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First News

Issue 746 £2.25 2 – 8 October 2020

THE UK'S ONLY
NEWSPAPER
FOR CHILDREN



TO TEST
OR NOT TO
TEST?

That is the question, as kids are being sent home from schools across the UK

PARENTS across the country are concerned that children are being sent home from school if they have a runny nose, because of COVID-19 fears.

by editor in chief Nicky Cox MBE

One mum from Walton-on-Thames told *First News*: “My son was sent home because he had the sniffles, and we were told to get him a COVID test. But he always gets a seasonal cold at this time of year. Now, I am worried he is missing out on his education.”

Similar stories are being told across the UK.

Public Health England’s Professor Viv Bennett and Dr Susan Hopkins have said everyone needs to work together to make sure children and young people get the best education in the safest way possible. They have put out guidelines about when tests are needed, saying: “It is vital for children and young people’s learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to

school and college. We all have a duty to make sure the right people have access to get tested at the right time.”

Their advice is that a test should only be booked for a child if they have any of these coronavirus symptoms:

1. A **high temperature**: any new high temperature where you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
2. A **new, continuous cough**: coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
3. A **loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste**: a noticeable loss of smell or taste, or things smell and taste different to normal

Professor Bennett and Dr Hopkins say children and young people do not need a test if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell, but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste, because these are not normally symptoms of this coronavirus.

Only the person with symptoms should get a test. Tests are not needed for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed to the left. But, all members of the household need to self-isolate while waiting for the test result.

The same goes for school. If a pupil or student in a class or bubble tests positive for the coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate doesn’t need a test unless they develop symptoms.

2. QUICK NEWS

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PINTS IN PARLIAMENT



Although Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that all pubs in England would have to shut at 10pm to deal with rising coronavirus cases, it was revealed that MPs in Parliament could still go boozing. The House of Commons bars are classed as work canteens, but MPs were embarrassed that it looked like they weren't sticking to the same restrictions as everyone else in the country. After complaints from the public and MPs, the bars will now stop serving at 10pm.

FIRST-CLASS FUN

People in North Yorkshire have been treated to the sight of a mini version of Postman Pat's van out making deliveries. Alton Tyrell bought an old coin-operated ride from eBay and popped it on a mobility scooter. "Pat" has even been spotted at the McDonald's drive-through.



DOG'S CUTE QUIRK

Meet Enzo Viola – a very special golden retriever! He was born with a distinctive black mark on his face because of a genetic mutation – a quirk in his DNA that makes him a bit different to other dogs of his breed. This has made him even cuter than he would have been anyway, and he now has thousands of adoring fans on Instagram. Enzo lives with the Castro family in Texas, who say he is a playful pup who enjoys playing with squeaky toys and snoozing!



QUICK NEWS

TO READ YOURSELF AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS

NEW TINKER BELL



Yara Shahidi will be the first black actor to play Tinker Bell, in a new film from Disney. She will star opposite Jude Law as Captain Hook in *Peter Pan and Wendy*, a live-action version of the story. "I'm excited for this next adventure!" Yara said on Instagram.

LITTLE MIX PLEDGE



Little Mix have promised to look after the contestants on their new BBC1 show *The Search*, so they don't struggle with the pressures of working in the music industry. The girls experienced anxiety, confidence issues and online bullying while they were starting out, and want to make sure their new bands get proper support.

SWIMOSAURUS

Scientists have been debating for ages over whether the *Spinosaurus* was a land or water-based dinosaur. Now, the discovery of 1,200 teeth belonging to the giant predator at the site of an ancient river bed in Morocco seems to have settled the argument. The species' gnashers made up 45% of the teeth that were found, suggesting that old Spiny was mostly aquatic.

ANCIENT FOOTPRINTS

Human footprints that are 120,000 years old have been found in an ancient dry lake in Saudi Arabia. It's believed that the footprints could give clues about the routes that humans took out of Africa when spreading out around the world. Some 233 fossils were found in total, including those of elephants, hippos and other animals.

WHAT JOBS ARE GREEN?

New research suggests that kids are more concerned with having a job that makes a difference than one that earns them lots of money. The Institution of Engineering & Technology (IET) said over two-thirds (68%) of children hope to work in a 'green job', but 71% say they lack knowledge about these careers. Blue Peter presenter Lindsey Russell has joined forces with the IET for a video series to help kids find their dream green job. See www.engineer-a-better-world.org. For more cool careers videos, see www.firstcareers.co.uk.



DINING IN THE RAIN

A school in Birmingham has warned pupils that social distancing rules mean they'll have to eat their lunches outdoors all winter, even when it's pouring with rain or snowing! Lode Heath School in Birmingham says it doesn't have the space for everyone to safely dine indoors, and has advised all parents to send their kids to school with clothing suitable for break times outside, whatever the weather!

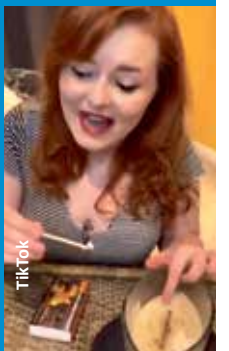
UNWELCOME ART



A woman in Toronto, Canada, who tried to cheer up her boring garage with a colourful paint job has been accused by a furious neighbour of devaluing the other homes in the area. The homeowner decorated her door with a starry night sky, which her neighbour said was "hideous graffiti".

LUCY GOES VIRAL

Vlogger Lucy Edwards has said the reaction to her videos showing how people living with sight loss carry out everyday tasks has been "crazy". Lucy, who is Radio 1's first blind presenter, launched her channel a month ago and it quickly went viral with a TikTok demonstration of how she safely lights a candle. She has also been answering questions about her life, as well as busting myths about blindness. "I didn't expect it to blow up this quickly," she said. "It's a privilege to be able to teach people. They're just genuinely curious."



SWEET SLIDE SUCCESS

A quick-thinking American dad came up with a great idea for socially-distanced trick-or-treaters. With Halloween coming up soon, Andrew Beattie wanted to make sure kids could still get sweets without having to get too close. Using a simple cardboard tube, some paint and a bit of duct tape, he created a 'candy chute' so sweets can slide through the tube, down the stairs by his house and direct to the hungry trick-or-treaters. What a simple, clever idea!





AN 18-year-old campaigner has staged a very chilly climate protest in the Arctic.

Environmental activist Mya-Rose Craig, aka Birdgirl, took to the ice inside the Arctic Circle in Sweden, to protest in what she said was “the world’s most northerly climate strike”.

Mya-Rose was on the Arctic ice edge with the Greenpeace ship Arctic Sunrise, as part of an expedition documenting the impact of the climate crisis and investigating marine life in the region.

“I’m here to demand that our leaders come together and create ocean sanctuaries to protect this essential but fragile place and at least 30% of our oceans,” she said. “There is still time to turn things around towards more sustainable energies and lifestyles, and that moment must be now.”



UK PROMISE FOR NATURE



PRIME Minister Boris Johnson has promised to protect 30% of UK land for nature by 2030.

He made the commitment at a virtual United Nations event, saying: “If left unchecked, the consequences will be catastrophic for us all.” The pledge came on the same day that The Wildlife Trusts launched their 30 by 30 appeal to raise £30m to protect 30% of UK land by 2030. Craig Bennett, from the Wildlife Trusts, said that the Government’s plan was a “good start”.



A CLEVER rat has been given a very special award for sniffing out landmines in Cambodia.

Giant pouched rat Magawa has been given the PDSA Gold Medal for his life-saving bravery and devotion to duty. The rodent has been trained by charity APOPO to sniff out the chemical compounds in explosives and alert humans, and has so far discovered 39 landmines.

Magawa has managed to help clear the equivalent of 20 football pitches, making lots of land safe for local people.



AWESOME ASSEMBLY

MORE than 1.5 million primary school pupils signed up to watch a very special anti-bullying assembly online.

The virtual event was organised by The Diana Award and Nationwide Building Society, and is claimed to be the biggest ever school assembly.

It was hosted by TV presenters Mwaksy Mudenda and Richie Driss, who reminded pupils of the need for mutual respect and kindness.

Celebrities including James McVey, Cel Spellman, Hacker T Dog and Ade Adepitan also popped up with special messages, stories and advice on how to identify and tackle bullying behaviour.

PACKAGING PROBLEM



CRISPS, chocolate and cheese are among the worst foods for not having recyclable packaging, according to a new report.

Consumer group Which? carried out an investigation into food packaging recyclability. They looked at 89 of the UK’s best-selling branded groceries and found that only a third have packaging that was easy to recycle. Big brands such as Pringles, Babybel and KitKat were among those that don’t have environmentally-friendly packaging. Which? says that manufacturers need to maximise their use of recyclable and recycled materials and that the Government must make labelling compulsory, simple and clear, so that shoppers know exactly how to dispose of product packaging.

4. NEWS IN PICTURES

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UK



THE Royal Mint, in collaboration with Disney, has launched the first in a series of Winnie-the-Pooh coins. The commemorative 50 pence pieces feature original watercolour illustrations by EH Shepard from the book, and marks the first time Winnie-the-Pooh has been featured on an official UK coin. The first coin in the series shows Winnie-the-Pooh at his happiest, with a jar of his favourite honey.

DONJA LOKOŠNICA, SERBIA



DRIED pepper threads hang in the village nicknamed the “paprika capital of the world”, since almost all of the 1,000 inhabitants are involved in growing the peppers that paprika is made from. Each paprika thread is handmade and still dried according to traditional techniques, using only the sun and fresh air.



LONDON, UK

THE Duke and Duchess of Cambridge shared photographs of their family with Sir David Attenborough, taken after the Duke and Sir David attended an outdoor screening of Sir David’s upcoming feature film, *A Life On Our Planet*.



WEIFANG, CHINA

A COLOURFUL display at the opening ceremony of the 37th Weifang International Kite Festival.

CALIFORNIA, USA



THE Black Rock Inn burns as the ‘Glass Fire’ moves through the area. The fast-moving fire has burned more than 1,000 acres and destroyed many buildings.



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5. BIG NEWS

BEAVERS

NATURE'S FIREFIGHTER?



Getty

A NEW study suggests that beavers can help to slow the spread of fire. With wildfires raging across the west coast of America, it could be more important than ever to appreciate the benefits of these clever rodents.

The study looked at the locations of major US wildfires over the last 20 years. It showed that the vegetation in areas where beavers worked their magic was up to three times greener and healthier than other areas.

This is because the beavers make dams, guiding water and forming ponds, meaning that the areas they live in have healthy, well-watered plants. And these green plants are a lot less likely to be set on fire than dry, brown, unhealthy plants.

Emily Fairfax, the leader of the study, said: "It doesn't matter if there's a wildfire right next door. Beaver-dammed areas are green and happy and healthy-looking." Beaver wetlands are safe havens for all sorts of other animals too, as they attract amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals.

Alexa Whipple, director of the Methow Beaver Project, supports the findings: "If we have a wetter landscape, we are going to resist fire and recover from it better. My hope is that wildfire can be the gateway for people to understand the whole suite of benefits that beavers offer."

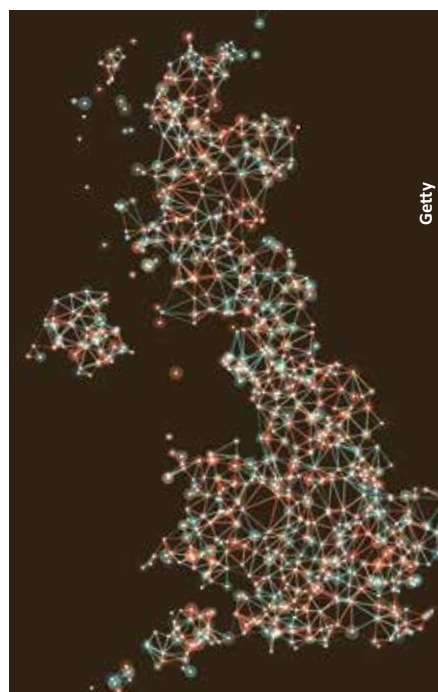
CENSUS RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

THE Office for National Statistics (ONS) has released new school resources all about the census. But what is the census, and why does it matter?

Every ten years in England and Wales, there is a survey called the census. This survey asks questions about you, your household and your home. Across the two countries, it builds up detailed information about the population, which helps councils to plan and fund local services such as education, doctors' surgeries and roads.

With the next census taking place in 2021 (Scotland's won't be until 2022), the ONS is looking for schools to sign up for their teaching resources. For primary schools, they have created Let's Count, which shows how statistics can be really useful. For secondary schools, there is a programme to help raise awareness of the census and its importance, using curriculum subjects such as maths and history.

You can find out more information about both programmes and encourage your school to get involved at bit.ly/censuseducation.



Getty

Northern Ireland and Scotland have their own censuses to find out about their populations

EDITOR'S COMMENT



IT seems that even the grown-ups don't really understand the rules about getting tests and staying safe from the coronavirus.

People will probably be arguing for years about whether the UK's various governments have done enough to put in place a working testing system, but it's clear that since testing kits are in short supply, we can all do our bit by only asking for a test if we really need it. But, we hope you all stay safe and healthy and don't need a test in the first place. Look after yourselves.

GOOD WEEK FOR...

DR JAMIE FROST

THE London maths teacher is down to the top 10 for the 2020 Global Teacher Prize. Dr Frost's teaching website helped millions of pupils around the world during lockdown. If he wins, he will get £780,000!



DrFrostMaths/Twitter

BAD WEEK FOR...

SHOPPERS

SUPERMARKETS have begun to limit the sale of certain products like loo roll, disinfectant and pasta. This is because people are starting to panic buy (buy too much) over fears of a second lockdown.



Getty

WORLD LEADERS PLEDGE TO PROTECT THE PLANET



Getty

MORE than 70 countries, including the UK, have promised to make wildlife and the climate a top priority as they make their plans for moving forward after the coronavirus pandemic.

World leaders are warning that the current climate crisis is an emergency and have set out a ten-point plan, called the Leaders' Pledge for Nature, to turn things around.

The 71 nations have pledged to take steps including clamping down on pollution, stopping dumping of plastic waste in the oceans, making a renewed effort to reduce deforestation, halting unsustainable fishing practices and beginning the move to sustainable food production systems to help save the planet.

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6. HOME NEWS

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CUMBRIA



Nothinghamshire Police/Facebook

● Pilfered penguins

A man has pleaded guilty to stealing two Humboldt penguins that went missing in November 2018. Bradley Tones from Preston admitted taking the penguins from South Lakes Safari Zoo in Cumbria. He later sold them on Facebook for nearly £10,000. The buyer, who runs a private conservation programme, tipped off the police, who arrested Mr Tones in January 2019. He will be sentenced on 16 October.

WALES

● Planting project

Bracken in the Black Mountains is being cleared for a huge tree planting project. The charity Stump Up For Trees plans to plant a million trees on the hills over the coming years. Charity founder Keith Powell said: "Trees provide wildlife habitat, sustainable timber, improved air quality and healthier soil", adding that "tree planting is now recognised as one of the best ways to tackle this global [climate] crisis". The remaining bracken spells out the name of the charity and the words 'daw eto ddail ar fryn', which is Welsh for 'there will be leaves on the mountain again'.



Stumpupfortrees/Twitter

NORTH YORKSHIRE

● Teacher tribute

A deputy head teacher has been killed by cows while out walking his dogs. Dave Clark was a much-loved teacher at Richmond School in North Yorkshire. Head teacher Jenna Potter said: "Dave was the heart and soul of Richmond School. He was an enormous character, a brilliant school leader and a lovely man who enriched the life of everyone he came into contact with." Police are looking into his death.



RichmondSchoolandSixthFormCollege/Facebook

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



Jason Pack/Facebook

● Skydive surprise

A romantic daredevil decided to propose to his partner during a charity skydive. Jason Pack and Katie Line jumped out of a plane, raising £5,000 for Cransley Hospice. Jason's family were on the ground, holding big letters that said 'KATIE MARRY ME?' He had arranged to land first so he could run over to Katie with a ring and pop the question. She gave a surprised but happy yes. "I think I just nodded my head to be honest," said Katie. "I think I was too shocked!" The couple plan to marry in 2023.

CROYDON

● Police officer killed

A police officer has died after being shot inside Croydon Custody Centre. Sergeant Matiu Ratana was shot as officers prepared to search a man who had been arrested for an alleged drugs offence and possession of ammunition. The man, named as 23-year-old Louis De Zoysa, then turned the gun on himself. He remains in hospital in a critical condition. Meanwhile, police say they have arrested a man in Norwich on suspicion of supplying a weapon.



@MPSHackney/Twitter

UK

● Colonial connection

The National Trust, the charity that looks after more than 300 historic buildings, says that 93 of its properties have links to slavery and colonialism. Colonialism is when a country takes control of another and uses its resources and people to make money, like the UK did between the 16th and 20th centuries. The National Trust has said it is committed to sharing these regretful histories. John Orna-Ornstein from the charity said it wants to raise awareness to "reflect as accurately and comprehensively as we can the histories across a variety of places".



Getty

Speke Hall near Liverpool is one of many National Trust buildings with links to slavery

ENGLISH CHANNEL

● Migrant crisis worsens

More people made the dangerous trip across the English Channel in September than in all of 2019. At least 1,892 people have arrived in small boats in the space of one month, compared to 1,835 in 2019. It is a very complicated issue, and some say the boats must not be allowed to land in the UK, while others, like Calais MP Pierre-Henri Dumont, remind us that "we are talking about human beings, not cattle".



Getty

7. BIG NEWS

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BAD YEAR FOR BUTTERFLIES



Small tortoiseshell numbers were down 41% on last year

CHARITY Butterfly Conservation has revealed that 2020 has been the worst ever year for butterflies since the Big Butterfly Count started.

A record 145,249 people took part in this year's count. However, it was the worst year in terms of numbers of butterflies per count in the survey's 11-year history.

Spotters only saw 10.66 butterflies during their 15-minute survey, which is down from 16.22 in 2019.

Having the wettest February on record followed by the sunniest spring is thought to have been the main reason behind the low numbers of butterflies spotted in July and August. The sunny spring may have caused many butterfly species to appear earlier and complete their adult life cycle before the count began.

Big falls in the numbers of peacock butterflies and small tortoiseshells may also be because those species had already started hibernating.

Peacock numbers were also down



FROG HASN'T CROAKED IT

SCIENTISTS in Chile have spotted a rare species of frog last seen more than 80 years ago. The Hall's water frog was thought to have become extinct in the country, but it has been found in a small, hot spring oasis in Chile's Atacama Desert.

FITNESS LEVELS FELL DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES



Schools are trying to get children fit again after six months off school

POLL OF THE WEEK

Have you been healthier since lockdown ended? Vote at first.news/polls

CHILDREN'S fitness levels have fallen since the school closures caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

That's what new research by children's charity the Youth Sport Trust has found. Its survey of 252 teachers across the UK revealed that:

- 73% of teachers reported children returning to school this term with low levels of physical fitness.
- 65% said that being able to provide PE classes was made more difficult by having to follow COVID-19 safety guidance, such as cleaning equipment, social distancing and having to stay in class bubbles.
- 49% saw mental wellbeing issues in pupils, including anxiety and fear.

The findings came in the same week as a new survey from the British Nutrition Foundation (BNF), which found that 50% of primary school children and 26% of secondary school students say that they feel better or healthier now that they are back at school.

Some 324 primary children and 405 secondary students were surveyed ahead of the BNF Healthy Eating Week, which runs until this Sunday. The campaign aims to increase knowledge of healthy eating and wellbeing, and highlight the benefits of physical activity and cooking.

GET YOUR WALKING SHOES ON!



MONDAY 5 October marks the start of this year's Walk to School Week.

Living Streets, a charity that encourages walking and campaigns for better environments for pedestrians, is behind the campaign.

It is calling on children who don't already walk to school to take part in a five-day walking challenge. The charity says it will set you up "for a positive day

in the classroom," as well as creating "healthy habits for life". The charity reckons walking to school can give you an increased sense of calm and self-esteem, as well as time to connect with friends, family and the natural world.

The week is part of International Walk to School Month.

TINY TURBINE CAN POWER PHONES

SCIENTISTS in China have created a tiny wind turbine that can harness the wind energy we create when we walk.

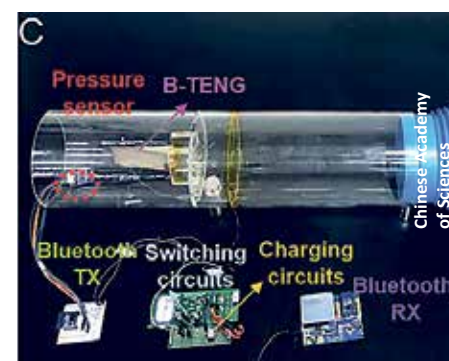
The dinky device, known as a nanogenerator, is made of two plastic strips in a tube. These strips become electrically charged as they flap together in airflow. The electricity generated by these movements is captured and stored by the device, and can be used to power gadgets.

Dr Ya Yang of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing says the invention can generate electricity from a person simply swinging their arm. A gentle breeze of 1.6 metres per second is also enough to power the device. And the faster the airflow, the more power is generated, so a bike ride or jog will produce more power than a quick walk.

At the moment, the wind turbine is the size of a coin, but scientists hope to make it even smaller so it can easily attach to a mobile and other portable devices, such as tablets. So far, the device has been able to power 100 LED lights and temperature sensors.

But as well as creating a smaller version, Dr Yang and his team are working on a much larger version. They think that it could replace traditional wind turbines as another way of harnessing the green energy in our breezes and gales.

It remains to be seen how well the nanogenerator works in harsh conditions, such as ice, rain and dust.



The nanogenerator, devised at the Chinese Academy of Sciences

8. WORLD NEWS

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SWITZERLAND



● Voters reject plan

Swiss people have voted against a plan to stop the movement of people to and from the European Union (EU). Nearly 62% wanted to keep free movement, with only 38% against it. Switzerland isn't in the EU, but has a treaty that allows it to access some of the benefits. Opponents of the proposals said it would be wrong to end the freedom to live and work across Europe at an uncertain time.



USA



● Space ballot

NASA astronaut Kate Rubins plans to cast her vote in the US presidential election – from 200 miles above the Earth! She will be on the International Space Station on polling day, so arrangements have been made for her to have a special electronic ballot. This will be downloaded to Mission Control in Houston and sent on to be counted. Astronauts have been able to vote from space for the last 20 years.



ROMANIA



● Elected after death

A Romanian mayor has been re-elected, despite having died before the vote was held. The Mayor of Deveselu village, Ion Aliman, died from coronavirus complications two weeks before the election, but there wasn't time to remove his name from the ballot paper. He won with 64% of the vote, and locals have visited his grave to pay their respects. Another election will be held, officials have said.



ARMENIA



● Deadly clashes

Fierce fighting has broken out between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, resulting in a number of deaths – including civilians. Armenia declared martial law (control by the military rather than police) after accusing Azerbaijan of air and land attacks. The area is officially recognised as being part of Azerbaijan, but is controlled by Armenians who declared independence nearly 30 years ago.



SRI LANKA



● Return to sender

A shipment of waste from the UK that was sent to Sri Lanka for recycling is heading back here after it was found to contain hazardous material. The batch of 263 containers, sent there by a private waste disposal company, was supposed to consist of old carpets, rugs and mattresses, but was found to contain hospital waste and plastic. Officials said the rotting waste broke international rules for disposing of hazardous waste, and sent back 21 of the containers.



AUSTRALIA



● Whale tragedy

Rescuers have released 108 stranded whales back into the sea off Tasmania's west coast. A further 350 whales died in Australia's worst ever mass stranding. The long-finned pilot whales washed up on sand spits at Macquarie Heads, where strandings often happen. A team spent five days rescuing as many as possible, but some were too exhausted to be saved and will be buried at sea.

9. ANIMAL NEWS

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LOCKED OUT OF HIBERNATION?

A TORTOISE sanctuary in Wales is worried that local lockdowns around the country may put hundreds of pet tortoises in danger this winter.

Every year, more than 200 pet tortoises check in to the International Tortoise Association's sanctuary in Sully, Vale of Glamorgan. The pets spend the winter in the temperature-controlled facility, where they go into hibernation until spring.

Many of the tortoise owners who would usually bring their pets to the sanctuary are in areas with strict lockdown rules, meaning they are unable to leave home.

A number of worried owners have already been in touch with the facility to see what they can do.

Tortoises are cold-blooded animals. In the winter, when the weather is colder, their metabolism slows down and they hibernate until the weather warms up again. The International Tortoise Association keeps the animals in a safe, secure centre where the temperature remains stable during the colder months.



iStock

BITESIZE NEWS

NATURAL blue-green algae has

been found to be the cause of hundreds of unexplained elephant deaths in Botswana earlier this year. The natural algae grows in standing water and can be poisonous to animals who drink it.



Scottish SPCA

LOST AT SEA!

A SAILOR off the coast of Ayrshire got a surprise this week when a cockatiel landed on his boat!

The lost bird took refuge on the boat, which was ten miles out to sea. The fisherman on the boat called the Scottish SPCA (Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), which has taken the cockatiel in.

Sheena MacTaggart from the Scottish SPCA said: "Thank goodness the boat was there so the bird found somewhere to rest.

"He had no obvious injuries, and was given some water and food before being taken to our centre in Ayrshire. We have named him Heihei after the bird in the film Moana, who stows away on her boat. We thought it was very fitting!"

Heihei does have numbered rings on his legs, but so far the charity has been unable to trace his owners.

If you recognise Heihei or know who he belongs to, you can contact the Scottish SPCA's animal helpline on 03000 999 999.

ORCA BORN





Katie Jones

AN orca who made headlines two years ago after her calf died has given birth to a healthy baby.

Tahlequah, who belongs to a pod from Puget Sound in Washington, USA, was pictured in 2018 carrying her calf for 17 days even though it had died.

Researchers from the Center for Whale Research have photographed Tahlequah and her new calf swimming happily in Puget Sound (above). They believe the calf was born at the start of September, and both mum and the calf appear to be healthy. There are 73 orcas who live in Puget Sound all year round. The Sound is also home to four other species of whale.

First News has teamed up with  show FYI and the  to make a series of videos called *I Don't Get It* for you to watch at home or at school. The plan is to explain stuff that can be complicated or difficult to understand. This week marks the start of Black History Month, so FYI presenter Tia asks:

RACISM

WHY IS IT SUCH A BIG ISSUE?

SKY Kids FYI presenter Tia explores the origins of racism and asks why it remains such a big issue today. She discovers there's still work to be done to stamp out racism and achieve equality.

GOING BACK 250 YEARS

These days we take it for granted that, whatever our cultural background and whatever our skin colour, we should all be treated the same and given the same opportunities.

But it wasn't always that way. To see how things used to be, we're going back 250 years to 1770.

This was the height of slavery, when black people were transported from Africa to work on plantations in the Caribbean and the Americas, harvesting sugar, tobacco and cotton.

It was a cruel business and, while British slave owners quickly got rich, millions of Africans were killed because of the harsh conditions, both on the slave ships and on the plantations.

In those days, Africans were seen as not as good as white Europeans and, even though slavery was banned in 1834, those misguided attitudes towards black people continued for years afterwards.

One of the turning points came during the two world wars, when white soldiers fought alongside black and Asian men to defeat the Nazis.

One of those men was war hero Walter Tull, the grandson of a slave, who quit his career as a footballer to become Britain's first black army officer.

After the war, Britain needed extra workers to help rebuild our shattered country. Hundreds of young men from the Caribbean signed up to help, and sailed to the UK on a ship called the Empire Windrush. There were also new workers arriving from south Asia.



But they didn't get the warm welcome they expected. Their children were bullied at school, just because of the colour of their skin, and some landlords wouldn't let them rent their houses.

But slowly, things were starting to change.

Increasing numbers of people were heading to the UK to make it their home. And, in America, there was a new campaign for equal rights, led by Martin Luther King. He had a dream that one day black people would be treated as equals and, 45 years later, Barack Obama was elected as the president.

Rose Hudson-Wilkin, who recently became the Church of England's first ever black female bishop, says: "Imagine people from my parents' or the Windrush generation seeing someone like them occupying the top position in the world – that was pretty amazing! But there is still work to be done."

Back in 1976, a new law called the Race Relations Act made it illegal to discriminate against anyone because of their race. It was an attempt to stop people being singled out and treated badly because of the colour of their skin. But, by the 1980s there were still problems, with riots in cities like Bristol, London, Birmingham and Liverpool. People from ethnic minorities were angry about poor living conditions and the unfair way they were being treated, particularly by the police.

Even today there is still work to be done to stamp out racism. Rose Hudson-Wilkin says: "If we think we are victims of racism, or we hear people making racist comments, then what I want us to do is – with a smile – to call it out. Don't be silenced, because ultimately what we want to do is to give the one clear message that we are all part of the one human race. We belong together."

These days there are loads of people to inspire us. We have sporting superstars, Glastonbury headliners and even Oscar winners. Every day they remind us that, with hard work and determination, we can all achieve anything.

"We are all part of the one human race. We belong together"

– Rose Hudson-Wilkin, the Church of England's first ever black female bishop



Getty



Kids – you can watch the *I Don't Get It* video on racism at first.news/IDGI.

Teachers – you can watch the film in the classroom alongside our tie-in award-winning educational resources at schools.firstnews.co.uk

Next week: *I Don't Get It* – mental health



SPEAK UP IF YOU'RE FEELING DOWN

**Feeling alone? If you can't speak
to an adult you trust, remember
Childline is there to help: **0800 11 11**
or go to **childline.org.uk** for other
ways to get in touch**



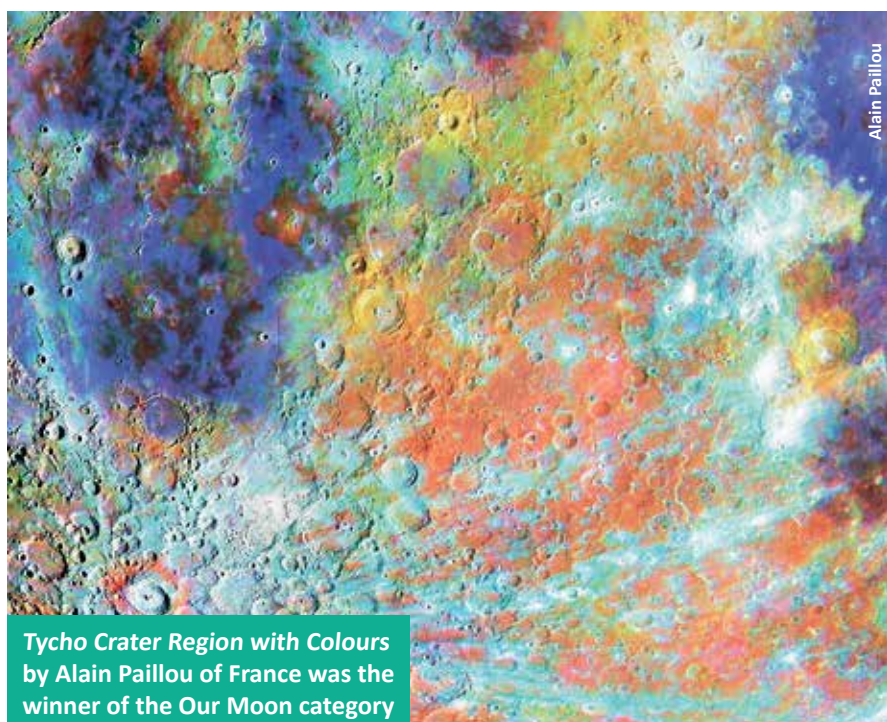
STAR SNAPS

A COUPLE of weeks ago, we showed you two of the winning entries in this year's Astronomy Photographer of the Year prize.

Now, in this science special, we showcase some of the other stunning images that triumphed at this year's awards.

The competition, run by the Royal Observatory Greenwich, is now in its 12th year and received over 5,000 entries from six continents. All the winning photographs can be seen on display at the National Maritime Museum in London from 23 October until 8 August 2021.

The Prison of Technology by Rafael Schmall of Hungary won the People and Space category. The object at the centre is the Albireo double star, surrounded by the trails of moving satellites. The photo is made from five 150-second exposures



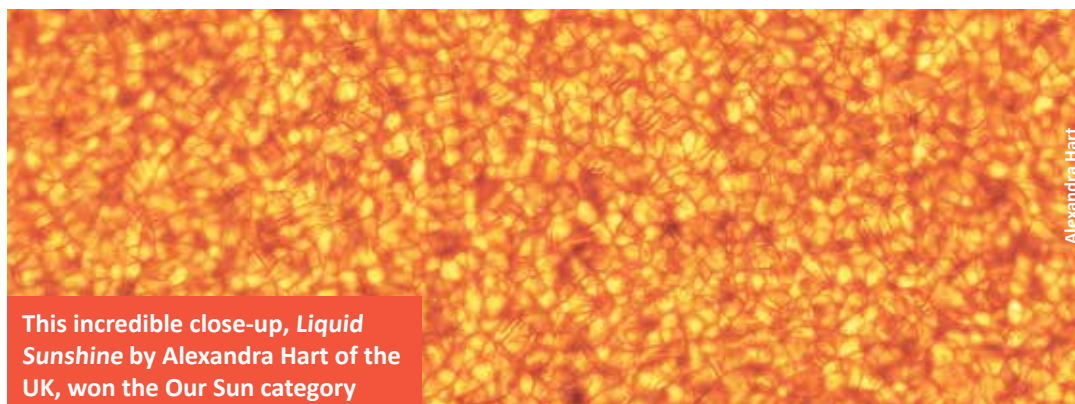
Tycho Crater Region with Colours by Alain Paillou of France was the winner of the Our Moon category



Thomas Kast of Germany's *Painting the Sky*, snapped in Finnish Lapland, took top prize in the Skyscapes category



The winner of the Stars and Nebulae section was *Cosmic Inferno* by Australia's Peter Ward. The nebula here is called NGC 3576



This incredible close-up, *Liquid Sunshine* by Alexandra Hart of the UK, won the Our Sun category



The Aurorae category winner was *The Green Lady* by Nicholas Roemmelt of Germany. The 'lady' is part of the Northern Lights, photographed here in Norway

**SCIENCE
MUSEUM
GROUP**

This report is from the Science Museum in London

ON 2 October 1608, Dutch spectacle-maker Hans Lipperhey first demonstrated the refracting telescope.

But the revolutionary device didn't get its name until 1611, two years after Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei made a new and improved version.

Modern telescopes work by using two lenses, curved in opposite directions, that work together to refract (or bend) light, focusing it on a single point – your eye. This makes distant objects look magnified.

Galileo's telescope magnified the appearance of objects by 21, which allowed him to view the moon's craters, Venus and the moons of Jupiter. Today, astronomers use much larger telescopes that allow them to observe everything from distant galaxies to black holes far outside the Milky Way.

Why not grab a pair of binoculars and see what you can find in the night sky?



A replica of Galileo Galilei's pioneering telescope

Science Museum Group

GET READY TO RACE (VIRTUALLY)

SPONSORED runs are a great way of raising money and awareness for charities and other good causes. This year, Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) is holding a virtual RBC Race For The Kids to raise money and awareness for the famous children's hospital.



WHAT IS GOSH?

Based in London, Great Ormond Street Hospital is one of the world's leading children's hospitals. Since it was founded in 1852 the hospital has been dedicated to children's healthcare and to finding new and better ways to treat childhood illnesses.



RBC RACE FOR THE KIDS



RBC Race For The Kids is GOSH Charity's annual fun run. Usually taking place in London's Hyde Park, this year it will be taking place as a virtual race for the first time!

Last year, over 10,000 people took part in the fundraising event to run, jog, walk and scoot around the 5km course in Hyde Park. Due to COVID-19, we can't hold our usual event and the hospital needs more support than ever this year, so the charity is urging people to sign up and take on their own 'race' distance over a weekend of celebration on 17 and 18 October, all while raising money for GOSH Charity!

Created by the Royal Bank of Canada, the RBC Global Virtual Race For The Kids will bring together tens of thousands of participants to support 36 children's and youth charities in 16 countries. Since it's virtual, anyone can take part wherever they are in the world.



Harry with Harry Potter star Jason Isaacs

HOW CAN I JOIN IN?

GOSH, which treats seriously ill children from across the UK and beyond, needs our support more than ever. The money raised from RBC Race For The Kids will go towards funding the hospital's most urgent needs, including research into pioneering new treatments, cutting-edge medical equipment, support services for children and their families, and the essential rebuilding and refurbishment of the hospital.

Louise Parkes, Chief Executive of GOSH Charity, said: "All the money raised will make such a huge difference to seriously ill children from across the UK, so we're calling upon our incredible supporters to sign up, fundraise and celebrate GOSH."

The event is open to supporters of all ages and abilities, and people are encouraged to choose somewhere in their local neighbourhood, park or even a garden, and 'race' your distance, your way.

MEET HARRY!

Harry, aged eight, will be doing his own race alongside his family – his dad, Ian; mum, Debbie; and younger brother, Alfie – to help support the hospital that saved his life.

Harry was rushed into intensive care at GOSH shortly after he was born, where he was diagnosed with a heart condition called critical pulmonary stenosis – hypoplastic right heart syndrome. After arriving at GOSH, Harry had open-heart surgery, where doctors inserted a stent to keep his heart functioning. He's since had three operations at GOSH to help his heart condition and is now doing really well.

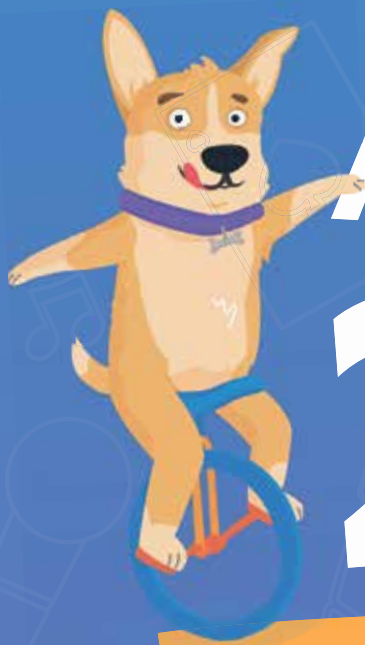
Harry said: "Me and my family have done RBC Race For The Kids for the last couple of years. I love running and I'm really excited to do our own race – hopefully we can raise lots of money too! I want to say thank you to GOSH, as they saved my life."



You can sign up for RBC Race For The Kids for free at rbcraceforthekids.com, select the city and associated charity, and choose the race distance to complete during the weekend of 17 and 18 October. Children aged under 18 cannot take part as individuals and must be part of a team. Please ask your parent/guardian's permission before taking part.

Explore
LEARNING

Writing competition for children aged 4-14
Judged by Greg James

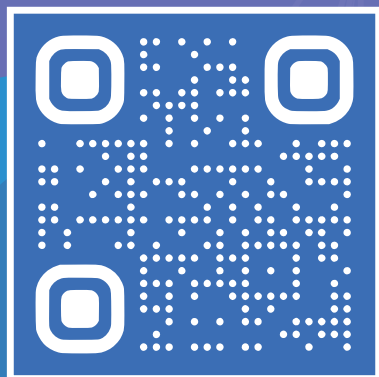


WRITERS' AWARDS 2020

HIDDEN TALENTS

Awaken your inner author

Enter online



Scan to find out more

WIN!



Apple tech bundle worth £2000
Including 13" Macbook pro + iPad



£1000 in experience vouchers
to develop your own talent



PLUS £500 worth of books
for the competition winner's school

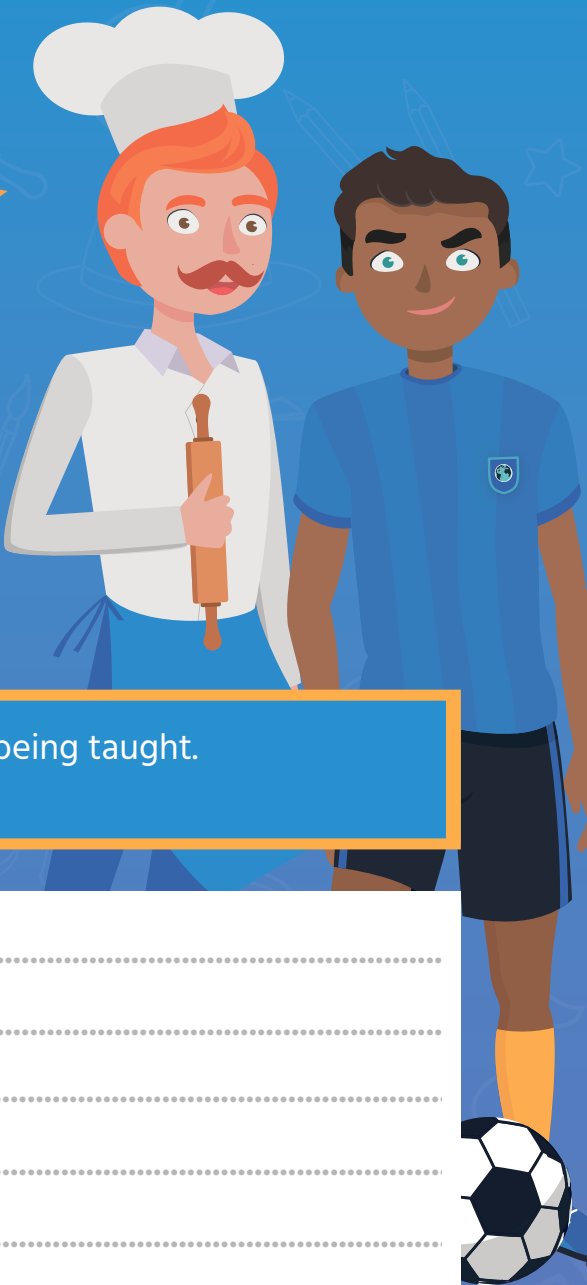


HIDDEN TALENTS

2020 has been the year of self-discovery.
Have you unearthed a hidden talent?

Everyone has a talent; anyone can be a writer.
Awaken your inner author.

Use this page to help you plan your 500-word story as we discover a hidden talent.



TALENT

(noun)

A natural ability to be good at something, especially without being taught.
e.g. His talent for art showed at an early age.

1. What is your talent? What is your character's talent?

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2. Why is this a good talent to have?

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3. How was this talent discovered?

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YOU CAN BE AMAZING!



Sir Chris Hoy with his two gold medals from the London 2012 Olympic Games

CYCLING legend and Olympic gold medallist Sir Chris Hoy has released his first non-fiction book for kids. *Be Amazing!* will encourage you to be the best you can be and show you how you can achieve your dreams. The book is packed full of helpful advice, tips and some personal stories. We chatted to Chris to find out more.

■ What can you tell us about *Be Amazing!*, as it's a bit different to your previous books?

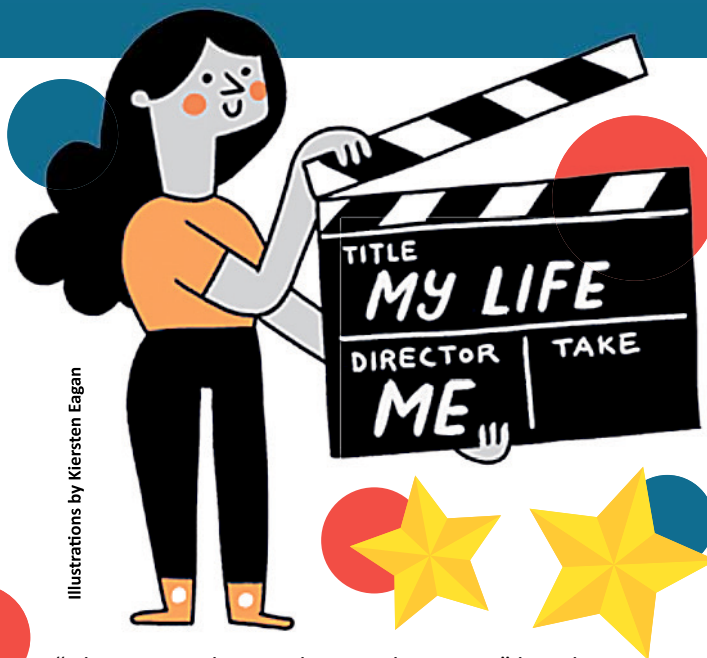
Yes, the *Flying Fergus* series was a fictional series and it was written with Joanna Nadin and Claire Elsom, so it was very much a team effort. So many people have asked me: "How did you go from being a kid riding a BMX to winning a gold medal?" And I think that when I was that sort of age I kind of assumed that people who were successful, who won the gold medals or were at the top of their chosen field, were born different to the rest of us and that's just how it was. But that's not how it happens – anybody can achieve amazing things if they apply themselves, and we can all do more than we ever thought possible.

■ So this is an inspirational book?

Yeah, definitely. This isn't a book about how to become a champion, or about winning medals or cycling, it's a book to try to encourage kids to get the best out of themselves, to be their own champion, to find their own passion. No matter what it is that you do, if you enjoy what you do, you'll work harder at it and enjoy it even more. I was lucky; I found my passion and cycling was all I wanted to do, but I had to have a plan B, as I didn't think it was a realistic career for me. I wasn't that good at it and I couldn't see a path in cycling. Find your passion, aim high and go out there and try to achieve your dream, try to do the best you can. This is kind of a guide to how you go about doing that!

■ You say in the book that the film *ET* helped inspire you to cycle!

I watched *ET* when I was six and it was a great film, but it wasn't about the film for me – it was the scene at the end when the kids are on all their BMX bikes. They're being chased and they go over the humps and through turns and I had never seen a bike used in that way before. BMX was brand-new at that point; I'd never even seen one in real life. When I saw that and I saw the way they were using those bikes, I thought it looked like the most exciting thing in the world and that is what I wanted to do. I didn't think:



Illustrations by Kiersten Eagan

"Oh I want to be an Olympic champion," but that was the first spark that got me interested in bikes, and I guess that set me on my journey.

■ Cycling has seen a huge surge in popularity this year. Do you think that has been a good thing for kids, getting them more active?

Definitely. I have a kids' cycling business that makes bikes for kids and I can see the increase in kids getting involved in cycling. Cycling is a skill that you will be able to use for the rest of your life, so what a wonderful way to spend the time and make the best of a bad situation. I have two young ones: Callum is just about to turn six and he's been riding for a while now, and Chloe, who just turned three. She actually learnt to ride her bike during lockdown, just from the amount of the time we were out on our bikes in the lovely weather we had. You just have to make the best of every situation you are in, and a lot of the book is about that. There are a lot of situations we get in that are out of our control. There's nothing we can do to change that, so do you sit around and worry or complain, or do you just go and do something that is positive? I think that's why so many kids have been riding their bikes – because so many parents realised that it is wonderful to get kids out, get them active and get them to learn a new skill.

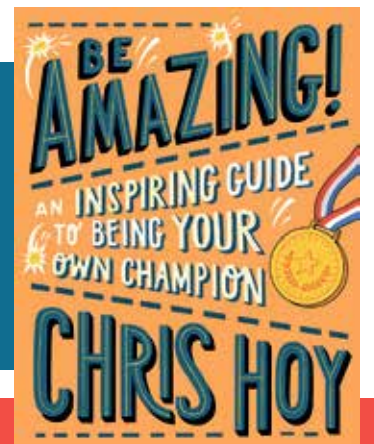
■ Do you remember when you learnt to ride your bike without stabilisers?

I do. I was six, which was relatively old compared to some of my friends, who could already ride their bikes. I went round to my friend's house; he could already ride his bike, and his younger brother, who was four, could also ride a bike. I remember thinking: "Ooh, I'm not having that!" So we went down to the local park with his dad and, to my dad's shame, it was my friend's dad who taught me how to ride my bike. My dad cringes every time I tell this story, because I came home from my friend's house and was all excited that I'd learnt to ride my bike! So I had a go on my sister's bike to show them, and that was the start of it – I wanted to get my own bike. He loves me to remind him about that story!

■ You've won so many medals in your career, including six gold Olympic medals. What do you do with them all?

I went to my son's school just before lockdown and took my medals, and the kids all wanted to know that too. Most of my medals are kept in bags or in drawers. My Olympic medals are not actually kept at home; I store them somewhere safe, because if you have a fire or get burgled, they're irreplaceable. It's just a ribbon with a bit of metal at the end, but it's what it represents and the work that went into winning it that really makes them that special. I love showing the medals to people, particularly kids. Callum had never really asked about my cycling before, so I think he was just as interested when I took them to his school!

Be Amazing!
An Inspiring
Guide To Being
Your Own
Champion by
Chris Hoy is
out now



CHARITIES SUPPORTED BY FIRST NEWS



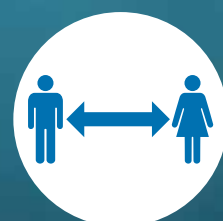
**I make
space to
protect
you.**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES

18. PUZZLE FUN



WIN! REALLY RAD FARTBRO

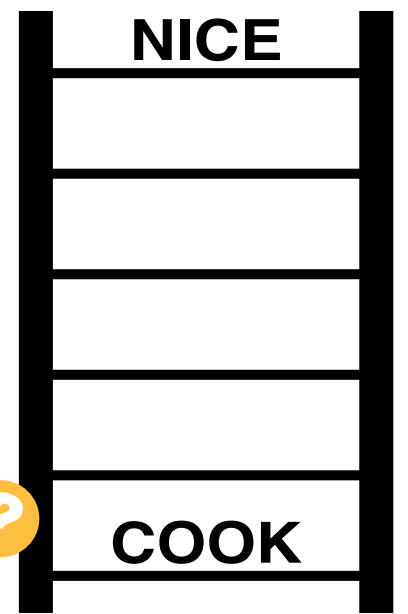


CAN you complete our sudoku puzzle, filling in the numbers one to nine?

Send in your answers and two lucky readers will win a Really RAD Robots Fartbro. Here at Really RAD Robots, we build robots to suit your needs. These bots are not your usual box of nuts and bolts, they are packed with attitude and in your control. Really RAD Robots are programmed with personality and RAMMED full of fun, none of the boring bits included. Fartbro is the Interactive, remote-controlled robot made for pranking! Team-up with Fartbro and go on some sneaky 'Fart Blasting' missions! www.character-online.com

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

WORD LADDER

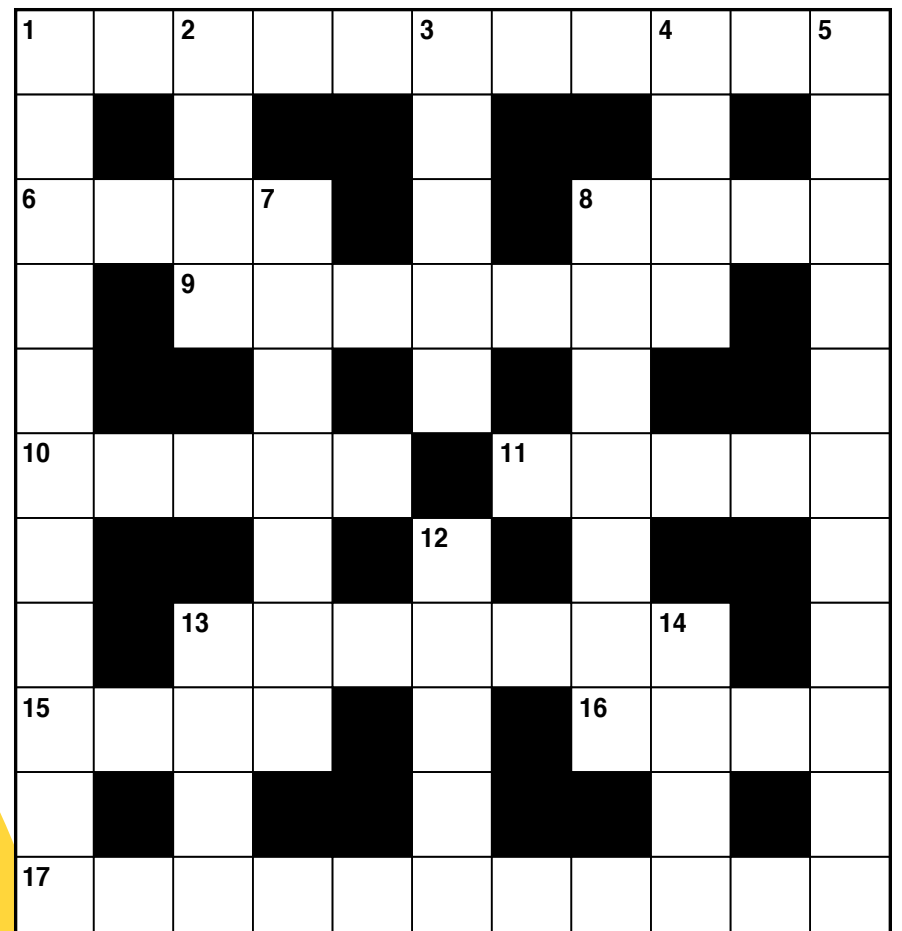


SEE if you can get from the top of the ladder to the bottom by changing one letter at a time to make a new word.



CROSSWORD

JUST for fun this week! Can you complete our crossword puzzle by using the clues below?



ACROSS

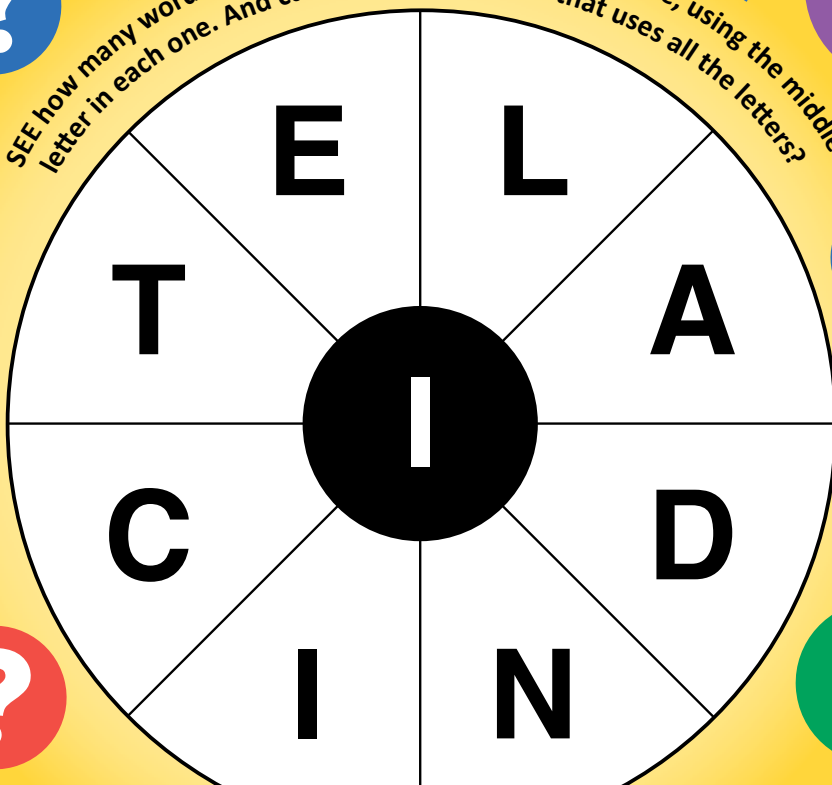
- 1 Game also called ping-pong (5,6)
- 6 You might do this when tired (4)
- 8 Ring of light around the head (4)
- 9 A sea creature with a pair of large claws (7)
- 10 Path (5)
- 11 Extreme weather involving rain and lightning (5)
- 13 Four squared (7)
- 15 A person who is looked up to (4)
- 16 Grade; classify (4)
- 17 See-through (11)

DOWN

- 1 US musician (6,5)
- 2 A deep dish used for food such as cereal (4)
- 3 Unforeseen development or story element (5)
- 4 Close by (4)
- 5 People who trade shares are interested in this (5,6)
- 7 Part of the nose (7)
- 8 Plant with purple flowers (7)
- 12 Bend your body forwards and downwards (5)
- 13 Couch; settee (4)
- 14 What you are called (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?



19. PUZZLE FUN

HOW TO ENTER:

Send your finished puzzles by email to win@firstnews.co.uk. Don't forget to put **Puzzles 746** in the subject box. We're afraid that we can't accept postal entries for now. The closing date for entries is **Thursday 8 October 2020**.

WIN! CATS AND DOGS DVDs

CAN you spot the five changes we've made to this picture from *Cats and Dogs 3: Paws Unite*? Send in your answers and two lucky winners will win a copy of *Cats and Dogs 1* & *Cats and Dogs 2* on DVD. Gwen the Cat and Roger the Dog are secret agents who covertly protect and save the world without humans ever finding out. The long-standing peace is threatened when a supervillain parrot discovers a way to manipulate wireless frequencies. Will the heroes be able to stop the foul fowl, or will he cause a cat-a-strophe between the species?



Cats and Dogs 3: Paws Unite is in cinemas from 9 October

WIN! A BEKO HARVESTfresh™ FRIDGE FREEZER FOR YOUR HOME!

BEKO HarvestFresh™ fridge freezers use an innovative three-colour light technology to preserve vitamins in your fruit and veg for longer.

Now you know that the fruit and veg you do eat will be having a positive impact on your health.

For a chance to win a Beko HarvestFresh™ fridge freezer for your home and to experience the benefits for yourself, just answer this question:

Which of these is not a fruit?

a) Strawberry b) Carrot c) Apple

beko



ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY BEKO

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see below. The closing date is 14 October 2020.

WIN! A K'NEX ARCHITECTURE BUILDING SET

THINK outside the box with this K'NEX Architecture London Eye edition building set!

Each set comes with historical information about the landmark and detailed easy-to-follow, step-by-step building instructions. Great for any aspiring architect or engineer, the building system features rods and connectors that snap together with a satisfying "click" and can be configured into amazing, moving designs of all shapes and sizes.

We have six K'NEX Architecture London Eye edition building sets up for grabs. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

In which year did the London Eye open?
a) 1989 b) 1999
c) 2009

Basic Fun!

k'nex

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY K'NEX

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see below. The closing date is 14 October 2020

COMPETITIONS: You can enter First News competitions in one of two ways. 1. Go to firstnews.co.uk/competitions and follow the instructions. 2. Email us at win@firstnews.co.uk putting 'competition name' (e.g. Holiday), in the subject box. 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 only open to those aged 17-and-under and residents of the UK & Republic of Ireland, except employees of First News, First Group Enterprises Ltd, Reach plc 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 location 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: Pumbaa's tooth removed, ladybird is missing, Pumbaa's foot is bigger, Timon's arm has been removed, Pumbaa's belly is blue.

Word ladder: surf, sure, sire, sirs, sips, tips.

Word wheel: extending.

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

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

ONWARD AND UPWARDS

CHRIS Pratt voices an elf called Barley Lightfoot in the magical Pixar movie *Onward*. To celebrate the launch of the animated adventure on Disney+, Adam Tanswell caught up with the actor to find out about the film...

● There is a lot of magic in *Onward*.

What is magic in your life right now?

In this film, we see technology overtaking magic. What was once done with magic is now done much more easily with technology. For me, it's been interesting because the magic in my life is departing from technology as much as possible. I love to go up to my farm, where I focus on relationships and the people that I love the most.

● Where is your farm?

It's in the San Juan Islands in Washington State. It's way up north, near the Canadian border. We had a bunch of snow last year, an unusual amount. We don't get a lot of snow up there usually. It's normally just wet, but it's snowy and cold. It's my secret spot – and I'm telling you, it's good for the soul to get up there. It's beautiful. It's so great.

● If you had a magic wand, what would you use it for?

Tom Holland had a great answer for this in our *Onward* interviews. If he had a magic wand, he would clean up the oceans. That would be so cool. Imagine if you could just wave a wand and get all of the plastic out of the ocean. That would be nice. I would try to do something to protect the Earth.

● Where does your love for the environment come from? You seem to love the outdoors...

I've always been a big conservationist. I think that's a big part of outdoor culture. I grew up in Minnesota and Alaska, where I was outside all the time, so I have a love for being outdoors. To me, I am constantly thinking about conservation. It's hard for me to imagine anybody that wouldn't be against pollution; who wouldn't be against destroying the planet.

to extend that to my offspring and my children, my grandchildren, my friends' children and the next generation. I hope they get to enjoy the woods the way that I did.

● How emotional is the story of *Onward*?

It's incredibly emotional, it's really moving. *Onward* is a story of brotherhood and I think anyone with a pulse will be moved by the story of this movie. It's a very personal story for [writer/director] Dan Scanlon and I was moved to tears in the pitch meeting for the movie. From that moment forward, I instantly dedicated myself to whatever he needed to help to tell his story.



● In the film, your character loves his van. In real life, didn't you live in a van for a time?

I did! I had a minivan when I was a door-to-door salesman, but I also had another van when I lived in Hawaii. That was my primary residence for about eight or nine months. I lived right on the beach in that van. It was a really interesting period of my life, but it's a long time ago now. It's incredible to think about how times have changed.

● Your next film is *Jurassic World: Dominion*, so what can you tell us about it?

First of all, I am thrilled to be working



with Bryce Dallas Howard again. And I love working with dinosaurs! It's been fun to see technology evolve. It's changed somewhat from the first *Jurassic Park* to this *Jurassic World*. In every new version of this story there's new technology making technological advances.

● What's it like seeing a dinosaur close up?

Working with animatronics is cool. There's a team of people beneath a stage that has a giant *Velociraptor*. There are 12 to 15 puppeteers and it's really cool to be part of something like that. The CGI stuff is embarrassing. You are running away from something that is not there and it takes a little bit of getting used to – but you just have to trust your director. Colin Trevorrow is directing this one. He's coming back, which is huge for all of us. We love him so much. It's going to be a great movie.



● Tell us about your childhood outdoors.

I grew up in the woods. I love to camp and fish – and I will continue to do that forever. I would love to be able

Catch *Onward* on Disney+ from 2 October

THIS WEEK

1 Strictly Come Dancing is due to start soon and will follow Government advice to make the show safe this year. Plans are in place to film the show with no audience, with a socially-distanced audience or a full audience, whichever is allowed. Some of the band will be live in the studio, with other parts of the music recorded beforehand, to allow for social distancing. Whatever happens, the show will go on and is due to start this month.

2 Fans of Disney's *The Mandalorian* may want to pop Monday 26 October in their diary, as it is the start of Mando Mondays. With the second series due to premiere on Disney+ on Friday 30 October, every Monday new *Mandalorian* products, news and information will be unveiled!

3 TV and radio presenter Myleene Klass, actor Jason Donovan and TV presenter Denise van Outen are some of the celebrities announced for *Dancing On Ice 2021*. Myleene said: "My girls have always wanted me to do this but I've always been too scared someone will skate over my fingers!" The skating show is due to return to our screens early next year with Ashley Banjo, John Barrowman and Torvill and Dean returning to the judging panel.



Getty

PICS OF THE WEEK

THESE beautiful illustrations are by Chris Riddell and are from an exciting new book called *A Clock of Stars: The Shadow Moth*, which is out this week.

The debut novel by Francesca Gibbons is the first book in a trilogy, and is set in the strange town of Yaroslav in a world very different from ours. Sisters Imogen and Marie stumble upon this strange world when they follow a beautiful moth through a magical door in a tree.

In their bid to find their way back home, the sisters team up with a lonely prince with troubles of his own, and head off on a dangerous and magical adventure. If you like fantasy and magic, this is for you!

A Clock of Stars: The Shadow Moth by Francesca Gibbons and illustrated by Chris Riddell is out this week.



Illustrations by Chris Riddell



Channel 4

MATT LUCAS

THE comedian is the newest presenter to join *The Great British Bake Off*. Check out these facts about him!

When it was announced that he was joining *The Great British Bake Off*, Matt said: "I'm chuffed to bits to be joining the most delicious show on television. I can't wait to break bread with Noel, Prue and Paul and meet the brilliant bakers. And bearing in mind my love of cake, I've already ordered some much larger trousers in anticipation. See you in the tent!"

The star suffers from alopecia universalis, a condition that means all of the hair on his head and body falls out. He started losing his hair when he was six.

He's good friends with David Walliams and the pair have worked together on many TV projects and sketches. Here they are at BBC Children In Need and Comic Relief's *Big Night In*, earlier this year.

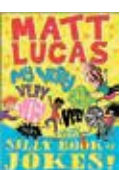


Channel 4

During lockdown, Matt released a single called *Thank You, Baked Potato* to raise money and awareness for the Feed NHS charity. There is also a picture book based on the song.

As well as being a TV presenter, Matt has acted in a number of popular films and TV series, including *Doctor Who* and *Alice in Wonderland*.

The comedian has just released a joke book for kids, called *My Very Very Very Very Very Very Silly Book of Jokes!*



22. GAME ZONE

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FURY OVER FIFA ADS

ELECTRONIC Arts (EA), the company behind the huge FIFA series, is facing criticism for promoting gambling in an advert in the Smyths toy catalogue.

The ad in the kids' catalogue lists four steps to playing FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT), with step two being: "Use FIFA Points to open packs." FIFA Points are a virtual currency used to buy FUT packs, which are similar to randomised loot boxes. This has led to gamers on Twitter and Reddit to criticise EA for "normalising in-game purchases for kids".

In 2019, a report from the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee advised the UK Government to classify loot boxes as gambling, and ban them from being sold to children. Last week, the Government said it wanted to understand the impact of loot boxes and asked the public to submit their experiences at www.gov.uk – search for 'loot boxes'.



AMONG US 2 CANCELLED



BARELY a month after it was announced, the sequel to indie smash Among Us has been cancelled.

The game's developer, InnerSloth, says that the reason it has cancelled the sequel is so it can focus on stuffing the original game full of new and exciting features. The InnerSloth website said that "all of the content we had planned for Among Us 2 will instead go into Among Us 1." This will include a new level, a friends system, support for people who are colourblind, and a lot of work to make the game run more smoothly.

It's fair to say that Among Us was never expected to become as huge as it is. The multiplayer mystery game, where groups of players try to work out who the imposter is, was released in 2018 to good reviews and minor success.

However, in the last year the game has become massive, with online gamers streaming their playthroughs on YouTube and Twitch. In fact, Among Us has become the most watched videogame on Twitch in the last couple of months, peaking at around 400,000 simultaneous viewers.

WWF Advertisement feature

POSITIVE CHANGE FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE



IN his new film, *A Life On Our Planet*, Sir David Attenborough shows us that urgent action is needed to protect and restore the natural world.

You and your school can take action to help shape a future where we can thrive alongside nature.

Head to the website wwf.org.uk/futurevisions to download your free schools pack and learn how you can take action as a school that can make a real impact, and send ripples of change across your community and beyond!



HOW YOU CAN HELP:

SCREEN THE FILM

RECYCLE

SWITCH TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

SAVE WATER

SUPPORT LOCAL NATURE

EAT SUSTAINABLY

A bright future is possible! Share your vision of the future at wwf.org.uk/futurevisions



23. CRAZY BUT TRUE

WOOF ON THE WAVES

AN annual dog surfing contest had to go virtual this year due to the coronavirus.

The Surf Dog Surf-A-Thon usually takes place in California, but this year, contestants (well, their owners!) were asked to send in clips of their canines hitting the waves.

The water-loving woofers were judged on things like how long they surfed for, the size of the wave, and 'tricks', such as walking or barking on the board.

Money raised goes to the Helen Woodward Animal Center, which rehomes pups and provides canine therapy for those in need of some cuddly companions. The entire 50-minute Surf-A-Thon can be viewed on YouTube.



BAKERY BUM TATTOO



SOME adults choose to get a tattoo to show their love for a family member or their favourite football team. But we're willing to bet not many get the logo for a bakery chain inked on their body!

But that's exactly what Caitlin Jones decided to do. The half-baked decision was made because Caitlin was so excited when mega-bakers

Greggs reopened after lockdown. To celebrate, Caitlin got a cheeky tattoo of their logo... on her bum!

And despite some nasty comments online, Caitlin says she has no regrets over the choice. She said: "I'm obsessed with Greggs and I've always loved their sausage rolls – I toyed with the idea of getting a sausage roll on the other side too! Some people have said it's embarrassing, but I got over that pretty quickly and I'm still in love with it."



ROUNABOUT OF THE YEAR

MOST of us probably don't think twice about them, but to Kevin Beresford, roundabouts are brilliant.

The self-described "dullest man in Britain" and founder of the Roundabout Appreciation Society has announced the Roundabout of the Year 2020.



The colourful champion is a rainbow roundabout in Canberra, Australia. It was painted to celebrate same-sex marriage becoming legal in 2017.

But it's not just roundabouts that fascinate Kevin. "I started The Car Park Appreciation Society ten years ago, but nobody has joined," he said. "It's a bit sad."



PARROT CRASHES MATCH

A CHEEKY parrot invaded a football pitch in Brazil to use a player's head as its perch.

Bruna Benites, a member of Brazil's national team, was in a practice session when the parrot landed on her head. After a nudge with a football,



Looking for a comfy head to sit on...

the parrot flew off, but was later seen relaxing on the goalposts.

Bruna used the exposure from the funny viral moment to make a serious point. On her Instagram, she wrote: "As someone from Mato Grosso, I can't hide my feeling of profound sadness for everything that is happening in the Pantanal wetland."

"Thousands of animals are losing their lives due to the fires and if this continues, (rare) moments like what you are seeing in this video will become impossible to see. Let's be aware. Let's take care of our biggest heritage, which is nature."



...found one!

SUBMITTED BY ROBBIE

WHAT DO YOU CALL A PEANUT IN A SPACESUIT? AN ASTRO-NUT!

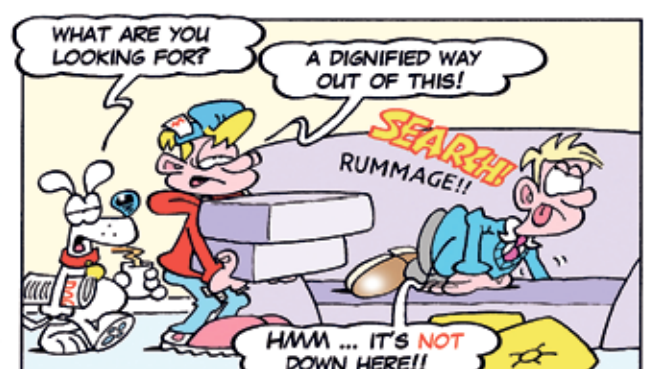
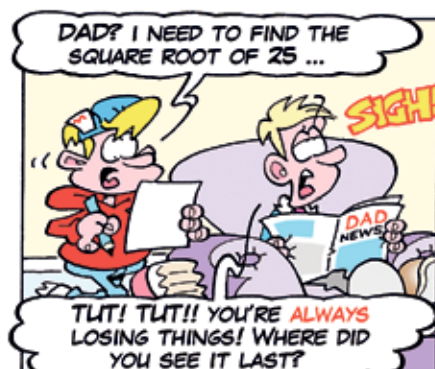
HOW DO BEES GET TO SCHOOL? ON THE SCHOOL BUZZ!



SHARE YOUR JOKES WITH US AT NEWSDESK@FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK



Written and illustrated by Paul Palmer



24. SHOPS

FirstNews • Issue 746 • 2 – 8 October 2020

WHAT'S IN THE SHOPS?

SPACE EXPLORER PILLOWCASE
AMAZON.CO.UK £14.95

Colour in and discover the solar system with this fun space and planets pillowcase. It features stars, planets and spacecraft on one side and a moon landing scene on the other. There are also lots of comets, astronauts and rockets all ready to be brought to life using the included pack of ten wash-out markers. Have a peek at the



pillowcase flap and you'll find a clever trick for learning the order of the planets!

THAMES AND KOSMOS
STARS AND PLANETS
CRAFTS4KIDS.CO.UK £13.50

Have you ever wondered where the stars go during the day? Or whether plants can grow on Saturn? The fantastic experiments in this kit will explain the answers to these and many more cosmic questions. Included in the set are a moon phase flick book,



knowledge wheel, moving solar system guide, star tube and model Earth, plus an activity book full of step-by-step instructions and fun facts.

BOUNCING PLANETS
WWW.WICKEDUNCLE.CO.UK
£10.95

Make your own colourful bouncing balls that look like planets. This easy-to-use clever kit has five bright colours of material that you can use to make fun bouncing planets. Simply pour your combination of coloured materials into the mould and leave to set. Make your bouncy balls in various colours with orange, purple and yellow, or add the blue and peach.



*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 new material we use to wrap mailed copies is made from potato starch, so it is now fully home compostable and completely biodegradable, and you can put it in with your food waste, in your green garden waste recycling bins, or on your own compost heap.

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The STABILO Trio DECO adds a little bit of sparkle to your page with their array of beautiful metallic hues. The mix of wonderful colours, from metallic black to green, allow for a whole host of brilliant works to be created. From cards to letters and colourings there are endless creative possibilities, especially when using the STABILO Pen 68 brush to ace brush lettering.

We have eight bundles of STABILO goodies up for grabs. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

Which season follows autumn?

- a) summer b) winter
c) spring



ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY PENS

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 19. The closing date is 15 October 2020.

WRITE A STORY WITH CRESSIDA COWELL

A FEW months ago, Cressida Cowell, author and Waterstones Children's Laureate, started a new story in *First News*. Then she handed things over to YOU to write what happened next. Every week the story has continued, written by our readers. You can read every part of the gripping tale at:

FIRST.NEWS/CRESSIDACOWELL

SO FAR IN THE STORY...

Long ago, a war between spellcasters and evil creatures took place. For years, many of these evil creatures have been locked away... until shapeshifter Typhon helped his father, the Lord of the Beasts, to find the door to an ancient maze that could return these monsters to the world. The task of stopping these evil beings has fallen on young spellcaster Ferocity and her smoke-producing pet boggart, Guggalugs, who, after surviving a surprise attack from the shapeshifter, have tracked down the Lord of the Beasts with their spellcasting allies: the mysterious Trick, his sister Aida and his mum Ariella. After a battle with the Lord of the Beasts and his army of subjects in a race to the centre of the magical maze, Ferocity discovered that the Lord of the Beasts was her father and he was killed in the battle.



PART 27: BY MARIANNE BUSSEY

All six of them fell back down to earth with a thump.

'Ferocity...' her mother said. She touched Ferocity's cheek, but Ferocity slapped it away.

'How could you?!' Ferocity cried. 'I thought you were dead! You could have saved me that pain and sadness that I've felt over the years, but instead you left me!'

'Guys, the copper piece!' Aida said. 'We have to get it!'

Ferocity turned to her and nodded. Then she looked back at her mother. 'Forgive me, my child,' her mother said softly.

Ferocity frowned and spun on her heel. 'Let's go.'

Trick put a hand on Ferocity's shoulder as they walked on. 'Are you okay?' he asked her.

'Yeah,' she replied. 'I just can't believe my father is the Lord of the Beasts and... my mother married him.'

'I understand,' Ariella said, putting a hand on Ferocity's other shoulder.

Suddenly, a shadow loomed over them. Everyone turned around...

CRESSIDA COWELL'S ADVICE FOR AN ENDING

"Obviously, you have to tie up how the plot ends – but it's got to feel emotionally satisfying too! You have to feel like the characters have gone on some sort of journey, how they've learned something. What has the adventure taught them? How is it going to feel satisfying – while also tying up the plot?"

THE END: BY YOU!

FEROCITY and her friends find themselves facing Typhon, the last foe, who stands between them and the copper piece that could unleash disaster on their world.

We want you to send in the final part of the story, wrapping up everything that's happened so far in the adventure. Make sure you read the entire story before you start writing!

You can submit up to 500 words by email at newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk, popping **Story** into the subject line, or at first.news/cressidacowell.

You have two weeks for this one – and we'll be deciding who writes the final part on **Friday 9 October**.



National Literacy Trust's Virtual School Library



SHHH! Do not disturb the dragons!

Author of the week in the Virtual School Library is the *Do Not Disturb The Dragons* writer, Michelle Robinson!

Michelle has some great advice on what to read next. Her favourite children's books are:

- *The Silly Book of Weird and Wacky Words* by Andy Seed
- *I Can Only Draw Worms* by Will Mabbitt
- *Witch in Winter* by Kaye Umansky

Visit virtualschoollibrary.org.uk to read *Do Not Disturb The Dragons* for free, watch an exclusive video with the author and download fun colouring activities!

“Words for Life”

Virtual School Library



FOR MORE TIPS AND ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE YOUR READING, WRITING, SPEAKING AND LISTENING AT HOME, VISIT WORDSFORLIFE.ORG.UK

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GREAT FOR HOME LEARNING

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The iHub is packed with multi-level literacy activities to help children from 7-14 develop key reading, comprehension and writing skills – while learning about amazing news stories from around the world.

HEAD TO WWW.FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK/HOMEIHUB TO LEARN MORE!

VIRTUAL TRAVELLING

by Aiden

DURING lockdown I was separated from my grandparents for 14 weeks, so we decided to go on a world adventure.

As I couldn't visit my grandparents, they thought it would be nice to have a video chat. I linked up with my grandma on a video call, so that she could hear me read. It is fair to say I was a reluctant reader, only managing to read a few pages a week. On the video call we chose a book from a box set of books, *The Diaries of Robin's Toys*, to read, and I managed to read all 96 pages of the book, on the very first call. I was over the moon, and after that I couldn't wait to read the next book the following day.



Aiden reading to his grandma

Then we decided to read *The Diaries of Robin's Travels*. Each book was an amazing story about a boy and his granddad travelling to an exciting destination. I read a book a day and read all ten books!

The stories are easy to relate to, as I love going on adventures with my grandparents. Although we couldn't do that because of lockdown, we



Aiden on the video phone with grandma writing his fact files

have been able to achieve it virtually.

But we didn't stop there: my grandma and I set about a big project and worked on it for three hours daily on video calls.

We researched each country that Robin's book was based on and wrote a fact file for each city, then did some research for pictures to support our writing.

We travelled the world virtually during lockdown and have learnt so much about each country, as well as reading and writing. It's been a phenomenal adventure.

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

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

Write in to let us know what you've been up to lately! Have you been getting creative? Been for a great day out? How has the coronavirus affected your school, friends and family? 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.

DANCEATHON

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

by Poppy, Heidi and Isla

WE wanted to do a danceathon to raise money for FareShare South West.

We danced for 100 minutes every day for ten days virtually via Zoom and in the road outside our house (observing social distancing guidelines).



Dancing in the street



We should have been at school enjoying Year 6, but missed each other during the lockdown. After watching the news, we saw that many children were missing their friends and suffering even more during this pandemic crisis. FareShare SW is part of the UK's largest charity that helps tackle food poverty, and supplies food to vulnerable families.

We managed to raise £1,445 for the charity, providing over 900 parcels of food, which meant an incredible 5,780 meals for families in the South West.

BEACH CLEAN

by Arthur Owen

I RECENTLY read in First News about the Great British Beach Clean.



A jar full of nurdles that Arthur collected at the beach



Although I do not live near the sea and couldn't get to a beach between 18-25 September, I did help clean a beach when I was on holiday this summer. My family love to go to a small seaside town in Dorset called Lyme Regis. One of our favourite things to do there is to sit on the beach then swim in the sea, but last time we went to the beach we found a spot absolutely covered with nurdles.

Nurdles are tiny balls of plastic that are melted down in factories to create larger plastic objects. If these nurdles get into the sea, either from shipping containers or by being washed down drains by the manufacturers, they can be eaten by marine life and they sometimes wash up on beaches.

At Lyme Regis I tried to pick up as many nurdles as I could, so they did not end up back in the sea. After about 15 minutes I had collected hundreds of these microplastics and there were still thousands more.

Seeing so much plastic in one spot was really devastating and I would like to find ways to stop this happening.

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

SUBSCRIBE FOR SCHOOL – FIND OUT MORE AT [SCHOOLS.FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK](https://schools.firstnews.co.uk)

CALL: (020) 3195 7256 EMAIL: SCHOOLS@FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK

UNSUNG HEROES: TEACHERS AROUND THE WORLD

THE coronavirus pandemic is the biggest and most urgent global crisis children have faced since World War Two. We all know how important teachers are to us and they have been incredibly important during this time, helping children to continue learning despite the challenges. On 5 October 2020, World Teachers' Day, UNICEF UK will be celebrating the solid commitment teachers have to their students. We will be celebrating the teachers going above and beyond and pulling out all the stops for children during this difficult period. These photographs show just a snapshot of the amazing teachers we'll be celebrating.

SYRIA



APRIL: Walid Al-Daghim, a volunteer teacher at the Kili IDP camp in rural Idlib, records an Arabic language lesson on his mobile phone to be sent to his students through a WhatsApp group.

CHINA



JUNE: A teacher disinfects a classroom at Yixing School of Zhong County in Chongqing, China to make it ready for students to return.

GHANA



JULY: A teacher checks the temperature of a student before they return to the classroom. Final year students in Ghana were allowed to return to the classroom so they could sit their final exams.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE



MAY: Fatimata Bagayogo, 11, studies at home during the coronavirus crisis, in Odienné, in the north of Côte d'Ivoire. Her father, Sidiki Bagayogo, is a teacher and has been helping Fatimata to continue her studies.

CAMBODIA



SEPTEMBER: Teachers and students at Preah Norodom Primary School, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, wear masks and practise social distancing now they have returned to school.

Manoah, 8, holds a decorated sign saying: "Thank you teacher for helping me throughout the year."

UNICEF's Save Generation COVID appeal is the largest ever for children in our 73-year history, and we urgently need funds for lifesaving support and services to ensure that children survive this crisis – and thrive beyond it.

Visit www.unicef.org.uk/donate/coronavirus to find out more and help save #generationcovid



28. **SPORT** by Richard Mead

SPORT IN NUMBERS

6

is the total number of games that Andy Murray (below) won in the men's singles at the French Open.

Losing 6-1, 6-3, 6-2 in his first-round match to 16th seed Stan Wawrinka, it equalled his heaviest Grand Slam defeat from 2014. British number one Johanna Konta also only won six games, losing her opener in straight sets to American teenager Coco Gauff.



20

minutes was all that was left to play when Luis Suárez came off the bench for his first Atlético Madrid game.

In that time, the ex-Liverpool striker scored two goals, assisted another and won a penalty! He became the first player this century to score and assist on his La Liga debut for Atlético.



9

victories in a row have seen Warrington Wolves top the Super League table. The rugby league side

beat Catalans Dragons 30-16, but their French opponents nearly missed the match. The Dragons' plane couldn't land because of strong winds and the team finally reached the stadium less than two hours before kick-off!



PARK RUN



Eliud Kipchoge has competed in 13 marathons – and won 12 of them

THE 2020 London Marathon gets under starter's orders on Sunday 4 October, but this year's race has the lowest ever number of athletes trying to win gold.

Last year saw 42,906 competitors take to the streets. This year's event, postponed from April because of the coronavirus pandemic, will see about 90 elite competitors taking part. There will be a few separate events, beginning with the women's race, followed by the men's and wheelchair races.

Traditionally run on spectator-lined streets, the 2020 London Marathon will be contested by running 19 laps around St James's Park. The course is described as a 'biosphere', which means that it will be closed off to the public. Before the race, competing athletes have been staying in another biosphere bubble – a hotel surrounded by 40 acres of land to train in.

In the men's event, last year's winner, Eliud Kipchoge from Kenya, will face tough opposition from Kenenisa Bekele. The Ethiopian long-distance runner won the 2019 Berlin Marathon, recording a time just two seconds slower than Kipchoge's world record of 2hr 1min 39sec!

In the women's event, world record holder and 2019 London Marathon winner Brigid Kosgei will take on fellow Kenyan and 2018 winner, Vivian Cheruiyot. Last year's wheelchair race winners, America's Daniel Romanchuk and Switzerland's Manuela Schär, are also returning to defend their titles.

On your marks...



The 2019 winners



Brigid Kosgei

PITCH PERFECT

CREATED to suit the shorter season of cricket in 2020, the Rachel Heyhoe Flint Trophy ended in a thrilling north versus south final.

Southampton's Southern Vipers batted first against Leeds' Northern Diamonds. The Vipers were looking unbeatable at 150-1, until they lost five wickets for just 22 runs. After the Vipers were all out for 231, the Diamonds began their reply convincingly, but went from 74-1 to 96-6, thanks to some superb bowling from off-spinner Charlotte Taylor. A late rally proved too little, too late and the Diamonds were dismissed for 193, leaving the Vipers to collect the silverware.

The final of the one-off men's county competition, the Bob Willis Trophy, was slightly less frenetic. Somerset declared to give Essex a target of 237 to win the final. At 98-4, Essex looked in trouble. Then, Ryan ten Doeschate and Adam Wheeler combined for a 100-minute fifth-wicket stand and ground out a draw. Essex were awarded the trophy because they scored the most first innings runs.



Southern Vipers' Georgia Adams was top scorer, with 80 runs



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