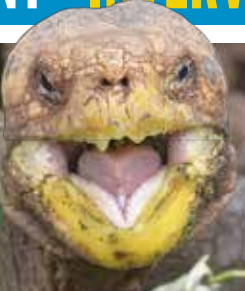


CELEBRATING
PRIDE
P3



GIANT
TORTOISE
RETIRES P7



DO ALIENS
LOOK LIKE US?
P9



JUNGLE BEAT MOVIE
P18



First News

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THRILLED TO BE BACK

Turn to p7 to find out what else is opening on 4 July

by editor in chief Nicky Cox

THEME parks, museums and cinemas are working out how to reopen safely, as lockdown eases in England.

Once zoos started opening again, other days-out attractions began to prepare to open their doors, too. It's estimated they have been losing more than £1 billion a week in ticket sales and other money spent at the venues.

Chessington World of Adventures in Surrey told *First News* it was planning to reopen its theme park on 4 July, following a green light from the Government to do so. But, along with other days out, things will be a bit different for visitors. "Guests can expect to have their temperature checked on arrival, hand sanitiser being readily available, social distancing markers, plus empty rows and seats left on rollercoasters," they told us.

Blackpool's Pleasure Beach has decided that, on rides where people scream, visitors will be more comfortable if they are made to mask up.

Different places will have their own rules to make things safe for visitors, but the sorts of things you can expect to see on a day out include:

- **Smaller numbers** – There will be fewer people allowed in so that there can be social distancing
- **Book before you go** – Most places won't let you just wander in if you haven't booked in advance – even where there is no entry fee
- **One-way** – Many museums will direct where and how you walk around, following arrows
- **Set times** – Tickets will be for set arrival times and some places won't allow you to linger for long, so other people can come in
- **Screens** – Staff will often be protected behind screens
- **Toilets** – Many loos will be one in, one out
- **Food** – Bringing your own lunch could become more common with fewer cafés and kiosks opening
- **Longer opening hours** – With fewer people being able to go in at a time, many places are looking at opening for longer so that they can welcome more of the visitors who want to come



POLL OF THE WEEK

Are you excited or worried to go for days out again? Go to first.news/polls to vote

Visitors ride a rollercoaster at Universal Studios theme park in Orlando, Florida, on the first day it reopened after lockdown there was eased

RIP MAURICE

A noisy rooster whose owner was taken to court in an attempt to hush him up has sadly died. Maurice (pictured below with owner Corinne Fesseau), became famous worldwide when his dawn cock-a-doodle-dos angered his neighbours in western France. They lost their court case and were forced to pay Corinne £900. Maurice passed away due to an infection common to chickens.



LEARN WITH TIKTOK

TikTok has announced that it wants to help students with their home learning. The social networking service says its new scheme called **#LearnWithTikTok** will mean that students can turn to the app for, among other things, science tutorials, black history, motivational tips, cookery lessons, health and wellbeing advice, stress and anxiety management, LGBT stories and women's history.



LESS JOE WICKS

Online PE teacher Joe Wicks has revealed he's cutting back on his classes as he needs "a bit of a rest". Joe, who has been teaching virtual PE classes every weekday morning at 9am since the beginning of lockdown, now only does lessons on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.



QUICK NEWS

TO READ YOURSELF AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS

PAINTING PM'S PLANE

Prime Minister Boris Johnson is facing questions from MPs over his decision to spend £900,000 repainting the RAF Voyager plane. The aircraft is used by the royal family and the prime minister to travel around the world. The grey plane will be painted red, white and blue to look more like the Union Jack flag.



YOUNG STAR SIGNED

Twelve-year-old Keedron Bryant's song about the fears of being a young African-American went viral – and now he's landed a record deal. Warner Records signed Keedron and are releasing his song, *I Just Wanna Live*.



FLYING BOOKS!

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's that library book you requested. A school librarian from Virginia, USA, has been delivering books to kids in lockdown using drones. Kelly Passek worked with drone service Wing from Google's parent company Alphabet to deliver library books to children this summer. Her books are now, literally, flying off the shelves!

COVID-19 IN SEWAGE

Italian scientists have found traces of COVID-19 in sewage water from 18 December last year. It was thought the new coronavirus only arrived in Italy in February, but a new study of waste water from the cities of Turin and Milan found traces of the disease much earlier. Other studies have found similar results: in Spain, scientists discovered virus traces in sewage collected in mid-January, while in France tests found a patient had COVID-19 as early as 27 December.

WE CAN'T SEE YOUR FACE MASKS

Charities that support deaf people are calling for transparent face masks to be used more often. Face coverings used during the pandemic make it difficult for the 12 million people in the UK with hearing loss to communicate. Face shields – clear plastic visors that cover the face – are a safe way of allowing people who are deaf to lip-read. The KidSafe Visor, made by StaySafe, is one product that has been made to help solve the problem.

PREHISTORIC FIND

Archaeologists have discovered a 4,500-year-old, 1.2 mile-long circle of shafts near Stonehenge. The ancient structure is believed to have either helped guide people to the Durrington Walls henge (below), which is at the centre of the circle of shafts – or warned people against entering it.



ATTACK IN READING

An attack in Reading left three people dead last weekend. Several others were wounded in the incident at a local park. The three killed have been named as James Furlong, David Wails and Joe Ritchie-Bennett. The police are treating the attack as a terrorist incident. As First News went to press, a 25-year-old Libyan man had been arrested and was being questioned. A minute's silence for the victims was held on Monday. Remember, events like this are very rare.



TRACK AND TRACE TROUBLE

The Government has scrapped plans to build its own app to track the spread of COVID-19, after it failed to work properly on iPhones. The app was announced as a key part of the UK's tracing system. The Government has decided that it will work with Google and Apple, now, on a new track and trace app, similar to ones being used in other countries.

LONGITUDE EXPLORER PRIZE

The online vote is open to have your say in who wins this year's Longitude Explorer Prize People's Choice Award. A prize of £5,000 goes to the school or youth group that has the best tech solution to the biggest challenges of today. There is now a shortlist of 39 entries to choose from at longitudeexplorer.challenges.org where you can see all the finalists' ideas – and cast your vote.



THE TRUMPS ON ALIENS

In an interview with his son, Donald Junior, Donald Trump has admitted to hearing "interesting" things about aliens and UFOs during his presidency. Donald Trump Jr. asked: "Before you leave office, will you let us know if there are aliens?" Trump senior responded: "I won't talk to you about what I know about it, but it's very interesting."

PRIDE MONTH GOES ONLINE



THROUGHOUT June, people across the world have been celebrating Pride, a month dedicated to members of the LGBT community.

Pride Month takes place every June to celebrate LGBT people, and to remember the struggles the community has faced and still faces in many parts of the world. It also focuses on the work that still needs to be done to get global equality. Pride is as much about education as celebration.

The Black Lives Matter movement has also sparked a rise in interest in LGBT history and activism this month, with a particular focus on the injustices faced by the black transgender community.

Sadly, 2020's Pride Month festivities have been very different from previous years, as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Traditionally, Pride is celebrated across the world with parades, street parties, festivals and talks but, due to the pandemic, regular Pride events have been cancelled. The majority of celebrations have moved online.

Despite huge advancements in rights for LGBT people in recent years, many still face prejudice and violence today. In some countries, including Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and Iran, LGBT people can face arrest just for who they are. In others, people aren't protected by the police, and politicians are trying to cancel equality laws.

Friday 27 June is Global Pride Day. Normally, city streets would be awash with rainbows and parties but, this year, the festivities have moved online, so expect plenty of live streams and concerts! Watch our video *What Does It Mean To Be LGBT?* at [first.news/idgi](https://www.first.news/idgi).



DID YOU KNOW?



LGBT stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender. Over the last three years, the rainbow Pride flag (originally designed in 1978) has had several changes. Today, a commonly used version of the flag is the one you see above. Extra colours have been added to the traditional design to highlight the fight against racism and the fight for transgender rights.

CREATIVE WRITING ON THE RISE



LAST Wednesday (24 June) was National Writing Day, and for the big day our friends from the National Literacy Trust (NLT) released a bunch of interesting statistics.

The NLT found that lockdown has led to a sudden increase in creative writing by children across the country.

Two surveys were sent out – one before lockdown began and one during.

They found that more children and young people are writing short stories or fiction, letters, diaries, journals and poems in lockdown than they did before.

Around 40% of those surveyed said that writing creatively helped them deal with any negative feelings that the pandemic might have caused.

If you've been feeling a little bit lost, why not try a spot of creative writing yourself?

Turn to page 25 to find the latest part of the story we've been writing with the Waterstones Children's Laureate, Cressida Cowell (below).

She began the story a few months ago, and each week it's been continued by a First News reader. This week it could be you!

It's taken quite a few twists and turns, so be sure to read the whole story so far at [first.news/cressidacowell](https://www.first.news/cressidacowell)



WOW!

Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab has been criticised after saying he thought

“taking the knee” began in TV drama series *Game of Thrones*.

American footballer Colin Kaepernick starting kneeling down during the national anthem to protest racism back in 2016. Several athletes and protesters have done the same, including Premier League footballers (see p27).

Meanwhile, governors at Oxford University's Oriel College have voted to remove a statue of Cecil Rhodes (left) from the university grounds, following several protests.

Rhodes played a big role in growing the British Empire in southern Africa and has been accused of making several racist statements.



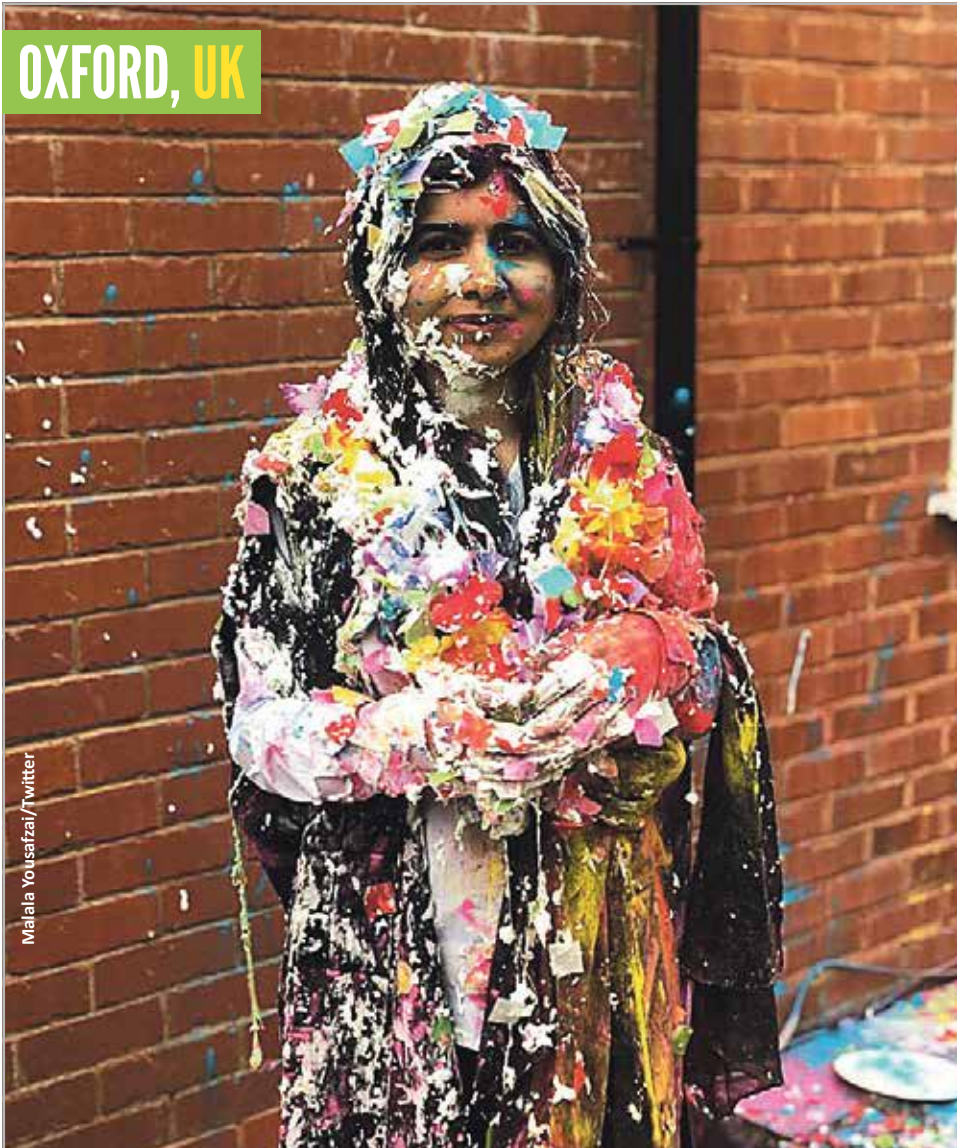
4. NEWS IN PICTURES

XIAMEN, CHINA



A RARE annular solar eclipse was visible on the longest day of the year. An annular eclipse happens when the moon covers the sun's centre, leaving a 'ring of fire'.

OXFORD, UK



HUMAN rights campaigner and Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai has finished her degree in politics, philosophy, and economics at Oxford University. She celebrated with a traditional 'trashing', where students are covered with food and confetti after completing their exams. In 2012, Malala survived being shot by a Taliban gunman in Pakistan, after writing an anonymous diary about life under the extremists.

LONDON, UK



PRIME minister Boris Johnson and the French president, Emmanuel Macron, watch the Red Arrows and La Patrouille de France aerobatics teams. The fly-past was to commemorate a wartime speech made by General Charles de Gaulle to the French people on 18 June 1940, in which he called for the Free French Forces to fight against German occupation. The appeal is often considered to be the origin of the French Resistance in World War II.

LONDON, UK



ZOOKEEPERS at ZSL London Zoo have shared the exciting moment that first-time parents Pip and Mathilda introduced their two Asian short-clawed otter pups, nicknamed Bubble and Squeak, to the great outdoors.

BERLIN, GERMANY



SUPPORTERS of the Extinction Rebellion movement lie down after dancing to disco hits during a so-called "Discobedience" protest dance march. They were protesting against the mass extinction of animal species and for climate justice.



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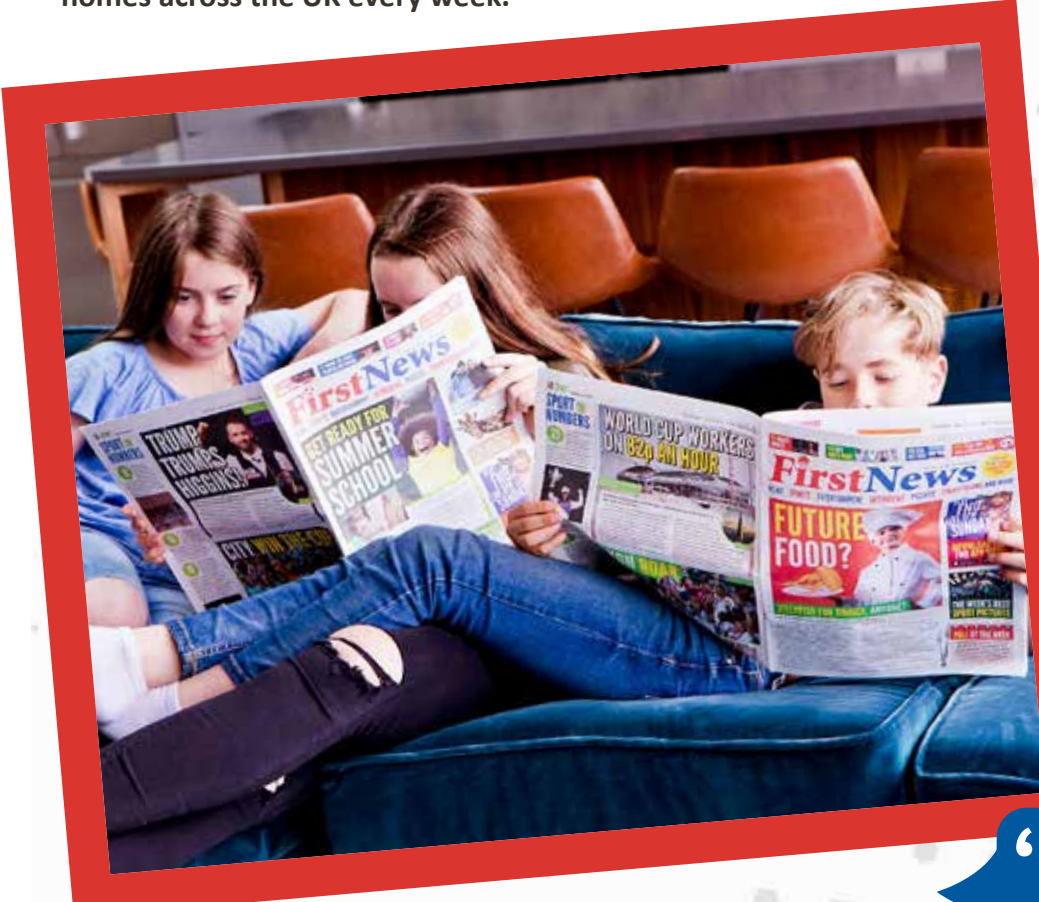
We hope you enjoy your free digital download of **First News!** Why not consider getting a copy sent by post to your home every week? It's a great break away from electronic devices and a good opportunity to share what you are reading with the rest of the family. And, of course, you can do all the puzzles in the paper!



While stuck at home in lockdown, this is a great opportunity to benefit from free delivery to your home. The newspaper supply chain has been given key-worker status and we remain committed to delivering print copies of **First News** into homes across the UK every week.



Here's what our fans have to say!



“ To everyone at First News, thank you so much! I love it. I tell all my friends about it and they love it too. You do a fantastic job and it makes me understand the news much better. Every week I can't wait for it to come through the door. ” **Sienna, age 10**

“ I read First News, it is great! I keep randomly telling my family and friends facts and they say: 'Where did you learn that?' and I say: 'First News!' ” **Popjam user**

“ My kids race to the door when First News is delivered on Friday. Thank you for delivering something to pull them away from screens. We get some good conversations and the whole family have taken to the puzzles. ” **Jo, parent and teacher**

“ I love First News. It promotes brilliant conversation with my children at home, as well as encouraging them to read. Thank you! ” **Tracey, parent**



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LIFE AFTER LOCKDOWN

A FEW weeks ago we asked you what the UK should focus on after the lockdown ends – and most of you said climate change must be tackled.

Most of you think that once the pandemic is under control the country needs to start focusing seriously on the environment.

First News reader Amelia Tomlinson, 12, told us: "Pollution levels have dropped during lockdown, but now they will go back up, so we need to make new laws." And Amelia is right – an energy expert has revealed that the world has just six months to prevent a climate crisis. Fatih Birol, executive director of the International Energy Agency (IEA), has revealed that without taking urgent action we risk greenhouse gas emissions shooting back up as we come out of lockdown. Mr Birol wants governments to invest in a green plan for recovery from the COVID-19 crisis. A new report by the IEA calls for wind and solar power to become a top priority worldwide.

Other changes you'd like to make when the pandemic is over include tackling racism, and encouraging people to continue practising good personal hygiene to prevent a second wave of the virus taking hold.



MARCUS WANTS TO DO MORE

THANKS to Manchester United star Marcus Rashford, more than a million children in England won't go hungry over the summer.

We reported last week that the footballer had successfully campaigned to get the Government to extend free school meal vouchers for 1.3 million children in England.

But Marcus thinks there's plenty more to be done. In an interview with the BBC, he said: "I don't want this to be the end of it because there are more steps that need to be taken and we just need to analyse the response. People are struggling all year round, so we still need to learn more about the situation people are in and

how we can help them best."

The England striker has been widely praised for his work with food charity FareShare during the COVID-19 crisis. The organisation has delivered millions of food parcels to vulnerable people during lockdown. Marcus has also spoken about his personal experience of poverty and going hungry while growing up. He said: "What families are going through now, I once had to go through that same system. It's very difficult to find a way out."

EDITOR'S COMMENT



AS lockdown continues to ease, our thoughts are returning to what we used to think about – and to the future.

First News has been running a poll asking you what lockdown has taught us and how that might affect life after the pandemic. So many of you have said that the most important thing has been how we've seen that changing our behaviour can help the planet. You want us to look at new ways of living to keep pollution down and to help Earth in any way we can.

GOOD WEEK FOR...

HARES AND SEALS

MOUNTAIN hares have been made a protected species in Scotland, meaning they can't be killed without a licence. And, under a new animal welfare law, Scottish salmon farmers will be banned from shooting seals, which they say they do to protect their fisheries.



BAD WEEK FOR...

BURNLEY FC

THE club apologised after a small group of fans flew a plane with a banner reading "White Lives Matter" during a match against Man City.



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LOCAL HEROES

A 12-YEAR-OLD from Dorset has raised money for refugees by going on an epic bike ride.

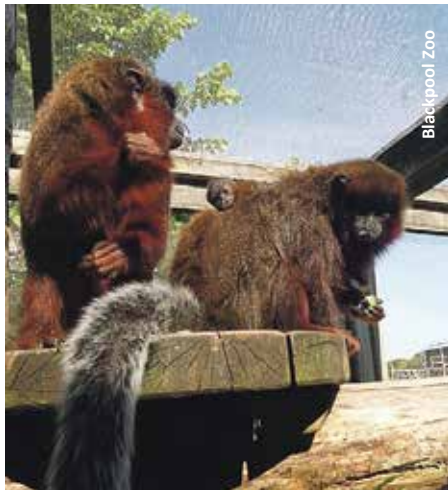
After reading about UNHCR (a charity that helps refugees) in First News, Rishi Sulodia wanted to do something to help. So on 16 June he cycled non-stop for 45 miles. It took him five hours. "I am so grateful to all the people who helped me raise money for refugees," said Rishi. "I heard from UNHCR that the money I have raised could provide essential medicine for 45 refugees."



BLACKPOOL

● Zoo reopens

Blackpool Zoo is reopening to the public on 29 June. As with other zoos, to keep everyone safe the number of visitors allowed into the park will be limited and people will need to book online to make sure they can get in. The 23-acre park has had lots of new animal arrivals since it went into lockdown, including emperor tamarin twins, capybara, kangaroo and wallaby joeys, King colobus monkeys, plover chicks, porcupettes and a red titi monkey (below). Phew!



Blackpool Zoo

N IRELAND

● Back to school

Schools in Northern Ireland are set to reopen on 24 August for Primary Seven, Year 12 and Year 14 children. Pupils will follow a 1m social distancing rule, but the 2m rule will still apply to adults, who will need to remain 2m away from pupils. It is hoped this will allow full classes to attend schools when they reopen.



Getty

Some schools in England, like Harris Primary Academy Shortlands here, reopened at the beginning of June

EAST ANGLIA

● Stowaway pigeon

A racing pigeon named Pauley has been found hiding on board a navy warship. The sneaky bird was spotted by flight crew on the HMS Queen Elizabeth aircraft carrier (below). Cheeky Pauley was nesting in the hangar of the 65,000-tonne warship, which is carrying out flight trials with F-35 Lightning jets off the coast of East Anglia. The sailors managed to catch the bird and are now looking for a safe space for it to live on board.



Getty

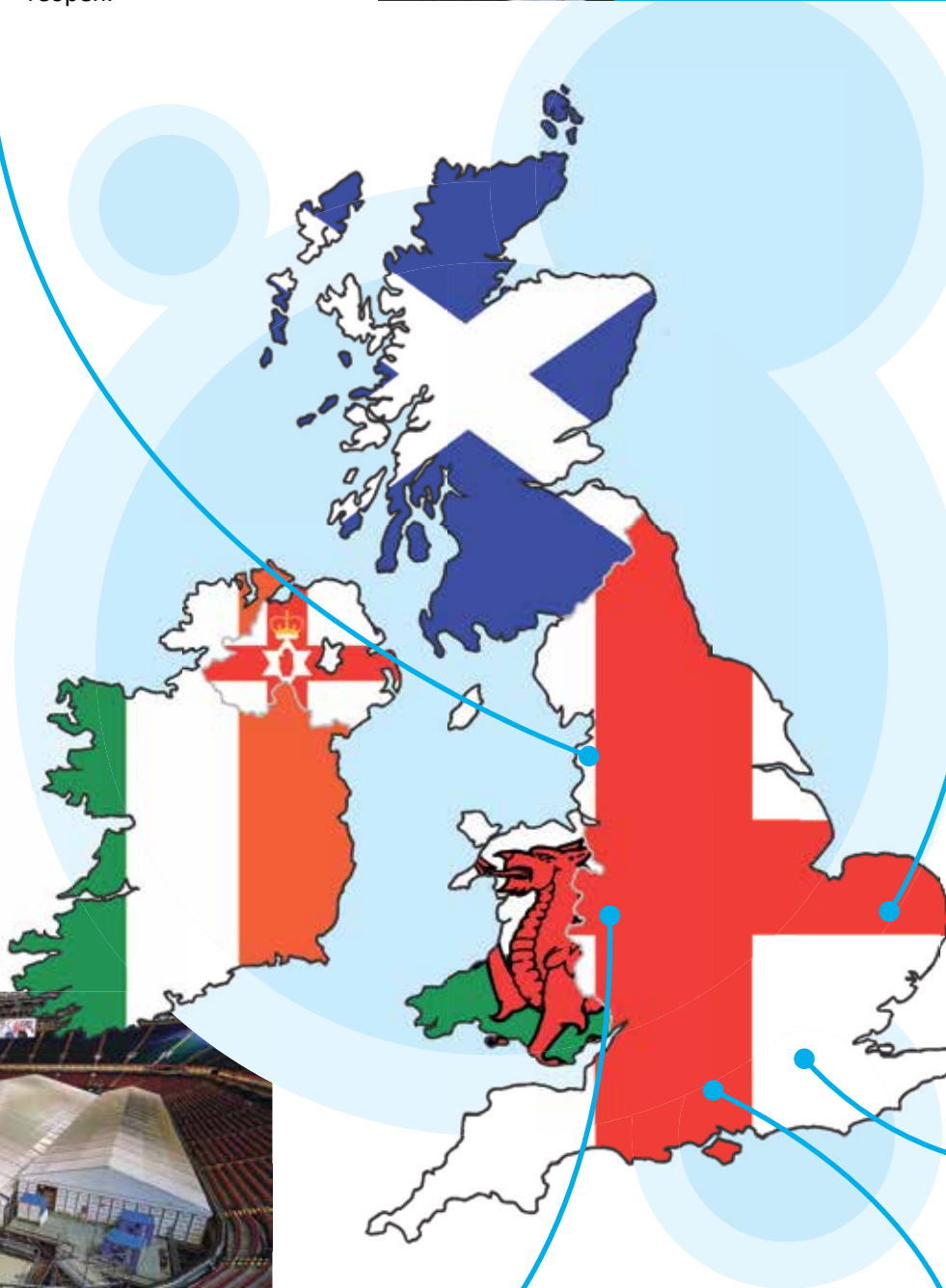
WALES

● Hospitals not needed

Only one of the 17 new hospitals set up to help ease pressure on the NHS during the coronavirus pandemic has been used. Buildings including sports stadiums and theatres were turned into hospitals, at a cost of £166 million. The Dragon Heart Hospital at the Principality Stadium has been the only one to treat patients, admitting 46 people since April.



Getty



LONDON

● Pop-up classroom

The first socially distanced tent classroom has been trialled at Manorfield Primary School in Tower Hamlets. A British architecture firm came up with the idea of a pop-up classroom, which measures 6 x 18m and helps pupils and teachers socially distance in class.



© Kilian O'Sullivan

TELFORD

● Elton loves school pupils song

Pop star Sir Elton John has messaged students at a school in Telford to say how much he loves their cover of his hit *I'm Still Standing*. Pupils from Telford Priory School recorded the track during lockdown using Zoom and, after watching it online, Sir Elton sent their teacher Ben Millington an email saying how impressed he was by their performance.



Telford Priory Music/YouTube

HAMPSHIRE

● Teenager charged with terrorism

A 14-year-old boy from Eastleigh has been charged with plotting a terror attack. The teenager, who cannot be named because of his age, was charged with one count of preparation of terrorist acts connected to Islamist terrorism. He is one of the youngest people to be charged with a terrorism offence in the UK. Police said: "We want to reassure [people] that we believe the investigation is isolated, and with no known wider risk to the community."

7. BIG NEWS

LIFTING LOCKDOWN: ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW



RESTAURANTS, pubs, hotels and hairdressers can all reopen from 4 July in England, the prime minister announced this week.

Two households in England will also be able to meet indoors and stay overnight – with social distancing. Sleepovers ahoy!

Boris Johnson added that people in England should remain 2m apart where possible but a “one metre plus” rule will be introduced. Scotland’s First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and Wales’ First Minister Mark Drakeford have both said that the 2m rule will remain in place in their nations for now.

The easing of lockdown announcement followed the news that the UK had lowered the coronavirus alert level from four to three. Level three means that the COVID-19 epidemic is still around, but the number of new people becoming infected is not high, nor going up.

So, what is opening?

- Pubs, bars and restaurants – but only with a table service indoors
- Hotels, holiday apartments, campsites and caravan parks – but shared areas must be cleaned properly
- Theatres, cinemas and music halls – but they will not be allowed to hold live performances
- Hair salons will be able to reopen but must have protective measures, such as visors, in place
- In other changes, 30 people will be able to go to weddings and places of worship will be allowed to hold services, but singing will be banned

What is staying closed?

Indoor gyms, swimming pools, bowling alleys, indoor skating rinks and indoor play areas are among the list of locations that will remain closed, as they have been since lockdown started on 23 March.



SAVE OUR THEATRES

The London cast of *The Lion King* perform on stage during The Olivier Awards last year

A GROUP of well-known actors, writers and directors have warned that many British theatres could close forever because of COVID-19.

Ninety-eight creatives, including *X-Men* and *His Dark Materials* star James McAvoy, have written an open letter to the Government asking for help to save the UK’s theatres following the coronavirus lockdown.

They said that research by UK Theatre and The Society of London Theatre suggests 70% of theatres will run out of money by the end of 2020. However, the group believes that many will go bust before then.

Theatres have had to shut

down completely during the lockdown, with all performances cancelled. This has left them very short of money. Most theatres do not receive any help from the Government and rely on ticket sales to survive. Theatres can reopen on 4 July but can’t hold live performances.

Without any help from the Government, the creatives behind the letter fear for the future not only of theatre, but also of live music, opera and dance in the UK.

SCHOOL CATCH-UP PLAN



THE Government has announced a £1bn fund to help pupils in England catch up after missing so much school during the coronavirus pandemic – but how will it work? And will it help you?

Primary and secondary schools will be given £650 million to spend on one-to-one or group tuition for any pupils they think need it. The most disadvantaged pupils will have access to tutors through a £350 million programme over the year from September. So does that mean staying late for extra classes or having a longer school day in September? Well right now it’s not clear.

Boris Johnson said the funds would help teachers provide what pupils need but not everyone is sure. The Labour Party’s shadow education secretary Rebecca Long Bailey said the plans “lack detail and appear to be a tiny fraction of the support” needed.



GO DIEGO!

DIEGO the giant Galápagos tortoise who almost single-handedly saved his species, is retiring to an uninhabited island to live out his final years in peace.

After decades of breeding in captivity and fathering hundreds of his once-threatened species, 100-year-old Diego is finally getting some rest.

He is being moved from the Galápagos national park’s breeding program on Santa Cruz to his original habitat on the remote island of Española.

Happy retirement, Diego!

EUROPE



● Coronavirus changes

Governments across Europe are dealing with COVID-19 in different ways. Spain is giving £4 billion to businesses that rely on tourism, and has re-opened to European neighbours (except Portugal). In Germany, local lockdowns have been introduced, meaning that more than 8,000 people in three areas of Germany have been asked to return to lockdown due to local outbreaks of the virus. Denmark is also planning to allow visitors from most countries with a low number of infections.



ARGENTINA



● Sailing the Atlantic

An Argentinian man has survived a three-month journey across the Atlantic from Portugal to Argentina, so he could see his elderly parents. After Argentina banned flights due to the coronavirus pandemic, Juan Manuel Ballesteros took to the seas on 24 March, hoping to arrive by 15 May for his father's 90th birthday. Unfortunately, his journey was hit by big storms, so he didn't arrive until 17 June. He will see his parents after quarantining on his boat for 15 days.

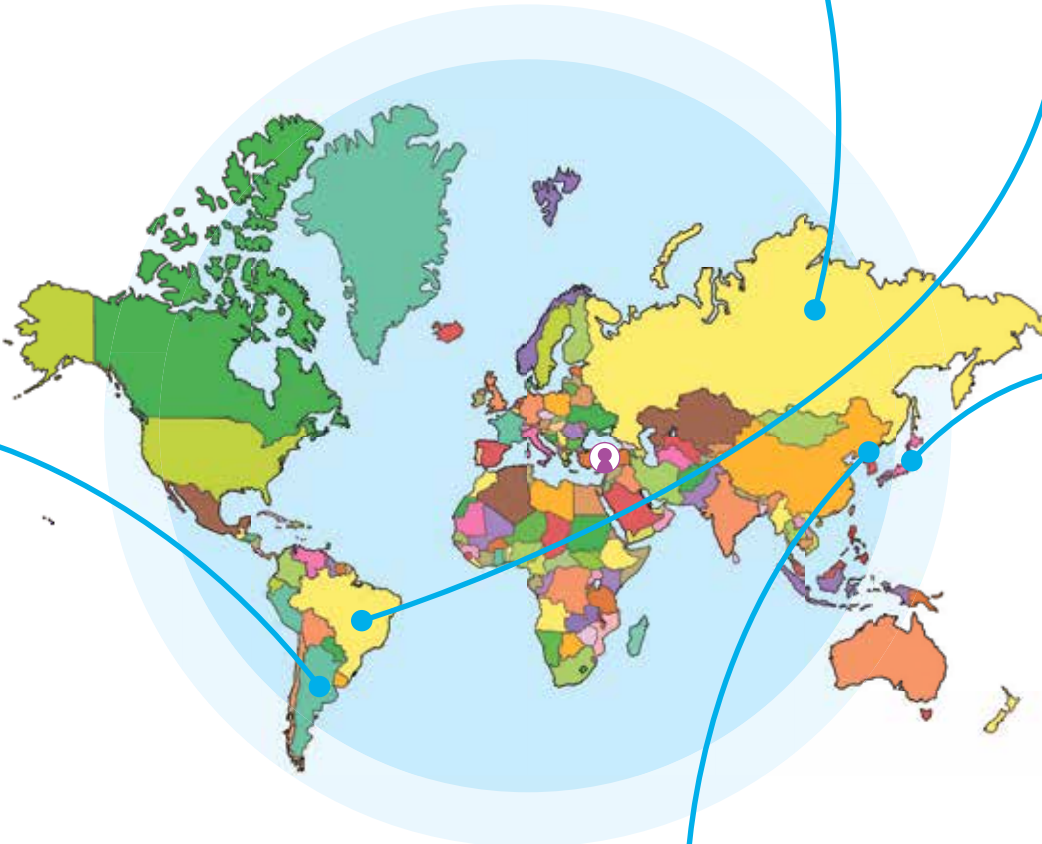
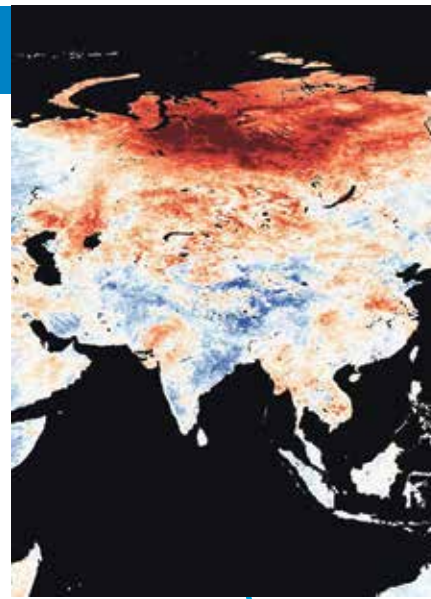


RUSSIA



● Siberian heatwave

Throughout May, surface temperatures in Siberia were 10°C higher than the average, which experts have described as "alarming". Other parts of Russia have seen record temperatures, too. Khatanga, one of the most northern areas in the country, usually has daytime temperatures of around 0°C. On 22 May, it was 25°C – double the previous record. Scientists think that temperatures in the polar regions are rising fastest because ocean currents carry heat towards the poles. This melts the ice and snow which would usually deflect heat from the sun.



BRAZIL



● Deforestation rises

Deforestation of the Amazon rainforest has risen every month for the last 14 months, new data from Brazil's National Institute for Space Research has revealed. The figures also show that from the beginning of August 2019 to the end of May this year, 6,437 square kilometres of Amazon rainforest had been cleared – around three times the size of Wales.



JAPAN



● Working from home

A survey of Japanese workers has found that 70% of those now working from home want to continue doing so after the pandemic. Respondents to the survey said that working from home removes the stress of commuting and means that they can live in cheaper homes. But 30% said they were bothered by children and other family members while working at home.



NORTH KOREA



● "Leaflets of punishment"

North Korea is to start sending 12 million "leaflets of punishment" across the border to South Korea. For years, North Koreans who had escaped to the south have sent food, mini radios and USB sticks containing TV dramas and news back north, usually via balloon (left). North Korean officials say they are going to start sending their own leaflets – and rubbish – on 3,000 balloons in retaliation.



OUR WORLD



NAME: SIDRA
LIVES: TURKEY



TO FIND OUT MORE, GO TO
WWW.UNHCR.ORG/PROTECTREFUGEES

SINCE she arrived in Turkey six years ago, Sidra has mastered a new language, graduated top of her year in school and started university.

But Sidra, a Syrian refugee, came close to seeing her hopes and ambitions dashed. She had to flee the war in Syria as a teenager, missing her final school year, and when she first got to Turkey she didn't have the documents needed to enrol in a new school.

Unable to study, she started work packaging goods in a factory while teaching herself Turkish from books and the internet. One year after she arrived, she finally got

the refugee papers she needed to finish her education. "The day I went back to school was beautiful," she says.

Sidra finished top of her class and scored 99% in her university entrance exams, a performance that got her a scholarship to study dentistry. All that work has even earned Sidra a Turkish nickname.

"People call me 'çalışkan kız', which means: 'the girl who studies a lot'," she says.



© UNHCR

MEET THE ALIENS



Alien civilisations are likely to exist, but hopefully they won't be as scary as this lot

SINCE scientists discovered planets similar to Earth beyond our solar system, they have wondered whether there may be life forms like ours living on them.

The answer is still definitely “maybe”, but astrophysicists at Nottingham University have now worked out that we could have as many as 36 intelligent intergalactic neighbours.

Professor Christopher Conselice led the study. He said: “I think it is extremely important and exciting because for the first time we really have an estimate for this number of active intelligent, communicating civilisations that we potentially could contact.”

The theory is that, as so many millions of galaxies and planets exist, the chances are high that some kind of intelligent life must have developed on other worlds, in the same way that it has on Earth.

In 1961, an astronomer called Frank Drake tried to work out how many alien civilisations there could be. What became known as the Drake equation set out seven factors that you would need to estimate the number. But some of the factors were very hard to measure.

Now, Professor Conselice and his team have altered the equation to make their predictions more accurate. They have assumed that

the conditions for life would be similar to those on our own planet and that life would develop in a scientific way and not randomly. It depends on factors such as star formations and chemical reactions, which we know were vital in the development of life on Earth. This makes it easier to calculate how many other planets are capable of supporting life.

Professor Conselice reckons that, although it is only a theory at present, other life forms would look very similar to us. He said: “We wouldn't be super shocked by seeing them.”

Contacting them is going to take some time, however, as the nearest likely location of an intelligent life form is 17,000 light years away! It would take 6,120 years for a two-way communication between humans on Earth and aliens on that planet.

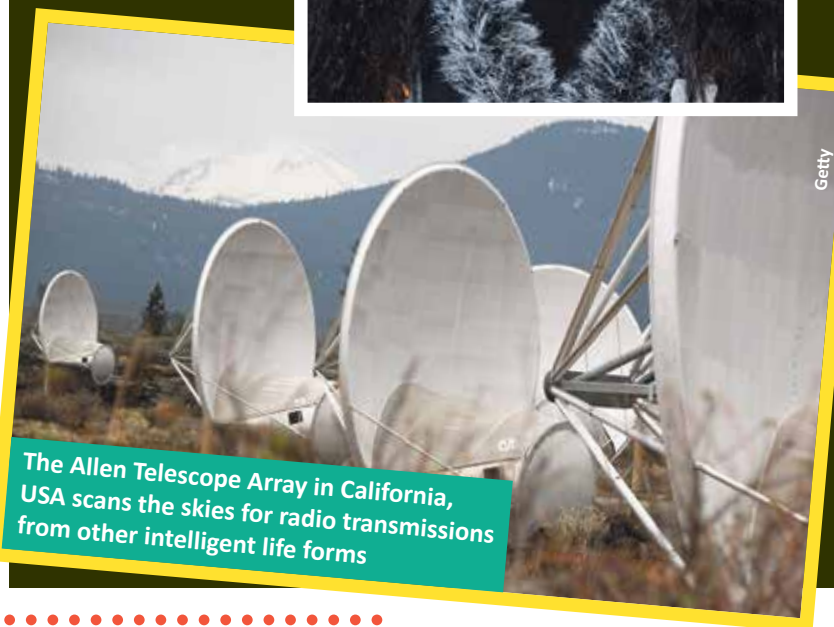
We will not actually know if Professor Conselice's study is correct until we find other forms of life, or they find us.

In the meantime, the search for alien life goes on. And there are definitely enough books, films and TV series to keep our appetite for aliens alive!

A Star Trek fan dressed as a Klingon alien. Scientists think real-life aliens may look similar to us



Getty



The Allen Telescope Array in California, USA scans the skies for radio transmissions from other intelligent life forms

Getty

LIVING TO 100

LIVING an illness-free life beyond 100 years of age may be more likely, thanks to a new study by the University of California in the USA.

Diluting the blood plasma (the fluid that carries blood cells) of old mice with a special solution has reversed the signs of ageing. Experiments showed that the brain, liver and muscles all improved after the mice were injected with a solution of proteins and salts.

It is an exciting development that could mean today's young people stay youthful and healthy for much longer.



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This report is from the Science Museum in London

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP



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WHEN you think of do it yourself (DIY), you probably imagine making and building things yourself, such as decorating, putting up shelves or assembling flat-pack furniture.

But DIY goes far beyond home improvements. Although it's traditionally thought to have its roots in the 1950s and '60s, doing it yourself was by no means a new phenomenon back then. The 19th century saw many books describing practical projects, a pastime enjoyed by both men and women, in detail. Skilled turner Mary Gascoigne published her *Handbook of Turning* in 1842, explaining the art of woodturning using a lathe – a sort of carving machine to make decorative objects for the home.

You can read a brief history of DIY at tinyurl.com/ScienceMuseumDIY.

STOP PLASTIC POLLUTION!

TAKE THE PLASTIC CHALLENGE THIS JULY



THIS month the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) are asking us all to take the Plastic Challenge to try to reduce the amount of plastic we use, and to cut one form of plastic out completely. Are you up to the challenge?

By 2050, scientists have estimated that there could be more plastic in the sea than fish. By now, we've all seen the images: seabirds tangled in plastic on our beaches, whales washing up with stomachs full of single-use litter. While plastic can be an incredibly useful material, it's time we adjusted our throwaway attitude. Plastic pollution in its many forms, from microplastics to large bags and bottles, is incredibly dangerous to wildlife and to the future health of the ocean. Animals like turtles, dolphins and whales confuse plastic for food, or can get trapped in plastic floating through the water.



with plenty of inspiration and motivation to keep up the good work, with hints and tips from experts throughout the month and the chance to join a community of like-minded Plastic Challengers.

Some Plastic Challenges you could set yourself:

- Swap plastic toiletry bottles for plastic-free bars
- Find your local refill shop and stock up on plastic-free store cupboard staples
- Cook plastic-free for the month, using only loose fruit and veg
- Re-use yoghurt pots as plant pots and try growing some seeds

WRITE IT DOWN

Not sure how much of a plastic problem you have? Why not try keeping a diary for a week and making a note of every single-use plastic item you use each day... you'll be surprised by how much you're using without even noticing! Maybe you can use your diary as inspiration for setting your Plastic Challenge – what could you cut out for the month, or maybe longer?

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO HELP?

Every year, the Marine Conservation Society gathers information on what is polluting beaches around the UK – and plastic is always taking one of the top spots. At last year's Great British Beach Clean an average of 143 pieces of plastic and polystyrene were found for every 100m of beach! Crisp packets, sweet wrappers and on-the-go food packaging were the fifth most common litter item found on UK beaches, with an average of 30 plastic wrappers found for every 100m of beach surveyed. The pieces of plastic that end up littering the beach are often broken down from larger plastics littering our streets and waterways, which is why it's so important to stop plastic pollution at source. All of us can make a big impact on the health of the ocean, which is why the Marine Conservation Society needs your help.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Many people know about the plastic problem and want to know how they can make a difference. Every year, the charity invites the public to take on the Plastic Challenge, which runs throughout July. This year, the charity is asking you to set your own Challenge to see if you can cut out plastic from one part of your everyday life. You might even want to really test yourself and try to cut out all single-use plastic for the whole month. Signing up to become part of the Plastic Challenge provides you



There are lots of resources on the Plastic Challenge website that you can use to help get started. Download a handy checklist of suggestions at www.mcsuk.org/media/plastic-challenge-checklist-lq.pdf

“EVERYONE CAN MAKE A CHANGE TO THE WORLD”

LAST week we told you about *The School That Tried To End Racism*, a brand new documentary on Channel 4. We spoke to Mahkai, Farrah and Henry, three of the students taking part in the show, about their experience.



● **What did you think going into the programme?**

Mahkai: I thought it was a great idea and a very important issue. I was happy to take part because it affects all children. We are the leaders of tomorrow and the vehicle of true change.

Farrah: I think I was a little nervous, since I had never really talked about my race or heritage with my classmates. It was just never something that came up, so this was a new thing for everyone!

Henry: I was really excited to be taking part as I would be learning something new, but not in “normal” lessons.

● **Were you worried about taking part?**

Farrah: I think my biggest worry was how my classmates would view me. Even though it was a safe space, race can be quite a controversial topic, and I was afraid of saying the wrong thing or being disrespectful. But I soon realised it’s okay to ask questions, just in a respectful way!

Mahkai: I didn’t have any worries, in fact I was very excited.

Henry: I was a little worried about how others would view me and my opinions.

● **What did your parents think?**

Henry: My mum and dad supported me and thought it would be an interesting and important project to be involved in.

Mahkai: They thought that it was a very important project for me to be part of, they were proud of my contribution. As a family, the subject is something we talk about openly.

Farrah: My parents were very supportive. I guess they were a bit wary of me being on TV as I’m sure a lot of the parents were, although they were quite excited for me to do the project itself. We talk about social justice issues quite openly at home so it was exciting to be part of this project.

● **Were any parts of the show difficult?**

Farrah: Probably the hardest part was the affinity groups, where we were split into two groups: a white one and a people of colour one. I’m mixed heritage, my dad is Sri Lankan and my mum is white, so I was unsure which group I best fitted into. I soon realised I could be myself and more open in the people of colour group, which was quite interesting.

Henry: I found the affinity groups to be especially emotionally challenging as I was split from others. I mixed with children from outside my usual friends and made some new friends.

Mahkai: I found the balloon exercise very hard. We had to find a word that sums up our racial identity. This wasn’t shown on television though.

● **What was the most surprising thing you discovered by taking part?**

Farrah: I found the amount of racial bias (unfair prejudice) we hold in favour of white people surprising. In our school we are taught that everyone is equal, so I would have thought that any bias would be little to none, although that was not the case! However, the bias we hold is not our fault, rather society’s fault and how different races are viewed and shown differently.

Henry: I learnt that unconscious (unaware) bias exists and by talking and learning about it we can change.

Mahkai: I discovered that 99.9% of our cells are the same as someone next to me. It’s like the saying “don’t judge a book by its cover” – most people will see someone and make assumptions. If you don’t judge a book by its cover then you may find that you become great friends with someone because you like their personality.

● **What did you learn about yourself?**

Mahkai: I learnt that I can say amazing things when I want to, I can say some motivational things when I put my mind to it. And that everyone can make a change to the world – including me!

Farrah: I found that there are more sides to me, and that I care about ending discrimination more than I had previously imagined. It helped me gain a real consciousness of the struggles that I and other people face. And how if we work together, we can make the world a fairer, freer place.

Henry: Being part of the show has helped me understand that privilege exists for some, and not everyone has the same opportunities, which makes me sad.

● **Why do you think other children should watch the show?**

Farrah: I think this was a very eye-opening experience for everyone, and I think that people can get a lot out of watching the show and it will start some great conversations.

Mahkai: Children should watch it if they are able to use their digestive systems! What I mean by this is that if you take in what you have heard and learnt and process it, then you are able to contribute to changing yourself and others, so future children won’t be limited by racism.

Henry: They should definitely watch it as they can learn a lot. It really helps to educate yourself and others on the subject of bias and race.

Part One of *The School That Tried to End Racism* is available now on All4 and Part Two is on Channel 4 on 2 July at 9pm

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*Please note, the activities are updated on a weekly basis in term time. During the summer holidays, children will have access to all the back catalogue of activities but no new ones will be published.

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RSPCA, Wilberforce Way, Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 9RS. Data Protection Act: Data on minors is never disclosed to third parties and we do not send direct marketing fundraising literature to under 18s. The RSPCA helps animals in England and Wales. Registered charity no. 219099. www.rspca.org.uk

TURTLE BOOST

Thousands of green turtles off the coast of Raine Island, Australia, waiting to go on land to nest

DRONES in Australia have discovered that the world's largest colony of green turtles is twice as big as previously thought.

Footage of the turtles off the coast of Raine Island was shot by drones launched by the Great Barrier Reef Foundation's Raine Island Recovery Project. It showed around 64,000 green turtles waiting offshore, ready to go on land and make their nests. This is double the number of turtles scientists expected to spot.

Researchers found that using a drone was a much faster and more accurate way of counting the turtles. Previous methods included painting a white stripe on the shells of turtles who were on the beach and then counting them from a small boat. This was not a very easy or accurate way to count turtles, as the paint washed off after a few days anyway!

The use of the drone and the more accurate footage helps scientists know what work needs to be done to make sure all of the turtles have space to nest.

Anna Marsden, Managing Director of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation said: "We're taking action to improve and rebuild the island's nesting beaches, and building fences to prevent turtle deaths, all working to strengthen the island's resilience and ensure the survival of our northern green turtles and many other species."

Green turtles are one of the largest species of sea turtle and can be found in tropical and subtropical seas all around the world.



Great Barrier Reef Foundation and Queensland Government

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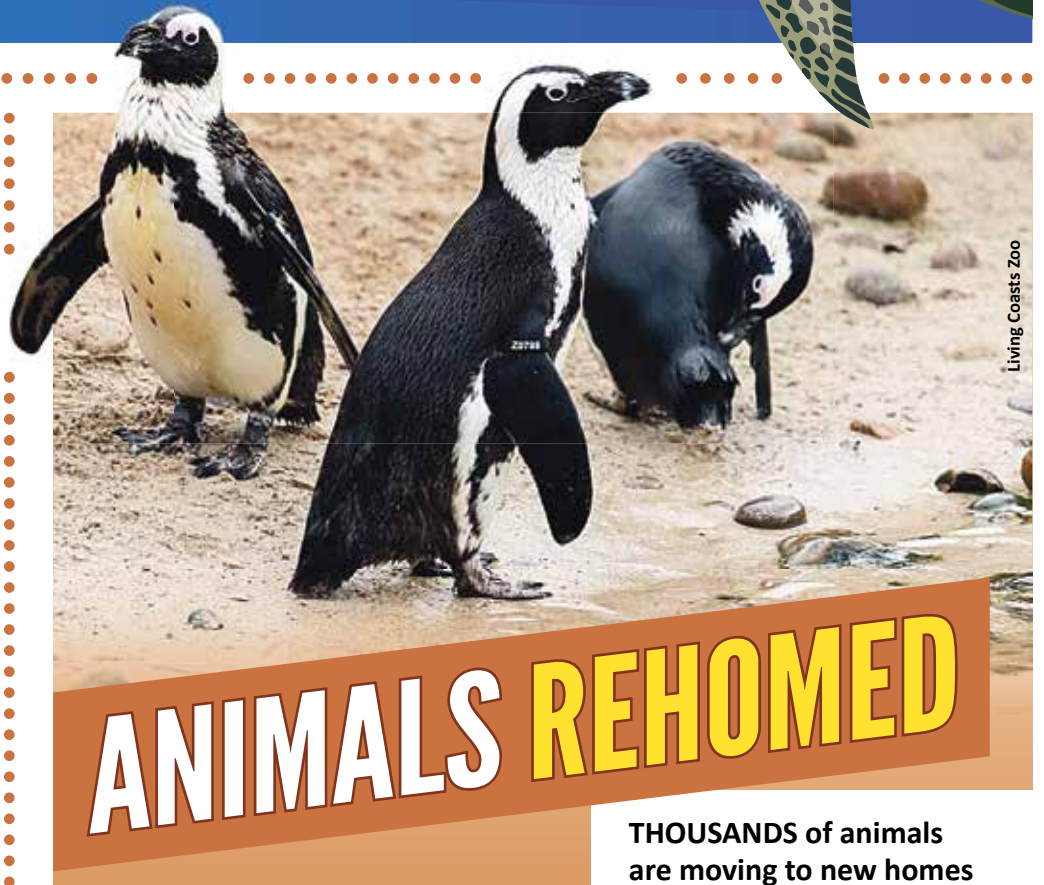
PANDA TRACKING

CONSERVATIONISTS in Nepal are fitting red pandas with satellite collars to try to discover new ways of helping the endangered species.

Ten pandas have been fitted with the GPS collars, which will tell experts how far the animals travel, where they spend most of their time and what they do all day. They will also be monitored using cameras.

Experts hope that by learning as much as they can about the red pandas and their behaviour, they can put the right protection plans in place to save them from extinction.

Only a few thousand red pandas are estimated to be left in the wild, living mostly in the eastern Himalayas and southwestern China.



Living Coasts Zoo

ANIMALS REHOMED

THOUSANDS of animals are moving to new homes after Living Coasts zoo in Torquay, Devon, closed its doors for good.

The sad news came after the zoo was forced to close for months during the coronavirus pandemic.

Most of the animals that live at the zoo are birds and marine animals. The owners, Wild Planet Trust, have announced that all the animals have found new homes.

It will now take some time to move them all to other zoos and aquariums.

WOW!



BEEKEEPERS in the UK are being urged to look out for the Asian hornet, a large hornet that eats bees. The species has slowly been spreading across Europe for the last 20 years. Experts fear that it could soon arrive in the UK and threaten bee colonies.

Some of you may be going back to school and things will seem a bit different

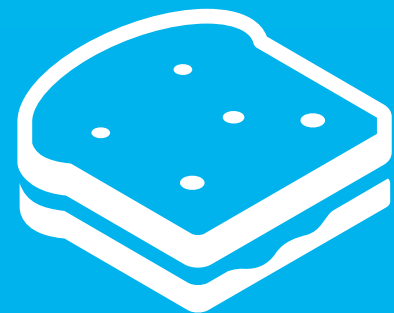
We have looked at how schools can open in a safe way.



reducing the size of classes



keeping children in small “bubble” groups without mixing with others



having staggered break and lunch times, as well as drop-offs and pick-ups



more cleaning



reducing the use of shared items



schools using outdoor space as much as they can



not travelling to school on public transport if possible

All together >

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Schools are making changes so that some of you can get back to school

Here's what some Year 6 pupils have been saying at school and at home.

If someone doesn't want to at the moment for health reasons, they should be able to stay home and carry on with online learning

It was so good to go to school again, I didn't realise how much I missed the place. It was good to see friends, and the teachers were great at reassuring me, as I felt quite nervous when I got out of the car. We even managed to do some sport, which was fab!

I really want to go back to school, as I find working at home difficult

I want to say thanks to all the teachers working at the moment. Keep up your good work!

Even though I miss my friends and things are reopening, I prefer home learning

10 YEARS OF BAFTA YOUNG GAME DESIGNERS

FOR ten years, the BAFTA Young Game Designers (YGD) Awards have been inspiring young people to create their own games, and think seriously about becoming a game developer.



Since 2010, BAFTA has been giving young people the chance to show their best game ideas and creations to a panel of expert judges.

This year was no different (other than the fact the awards show was entirely digital!), and from 53 finalists four winners were chosen.

They will get to meet leading games industry figures, receive mentorship from professionals working in games and a host of other amazing prizes from the YGD partners.



THIS YEAR'S WINNERS

STRUNG UP by Cameron Crosland from Sheffield

● Winner of the Game Concept Award (10-14 year old category)
A charming, challenging game where you play as a grandma and her granddaughter.

FRUIT FRENZY by Evie Sanger-Davies from Grantham

● Winner of the Game Concept Award (15-18 year old category)
In this game, you play as fresh fruit, avoiding obstacles to get to the checkout before you go mouldy!

COMPLICATED CO-OPERATION by Alex Robinson from London

● Winner of the Game Making Award (10-14 year old category)
Two players connected by an elastic cord have to make their way through 12 unique castles (left).

CONTRAMOTION by Michael Ballantyne, from Oldham

● Winner of the Game Making Award (15-18 year old category)
A minimalist 2D platformer based around mirror images and bad puns.



Amanda Berry, chief executive of BAFTA, said: "We are proud to be celebrating the tenth anniversary of BAFTA YGD, an initiative focused on recognising and championing young talent in games."

"We are so impressed with the amount of skill and creativity showcased by our 53 finalists from all over the UK, and wish to extend a huge congratulations to our four brilliant winners!"

DAN PEARCE: BAFTA YGD'S FIRST WINNER

DAN won the first ever BAFTA YGD prize back in 2010. He's been making games ever since, and has even been nominated for a BAFTA Games award. We spoke to Dan about his experience of winning a YGD award.

● **What was it like to win the first ever BAFTA YGD award?**

BAFTA YGD sincerely changed my life. When I think about the opportunities I was given off the back of the competition, I genuinely cannot even imagine how different my life would be right now.

● **What did you learn from your experience?**

One of the most surprising things I learned through YGD was how accessible and open game developers are when you talk to them. It gave me a lot of confidence at industry events to just go up and speak to people, and that was a very immediate lesson I got.

● **What has life as a game developer been like?**

Broadly, life as a game developer has been very fulfilling. I won't pretend that it's always an easy job. Games are very finicky to make, there are a lot of stresses that come with running a company. That being

said, I feel like it's an incredible privilege that I can be ten years into my career now and still not feel like I would rather be doing anything else. Making things that are exciting to me, and watching the industry grow and shift and diversify remains wonderful.

● **Do you have advice for readers keen to enter next year's competition?**

My advice for anyone looking to enter YGD is to keep things as simple as you can. It makes such a good impression to send in something smaller and polished, be that a demo or a written pitch, rather than trying to cram every idea you have into one thing. Pace yourself, take a breath, you're going to have other opportunities to impress people with your ideas, so put the best foot forward you can now, and trust that other steps will follow.



10 YEARS
CHAMPIONING
NEW TALENT

To find out more about the finalists, to watch last week's award show and check out prototypes that have won the BAFTA: Young Game Designers Awards, head to ygd.bafta.org

THE GREAT SAHARAN 'GODZILLA DUST CLOUD'

A HUGE cloud of dust from the Saharan desert has covered islands in the Caribbean, thousands of kilometres away.

While it certainly sounds strange, it's not actually that unusual for dust from the Sahara desert to travel across the Atlantic to the Americas.

The very dry and dusty air – known as the Saharan Air Layer – forms over the Sahara desert and floats across the Atlantic every few days each summer.

What is strange, however, is the size and density of the cloud that's blown over this year – it's up to 3km thick.

This is the largest cloud in 50

years. Experts have nicknamed it the "Godzilla dust cloud", and are worried about its impact on the areas it affects.

Pablo Méndez Lázaro, an environmental health specialist at the University of Puerto Rico, said that the amount of dust was so high that it could even have negative effects on healthy people.

Experts have advised those in the affected regions to wear masks to avoid breathing in the dust.



REAL-LIFE BATSUIT

A US cosplayer has bagged himself a Guinness World record for creating a fully-functional Batman outfit.

That's right, you won't find this Batman outfit while perusing the shops – in fact, you won't find another like it anywhere.

The fully-realised suit belongs to expert cosplayer Keith Dinsmore from Portland, USA. The Batman fan has been dressing up like his favourite superhero at conventions across America since 2013, but decided to take things up a notch in 2017.

Three years on, Dinsmore has successfully bagged himself a Guinness World Record for creating a lifelike Batsuit with 30 working gadgets.

The suit's gadgets include batarangs, a torch, a grappling hook, binoculars, a compass, a fingerprint kit, a tracking device, a laser pointer and handcuffs.

Which means Keith Dinsmore is basically Batman now.



Guinness World Records

A BIG STINKING FINE

A MAN from Austria has been fined €500 (£453) for deliberately breaking wind in front of police officers.

The man in question was handed the fine in Vienna after letting out a particularly loud toot as police officers approached him to check his identity. According to the police, the unnamed man deliberately let out a "massive flatulence in their immediate proximity," lifting his bottom from the bench where he was sitting as they approached him.

The man has disputed the fine, but the officers are standing by their decision. One officer even tweeted: "Of course, nobody is put on the spot if one slips out by accident."

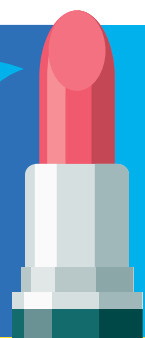
But, in this specific case, the police have claimed that the man was "provocative and uncooperative in general".

The troublesome trouser trumper is yet to pay the big stinking fine and is expected to challenge it in court.



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WHAT HAPPENS IF LIPSTICK AND EYELINER GET INTO AN ARGUMENT? DON'T WORRY, THEY'LL MAKE UP!



WHAT DOES MR BEE CALL HIS WIFE? HONEY!

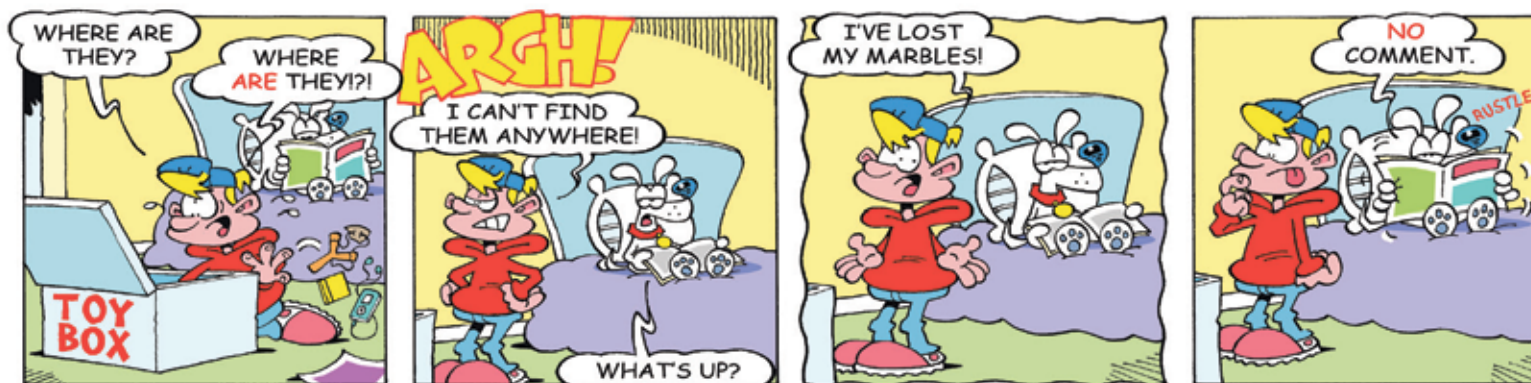


SUBMITTED BY ZARA, AGE 11

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



Written and illustrated by Paul Palmer



JUNGLE FRIENDS

WHAT would happen if a spaceship crashed in the middle of the jungle? The animals in the hilarious new animation *Jungle Beat: The Movie* experience that for themselves when a homesick alien called FNEEP crash-lands in their neighbourhood. Check out these cool facts about the film!



When a group of animals wake up to discover they can speak, it doesn't take long to find out why – an alien has crash-landed in their jungle with new technology that enables them to talk!

The film is based on the hit TV series *Jungle Beat*, which is shown in more than 200 countries around the world!



This is the first feature-length *Jungle Beat* production. Writer and director Brent Dawes said: "Having the room, space, and time to tell a bigger story, I found it came naturally. It was easy and quite liberating to break away from the original time constraints of the television show and tell a larger story."

He may look cute and cuddly, but FNEEP the alien has a plan to conquer planet Earth. Will his new animal friends show him that friendship is better than power?

The main themes for this film are friendship, acceptance and believing in one another, despite the circumstances.

There is no talking in the original TV series, so this film opened a whole new world, as writer Sam Wilson explains: "This is new territory for the *Jungle Beat* universe. We've really developed our non-verbal communication over the years, and we know the characters very well. Suddenly they can speak, and the challenge is to make people think: 'Oh, of course they sound like that!'"



The film has been made by a team from around the world, with production taking place in Indonesia, Mauritius and South Africa!

The alien FNEEP went through lots of different versions before he became the version you see in the film. His colour changes during the film, as his emotions change.



Jungle Beat: The Movie is out now on digital download

THIS WEEK



1 A huge DC Comics virtual fan event has been announced for this summer. The DC Fandome will run for 24 hours on 22 August. All your favourite DC characters (good and bad) will be involved, as well as cast members, film-makers and DC experts. There'll be big announcements about upcoming DC projects, as well as other exclusive reveals. The event is free to anyone, so log on and find out more at www.dcfandome.com.

2 The Voice vocal coach will.i.am is returning to music with a new album and single with his band, The Black Eyed Peas. The single, *Feel The Beat*, and the album, *Translation*, are both out now.



3 Hollywood film production is starting up again, which means we will hopefully get some brilliant new films in 2021. Shooting for *Avatar 2* has begun again in New Zealand, and it is hoped that *The Batman* starring Robert Pattinson, Disney's live action version of *The Little Mermaid* and *Jurassic World: Dominion* will all start filming in the UK again over the next few weeks. Watch this space!

PICS OF THE WEEK

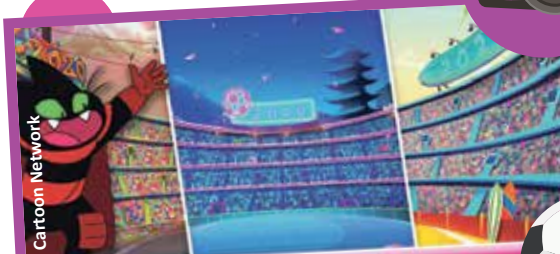
THERE'S a crazy cartoon football tournament coming up, thanks to Cartoon Network, and anyone can join in!

The Toon Cup 2020 runs until 6 August on the free Cartoon Network app and website, and features all your favourite Cartoon Network characters, including those from *The Powerpuff Girls* and *Adventure Time*.

Find out more and join in at www.cartoonnetwork.co.uk/tooncup



Win the Toon Cup!



Tour different stadiums!



The biggest match yet!

MEET THE SNOOP DOGS!



THIS week a brand new series about celebrity pooches hits Channel 4! Can you guess the celebrity owner after having a tour of their house via a special doggy-cam? Here are a couple of the dogs you'll meet on the show...



FUN FACTS

- I am one of three dogs! I have a brother and an adopted brother. I'm the alpha of the pack, always in charge and I always get my own way
- I am a black Shar Pei
- I'm also known as the 'Phantom Pooer' as I sometimes make mistakes in the bedroom
- I like dog food, but I'm even happier with human food cooked on the BBQ. On Sunday mornings all the dogs have scrambled eggs for breakfast. I especially love sausages and cheese, and I like to drink natural yoghurt
- I'm a hugger and very protective of my owner

FUN FACTS

- I get called 'Little Monster'!
- I'm a real city dog; when I spend time out of the city I can get a bit restless
- I'm 12 so I'm getting on a bit, but I'm still good fun
- I can sit, dance on my back legs, half spin and get down on all fours
- I love my fluffy toys, especially my badger
- My favourite room in the house is the bedroom. I have a big pink cushion on the bed that I sleep on



Find out who these dogs belong to on *Celebrity Snoop Dogs*, 26 June at 8.30pm on Channel 4

WIN! A CHEMISTRY SET

CAN you complete our sudoku puzzle and fill in the numbers one to nine?

Send in your answers and one lucky winner will win a cool science kit. This Chemistry Set from John Adams has 100 exciting experiments inside – perfect for any young scientist! Learn about gases, metals, acids, alkalis, salts, electrolytes, crystals and lots more!

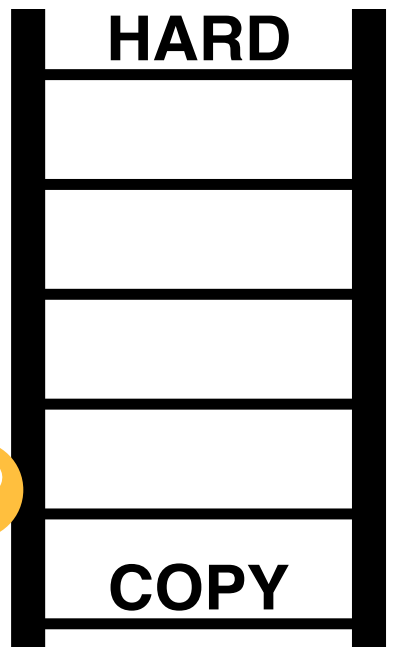
For more information visit www.johnadams.co.uk



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

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.



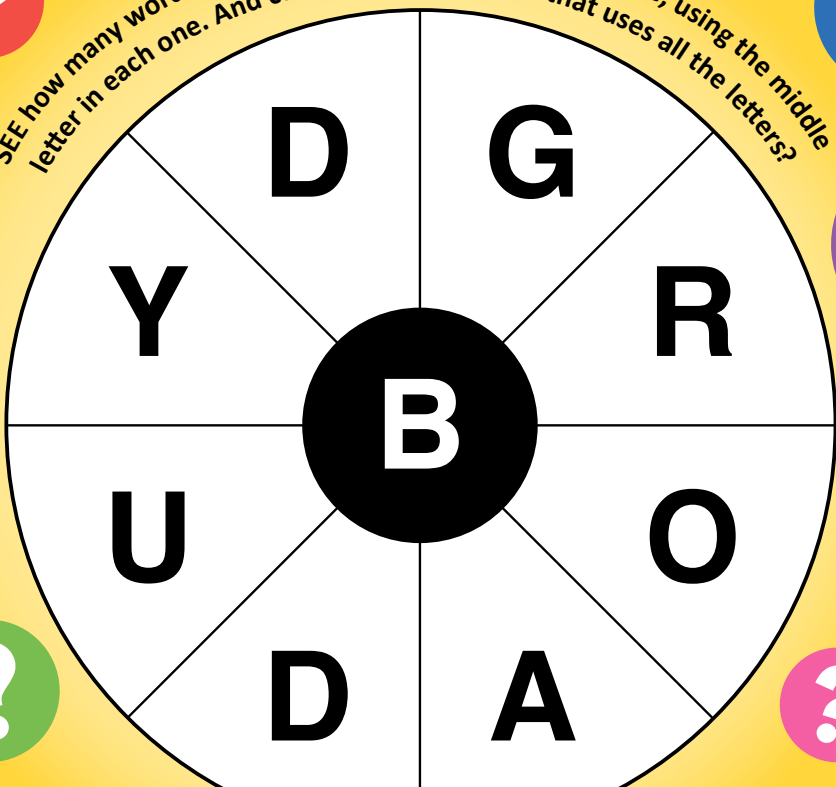
CROSSWORD

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

1		2			3		4		5	
6					7					8
9			10			11				
12						13		14		
16	17							18		
					19					

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?



ACROSS

- 1 No rattle (anag) (8)
- 6 ___ a sketch: drawing toy (4)
- 7 On all occasions (6)
- 9 Eg, rectangle or circle (5)
- 11 A man on his wedding day (5)
- 12 Cries out like a lion (5)
- 13 A valuable thing (5)
- 16 Soak with water (6)
- 18 Group of three (4)
- 19 Guarantees (8)

DOWN

- 1 Prized or cherished (9)
- 2 An elastic fabric (5)
- 3 The first man, according to the Bible (4)
- 4 In the direction of (7)
- 5 Dried grass; straw (3)
- 8 Lavish or luxurious (9)
- 10 White root vegetable (7)
- 14 Kinds (5)
- 15 US state (4)
- 17 A rodent with a long tail (3)



ELLIE AND HAYDEN

HAYDEN has the genetic disorder Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, a progressive and life-limiting muscular degenerative disease. His sister Ellie told us what it's like to have a little brother like Hayden.

WHAT IS DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY?

Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy only affects boys and causes progressive muscle weakness.

Boys diagnosed with the genetic disorder are likely to need to use a wheelchair by 8-11 years of age. Life expectancy is often early 20s. There is no cure, but good treatment can help slow the progression.

Fourteen-year-old Ellie is from Marlborough, Wiltshire. She knows all about the challenges her younger brother Hayden, age 12, faces daily. But she is determined to make the most of their family life and stay positive.

"Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is always going to be there," Ellie says. "But you just try to keep going. I don't remember a time before Hayden. I can see we are so much closer than other siblings. My friends will hit their siblings, but I have never done that as I could hurt him. Our fights are all verbal! I'm so pleased he doesn't need to use the wheelchair much, only on days when he needs to, such as going for a walk or to the park. It is great fun pushing him up and down ramps.

One time I pushed him into a kerb and he fell out! He was okay, though."

Ellie adds: "We try to be as active as possible, which helps to improve Hayden's mobility. We both do karate and enjoy the katas, which are sequences. Our karate teacher is amazing.

"Horse-riding is excellent for Hayden, as it stretches out his legs. Swimming uses every muscle in Hayden's body, so it is great exercise too. Hayden also goes to the Scouts, which he enjoys, although he is not the most sociable.

"He can write fine, but he needs help opening bottles – he has me wrapped around his little finger when he needs help!"



Ellie and Hayden



RAISING AWARENESS

Hayden is helping to raise awareness of children's genetic disorders with the UK children's charity Genetic Disorders UK and their annual fundraising campaign, Jeans for Genes. The campaign is set to take place in September, but you can sign up to take part any time or anywhere simply by requesting a fundraising pack, putting on your jeans, posting a selfie and asking for donations.



To find out more about Genetic Disorders UK and Jeans for Genes, head to www.jeansforgenes.org

POKÉMON PRESENTS



Pokémon Snap

SOME exciting Pokémon news was revealed this week, in a surprise Pokémon

Presents livestream.

The biggest, most exciting news from the half-hour livestream was the reveal of New Pokémon Snap, a follow-up to the beloved Pokémon Snap, which came out 20 years ago!



If you're unfamiliar with Snap, you play as a Pokémon photographer who has been hired to take pictures of wild Pokémon in their natural environment. You have to time those pictures perfectly for the best shot, which will be scored at the end of the game.

Also announced was Pokémon Smile, an Augmented Reality (AR) app, which you play while brushing your teeth! By the looks of things, if you brush different parts of your mouth successfully, you can catch different Pokémon. Aimed at younger gamers, we're definitely going to be trying it out anyway!

Then there was an adorable puzzle game called Pokémon Café Mix, coming to Switch and smartphones. It looked fun – if a little confusing.

Lastly, to top it all off, was the reveal that a big announcement about the development of the next big Poké-project was on the way!

We'll be sure to tell you more about that next week.



Pokémon Smile



PC SWITCH

HOME SHEEP HOME: FARMAGEDDON PARTY EDITION

RELEASED as a companion to the recent movie, this game sees Shaun the Sheep on an interstellar adventure. First News games reviewer George tells us whether Home Sheep Home: Farmageddon is baa-rilient or baa-oring!

"Home Sheep Home: Farmageddon is a puzzle platform game. You have to get three sheep, Shaun, Timmy and Shirley – who each have different abilities – through different levels, such as London streets, underground and space. You can play on your own or in party mode with your friends.

At the beginning it's quite easy, but then some of the levels were quite hard. I really liked the funny graphics, but it did remind me of a game you'd get on an iPhone."



Getty

THE BIG PICTURE

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump kicked off his campaign for re-election this week with a rally in Tulsa, Oklahoma, despite warnings that it could increase the spread of coronavirus.

According to eyewitnesses, there were very few people at the event wearing masks, and little social distancing in place.

When talking about the virus, the president said he had asked officials to "slow down testing", because it meant that more cases were being discovered.

A White House official later said the president was "obviously kidding".

WHAT'S IN THE SHOPS?



FOOTBALL TIDDLYWINKS
SPORTING-GIFTS.COM £4.95

This great little set uses 12 interlocking game board cards for you to make your tiddlywink football pitch. Play on-the-go with two playing counters and one football counter, trying to score goals and staying out of the shaded zones! Who will score in this game of football with a twist?



FOOTBALL FUN

WORLD FOOTBALL STATS CUBE BOOK
WICKEDUNCLE.CO.UK £8.95



Unfold this clever cube to reveal all 12 pages about world football. The addictive cube book is packed with facts about all the top national teams, with statistics and highest goal scorers. Each cube book has six pages on one side, then turn them inside out to find another six.



FOOTY: CREATE YOUR OWN FOOTBALL
AMAZON.CO.UK £11.99



The Foooty is a DIY flat-pack football that's easy to make and fun to play with. Simply follow the instructions and connect the ten Foooty elements, interlocking them together to create a football. The flat-pack Foooty design means it fits in every pocket and can be taken with you wherever you go.



*All prices correct at time of printing

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WIN! A THUNDERBIRDS ARE GO BUNDLE FROM



GET ready for action with **Thunderbirds Are Go** from Bandai... 5, 4, 3, 2, 1!

Get Motion Tech treatment with this new range of sound-activated vehicles. With retractable features, Motion Tech Vehicles TB1 makes sounds when moved, for acting out realistic scenes straight from the show.

Pit Virgil against the villainous Mechanic with the Virgil and Mechanic figures. These 30cm character figures come with articulated joints, lights, five phrases, plus fully working rescue claw for Virgil and firing weapon for the Mechanic.

Take to the skies with Virgil in Rescue Mission Thunderbird 2 which makes launch and flight sounds, and includes zipline and grapple hook to help save the day.

Four lucky winners will win a **Thunderbirds** bundle including: a Motion Tech Thunderbird 1, Rescue Mission Thunderbird 2, Rescue Ready Virgil Figure and two Rescue Ready Mechanic Figures.

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

The **Thunderbirds Are Go** toy collection from Bandai is available from Argos. www.bandai.co.uk

Who is Lady Penelope's chauffeur?
a) Parker b) Jeff
c) Brains



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WIN! SETS OF DC COMICS TUBBZ



IF you're into collectibles, then these quacking TUBBZ are something very different!

TUBBZ are quirky 'duck' replicas of iconic characters from the biggest videogame, movie, TV show and comic book brands.

Check out these favourite heroes and villains from DC Comics: Batman, Robin, Joker and Harley Quinn. These cos-playing ducks feature skilful design, making these characters instantly recognisable, with specific details reflecting their distinct personalities. They come in a stackable bathtub display box, perfect for collecting.

Batman & Robin: KAPOW! These caped crusaders need to get to the duckmobile sharpish, there's trouble brewing in Gotham City.

Joker & Harley Quinn: POW, BOOM! These villainous troublemakers are wreaking havoc all over Gotham. Joker may be a duck, but he still has green hair and lipstick on his lips!

Four lucky winners will win a set of DC Comics TUBBZ. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

What is Batman's home city?

a) Metropolis b) Gotham c) New York

For further info visit

www.numskull.com/tubbz



ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY RESCUE

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 21. The closing date is 9 July 2020.

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY DUCK

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 21. The closing date is 9 July 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, 250 words at a time. Read every part of the gripping tale at:



FIRST.NEWS/CRESSIDACOWELL

SO FAR IN THE STORY...

Young spellcaster Ferocity and her smoke-producing pet boggart, Guggalugs, were taken from their home by child-snatching Tappers. After escaping, the pair met Trick, a mysterious boy. The three then travelled to Trick's home, Perum Hollow, to speak with the boy's grandfather. On the journey, Ferocity found a strange copper piece, which Trick's granddad revealed to be one of four key-pieces that helped seal evil away from the world. Trick and his grandfather each had another, leaving one left to find. They set off to find it and, while on the way, they hid from rough weather in a cave that happened to be occupied by Trick's mum, Ariella. Meanwhile, back at Perum Hollow, Trick's grandfather is using his granddaughter's magic to send a dark creature to the cave where Ferocity and her friends rest...

PART 13: BY NATALIE NG

Meanwhile, back in the cave, Guggalugs was asleep on Ferocity's lap, pastel pink smoke gently wafting from his ears. Trick and Ariella were talking by the fire. Ferocity was barely keeping up with what the pair were saying. Questions buzzed in her head, all related to recent events involving Trick's grandfather, but before she could say anything, a dreadful sound came from outside. Without warning, the cave swelled with an unbearable cacophony as sudden yelps, screeches and howls surrounded them. It was now impossible to see or hear anything, and everyone staggered around, trying to block out the deafening sound.

Then, as quickly as it had come, the clamour cleared. But just as the foursome reunited, a huge beast dashed into the cave.

'Typhon,' breathed Trick, panic sketched across his face. 'Run!' They raced to the back of the cavern, the beast pouncing and lashing ferociously behind them. It was closing in.

'Typhon hates water!' Trick shouted, as Typhon missed Ariella by centimetres.

Ferocity tried to focus. Water. She immediately turned back, and sprinted towards the beast.

'Ferocity!' Ariella screamed.

Ferocity didn't have time to answer. She dodged and swerved around the thrashing beast and scrambled her way back to the two captors. Fumbling around, she finally found what she was looking for – a flask of water.

But when she turned around, it seemed that Typhon had been distracted by something else. The beast was heading towards the mouth of the cave, where a young girl stood.

'Aida! Watch out!'

PART 14: BY YOU!

IF you took the time to send us your story, thank you!

We enjoyed reading them all, and love how talented you all are! If your story wasn't chosen this time, don't let that stop you having another crack at it. We could choose you to continue the story in next week's issue!

You can submit the next part of the story by email at newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk, popping **Story** into the subject line, or at first.news/cressidacowell.

We'll be deciding on the next part of the story every Monday, so make sure you send us your story by then!



WORDS FOR LIFE



GARETH P Jones is an author of more than 40 books for children of all ages. His most recent series, *Dragon Detective*, is the republication of his first ever series, *Dragon Detective Agency*. Gareth told us what storybook character he would be:

“ Anyone magic I think. Dumbledore, Gandalf, Gem from the *Earthsea* books, so long as I could do magic I'd be pretty flexible. I'd probably even settle for being a baddie if I had magic. ”



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

YOUR READS!

FRIEND OR FOE MICHAEL MORPURGO

reviewed by Anika Magoon, age seven

This book is set in England during World War Two. It is the story of two evacuee boys who accidentally meet two German soldiers. The evacuees are called David and Tucky and they see the German soldiers' bomber crash in the moor.

One day, when looking for their dog, David falls into a river. The soldier, who is not injured, saves him even though they are supposed to be enemies. Also, he doesn't care if David might tell everyone that the soldiers were hiding in the moor. In return, David and Tucky help the soldiers by giving them food and blankets, even though David thinks that these soldiers might have been the ones who killed his father in the war and they might even have cheered after killing him.

I like this book because it has a moral that kindness is important and better than hatred. I recommend this book if you are studying World War Two.



WE WANT YOUR BOOK REVIEWS!

We'll need around 100 words on a book you've been reading and a picture of yourself (with parents' permission!) sent to bookreviews@firstnews.co.uk.



PLANT SELLING

by Ryan Salter

FROM Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May my family decided to put a plant stall outside our house to sell all our excess plants, which were tomatoes, courgettes, dill, parsley, coriander and a couple of flowers.

As we all know, charities need lots of support right now so we thought we would do it in aid of two good causes: the Genesis Trust, which helps the homeless in Bath, and the British Hen Welfare Trust, as we recently rescued some hens.

On the first day, everyone wanted herbs, so next year we will start growing lots of different herbs!

The second day was the best because we raised the most money that day.

As we ran out of plants, we counted all the money and came to an outstanding amount of £267.08. This surprised us all and made us very happy.

I really enjoyed manning the stall for five days, talking to people in the village as well as strangers who stopped by to look or to buy something.

It really boosted my confidence to talk to people, too.



Ryan manning the plant stall



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



Write in to let us know what you've been up to on lockdown! Have you been getting creative? How have you been keeping fit? If you're back to school, how has that made you feel? 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.

RAINFOREST LEGO

by Finn Field

IN lockdown I have made a Lego rainforest with an important story to tell.

The rainforest I have made is burning and all the animals are running away from the fire.

They are as close to the river as they can be while keeping safe.

I made my rainforest like this to make people realise what is happening to the rainforests all over the world, and we REALLY need to change that!

Some people don't realise that burning down rainforests affects us, as well as animals. Some people call the Amazon the lungs of the world because trees absorb carbon dioxide and give out oxygen.

If we carry on it won't just be the animals that become extinct, it will be us as well!



Finn's LEGO rainforest



YOUNG POET WINNER

by Talulah Quinto

LOCKDOWN is not that different for me as I am already homeschooled, but I do miss seeing my friends and having choices about what to do.

I won the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award last October which tipped me headfirst into another world.

Writing poetry has become a strategy for expressing myself. Poetry is a way of conveying emotion on a whole new level.

In quarantine, I have been dedicating my poems to my friends, because it makes them seem somehow closer, and that's really helped with this time away from them.

My favourite poets include the classics, William Shakespeare and John Keats. One of my favourite contemporary poets is Mary Oliver. She wrote incredible poems that connect you with nature in a beautiful and dreamy way.



Talulah



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THE BIG SPORT PICTURE

ARSENAL striker Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang takes the knee before the Premier League match against Manchester City.

Premier League players have been taking the knee since the season resumed, in a show of support for the Black Lives Matter movement.

Clubs have also decided to replace names on the backs of shirts with “Black Lives Matter” for the first 12 matches of the restarted season.

A Black Lives Matter logo will also feature on shirts for the remainder of the season.



SPORT IN NUMBERS

62

people, including former Olympic champion Jessica Ennis-Hill (below), have written a letter to the

Government about discrimination against women during the pandemic. They are concerned that the focus has been almost entirely on restarting men's sport, not women's. The letter says "the lockdown is turning back the clock on women's lives in Britain".



Getty

4

tennis players have tested positive for COVID-19 after playing at the Adria Tour event in Croatia

and Serbia. The tournament was set up by world number one Novak Djokovic to help players ease back in to the game after lockdown. But Djokovic himself, Grigor Dimitrov (below), Borna Ćorić and Viktor Troicki have all now caught the virus and are self-isolating.



Getty

250

phone calls were made by former Spurs and England footballer Gary Mabbutt to fans

during lockdown. Unable to continue his charity work, Gary began calling Tottenham supporters over 70 years of age on special occasions such as birthdays. Sadly, some people didn't believe it was really him and put the phone down!



Getty

F1 DIVERSITY LAUNCH



Getty

F1 champion Lewis Hamilton has called for change

FORMULA 1 has launched a diversity and equality taskforce to tackle inequality and racism, and increase opportunities for minority ethnic people in motorsport.

#WeRaceAsOne is part of a package of initiatives aimed at addressing not only diversity but also the effects of COVID-19, as well as ideas to make the sport more environmentally friendly.

The new campaign will be seen in action over the weekend of 3-5 July in Austria, as the 2020 season finally gets underway. F1 boss Chase Carey said: "At our first race in Austria, Formula 1 will stand united to say loud and clear that racism must end."

All cars will display a rainbow, which F1 says has been chosen "as it has become a symbol used internationally in the recent crisis to bring communities together".

The taskforce will take advice from people working in every part of the sport, from the drivers to the mechanics. The conclusions that are drawn from listening to a wide range of people will lead to actions aimed at improving diversity and inclusion in F1.

Britain's Lewis Hamilton, the reigning F1 champion, has been active in calling for change. He has started his own commission to look into how motorsport can "engage more young people from black backgrounds with science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) subjects".

Having had to face racism himself, Lewis is determined that our multicultural society should be reflected in the world of F1. In a recent article in *The Times* newspaper, he wrote about the racism he has experienced, from being pelted as a youngster to being taunted by fans at a Grand Prix.

The F1 announcement is one of the many changes announced following the recent worldwide Black Lives Matter protests.

SPORTS PIC OF THE WEEK



Southampton's Danny Ings (number 9) and teammates celebrate his goal against Norwich City – the first of their restarted Premier League season. Southampton went on to beat the Canaries 3-0. The crucial win moved the Saints further away from the relegation zone, while Norwich remain stranded at the bottom of the table

