

P12 EXCLUSIVE HEALTH SECRETARY INTERVIEW



P7 JETPACK RACES TAKE OFF!



P11 MYTHS ABOUT MIGRANTS



FirstNews

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TRUSTED NEWS TO MAKE YOUNG PEOPLE THINK

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

COULD YOU SAVE A LIFE?



ALL SCHOOLS TO TEACH LIFE-SAVING LESSONS

HAVING someone's life in your hands is scary.

But, you'd feel better if you knew that your hands could save their life.

That's why the Government is adding CPR to the school curriculum in England, meaning thousands of secondary school pupils will learn life-saving first aid skills.

Education Secretary Damian Hinds says all young people in England will have been taught how to administer CPR, the purpose of defibrillators, and basic first aid treatments for common injuries, by the time they leave secondary school.

Now, only one in ten of the 30,000 people a year who have cardiac arrests (their hearts stop) out of hospital survive.

by editor in chief Nicky Cox

In other countries where CPR is already taught in schools, cardiac arrest survival rates are more than double those of the UK.

Mr Hinds said: "On arriving at university I was struck that the American students I met knew how to do CPR – and I didn't have a clue. As a father I want my children to have the knowledge and skills they need to keep themselves safe and help others and, as Education Secretary, I want that for every child.

"Learning the basic skills of first aid

and techniques like CPR will give young people the confidence to know that they can step in to help someone else in need, and in the most extreme cases it could potentially save a life."

Every school will need to be teaching the new life-saving lessons by 2020, but schools can get support to start earlier.

British Heart Foundation chief Simon Gillespie said: "Each day people needlessly die because bystanders don't have the confidence or knowledge to perform CPR and defibrillation. This is why all schoolchildren should be given the opportunity to learn these skills."



OLLY MURS P16

THE VOICE VS X FACTOR



A FOX IN THE KITCHEN?! P19

WHAT IS A "NO DEAL" BREXIT?

P5



2. QUICK NEWS

1. NATIONAL TV AWARDS

A host of stars have been nominated for this year's National Television Awards. Ant and Dec are up for best TV presenters for the 18th time in a row!



2. WEIRD CALLS

The Foreign Office has released a list of some of the unusual calls it's received from British people overseas. Among them was a call from someone in America asking who had been voted off *Strictly Come Dancing*. Another was from a man asking if there are vampires in Poland and a third was from a caller in the Netherlands asking about the plot of the movie *Braveheart*. The Foreign Office usually receives calls to help people who have been arrested or ended up in hospital while in other countries.



3. GIANT PIGGY

A giant straw piglet is being built in Manchester to celebrate the Chinese New Year in February. The sculpture, called Penny Coin Piglet, is being created by UK artist Alex Rinsler to tie in with the Year of the Pig.

4. RHINO INCIDENT

A two-year-old girl was injured after falling into a rhino enclosure at a zoo in Florida. The little girl fell between some steel poles at Brevard Zoo, during a special hands-on experience. The zoo said it has suspended the experience while it reviews its safety procedures.

5. DEPRESSION LINKED TO SOCIAL MEDIA

Girls are twice as likely to show signs of depression linked to social media use, compared to boys at age 14, according to new research by UCL. That could be because girls were found to use social media more and for longer periods. The findings also showed that girls said they had more experience of cyberbullying, and their sleep was disrupted.

20 THINGS TO KNOW AND TELL

QUICK NEWS TO READ YOURSELF AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS

6. BOTTLE SCHEME

A plastic bottle deposit scheme is proving successful for Iceland supermarkets. The scheme sees shoppers get 10p for every plastic bottle they recycle at a special vending machine. The supermarket says 311,500 bottles have been received since the trial began last year. That means shoppers have earned more than £30,000 for their environmental efforts.

7. GIFTS GIVEN BACK

One in four festive gifts bought online is returned, according to the Centre for Economics and Business Research in London. That means about £4.8 billion is refunded, from the estimated £19 billion made in online sales.

8. CRUCIAL CHICKS

Two incredibly rare Socorro dove chicks have hatched at Chester Zoo. The chicks belong to a species that was declared extinct in the wild 47 years ago. The animals' arrival is really special because there are fewer than 200 of them remaining in the world and all are living in human care. Currently, work is being carried out on Socorro Island, near Mexico, to try to create safe areas for the doves to be reintroduced into.



9. BABY RETURNED

A 17-month-old baby was safely returned to her parents, after a thief stole the car she was sitting in. Maria Tudorica was in the passenger seat of the car when a man stole it. Thankfully, police later found the little girl safe and well.

10. MOVIE HISTORY

Sandra Oh became the first Asian woman to ever host the Golden Globes last week. The actress, who also won an award, praised the diversity at this year's event. Lots of other British stars were also honoured at the ceremony, which kick-starts the awards season in Hollywood.

11. YACHT FOUND

A yacht that was used by a teenager in a sailing record attempt has been found in the sea after more than eight years! Abby Sunderland hoped to become the youngest person to sail round the world solo in 2010, but had to be rescued after the vessel capsized during rough seas. The yacht has now been spotted for the first time, overturned off the coast of Australia.

12. GO GAMER

A nine-year-old girl from Japan will become the youngest-ever professional player of the board game Go. Sumire Nakagawa started playing the strategy game when she was just three!

13. SCIENCE HERO

A young boy from California travelled all the way to the UK to meet his science hero over the holidays. Ajay Sawant met YouTube star Sir Martyn Poliakoff in Nottingham and learnt all about making a glowstick and creating reactions using dry ice.

14. WALKING PRIORITY

Walkers and cyclists should be given priority over drivers when new roads are built, says the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). It's hoped that by encouraging people to be more active, it would help to tackle obesity.



15. MIGRANTS ON THE MOVE

The number of migrants crossing the English Channel has increased in recent months. Home Secretary Sajid Javid declared a major incident in December and deployed a Royal Navy ship to deter boats from coming. Lots of people are unhappy with his handling of the situation, though, especially after Mr Javid made a comment about whether some of the refugees were genuine.

16. FLY TO SWIM

Three children could possibly be the most dedicated group of kids learning to swim in the UK – their lessons involve a flight across the North Sea from a remote Scottish island! Freyja and Grace Parnaby and Lewis Wright-Stanners have to take regular flights from Fair Isle to a tiny airstrip on Shetland so that they can have swimming lessons. The children take the 25-minute flight with their head teacher and travel 55 miles!

17. EMERGENCY HELP

Emergency homeless shelters opened across London last weekend, to protect those living on the streets from the extreme cold weather. The shelters provided 700 extra beds.

18. TOILET TROUBLE

A new roadside toilet for bus drivers has had to be removed in Biggin Hill, Bromley, after local residents complained about its unpleasant appearance. The invention has been dubbed the Turdis because it looks like the Doctor's TARDIS! Around 40 of the toilets are due to be installed on bus routes by Transport for London.

19. SUPER MOON

Did you know a super blood moon is coming between 20 and 21 January?! This is another way of explaining a total lunar eclipse, when the Earth moves between the sun and the moon.

20. ROONEY ARREST

Wayne Rooney has been arrested in Virginia and charged with being drunk and disorderly in public. A spokesperson for Rooney said the incident happened when the star became "disorientated" after taking sleeping tablets on a flight.

3. BIG NEWS

NEW PLAN TO SAVE LIVES



PM Theresa May and Health Secretary Matt Hancock talk to staff at Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust as they launch the ten-year plan

by editor in chief Nicky Cox

HALF a million lives could be saved, thanks to a new plan for England, say health bosses.

The latest technology will be used to spot health problems early. And GPs, mental health and community care will get big funding increases.

The prime minister, Theresa May, asked for the NHS Long Term Plan to be drawn up when she announced extra funding for the health service last summer on its 70th birthday. The money to be spent will grow by £20bn a year by 2023.

Mrs May says it is a "historic" moment for the NHS and will help pay for "world class" treatments. But Labour's shadow health secretary, Jon Ashworth, says the plan doesn't have the staffing nor enough funding to succeed. Unions (organisations that represent some workers) agree staff shortages could be a problem – right now 1 in 11 jobs need to be filled. UNISON head of health Sara Gorton said: "Without the staff, there is no NHS."

However, NHS England chief executive Simon Stevens says the NHS plans to train between 25% and 50% more nurses and has five new medical schools ready to train doctors.

The plan is being welcomed. Prof Carrie MacEwen, of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, said: "It's good to have a plan which sets a clear direction for the NHS."

And Emma Thomas, boss of the YoungMinds charity, said the mental health promises being made in the plan were very welcome and "could make a huge difference to the lives of many young people and their families who are desperate for help".

Turn to p12 for 5 Questions in 5 Minutes with Government Health Secretary Matt Hancock



EDITOR'S COMMENT



THERE are two big health news stories this week.

On our front page, we cover the announcement that you are going to get first aid lessons in school so that you can help if someone is in trouble.

The Government has also announced a new plan for the NHS that doctors think could save 500,000 lives, which will include help and advice about how we can all live healthier lives (this page and p12).

New year, new healthy goals!

RETWEET RECORD

A JAPANESE billionaire has set a new record for the most retweeted tweet of all time – although it's going to cost him more than £700,000!



Maezawa's post has been retweeted 5.5m times

Usually when something goes viral on Twitter it's because it's really funny or touches a nerve, but Yusaku Maezawa's tweet was really popular because he bribed people to retweet it.

Maezawa wanted to drum up some publicity for his clothing company, so he said that he would randomly pick 100 people from those who reposted his tweet and give them a share of 100m yen, which works out at around £7,200 per person.

The record previously belonged to Carter Wilkerson, who got 3.6m retweets after begging fast-food chain Wendy's for free chicken nuggets.

GOOD WEEK FOR...

BOOKSHOPS

FOR the second year in a row, the number of independent bookshops in the UK has increased. However, many shop owners still say it's unfair that online companies like Amazon get away with paying much lower business rates.



BAD WEEK FOR...

SHOWER GEL

SALES of soap have gone up by nearly 3% in the past year. It's thought the rise is because families are more aware of plastic waste, and are deciding against buying bottles of shower gel.



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4. NEWS IN PICTURES



TIJUANA, MEXICO

Getty

HONDURAN migrants climb over the US-Mexico border fence. The US government is going into the third week of a partial shutdown, with politicians from the Republicans and Democrats in deadlock over President Donald Trump's demands for more money to build a big wall along the border.



LONDON, ENGLAND

Getty

A ZOOKEEPER counts the goats during the annual stocktake at ZSL London Zoo.



ENNIS, IRELAND

Guinness World Records

AN international group of knitters have set a new Guinness World Record by creating a blanket measuring 1,994 square metres. Segment donations came in from 32 countries, which were then stitched together to create one giant blanket. The blanket will be cut up into smaller segments and donated to the Red Cross.



GLIWICE, POLAND

Getty

PEOPLE march on Epiphany, known as Three Kings' Day. The parade marks the Biblical visit of the Three Magi to Jesus after he was born.



NANJING, CHINA

Getty

THOUSANDS of bicycles that are due to be used in bike-sharing schemes.



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5. BIG NEWS

DELAYED VOTE TO BE HELD

THE ‘meaningful vote’, which gives MPs a say on Prime Minister Theresa May’s Brexit deal, will be held on 15 January.

So, after months of negotiations, Theresa May’s Brexit deal will be voted on by MPs. Originally, the vote was to be held on 11 December, but the Prime Minister delayed it.

Theresa May’s deal is meant to make it clear just how the UK’s relationship with the EU will work until 2020.

If MPs vote for the deal, it means that Theresa May’s withdrawal agreement will begin to be put into place, ahead of the UK’s departure from the EU on 29 March.

If MPs don’t vote for the deal, then any number of things could happen, including a General Election, a second referendum or a no-deal exit from the EU.

As *First News* went to press, it looked like a no-deal Brexit was the most likely outcome.

A no-deal Brexit would mean that the UK would immediately leave the EU on 29 March, and there would be no agreement in place about what the relationship would be like in future.

This could mean border checks, which some fear would cause delays in the transport and trade of foods and medicine between the UK and EU.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has said that “nobody is going to allow ‘no-deal’” – but Theresa May has not ruled it out.

As *First News* went to press, more than 200 MPs had signed a letter to Theresa May, urging her to rule out a no-deal Brexit.



TO KEEP UP WITH THIS STORY, HEAD TO LIVE. FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK

PARKLAND REPORT



VOTE IN OUR POLL

Would you feel safe if teachers carried guns? Cast your vote at first.news/polls

A COMMISSION investigating the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, has recommended that teachers be allowed to carry guns to avoid further attacks.

On 14 February 2018, a gunman opened fire at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, killing 17 students and staff members. It was the deadliest high school shooting in American history.

A commission made up of 15 members was appointed to look at the safety of the school and what could be done to avoid any such incidents happening again.

A first look at the full report says that teachers who volunteer to carry weapons and are prepared to have training should be allowed to carry guns in school. Other recommendations include installing bulletproof glass on the windows and making sure that classrooms can be locked from the inside.

The suggestion that teachers should be armed with guns has upset a lot of people, especially as there have been many protests since the shooting calling for tighter gun laws in America. Some leading education organisations are strongly against the idea, while others have said that more needs to be done to prevent dangerous people getting hold of guns in the first place.

What do you think?

JELLYFISH EPIDEMIC!

THOUSANDS of people were stung by jellyfish in Australia last weekend.

More than 3,500 people had to have medical treatment, after being stung by bluebottle jellyfish in Queensland.

Huge numbers of the creatures are thought to have washed ashore thanks to strong winds in the area.

Several popular swimming spots and beaches had to be closed to avoid further trouble.

Surf Life Saving duty officer Jeremy Sturges described the jellyfish as an “epidemic.” He added: “I have never seen anything like this – ever”.

Bluebottle jellyfish are often seen in Australia in summer, but there are lots more than normal. Their stings are said to be painful but rarely deadly.



HERE COME HYDROGEN TRAINS

ALL aboard! Trains powered by zero-emission hydrogen gas will begin rolling out across the UK from 2021.

When hydrogen is burnt it creates heat but, unlike petrol, the chemical only creates steam and water as by-products. The trains are almost silent, too. In the next three years, more than 100 trains will be converted to be powered by the gas.

Until now, the UK’s railway system has been steadily turning electric. However, the Department for Transport has agreed to the new hydrogen trains, because it allows train operators to scrap their polluting diesel trains without having to build expensive overhead power lines, which are needed by electric trains.

Andrew Jones, the UK’s rail minister, said: “Hydrogen train technology is an exciting innovation which has the potential to transform our railway, making journeys cleaner and greener by cutting CO₂ emissions even further.”

The world’s first hydrogen train began picking up passengers in Germany back in September 2018



6. HOME NEWS

CARNOUSTIE

DOGS OF WAR

A special sculpture is being created to commemorate the Airedale terriers who served alongside soldiers in the First World War. The dogs were trained by the military to deliver messages in the trenches and transport medicine. They even learnt how to use gas masks! The sculpture honouring their service is set to go on display in the village of East Haven.



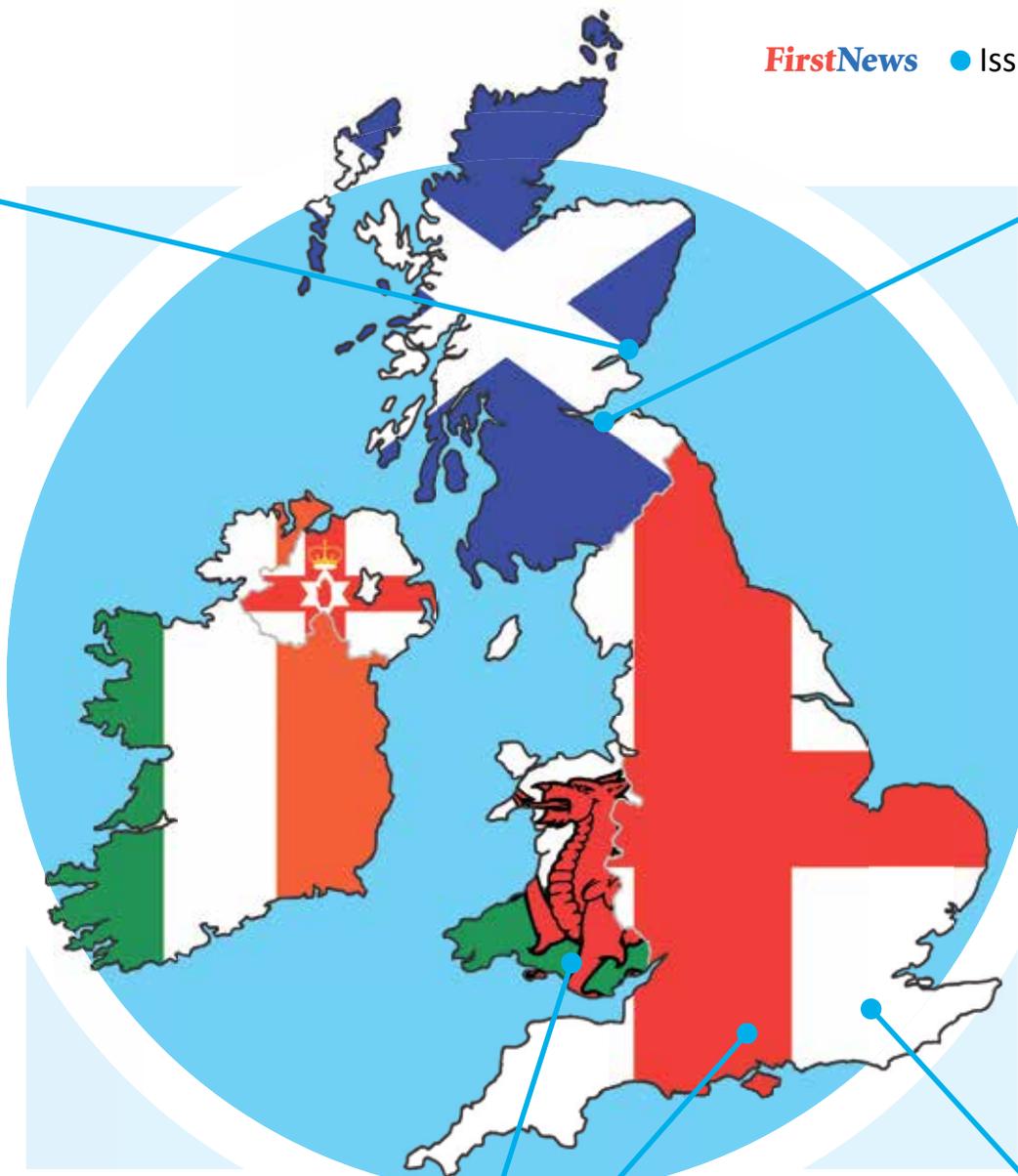
ENGLAND

ACTIVITY PASSPORT

Primary school children in England are being challenged to complete a 'passport' of activities this year. The Education Secretary, Damian Hinds, wants families to ditch their gadgets and spend more time discovering other skills and interests. To help, he has launched a list of fun experiences for people to try. The list includes:

- Painting a self portrait
- Going on a nature trail
- Interviewing someone
- Planning and cooking a meal
- Making a treasure map

The new campaign is being supported by the Scouts, Girlguiding and the National Trust, as well as children's charity Action for Children.



EDINBURGH

GREAT PYRAMID STONE DISPLAYED

A stone from the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt is set to go on display at the National Museum of Scotland in February. The fine white limestone block was first brought to Scotland in 1872, but has never been seen by the public. It'll be the only casing stone from the Great Pyramid to be put on show outside of Egypt.

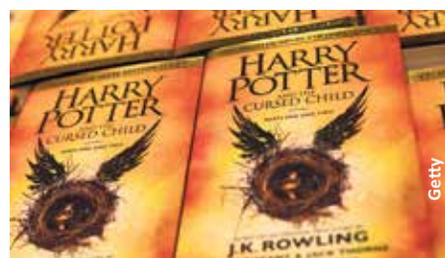
UK

TOO MUCH SUGAR

An average child consumes 18 years' worth of sugar by the time they are ten, says Public Health England. PHE found that children have on average 52.2g of sugar a day, the equivalent of eight sugar cubes more than the recommended amount. PHE says that by choosing lower-sugar foods and drinks, families can tackle the problems of obesity and tooth decay.



NEATH PORT TALBOT



POTTER RECORD

A woman from Wales is hoping to set a new Harry Potter world record. Victoria Maclean is hoping her love of all things magic will secure her the record for the largest collection of memorabilia. The YouTuber has collected everything from toys and books, to clothes and bags. She needs more than 3,097 individual items to scoop the record.

WINCHESTER

ANIMAL STOCKTAKE

Keepers at Marwell Zoo started the year with an annual stocktake of all the animals. Dozens of creatures, including every resident mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish and invertebrate, had to be counted. The annual stocktake is designed to see how species are doing, especially those in conservation programmes.



GATWICK

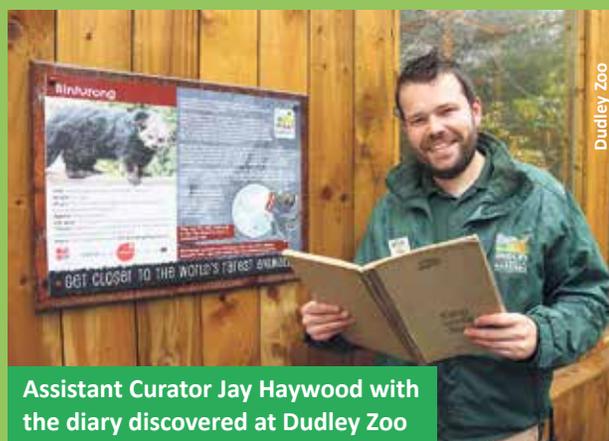
ANTI-DRONE TECHNOLOGY

Gatwick Airport has spent £5m on anti-drone technology. It comes after major chaos broke out at the airport just before Christmas, when drone sightings led to the cancellation of nearly 1,000 flights. The Army had to be deployed to help. It's hoped the new equipment will prevent any further incidents. Heathrow Airport is also getting new technology.

NEWS IN NUMBERS

£115M is how much a couple from Northern Ireland won on the EuroMillions lottery at the start of the year. It was the fourth-largest EuroMillions win ever in the UK.

50 years old is the age of a giraffe keepers' diary that's been discovered at Dudley Zoo. It's given keepers an insight into how the animals were cared for many years ago.



Assistant Curator Jay Haywood with the diary discovered at Dudley Zoo

£216M is how much NHS England claims that it costs every year when people miss their doctor's appointments. Fifteen million appointments go to waste because patients don't turn up.

650,000 people turned out to watch London's New Year's Day Parade. That's a record number for the annual street spectacular!



7. BIG NEWS

DEALING WITH YOUR MONSTERS

THE Family Action charity says that it wants to “start a national conversation” about the hidden pressures that families don’t like to talk about.



The Family Monsters Project aims to help people tackle the ‘monsters’ that people face every day. That could be anything from money worries to school or work pressure, or something like a family feud.

“We want to help families get these hidden monsters out in the open,” says the chief executive of Family Action, David Holmes. “Simply acknowledging and talking about our family monsters can often keep them small and under control.”

You can find out more and watch a short film at www.familymonstersproject.com.

A scene from the campaign film



ANIMALS VS RELIGION



A Muslim woman walks past a halal butcher's in Vilvoorde, Belgium

A BAN on the Muslim and Jewish ways of slaughtering animals has led to a big debate over the reasons for Belgium's new rules.

The country's new law says that all animals have to be stunned before they are killed. Previously, the halal and shechita methods of killing often meant that animals were conscious at the time of death.

Although some Muslims and Jews are okay with animals being stunned first, more strictly religious people say that stunning goes against their religion. That's why many Muslims and Jews in Belgium have seen the new law as an attack on their religions. However, animal rights campaigners say that preventing the suffering of animals is more important.

From 1 January, slaughter without stunning became illegal in Flanders, the northern half of Belgium. A similar law will cover the southern Wallonia region from the end of August, although both laws are being challenged in court.

In the UK, halal and shechita slaughtering are both legal. John Fishwick, Senior Vice President at the British Veterinary Association (BVA), says: “BVA would like to see all animals stunned before slaughter and this call has received widespread support from the veterinary profession and general public, including a petition

with over 120,000 signatures. Our focus on this has nothing to do with the expression of religious beliefs, but is about finding ways to reduce the welfare harm of non-stun slaughter. If slaughter without stunning continues to be permitted in the UK, then meat and fish from this source must be clearly labelled, to help customers make informed choices.”

POLL OF THE WEEK

Should religions be allowed to kill animals without stunning them first? Cast your vote at first.news/polls

SPORT IN THE SKIES TAKES OFF

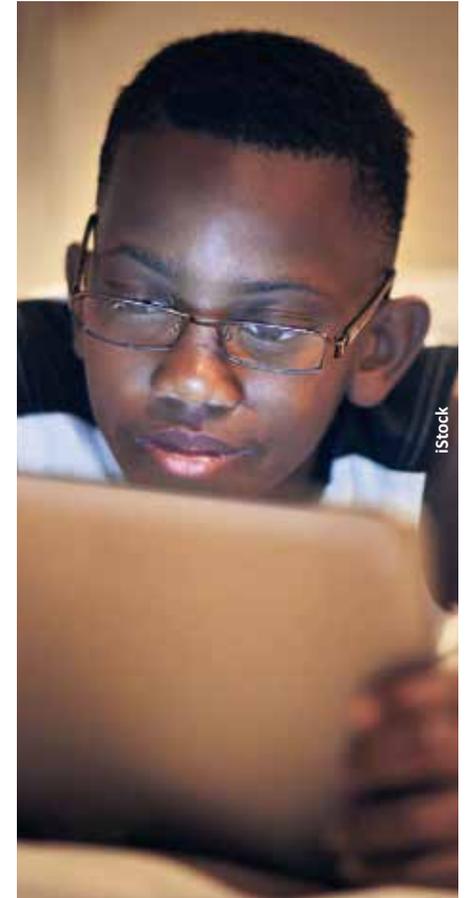
JETPACK races could be the next big sport to take off, if you'll pardon the pun.

In California over the last 12 months, tests have been taking place with two pilots, to see how a jetpack's hot exhaust gases affect another jetpack flying close by. There are worries that the heat could burn another pilot, or make another jetpack overheat and cut out.

“It is the first time in history that two jetpacks have flown together,” said David Mayman, the head of JetPack Aviation. “We've done a huge amount of testing and now it's time to get racing!”

Mayman says that the company will be launching “the world's first JetPack Racing League” and that teams will be taking part in trials during 2019.

FAMILIES BEFORE SCREENS



NEW guidance for kids and parents suggests that family activities should come ahead of your time using a screen.

The advice comes from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), after they looked at all of the scientific evidence so far about the alleged harm of screens.

Although screen time has been linked to poor mental health, the RCPCH says that kids' mental health was getting worse before smartphones and tablets became widespread. However, the organisation says that there is good evidence that people snack too much on unhealthy foods when they're distracted by a screen, and that using screens late at night can affect your sleep.

The common-sense advice from the RCPCH is that families should discuss everyone's screen time and set limits, depending on your age and what you need your gadgets for.

Making sure you get enough sleep is one of the most important things you can do, as the RCPCH says that “even quite modest sleep deprivation can interfere with mental and physical health, educational success and family relations”.

8. WORLD NEWS

NETHERLANDS



LOST CARGO

Treasure hunters on the West Frisian Islands were in for a treat when they discovered lots of containers packed with TVs, clothing and furniture. The unusual cargo washed ashore after falling from the MSC Zoe, one of the world's largest container ships. More than 200 of the boxes were lost in German waters near the island of Borkum. Dutch soldiers had to be called in to help clean up the mess, and some of the boxes contained harmful chemicals. An investigation is now underway to find out what caused the massive spill.



Getty

POLAND



FIRE TRAGEDY

Five teenage girls were killed when a fire broke out at an escape room in the Polish city of Koszalin. Firefighters said the room had no emergency evacuation route. The owner has been charged. A further 13 escape rooms have shut in the country, for failing to meet safety guidelines.

GABON



ATTEMPTED TAKEOVER

Soldiers attempted a military coup to steal power from President Ali Bongo last week. Armed forces took over the national radio station, saying they wanted to restore democracy in the country. Hours later, though, the government said: "Calm has returned, the situation is under control." Mr Bongo, who has not been in Gabon for two months, became president in 2009 but his family has ruled for 50 years.

NEW ZEALAND



SCOOTER INJURIES

Hundreds of injuries have been reported since Lime scooters were introduced in New Zealand last October. More than 600 people complained that they had hurt themselves on the two-wheel vehicles, with causes including losing their balance, crashing or twisting the scooter. Lime scooters, which have a top speed of 27km/h, can be hired by the public to get about in cities, similar to the way that bike-sharing schemes work.



Getty

AFGHANISTAN



GOLD MINE COLLAPSE

At least 30 people have been killed and several others injured after a gold mine collapsed in Badakhshan. It's believed that villagers had dug a 60m-deep (200ft) shaft in a river bed to search for the gold, when the incident happened. Illegal mining is very common in the country, as there are lots of resources such as coal, copper and gold.

MALAYSIA



KING STEPS DOWN

Malaysia's king, Sultan Muhammad V, has abdicated. It's the first time a Malaysian monarch has stepped down from the role since the country gained independence from Britain in 1957. No reason has been given for the king's abdication, but he took time out for medical treatment last November. There are also rumours he has married a Russian woman.



Getty

IRAN



MYSTERIOUS SMELL

A mysterious smell has taken over the streets of Tehran. Iranian officials have said that the pong is nothing to worry about, but as First News went to press the source still hadn't been identified. Thousands of people took to social media to talk about the smell, describing it as "sulphur-like" and "fishy." Air pollution is a big problem in the country, but no-one is sure if the smell is linked to pollution.

OUR WORLD

NAME: ROBA
LIVES: LONDON, ENGLAND

MY name is Roba and I've been working in the humanitarian sector for 12 years. My passion is based on personal experience.

I'm Palestinian and my parents have been refugees since 1948. My dad grew up in a refugee camp in Gaza and my mom grew up in a refugee camp in South Lebanon. They were always on the move because of conflict, so I was born and raised in a Palestinian refugee camp in Syria until I was eight.

I've been working with War Child for five years and I want to inspire others, including children like you, to do this type of work.



TO FIND OUT MORE, GO TO WWW.WARCHILD.ORG.UK



THE FREE ENCYCLOPEDIA

HOW TO USE WIKIPEDIA

WORLD WIKIPEDIA DAY – 15 JANUARY

ON 15 January, 2001, Wikipedia was founded. Just 18 years later, the encyclopedia that anyone can edit is the fifth most popular website in the world and features more than 40 million articles in 301 different languages!

Back in 2001, two men called Jimmy Wales and Larry Sanger set out to create an online encyclopedia. Originally, they planned on checking the accuracy of every article written themselves, but when that took too long, they came up with the idea of Wikipedia. Their big idea was that anyone could contribute their knowledge to it.

Since then, the organisation has grown massively. It's become a non-profit, which means that its aim isn't to make money, and works more like a charity – mostly making its money from donations.

Last month, Wikipedia was visited an incredible 755 million times from the UK alone! Of the 5.7 million English-language articles on the site, 1.5 million were edited and changed.

Since literally anyone can edit a Wikipedia article, there have been lots of debates over how accurate it is. Most of the information on the website will either come from newspapers, websites, books or studies.

While you can always trust the information you read in *First News*, some websites or newspapers can change facts to mislead you. Wikipedia itself warns that you should "always be careful of what you read: it might not be consistently accurate."

So, on Wikipedia Day, remember that while it's pretty incredible that anyone can access millions of pages of information, that doesn't mean it's all true!



Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales

NO, this isn't a guide on how to copy and paste! Here's how to use Wikipedia for your homework and make sure the information you take from it is trustworthy.

● **Use the citations!**

If you click the numbers by the bits of information you want to use, it'll link through to where that information came from at the bottom of the page. This quickly lets you investigate Wikipedia's sometimes unreliable facts.

● **Double-check everything!**

Make sure to search Google for articles and studies that back up the information you want to take from a Wikipedia article.

● **Wait, where did THOSE facts come from?**

Any time you're reading something from a website, you should always ask yourself if it's reliable. Have you heard of it before? How long has it been going? Do people trust it? If you don't know, why not ask a parent or teacher what they think?

KEY DIARY DATES

WORLD FUTURE ENERGY SUMMIT 14-17 JANUARY

Abu Dhabi hosts the World Future Energy Summit, where tech leaders from around the world gather to discuss how energy will be produced in the years to come.



NO TROUSERS ON THE UNDERGROUND DAY 13 JANUARY

For more than 15 years, silly citizens of cities around the world with subways have been taking the tube with their trousers off! The one rule is that you have to keep a straight face for the whole journey!



MUSEUM SELFIE DAY 16 JANUARY

Museum Selfie Day is an awesome excuse to visit a museum! Take a snap near your favourite exhibit and share just how interesting museums can be! Just be sure to check with the front desk first, as some museums won't allow pictures.

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

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

REACH FOR THE STARS!

CECILIA Payne was a remarkable scientist whose work transformed our understanding of our nearest star, the sun.

In the 1920s, she discovered that the sun was mostly made up of hydrogen and helium. But not everyone believed her.

A leading astronomer of the day, Henry Russell, said Payne's results were "clearly impossible", though he later admitted she was right. Payne was not awarded a degree at Cambridge University or a professorship at Harvard University, all because she was a woman.

Still, she persevered, becoming a fully-fledged astronomer in 1927 and Harvard's first female head of department in the 1950s. She celebrated with a party in the Harvard observatory library.

You can find out more about Cecilia at the 'Sun: Living With Our Star' exhibition at the Science Museum. Under-16s go free.



istock

CHINA REACHES THE MOON

The first image of the rover on the far side of the moon and, right, a close-up of the lunar surface

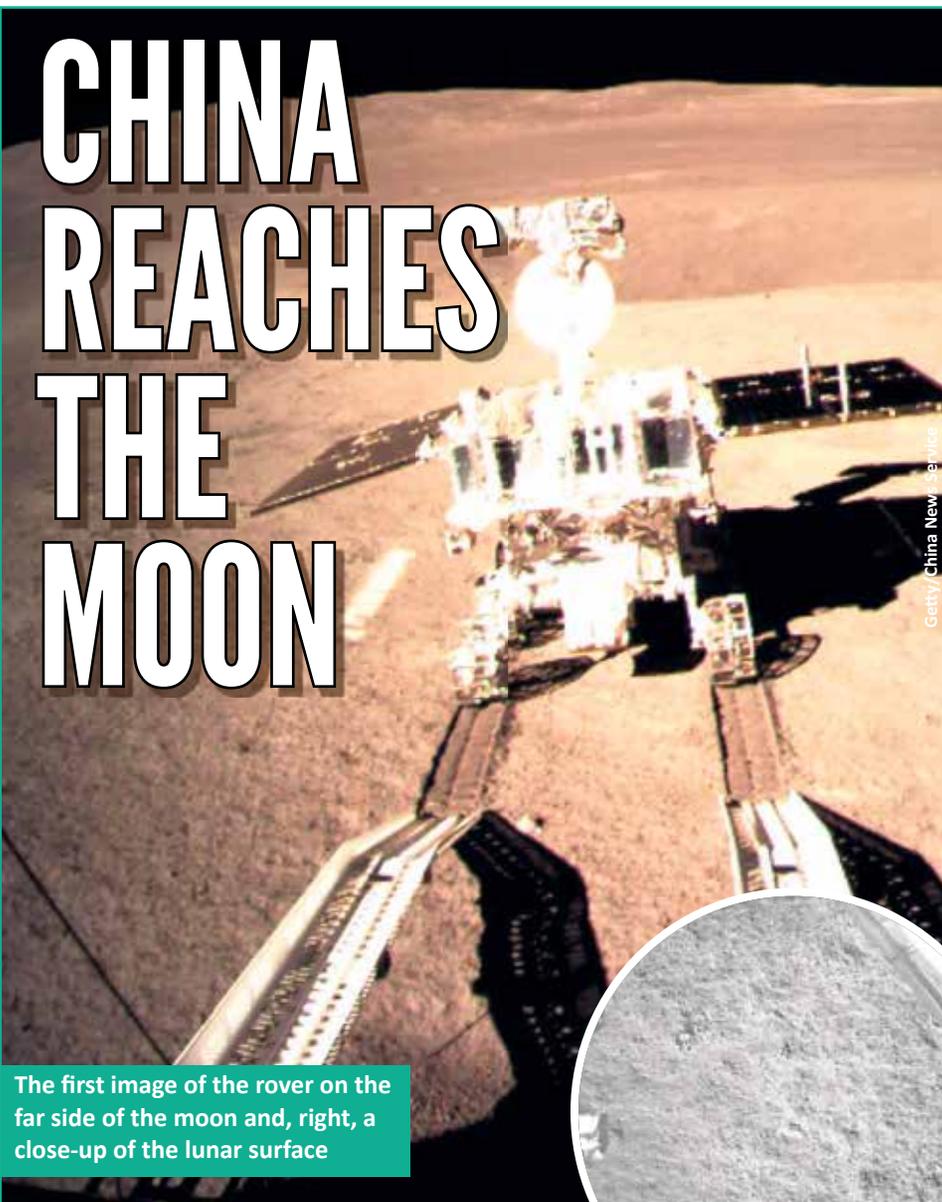
by Eddie de Oliveira

CHINA has successfully landed the first ever robotic spacecraft on the far side of the moon.

The Chang'e-4 probe, which lifted off in early December, touched down on the lunar surface on 3 January.

Many missions have explored the side of the moon that faces us, but this is the first time humans have sent a probe to the side we cannot see. This half of the moon is often called the 'dark side', but this isn't accurate. The moon spins on its axis at exactly the same rate as it orbits the Earth, so one side remains permanently out of our view. It isn't dark, though, as it still receives light from the sun.

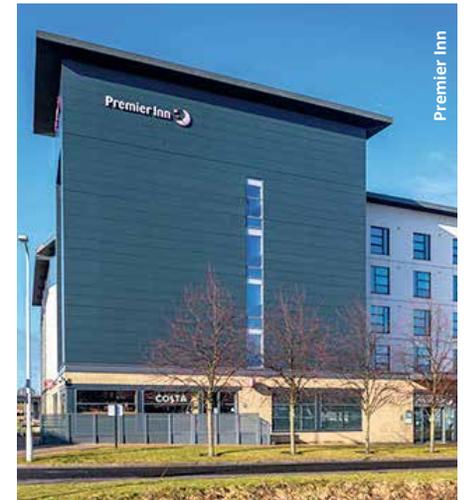
Chang'e-4 will study geology on the far side of the moon and carry out biology experiments. It is hoped this research will show how the moon was formed and what went on at the beginning of our solar system.



Getty China News Service

Getty China News Service

HOTEL POWERED BY A BATTERY



Premier Inn

A PREMIER Inn hotel in Edinburgh has become the first in the UK to be battery-powered.

The Edinburgh Park hotel has fitted a five-tonne battery that will provide power for 200 bedrooms. It will take a two-hour charge to power the hotel for up to three hours.

The battery will charge off the National Grid, the UK's electricity network, when power isn't in high demand.

Premier Inn claims that the lithium ion battery will save the hotel £20,000 in energy costs.

DID YOU KNOW?

PEOPLE in the UK who suffer from severe asthma will soon be able to use a new treatment.

An injection, which is applied every four to eight weeks, has been approved for use on the NHS. It will help patients who cannot control their asthma with inhalers.

tcs50

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

INNOVATORS



Invention: Snowmobile

Year: 1935

Inventor: Joseph-Armand Bombardier

This Canadian inventor suffered a dreadful tragedy when his two-year-old son died in 1934. Due to wintry weather, he and his wife couldn't get their child to hospital in time to save his life. This motivated Bombardier to speed up work he had already started on a lightweight vehicle that could move easily in the snow, to improve access for people in small rural towns. A year later, the first snowmobile appeared. It was steered by skis and ran on caterpillar tracks, similar to a tank. In 1937, his snowmobile first went on sale.

SNOWMAN IN SPACE!

IT may have been chilly lately, but this isn't a picture of a snowman.

It's actually a lump of rock some 6.5 billion km (4 billion miles) away on the edge of our solar system.

Known as Ultima Thule, it was photographed by NASA's New Horizons craft on New Year's Day as it performed the most distant space flyby in history.

This 'snowman' is hugely important for scientific research, because it shows the most distant object ever visited by a spacecraft.

New Horizons launched in January 2006 and in 2015 it performed a flyby of Pluto, taking multiple pictures of the dwarf planet's surface. Professor Hal Weaver, who works on the mission, said the flyby was "another great step in the exploration of our solar system".



Getty/NASA

MYTHS ABOUT MIGRANTS

HOW much of what we know about immigration is fact and how much is fiction? A new Commission on Migration and Health formed by University College London and medical science journal *The Lancet* aims to blow the lid on myths that some people – including British politicians – still believe about immigrants. What is the truth about people who move from poorer countries to wealthier ones? In this Special Report, we take a look at some of the popular claims and stereotypes about migrants, and the evidence that the commission has uncovered.

A migrant who arrived in Spain last week on an inflatable boat carrying 185 people

CLAIM: “MIGRANTS DAMAGE ECONOMIES”

A large amount of evidence says migrants have a positive effect on a country’s economy. The commission says that, in developed economies such as the UK, each 1% increase in migrants in the adult population lifts the country’s GDP (gross domestic product) per person by up to 2%. Gross domestic product is the total value of all products manufactured and goods provided during a period of time, and is a key way of knowing how strong a country’s economy is.

The UCL-Lancet report also found that migration helps distribute wealth around the world. In 2017 some \$613 billion (£480 billion) was sent by migrants back to their home countries.

CLAIM: “MIGRANTS ARE A BURDEN ON HEALTH SERVICES, SUCH AS THE NHS”

Migrants fill a lot of healthcare jobs in many wealthy countries. In the UK, 37% of doctors received their medical qualification in another country. They provide medical care, teaching, social care for older people, and support understaffed services. The NHS currently has 100,000 staff vacancies, so some health experts have called on the Government to relax immigration rules in order to get medical staff from overseas in.

In terms of whether migrants use health services more, the UCL-Lancet Commission says a study of 15.2 million migrants from 92 countries found they had a lower death rate compared to general populations across most conditions, including heart disease, mental illness and lung disorders.



Nijam Uddin Mohammed, who arrived in England as a refugee 17 years ago, works as an interpreter for the NHS

CLAIM: “MIGRANTS CARRY DISEASES AND SPREAD THEM IN OUR COUNTRIES”

The report states that there is no link between migration and the arrival of infectious diseases in a country. The evidence also shows that the risk of transmission from migrants to local citizens is “generally low”.

According to the commission, recent cases of diseases spreading have been caused more by travel, tourism and the movement of livestock rather than migration.

It is true that infections such as viral hepatitis, tuberculosis and HIV cause more deaths among migrants than host populations. But the risk of transmission of these diseases is higher within the migrant community itself, rather than in the host population.



Former UKIP leader Nigel Farage has said immigrants put pressure on the NHS, and that the UK shouldn’t accept people with HIV

CLAIM: “MIGRANTS GIVE BIRTH TO LOTS OF BABIES”

This is a stereotype that has spread in recent years. The claim is often used to argue that local populations “will soon be minorities in their own country”.

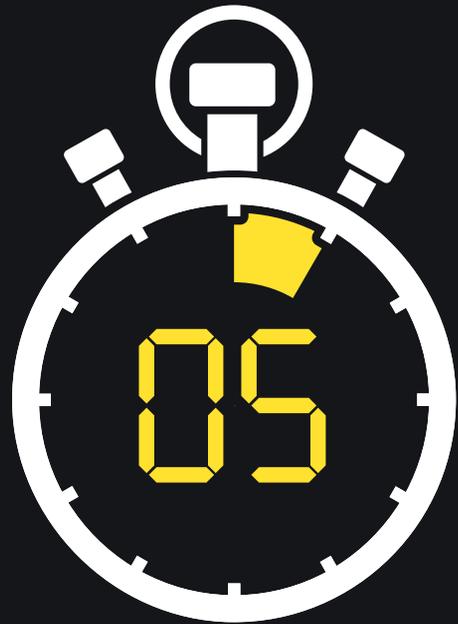
The myth has trickled down to the general public: a 2016 survey found that, on average, Brits think EU citizens make up 15% of the total UK population, when in reality it’s 5%.

The Lancet-UCL Commission says that data from several long-term studies shows that birth rates among migrants in six European countries are actually lower than among the host populations. Several long-term studies show birth rates among migrants averages 2.1 babies per woman, which is the rate at which a population is kept steady, but doesn’t increase.

HOW MANY MIGRANTS?

Wealthy countries like the UK and France have seen their migrant communities grow from 7.6% of the total population in 1990 to 13.4% in 2017. However, most of these are students or labour migrants who contribute to the economy.

There’s been a big increase in the number of refugees in Europe in recent years, but they still make up a larger proportion of the total population in poorer countries (0.7%) than in richer ones (0.2%).



5 QUESTIONS IN 5 MINUTES

with the Government's Matt Hancock, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

1. HOW WILL THE NEW TEN-YEAR NHS PLAN (PAGE 3) HELP TO TACKLE CHILDHOOD OBESITY, ONE OF ENGLAND'S BIGGEST HEALTH ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

Making sure we keep ourselves healthy is a responsibility all of us have to ourselves. In the Government plan, we are going to help people take control of their own health. It's about families choosing to look after themselves better, staying active, making better choices by limiting sugar, salt and fat. Far more money is spent on treating disease rather than preventing it. So, that's why this is a ten-year plan with a lot more focus on prevention, including addressing the shocking levels of childhood obesity, which is often the starting gun for long-term health conditions later in life.

2. HOW WILL THE PLAN HELP THE RISE IN MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS THAT YOUNG PEOPLE FACE?

Part of the plan is that we will have 8,000 mental health support workers in schools. We know that more people are coming forward with mental illnesses all the way from anxiety and depression, through to much more serious problems. And the health support workers working with schools will mean everybody has the chance to talk to a professional if they've got a problem. This is a big and growing problem that we want to make sure the NHS is there to address.

3. HOW WILL THE PLAN TARGET SOME OF THE COUNTRY'S BIGGEST KILLERS, LIKE HEART DISEASE AND CANCER?

The plan is about how, over ten years, we can use new techniques and new medicines to tackle some of the biggest killers, like heart disease and cancer. Increasingly, we can use the information in our genes to give people medicines that work better for them. Too often, with a disease like cancer, people will try a drug with bad effects that doesn't work and, by understanding people's genes, they can target these medicines much, much better. So, the doctors reckon we can save half a million lives over ten years by using these technologies better, and the funding for it is in this plan.

4. HOW ELSE WILL CHILDREN BE HELPED TO GET BETTER HEALTH CARE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES?

We're going to make sure there's more support in communities and that it's easier to see your GP. The biggest funding increase goes to primary care and community care. That's all about supporting people to stay healthy in the first place. And, if you've got the early signs of a problem, you can get health care straight away, before it gets serious, because prevention is better than cure.

5. IF YOU DON'T STAY IN THE JOB, HOW CAN YOU MAKE SURE THE PLAN IS SEEN THROUGH OVER TEN YEARS – EVEN UNDER A DIFFERENT GOVERNMENT?

We rightly have elections every five years. That's a good thing. This is the NHS's plan. The NHS wrote the plan and it is their plan. It's got a lot of support within the NHS and, obviously, we support it in Government. So, I very much hope that it will be seen through.



13. FOCUS ON YOU

BACK TO SCHOOL



IT'S January and everyone's back at school. But a lot of people find it difficult to get back into a routine after Christmas, so here are some simple tips to help you ease in quicker:

- 1. Make sure your school work is ready.** It can be easy to forget about homework and school projects while we're having fun celebrating Christmas and the new year. It's always a good idea to make a list of the school work and assignments that you have coming up. This will help you remember everything you have to do and will help get you organised. It's also satisfying to be able to cross everything off!
- 2. Get your school bag ready the night before.** We've all been there before: it's your first few weeks back and you've forgotten your pencil case already! For the rest of the day, your teacher is annoyed with you and you have to find someone who will lend you stationery. Worry no more! Pack your bag the night before so that in the morning you have a spare ten minutes to listen to music or sleep in. Don't forget about school, though!
- 3. Make a list.** Uh-oh, the lists are back again! But this time it's all about school goals! As it's a new term, make a list of things you want to achieve. Are you struggling with maths? Do you want to get involved with more clubs at school? Is getting to school on time an issue? Think of one thing you could do to change each of these problems.



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.

WWF Advertisement feature

THE WINNERS ARE REVEALED!



TO mark WWF's special edition of the Living Planet Report last year, we launched an exciting poetry competition about endangered species mentioned within the report. We had so many amazing entries, and we are now delighted to reveal the winners...

Congratulations to **Amna Aslam-Denn** at Holmer Green Junior School in Buckinghamshire and **Nalini Nandeiba** at King Edward's School in Bath, who both wowed the judges with their beautiful poems about snow leopards – with special reference to Amna's innovative style and Nalini's stunning illustration.

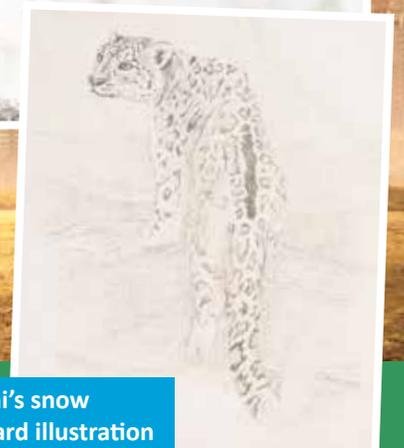
The lucky winners each win a trip for their class to go to see *Doctor Dolittle The Musical*, plus a special puppetry workshop at their school.

Cherry Duggan, head of schools and youth at WWF-UK said: "Schools across the UK showed us how much they care about our planet with these incredible poems. It was a challenge for the judges to pick just two winners, as all the entries were of such a high standard. We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who entered."

A big well done to the runners-up, **Lauren Wills** from Brighton and Hove Prep School and **Helena White** from St Christopher's C of E High School, who will each receive four tickets to see *Doctor Dolittle The Musical*. The judges also highly commended **Saphia Scott** from Thames Primary Academy and she will receive a WWF rhino adoption.



Amna's winning poem



Nalini's snow leopard illustration

Schools can access the Living Planet Report and register with WWF to receive a wide range of classroom resources at www.org.uk/lprschoollcomp



FROGS, unicycles and dazzling performances – gymnast and cast member Jonathan Buese takes us behind the scenes of Cirque du Soleil’s latest mind-blowing show, Totem...

WHAT’S IT ALL ABOUT?

“I see Totem as a show about the Earth and about life,” explains Jonathan, who started training in gymnastics when he was just five years old. “We have a lot of acts where our characters are animals, and there’s a big emphasis on indigenous people and cultures, from native American music and characters to a few songs featuring a didgeridoo. The Earth’s creation and the evolution of life are big parts of the narrative of the show as well.”

SUPER SHOW

Since its Montreal world premiere on 22 April, 2010, Totem has been performed more than 2,800 times in more than 45 cities.

CRAZY CHARACTERS

“My role in Totem is a frog, which does the act that opens the show,” explains Jonathan. “This act features two gymnastics horizontal bars with a trampoline that runs along the floor. I also do some acts in the show as a monkey, which is much less acrobatic, with a little bit of climbing around on a large tripod-like structure.”



DID YOU KNOW?

Cirque du Soleil was formed by a group of 20 street performers in 1984.



BEHIND-THE-SCENES SECRETS

“Backstage at Totem you see a lot of people stretching and training,” reveals Jonathan. “For a five-minute act on stage, people are training and preparing for hours, either technically or doing rehab, warming up, cooling down and stretching.”

COOL COSTUMES

There are an incredible 750 costume pieces seen on stage in Totem (and the exact same amount of back-up pieces travel with the show).

DID YOU KNOW?

The unicycles used in the show are a whopping 2m tall.

SHOW-STOPPING STUNTS

“The biggest challenge for me in this show is to work on the same bar being released to the other with another person,” explains Jonathan. “Our timing has to be pretty locked-in to do it well, which is why we practise. Making small adjustments can make a big difference when doing these sequences. Besides that technical challenge, to stay sharp for ten shows a week is a challenge for focus and concentration.”



Cirque du Soleil’s Totem will be on at London’s Royal Albert Hall from 12 January – 26 February
Tickets can be bought on cirquedusoleil.com

THIS WEEK

1 Ariana Grande is set to headline the Coachella musical festival this April. Held over two weekends in Indio, California, the event is often attended by lots of celebrities. Past headliners have included Lady Gaga, Beyoncé and Drake.



2 Taylor Swift threw a star-studded fancy dress party to welcome in 2019. The singer dressed up as Ariel from *The Little Mermaid* and guests dressed up as their childhood heroes.

3 Ed Sheeran officially has the world's best-selling tour. His *Divide* tour made around £342 million in ticket sales last year. The tour saw Ed perform 94 shows in 53 cities.



4 Actor Johnny Depp reprised his role as Jack Sparrow from the *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies to surprise young cancer patients at a hospital in Paris. Johnny posed for pictures and chatted to patients, their families, doctors and nurses at the Curie Institute over the Christmas holidays.

PIC OF THE WEEK



LADY Gaga flies around the stage on the opening night of her residency in Las Vegas.

The star is performing new show *Enigma* at the Park Theater, Park MGM Las Vegas. She will be performing this show, and jazz and piano shows, until November.



THE CAST OF ALMOST NEVER

A POP-TASTIC CBBC show is heading your way this month. We caught up with the show's stars, Nate, Oakley and Harry, for all the inside info on *Almost Never*.

FIRST THINGS FIRST, WHAT'S ALMOST NEVER ALL ABOUT?

Nate: *Almost Never* is about a boy band called The Wonderland who recently came second in a talent competition called *The Spotlight*. It's about them trying their best to make it in the music industry while facing all the highs and lows of becoming stars.

Oakley: It's about their journey, how they try to pick themselves back up after coming second. It isn't that easy, though, as they are up against a girl band called Girls Here First and their manager Sasha Small, played by Kimberly Wyatt.

DID YOU HAVE ANY FUNNY MOMENTS DURING FILMING?

Harry: There were so many funny moments. I don't

want to spoil what's coming, but chasing after a cockerel and getting soaked were just a couple!

Nate: My two funniest moments were getting covered in spaghetti in a food fight during a scene and getting sprayed with foam by Colin Hoult, who plays AJ in the show.



Catch *Almost Never* on Tuesdays at 5pm on CBBC from 15 January, with a premiere box set on BBC iPlayer also available from 15 January

WHAT RESEARCH DID YOU DO FOR THE ROLE?

Oakley: When auditioning for the role I realised that my character was a lot like Joey from *Friends*. So I binge-watched loads of episodes and started to act out some of the scenes. There were characters like Barney from *How I Met Your Mother* who I also watched to prepare.

Nate: My character is a guitarist and I couldn't play when I got the role. It took a lot of hours of practice but I got there in the end.

HAVE YOU EVER AUDITIONED FOR A TV TALENT SHOW IN REAL LIFE, LIKE YOUR CHARACTERS DO IN THE SHOW?

Harry: Yes, a couple years ago for *The Voice Kids*.

Oakley: Yes, I had a scouted audition for *Britain's Got Talent*, but unfortunately I was unable to make it to the second one because of other commitments.

Nate: No, I used to be too nervous to perform in front of anyone, so there's no way I could have performed in front of judges.

16. BIG INTERVIEW

● YOU'RE BACK! HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It feels great to be back. I really feel part of it now. Even though last year everyone made me feel so welcome, when you come back a second year it's nice. Everyone's on top form.

● THE COACHES ALL SEEM TO GET ON REALLY WELL...

Yes. I was really scared when I walked in the first day. I know I'm a little bit confident and I'm a bit like an excited puppy and I can annoy people. I'm actually neighbours with Tom now! I'm like: "Hi Tom! Morning!" Ha! Genuinely, after the first couple of hours, the connection with all of the coaches was amazing. We just got on really well. When you get that connection, you don't want to let it go.

● DOES IT EVER GET COMPETITIVE?

Yes! Me and Jen [Hudson] have a shoe-off this series! We had a real battle and Jen was really upset with me. She was like: "I can't look at you right now, Olly". Jennifer threw her shoe but I threw mine at the same time. The act chose me! It was the first time Jennifer and me went toe to toe. She wanted to fight me. I did actually feel bad, though. It was our first row!

● WHAT'S IT LIKE WHEN NOBODY TURNS THEIR CHAIR FOR AN ACT?

It's heartbreaking for them. We know what it's like for the contestants. It's not nice, but we really hope they come back. You can see from our reactions on the show that we genuinely care. There was obviously a reason on the day that we didn't turn. We don't get to see the backstory like the viewers do. It's hard to watch it back and see the story, because you do feel bad. When you feel it, you turn. With certain singers they just hit you and you just feel like you have to turn.



OLLY MURS:
"BE WHO YOU ARE, NOT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE WANT YOU TO BE"

IT'S back to business for Olly and his celebrity coaching pals, as hit TV talent show *The Voice* returns with an epic new series! We caught up with the star to get all the inside gossip.



● THIS YEAR'S SHOW FEATURES TRIOS FOR THE FIRST TIME. WHAT'S THAT BEEN LIKE?

Trios have been good. I think all four of us have got a trio each, which was great in the end. There've been some very successful trios in the music industry over the years. There's Destiny's Child, Take That now are a three piece. Trios certainly work, so I think we'll see if they work on *The Voice*. In a trio you've got to really try and find your moments to shine and be in harmony.

● SO YOU'VE ALREADY CHOSEN YOUR TEAMS, THEN?

We're already at the knockouts, so we've already gone past the battles. We had some proper battles; I'm talking serious battles! I've got six contestants who are really strong. We don't know who's going to win. The one thing I'd say about this year is that last year we always felt that Donel stood out, and we didn't then expect to Ruti to come from nowhere and just go bang and win it. I think that happens with lots of shows. There's always one who goes out as the favourite. This year I don't think we have just one; there are loads of different people.

● WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE BIT OF THE COMPETITION?

My favourite bit is the knockouts, actually, and bringing in a mentor. Last year as the guest mentor I had Craig David and this year there's someone up my sleeve that I'll hopefully get! Knockouts for me is the best time because you get to spend more time with the contestants and really establish who they are as artists. You get to know more about their personalities.

● YOU HOSTED X FACTOR BACK IN 2015. WAS IT VERY DIFFERENT TO BEING A COACH ON THE VOICE?

When I was doing *X Factor* as a host, I wasn't happy because I wasn't able to be me. I was restricted. It was like: "You can't say this, you can't say that, you can't move there." That wasn't me. For me now, I can be me. We're in a society now and a world now where you can just be yourself. Be who you are, not what other people want you to be. That's what we are on the show.

CHARITIES SUPPORTED BY FIRST NEWS



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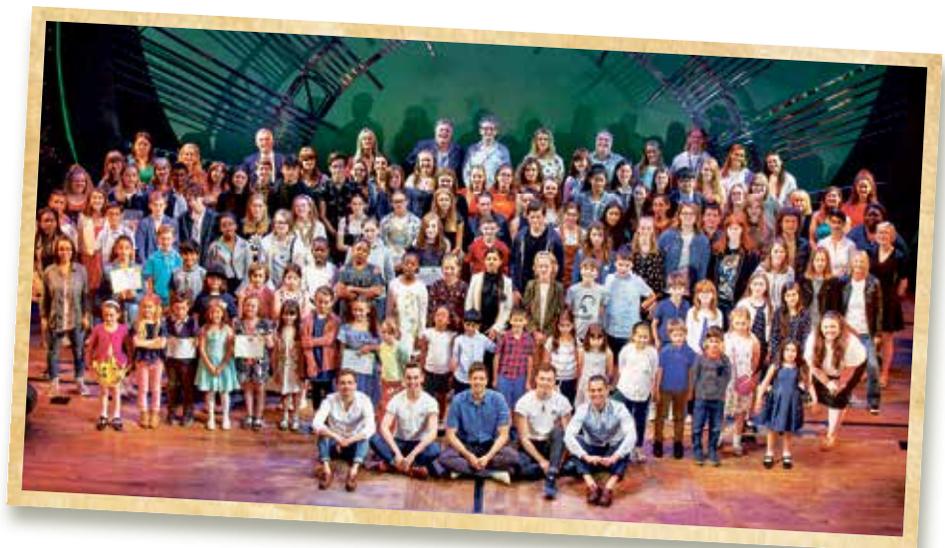
THE UNTOLD STORY OF THE WITCHES OF OZ

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PLANS



Entries for the Wicked Young Writer Awards 2019 are now open!
Deadline: Monday 18 March 2019

The acclaimed creative writing competition seeks songs, poems, stories and scripts.
Write up to 750 words about absolutely anything!
There are different categories for ages between 5-25.
120 finalists attend an exclusive awards ceremony in London.
Win amazing prizes for you and your school!

Visit WickedYoungWriterAwards.com to discover more!

18. ANIMAL NEWS

MANATEE MISSION

A LARGE manatee has been rescued in South Carolina, USA.

Members of the SeaWorld Rescue team, along with several other organisations, helped save a large, male manatee who was suffering from cold stress. He was then transported to Jacksonville Zoo for treatment.

Last year was SeaWorld Rescue's biggest year for manatee rescues ever. They saved 69 manatees, with 23 already returned to the wild.



SeaWorld

WHY DOES JAPAN WANT TO HUNT WHALES?



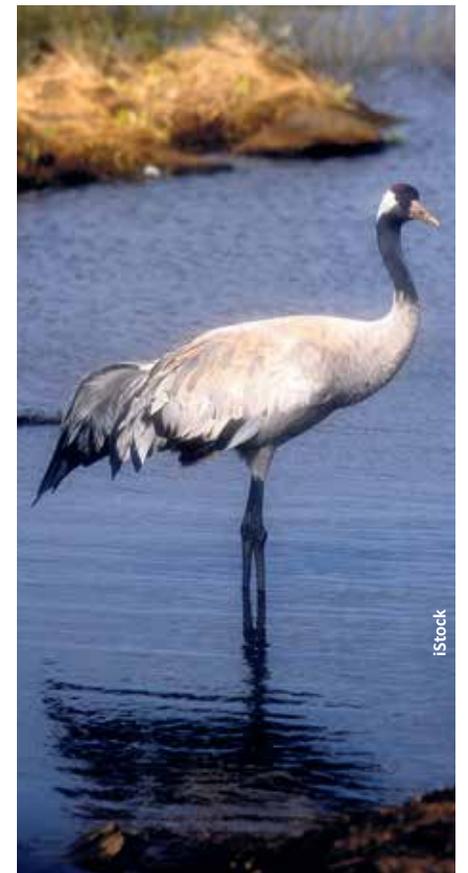
iStock

JAPAN has revealed that it is going to start commercial whaling again for the first time in 30 years – but why?

In 1986 a global ban was put in place on commercial whaling. In July this year, Japan will defy that ban. Whales have been hunted for their meat for centuries in Japan, so some people say it is an important tradition. They also claim that stocks of some species of whales are now big enough to support hunting again. The country plans to only hunt whales in Japanese territorial waters and the 200-mile 'exclusive economic zone' around its coasts.

However, conservationists have criticised the move to start hunting whales again, as it could have a terrible effect on whale populations. The International Whaling Commission originally banned commercial whaling due to numbers of the creatures falling around the world. Since then, some whale populations have come back from the brink of extinction. But with Japan starting hunting again, the creatures' futures are uncertain.

CRANE COMEBACK



iStock

THE UK's tallest bird has had its most successful year in 2018.

The RSPB has released figures that reveal a record 54 pairs of the common crane (measuring 120cm tall) have produced 25 chicks, bringing the national total population to around 180 birds. This is the highest number since 1979.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAMISH!



Hamish on his first visit outside in March 2018...



RZSS

...and here he is celebrating his birthday with his mum, Victoria

THE UK's only polar bear cub has celebrated his first birthday.

Hamish lives at the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland's Highland Wildlife Park and was born in December 2017. He celebrated his big day with his mum, Victoria, and a special ice birthday cake filled with his favourite treats.

In the wild, polar bear cubs stay with their mums for two to three years. When Hamish is ready to leave Victoria, it is hoped he will play a role in the European endangered species breeding programme.

20. YOUR NEWS



Space fun!

SPACE DAY

by pupils from Our Lady and St Kenelm RC School, Halesowen

WHY is space dark? How old do you have to be to be an astronaut? How big is the universe?

These were just some of the questions we asked when we took part in a Space Day. We were having an inspirational introduction to the wonders of space and science in our school's Phiz Lab.

The day was organised by local science teacher, Laura Marshall. Laura had prepared a fun day and set up workshops that inspired us as we became astronauts for the day.

One workshop was within a huge space dome, where we learnt about space and our solar system. Another was all about the needs of astronauts and how they survive in space. Laura led a hands-on satellite workshop, where we had to think about what we wanted our satellites to do. We were all buzzing with excitement and had an amazing time.

SCHOOL NEWS

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.

INTERNET STARS

by Penelope Thornton

I WANT to tell you all about the viral video that I'm in with my gym friends and sister.

I go to gymnastics at Retford Gymnastics Club four times a week. My coach decided to personalise a video that she saw and taught us a conditioning routine to the *Baby Shark* song.

To show our parents what we had done, she posted it on the club's Facebook page, where family and friends started to share it. By the next day we were so excited to find it had reached 2,000 views and been shared by clubs in America. The *Baby Shark* abs challenge soon spread all over the world, with people from different countries sending their versions back to us.

My sister and I kept a map of where the video has been viewed. So far, Italy, Thailand, Holland, Mexico, Japan and Peru are just some of the countries we have reached. By the end of the week it had reached a million views and we were in an article in the local newspaper – it was very exciting! We also watched it at school.

We have now reached over nine million. I am amazed by this!

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

DANCE TAKEOVER

by Lila

BACK in November, I took part in the City Centre Takeover for St Gemma's Hospice.

This is a charity that looks after people who are terminally ill and have no way of getting better. They help to give them some comfort and warmth in their last days.

My dance school, Danceworks, was invited to perform at the event, which was staged – as the name suggests – in the middle of town. We did a tap dance, a modern, a ballet and some contemporary dances as well.

We had around 50 dancers participate and we all really enjoyed it. We wore red and grey bobble hats that bounced as we danced, and by the end, everyone's head was very hot!

All the dances went well and we didn't have anyone forget their moves or go to the wrong places! It was the first time I had performed in town, and it was a really great experience for me. I took part in the tap, modern and ballet, as I love dancing and I like experimenting with different types of dance.

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

Dancework dancers

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21. GAME ZONE



GAMING GROWS UP

IT might not feel like it, but videogames haven't actually been around for that long. The first games only came out in the early '70s, around 40 or so years ago. Despite this, the world's videogames industry has grown to be worth around £3.86 billion, meaning that there's more money in gaming than in video and music combined!

Boxed versions of the year's biggest games didn't quite sell as well as last year, but altogether, the world of videogames brought in 51.3% of the all the money in the entertainment market, according to the Entertainment Retailers Association (ERA).

That amount doesn't include digital game sales, or the amount made by mobile and free games that are downloaded and played (the most popular being Fortnite, with around 200 million worldwide players), so it's likely that the real numbers are even bigger!

Most of the success has come from three big games, one of which was FIFA 19.

More consoles have been sold this year, too, and on PC the number of users playing with VR headsets, like the Vive and Oculus Rift, has doubled.

So, can we expect gaming to grow even more in 2019? Well, with rumours of a possible new Xbox or PlayStation on the horizon, it sure might!



TETRIS EFFECT

10

PRETTY much everyone knows Tetris! Even if you've not played it, you'll have heard of the falling block game, which first came out in 1984.

There have been lots of different versions of Tetris released since then, but we're confident that there's definitely never been one like Tetris Effect.

The core of it is like every other Tetris game: rotate the blocks as they fall to make a line, which then disappears. It's game over when the stacked blocks reach the top!

While simple to understand, the game of Tetris is pretty deep and requires a lot of concentration.

Tetris Effect takes the simple game of Tetris and puts it in an almost mind-bogglingly beautiful world, complete with matching – and often great – music.

With the PSVR (PEGI 12), this can become almost overwhelming. As you focus on the game, the objects around you zoom by, influenced by the way you're playing. It can be pretty magical.

With loads of levels and music, Tetris Effect is a treat for the eyes, the ears and even the mind.

IS THIS NINTENDO'S LAST CONSOLE?

OUT of the PS4, Xbox One and Switch, Nintendo's hybrid console has sold much faster than the other two, selling more than 8.7 million units from March 2017 – November 2018. Despite this, Nintendo's boss hinted this week that the company could soon stop making consoles.



Nintendo president Shuntaro Furukawa has hinted that the Switch could be the last console that the company makes.

"We aren't really fixated on our consoles," Furukawa said. "At the moment we're offering the uniquely developed Nintendo Switch and its software, and that's what we're basing how we deliver the 'Nintendo experience'."

"Technology changes. In the long-term, perhaps our focus as a business could shift away from home consoles – flexibility is just as important as ingenuity!"

Will we one day be playing Nintendo games on something other than Nintendo's own consoles?

MODDING MADE ILLEGAL IN JAPAN

MODDING is when you create custom levels, objects, characters or even unique or standalone games from an existing game engine – and it's now against the law in Japan.

Modders could face a sentence of up to five years in prison, along with fines of nearly £36,000, thanks to new rules brought in by the country's new Unfair Competition Prevention Law.

The rule makes classic cheat cartridges like Action Replay illegal, too. Do you think the rule is too harsh?



WIN! TICKETS TO THE VITALITY NETBALL WORLD CUP

LOVE playing netball? Love watching sport live? Then get ready for a thrilling competition between 16 of the world's top netball teams at the Vitality Netball World Cup this July!



First News has joined forces with the Vitality Netball World Cup team and we're offering three fabulous prizes, consisting of a set of four tickets – including a First News winner and three other family members – to attend the event.*

You can win the chance to see Northern Ireland battle it out against Sri Lanka in the first round of the tournament on Saturday 13 July 2019. The showdown at Liverpool's spectacular M&S Bank Arena is set to be a tough encounter between the two elite teams. You'll get to see a whole host of



Some 16 top international teams will compete in the tournament, including the Vitality England Roses, pictured here after their success at the 2018 Commonwealth Games

top international netball stars in the flesh! It's the event everyone is talking about, so don't miss out! To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

How many players are there in a netball team?
a) Nine b) Eight c) Seven

*Children under 14 on the date they attend the event will need to be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY NETBALL

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 25. The closing date is 24 January 2019.

22. SNOWY PICS SPECIAL

BOULDER, USA



Getty

TWO Brazilian girls, Maria Eduarda (left) and Jage Montero, see snow for the first time ever and have their first snowball fight!

HARBIN, CHINA



Getty

IT might be a bit chilly inside this restaurant, as it's made from blocks of ice!



Getty

MOSCOW, RUSSIA

THE Russian winter contrasts with a desert scene showing the Three Kings.



Getty

HARBIN, CHINA

A CHEERY trio of pigs sculpted from ice help to mark the upcoming Chinese new year, which will be the Year of the Pig.

JINHUA, CHINA



Getty

HUMAN and bird footprints can be seen near this message reading "2019 hello", which was written in snow on a dock and photographed with a drone.



Getty

HARBIN, CHINA

ANOTHER of the amazing works of art on show in Harbin, which is famous for its annual ice sculpting festival.

23. BOOKS

WORDS FOR LIFE



SAMUEL J Halpin writes daily. Having studied journalism, he went on to study cinematography in Sydney before moving to London and working in comedy TV production. The Peculiar Peggs of Riddling Woods is published this month. Here, he tells us what the best thing about reading is.

“ I remember once eating an entire pancake (cream and jam) that was meant for my brother completely by accident, simply because I was so mesmerised by what I was reading. Being lost and not looking for a way out is the best thing about reading. ”



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

BOOK REVIEWS

MICHELLE MAGORIAN BACK HOME

Reviewed by Daisy Stansfield, age 12

It's 1945 and WW2 is just ending. Twelve-year-old Rusty has just arrived back from America, where she was evacuated five years before, to the rainy corner of England that she left. Everyone expects her to be thrilled to be home. But it doesn't feel like home, she barely remembers it and her mother is hardly more than a stranger. She is cold and lonely, struggles with the rationing and misses America desperately. Things come to a climax when she's sent away to school and she stages a final, desperate, revolution...

This is one of my favourite books – I love the subject and characterisation. I would recommend it to everyone between 8 and 14.



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?

WATCHES

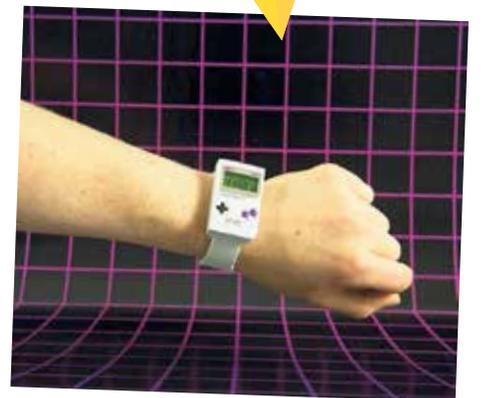
WONDER WOMAN WATCH IWANTONEOFTHOSE.COM £16.99

Help protect the skies with the LEGO DC Universe Superheroes Wonder Woman minifigure link watch! It's time to protect the innocent and bring the bad guys to justice once again. Featuring cool interchangeable links and a minifigure integrated into the bracelet, this watch can be personalised any way you like.



GAME BOY WATCH ARGOS £19.99

Fans of retro gaming will love this cool watch. The iconic green screen of the original Game Boy shows the time, and with the action buttons below you can play with the settings at your leisure. The strap also fits in with the Game Boy style and is adjustable to the size of your wrist.



STAR WARS YODA WATCH WATCHSHOP.COM £11

He's a smart, wise and legendary Jedi Master. His light-up functions and backlit LCD display will guide you in the right direction whenever you need it. Your new partner will never leave your side.



24. PUZZLES

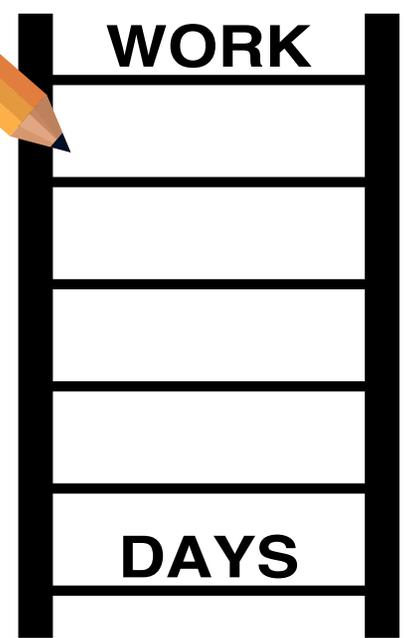
SUDOKU

HAVE a go at our sudoku and fill in the numbers one to nine.

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

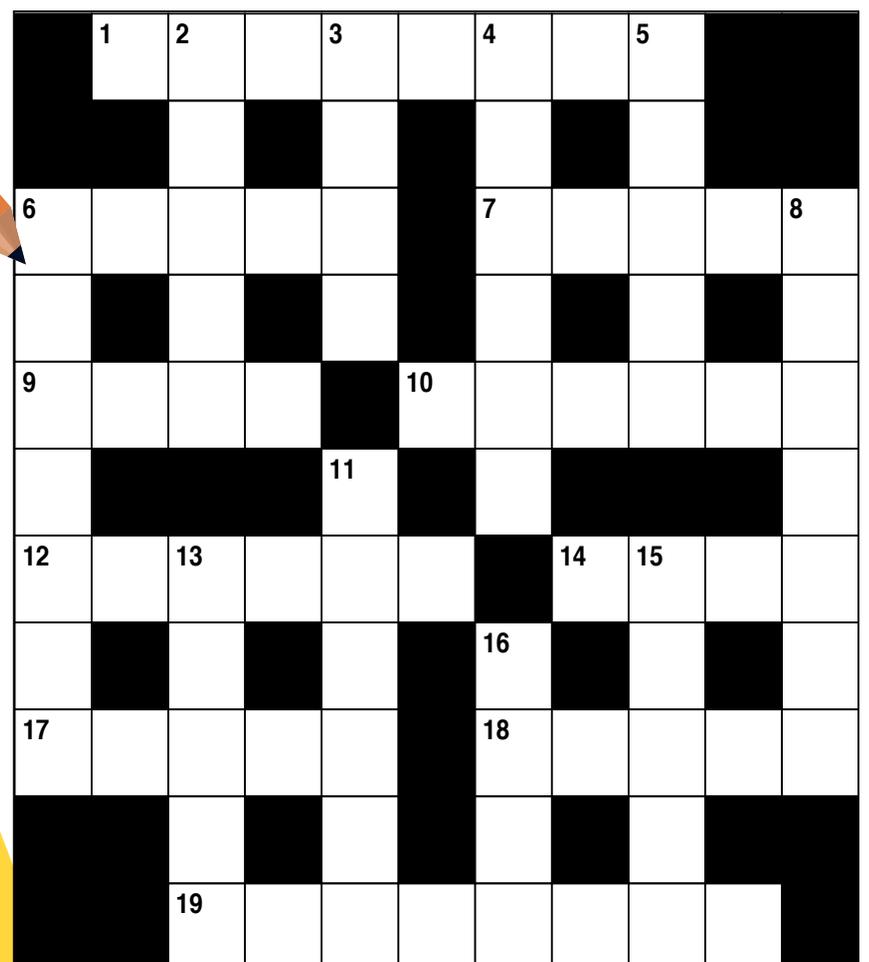
WORD LADDER

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



CROSSWORD

CAN you complete our crossword by using the clues below?



- ACROSS**
- 1 Official list of names (8)
 - 6 Very simple (5)
 - 7 Circular (5)
 - 9 White substance put on chips to add flavour (4)
 - 10 Special ___ : film or TV show illusion (6)
 - 12 False (6)
 - 14 Elegant and stylish (4)
 - 17 A sharp spine on a plant like a rose (5)
 - 18 Large waterbirds that are usually white (5)
 - 19 Christmas ___ : school break (8)
- DOWN**
- 2 Wooden frame for holding an artist's work (5)
 - 3 A unit of measurement (4)
 - 4 A schedule of prices or fees (6)
 - 5 Path (5)
 - 6 Cookie (7)
 - 8 Discovers the presence of (7)
 - 11 An underground passage (6)
 - 13 When this falls out a fairy might visit you (5)
 - 15 Of great weight (5)
 - 16 Second-hand (4)

WORD WHEEL

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

25. PUZZLES

HOW TO ENTER: Send your finished puzzles to Puzzles 656, 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 10 January 2019.

WIN! THE HOUSE WITH A CLOCK IN ITS WALLS DVDs



CAN you spot the five changes we've made to this picture from *The House With A Clock In Its Walls*? Send in your answers and four lucky winners will win a copy of the film on DVD. Based on the classic children's novel, this magical adventure tells the story of Lewis, who goes to live with his uncle in a creepy old house. Lewis discovers that the house has a mysterious tick-tocking sound coming from its walls. Determined to find the ticking, Lewis uncovers a secret world of warlocks and witches and accidentally awakens the dead! *The House With A Clock In Its Walls* is out on digital on 14 January, then DVD and Blu-ray on 28 January.



WORDSEARCH

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

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

- Cold
- Blizzard
- Coat
- Hibernate
- Gloves
- Snowman
- Hot chocolate
- Frosty
- Earmuffs
- Fire
- Scarf
- Icicle



SATURDAY 20 APRIL
EVENTIM APOLLO LONDON
 DOORS AT 3PM | SHOW AT 4PM

FOR TICKET INFO GO TO LIVENATION.CO.UK | TICKETMASTER.CO.UK



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: Graham (far left) has a big head, Ryan (far right) has lost a finger, the Doctor's scarf is a different colour, Graham has lost his badge pin, the Doctor's jacket pocket is missing.
Word ladder: rain, rail, bail, boil, bowl, bows.

7	1	2	3	8	6	5	4	9	C	H	I	M	P	A	N	Z	E	E
5	9	3	2	1	4	7	6	8	A	M	I	X						
8	4	6	5	7	9	2	3	1	M	I	C	H	A					
6	8	5	4	9	2	3	1	7	L	E	A	D	E	R	N	E	W	
1	3	7	6	5	8	4	9	2	K	E	M	P						
9	2	4	7	3	1	6	8	5	A	L	L							
3	6	9	1	2	5	8	7	4	C	O	N	C	A					
4	5	1	8	6	7	9	2	3	C	O	N	C	A					
2	7	8	9	4	3	1	5	6	P	E	R	C						

26. FIRST CAREERS

CHARLIE HAIN

FOLLOWSPOT OPERATOR



IF you've ever been to the theatre, you'll have seen a light following the main character across the stage. But we bet you've never met the person who controls the light! Until now, that is...

WHAT I DO

I'm a followspot operator, which means I shine a huge light at the main characters on the stage. I'm also a stage electrician, so in that role I move lights to make way for set coming on and off stage and make sure the lighting is running smoothly from the wings.

HOW I GOT MY JOB

I applied via email. I've worked with someone who used to have this job and she put in a good word for me. This industry is very small and word of mouth is vital to continue getting work!

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT MY JOB

I love the energy that comes from the audience every night. Being a small cog in the machine that entertains so many people every night is a joy!

WHAT'S DIFFICULT ABOUT IT

We work unsocial hours, so it's tough to meet up with friends and family.

WHAT SKILLS I NEED

A basic understanding of theatrical lighting helps. For this show specifically,

a background in working with moving lights is also useful. However, the most important skill is teamwork. We have a small team and spend a lot of time with each other. It makes a world of difference to be able to get on and work with your team effectively.

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

Get as much experience as possible. Find smaller jobs in local theatres and work up. It's a small industry and making contacts is so important. When you have a bit of experience behind you, try dropping your CV off at theatres or with shows you want to work with.



WHICH QUALIFICATIONS YOU MIGHT NEED

A lot of drama schools and even universities now offer technical theatre courses and are a good way of giving a background knowledge in theatre and making contacts. It's important to realise that real-world working environments are very different, so getting on-the-job experience is crucial.

HOW MY JOB COULD CHANGE IN THE FUTURE

Every year technology changes and everyone in this industry has to keep up with it. The core of what theatre is obviously hasn't, and probably won't, change. Our knowledge and skills are always shifting slightly, but I'd be surprised if our jobs change drastically.

You can follow (get it?) Charlie in our latest film made backstage at *Wicked*. So stop reading and go to first.news/spot to watch it now!

In association with



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

QUIZ TIME

FirstNews QUIZ

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.

1. MATT HANCOCK HOLDS WHICH POSITION IN GOVERNMENT?

.....

2. HOW MUCH DOES IT COST NHS ENGLAND EVERY YEAR WHEN PEOPLE MISS THEIR DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENTS?

.....

3. JEAN-JACQUES SAVIN IS ATTEMPTING TO CROSS WHICH OCEAN IN AN ORANGE BARREL?

.....

4. TWO INCREDIBLY RARE BIRDS HAVE BEEN BORN AT CHESTER ZOO. WHAT ARE THEY?

.....

5. WHICH FOOTBALL TEAM DOES DENIS ODOI PLAY FOR?

.....

6. JIMMY WALES AND LARRY SANGER ARE THE CREATORS OF WHAT?

.....

7. WHAT IS ANOTHER NAME FOR A TOTAL LUNAR ECLIPSE, WHEN THE EARTH MOVES BETWEEN THE SUN AND THE MOON?

.....

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED THIS WEEK?

8. THE SNOWMOBILE FIRST WENT ON SALE IN WHAT YEAR?

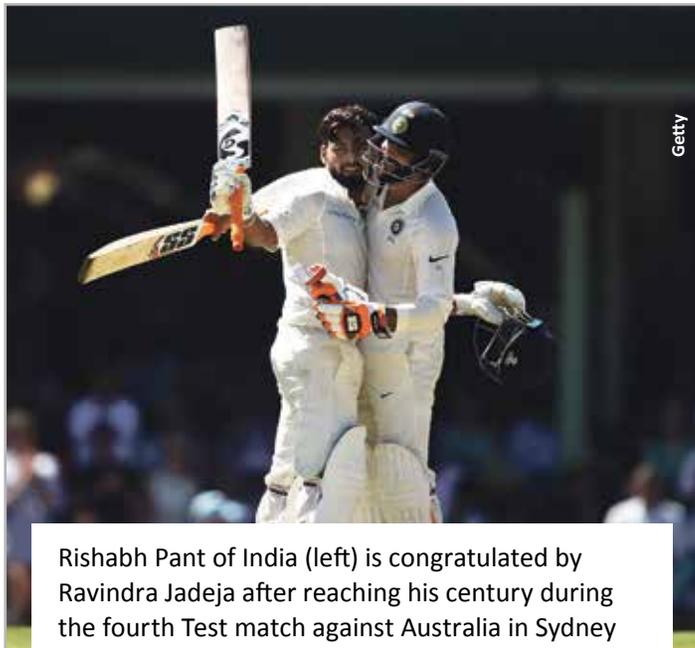
.....

ANSWERS: 1) Health Secretary 2) £216 million 3) Atlantic 4) Socorro dove chicks 5) Fulham 6) Wikipedia 7) super blood moon 8) 1937

SPORT IN PICTURES



Roger Federer and Belinda Bencic of Switzerland pose with the Hopman Cup after winning the final against Alexander Zverev and Angelique Kerber of Germany in Perth, Australia. It is the second year in a row the Swiss have won the title. Federer is the first player ever to win three Hopman Cups – twice with Bencic and once with Martina Hingis, in 2001



Rishabh Pant of India (left) is congratulated by Ravindra Jadeja after reaching his century during the fourth Test match against Australia in Sydney



Fulham's Denis Odoi celebrates after scoring against Oldham Athletic in the third round of the FA Cup. In a major upset, League 2 side Oldham fought back to beat the Premier League team 2-1



Everton's Megan Finnigan challenges Ji So-yun of Chelsea during their FA Women's Super League match. Chelsea won 3-0 to keep their title hopes alive



Competitors push a traditional wooden horn sled – which can reach top speeds of up to 100km/h – at the 50th annual horn sled race in southern Bavaria, Germany



Ingvild Flugstad Østberg of Norway celebrates winning the Tour de Ski Ladies 9km pursuit final climb. Østberg is the only female cross-country skier to have at least one top-three stage finish in each of the last six Tours de Ski

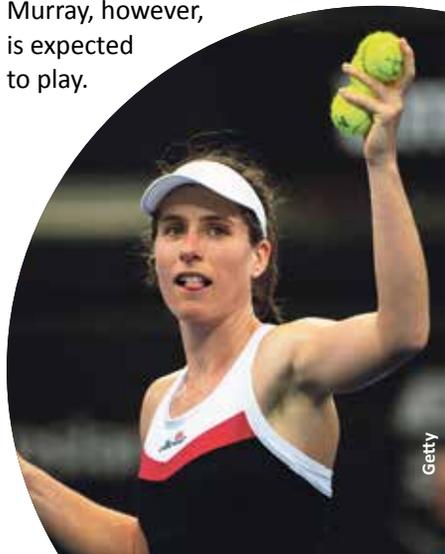
SPORT IN NUMBERS

1 non-league team has made it to the fourth round of the FA Cup. Barnet (below), who are currently 15th in the National League, will face Championship side Brentford at home. Arsenal, who have won the cup a record 13 times, face Manchester United, while Crystal Palace host Spurs in a London derby.



22 -year-old Norwegian Johannes Høsflot Klæbo has become the youngest ever winner of the men's Tour de Ski, with victory at the Cross-Country World Cup. The youngster beat the previous record, held by Swiss skier Dario Cologna since 2009, by 223 days.

14 January is the date the Australian Open, the first tennis grand slam of the year, begins. British number one Johanna Konta (below) may miss out after she withdrew from the recent Sydney International tournament twice in two days. Men's number one Kyle Edmund also quit the tournament with a knee injury and remains a doubt. Andy Murray, however, is expected to play.



NEW FOOTBALL RACISM CLAIM



How we reported on the racism scandals that took place in December



ENGLISH football has once again been shaken by a claim of racist abuse.

This time, the alleged offence was not committed by a fan but by a Sheffield United Women player, and aimed at Tottenham defender Renée Hector. As First News went to press, the accused footballer had not been named.

In December, we reported on the alleged racial abuse England and Manchester City star Raheem Sterling was subjected to by some Chelsea fans. The supporters have been banned by the club while investigations continue.

That incident came just a few days after a Spurs fan was charged by police over racist behaviour aimed at an

Arsenal player.

A small number of Chelsea fans also sang anti-Jewish chants during a Europa League fixture in December.

Now, women's football is in the spotlight after Tottenham defender Hector said she was subjected to monkey noises during the FA Women's Championship game. She reported the incident to the referee and later wrote about it on Twitter, saying: "Such a shame that racism seems to be rising up again in football."

Sheffield United and the Football Association have both started investigating the incident.

THE PROFESSIONALS



Some of these England players will now be paid for their time, including Sarah Hunter (below)



THE best female rugby union players in England are to become professionals.

The Rugby Football Union has announced that 28 paid, full-time contracts will be awarded to the top women players, including 2014 World Cup winners Vicky Fleetwood, Katy Daley-Mclean and Sarah Hunter. It is thought the highest earners will be on around £28,000 a year. By contrast, England's male players earn £23,000 per match.

Some female players had professional contracts before the 2017 World Cup, but they were later withdrawn. This new deal makes England's stars the only full-time pros in the world. Team captain Hunter said: "It's hugely significant. As players it means our focus can now be solely on becoming the best we can be." Rugby is one of the fastest-growing female sports in England; twice as many women and girls play regular club rugby today compared to 2014.

