

SPECIAL READING EDITION

FirstNews

Issue 663 1 – 7 March 2019



READ STORIES



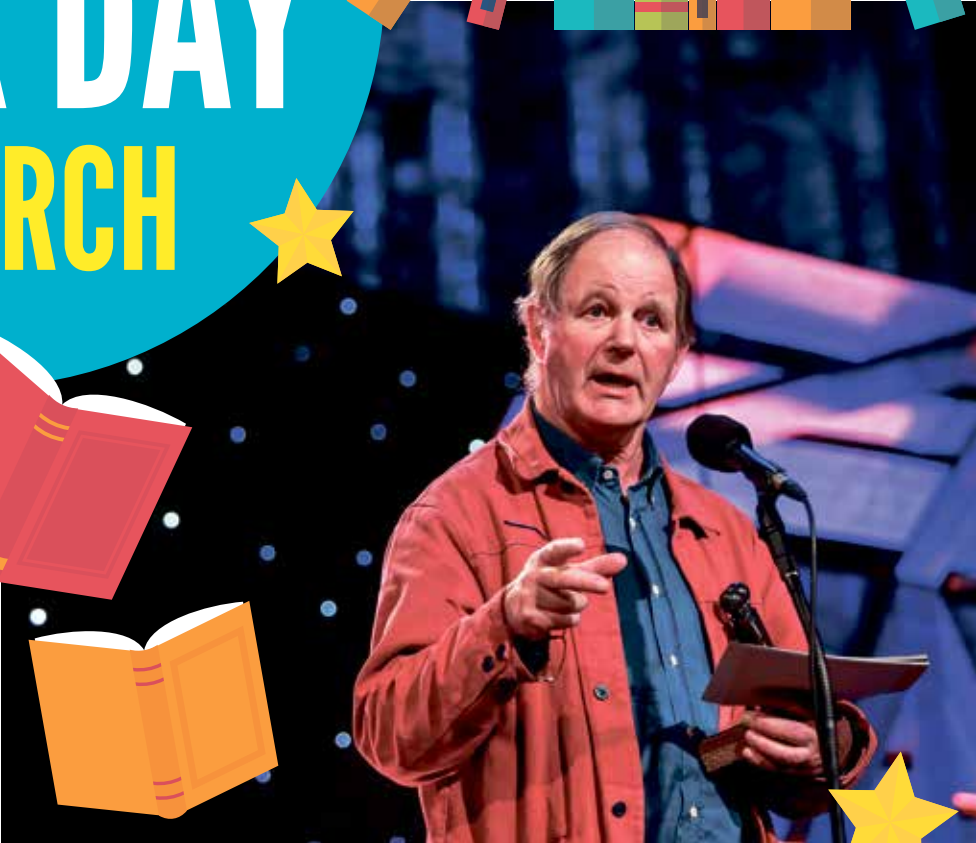
DRESS UP!



WORLD BOOK DAY
7 MARCH



ENJOY ACTIVITIES



DISCOVER AUTHORS

Your normal issue of First News is inside!

SPECIAL READING EDITION

JOIN IN

SHARE A STORY

Share a story with your friends, family or a teacher this World Book Day! You can share fun stories anywhere and everywhere, from the sofa to the train, to school and beyond. Reading and sharing stories for just ten minutes every day will expand your imagination and make you feel good, too. There are also Share a Story Live events taking place across the UK, in schools, libraries and bookshops.

Find out more at www.worldbookday.com/ideas/share-a-story



DRESS UP IN COSTUME

Why not bring your favourite book character to life and raise money at the same time? Lots of schools take part in a dress up day, to celebrate some of the amazing characters immortalised in print. You can dress up as anyone you like, from Mary Poppins to Willy Wonka. You can also take part at home and maybe even have a Book Day party with friends.

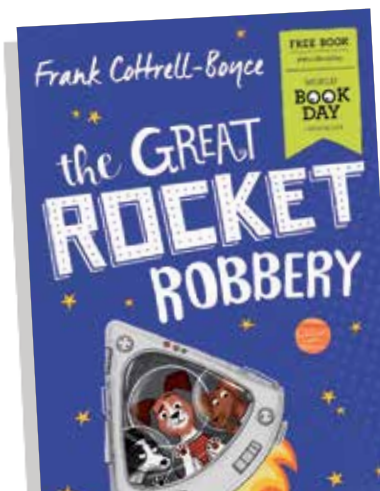
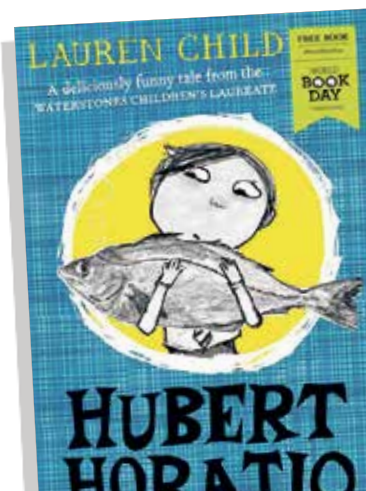
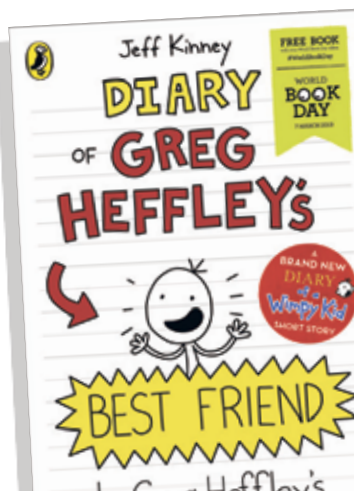
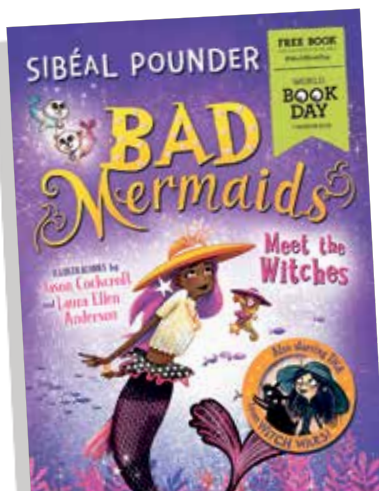
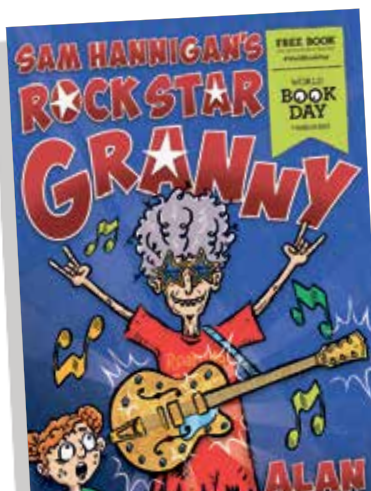


GET CRAFTY!

Get creative by designing your very own bookmark! All you need is some cardboard, pens and crafty materials. Think glitter, pom poms or felt! You could theme your bookmark on a particular novel or character. We love the idea of a Roald Dahl-inspired creation. Make it super colourful so that you never lose your place in your book again!

SOME OF 2019'S £1 BOOKS

CHILDREN across the country will be given special £1 World Book Day tokens at school. All you have to do is take the token to your local part wanting to buy for ages! Pretty cool, eh?



DISCOVER MORE AT [WWW](http://www.worldbookday.com)

WORLD BOOK DAY

March is all about celebrating reading. There are loads of activities with your £1 book token this year that you can get stuck into, as well as activities you can enjoy!



GET QUIZZICAL

Test your friends or classmates' knowledge with a big book quiz! See if you can do our First News one over the page, and then try making up your own. It could feature questions about some of your favourite books or ones that you've been reading at school. You can play as individuals or teams. Who will be victorious?



WHAT THE AUTHORS SAY

A book can satisfy our curiosity, give us comfort or hope, escape and joy. Above all, books remind us that we are not so different from one another.

– Lauren Child
Waterstones Children's Laureate

WORLD BOOK DAY... When all your favourite characters come tumbling off the shelves and into the street and the classroom in their suits of armour, witches' hats, Harry Potter specs, Hobbit feet, Wonka top hats, Poppins brollies, Elvish cloaks and duffel coats... THE DAY AFTER WORLD BOOK DAY... When they've all gone back inside their covers... follow them and see what adventures you'll have.

– Frank Cottrell-Boyce
author of *The Great Rocket Robbery*

WRITE YOUR OWN STORY

If all this reading gets you inspired, have a go at writing your own story. Perhaps you could invent your own world or magical universe? What sort of characters will you include? Will they go on an epic quest or will something happen closer to home? The fun thing is it's all up to you and your imagination!



Participating bookseller and swap it for one of these amazing books! Or you can put it towards a full-price book, that perhaps you've been



WWW.WORLDBOOKDAY.COM

BIG BOOK QUIZ

HOW well do you know your fictional characters? Find out in our big book challenge!



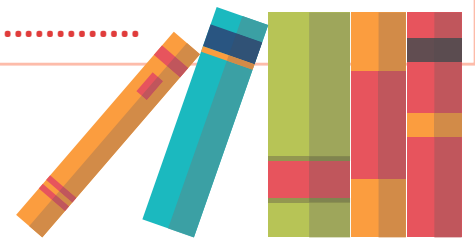
1. WHAT ANIMAL IS EYORE IN WINNIE-THE-POOH?



- ☐ THE MONA LISA PAINTING
- ☐ THE CROWN JEWELS
- ☐ PIRATE TREASURE

2. WHAT DOES BEN'S GRANDMA WANT TO STEAL IN GANGSTA GRANNY?

3. TRUE OR FALSE: BFG STANDS FOR 'BIG FRIENDLY GENTLEMAN'



4. WHICH SCHOOL DOES GREG GO TO IN DIARY OF A WIMPY KID?

- ☐ SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY
- ☐ RYDELL HIGH SCHOOL
- ☐ WESTMORE MIDDLE SCHOOL

5. WHAT IS THE NAME OF TOM GATES' BAND?

6. IN WHICH BOOK SERIES WOULD YOU FIND KATNISS EVERDEEN?

- ☐ THE HUNGER GAMES
- ☐ THE FAMOUS FIVE
- ☐ THE TWITS

7. WHERE DO WIZARDS GET THEIR WANDS FROM IN HARRY POTTER?



8. CAN YOU NAME THE MAGICAL LAND IN THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE?

9. WHAT DOES TRACY BEAKER CALL HER CHILDREN'S CARE HOME?

- ☐ THE YOUNG GROUND
- ☐ THE CARE GROUND
- ☐ THE DUMPING GROUND



10. WHICH AUTHOR WROTE WAR HORSE?



DID YOU KNOW?

World Book Day was designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and it is marked in over 100 countries around the globe!

ANSWERS: 1) A donkey 2) the Crown Jewels 3) FALSE – it stands for 'Big Friendly Giant' 4) Westmore Middle School 5) DogZombies 6) The Hunger Games 7) Ollivanders 8) Narnia 9) the Dumping Ground 10) Michael Morpurgo

**P19 HIPPOS
AT RISK**



**P5 TEACHING
TROLLING**



**P20 THE WORLD'S LONGEST
MILK TOOTH!**



First News

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TRUSTED
NEWS TO MAKE
YOUNG PEOPLE
THINK

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

KIDS VOTE TO STAY!

77% OF KIDS DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THE EU

“ I think we should have another referendum. After the first one the results were very close, and after all the problems we have faced, many people may have changed their minds. ”
– guineapigg

“ Why is everyone saying about Trump building walls when we are making one of our own? ”
– kizzwizz

“ We need to leave to help the British economy! SERIOUSLY! ”
– opr

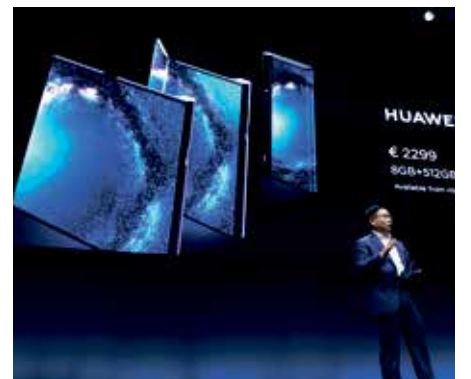
“ I think Theresa May should go on [live.firstnews.co.uk](https://www.livefirstnews.co.uk) and see the results of the poll, because it is mainly our futures that it is affecting. ”
– queenb_111

“ Yes, because the EU is bossing us to follow their laws. There are many other countries and continents that will be willing to trade with us anyway. ”
– edmonds123

“ NOOOOOOO-OOOOO! ”
– piggy01



**EXCLUSIVE!
BRIE LARSON
INTERVIEW P16**



**FOLDABLE
PHONES ARE
HERE! P5**



**THE WEEK IN
SPORT P27-28**

by Ian Eddy

THE result of our Brexit poll has shown that Britain's children want to stay part of the EU.

At the time of writing, 2,650 kids from around the UK had taken part in the poll on our website or using our iHub in the classroom – and a massive 77% of you don't want Brexit to happen.

The question we asked was: “Do you think we should still leave the European Union?” After we counted the votes, we found that 2,041 said no. Only 609 voters wanted to carry on and leave the EU.

When we ran our first poll, at the time of the EU referendum back in 2016, 71% of you said you didn't want to leave, so it looks like some of you have been persuaded to vote the other way. It's no clearer yet what will actually happen, although we're still due to leave the EU on 29 March without a deal, unless Parliament can agree on a way forward.

You can check out some of the comments from your fellow First News readers on this page, or you can see them all and take part yourself by going to [first.news/polls](https://www.first.news/polls).

2. QUICK NEWS

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1. LEFT IS BEST

A new study has found that left-handed people are better in a scrap than right-handed people. Analysis of almost 10,000 boxers and martial artists found that those who are left-handed seem to have a small advantage and win more fights. Thomas Richardson from the University of Manchester says left-handed boxers are rarer and can throw other opponents off. They are also often able to switch their stance.

2. POOCH POPULARITY

The Scottish terrier (below) is among the British dog breeds that is falling in popularity, experts have warned. The Kennel Club has listed the dog as one to watch in its campaign to help save native breeds. Britain's most popular dog breed is the French bulldog.



3. "TEENIE" T-REX

It seems the T-rex had a little cousin way back when! Scientists discovered the relation of the *Tyrannosaurus rex* while digging for bones in Utah, USA. *Moros intrepidus* was roughly the size of a human, but had a "bone crushing" bite, just like its bigger cousin. Gulp!

4. TIGER TUG-OF-WAR

Dartmoor Zoo has caused controversy by offering a new experience called 'human v beast'. The challenge pits a group of people against one of the zoo's lions or tigers in a tug-of-war game. The animals can win a slab of meat. More than 2,000 people have signed a petition urging the zoo in Devon to stop the practice, calling it cruel. What do you think?

5. INDEPENDENT GROUP GROWS

Three MPs have quit the Conservative Party to join the new Independent Group. Anna Soubry, Sarah Wollaston and Heidi Allen all confirmed they had left. At the time of going to press, the group had 11 members. Former Labour MP Chuka Umunna has been tipped to become their leader.

20 THINGS TO KNOW AND TELL

QUICK NEWS TO READ YOURSELF AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS

6. JAMES FOR JAM

Space Jam 2 is coming in 2021. The movie will star American basketball legend LeBron James alongside Bugs Bunny and other famous cartoon characters. It follows on from the original Space Jam movie that came out 23 years ago!

7. BIRDIE BEATS

The RSPB is to release a song made up entirely of birdsong! The track, called Let Nature Sing, will feature the tunes of different birds such as cuckoos and nightingales. It aims to raise awareness of the bird species we are at risk of losing.

8. PLASTIC RIVER

Around 60% of litter found in the River Thames is single-use plastic, says the Marine Conservation Society and Thames21. Clean-ups of the river discovered all sorts of litter, including metal drink cans, food packaging and loads of plastic drinks bottles.



9. POLL RESULTS

Boys have been banned from taking part in this year's netball competition at the Urdd National Sports Festival in Aberystwyth. We asked you: Should boys and girls be separated in sport? 22% of you said YES, while 78% of you said NO.

COMMENT

"I think sports should be for everyone, not just for a specific gender. We should be able to enjoy the sports we enjoy and the ones we like. So boys should be able to participate in netball," said First News Live user!, ccdynamic.

10. SSSCARY DISCOVERY

A man got rather a fright when he discovered a snake in his toilet at home in Essex! The rat snake was thought to be an escaped pet. It's now being cared for by the RSPCA.

11. WINNING DANCER

Fourteen-year-old Ellie Fergusson has been crowned the winner of the first ever *The Greatest Dancer*. Ellie scooped £50,000, which she wants to share with her dance teacher, and the chance to perform on *Strictly Come Dancing*.

12. SECOND REFERENDUM

The Labour Party says it would back a second referendum on whether the UK should leave the EU, if a deal can't be agreed. It said the public should be given the choice again rather than a "damaging Tory [Conservative] Brexit being forced on the country".

13. DAFFODIL SHORTAGE

Experts have warned that there could be a shortage of daffodils this Easter, as the mild February weather is causing the flowers to sprout early and the demand for them to rise! Chris Bonnett from Gardening Express said: "It appears that the bulbs 'think' it's spring already and have been shooting up their flowering stems since mid-February."



14. PUDDING STOP

When a sewer got blocked in Ipswich, water bosses didn't expect to discover Yorkshire puddings as the cause! That's exactly what they did find, though, and Anglian Water posted several pictures of the roast dinner favourites clogging up the system. Although it was an unusual discovery, the company has sent a serious warning urging people not to use the sewers as bins.

15. BREAKDANCING OLYMPIANS



The organisers of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games have said that breakdancing could soon be considered an Olympic sport. If the International Olympic Committee (IOC) decides to add the urban dance sport to the official list, it will debut at the Olympic Games in just five years' time.

16. WE DAY

Did you know it's WE Day on 6 March? The day is all about celebrating young people making a difference in local and global communities. You can find out more about the day and the events taking place at we.org/gb.

17. BBC SCOTLAND

This week, a new BBC channel, just for Scotland, launched. The first programme shown was a specially-commissioned short film featuring Scottish band Chvrches and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

18. SNOW IN VEGAS

Las Vegas has seen its first significant snowfall since 1937 (back when records began!), seeing around an inch of snow (2.5cm) settling. This may not sound like big news, but Las Vegas is situated near Death Valley in the USA – one of the hottest places on Earth at certain times of the year!

19. TEN-MINUTE TV

A host of famous actors have signed up to star in ten-minute TV shows for new streaming service Quibi TV. The short shows are designed for people to watch when they are travelling to work or waiting in queues.

20. BLUE PLAQUES

English Heritage has revealed some of the people who will be getting blue plaques this year. Among them are famous reggae musician Bob Marley, author Angela Carter and writer and war correspondent Martha Gellhorn. The blue plaque scheme recognises people from the past and the London buildings in which they lived.

3. BIG NEWS

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THE RAT KILLED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

THERE was a sad confirmation last week that one species had become extinct, but there was some good news for two others that came back from the dead.

The bad news came from Australia's environment minister, Melissa Price, who made an official announcement that the Bramble Cay melomys is now extinct. A scientific report in 2016 said that the small rat was likely extinct, and would be the first mammal to be made extinct by climate change. The only place in the world that the species called home was Bramble Cay, a tiny island off the south coast of Papua New Guinea, measuring just 340m by 150m. Experts say that climate change is responsible because it led to sea level rise and more extreme weather events, which led to the species' habitat being destroyed.

One bit of good news (although that might depend on your opinion of bees) is that researchers have rediscovered the world's biggest bee on North Molucca island in Indonesia. Wallace's giant bee was last seen in 1981, but researchers and photographer Clay Bolt have just captured the first ever footage of live specimens. "It was absolutely breathtaking to see this 'flying bulldog' of an insect that we weren't sure existed any more," said Bolt.

Scientists were also surprised to find a Fernandina giant tortoise in the Galápagos Islands, as the species hasn't been seen for more than 100 years. Although only one female has been found, the researchers say that the trails and poop they found suggest that there are more, so it could be possible to breed them and keep the species alive.



The Bramble Cay melomys



Wallace's giant bee, compared to a European honeybee

NUCLEAR BEDROOM

A SCHOOLBOY with an unusual hobby claims to have built a working nuclear fusion reactor in the spare room of his house!

Jackson Oswalt is 14 now, but was 12 at the time of his first successful experiment. He posted his results on fusor.net, a website for nuclear fusion enthusiasts. One of the site's moderators says he had added Jackson's name to "the list of fusioneers", although his results haven't been confirmed yet.

Nuclear fusion is when simple atoms are joined together to create huge amounts of energy – it is how our sun powers itself. Nuclear power stations use fission, which involves splitting large atoms into smaller ones. Fusion produces much more power and would be better for the environment, but so far scientists have failed to make the technology successful enough to make it worthwhile.



Jackson Oswalt

EDITOR'S COMMENT



THE UK's voters and politicians can't make their minds up about Brexit, but your view is only swaying further towards remaining in the EU.

More than three-quarters of First News readers voted to remain, so at the moment it looks like the Government is taking a path that you don't agree with. But you're the voters (and even politicians) of the future, so it won't be long before you have the power to create the world that you want.

GOOD WEEK FOR...

CASSETTES

THE cassette tape is making a comeback, with sales up 125% in 2018. More than 50,000 cassette albums were sold in the UK last year, although it's some way off the peak of 83 million in 1989. Although many people are fond of cassettes, the technology was poor and the tape could often get warped or jammed.



iStock

BAD WEEK FOR...

UKIP

A PETERBOROUGH councillor has been on the receiving end of a few jokes on social media, after handing out a leaflet riddled with errors. John Whitby is a candidate for the UK Independence Party, but managed to spell Britain wrong (and put an apostrophe in the wrong place) on his leaflet.



@strutcakes/ Twitter

INSTABRAGGING

RESEARCHERS in the US say that Instagram is partly responsible for increasing levels of debt.

Debt is when people owe money to organisations like banks or credit card companies. In countries like the UK and the US, people now are spending more and saving much less than they used to, which is causing more people to fall into debt.

Experts at the National Bureau of Economic Research say that Instagram and other social media sites are causing this "increasing observation of consumption", which means that people are posting pictures of their holidays, new clothes and cars, which makes other people want to spend more to keep up.



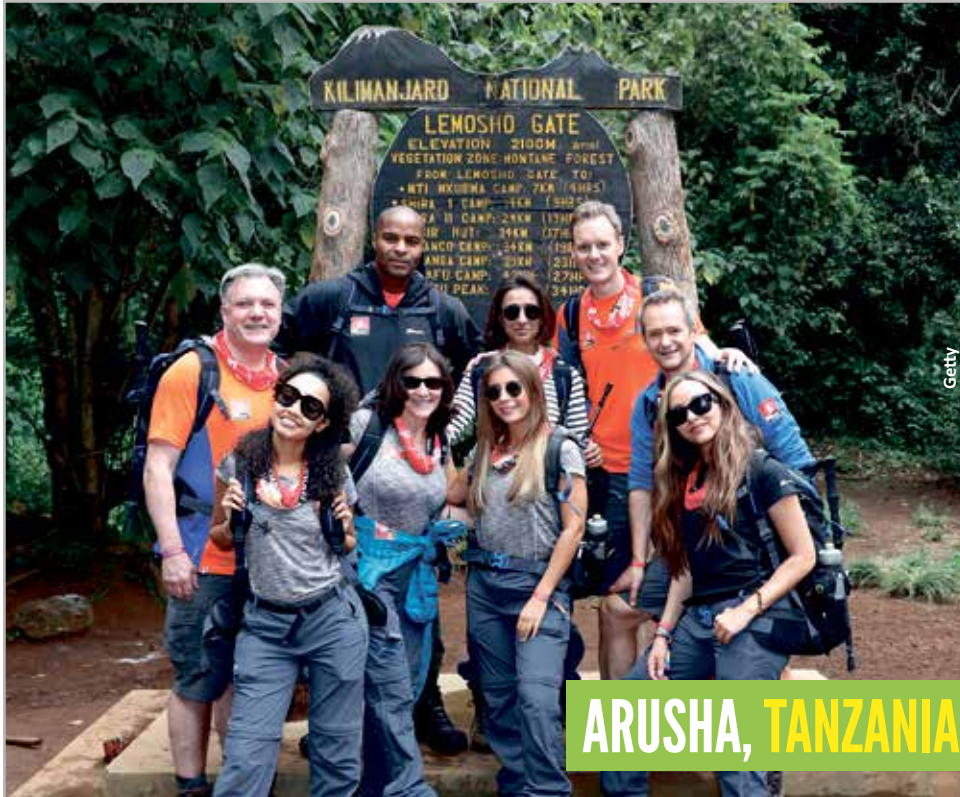
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4. NEWS IN PICTURES

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ARUSHA, TANZANIA

THE Comic Relief gang pose during 'Kilimanjaro: The Return' for Red Nose Day. L-R: Ed Balls, Leigh-Anne Pinnoch, Osi Umenyiora, Shirley Ballas, Dani Dyer (front), Anita Rani, Dan Walker, Alexander Armstrong and Jade Thirlwall.



PARIS, FRANCE

THE Umbrella Sky project, a travelling art installation, arrives in a Paris street. It took 720 umbrellas to create this amazing canopy of colour.



LONDON, UK

A SCULPTURE made from more than 2,500 plastic bottles recovered from beaches, rivers and streets from around the UK was set up outside the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) as part of a protest by environmental campaign group Greenpeace. The sculpture was delivered to DEFRA to apply pressure on Environment Secretary Michael Gove to move forward with a proposed deposit return scheme for plastic bottles bought in the UK.



ASNI, MOROCCO

THE Duke and Duchess of Sussex visit a local secondary school, meeting students and teachers. The Duke and Duchess went to the north African country to promote girls' education and mental health awareness.



HAIKOU, CHINA

A BUILDING falls down during demolition work. The eight-storey building was taking up the space of half a road, so it was demolished to allow more lanes to be added to the street.



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5. BIG NEWS

TAUGHT ABOUT TROLLING

THREE new subjects are being added to the school curriculum, for students of all different ages.

From next year onwards, those in English primary schools will be taught 'relationship education', while those in secondary school will be taught 'relationship and sex education'. 'Health education' will be taught at all ages.

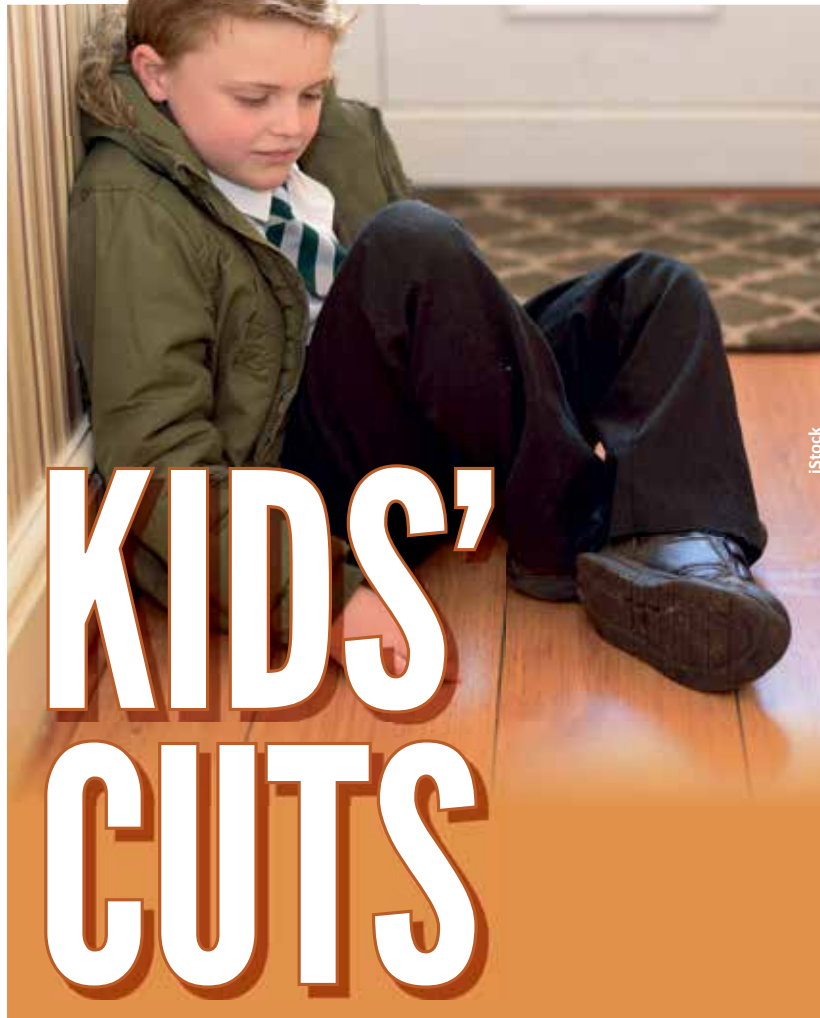
The subjects will cover topics like the risks of sharing private photos, how the internet can promote an unhealthy view of relationships, and the importance of getting enough sleep and spending time outdoors.

There will also be classes on online safety, covering trolling, chatting to strangers and what to do if you come across something that makes you feel uncomfortable.

According to the Education Secretary Damian Hinds: "Growing up and adolescence are hard enough, but the internet and social media add new pressures that just weren't there even one generation ago."

It will be up to teachers to decide how frequently these classes are held.

What do you think about the new subjects?



SINCE 2010, funding for children's services like social care and youth clubs has fallen by a third.

A huge study, carried out by several different children's charities working together, found that the amount available per child and young person for all children's services in England has fallen dramatically over the last few years.

More than 1,000 children's centres have closed since 2009, while 760 youth centres have shut since 2012.

Many experts, social and youth workers say that these cuts are a big reason for the rise in crime that has been in the news recently.

According to Julie Bentley, the chief executive at Action for Children, children's services are at "breaking point".

"Without urgent cash from central government, thousands more children at risk of neglect and abuse will slip through the cracks and into crisis," she says.

The research found that London has been hit the hardest by cuts, followed by northern cities.

The Department for Education says it is making money available to councils for local services, including those that are used by children.

COPYCATS!



A NEW study has found that cats take on the behaviour of the people they live with.

Researchers from Lincoln University's animal behaviour clinic carried out personality tests on 3,300 cat owners and their cats.

They found that cats raised by moody or aggressive people would often be moody themselves, while cheerful, open and friendly owners were found to have cats that were affectionate. Moodier owners were also more likely to have overweight cats, too.

Danielle Gunn-Moore, professor of feline medicine at Edinburgh University, said: "Cats are a mini-me. They are sentient [able to feel] creatures strongly affected by people around them."

One cat who is definitely a lot like its owner is Choupette, who was owned by the late Karl Lagerfeld, a very successful fashion designer who passed away last week.

Choupette has starred in fashion shoots, has two maids looking after her, and her own personal driver. The posh puss would even be flown about on a private jet!

After Lagerfeld died, many people wondered who would be inheriting his millions of pounds. Apparently, Choupette could be receiving as much as £150 million from Lagerfeld's estate!



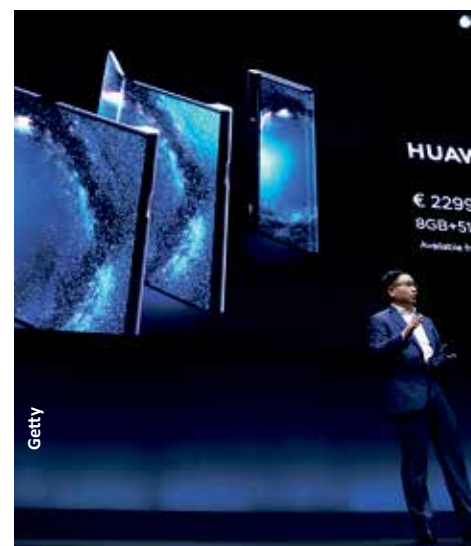
FOLDING PHONES

SAMSUNG and Huawei have announced they'll both be launching phones later this year that fold out to give you a bigger screen.

South Korea's Samsung was the first to announce their foldable phone, calling it the Samsung Galaxy Fold. Starting at almost \$2,000 (£1,550), the phone has six cameras and two screens, one of which folds in two. It's designed a bit like a book, except the pages are a screen, and there's a screen on the cover, too.

Just a couple of days later, China's Huawei showed their folding phone, which is designed differently to Samsung's. Costing about £450 more than Samsung's, the phone folds outwards, like a book that you're bending the wrong way.

Both companies seem to think that this technology is going to be big, as it's a pretty huge investment for them, but we'll have to wait and see if folding is going to catch on!



6. HOME NEWS

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UK



HEALTH WORRIES

A new report by the Nuffield Trust and the Association for Young People's Health has shown that the health of young people (10 to 24-year-olds) in Britain is among the worst in Europe. According to the report, the UK has the highest rates of obesity for 15 to 19-year-olds among 14 countries in Europe. The report also found that British youth are more likely to suffer poverty and develop a long-standing illness. Researchers stressed that we are "lagging behind other countries".

PEMBROKESHIRE

STONEHENGE SECRETS

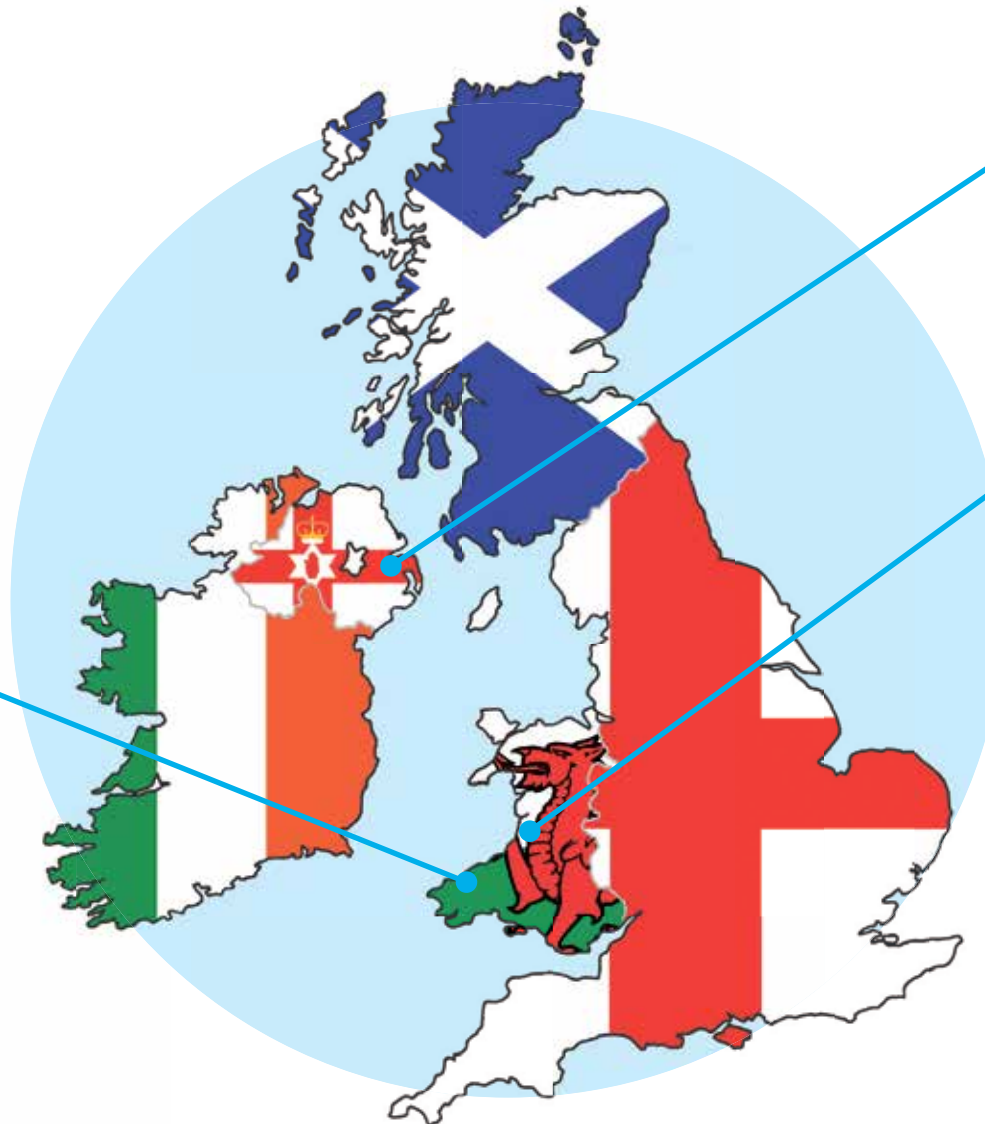
Scientists came one step closer to solving the mystery of Salisbury's Stonehenge this week. Experts recently learned that Stonehenge's 42 smaller 'bluestones' were carried by land from the Preseli Hills in north Pembrokeshire, after being quarried around 5,000 years ago (the popular theory before now was that they were transported by sea). This information was discovered after scientists managed to pinpoint the exact location of the quarries. Scientists are still investigating why the stones came from so far away (180 miles).



UK

SUE, WE SALUTE YOU

The RAF has announced that Air Vice Marshal Sue Gray has become the most senior woman in the British Armed Forces. The former engineer has been promoted to Air Marshal and will be the first-ever female three-star officer. The news was described as a "historic moment" by Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson. Gray has said that she hopes her achievement will inspire other women to join the Armed Forces.



BELFAST

CAPYBARA BABIES

Belfast Zoo has announced the birth of its third set of capybara babies in the past year. Loved-up couple Chester and Lola welcomed their new offspring in December, which means the zoo is now home to an impressive herd of 17 capybaras. These animals are the largest rodents in the world and are often referred to as giant guinea pigs.



GWYNEDD

FEELING HOT!

As First News went to press, temperatures had reached 20.8°C in Porthmadog, Gwynedd, making it the warmest February day ever recorded in the UK. The previous record for February was 19.7°C recorded in Greenwich in 1998. This is in sharp contrast to this time last year, when parts of the UK saw snow!



UK

SUPERHERO STAMPS

The Royal Mail will release a super set of Marvel-themed stamps to celebrate the 80th anniversary of Marvel! The 15-stamp set features some of the most popular superheroes from the comic books, including Spider-Man, Hulk, Thor, Iron Man, Doctor Strange, Captain Marvel, Peggy Carter and Black Panther. The world-famous Marvel Comics published its first comic in 1939. The stamps go on sale from Thursday 14 March.



NEWS IN NUMBERS

18 people were injured after a roof at Pontins Brean Sands in Somerset fell in. Six of the 18 injured were taken to hospital following the collapse. Luckily, no-one was seriously hurt.

2025 is the year in which the Committee on Climate Change wants all new homes to be free from gas hobs or boilers. Within the next six years, they want all new homes to be heated using low-carbon energy instead.



1,000 UK apprenticeships will be created by Amazon by 2021. The company has announced that it'll have apprenticeships in nine different programmes, including IT, robotics, leadership, technology, safety, human resources and software engineering.

5,600 years is the age of a human skull fragment recently discovered in River Thames mud. This means the skull is from the Neolithic period. It will go on display at the Museum of London.

7. BIG NEWS

TOP TEACHER



The Varkey Foundation

A TEACHER from Birmingham has been named one of the top ten finalists for this year's Global Teacher Prize.

Andrew Moffat works at Parkfield Community School, where he's introduced a unique 'No Outsiders' programme. The project aims to teach pupils all about equality and diversity.

Moffat also runs a Parkfield Ambassadors after-school club that creates opportunities for pupils to meet others from all different races, religions and cultures.

The programme has been such a success, that in November 2017 he was awarded an MBE.

The Global Teacher Prize is considered one of the most influential awards in teaching, with the winner scooping a whopping \$1m (£764,000) prize!

The finalists are all invited to a special awards ceremony in Dubai, where the winner will be announced on Sunday 24 March.

CITY CENTRES CLOSING DOWN?!



Getty

CITY centres across the UK could become "ghost towns", a group of MPs has warned.

High street shops are struggling to cope, as online shopping becomes increasingly popular. Many shops have had to close and the spaces are often left empty for months. Stores such as House of Fraser, Toys R Us and Poundworld have all recently disappeared due to money troubles.

The MPs are urging the Government to take action now before our city centres find themselves with no shops at all.

The group wants to raise taxes for online

companies such as Amazon, lower the cost of renting or buying shop space on the high street and give more money to town centres to improve their facilities.

The MPs argue that if taxes were raised for online companies, the extra money made could be used to help high street stores to thrive once more.

High streets minister Jake Berry said the Government had unveiled a £675m plan to boost high streets at the last budget.

POLL OF THE WEEK

Do you still shop on the high street? Let us know at [first.news/polls](https://www.firstnews.com/polls)

ROCKET ROUND-UP



Virgin Galactic

IT'S been a packed week of space news, with all sorts of exciting things going on above the Earth!

Firstly, Israel's Beresheet probe successfully launched into space on its way to the moon. If all goes to plan, in mid-April Israel will become the fourth country to have carried out a moon landing, after Russia, the US and China. The lander will measure the moon's magnetic field, but is only designed to last for a few days.

After that, the Japanese space agency, JAXA, announced that its Hayabusa 2 probe had managed to take samples from an asteroid called Ryugu. The samples are due to be returned to Earth at the end of next year.

Lastly, Virgin Galactic carried out its latest test flight, travelling faster and higher than in any of its previous flights. It successfully reached the lower edge of space, so the chief pilot, Dave Mackay, has become the first ever Scottish-born astronaut.

EMOJIS IN COURT

LAWYERS are asking judges to learn what emojis mean, so they can be discussed in court.

Senior lawyers believe it would be a big help if judges knew what each emoji was, so that they could be used as evidence in court cases.

Lots of people use emojis in texts and emails to communicate. Some of the emojis in particular are thought to be used as references for things such as flirting or to talk about illegal drugs.

Lawyers believe analysing emojis could help to catch out criminals and discover what their messages to other people really mean.

There are concerns, though, that the symbols could be used to represent lots of different things and therefore might be misunderstood. What do you think?



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8. WORLD NEWS

FirstNews • Issue 663 • 1 – 7 March 2019

USA



CLIMATE CONTROVERSY

US President Donald Trump is setting up a panel of scientists to look again at the threat from climate change. The group, which is being established by the National Security Council, will be led by scientist William Happer, who has said that carbon dioxide is good for the planet, and that people are treating carbon dioxide "like Hitler treated the Jews". President Trump said in November that he doesn't believe in climate change. Across the world, 97% of scientists agree that climate change is real and is caused by humans.



USA



SCHOOLBOY ARRESTED

An 11-year-old boy has been arrested after refusing to recite the pledge of allegiance in school. The boy, who had been refusing to take part since the beginning of the school year, was warned by a substitute teacher that he had to take part. When he continued to refuse, the teacher called the school administration, who in turn called the police. The pledge of allegiance is an oath of loyalty to the US, but taking part is optional.



CANADA



THE RIGHT TO REPAIR

While you might not have had to deal with this problem yourself, your parents might have noticed that if an electronic device breaks, it can be tough to get it fixed. Phone manufacturers, such as Apple and Samsung, make it really difficult to open up the devices for self-repair, often meaning a pricey trip to the official phone store. Now, a Canadian MP is trying to make the system fairer, by suggesting a law that manufacturers must make it easier to repair their devices, so that individuals and independent shops can repair phones more easily and cheaply.



ESTONIA



SLUSH PUP SAVED

Construction workers building a dam spotted a dog stuck in the icy waters nearby. Rushing to help, they pulled the frozen canine out and took it to a nearby animal clinic. It was there that they found that this slush puppy was in fact a wolf! It wasn't long before the clinic helped the poor wolf back on his paws and, after being fitted with a GPS collar by researchers from the national environmental agency, the wolf was released back into the wild.



JAPAN



NO BASE HERE

In 1945, the Futenma US military airbase was built in Okinawa, Japan. Since then, the airbase has been the cause of dozens of accidents. Last year, part of a helicopter dropped onto a day-care centre. The base was supposed to be closed in 2003 but due to delays, protests and mismanagement, it is still running. This week, a referendum was held by Okinawa's government, asking residents if a new base should be built away from the city. Voters responded with a resounding 'no'. Instead, they'd rather the base was moved off the island all together.



AUSTRALIA



EMOJI ON THE ROAD

Drivers in Queensland will soon be able to add emojis to their car number plates! Unlike the UK, Australians have a few options when it comes to jazzing up their number plates. In Victoria, motorists can add football logos, along with the symbols of Batman and Superman for a bit of money. The choice of emoji will be limited to the smiling emoji, the emoji with shades, the emoji with heart eyes and the one that's crying with laughter.

NETHERLANDS



NO DUTCH DEGREE

Amsterdam's VU university is dropping its degree in Dutch, because there are so few students on the course. At the moment, there are five members of staff teaching the subject – to just five students. A spokesperson for the university said: "Unfortunately, we do not get one lecturer's salary per student."

OUR WORLD

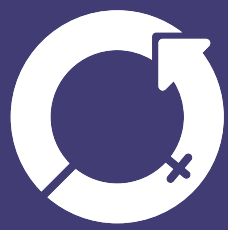
NAME: ANDREW
LIVES: UGANDA

ANDREW is 15 years old and fled from the conflict in South Sudan to Uganda, leaving all his family behind.

Andrew now lives alone in a refugee settlement in Palabek. When Andrew saw that Street Child was building a school in Palabek, he registered immediately, as he was desperate to return to school. His favourite subject is English and he would like to be a bank teller.



TO FIND OUT MORE, GO TO WWW.STREET-CHILD.CO.UK



International Women's Day

**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY 8 MARCH**



THIS global event has been taking place for over a century to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. When the first International Women's Day was held in 1909, women couldn't vote or become politicians in the UK.

Today things are different but, when just 6.4% of chief executive roles in top companies are held by women, we're reminded that there's so much more to be done for equality!

This year's theme for International Women's Day is #BalanceforBetter, a reminder for people everywhere that our futures will be better if our world had gender balance. That means equal pay for men and women, something that's an issue for many around the world. Equal pay means that men and women doing exactly the same job should be paid the same, and has been a legal requirement for 48 years.

In fact, the latest Government figures showed that a whopping 74% of UK businesses pay higher salaries to their male staff overall. There are many reasons why this happens, and it's a very complex issue, but the fact these figures became public in the first place is a win for women's equality!

So, how can you support International Women's Day? Well, it's easy enough to support by remembering that equality is important – and speaking up if you think that things are unfair. Celebrate the achievements of women, and lead by example.

Individually, we're one drop, but together we're an ocean. By working towards gender equality together, we can make a real difference!



**SHROVE TUESDAY
(PANCAKE DAY) 5 MARCH**

ON Tuesday 5 March, families across the UK will be flipping their food around.

On paper, Pancake Day does sound a bit mad, but there's actually a good reason for it!

Back in the 16th century, people decided that pancakes were a good way to use up eggs, milk and sugar, which had to be eaten before the religious season of Lent. Lent is when people would go without their favourite foods – most of which would include eggs, milk and sugar.

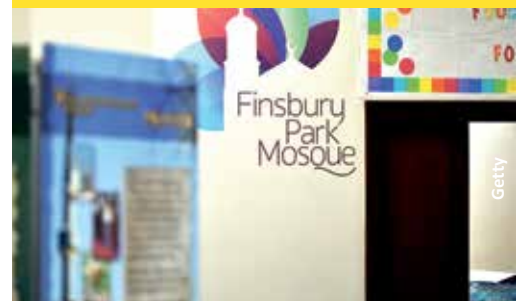
This year, why not use up those ingredients making a First News-themed pancake? You could try using jam to spell out First and blueberries to spell out News! Check out the Panchakumar family's awesome one from last year (left).

Send us your attempts at a First News pancake with the subject 'PANCAKE' to newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk. We might even publish the First News-iest ones in next week's issue!

KEY DIARY DATES

**DR SEUSS DAY
2 MARCH**

Join us for a day of celebration, for the marvellous Dr Seuss! Say silly words and silly rhymes, come on now, you've got no excuse!



**VISIT MY MOSQUE
DAY 3 MARCH**

While many mosques have open days throughout the year, on 3 March more than 150 mosques across the UK open their doors. To get an insight into the day-to-day goings-on of a busy Muslim centre of worship, you can find your local participating mosque by heading to visitmymosque.org.



**BRITISH PIE WEEK
4 – 10 MARCH**

Whether it's meat, fruit or veggie, there's nothing better than a good pie! Up and down the country, pies will be judged on their flavour, bake and craftsmanship, in a bid to become the king of British Pies. Pie, oh my!

HATERS GONNA

WITH racist crimes in the news and MPs leaving their own political parties due to claims of bullying of Jewish people, it seems like there's a lot of hate around right now. But is hate crime really rising? And who are the people carrying it out?

As we reported last week, the annual Hope not Hate report said that extreme views and actions are becoming more widespread in society. Several Labour MPs also left their party to form the Independent Group, saying that anti-Semitic (hostile to Jewish people) attitudes and bullying were common in the Labour Party.

In recent months there have also been stories about increasing numbers of Islamophobic (anti-Muslim) incidents, as well as other types of hate crime.

BUT WHAT IS A HATE CRIME?

There are different opinions, but the main definition of hate crime is "any criminal offence which is perceived [seen], by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on a personal characteristic."

The five main types of hate crime monitored by the police are those based on:

race or ethnicity

religion or beliefs

sexual orientation (such as being gay)

disability

transgender identity (for instance, someone who was born as a man, but now prefers to be seen as a woman)

The most recent police figures for England and Wales show that the number of hate crimes in 2017/18 were up 17% compared to the year before, and have more than doubled since 2012/13. The reasons why the numbers increased are quite complex, as it is largely due to the police improving the way they record these crimes.

There are also temporary spikes in hate crimes, such as the rise in Islamophobia after the Manchester Arena and London Bridge terror attacks.

Although attacks against Jews and Muslims have been in the news a lot lately, the vast majority (76%) of hate crimes still involve race. However, the Community Security Trust (CST) says that there were 1,652 anti-Semitic incidents in 2018, which is a 16% increase on the previous year. Nearly three-quarters of those incidents were in London and Manchester, which have the UK's largest Jewish populations. The CST says that the most common type of offence is people being verbally abused in the street, followed by attacks on social media.

Tell MAMA monitors Islamophobia, and their last annual report said that anti-Muslim incidents had increased by 46.9% overall between 2015 and 2016. However, the number of Islamophobic attacks increased by an enormous 475% in the two months after the EU referendum, when immigration was discussed in a very negative way.

Many women are also worried about levels of misogyny (dislike of women). Attacks on women by men aren't counted as hate crimes, but many people think they should be. The Law Commission is looking to see if any changes need to be made to the law, as there are worries that some groups have more protection than others.



Tackling hate crime is a big job

WHO ARE THE HATERS?

It's complicated and varies by area, but more than 82% of defendants in hate crimes are male. If you look at all of the cases to do with race and religion in 2017/18, 64.4% of defendants were white, 7.2% were black, and 5.1% were Asian. The Leicester Hate Crime Project just focused on their city, and they found that half of the offenders were people like neighbours and colleagues who knew their victims. The researchers say that the range of offenders "is much more diverse than is commonly assumed".

WHY DO THEY DO IT?

Some people claim they're defending their town or country. A small number seem to think it's their mission to rid the world of groups they think aren't as worthy, while others do it for revenge, such as after terror attacks. And this isn't a new thing: in the 1980s, many innocent Irish people living in the UK were the subject of hate crimes, due to a series of bombings carried out by an Irish terrorist group called the IRA.

Another category of people who commit hate crimes are those who are classed as 'thrill-seekers', although their motivation is complicated. Many of these offenders commit crimes in groups, and have often been drinking alcohol.

Some research has shown that an economic crisis can lead to an increase in hate crimes, but it's not a precise link. Bart Cammaerts at the London School of Economics told us that in an economic crisis "blame is often put at the doorstep of 'others', of foreigners, of migrants, of those 'that don't belong here', which in turn normalises racist attitudes and actions." So it's not the crisis itself, but rather "an irresponsible and vile political elite which uses an economic crisis to stir racism and hate of others."

The internet and social media have also opened up whole new areas where people can be bullied or insulted, especially from anonymous accounts.



Verbal and physical abuse based on someone's race is the most common form of hate crime in the UK

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

People are encouraged to report hate crimes and not stay silent about them. The police have already improved how they record hate crime, and the Crown Prosecution Service has made sure that people who commit hate crimes receive stiffer prison sentences. It is also making sure that online hate crimes are treated just as seriously as those committed face to face.

The Government is also working with schools to educate kids about hate crimes and to reduce the levels of bullying within schools, as bullying often involves the same issues as hate crimes.

If you feel that you or someone else has been the victim of a hate crime, you should report it to the police. To read more and find out how to report it, see the Childline page at [tinyurl.com/hatecrimeinfo](https://www.tinyurl.com/hatecrimeinfo).



11. SCIENCE NEWS

FirstNews ● Issue 663 ● 1 – 7 March 2019

SCIENCE
MUSEUM
GROUP

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

NAME THAT TUNE!

HAVE you ever had a bit of a song stuck in your head for no apparent reason?

They're called 'earworms', stuck song syndrome, or involuntary musical imagery (INMI), and are defined as a fragment of music that plays in a person's mind without actually hearing music.

They are being studied by the Royal Northern College of Music's Dr Michelle Phillips (below) and Dr Ionna Filippidi, who are looking at the differences in earworms after listening to live music versus recordings. Their findings will be presented at a special event at the Science and Industry Museum in Manchester on 27 April.

Pi: Earworms is part of a series of monthly events, where families can try fun hands-on activities, meet real-life scientists and find out about the latest discoveries. Visit www.scienceandindustrymuseum.org.uk for more information.

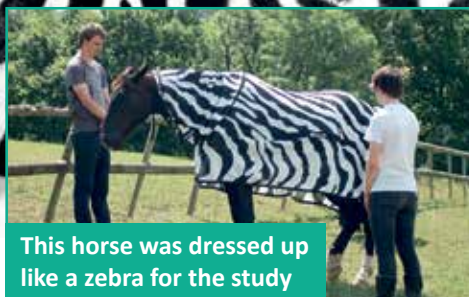


Science Museum Group

MIGHTY STRIPES



iStock



This horse was dressed up like a zebra for the study

by Eddie de Oliveira

SCIENTISTS have spent more than 150 years trying to work out why zebras have stripes. It seems they may have now found the answer.

Research by the University of Bristol and the University of California suggests the stripes are there to ward off pesky flies and stop them from biting. Scientists spent more than 16 hours standing in fields observing how horseflies behaved around horses, zebras and horses dressed up as zebras.

They found that the flies approached and circled all three, but far fewer landed on the zebras. To rule out any other factors – such as a smell the zebra might have given off – they put the stripy coats on horses. Flies continued to land on the horse's head, but not many landed on the coat. This gave scientists the proof they were looking for that it was the stripes that put off the flies.

But how? Well, from a distance, they don't make much difference, but up close, the stripes seem to dazzle the flies and confuse them. As a result, they don't slow down, which makes landing almost impossible.

Zebras are also better than horses at avoiding flies. They ran away and swished their tails at a far higher rate than horses. This meant that any flies that did manage to land on the zebra spent less time there, and very few were on long enough to bite and draw blood.

One of the leaders of the research, Dr Martin How, reckons humans can learn from the zebras and wear patterned clothing outdoors in the summer to keep flies away and reduce bites.

ANTI-VAX SCANDAL



iStock

Vaccines protect against potentially deadly diseases like measles

FACEBOOK is under fire for allowing 'anti-vax' groups to spread dangerous and false information on the network.

Anti-vaxxers are people who wrongly think that vaccinations against serious diseases such as measles can create serious health problems such as autism. There is not a shred of evidence to back up their claims.

But that hasn't stopped the anti-vax movement from gaining more and more support in recent years. A big reason for this is the spread of anti-vax stories in private groups on Facebook. One such group has more than 150,000 approved members.

With measles cases recently rising by 30% worldwide, and a US state forced to impose a state of emergency after 48 people contracted measles, scientists have called on Facebook to shut the groups down.

Other sites and apps have taken action in recent days. Pinterest has removed all search results for "vaccination", "vaccine" and "anti-vax". YouTube has also removed adverts from videos that promote anti-vax content.

tcs50

TATA
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SERVICES

INNOVATORS



Invention: Snowboard

Year: 1965

Inventor: Sherman Poppen

On Christmas Day 1965, American engineer Sherman Poppen wanted to encourage his daughters to get out of the house and enjoy the snow. He joined together a pair of children's skis to make a single, big board and called it a "Snurfer" (as in snow surfer). This is widely recognised as being the first known snowboard. An exciting, fast new winter sport was born.

Snowboarding reached a wider audience when James Bond gave it a go in the 1985 film *A View To A Kill*. It became an Olympic sport in 1998.

CARBON CAPTURE

CARBON dioxide can be removed from the air and turned into solid batteries.

That's the amazing conclusion by scientists in Australia, who successfully created a liquid metal that transforms CO₂ gas directly into solids at room temperature.

This breakthrough could make a big difference in the fight against climate change. That's because carbon emissions are contributing to global warming, and so the ability to take carbon out of the atmosphere and turn it into an energy source would be good for the planet. Previous attempts to turn CO₂ into solids have required very high temperatures, which used up a lot of energy.



iStock

Carbon emissions are warming Earth

THE BIG PICTURE

THIS incredible shot of two gannets feeding underwater has just scooped a Sony World Photography Award.

British photographer Tracey Lund captured the birds in action while on a trip to the Shetland Islands. She explained how she got the shot: “The photography takes place at sea around some of Shetland’s remotest headlands. Dead bait is used, using fish the gannets would normally eat, locally sourced around Shetland.”

The image, titled Underwater Gannets, has just been awarded the top prize in the Open Natural World & Wildlife category in the Sony World Photography Awards.

WEAR A HAT DAY

FRIDAY 1 March marks the beginning of Brain Tumour Awareness Month and starts the countdown to **Wear A Hat Day**, which takes place on **Friday 29 March**. Each year thousands of children, parents and teachers across the country join in to help raise money towards finding a cure for the disease.

WHAT IS A BRAIN TUMOUR?

When brain cells multiply and grow out of control, this can turn into a brain tumour, which is like a lump inside the brain. As our brain is surrounded by a hard skull, the tumour causes pressure to build up and can lead to headaches, seizures and other symptoms. We don't know what causes brain tumours, which is why research is so important.

Brain tumours are serious but they are quite uncommon. The chance of you getting a brain tumour is very small, but they do exist and can change people's lives. You can help to raise awareness by wearing your favourite hat on 29 March!

HOW TWO SISTERS ARE HELPING THE CAUSE

Rebecca Hale and Sophia Coomber from Plumstead in London join in Wear A Hat Day every year in memory of their sister Isabella. They don their favourite hats and ask their schools, friends and family to all join in the hatty fun.

This year they have gone one step further and helped the Brain Tumour Research charity to design two new pin badges for the event.

The sisters sketched a Viking helmet and a space helmet, and their drawings are now reality! Rebecca said: "For the past five years I have collected Wear A Hat Day pin badges and last year my sister Sophia and I designed our own and sent them to the charity. We were so excited when we found out the badges were being produced and we hope they will raise lots of money for the cause."

You can buy Rebecca and Sophia's badges for £1 each and every badge sold will help bring scientists closer to a brain tumour cure.



Venture Studios

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

There are lots of fun ways to get involved in Brain Tumour Awareness Month and Wear A Hat Day. It could be something simply like wearing your craziest hat and donating on the day, or you could make a day out of it, with fun activities for you and your friends.

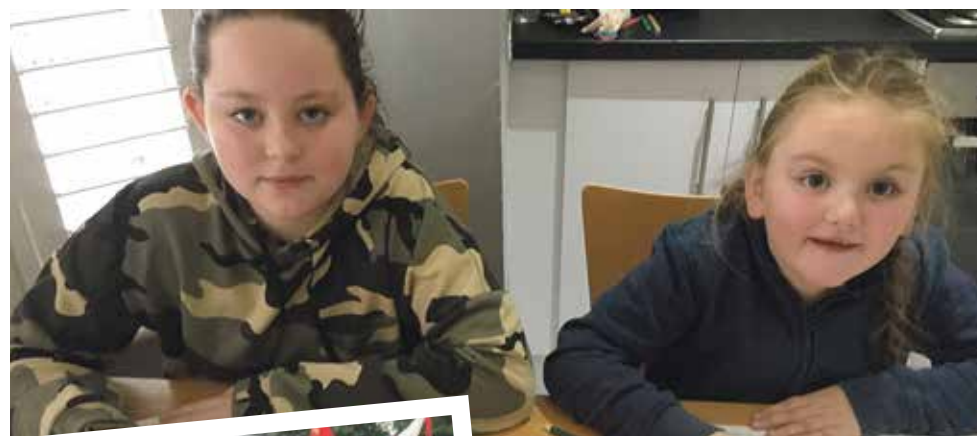
You could organise hat quizzes and competitions, have a hatty lunch or hat-themed bake-sale, stage a hat-tastic fashion show or even an Easter bonnet parade.

Whatever you choose to do, it will be for a great cause. Since it started, Wear A Hat Day has raised over £1 million and it wouldn't have been possible without children up and down the country joining in!

Register at www.wearahatday.org.



Venture Studios



Rebecca and Sophia



Sophia and Rebecca with their badges

TO REGISTER, GO TO WWW.WEARAHATDAY.ORG

14. ENTERTAINMENT

FirstNews • Issue 663 • 1 – 7 March 2019

AND THE WINNER IS...

LAST week we were treated to not one but two star-packed award shows. Here's all the gossip from the BRITs and the Oscars.

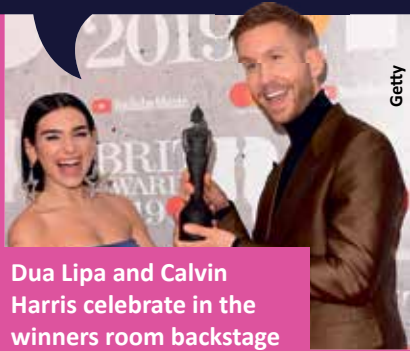


Little Mix took home the award for British Video for *Woman Like Me*.

THE BRITS

BACKSTAGE SECRETS

Calvin Harris bagged his first two BRIT Awards, for Music Producer of the Year and Best Single – for *One Kiss* with Dua Lipa – after being nominated 16 times.



Dua Lipa and Calvin Harris celebrate in the winners room backstage



Pink, who received the Outstanding Contribution award, arrived on stage from the ceiling to perform a medley of her hits

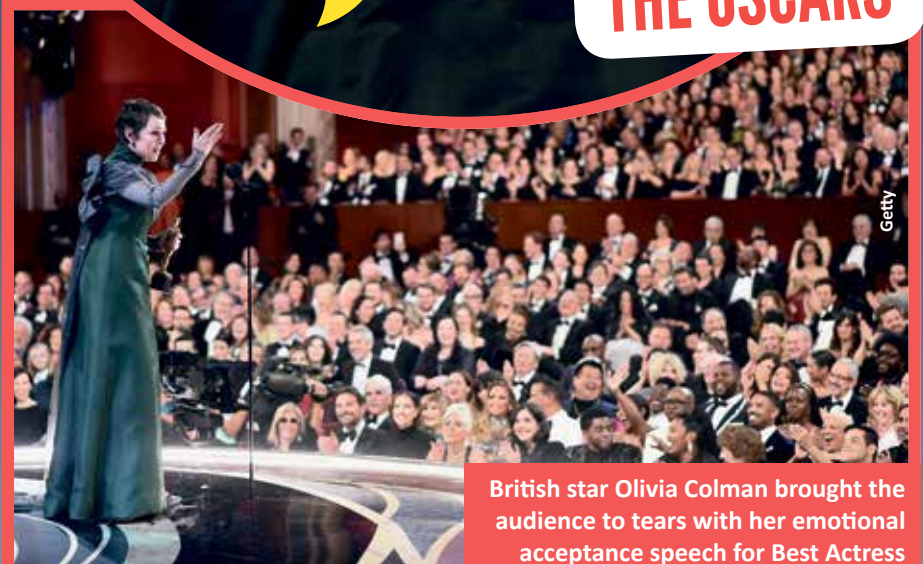


In celebration of the huge success of the *Greatest Showman* soundtrack (it spent 28 non-consecutive weeks at No1), Hugh Jackman opened the BRITs with a performance of *The Greatest Show* from the movie

FUN FACT

Lady Gaga has made history by being the first person to win an Oscar, Grammy, BAFTA and Golden Globe in the same year.

THE OSCARS



British star Olivia Colman brought the audience to tears with her emotional acceptance speech for Best Actress

BACKSTAGE SECRETS

Rami Malek was so excited after winning Best Actor that he fell off stage! Luckily he wasn't hurt.



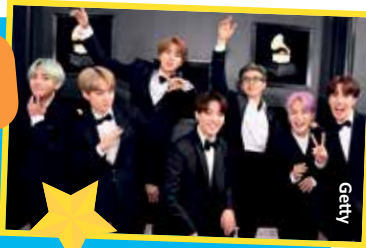
THIS WEEK

1 BTS have announced the dates of their *Love Yourself: Speak Yourself* world tour – and they're coming to the UK. The huge K-pop band will be performing at London's Wembley Stadium on 1 June 2019.

2 Director JJ Abrams has revealed that the filming on the latest *Star Wars* movie has officially wrapped. *Star Wars Episode IX* is due out on 19 December.

3 Hugh Jackman is a Guinness World Record holder! The actor received the honour for having the longest career as a live-action Marvel superhero for his role as Wolverine. He shares the record with fellow *X-Men* star Sir Patrick Stewart, who plays Professor Charles Xavier.

4 Avengers star Chris Hemsworth is set to play wrestler Hulk Hogan in a new movie. The Aussie actor, famous for playing Thor, is gearing up to play the WWE star in a story about his life for Netflix.



THEY'RE BACK!

GET ready for a first look at *Descendants 3*.

Disney has released a teaser for the movie about the children of Disney's famous heroes and villains. The third instalment in the series sees villain kids Mal, Evie, Carlos and Jay return to the Isle of the Lost to recruit a new batch of villainous offspring to join them at Auradon Prep. *Descendants 3* will air on Disney Channel later this year.



THE TV talent show where singers try to impress a panel of 100 experts is back. We caught up with singer Geri Horner, the head of the panel, to find out more.

WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR FROM THE PERFORMERS THIS YEAR?

Well, £50,000 is at stake. Every yes is a no to somebody else, so I was determined to be mindful of that and to raise the bar a little bit. I'm looking for someone who, as well as having great vocals, has more than that. It's a game. Not only do they need a great song, but the delivery has to be very, very engaging. It's more than just being a good singer, so everybody has to up their game.

DO YOU THINK YOU ARE A TOUGH HEAD OF THE 100?

I try to keep my feet on the ground and be mindful of that big prize to be won. I think it's unfair to the contestants if I don't keep that in mind, and really consider if something is engaging, and not just indulgent.

This isn't like any other talent show. It's not just about: "Look at me, I'm a great singer," it's so much more than that. I try to keep that in mind. I think I'm firm but fair.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT SINGING WITH OTHER PEOPLE?

It's such a lovely thing to do – it's warm, inviting and kind. *All Together Now* says it, it's uniting, it's a fantastic way to unite people. I think basically we like to feel part of something. When you sing with other people, if someone hits some high harmonies, say I'm in the middle, and someone goes to the bass, you suddenly get a beautiful blend, and everyone sounds better together.



Geri with the show's host, Rob Beckett

All Together Now returns on Saturday 2 March, 7.30pm on BBC One

16. BIG INTERVIEW

FirstNews • Issue 663 • 1 – 7 March 2019

● HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR HIGH-FLYING CHARACTER, CAPTAIN MARVEL?

There are two sides to the character of Captain Marvel. She's a powerful, diligent [hard-working and careful] warrior – but there's another part of her that makes mistakes and says things she shouldn't say. She's very relatable.

● WHAT DO YOU LOVE THE MOST ABOUT THE CHARACTER?

I love the fact that she has a very healthy ego. She doesn't shrink herself or make herself seem like her powers are less than they actually are. She owns it. I think that's great.

● CAPTAIN MARVEL IS A PILOT IN THE US AIR FORCE. WAS THAT FUN FOR YOU TO RESEARCH?

I flew in a real jet to prepare for the role, which was really exciting. I got to visit an Air Force base for two days to research that part of the story, which is where I met the first [American] female fighter pilot, General Leavitt. She was the first female to rise up the ranks in the US Air Force, but I also got to meet lots of other incredible female pilots there, too. And I got to go up in a plane.

● WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO SWOOP AROUND THE SKY IN A SUPER-SPEEDY JET?

I definitely got motion sickness up there. We simulated a dogfight and I asked the pilots: "What are the chances that I am going to puke?" They said: "It's 50/50." When we got up in the air, I was flipped around in every direction possible and I immediately started puking. In fact, I puked for most of the flight!



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BRIE LARSON:
"I PUKED FOR MOST OF THE FLIGHT"

ACTOR Brie Larson tells Adam Tanswell what it really takes to be the fierce superhero, Captain Marvel.

● HOW ELSE DID YOU PREPARE FOR THIS ICONIC ROLE?

I thought you have to do your own stunts when you sign up for a movie like this. For that reason, I trained for about nine months before we started shooting. I did a lot of strength training, as well as three months of fight training. The training was a lot of hard work!

● WHAT WERE YOUR FAVOURITE SCENES TO SHOOT?

I did some super-long fight sequences with aliens in the movie, which I loved. There's an alien race called the Skrulls in Captain Marvel. A lot of action scenes with the Skrulls were amazing to shoot.

● WHAT OTHER STUNTS DID YOU TACKLE FOR THE MOVIE?

I spent two days hanging upside down for one of the action sequences. That was pretty epic! In order to prep for that, they got me an inversion table and I practised on it for months.

● WHAT DID YOU USE TO HELP YOU SLIP INTO THE CHARACTER ON SET?

I always listen to music on set. I find that music helps me clear my mind and it helps me to get to exactly where I want to go. For Captain Marvel, I was listening to a lot of '90s female music. That became my fuel. I felt like I had an army of women behind me, which was great.



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CHARITIES SUPPORTED BY FIRST NEWS



Captain Marvel is in cinemas from 8 March

17. GAME ZONE

TOP TETRIS 99 TIPS

IF you're anything like us here at First News, you'll have been losing your mind over the maddest new battle royale game on the block, Tetris 99.

Free for all Nintendo Switch Online subscribers, the game pits you against 98 other Tetris players and you've got to survive longer than they do, by clearing as many lines as possible.

What you might not know is that Tetris 99 is actually a lot closer to Fortnite and other battle royale games than you might think!

For starters, every time you clear more than one line, or clear lines one after the other, you can send off 'attacks' in the form of lines to clear. The better you do, the more you can fire off. Using the right stick, you can choose who to aim these attacks at.

You can fire them off either randomly, at those aiming at you, at those who are close to losing or at those who have lots of 'badges'.

You collect badges when you're the one who sends off an attack that causes someone to lose. These badges are a lot like picking up some good loot in Fortnite – and make your attacks stronger!

Watching 99 people play Tetris isn't easy, so don't worry about keeping an eye on your opponents. Just keep an eye on the yellow lines, since they're an indicator of who's aiming at you.



If you've got a bunch of yellow lines on the screen, watch out! Try aiming at attackers to fend them off.

Hopefully, with these tips, you'll be feeling like less of a blockhead!



BOWSER TAKES OVER



Bowser (L) and Bowser (R)

THE president of Nintendo America is stepping down to be replaced by its vice president... Doug Bowser!

After 16 years as the head of Nintendo of America, Reggie Fils-Aimé is stepping down to retire. And no, we're not kidding – Nintendo really has been taken over by Bowser!

In a video message, Reggie explained that: "With a name like Bowser, who better to hold the keys to the Nintendo castle?"

"As I look forward to departing in both good health and good humour, this is not 'game over' for me, but instead 'levelling up' to more time with my wife, family and friends."

So long, Reggie!

DEMOS GALORE!

DEMOS are a free, awesome way to get to grips with a game before buying it – and some cool ones have been released this week!

On the Nintendo eShop, you can try the adorable new Yoshi game, Yoshi's Crafted World, as well as Pokémon:



Let's Go, Eevee/Pikachu, which we'd recommend, if you've not had a chance to play it yet!

On the Xbox, PlayStation and Nintendo Switch, there's

Awesome Pea, a game about being the fastest pea you can be (!), and the beta for Trials Rising, a chance for you to try out the latest in the awesome biking series.

Which demos will you be playing this week?

FOCUS ON YOU

TALKING BODY IMAGE

IT'S no secret that many people across the UK struggle with body image issues. This week Childline revealed that last year they spoke more than 2,000 times to children and young people who were worried about how they look.

The majority of these counselling sessions (88%) were with girls – the youngest aged 11 – who were concerned about their weight, having acne or not being 'body perfect'.

It's thought that one big reason that body image can become an issue for someone, is how bodies are shown on TV, in magazines and across social media.

Often, you'll see people who don't look like most of us, and it can give us distorted views of how we're 'supposed to look'.

Those bullied at school and online might try to change the way they look, which can lead to more serious issues, such as low self-esteem, depression and eating disorders.

Last week, TV presenter Stacey Solomon met with Dame Esther Rantzen at a Childline centre. There they spoke to a few of the counsellors about why so many young people are feeling unhappy with their appearance. After the visit, Stacey said: "Visiting Childline today and hearing from counsellors about how many young



Stacey Solomon (left) talks with a Childline counsellor

people are suffering from low body confidence and self-esteem is scary.

"It was inspirational to hear from Childline counsellors about how they give the armoury to young people to help build their confidence – it's fantastic this vital service is there to support them."



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 THEM ON 0800 11 11.

18. RED NOSE DAY DANCE OFF

FirstNews • Issue 663 • 1 – 7 March 2019

FirstNews

RED NOSE DAY

SCHOOL DANCE OFF

SIGN UP NOW TO THE FIRST NEWS RND DANCE OFF AT FIRST.NEWS/RND

The First News RND School Dance Off will take place for five minutes at 8.45am on Monday 11 March at schools across the country.

We need everyone together – kids, teachers, parents – either in the school hall or playground, dancing to our specially created RND song, *I Feel Like Dancing*. Can you think of a better way to start your day and start your week? Of course you can't!

Get your teacher to register your school at first.news/RND so that we know you're taking part. Your teacher will also be able to download the *I Feel Like Dancing* song and a Red Nose Day certificate for your school wall.

We'll also be choosing a school to come to film for our FYI show on Sky News and Sky Kids. And send us your own films and photos to show on FYI, our website and in First News itself.

We'd like everyone to donate £1 to take part so that Comic Relief can dance all the way to the bank with cash that will improve so many lives both here in the UK and internationally.

You will be helping people like Farhad. Read his story to the right.



WE WANT AS MANY SCHOOLS AS POSSIBLE TO SIGN UP AND JOIN IN THE
FIRST NEWS RND DANCE OFF SO THAT WE CAN ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
ASK YOUR TEACHER TO SIGN UP NOW AT FIRST.NEWS/RND

FARHAD'S STORY

"I want to be the best football player and painter in the world."

COMIC
RELIEF

RED NOSE DAY

FRIDAY 15 MARCH

FARHAD is a young boy with big dreams of one day becoming the best artist and footballer in the world.

The 12-year-old lives in a refugee camp in Belgrade, Serbia, with his mother, father and two younger brothers. They have been in

the Krnjača centre for nearly two years after leaving Iran in 2015 – where they were living as Afghan refugees – and spending a whole year travelling by foot, boat and car.

The journey was hard. Just crossing from Iran into Turkey took three attempts. The first two times they were caught by police. Smugglers finally got them into Turkey but it involved walking for more than ten hours along a snowy mountainous path with around 200 other people. After reaching Turkey, they again used smugglers to get a boat to Greece. It was laden down with people and the passengers had to throw any excess belongings into the water to stop the boat sinking. Farhad had to

chuck his pencils and sketch paper, which were so precious to him.

He said: "The boat was very heavy. The water was up the sides of the boat. They told us to put heavy things in the water. People even threw their phones. I had my colouring pencils and brushes with me. I threw them into the water. It was very dark. I was scared."

He and his family stayed in Greece for nine months before eventually making their way to Serbia. They dreamt of reaching Germany or Switzerland one day but, after reaching Serbia, they went to a refugee camp and informed the smugglers that they did not want to go any further.

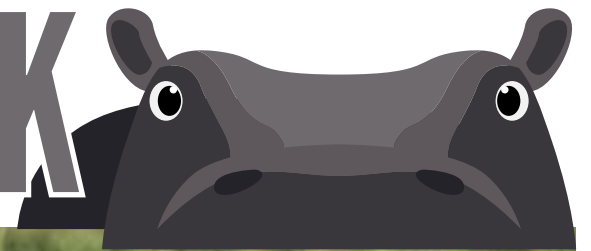
In the Krnjača camp, Farhad heard about a project where young people could go and learn a little. It was run by the Refugee Foundation Serbia, and it is supported by Comic Relief. The first time Farhad visited the project it was Christmas and staff were sharing gifts with the children. Over time, the staff realised he had a love of, and talent for, art and gave him some colouring pencils and paper so he could draw once again. They helped him learn the Serbian alphabet and English.

Farhad's artistic talents got noticed by the media and he displayed his drawings at an exhibition in Belgrade. His family also met with the president of Serbia and they have recently been given citizenship. They still live in the refugee camp and are unsure when they will be able to move out. But Farhad's parents hope they will soon be in a new home and their children will be able to attend school once again. And, of course, Farhad hopes he will soon be able to work towards his dream of being a world class artist or footballer one day.

Red Nose Day is an initiative of Comic Relief which is the trading name of Charity Projects, a registered charity in England and Wales (326568) and Scotland (SC039730)



HIPPOS UNDER ATTACK



OVER 1,200 hippos are at risk of dying in Zambia.

International wildlife charity Born Free has warned that 1,250 hippopotamuses living in Zambia's Luangwa Valley are at risk, as the Zambian government has approved a controversial cull – a hunt that will be open to trophy hunters. According to Born Free president Will Travers, the reasons behind the cull are unclear: "Originally it was to prevent an outbreak of anthrax. Then it was because there is a perceived [observed] hippo over-population. Yet none of these 'justifications' stand up to scrutiny [study]. The Zambian government's own research shows that previous culls have served only to increase the population growth rate, not reduce it. However, the killing of 1,250 hippos over five years could generate upwards of £2.6m for trophy hunting businesses and the Zambian government. Hippo lives are on the line in order to line the pockets of a few hunting operators and government officials."

There are only 130,000 wild hippos left in the world and they are under threat from poaching, wildlife trade and hunting for sport.



EAGLES IN WALES



RESEARCHERS at Cardiff University are investigating whether they can return an endangered species of eagle to the Welsh countryside.

Both the golden and white-tailed eagle were driven to extinction in Wales in the mid-1800s and the population in Europe is low. However, researchers at the Eagle Reintroduction Wales project hope they can bring them back to the landscape. Before releasing the birds into the wild, they first need to carry out a large study to check that it's a suitable habitat.

CHIMPS USE SIGN LANGUAGE

SCIENTISTS have discovered that chimpanzees 'talk' to each other using hand gestures that are similar to the sign language that humans use.

After studying videos of wild chimps living in Uganda's Budongo Forest Reserve, scientists at the University of Roehampton found that they used meaningful gestures to communicate with each other. The team discovered that the chimps' gestures are based on mathematical patterns, or laws, similar to those seen in human language. They analysed video recordings of more than 200 uses of 58 different types of 'play' gestures used by the chimps.

As well as using hand and foot gestures, chimps also communicate using noises, facial expressions and body postures.



SPECIAL DELIVERY

A ZOO in France has shown off a very rare arrival.

Soa is a female crowned sifaka who was born at the zoo in Besançon. The crowned sifaka is a critically-endangered member of the lemur family from Madagascar, where its habitat is in severe danger from farming and logging.

20. CRAZY BUT TRUE

HERE, KITTY, KITTY

WE'VE all heard about cats getting stuck up trees, but how about mountain lions?

This cougar was spotted stuck up a tree outside someone's home in the California desert, perched on a branch roughly 15m (50ft) above the ground.

The homeowner called officials to come and help the poor kitty. State wildlife officials had to tranquilise the feline before firefighters could lower the animal to the ground with a harness.

The big cat has since been given the all clear by vets and released back into the wild.

Just try and keep your feet on the ground from now on, puss!



PRO PASTIES

BAKED goodies are going head to head at this year's wacky World Pasty Championships.

Amateur and professional bakers from around the globe are invited to take part, showcasing their best pasty creations. There's even a junior round for people under 15.

The competition is taking place at the Eden Project in Cornwall on 2 March. Knife and fork at the ready!



TITANIC TOOTH

WE bet your baby teeth weren't as big as this when they fell out!

Ten-year-old Curtis Buddie from the USA recently snagged the Guinness World Record title for the longest milk tooth (baby tooth).

Curt's tooth measured a whopping 2.4cm (0.94in) when it was removed on 17 January 2018, smashing the previous record of 2cm (0.78in) set back in 2005.

Dentists call baby teeth deciduous teeth; they fall out when your permanent teeth appear.



Curt's brother referred to the baby tooth as a "monster's tooth" when he first saw it

COOL CHOPPER CINEMA

A MUM from Wiltshire has transformed a real-life helicopter into a home cinema for her 11-year-old son.

Maria Merry paid £950 for an old, disused aircraft and spent around £10,000 turning it into a home cinema for her and her son Freddie to enjoy.

The home cinema features a fridge, sofa bed, smoke machine, sound effects and a sweet dispenser! Best. Mum. Ever.



HAHA!

WHAT DID THE TREE WEAR TO THE POOL PARTY?
SWIMMING TRUNKS!

WHAT DO YOU CALL A THIEVING ALLIGATOR?
A CROOKODILE!



HAHA!

THANKS FOR SHARING THE LOLS!
SHARE YOUR JOKES WITH US AT NEWSDESK@FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK

RECORD OF THE WEEK

MOST CONSECUTIVE BACK HANDSPRINGS (ONE HAND)

THE most consecutive back handsprings (one hand) is 34 and was achieved by Zama Mofokeng (South Africa) in Tembisa, South Africa, on 4 March 2017.

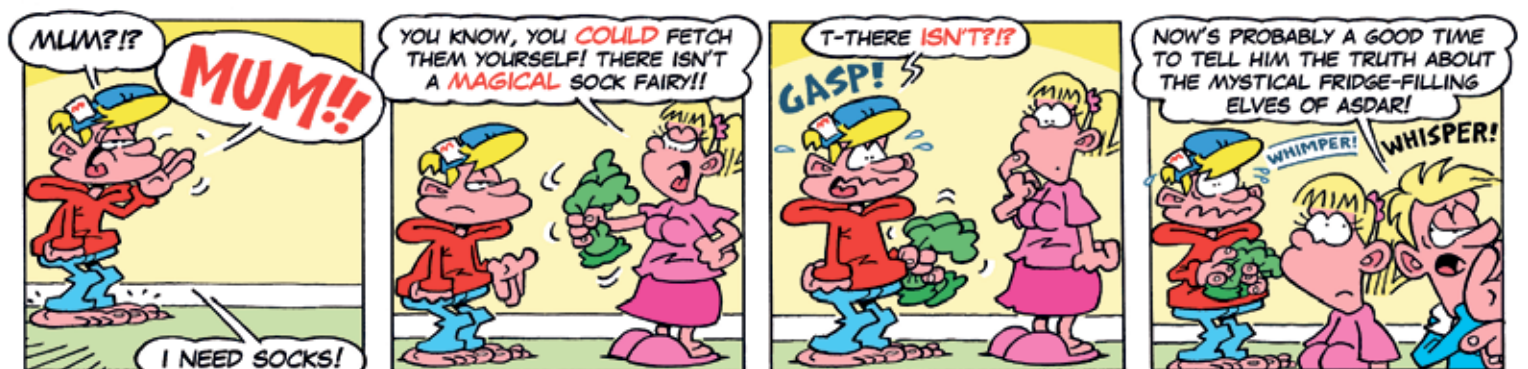
FOR INFO ON THIS RECORD AND HUNDREDS MORE, GO TO GUINNESSWORLDRECORDS.COM



WOW!



Written and illustrated by Paul Palmer



21. FIRST CAREERS

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PHILIP BORG

VISUAL EFFECTS ARTIST



IF you've seen *Avengers: Infinity War*, then you'll already have seen some of Philip's work, as he made some of the amazing 3D graphics that were featured in the film – like the pic of Spidey to the right!

● WHAT I DO

I'm a freelance visual effects artist working in the film industry. I create 3D computer graphics for things that can't be filmed in real life.

● HOW I GOT MY JOB

After university I did a short course in animation that connected the students with a mentor from the industry. From there, I was able to get some contacts and eventually I was offered some work experience. I wasn't there long before I was offered my first proper job.

● WHAT I LOVE ABOUT MY JOB

I love the collaborative nature of it, knowing that you are one of hundreds of creative people all working towards the same goal of producing a film that people will enjoy. Seeing your name at the end of a film is nice, too.

● WHAT'S DIFFICULT ABOUT IT

It's very stressful, as the demands placed on VFX [visual effects] facilities are increasing. Deadlines

get shorter, workloads increase, wages are going down and the audience expectation is going up. It can also be very isolating. VFX tends to happen in dark basement offices in central London, so we're disconnected from the filming out at studios like Pinewood and Shepperton. Sitting in a dark room in front of a computer monitor is also pretty unhealthy.

● WHAT SKILLS I NEED

Knowledge of the types of software we use is the most important thing. Sadly there's not much opportunity to be trained on the job, despite it being a very specialised field.

● WHERE YOU SHOULD START IF YOU WANT TO DO THE JOB, TOO

Watch lots of films and read about how the VFX was done; there are magazines and websites devoted to it. Learn to use 2D or 3D graphics software. There are free programs that teach you the basics, and those skills are transferable to professional software. Most of all, have fun exploring and being creative.

● WHAT SCHOOL SUBJECTS ARE IMPORTANT?

Most people will have at least a degree, but there are multiple pathways in. Common routes include computer science and programming for technical roles. Or fine art, art and design, or animation from a more creative angle. There are also people with experience in film-making and photography.



● HOW DO YOU THINK YOUR JOB COULD CHANGE IN THE FUTURE?

Some software can already light a virtual object to look like it exists in the same lighting environment as the scene you are looking at in the camera – that's what I do at work every day! So, a lot of the work we do by hand now could become automated very soon.

VISIT FIRSTCAREERS.CO.UK – A SHOWCASE OF HUNDREDS OF JOBS AND CAREER PATHS TO INSPIRE YOU



ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS
for 7-17 year olds

your
2019
ADVENTURE
BEGINS HERE



UP TO
40%
off*

➡ Bored in the holidays? Why not go on a PGL adventure? You'll get to try amazing activities like raft building, kayaking or abseiling, make new friends and enjoy the best of the great outdoors. Plus we now have an amazing 'up to 40% off!'. What are you waiting for?

Call free on 0800 840 3744 or visit www.pgl.co.uk/40



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22. BOOKS

FirstNews • Issue 663 • 1 – 7 March 2019

WORDS FOR LIFE



KAYE Umansky's first book was a book of songs for children called *Phantasmagoria*. Amazingly, it's still in print! Kaye's first novel (*Pongwiffy – a witch of dirty habits*) came out in 1985. Seven more books about Pongwiffy followed, and lots of books about witches. Here, Kaye tells us what storybook character she would be.

“ I can't choose between Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* or Mole in *The Wind In The Willows*. ”



TO READ KAYE'S FULL INTERVIEW, VISIT WORDSFORLIFE.ORG.UK/AUTHOR-INTERVIEWS. FOR BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS, ACTIVITIES AND GAMES, GO TO WORDSFORLIFE.ORG.UK.

BOOK REVIEW

MARY SHELLEY
(RETOLD BY DEANNA McFADDEN)
FRANKENSTEIN

Reviewed by Momo Simsuchin,
Varee International School, Chiang
Mai, Thailand

Frankenstein is a cold and chilling gothic horror story about a scientist called Victor Frankenstein who wants to conquer the world of science with his new discovery.

He makes a creature from dead body parts and we follow the lives of both of them after the fateful night when the (nameless) creature comes to life.

We journey with them all over Europe and experience the world through the eyes of an outcast – the creature.

The book is full of adventure and surprise. I couldn't believe it was first published in 1818. Boys just like me must have been enjoying it more than 200 years ago!



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

WHAT'S IN THE SHOPS?

PUZZLES

DEATH STAR MAZE FINDMEAGIFT.CO.UK £7.11

This Death Star Maze isn't capable of destroying a planet, but it is, however, a fun and challenging ball-in-a-maze puzzle that fans of the epic movie *Star Wars* will love. You may need to 'use the Force' as you turn and tilt this puzzle to guide the small ball bearing to the super laser.



KANOODLE EXTREME BRIGHTMINDS. CO.UK £12.99

Rearrange the colourful pieces to solve the 2D and 3D puzzles. Featuring 300 brainteasing puzzles, simply pick a puzzle from the book, set up the challenge and then place the remaining plastic game pieces to solve the puzzle.



GEARBLOX PUZZLE IWANTONEOFTHOSE.COM £8.99

The Gearblox Puzzle is a fun, highly-addictive cube puzzle. Shapes and colours are changed each time the cube is twisted or turned. Built with a complex arrangement of gears and blocks, the aim is to match the colours on each of the six faces. How long will it take you to complete it?



All prices correct at time of printing.

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We are extremely passionate about the environment and we are always looking at ways to reduce waste throughout the company and across all of our products. Our paper comes from sustainable sources. The polyfilm we use to wrap mailed copies is fully recyclable and also has a special additive that allows it to degrade much quicker than normal plastic, should it end up in landfill by accident.



LEGO TOWN

by Matilda

SAFFRON Walden residents Matilda and her dad Andrew spent their January evenings and weekends building a replica model of the town's historic market square, including the much-loved library – which may soon have its opening hours reduced.

"Me and my dad decided to make our LEGO town because I really like LEGO and spend most of my time building with it. I also love our library.

While dad made the structure and buildings, I concentrated on the characters, details and stalls. We started making it over Christmas, because I got the *Harry Potter* LEGO set and felt inspired to use some of the bricks because some of them are cool!

Some of the people I made are real. Near the fish stall in the white outfit is 'Dan the Fish Man', and the lady holding a pretzel is Chloe, who runs the bread stall. It took about a week, because we did a bit every day.

Some of the stalls we had to miss out because there wasn't enough room. Just in case you don't know, our library is in pride of place in Saffron Walden, my local town.

If you love LEGO too, why not try to make your own town, city or village square? You could do it micro scale, mini doll or mini figure or giant!

Whatever you do, just enjoy making, creating and admiring it."

JUNIOR
JOURNALIST



Matilda and her LEGO town



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.

BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISING

by Lila Arbel



Lila

I HAVE just turned 11, and I want to tell you about how I donated my birthday to the charity War Child, which helps and educates children in war-stricken countries.

I read about the charity in First News and I really admired

what they do and wanted to support them somehow.

With my mum, I went onto their website and found out that one of the ways you can raise money for them is by donating your birthday – asking people to donate to the charity instead of giving you a present.

My mum helped me set up my fundraising page on JustGiving and I set my target to £250. On the first evening, I'd already raised 20% of my target. After a brief period when I didn't get any donations, the

percentages started to shoot up really fast. I got donations from loads of people, including a really unexpected and super-generous donation from one of my best friends. She also sent a really long and encouraging message about my fundraiser that made me feel like what I do really matters and is worth doing.

My friends came to my party with lots of donations and I passed my target! I was so excited. My final amount was £397!

War Child really inspired me to help other people and to do my best for the future of children less fortunate than myself. I hope it will do the same to others.

JUNIOR
JOURNALIST

BAREFOOT ADVENTURE

by Matteo, Joe, Kiana, Isla and Nyah

ON Wednesday 30 January, five very lucky digital leaders from Ashmount Primary School were invited to the Barefoot celebration at BT Towers.

When we arrived, we realised how fancy it was. We were given name tags, a delicious breakfast and we went in a special lift that made our ears pop.

Once we stepped out of the futuristic lift on the 34th floor, we saw the sun glaring in and the amazing outline of London's skyline.

As part of the celebration, two of our digital leaders, Joe and Nyah, each gave a speech about how Barefoot's computer curriculum resources are really fun to use and how they are fantastically educational, too. After that we shared a Barefoot rap that we had written.

We received many brilliant compliments and were rewarded with an amazing goody bag that contained a Rubik's Cube, a notebook, pens, posters and even a gold-plated statute of the BT Tower! We decided to use the notebook to collect signatures from the fantastic creators of Barefoot.

We had a wonderful time and it was a really brilliant experience. Go Barefoot!

Having fun



SCHOOL
NEWS

SUBSCRIBE FOR SCHOOL – FIND OUT MORE AT SCHOOLS.FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK
CALL: (020) 3195 7256 EMAIL: SCHOOLS@FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK

24. PUZZLES

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WIN! AWESOME HEROES BOOK

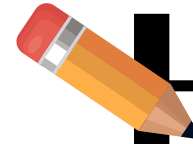
HAVE a go at our sudoku and fill in the numbers one to nine. Send in your answers and three lucky winners will win a copy of *The LEGO® Movie 2™ Awesome Heroes!* Join Emmet, Lucy, Batman and Unikitty from *The LEGO® Movie 2™* on their new adventures in this exciting book.

www.dk.com/uk



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

WORD LADDER



HALF

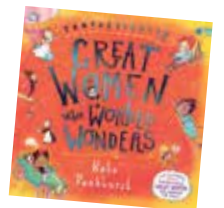
SEE if you can get from the top of the ladder to the bottom by changing one letter at a time to make a new word.



LIFE

WIN! GREAT WOMEN WHO WORKED WONDERS BOOKS

CAN you complete our crossword by using the clues below? Send in your answers and three lucky winners will each win a copy of *Great Women Who Worked Wonders*. Prepare to discover the stories of some of the most amazing women who blazed the trail for women in the world of work.



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

ACROSS

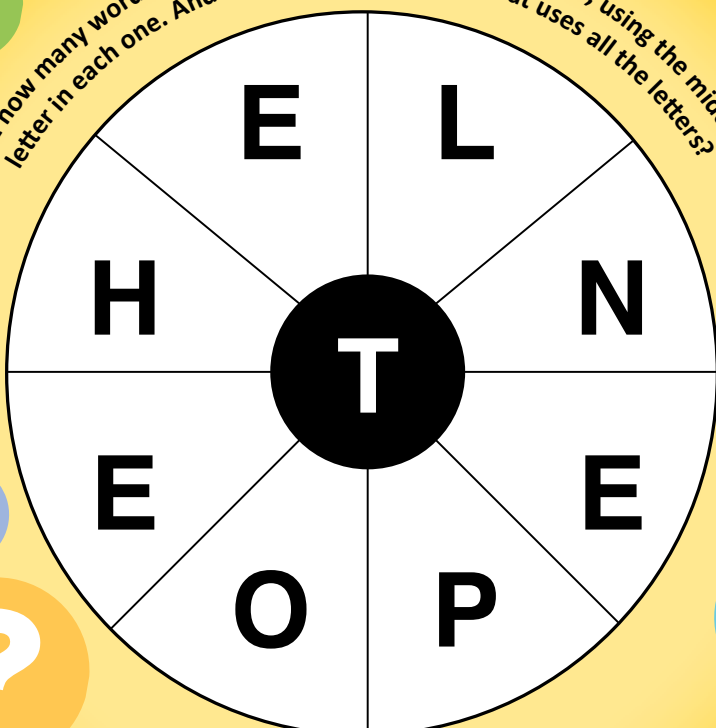
- 1 Food item that grows on palm trees (7)
 4 Nocturnal bird of prey (3)
 6 Metal money (4)
 7 Camera part (4)
 8 Story for young children (5,4)
 10 Australian marsupials (9)
 12 Inactive or doing nothing (4)
 13 The froth produced by soap (4)
 14 Sight organ (3)
 15 Loving dearly (7)

DOWN

- 2 Steep hill by the sea (5)
 3 London ____ : transport system using tube trains (11)
 5 People who tune in to radio shows (9)
 6 The direction the hands on a watch move (9)
 7 Game of luck (5)
 9 Disagree about; quarrel (5)
 11 ____ Arabia: Middle Eastern state (5)

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?



25. PUZZLES

HOW TO ENTER:

Send your finished puzzles to Puzzles 663, First News, 7 Playhouse Court, 62 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 0AT. Or by email to win@firstnews.co.uk. The closing date for puzzle entries is Thursday 7 March 2019.

WIN! THE GRINCH DVDS

CAN you spot the five changes to this picture from *The Grinch*? Send in your answers and four lucky winners will each win a copy of the DVD. Benedict Cumberbatch lends his voice to the Grinch, who lives a solitary life inside a cave on Mount Crumpit with only his loyal dog, Max, for company.

Dr. Seuss' *The Grinch* is available on digital now, and on 4K Ultra HD, 3D Blu-ray, Blu-ray, DVD and on demand on 11 March from Illumination and Universal Pictures Home Entertainment.



WORDSEARCH

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

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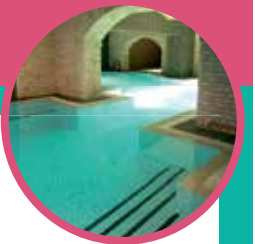
- ☐ Bard
☐ Globe
☐ Romeo
☐ Comedies

- ☐ Stratford
☐ King Lear
☐ Playwright
☐ Macbeth

- ☐ Theatre
☐ Tragedies
☐ Othello
☐ Juliet



WIN! THE ULTIMATE SPA DAY FOR YOUR MUM



BUYAGIFT.CO.UK are giving away an ultimate spa day your mum or the mother figure in your life... just in time for a Mother's Day treat!

Both Bannatyne spas at Bury St Edwards and Kingsford Park are surrounded by exquisite countryside, as well as being conveniently placed just a few minutes from the centre of town, so no matter which one she chooses, your mum's guaranteed a relaxing experience.

A working partnership with Elemis means beauty therapies and spa rituals at Bannatyne are a cut above the rest. Your mum and her guest can both choose three luxurious treatments! An energising facial will be followed by your mum's choice of two of the following 15-minute treatments: scalp massage, leg massage, hand and arm massage, back massage and foot massage. She can spend the rest of the day trying out the extensive facilities, which include exercise studios as well as the luxurious heated swimming pool, sauna, steam room, and spa pool!

A delicious light lunch will be the icing on the cake of a perfect spa day! To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

On which part of the body would you have a manicure?
a) Feet b) Head c) Hands

buyagift

Visit www.buyagift.co.uk to view the experience.

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY GIFT

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see below. The closing date is 14 March 2019.

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' (eg, Holiday), First News, 7 Playhouse Court, 62 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 0AT. **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 Group Enterprises 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: bird has been added, badge on jacket added, earphone has been added, girl's hand is missing, handle of sword has been removed.

Word ladder: roll, toll, tall, talk, tack, back.

Word wheel: political. **What on Earth:** strawberry, rhubarb, cranberries, watermelon, cherry, raspberry.

3	4	8	7	2	5	6	1	9	D	I	S	G	R	A	C	E	F	U	L
7	9	5	3	1	6	2	8	4	E	O	L	O	T	U	O				
1	2	6	9	8	4	7	5	3	M	E	A	N	O	T	U	T	O		
4	1	3	5	9	7	8	6	2	O	R	E	G	U	L	A	R			
8	5	7	6	4	2	3	9	1	N	I	D	O	S						
2	6	9	8	3	1	5	4	7	S	L	O	T	H	A					
9	8	2	4	6	3	1	7	5	T	H	E								
5	3	4	1	7	8	9	2	6	R	C	E	L	S	I	U	S			
6	7	1	2	5	9	4	3	8	A	J	A	R	S						
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26. FAMILY FUN!

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FirstNews QUIZ

1. ACCORDING TO A GROUP OF SCIENTISTS, WHY DO ZEBRAS HAVE STRIPES?



HAVE a go at our First News Quiz! 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.

2. WHO HAS RECENTLY BECOME THE MOST SENIOR WOMAN IN THE BRITISH ARMED FORCES?

4. WHEN DOES 'WE DAY' TAKE PLACE?



6. WHAT DID MARIA MERRY CREATE FROM AN OLD HELICOPTER?

3. TEACHER ANDREW MOFFAT IS A FINALIST IN WHICH COMPETITION?



5. IN WHICH YEAR DID SHERMAN POPPEN INVENT THE SNOWBOARD?

7. WHO IS SET TO PLAY WRESTLER HULK HOGAN IN A NEW FILM?



WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED THIS WEEK?



8. 2025 IS THE YEAR IN WHICH THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE WANTS ALL NEW HOMES TO BE FREE FROM WHAT?

ANSWERS:
1) To stop flies landing on them
2) Sue Gray 3) Global Teacher Prize
2019 4) 6 March 5) 1965
6) a cinema 7) Chris Hemsworth
8) gas hobs or boilers

FIRST WONDER BOX

BOXES FULL OF DISCOVERY



From the team behind FirstNews

The perfect screen-free adventure!

Introducing First Wonder Boxes – packed with themed activities, games and puzzles, and delivered to your door every fortnight.

Each box is designed to help 4 to 8-year-olds develop vital skills, while growing in confidence as they learn about the world.



GET YOUR FIRST BOX HALF PRICE FOR JUST £3.99! VISIT WWW.FIRSTWONDERBOX.CO.UK

After your first box, your subscription will continue at just £7.99 (including delivery) every two weeks. Our flexible subscription service means that you can pause your boxes if you want to take a break. Or of course, you can cancel your subscription easily.

WIN! A PLAYFOAM PALS FANTASY FRIENDS BUNDLE

YOU will love opening the colourful Playfoam® Pals™ Fantasy Friends pods to reveal your magical surprise collectable.

Heads and bodies can be mixed and matched for endless character combinations. Each surprise pod includes Playfoam, a mystery Pal and collection checklist. There are 12 pals to collect, with a super-rare wizard named Hank to find, too!

Playfoam never dries out so can be used again and again straight from the pod. Completely mess-free, Playfoam is parent friendly, too – it doesn't stick to hands, clothes or carpet and can be used again and again, as it never dries out no matter how many times it's squashed or moulded.

Five lucky winners will each win ten Playfoam® Pals Fantasy Friends. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:



What is the name of the super-rare wizard?

a) Frank b) Hank c) Harry

Visit www.learningresources.co.uk for more information

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY PALS

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 25. The closing date is 14 March 2019.

SPORT IN PICTURES



Getty

Italy's Federica Brignone picked up her third women's alpine combined win in a row at the Alpine Ski World Cup meet in Crans-Montana, Switzerland

Jess Breach of England holds off Jasmine Joyce of Wales during their Women's Six Nations match. England won 51-12



Getty



Getty

Greek tennis star Stefanos Tsitsipas won his first ATP title of the year with victory at the Open 13 Provence in Marseille, France. He beat Mikhail Kukushkin 7-5, 7-6 in the final



Getty

Chelsea's Kepa Arrizabalaga refuses to be substituted during the League Cup final against Manchester City



Getty

Hunter Bailey of the USA goes airborne at the men's Freestyle Skiing World Cup in Senboku, Japan



Getty

Liang Meiyu of China celebrates a goal during the Pro League match against Great Britain in Changzhou, China. GB went on to secure a 3-2 shoot-out win

SPORT IN NUMBERS

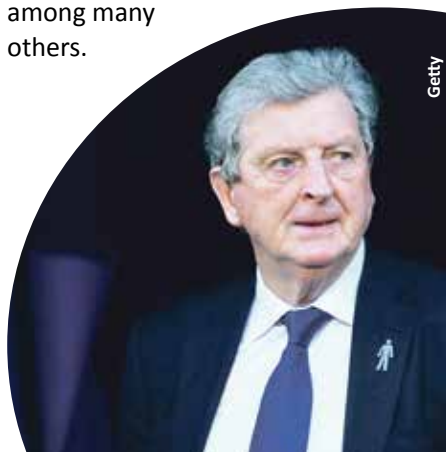
3 wins from three races made it a perfect start for Álvaro Bautista in his first ever World Superbikes (WSB) appearance. Spain's Bautista, who has switched to WSB after nine years in MotoGP, is only the second rider ever to win all his opening races. Reigning champion Jonathan Rea finished second in the three opening-round races at Phillip Island, Australia.



Getty

11-time women's snooker world champion Reanne Evans lost 54-26 to Jimmy White at this year's Shoot Out in Watford. Evans became the first woman to compete on TV in the final stages of a ranking event. The tournament involves one-frame matches that each last for just ten minutes.

71 years and 198 days is how old Roy Hodgson was last Saturday when his team, Crystal Palace, beat Leicester 4-1. That makes him the oldest person ever to take charge of a Premier League game. The former England boss began his management career in Sweden in 1976, and has coached Inter Milan, Liverpool, Switzerland, Blackburn and Fulham, among many others.



Getty

India's players celebrate as England finish all out for 161

ENGLAND WALLOPED

ENGLAND'S women's cricket team fell to a huge defeat in the second one-day international (ODI) of their three-match series against India in Mumbai.

The hosts won the second ODI by seven wickets, after world champions England finished on 161 all out. Five English batters could only manage single-figure totals, while three scored none at all. The only bright spark for the tourists was Natalie Sciver, who scored an impressive 85 – the highest scorer on either side.

The defeat means India have wrapped up the series with a match to spare. The third and final fixture was due to be played yesterday (Thursday), with points for the International Cricket Council's Women's Championship (IWC) up for grabs. The top four teams in the IWC will enjoy early qualification for the 2021 World Cup.

England captain Heather Knight was disappointed with her side's performance. "It's really frustrating," she said. "We haven't shown what we can do this series."

BCCI Women/Twitter

Josh Adams of Wales celebrates after he scores his team's second try

DRAGONS ON FIRE!

WALES have made history after beating England 21-13 in rugby union's Six Nations Championship.

The Welsh staged a superb comeback in Cardiff after trailing 10-3 at half-time. With 13 minutes left on the clock, Cory Hill's try put the home side ahead.

The victory means that Wales have now won 12 Test matches in a row, which is a new record for them. They have also won nine straight matches at home for the first time in 20 years.

After the game, head coach Warren Gatland paid tribute to his players. "It's a pretty special group of boys at the moment – in fact, a brilliant group," he said.

For England, the result was a big contrast to their first two Six Nations performances, in which they beat Ireland and France. In other results, France defeated Scotland 27-10 and Ireland won 26-16 in Italy.

Getty