richest fossil areas in Europe!
- **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND – Edinburgh, Scotland.** Meet Dippy's much more frightening cousin – the full-sized cast of a *Tyrannosaurus rex* that can be found in the excellent National Museum of Scotland.

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BOOK DAY**
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THE UK'S
WIDEST-READ
PUBLICATION
FOR KIDS*

NEWS > SPORTS > ENTERTAINMENT > INTERVIEWS > PUZZLES > COMPETITIONS AND MORE

UNITED KIDS OF AMERICA

Students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School hold hands, united in their fight against gun crime



Teenage March For Our Lives organisers Emma González and Cameron Kasky

School students launch March For Our Lives campaign to demand adults take action after school shooting

by editor in chief Nicky Cox

YOUNG survivors of an American school shooting are planning a protest march on 24 March in the US capital, Washington.

They are demanding that President Donald Trump and politicians change American gun laws, which are different to the very strict rules in Britain. "We are losing our lives while the adults are playing around," says Cameron Kasky, who survived the attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida.

Cameron is one of a group of students who has set up March For Our Lives, saying they will no longer risk their lives waiting for adults to do something about America's gun problem.

They want kids to march with them in Washington or march in their own areas so that the collective voices of the United Kids of America will be heard.

The campaigners say: "Every kid in this country now goes to school wondering if this day might be their last. We live in fear.

"It doesn't have to be this way. Change is coming. And it starts now, inspired by and led by the kids

who are our hope for the future."

Student campaigner Emma González says: "These kids are going to make this difference because the adults let us down."

What happened at their school?

At least 17 people died and several other people were seriously injured when staff and pupils were shot at the school in Parkland, Florida, last week.

A 19-year-old, who used to go to the school, was arrested and said he carried out the shooting.

In America, almost every adult can own a gun. That's because when the USA was founded, the right to buy and carry a gun was written into the constitution; a list of a country's rules.

The only reasons that someone might not be allowed to have a gun is if they are a criminal, have a mental health illness or if they are not American.

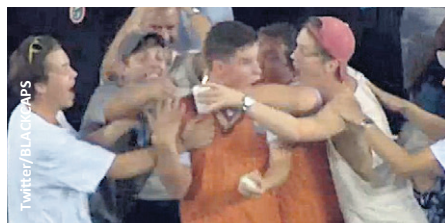
Meanwhile, the UK has some of the strictest gun laws in the world. A person here has to have a very good reason to have a gun – and the police have to agree to give you a licence. Certain guns are completely against the law and there are also much stricter checks before a person is allowed to have a gun, to make sure that they are not dangerous.

Many believe that strict rules like this are why mass shootings, like the one in Florida, are extremely rare in the UK. Every time there is a serious attack in America involving guns, arguments about the country's gun laws start up.

US President Donald Trump has said he supports gun owners' rights. But, even if he changed his mind and agreed with the students that gun rules should be changed, he couldn't act alone. He would need other politicians to agree. But, is this the time for change – led by the United Kids of America?

1 LUCKY CATCH

A cricket fan bagged himself a whopping £26,000 when he managed an impressive one-handed catch! Student Mitch Grimstone caught the ball with his left hand while sitting in the stands at the Twenty20 match between New Zealand and Australia.



2 NEW SERIES

BBC One has announced plans for a new David Attenborough wildlife series this year. The show will be called *Dynasty* and will follow a different animal each week during a critical point in its life. *Dynasty* has apparently taken four years to make. We already can't wait!



3 THUMB THEFT

A thumb from a famous terracotta warrior statue was stolen in the US. The statue is on loan from China and on display at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. Chinese authorities have asked for the thief to receive a "severe punishment."

4 LOSING MAGIC

Children's author Judith Kerr, famous for her book *The Tiger Who Came To Tea*, says phones are taking the magic out of life. And it's not just children she's worried about! Kerr said she's actually more concerned that adults are missing out, saying she sometimes feels that if a tiger was rushing along the road, only she would see it because no-one else is looking!

5 SPENDING HABITS

Girls start spending more than boys as they enter their teens, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) says. This is due mainly to girls choosing more expensive shampoo and make-up. The findings also showed that teenagers are spending less than they used to.

6 FOOD FIBBERS

Apparently we all eat a lot more than we say we do! New research says Britons are eating 50% more food than we admit, and that we're going over our recommended health limits.

7 ARTISTIC ANCESTORS

Scientists have found major evidence to suggest Neanderthals created the world's oldest known cave paintings, not modern humans. A new study by the University of Southampton and the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology shows that paintings in three caves in Spain are a whopping 64,000 years old!



20

THINGS TO KNOW AND TELL

QUICK NEWS TO READ YOURSELF
AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS...

8 POLL RESULTS

A scene in the new family film *Peter Rabbit* has caused upset among social media users. They say it shows some of the characters "bullying" another character over a fruit allergy. We asked you if you thought the scene was an example of bullying. 68% of you said YES.

Yes!

"I think this is a sign of bullying because this scene is inconsiderate to everyone with an allergy," says First News Live user!, piano10.

"I think this is really bad as why would you throw things at someone who has an allergy just for fun!! Imagine you having those problems," says First News Live user!, afsh.

9 CARING COLLEAGUES

A group of UPS employees joined together to buy their colleague a car, after they discovered he was walking 11 miles a day to get to work! Trenton Lewis walked for more than three hours every night to get to his job, to help provide for his daughter. When his co-workers found out about it, they each put money in to pay for a car.



10 TINY EARTHQUAKE

Last weekend, a small earthquake hit parts of Wales and England. The earthquake had a magnitude of just 4.4, which is pretty small. Thankfully, there was no damage and no-one was hurt. It's rare for the UK to experience a magnitude 4 earthquake – we only get one every two years.

11 PLASTIC BAN

Glastonbury Festival plans to ban all plastic bottles when it returns in 2019. The famous festival introduced stainless steel reusable bottles in 2014.

12 SLEEPOUT

Today (23 February), people will be taking part in a sponsored sleepout in Cambridge. The event aims to raise awareness about the millions of children surviving on the streets around the world, as well as helping to raise money for Street Child United.

13 CYBER BLAME

Britain has blamed the Russian military for causing a serious cyber-attack that cost businesses millions of pounds.

14 OLD NOTES

From 1 March, old paper £10 notes won't be accepted in UK shops. They will be replaced completely by the polymer versions featuring Jane Austen.

15 WOODEN SKYSCRAPER

A Japanese company is planning to build the world's tallest wooden skyscraper! Sumitomo Forestry wants to build the unique structure to mark its 350th anniversary in 2041. The company says 10% of the 70-storey tower would be steel, combined with about 180,000 cubic metres of wood. The estimated cost is about 600bn yen (that's roughly £4bn!).

16 TREE TRAGEDY

An ancient oak tree marking the border between England and Wales has fallen down. The Butington Oak was at least 1,000 years old and marked the boundary along Offa's Dyke. It was believed to be the second-largest tree in Wales.

17 CHEAP HISTORY

To celebrate the Year Of Young People 2018, historic sites across Scotland are lowering their drawbridges and opening their gates to young people for just £1! Historic Environment Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland and the Historic Houses Association are working with Young Scot to offer kids access to more than 100 amazing historic places for a pound with a Young Scot card.

18 CHICKEN SHORTAGE

KFC had to close some of its restaurants because it ran out of chicken! The famous chicken brand said the problem was caused by switching to a new delivery system, and joked that the Colonel (the chain's mascot) was getting it fixed.

19 20TH B'DAY

The Angel Of The North is celebrating its 20th birthday this year!



The famous sculpture was created by Antony Gormley OBE back in 1998, and is now one of the world's most viewed pieces of art.

20 YOU'RE FIRED

UKIP members voted to sack leader Henry Bolton, following racist messages sent by his partner.

THE SHAME OF OXFAM



by editor in chief Nicky Cox

IT'S been a bad time for charities.

International aid organisation Oxfam has been accused of covering up bad behaviour by some of its staff.

Last week, it was revealed that aid workers abused women in Haiti when they were supposed to be helping after a huge earthquake there in 2010. Although the staff left Oxfam, the charity is being criticised for not calling in the police at the time.

There have also been reports of harassment towards women in Oxfam's high-street shops.

Save The Children has also admitted firing 16 staff over complaints that they had behaved badly towards women.

Now, it is important for the charities to build up trust again. They are given money by the Government to fund their work helping people in need. The Government spent £13.4bn on foreign aid last year, much of which is given to charities for their work.

On Monday, Prime Minister Theresa May said the behaviour of some charity workers "is far below the standards that we expect".

Charities also rely on donations from the public for their life-saving work, often in the poorest parts of the world.

It's reported that Oxfam has already lost 1,200 regular transfers of money from people's banks. The charity

needs to remind people why they support it. To help with this, Oxfam has announced a plan to improve the ways it keeps people safe, and to stamp out any abuse. It will be working with the Government, Charity Commission, women's rights groups and other charity organisations.

Oxfam International Executive Director Winnie Byanyima said: "What happened in Haiti and afterwards is a stain on Oxfam that will shame us for years, and rightly so. In my language: 'Okuruga ahamutima gwangye, mutusaasire.' It means: 'From the bottom of my heart I am asking for forgiveness.'"

Editor's comment



Nicky Cox MBE

ALL of us at First News send love and support to the kids of America (front page).

We are completely behind them in their efforts to get adults to face up to America's gun problem and change the law on gun ownership.

President Donald Trump says guns are not the problem. He says attacks like the one on a Florida school are a mental health problem instead. The fact is that around 1,300 children are shot dead in the US every year. This compares to around 20 people of all ages in the UK, where gun laws are much tougher... Mr President?

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BATTLE OVER ANIMAL RIGHTS



Jeremy Corbyn and a four-legged friend he made in Great Yarmouth

THE Labour Party has revealed a long list of its plans to improve animal welfare in the UK.

The Government has also been trying to win the public's hearts with their plans, but "Labour is the party of animal welfare", according to a document the Labour Party released last week.

Among Labour's plans are an end to badger culling, ending the use of cages on British farms, and a ban on the import of foie gras. Foie gras is a traditional French pâté made from goose or duck liver. It is often made by force-feeding birds until their liver expands, and is widely seen as outdated and cruel.

Labour also want to make microchips mandatory for cats as well as dogs, and to make it illegal for drivers not to report hitting a cat.

Good week for...

The environment

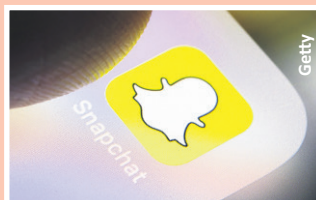
Scotland could become the first country in Europe to ditch plastic straws, after Environment Secretary Roseanna Cunningham said that a ban could be in place as early as next year. However, some disability groups say that the campaign to ban straws hasn't taken into account some health conditions, as some disabled people can't use alternatives to plastic straws.



Bad week for...

Snapchat

A million people have signed a petition asking for the old version of the Snapchat app to be brought back. Many people say that the new layout is harder to use, although Snapchat say that the changes were designed to separate content that's posted by your friends from content by celebs and other creators.



TRAVEL FREE IN GERMANY

GERMANY'S government could take the bold step of making public transport free, in a bid to get more cars off the road and reduce pollution.

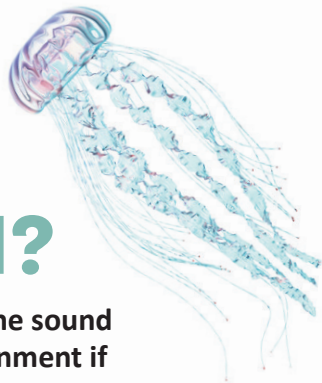
The government has proposed testing the idea in Bonn, Essen, Reutlingen, Mannheim and Herrenberg. Like many countries, Germany has a pretty big problem with air pollution.

The plan is still in the early stages, so no-one is quite sure how the plan will be funded. Germany also has a large and successful car industry, which would take a very big hit if people were encouraged to take public transport instead.



Greenpeace activists in Stuttgart protesting for the right to clean air

WOULD YOU EAT JELLYFISH?



ALTHOUGH you might not like the sound of it, it'd be better for the environment if we all started crunching on jellyfish crisps at lunchtime!

A combination of warming ocean temperatures and an overfishing of key predators has meant that the number of jellyfish in our seas has grown massively in recent years.

Huge swarms of them have been known to clog up and shut down power stations, and more people than ever before are getting stung. But what can be done?

Some Italian scientists think they know the answer. "There's no way to get rid of jellyfish blooms," Stefano Piraino, one of the scientists, explained, "but it's worth transforming a problem into an opportunity."

Stefano is part of GoJelly, a team of researchers looking into how these growing numbers of jellyfish can help humanity.

One way that GoJelly believe that jellyfish can be used, is if we started eating them! They're already a delicacy in Asia, but we should apparently start eating them over here, too!

POLL OF THE WEEK

Would you eat a meal made from jellyfish?
first.news/polls

KIDS IN CONFLICT ZONES



ONE in every six children are living in a global conflict zone, says Save The Children.

A new report from the charity found that more than 350 million children are at risk from violence and even death because of where they live.

The most dangerous places for children are Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia, where there is lots of armed fighting.

Children in the Middle East are most likely to live in a conflict zone, followed by Africa.

There are now more children at risk from armed conflict than there were 20 years ago, says the charity. They add that this is down to many reasons, including longer-running conflicts, increased fighting in towns and cities, and attacks on hospitals and schools.

UK TEACHER IN WORLD'S TOP 10



by Hannah Timson

A TEACHER from north London has made it to the final ten of this year's Global Teacher Prize competition and could win \$1,000,000!

Andria Zafirakou is an art and textiles teacher from Alperton Community School in Brent. She was nominated for all her work helping pupils from different backgrounds and ethnicities.

Andria goes above and beyond her teaching role, working with families and setting up clubs and societies to keep children off the streets. She has even learned how to say basic greetings in many of the 35 languages spoken by her various pupils.

The school where Andria teaches is in a very poor area that is often targeted by gangs, and she makes it her priority to keep the children safe.

The top ten shortlist for the prize, organised by the Varkey Foundation, was announced by Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates.

The finalists were chosen from 30,000 nominations from 173 countries. Other teachers to make it to the final come from schools in Brazil, Australia and South Africa.

All of the finalists will be invited to Dubai for the award ceremony at the Global Education & Skills Forum on Sunday 18 March. The winner will get a whopping \$1m (£720,000) prize.

Keep your eyes glued to First News for the winning teacher, coming soon!

PM TO LOOK AT UNI FEES

PRIME Minister Theresa May will be taking a closer look at university tuition fees over the next year, calling for better value for students in England.

If you decide to continue education once you leave school at 18, you need to pay a large fee.

University tuition fees made headlines this week after the Prime Minister launched a review into post-18 education.

Lots of young people were disappointed to hear that the Prime Minister had no plans to abolish tuition fees altogether.

Mrs May said that such a decision would mean pushing up taxes and limiting the number of university places on offer to young people seeking a further education.



Although the Prime Minister said that she believed students "who benefit directly from higher education should contribute directly towards the cost of it", she did admit that there are "issues" with university fees in England. Mrs May said that students in England face "one of the most expensive systems of university tuition in the world" and that "the level of fees charged do not relate to the cost or quality of the course".

The PM has called for better value for students in England and promised that university fees (the maximum right now is £9,250 per year) will not rise at any point during her year-long review.



Getty

NANTONG, CHINA: A farmer harvests cress in eastern China. Farmers in China are particularly busy as they prepare for the Spring Festival holiday.



Getty

LONDON, UK: Prince Harry visits a Fit And Fed school holiday activity programme at the Roundwood Youth Centre. The Fit And Fed campaign aims to provide children and young people with free access to activity sessions and a nutritious lunch during school holidays.



Getty

KALUGA, RUSSIA: Spectators watch the burning of a 30m structure built of twigs and debris during the celebration of Maslenitsa, which is an ancient ceremony to say farewell to winter.



Getty

YORK, UK: People representing the rival armies of the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons prepare to march through York during the Jorvik Viking Festival.



The Royal Mint

UK: The Royal Mint has unveiled a new set of coloured 50p coins featuring characters from Beatrix Potter's Peter Rabbit series. The coins feature four new designs with images of Peter Rabbit, Flopsy Bunny, Mrs Tittlemouse and a helpful mouse from the Tailor of Gloucester. Uncoloured regular 50p coins featuring the designs will also be released into general circulation.



Getty

MADRID, SPAIN: People take part in a parade to mark the Lunar New Year or Spring Festival. The Chinese Lunar New Year, the Year Of The Dog, began on 16 February 2018 and ends on 4 February 2019.

UK

Pug teacher

A virtual reality pug is helping young British schoolchildren learn how to speak Mandarin Chinese. Dumpling the dog encourages pupils to try out basic Mandarin, the most spoken language in the world, by responding to voice commands via an interactive website. The British Council created the website for the Year Of The Dog.

INVERNESS Movie treat

Film studio Twentieth Century Fox has offered to pay for a whole school to go on a trip to the cinema to see *The Greatest Showman*. The film's star, Hugh Jackman, had praised Drakies Primary School for using *This Is Me*, a song from the film, during an assembly to celebrate diversity. Jackman retweeted a video showing pupils singing along to the song and wrote a message to the children and staff.



TYNE & WEAR

Elephants on parade

St Oswald's Hospice has announced a new free public art trail that will take place across the Northeast next summer. The trail will feature sculptures of children's book character Elmer the elephant. Elmer's Great North Parade will take place over ten weeks from August 2019. Then the sculptures will be auctioned off to raise money for the children's hospice.



WALES

Circus animal ban

The Welsh Government has confirmed its plan to bring forward a law that bans the use of wild animals in circuses. Circus animals are kept in cramped conditions, and are forced to train and travel. For the last ten years, the RSPCA has led a campaign against wild animals being used in circuses. A poll shows 74% of people in Wales support the ban.



ENGLAND

Time for times tables

More than 7,000 pupils in Year 4 at 290 primary schools in England will take part in a trial of a new times tables test this spring. The Department for Education says the five-minute test will identify children who are struggling, but some teachers are concerned that primary school children already sit lots of tests.

NEWS IN NUMBERS



19 tonnes of ex-Christmas tree woodchip has been donated to London Zoo from Xmas tree company Pines And Needles. The woodchip is being put to use by Aziza and Pig in the warhogs' enclosure.

DEVON Blue zoo baby

Paignton Zoo has bred a species of blue frog for the first time. The blue poison dart frog is usually found in the forests of southern Suriname and northern Brazil. Its bright blue skin warns off predators and it releases poisonous substances that can paralyse or even kill a predator.



LONDON

Superhero takeover

A new family adventure is coming to ZSL London Zoo, celebrating animals and their superpowers! Find out why lemurs let off stink bombs, discover how the mysterious axolotl regrows its limbs or pit yourself against one of the world's strongest species – the leafcutter ant.

LONDON

Bomb discovery

London City Airport was closed when an unexploded Second World War bomb was found nearby. The 500kg device was discovered 15m underwater at King George V Dock in East London. Residents were evacuated while the bomb was safely removed by the Royal Navy and Metropolitan Police.

62 is the age of a retired teacher who has become the oldest woman to row across the Atlantic Ocean. Di Carrington from Shropshire rowed 3,000 miles alongside Elaine Theaker and Sharon Magrath. They've also become the only female trio to row the Atlantic.

60 house fires happen every week in the UK due to faulty white goods (i.e. fridges, washing machines and tumble dryers), according to consumer group Which?

60 dogs are stolen every week in the UK, show police figures from 2016. Research from the Stolen And Missing Pets Alliance also reveals that the number of pets stolen over the last three years has gone up by nearly 24%. Theft of a dog carries a maximum sentence of seven years in prison.

THE BIG PICTURE

WHATEVER the view is like from your playground, we're pretty sure that you've never seen anything quite like this.

This is the sight that greeted pupils on Monday morning at Sipandak elementary school in Tiga Pancur, on the island of Sumatra in Indonesia. The spectacle was caused by Mount Sinabung spewing enormous clouds of volcanic ash high into the atmosphere.

Until 2010, the volcano had been dormant (not active) for more than 400 years, but it has erupted several times in recent years.

USA**"Russia messed with our election"**

Robert Mueller, the man investigating Russia's influence on the 2016 US presidential election, has officially charged 13 Russians and three Russian internet companies with 'conspiracy to defraud the United States'. It's unlikely that the accused people will appear in a US court. But, if any of them visit the US or a country friendly with America, they could be arrested. A spokesperson for Russia's Foreign Ministry said that the charges were "absurd". Donald Trump responded in a tweet, saying that: "Russia started their anti-US campaign in 2014, long before I announced that I would run for President".

SWEDEN**Strapped for cash?**

A man begging for money was found by police to have six million krona (£540,000) in cash stashed away in his pockets! The cash was found after police were called to calm the man down, after he became aggressive when people refused to give him their change. He was arrested, but as *First News* went to press there were no details on why the man had so much cash on him or where it came from.

**IRAN****Passenger plane crash**

A plane travelling from Tehran to Yasuj crashed at the weekend. All 66 people on board are presumed to be dead, but as *First News* went to press this hadn't been confirmed. Search and rescue teams were sent to investigate the crash, but bad weather made the job difficult. Iran has struggled to find spare parts for its old planes, due to sanctions (restrictions) placed on it by other countries. If you're ever scared by the news, head to first.news/worries.

CHINA**War on global warming**

China has taken 60,000 soldiers off patrol and got them planting trees instead! This year, the country plans to plant new forests across an area roughly the size of Ireland, in an attempt to fight the smog and pollution that cover Beijing and parts of northern China.



£

**FRANCE****National service**

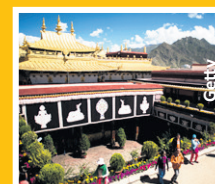
President Emmanuel Macron wants to create a 'national service' for France's young people. Details are vague, but it's thought that the programme would mean that all young people would have to spend a month working for their country and the army, although it's unclear how. Many of Macron's critics say the plan will be too expensive and difficult to put in place.

**SOUTH AFRICA****President Zuma resigns**

President Zuma has formally resigned after his party, the African National Congress (ANC), said he was corrupt and threatened to force him to leave his position. On television, he said he disagreed with the ANC's decision, but would quit immediately. Zuma's deputy, Cyril Ramaphosa, is the leader of the ANC and has taken over the job of president already.

**TIBET****Holy temple damaged in fire**

Smoke was spotted rising from Tibet's Jokhang temple last weekend, causing damage to the roof of one of Buddhism's holiest sites. As *First News* went to press, details on the damage were limited, as Chinese authorities rarely let journalists into the region and stopped mentions of the fire online.

**OUR WORLD**

- **Name:** Carmen
- **Age:** 15
- **Lives:** Peru

FROM a very young age, Carmen showed great ability in gymnastics – a talent that could one day see her competing internationally. Sadly, growing up in a large family in Peru, she experienced a life of poverty and lack of opportunity.

One day, her mother heard that a local Compassion project was opening, and had Carmen enrolled immediately. With the support of Compassion, Carmen has been able to practise gymnastics with leading coaches in Peru and may qualify to compete at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

Carmen is an amazing and humble young girl who wants to achieve amazing things that will, in turn, give her family opportunities they have never had.

Visit www.compassionUK.org to find out more.

Compassion®

IT'S WORLD BOOK DAY!

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

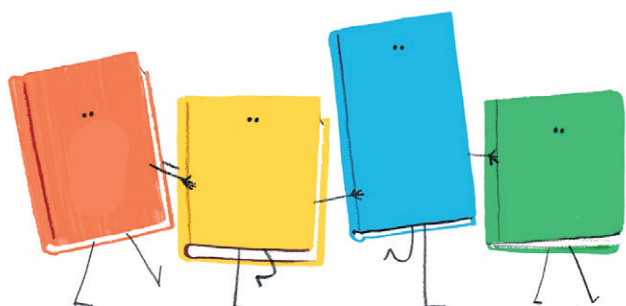
1 MARCH 2018

HERE at First News we can't wait for World Book Day, a day when we get to celebrate the world of literature, the authors who write our favourite books and the characters who can be found within them. We've already got our character costumes on!

What is World Book Day?

World Book Day is a charity event that's held every year. It is always celebrated on the first Thursday in March. It is organised by UNESCO to promote reading, especially among the world's young people.

The day is a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and, most importantly, the readers – that's you! It is marked in more than 100 countries across the world, and many schools let pupils dress up as their favourite characters. Are you dressing up this World Book Day?

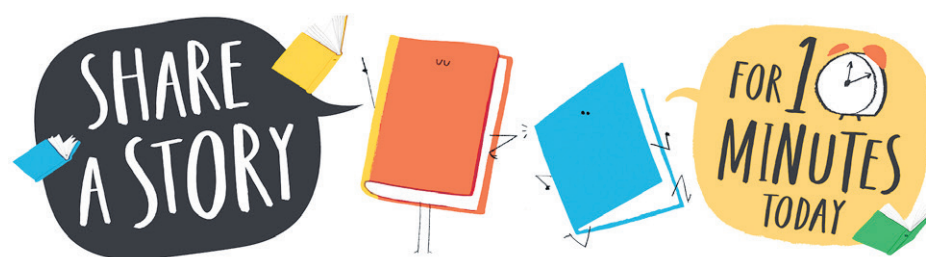


National Book Tokens

National Book Tokens are distributing more than 15 million £1 World Book Day book tokens to children and young people this year. This means you can go to your local book shop and swap the tokens for one of ten exclusive £1 World Book Day books, or get a £1 discount on any book you like!

For the full list of exclusive £1 books, as well as the full novels available for £2.50 (or £1.50 if you spend your book token on it!), head to the link below:

WORLDBOOKDAY.COM/BOOKS



Reading on your own can be a ton of fun. That feeling, when you're really enjoying a book... time can just fly as you speed through page after page, desperate to find out what's going to happen. It's the best!

Because of that, it's easy to think that reading is an activity that you do by yourself but, really, that's not the case! This World Book Day, you're invited to take part in a nationwide event called Share A Story.

The idea is that this World Book Day, we all try to read together. You could ask a parent, guardian or sibling to read to you – or, if you like, you could read to them! Or, if you'd rather, why not read a book alongside someone? Every time you finish a chapter, you could talk about what you think is going to happen next!

However you decide to Share A Story this World Book Day, you should know that just sharing that experience with someone else is making you a better reader!



KEY DIARY DATES

● NATIONAL TOAST DAY

Friday 23 February

Crumbs! It's National Toast Day today! Today is a day that's bread-icated (sorry) to the best thing since sliced bread – which is sliced bread that's been toasted! How do you like yours?

● SAMSUNG GALAXY UNPACKED

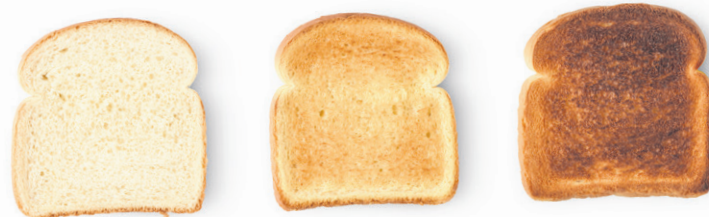
Sunday 25 February

Phone fans, get ready. This weekend, Samsung will be unveiling the latest model of their flagship phone, the Samsung Galaxy S9.

● INTERNATIONAL POLAR BEAR DAY

Tuesday 27 February

Our polar bear pals need help. Facing a warming climate, their natural habitat is being destroyed and their numbers are declining. That's why Polar Bears International is holding International Polar Bear Day, a global event that draws attention to the challenges that these handsome animals face.



This report is from our friends at the Science Museum, part of the Science Museum Group.

SCIENCE
MUSEUM
GROUP

LIFE'S SECRET

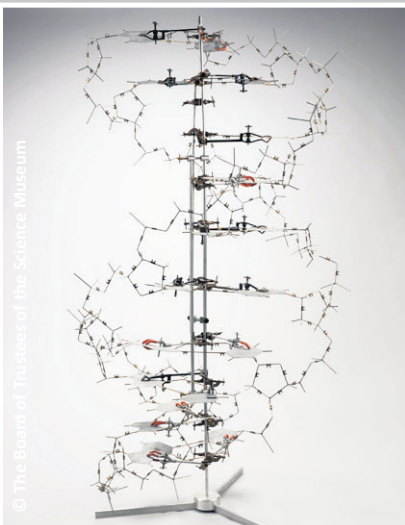
THIS week in 1953, Francis Crick and James D Watson first announced to friends that they had “found the secret of life”: the chemical structure of DNA.

Your DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) carries your genetic information in cells in the body.

The scientists officially published their findings in April that year, describing two strands that coil together to form the double helix structure of DNA.

They made their discovery with the help of work by physicist Maurice Wilkins and Rosalind Franklin, an X-ray crystallographer, and were awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology in 1962.

A reconstruction of Crick and Watson's DNA molecular model is on display at the Science Museum and uses many of the original metal plates.



DID YOU
KNOW?

TECH company Intel has unveiled new hands-free smart glasses called Vaunt that look just like ordinary spectacles. The Vaunt specs sync with a smartphone via Bluetooth. They respond to voice commands and can display notifications of text messages and calls, and provide information that appears only when the user looks downwards.



A Matabele ant grooming an injured nest-mate who lost part of a leg in a fight with a termite

Erik T Frank

ANT DOCTORS!

by Eddie de Oliveira

UNTIL now, it was thought that humans were the only species to rescue injured individuals and nurse them back to health.

That all changed last week, when an extraordinary report was published in *Proceedings Of The Royal Society B*. It reveals that African Matabele ants will lick their nest-mates' wounds, which seems to help the injured ants to survive.

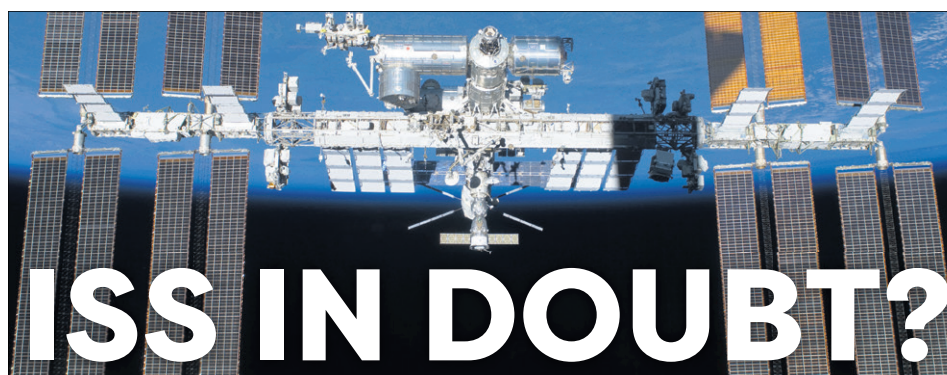
Last year, it was shown that Matabele ants will carry injured ants back to their nest. This species regularly goes out in force to raid termite nests, so injuries such as severed legs are very common in battle.

Now, scientists at the University of Würzburg in Germany have followed this up with the discovery that the injured ants are 'nursed' in the nest. An ant's injured limb is held up, so that a healthy ant can lick its wound. This 'nursing' goes on for up to four minutes at a time.

"We suppose that they do this to clean the wounds and maybe even apply antimicrobial substances with their saliva," says Erik T Frank.

The study showed that if injured ants weren't rescued, around 80% of them would die. This dropped to just 10% if the ants were taken back to the nest to be treated.

The scientists say that this discovery opens up lots more questions, such as how the ants know where the injury is and when to stop treating it. They're also not sure if the licking just prevents disease, or whether it also improves the health of the injured ants and helps them recover.



NASA

ISS IN DOUBT?

THE future of the International Space Station (ISS) is uncertain, after US President Donald Trump said he wants to end funding for it by 2025.

US government funding for the ISS is secured up until 2024. Mr Trump wants private companies to take over the running of the ISS, which launched in 1998 and has been lived in by more than 200 people, including British astronaut Tim Peake. The station is home to vital scientific research that will help future space missions, as well as making advancements in medical and other research on Earth.

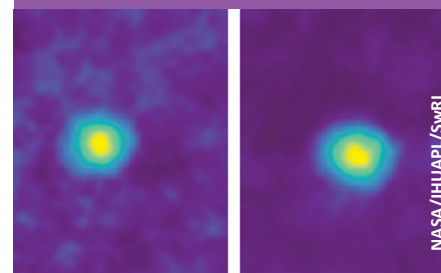
There has been strong criticism of Trump's plans from opposition politicians.



DID YOU
KNOW?

EXPERTS studying images from NASA's Kepler space telescope have confirmed the existence of another 95 exoplanets (planets outside our solar system). The first exoplanet was spotted in 1995, but more than 3,600 are now known.

FAR, FAR AWAY



NASA/JHUAPL/SwRI

NASA'S New Horizons spacecraft has snapped photos further away from Earth than any other craft.

The record-breaking pictures (above) were taken by the Long Range Reconnaissance Imager (LORRI) on board New Horizons, which has been travelling through space since 2006. It is only the fifth craft to travel beyond the outer planets of our solar system.

The snaps taken by LORRI are of two Kuiper Belt Objects (KBOs). These are found in the Kuiper Belt, a doughnut-shaped region of space filled with thousands of icy worlds and comets. It is far away from Earth, beyond the orbit of Neptune. New Horizons was 6.12 billion kilometres (3.79 billion miles) from Earth when it took the pictures, which is a new record.

The objects have been named KBOs 2012 HZ84 (above, left) and 2012 HE85 (right).

Previously, the image taken farthest away from home was a famous photo of Earth nicknamed the Pale Blue Dot, which was taken by NASA's Voyager 1 in 1990. Voyager 1 was 6.06 billion kilometres (3.75 billion miles) away from Earth at the time.

THE BEST SCHOOL TRIP EVER!

GET hands-on with history this term! English Heritage has more than 400 sites, where you and your class can crack codes, learn about artefacts, dress up and meet characters from the past! Study Neolithic life at Stonehenge, explore the place that was once home to Queen Victoria at Osborne, or even stand on the battlefield of 1066 at Battle Abbey.

How was food cooked and eaten in Roman times? What was life like for a Victorian servant? How did they attack and defend a medieval castle? See the places where history happened and bring the classroom outdoors!



Why not take part in one of our Discovery Visit workshops? They're interactive, fun and hands-on. Best of all, our site experts lead them and cater for all different groups. Follow in the footsteps of kings and queens, meet characters from the past and discover some weird and wonderful treasures!

FOR TEACHERS

Enquire today:

- Book online: www.english-heritage.org.uk/educationonlinebooking
- Call: 0370 333 0606
- Email: bookeducation@english-heritage.org.uk



ENGLISH HERITAGE
EDUCATION

For more information, ask your teacher to visit:
www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/school-visits

WIN! A MONSTER FAMILY GOODIE BAG

MONSTER Family is an original family comedy that follows the lives of the unhappy Wishbone clan. Frank, Emma and their kids, Max and Fay, are under pressure and constantly at each other's throats.

When they are cursed by an evil witch and transformed into their own monstrous party costumes, they must pull together to battle real-life beasts, reverse the curse and prove that even a vampire, a mummy, a werewolf and Frankenstein's monster can eventually form one big happy family.

When the Wishbones snap, only love can stitch them back together... Watch a **Monster Family** become human again in 2018.

To celebrate the release of **Monster Family**, we have ten **Monster Family** goodie bags up for grabs.

To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

What are vampires said to be afraid of?
a) Roses b) Oranges
c) Garlic

Monster Family is in cinemas and on Sky Cinema from 2 March

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY MONSTER

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 21. The closing date is 8 March 2018.



DON'T MISS AN ISSUE IN 2018!



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CHECK out this little cutie. This beluga whale has found a new home at SeaWorld San Antonio after being found stranded when he was just one month old.

Tyonek is the first ever beluga whale from Cook Inlet, Alaska, to be successfully rescued and rehabilitated after he was discovered last September. He has found a new home now at SeaWorld San Antonio, where they have nine beluga whales.



SAVING SEAHORSES

AN endangered seahorse colony in Dorset is under threat from a bid to drill for oil.

Proposals to drill an exploratory well six kilometres off the Studland coast are being considered by the Government.

The Seahorse Trust is against the move, as it says the site sits slap bang in the middle of a known seahorse habitat. In fact, it feels this region is the most important area for seahorses in the UK. According to the Dorset Wildlife Trust, Studland Bay is the only site in the UK where both spiny and short-snouted seahorses breed.



LET BIRDS BE BIRDS



PRETTY soon you should start seeing baby birds out and about, but the RSPCA is urging everyone to leave these youngsters alone.

The wildlife charity get lots of calls every year from people worried about chicks they fear have been abandoned. The usual advice is to leave them alone. This precarious period when birds first leave the nest may look scary, but is all part of the process of a young bird learning to survive on its own. Parents rarely abandon their chicks so, although you may not be able to see the mum or dad, they will always be close by and are likely to return.

However, if you do see a chick with very few feathers, it may have fallen out of the nest. If it looks like it's in trouble, then you can contact the RSPCA.



COUNTING SHARKS

NEW research has revealed that there are about 5,500 great white sharks in the water off Australia's east coast.

Researchers from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation have been able to use special genetic analysis for the first time to estimate the population of the sharks. Up until now it has been hard to get information about adult great white sharks because they are hard to find and tag. But this breakthrough means scientists can estimate shark numbers without having to catch or even see them.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

FROM 26 February to 11 March, it's Fairtrade Fortnight. People across the world will join together to support the farmers and workers who grow our food. Read on to find out more...



GROWING BANANAS

Bananas are grown both on small family farms and much larger commercial plantations. The banana industry provides employment for thousands of people in Latin America, the Caribbean, Southeast Asia and West Africa.

Workers in the banana industry often work for low wages, with no job security, and they handle unhealthy and environmentally hazardous chemicals without proper protection.

Smallholder farmers who rely on growing bananas to make a living face many difficulties. These include the rising costs of production and the severe impacts of changing climate, which make production unpredictable and unsustainable. Fairtrade ensures that farmers and workers have a right to safe working conditions and improved incomes.



WHY NOT FUNDRAISE FOR FAIRTRADE?

You can support Fairtrade farmers by having a bake sale or cake stall using Fairtrade ingredients, as a fundraiser. You can also try quizzes, walkathons, or dress-up days with bananas and other Fairtrade-themed outfits! Money raised will support farmers to fight for a fairer deal so they can break out of poverty. You can order your free fundraising donation box from our website at www.fairtrade.org.uk. Simply fold it together and encourage people to donate at your stall.



Patrick, a tea producer from Kenya, speaking at Holly Trees Primary School in Brentwood

WHAT IS FAIRTRADE?

That's where Fairtrade comes in. Fairtrade means a fairer deal for farmers and a ban on using children as workers. When you choose Fairtrade, it means that the farmers who grow the things you love to eat, drink and wear can also feed the people they care about. They can invest income from Fairtrade in their children's education and local environmental projects.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

This Fairtrade Fortnight, people of all ages will be helping farmers around the world by choosing chocolate and other products, like fruit, sweets and drinks, with the Fairtrade mark on them.

When you see the Fairtrade logo, you know that farmers have been given a fair price for their work.

You can make an even bigger impact by persuading your teachers to make your school Fairtrade. There are nearly 1,000 Fairtrade schools in the UK and we have loads of games and activities you can try with your classes. This means that students up and down the country can learn, and do more, about food fairness.



MARCIAL'S STORY



Marcial Quintero is a member of Coobana, a Fairtrade banana co-operative in Panama.

"Before joining Fairtrade we didn't see any benefits, development or profit. The price we used to receive per box wasn't enough to cover our costs – and for 17 years the price didn't change. Since starting with Fairtrade it's made a mega-revolution in our lives." Since becoming a Fairtrade co-operative, Marcial and members of Coobana have been able to improve

their homes and living conditions. Marcial moved into a new home with his family five months ago.

Together we're stronger, and more people choosing, sharing and shouting about Fairtrade in the UK means more power to producers like Marcial.

THIS WEEK

1 Rihanna has convinced the French President to give £180 million to a charity that aims to get more children into school around the world. The singer is an ambassador for the Global Partnership For Education, which helps to pay for education projects in underprivileged countries.



Getty

2 Ariana Grande has been named 'Hero of the year' for 2017 at the NME Awards. The singer was recognised for her actions after the terror attack at one of her concerts in Manchester last year. Ariana organised the One Love Manchester concert and raised lots of money for the survivors and families of those who lost their lives.

3 Disney has confirmed that a third *Descendants* film is in the works. The news was revealed in a mysterious clip on Disney Channel, where Mal (daughter of Maleficent) hints at a new villain character – her dad! Stars Dove Cameron, Cameron Boyce, Sofia Carson, Booboo Stewart, Mitchell Hope and China Anne McClain are all reprising their wicked roles. *Descendants 3* will begin production this summer and appear on Disney Channel in 2019.



Disney Channel

4 *Strictly Ballroom The Musical*, based on the *Strictly Ballroom* film, is coming to London's West End. The show, starring *Strictly Come Dancing*'s Will Young, will kick off on 29 March at the Piccadilly Theatre.

5 Do you remember Unikitty from *The LEGO Movie*? Well, she's getting her own TV show! The animated series kicks off at 6.30pm, 5 March on Cartoon Network.

PIC OF THE WEEK

THE Duke and Duchess of Cambridge walk the red carpet at last weekend's BAFTAs in London. The annual ceremony honours the best British and international contributions to film.



Getty

BRILLIANT

THURSDAY 1 March is World Book Day. To celebrate, we asked some of our top authors about the books they'd like to dress up as for the event!



DAHL DELIGHT

"My favourite book was Roald Dahl's *George's Marvellous Medicine*. I loved how brave and resilient George was when faced with his mean old granny."

Nadiya Hussain



FUNNY FOX

"My favourite book of all time is *Fantastic Mr Fox*."

Dermot O'Leary



SPELLBINDING STORY

"My favourite book of all time is *Harry Potter And The Philosopher's Stone*."

Tom Fletcher



HORSING AROUND

"My favourite book of all time is *Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell."

Clare Balding



AWESOME OGRE

"*The Ogre Downstairs* was a sort of turning point for me in realising how wonderful books could be. It mixes magic and reality in such a brilliant way that the magic feels very real."

Cressida Cowell

DEAR DIARY

"One of my favourite characters is Adrian Mole – I love his life and withering comments are brilliant; read them! C.S. Lewis is a genius."

Liz Pichon

BACKSTAGE PASS

TAKE a sneak peek behind the scenes of the *X Factor* Tour.



The stars of last year's *X Factor* have reunited as they get ready to hit the road with the show's tour. Winners Rak-Su were joined by Grace Davies, Kevin Davy White, Lloyd Macey, The Cutkelvins, Matt Linnen and wildcard Sean and Conor Price for rehearsals.



Gyco/Rahul Bhatt



BOOKS

about their favourite children's books – and which characters

COOL COSTUMES

WHICH literary character would you dress up as for World Book Day?

DERMOT O'LEARY: Fantastic Mr Fox.

TOM FLETCHER: I would stay in bed, but tell people I went dressed as Harry Potter under his invisibility cloak.

CRESSIDA COWELL: I'd dress up as Peter Pan.

NADIYA HUSSAIN: I'd love to dress up as

Mr Panda from *Please Mr Panda* on World Book Day. I'd get to carry a tray of yummy doughnuts around all day and make sure people were remembering their pleases and thank yous!

LIZ PICHON: I'd dress up as Mary Poppins.

Who wouldn't want to wear a jaunty hat and carry a magic carpet bag that holds a whole coat stand?

CLARE BALDING: Well, I'm not sure which character, but I'd dress up as a dog, obviously!



characters of all time
his observations on
ments. The books
if you can. Sue



SERIOUS STATS

DISNEY'S hit movie *Big Hero 6*, the action-packed animation that follows the adventures of an inflatable robot and a teenage genius, is being turned into a TV show. But what goes into the creation of a cartoon like *Big Hero 6: The Series*? We went behind the scenes to bring you the coolest facts and figures about Disney's new show.

60 people work on the show at Disney Television Animation in California.

6 superheroes are at the heart of the story. Their names are Hiro, Baymax, Honey Lemon, Go Go, Fred and Wasabi.

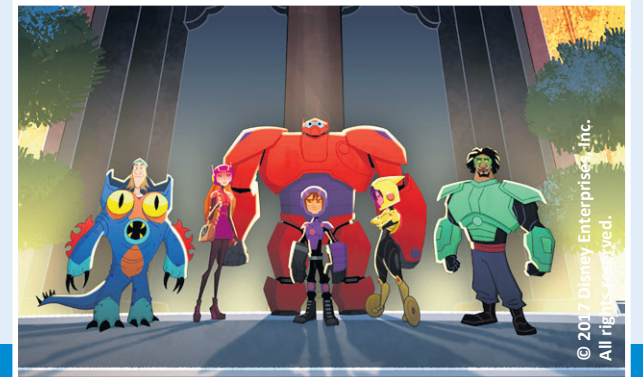
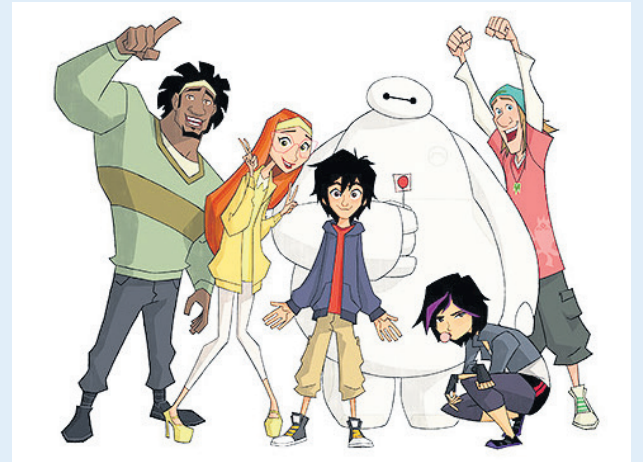
3 months was spent working out Baymax's wonderful waddle by the movie's creative team. "I love the way he walks," explains Ryan Potter, who provides the voice of Hiro. "The creators of the film came up with three different walks when they were researching how Baymax would move around. Firstly, they created the toddler walk. Secondly, they created the 'toddler with a full nappy' walk. And then they created the penguin walk. In the end, they went with the penguin waddle. It's so good!"

365 days is how long it takes to create a single episode of *Big Hero 6: The Series*. That's a whole year!

2 months is how long it takes to write a half-hour script for *Big Hero 6: The Series*.

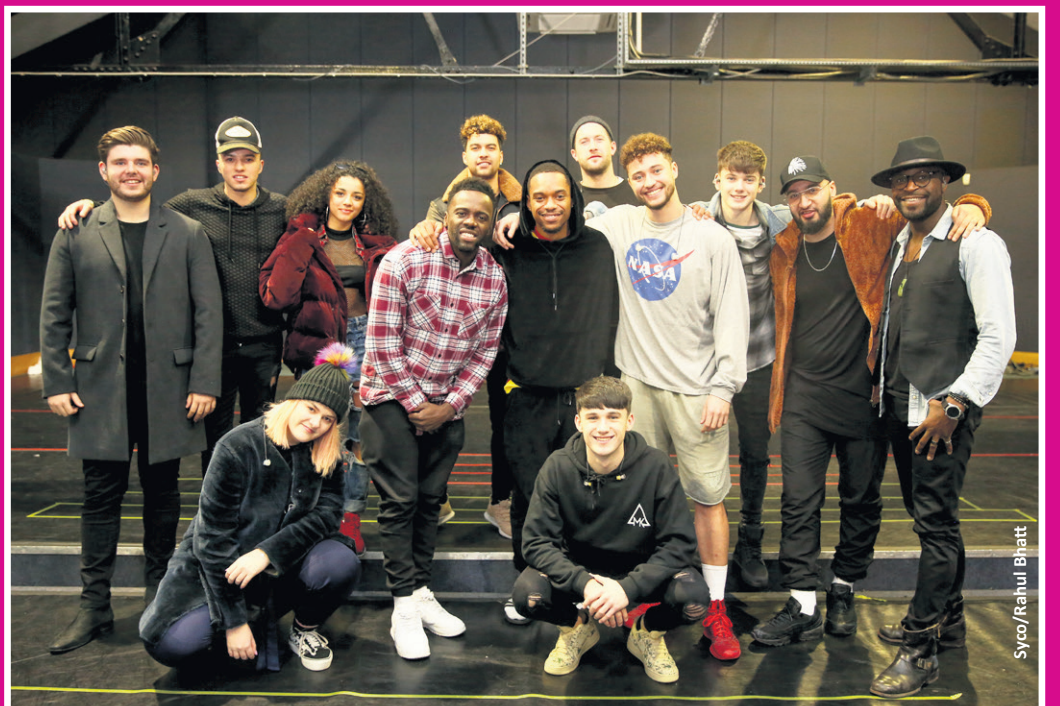
2 cities were combined together to make the fictional city of San Fransokyo – it's a mash-up of San Francisco and Tokyo.

90 minutes is how long Ryan Potter, the voice of Hiro, spends in the recording booth doing his lines for a single episode.



Big Hero 6: The Series

launches on Thursday 1 March at 5pm on Disney XD and DisneyLife.



SHADOW OF THE COLOSSUS (12+) (PS4)

10

TAKE on huge creatures, armed with nothing but a magical sword and a simple bow, in this faithful recreation of the fantastic PlayStation 2 game, *Shadow Of The Colossus*.

You play as Wander, a young man looking to bring a girl back to life. To do this, you must travel to a forbidden land and ask for help from a mysterious voice in the sky. While the voice agrees that it might be able to help, you'll have to do something for it first – take down a number of enormous beasts, known as the Colossi.

These creatures are seriously massive, and all require a different tactic to bring them down. However, through a combination of hiding and tricking the Colossus, or leaping onto them at the right time, you'll find yourself clinging onto the body of these creatures and causing some serious damage as they try their best to shake you off.

Shadow Of The Colossus isn't like most games and, when you do succeed in destroying one of these great beings, you don't really feel a sense of victory. They were simply minding their business; it was you that came to this forbidden land, and they were only defending themselves. And that's what

makes *Shadow Of The Colossus* so wonderful. Rarely will you ever get a game that makes you feel so strange when playing it.

This feeling, along with the loneliness of the beautiful landscape (which is almost empty, apart from the occasional lizard), makes this game a unique and personal experience.

The controls can be a little difficult, and sometimes Wander and his horse won't do what you want, but *Shadow Of The Colossus* is still one of the most interesting games you'll ever play – and this HD remake is a wonderful opportunity to have a go.



NEW COM-PEA-TITION

Advertisement feature

ATTENTION...

...ASPIRING YOUNG 'PEA' CHEFS!

THE BRITISH PEA INDUSTRY LAUNCHES SEARCH FOR THE UK'S YOUNG COOKING TALENT!

BRITAIN'S Young Pea Chef of the Year 2018, in association with The Ocado Foundation, is on the hunt for aspiring young chefs to create a delicious dish using Britain's favourite family vegetable – the pea!

With an incredible prize on offer from The Ocado Foundation, the competition is giving three budding chefs the chance to be crowned Young Pea Chef of the Year 2018 and win a £500 donation from The Ocado Foundation to fund 'Grow-Your-Own' projects for their school.

Whether it's a simple starter, hearty main or a wacky dessert, we want you to send us your pea-fect (see what we did there?!) recipe creations! You can be as adventurous as you like; the only thing we ask is that the Great British Pea is the star of the dish!

We've introduced three categories this year: primary school children up to Year Six, secondary school children in Years 7 and 8 and, due to high demand, this year's new category welcomes secondary school children in Years 9, 10 and 11!

Submit your entry by Friday 13 April via www.youngpeachef.co.uk.

Good luck – and let the greatest Young Pea Chef win!



For more information, visit www.youngpeachef.co.uk

THOR'S BAD BOY BRO!

SUPER early mornings, wonderful wigs and cool costumes – Brit actor Tom Hiddleston tells us what it's like to be the ultimate baddie, Loki, in *Thor: Ragnarok*.

■ How does it feel to return as Loki in *Thor: Ragnarok*?

It feels fantastic! Every time I play Loki, the challenge is to find new ways of playing him. It is a source of constant surprise to me that I'm still here. I never expected that when I first started playing him.

■ What was it like to put on the costume again?

When I put on the costume, the make-up and wig for the first time on this film, I looked in the mirror and I smiled. I thought to myself: "Wow, there he is!" It was like seeing an old friend. It was good to see him.

■ How long is the working day on the set of a movie like this? Is it a very early start?

We aim to shoot between 7.30am and 5pm, but I have to be ready to shoot at 7.30am, so I've got to put on all this gear before then. I get up extra early in the morning to do a workout before work, which means I wake up at 3am every morning – but I go to bed early.

■ How long does the hair and make-up take?

It takes a while because I don't look like this underneath. I'm supported by the most incredible team who have done my hair and make-up on the other two *Thor* movies. We've all seen films where a misplaced wig will take you out of the story. Well, that doesn't happen here. They take pride in their precision and I depend on them, which is why it takes about two-and-a-half to three hours to get ready every morning.



■ What do you enjoy the most about playing the iconic villain?

I've spent seven years of my life trying to get to the bottom of what exactly it is that Loki wants. When he seems to get close to what he wants – power, acceptance, belonging – he changes direction. I think that is the thing that keeps him interesting.



©Marvel Studios 2017

■ Thor cuts his hair in the movie, but you've still got long locks. Are you a little jealous of Chris Hemsworth's shorter, funkier hairdo?

Well, this is not my own hair; it's a wig. Chris doesn't have to come in as early in the morning as I do to put on a wig any more. I'm certainly jealous of the fact that he gets an extra hour to sleep in, but that's okay!



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CHARITIES SUPPORTED BY FIRST NEWS



**THOR: RAGNAROK
IS OUT ON DVD
& BLU-RAY FROM
26 FEBRUARY**

Join The Famous Five for a wonderful new mystery in...

THE FAMOUS FIVE Adventure Game OUT NOW

Win a Famous Five book and iTunes voucher!



Download on the App Store



GET IT ON Google Play



Meet The Famous Five in this new adventure game!

For your chance to win a Famous Five book together with an iTunes voucher, just tell us which character you would play the game as.

Download the game today, where you can...



TIMMY:
loyal companion



JULIAN:
responsible leader



GEORGE:
fearless explorer



DICK:
fun-loving adventurer



ANNE:
kind planner

KUATO

Complete the entry form and send back to the address below for your chance to win!

The Famous Five character I would be is: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____ Address: _____

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Competition closes on 1st April 2018. To enter, post the completed slip to The Famous Five, 18 Cottesbrooke Park, Hattlands, Daventry, Northants, NN11 8YL. Five winners will be drawn at random from all entries received by the closing date and will receive a Famous Five book and £10 iTunes voucher. UK & Eire entrants only. No purchase necessary & entrants under 16 must gain parental/guardian permission. No alternative prize will be offered. No further correspondence will be entered into. Personal data submitted will be processed by the promoter for the purpose of administering the promotion and distributing prizes and will then be destroyed. Employees and families of the promoters (Kuato Studios & Evolution PR) are not eligible to enter. Winners' full names and countries will be made available upon request.

HOW TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS AT SCHOOL

MAKING friends isn't always easy. It can take time to get to know people and start to trust them.

Not only is school a place for learning, it is also a place to meet new, incredible friends! Whether you're starting at a new school or you're looking for new friends at your current school, there are many ways you can go about meeting new people and making friends.

1. Mix with different people

If you want to make new friends, you can begin by putting yourself out there. Start by hanging around with different people and find out who you feel the most comfortable with. Mixing with different friendship groups can really help you find your niche, and help you discover the kinds of people you like to be around.

2. Join some clubs

Joining clubs that you are interested in can be the best opportunity to meet people with similar interests to you. That way, you can develop new friendships with some common ground.

3. But most importantly, don't think about it too much!

Sometimes you meet the greatest people when you least expect to. Don't overthink it and always be yourself. By doing this, you'll come across friends who are right for you, and you'll be comfortable and happy with the people you are with.

Remember you can always talk to Childline about friendships and making new friends.

Written by NSPCC ambassador, Anna.



I'm **Esther Rantzen**, President of Childline, which helps thousands of children every week. If you ever need to talk, you can visit www.childline.org.uk or call us on **0800 11 11**.



FirstNews QUIZ

HAVE a go at our First News Challenge! Why not set yourself and your friends or family a time challenge to see who can get the highest score in the quickest time? Good luck! See how well you did by using the answers at the bottom.

**WHAT HAVE WE
LEARNED THIS WEEK?**

1 What is the name of David Attenborough's new wildlife series that will be shown later this year?

.....

2 Who has become the oldest woman to row across the Atlantic Ocean?

.....

3 In which country would you find a museum dedicated to strawberries?

.....

4 When is World Book Day?

.....

5 From which country has President Zuma formally resigned?

.....

6 Who has become the first British athlete to retain a Winter Olympics title?

.....

7 How old will the Angel Of The North be this year?

.....

8 Who was named 'Hero of the year' for 2017 at the NME Awards?

.....

1) Dynasty 2) Di Carrington 3) Belgium 4) 1 March 5) South Africa 6) Lizzy Yarnold 7) 20 8) Ariana Grande

WIN! FLETTER WORD GAME

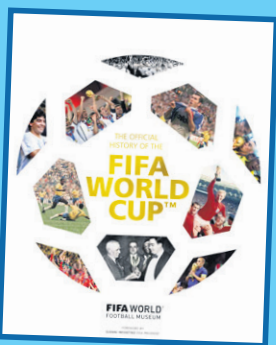
CAN you complete our sudoku and fill in the numbers one to nine? Send in your answers and four winners will each win Fletter. Fletter, the fast-paced word game for all the family, is sure to test even the quickest of thinkers! Bright, fun and quick to play, Fletter is a must-have for any family road trip, weekend break or catch-up with friends.



6				4				8
8		1				7		9
	4			9			2	
1		4	6		7	8		5
5								1
2		7	9		5	4		3
	5			7			8	
4		8				3		7
7				3				4

WIN! FIFA WORLD CUP BOOK

CAN you complete our prize crossword? Send in your answers and one lucky winner will win a copy of *The Official History of The FIFA World Cup*. Published by Carlton Books, it's the authoritative and complete story of the 20 incredible FIFA World Cups that have taken place! www.carltonbooks.co.uk



1		2			3			4		5
6			7				8			
		9								
10						11				
					12					
		13						14		
15							16			
17										

ACROSS

- 1 Very rich person (11)
- 6 Highway (4)
- 8 Heap (4)
- 9 Long, thin strips of pasta (7)
- 10 Cat sound (5)
- 11 Happen (5)
- 13 No chips (anag) (7)
- 15 ___ Allen: pop star (4)
- 16 ___ fruit: green fruit with a hairy skin (4)
- 17 English footballer (5,6)

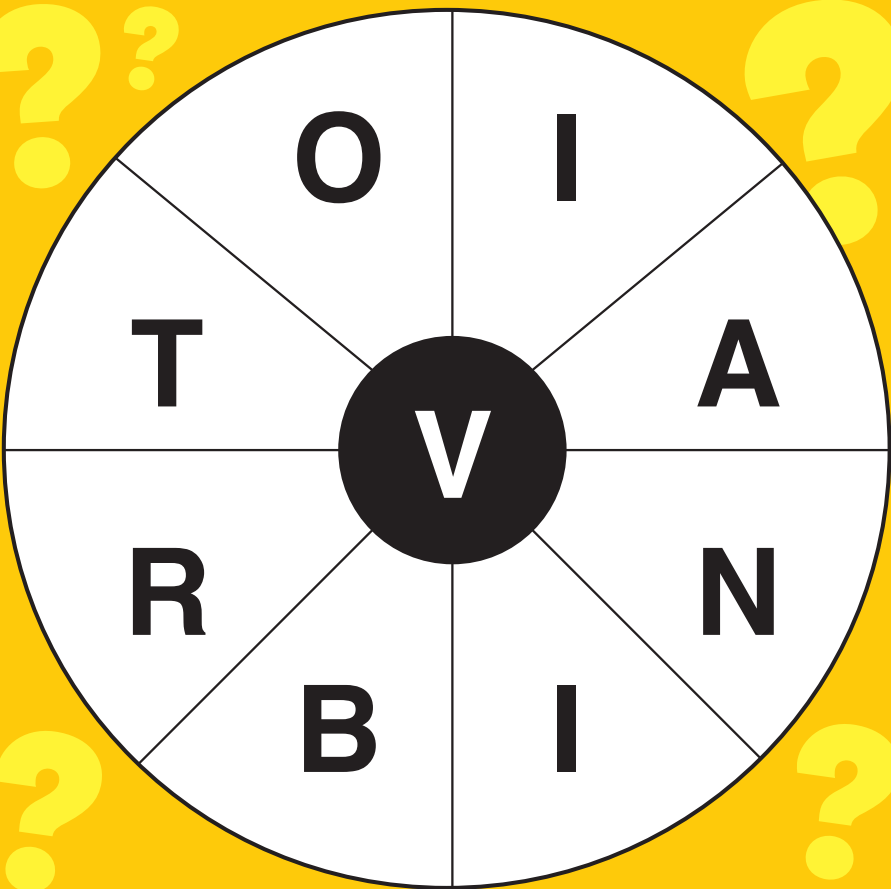
DOWN

- 1 Soft item of confectionery

- containing sugar (11)
- 2 Rest against something (4)
- 3 Perform better than someone else (5)
- 4 Popular flower and part of the eye (4)
- 5 Power that flows from a battery (11)
- 7 Wizard of Oz character (7)
- 8 Bird with impressive tail feathers (7)
- 12 Strong feeling of annoyance (5)
- 13 Join in a game (4)
- 14 Notice that tells you something (4)

WORD WHEEL

SEE how many words of three or more letters you can make, using the middle letter in each one. And can you find the word that uses all the letters?



CATS

DISH

WORD LADDER

SEE if you can get from the top of the ladder to the bottom by changing one letter at a time to make a new word.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

CAN you spot the five changes we've made to this picture from the film *Black Panther*?



© Marvel Studios 2018

WORDSEARCH

CAN you find the words below in our under-the-sea-themed wordsearch? Remember that the words can be horizontal, vertical or diagonal.

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

- ☐ Octopus
- ☐ Lobster
- ☐ Jellyfish
- ☐ Oyster
- ☐ Limpet
- ☐ Dolphin
- ☐ Algae
- ☐ Turtle
- ☐ Reef
- ☐ Seaweed
- ☐ Fin
- ☐ Seahorse
- ☐ Blowfish
- ☐ Mussels
- ☐ Krill

WIN! TICKETS TO SEE RUTHLESS! THE MUSICAL

HOW far would you go to get what you want?

The all-female camp killer cult classic finally makes its way to London this spring, following its critical praise off-Broadway.

Starring Jason Gardiner from *Dancing on Ice*, *Ruthless! The Musical* tells the story of the beautiful and talented eight-year-old Tina Denmark, who will do anything to play the lead in her school play... ANYTHING!

The show started off-Broadway 25 years ago and discovered young performers including Britney Spears and Natalie Portman and famously spoofs some of the great Broadway musicals.

Two lucky winners will win four Band A tickets to see *Ruthless! The Musical* at the Arts Theatre in London.

To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

In which American state would you find Broadway?

- a) New York b) Alaska c) Texas

Book now for the stage mother of all musicals. Playing at the Arts Theatre in London for a limited 14-week run from 16 March. www.ruthlessthemusical.com

Terms and Conditions: two readers will win four Band A tickets to see *Ruthless! The Musical* at the Arts Theatre. Valid for performances from 16 to 26 March 2018, subject to availability. No cash alternative. Travel and accommodation not included.

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY RUTHLESS

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see below. The closing date is 8 March 2018.



COMPETITIONS:

You can enter First News competitions in one of two ways. 1. Go to firstnews.co.uk/competitions and follow the instructions. 2. Write to us at 'competition name' (e.g. Holiday), First News, First floor, 58 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 0AS. **Please note:** First News will not share your personal details with third parties. First News will only use your details to contact the competition winners. First News competitions are open to those aged 17-and-under and residents of the UK & Republic of Ireland, except employees of First News, First News (UK) Ltd, Trinity Mirror and any associated companies and their families. Winners will be the first correct entries drawn after the closing dates. No purchase necessary. No responsibility can be accepted for entries that have been lost or damaged in transit. First News will not enter into any correspondence. All winners will be notified accordingly and their names and addresses will be available on request. No cash alternative for any prizes will be offered. The winner may be required to partake in media activity relating to the competition.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:

Spot the difference:

sock is a different colour, pole has been added, belt is missing, tent flaps have changed colour, mud patch in the background has been removed.

9	1	4	3	7	2	5	6	8
7	5	6	9	4	8	2	3	1
2	3	8	5	1	6	9	4	7
6	2	5	8	3	1	4	7	9
3	9	1	7	2	4	8	5	6
4	8	7	6	9	5	3	1	2
1	6	3	2	5	9	7	8	4
8	7	2	4	6	3	1	9	5
5	4	9	1	8	7	6	2	3

A	B	E	R	D	E	E	N
A	A	X	E				
O	T	T	E	R	P	E	A
E	V	E	N	P	R	E	S
R		C	T				
A	N	T	L	E	R	M	E
R	U	R	L				
M	E	T	R	E	A	I	S
O	A	K	U				
R	E	L	I	E	V	E	D

STEVE KEENE**Kitchen designer and installer**

WITH First Careers you will meet lots of different people with lots of different jobs!

■ **What I do**

I'm a kitchen designer and installer, so I will meet with people who want a new kitchen and then try to design them a great kitchen at a price they want to pay! I also do other work around the home from time to time, such as hanging new doors.

■ **What I love about my job**

After I left university, I was an accountant for 11 years. However, after a stressful time, I decided to have a complete change. I booked myself on an eight-week intensive course to learn the basics, and then set up my own business. That was seven years ago now and, over those years, I've refined the areas I focus on.

■ **What's difficult about my job**

Being self-employed is not a stress-free option! There is a lot of work that goes into running a business and designing, supplying, co-ordinating and fitting a new kitchen, and things don't always go to plan!



■ **What skills I need**

Many! There's the running of the business, which requires organisation, finance and customer-facing skills. For each kitchen, you need to be a good communicator; you need to be able to plan really well; you need some creative skills to be able to design the kitchen; and you need to be skilled in using your tools and installing the kitchen.

■ **Where should young people start if they want to do the job, too?**

I took an unusual route into the role and it took seven years to get where I am today. A more common route would be to start working with established kitchen fitters to get experience – apprenticeships may be a viable route. However, some people solely focus

on kitchen designs, and others solely on fitting, and can be either employed or self-employed, so there are a few things to consider.

■ **How my job could change in the future**

Trends will continue to change and new products will appear, so I need to keep aware of market developments, particularly as home automation continues to develop. I think as time goes on, people's expectations tend to rise, so it will be important to continue to get better and be able to offer kitchens in the latest materials and designs.

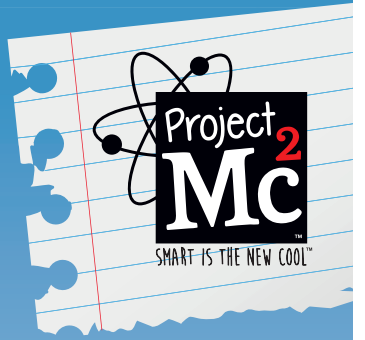


One of Steve's kitchens

PROJECT MC² Advertisement feature

SMART IS THE NEW COOL WITH PROJECT MC²

PROJECT Mc² is a team of super-smart and seriously cool girls who use their love of science and spy skills to undertake missions for top-secret organisation, NOV8™ (that's 'innovate'). Watch all six seasons on Netflix now!



Project Mc² Ultimate Spy Bag

Investigate in style with this amazing gadget: the Ultimate Spy Bag – as worn by culinary chemist Adrienne Attoms in the Netflix show. Opening up to reveal a forensic fingerprinting kit, a magnifying glass hidden in a make-up compact, a torch hidden in a nail polish bottle, secret messages and more!



Project Mc² A.D.I.S.N. Journal

Be a secret agent just like McKeyla McAlister with your very own personal, digital notebook. With phrases recorded directly from A.D.I.S.N. in the Netflix original series, a booklet containing secret missions, hidden compartments and a new special 'GeNiUS' bracelet – being an agent has never been more fun!



Find out more at www.projectmc2.com Facebook: @ProjectMc2UK Instagram: @projectmc2uk

Please be aware of age restrictions on social media sites

FUN PIC OF THE WEEK!



DID you know there's a national strawberry day?

On 27 February, people will be celebrating their love for the juicy heart-shaped red fruit! Why not join in by baking a treat with strawberries or enjoying some strawberry jam on your toast? FUN FACT: there is a whole museum in Belgium dedicated to strawberries!

ULTIMATE SLEEPOVER



COULD this be the ultimate sleepover destination?!

We're thinking quite possibly, as would you believe this cosy place is actually housed in a glacier! (Quick, pass the winter woollies!)

The Sheldon Chalet guests can be found in a glacier in Denali National Park in Alaska. It sits on a peak 6,000ft high, surrounded entirely by snow!

Up to ten people can stay at the chalet, enjoying ultimate privacy – there are definitely no neighbours around here! Guests can also take part in icy activities including hiking, sledding and viewing the northern lights. There's even a chef to whip up Alaskan seafood feasts!



COOL!



WHAT IS A GLACIER?

A GLACIER is a large body of ice and snow.



CAT CAFE

CATS, cats, cats – we just love them here at First News! So, you can imagine our delight at being invited to a cat cafe.

First News' Alex hotfooted it to Lady Dinah's Cat Emporium to celebrate the release of *The LEGO Ninjago Movie* on DVD and Blu-ray.

One of the movie's biggest stars is Meowthra, a grey tabby who unintentionally wreaks havoc on Ninjago City!

Thankfully the cats at the cafe were on their best behaviour, while LEGO Lord Garmadon watched over proceedings.



The felines even joined Alex for a stroke, while she tucked into some tea and cake. Cute!

QUICK CHUCKLES

HA!

Q: What do you call a monster with no neck?

A: The Lost Neck Monster!

HA!

HA!

Q: Why did the robber take a bath?

A: Because he wanted to make a clean getaway!



Share your jokes with us at newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk

RECORD OF THE WEEK

LARGEST DISPLAY OF OUTSIZED LEGO BRICK SCULPTURES OF SUPERHEROES



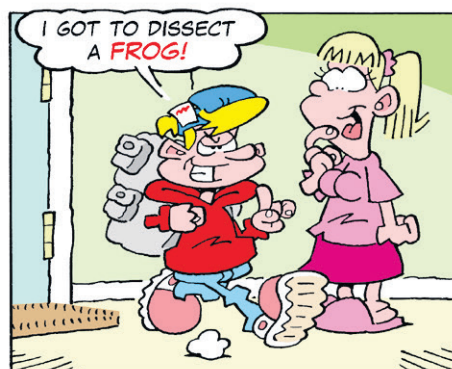
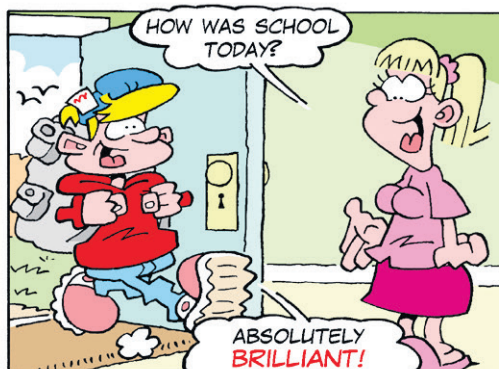
OFFICIALLY AMAZING

THE largest display of outsized LEGO brick sculptures of superheroes is 11 and was achieved by Nathan Sawaya (USA) as measured in London, UK, on 28 February 2017.

For info on this record and hundreds more, go to guinnessworldrecords.com



Written and illustrated by Paul Palmer



ENTRIES FOR THE 2018 WICKED YOUNG WRITER AWARDS ARE NOW OPEN!



WICKED, the award-winning West End musical that tells the incredible untold story of the witches of Oz, together with the National Literacy Trust, has announced the eighth year of the famous Wicked Young Writer Awards.

The awards are open to 5 to 25-year-olds, with five different age categories to choose from: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14, 15-17 and 18-25. You can write about absolutely anything, in 750 words or less. Wicked want to hear your voices through original writing and stories.

Write a story, play or poem, or if you prefer to write non-fiction, you may like to enter the FOR GOOD: Award for Non-Fiction and write an article, essay, biography, review or letter, for example!

The closing date is Monday 12 March.

Author and comedy writer Jacob Sager Weinstein reveals his top tips to help you get ahead, below. Jacob's new book, *The City Of Secret Rivers*, is out now! (£9.99, Walker UK).



THE single most important rule about writing is... there are no rules!

Sure, if somebody gives you advice that makes sense, try it out. Maybe it will improve your writing. If it does, add it to your toolbox. But if not, don't get too hung up on it. Tuck it away in a mental file labelled Stuff I Might Try Again One Day, and move on. I'm going to give you some advice on creating characters but, before you read it, I want you to promise me you won't take it too seriously. You promise? Great. Then here's what I think: the most interesting characters are consistently inconsistent.

I know that sounds confusing, so let's break it down a bit: a totally consistent character is a bunch of "and"s. She loves kids and she wants to help them and she does help them

and they're grateful. With a character like that, you know what makes her tick... but she's boringly predictable.

A totally inconsistent character is all "but"s. He loves kids but he hates them but he wants to help them but he throws bugs at them instead. A character like that is unpredictable... but he's also unbelievable.

The key is to come up with a mix of "and"s and "but"s that make sense together. She loves kids and she wants to help them but she thinks kids need protection more than fun and she locks them in padded rooms where they can't get hurt but for some reason, they're never grateful. Now we've got a character who is complicated and convincing. Put her in a story with other consistently inconsistent characters, and they'll all interact in unpredictable (but believable) ways.

For more details and to submit your entry, visit WickedYoungWriterAwards.com

Words for Life

IN 2016 Rosie Wellesley was awarded a 'People Award' by the Wellcome Trust to combine her interests of illustrating for children and health. The resulting book about a dinosaur with T-Rex-cema is called *The Itchy-saurus* and is out now. Here, Rosie tells us what storybook character she would like to be:



Lucy from The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe. Tough, strong, not afraid of adventure and good friends with a lion. I wish!

To read Rosie's full interview, visit wordsforlife.org.uk/author-interviews.
For book recommendations, activities and games, go to wordsforlife.org.uk.

BOOK REVIEW

CHRIS GRABENSTEIN

Escape From Mr Lemoncello's Library

Reviewed by Dexter Laverick, age ten

I really loved this book as it was so educational (in a good way) and fun! The storyline was so iconic as it put videogames and libraries together, which are two very different things.

It is all about a group of kids who win a trip to the new library funded by Mr Lemoncello, a videogame maker. The group of children could win a prize by escaping from the library using resources and clues hidden around the library.

For fans of Roald Dahl's *Charlie And The Chocolate Factory*, I would really recommend this!



BECOME A FIRST NEWS BOOK REVIEWER!

HAVE you read a book recently that you desperately want to tell people about? Write us a review! We'll need around 100 words on a book you've been reading – good or bad – and a picture of yourself (with parents' permission!). Email your review to

bookreviews@firstnews.co.uk

SENSATIONAL STRICTLY

by Iris Bearman

**JUNIOR
JOURNALIST**



Iris and her younger sister

ON 11 February, my family went to see *Strictly Come Dancing: The Live Tour*.

It was a mesmerising experience, and all of the dancers were wonderful.

Davood, Jonnie, Joe, Susan, Gemma, Alexandra and Debbie all performed, and they were amazing. The tour is not the same as the TV show, as there are fewer dancers and the one I went to see was at the O₂.

The glitterball trophy is given at the end of each performance and the audience vote for their favourites. It was only my second time at the O₂, but it looked so different! There was a huge dance floor in the middle,

which the dancers performed on. In the interval, I voted for Debbie McGee. In act two, everyone did one more dance and a last group dance while the votes were being counted, and then finally the winner was announced... **DEBBIE MCGEE!**

I was so excited when she won, because I had voted for her and she was my favourite! She was a well-deserved winner, as she got perfect scores from the judges in both her dances. It was a fabulous day and I can't wait to go again next year!

**WE WANT TO HEAR
WHAT YOU/YOUR
SCHOOL IS UP TO**



ARE you doing something sponsored for charity? Starting your own school newspaper? Putting on a show? Are you off on an amazing holiday or did you have a great day out? Why not share your experiences with *First News* readers?

Email your report (including pictures) to yournews@firstnews.co.uk

Don't forget to include your name and age (and your school's name and address for school news reports). By writing in, you give consent to *First News* printing details and photographs of those involved in the report.

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Call: (020) 3195 7256

Email: schools@firstnews.co.uk

CHESS CHAMPIONS

by Hallfield School chess team



A FEW weeks ago the qualifying competition for the National Primary Schools' Chess Championship were held at our school.

Throughout the day, our school's under-11 and under-9 teams beat off tough competition from a number of local schools, including Blue Coat, West House, St Mary's and Stafford Prep.

We had eight teams take part in the under-11 section and six teams in the under-9 section. An amazing 50% of teams from each section have got through to the national semi-finals, which are due to take place in June.

Nick Thomas, our chess coach, said: "These are our best results ever at this stage of the competition and we hope to hang on to the under-9 and Plate titles that we won last year."

Well done to everyone who competed in a fantastic day of chess!



Chess champs

DIANA AWARDS

**JUNIOR
JOURNALIST**

by Maddie and Violet

ON a cold morning we excitedly began our day, as we prepared to start on our journey to Birmingham for the Diana Awards!

Prince William and Harry are patrons of the awards in their mother's name. The awards aim to recognise sustained and exceptional acts of kindness from young people, to local, national and even international communities. The morning began with the award recipients, all of whom were inspirational.

Our favourites were Josh and Maya. Josh has been the carer for his mum and siblings since he was 13, as they have mental health issues. He has set up a charity to help other carers.

Maya arrived from Syria as a refugee two years ago, unable to speak a word of English. She now travels across the UK to give refugees a voice, and qualified to study engineering at university. They were both so modest and humble.

We enjoyed entertainment from a choir, a dance troupe, and a singer. It was so, so inspiring to hear all the stories.

The afternoon was about confidence building, and developing our own social action plan.

We were split into different groups and got to work on our own social action plan. Our plan is to do something about

kindness and friendship. At every school, sometimes people can be lonely. We have plans to discuss this with Mr Jones, our headmaster.

The speakers all had amazing advice. The singer who had been bullied at school said: "Never stop being who you are. Love, care and encourage each other to become the person you would want your children to look up to. Be strong, kind and make a difference."

In the words of Princess Diana: "Young people have the power to change the world!"



Maddie and Violet

WHAT'S IN THE SHOPS?

PIXEL T-SHIRT
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Show your support for Sport Relief this year, with your very own official T-shirt. By buying this product you're supporting sustainable cotton production and helping to improve the livelihoods of cotton farmers. At least half the sale price will go to Sport Relief.



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Keep cool and hydrated on the go with this Sport Relief 2018 water bottle. It has a sporty print on it and comes with a lid, so there won't be any spillages in your school bag. At least £1.50 from each purchase will be donated to Sport Relief.



SPORT RELIEF MUGS
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Whether you're a tea or hot chocolate drinker, you can drink in style with the Sport Relief 2018 mug. A brilliant way to support a great cause, with at least £1.75 per mug going directly to Sport Relief.



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BOOK BEFORE TICKETS BECOME EXTINCT!

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CHESTER
STORYHOUSE
9 & 10 APR
ST ALBANS
ALBAN ARENA
12-14 APR
CHELMSFORD
CIVIC THEATRE

20-22 APR
BLACKPOOL
GRAND THEATRE
26 & 27 APR
DERRY
MILLENNIUM FORUM
28 & 29 APR
BELFAST
WATERFRONT
2 & 3 MAY
SCUNTHORPE
THE BATHS HALL
4-6 MAY
DARLINGTON
HIPPODROME
9 & 10 MAY
NEWARK
PALACE THEATRE

12 & 13 MAY
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CORN EXCHANGE
19 & 20 MAY
BIRMINGHAM
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25 & 26 MAY
BRIDLINGTON
SPA
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CAST
29 & 30 MAY
OXFORD
PLAYHOUSE
31 MAY & 1 JUN
HERTFORD
THEATRE
2 & 3 JUN
READING
THE HEXAGON

13 & 14 JUN
YORK
THEATRE ROYAL
16 & 17 JUN
HARROGATE
THEATRE
28-30 JUN
BRISTOL
HIPPODROME
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GRAND THEATRE
13-15 JUL
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PAVILION THEATRE
19-21 JUL
MILTON KEYNES
THEATRE

25 & 26 JUL
DORKING
DORKING HALLS
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HULL
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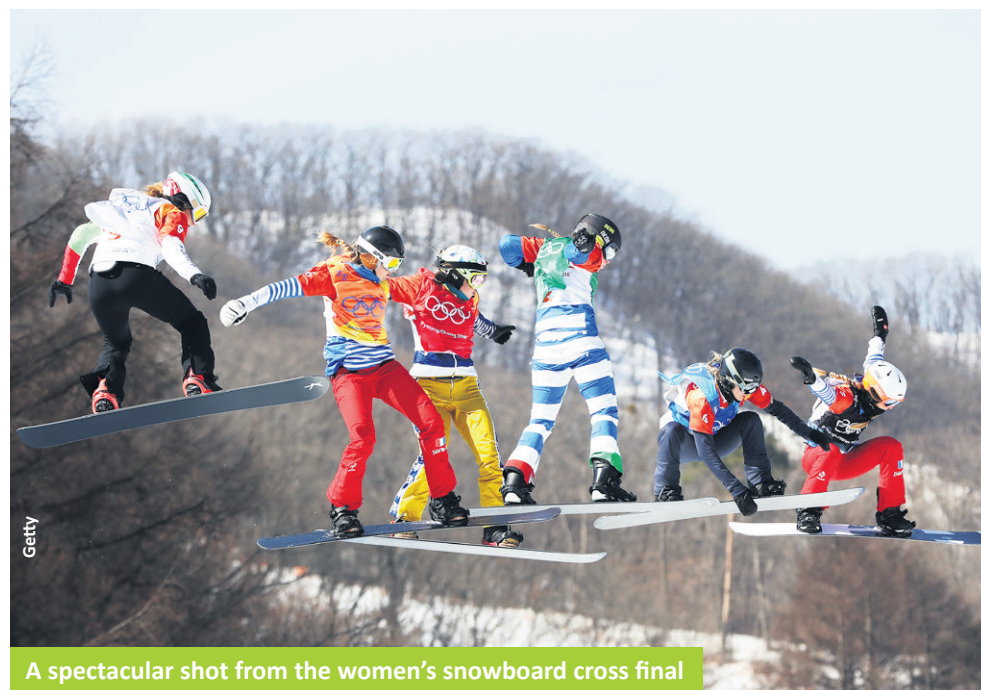
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Natalie Geisenberger of Germany slides down the track during the luge competition at the Winter Olympics. You're not seeing things, by the way – the photographer created the image using multiple exposures



Britain's Elise Christie crashes out of the 1,000m speed skating heats. Although the race was restarted, poor Christie was disqualified again. It means that, for the second Olympics in a row, she's been disqualified from all three of her events



A spectacular shot from the women's snowboard cross final



Min-seok Kim, Jaewon Chung and Seung-hoon Lee of Korea compete during the men's team pursuit speed skating



Alla Tsuper of Belarus gives a stunning example of how not to land during the freestyle skiing women's aerials final



Italy's Anna Cappellini and Luca Lanotte perform their short dance during the figure skating event

SPORT IN NUMBERS

111.68 points were scored by Japanese skater Yuzuru Hanyu (below). It was a record score for the short programme event at the Winter Olympics. US star Nathan Chen let the pressure get to him, however, as he failed to land any of his jumps.



6.34 seconds is the new world indoor 60m record set by US sprinter Christian Coleman. The previous record of 6.39secs was set 20 years ago by Maurice Greene.



10 red cards and eight yellows were handed out by the ref in a Brazilian league game between Vitória and Bahia, causing the match to be abandoned. The trouble started when Bahia's Vinícius (below) scored a penalty to make the score 1-1, as his celebration in front of the opposing fans angered Vitória's players.



YES, YARNOLD!



Lizzy Yarnold celebrates on the podium after winning her second Olympic gold

LIZZY Yarnold has made history (again) by becoming the first British athlete to retain a Winter Olympics title. The record-breaking skeleton star was joined on the podium by Laura Deas, who won bronze.

Although Yarnold has won every major title in her sport, her performances leading up to the Games suggested that she might struggle to retain the title she won in 2014. However, she set a track record to win gold in South Korea.

"The emotions are still going through me," said Yarnold. "After the first run I was almost at the point of pulling out. My chest infection was stopping me from breathing. If it wasn't for my physio, Louise Turner, I'm not sure I would be

here. The emotions are gratitude to the whole team to get here, and relief, and exhaustion. And lots of crying."

On the same day, 19-year-old Izzy Atkin claimed Britain's first ever Olympic skiing medal, with a bronze in the slopestyle. It was the most successful day in Team GB's Winter Olympics history, beating the two bronze medals that were won on the same day back in 1924.

"My heart was racing and I couldn't believe it," Atkin said.

ROGER'S NOT A CODGER!

A LOT of people had said that Roger Federer's best days were behind him, but the tennis star has proved everyone wrong by becoming the oldest world No1 in tennis history.

The Swiss legend replaced Rafael Nadal at the top of the rankings last week, at the age of 36. Until now, Serena Williams held the record, as she was 35 when she dropped off the top spot last year.

The oldest man to top the rankings before Federer was Andre Agassi, who was 33 at the time.

The first time Federer became world No1 was way back in February 2004. Go, Roger!



Roger Federer went on to win the Rotterdam Open after reaching No1 again