Home Learning Timetable - Year 6
Monday 11th May 2020 - Friday 15th May 2020

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00 - 10:30	Reading for Pleasure Reading Comprehension Times Table Folders Arithmetic Folders	Reading for Pleasure Reading Comprehension Times Table Folders Arithmetic Folders	Reading for Pleasure Reading Comprehension Times Table Folders Arithmetic Folders	Reading for Pleasure Reading Comprehension Times Table Folders Arithmetic Folders	Reading for Pleasure Reading Comprehension Times Table Folders Arithmetic Folders
10:30 - 11:15	SPAG Writing a formal report	SPAG Writing a powerful speech	SPAG Writing a debate argument	SPAG Writing a recount	Reading Reading lesson: Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
11:15 - 12:00	Maths Multiplying fractions and mixed numbers by integers.	Maths Multiply fractions by fractions	Maths Divide fractions by integers	Maths Fractions of amounts applied in context	Maths Challenge of the week
13:00 - 13:30	History Who was Tutankhamun?	Geography Sustainability and plastics	Science How plants reproduce	Technology and Design Extreme designs	Art and Design Media and Materials
14:00 - 15:00	PE Home Workout There are various different workouts you can choose from: Joe Wicks - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAxW1XT0iEJo0TYlRfn6rYQ Oti Mabuse - https://www.youtube.com/user/mosetsanagape	Newspaper - First News Choose an article from the newspaper and tell me what you think of it!	Writing Imagine you are Boris Johnson about to address the nation for one last push to try and overcome this virus… think about what the nation needs to hear, and what they might want to hear. Once you have written it, I'd like you to perform it and send the video to me.	Writing Imagine you are Boris Johnson about to address the nation for one last push to try and overcome this virus… think about what the nation needs to hear, and what they might want to hear. Once you have written it, I'd like you to perform it and send the video to me.	SATs Your SATs were meant to be over and done with by today… You are going to send a photo/video of you having a party at home to celebrate! I'm 100% sure you would have all done so well and tried your best.

NEWS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT INTERVIEWS PUZZLES COMPETITIONS AND MORE

BOREDOM BUSTERS! P20-21



ANIMAL HEROES! P19

COPING WITH LOCKDOWN P11



HELPING HOGS! P10



First News

Issue 725 £1.99 8 – 14 May 2020

TRUSTED NEWS FOR KIDS, WITH MORE THAN 2 MILLION READERS*

VE DAY

CELEBRATING IN LOCKDOWN

The Red Arrows will fly over London again today

TODAY (Friday 8 May) marks 75 years since VE Day, as Britain remembers the end of World War Two in Europe.

by editor in chief Nicky Cox

Plans for street parties, parades and concerts have been put on hold because of the coronavirus, but don't worry, as it's still possible to celebrate in lockdown.

What is VE Day?

VE Day – Victory in Europe Day – on 8 May 1945 was the day the Allied forces announced the surrender of Germany, which ended the Second World War in Europe. The big four Allied powers were Britain, the USA, France and the Soviet Union (Russia).

Celebrations began straight away throughout Britain, with more than one million people partying in the streets. King George VI appeared on the Buckingham Palace balcony with Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Princess Elizabeth (now our Queen), her mum Queen Elizabeth and her sister Princess Margaret joined them.

VE Day is recognised every year with street parties and community gatherings, and commemorates the millions of civilians and millions in the armed forces who lost their lives in battle.

In 2015, you might remember the 70th anniversary of VE Day was marked with three days of celebrations. The Queen joined 1,000 veterans and their families in a service of thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey.

Lockdown means things are different today. The Queen will deliver a special television message from Windsor Castle at 9pm – at the moment that her father, King George VI, gave a radio address back in 1945.

continued on page 2

Read an interview about VE Day with America's Ambassador to Britain, Robert 'Woody' Johnson, on page 18

First News readership is 2,235,888. Source: Opinion Matters 2016. *First News* is the widest-read of all children's publications audited in the UK. *First News* supports children's charities.

FirstNews ● Issue 725 ● 8 – 14 May 2020



SOUTH KOREA: "YOU CAN'T CATCH IT TWICE"



There are two types of tests: one that can tell whether you have COVID-19 now, and another that can tell whether you have the antibodies that fought off the virus

SOUTH Korean scientists say that they do not believe that you can catch the new coronavirus more than once.

In the first few weeks of the outbreak, several countries, including China, Japan and South Korea, reportedly saw COVID-19 patients who tested positive for the illness again after they had recovered.

Now, new research from South Korean scientists says that they think this is unlikely, and that cases where people had caught the disease more than once were most likely due to "testing failures".

Apparently, tests had detected "dead virus traces", rather than the actual virus. If it's confirmed that you really can't catch COVID-19 more than once, you might begin to hear more about 'immunity passports'.

These will be government-issued documents that would mean you were less restricted by the lockdown if you have antibodies that can fight off the virus.

However, the World Health Organization (WHO) says that "the use of [immunity passports] may increase the risks of transmission," but that "guidance is constantly kept under review and could be updated."

HOW TO CELEBRATE VE DAY WHILE IN LOCKDOWN

continued from front page...

Although social distancing means gatherings and parties have been cancelled, there are still other ways to mark the day during lockdown.

A two-minute silence is taking place at 11am. Then, at 3pm, there is The Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW2, with people across the country standing up and raising a glass of their favourite drink while saying the following toast: "To those who gave so much, we thank you." The Red Arrows and the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight will perform a flypast over Buckingham Palace.

Many people are decorating their homes in red, white and blue, and holding 'stay-at-home street parties'. Neighbours are hanging bunting over their homes, having picnics in their back or front gardens, while remembering social distancing and keeping at least 2m apart from others.

Maybe colour in the poster in the centre of this week's *First News* and put it in your window. The Royal British Legion has also launched the Tommy in the Window campaign, which celebrates national heroes. They're asking us to place a special image of a Second World War soldier, Tommy, in our windows.

The official VE Day 75 Government website includes party planning tips, plus food tips to help you celebrate at home. There are more posters that can be printed out and displayed at home.

Hundreds have also signed up to take part in a virtual VE Day "parade" with standard bearers across the world filmed lowering their flags.

POOR PAYING A HIGHER PRICE

A NEW Government report has revealed that the coronavirus is killing people in deprived areas at double the rate of richer areas in England.

The report from the Office for National Statistics shows that the death rate in underprivileged areas was 55.1 deaths per 100,000 people, compared to 25.3 deaths per 100,000 in wealthier areas.

Normal death rates are usually higher in more deprived areas, but COVID-19 has pushed them even higher.

The data also showed that the virus has affected more men who live in poorer areas than women.

However, it is important to remember that, while a lot of media attention is given to the sad numbers of people dying, the overwhelming majority of people recover fully.



LOCKDOWN LATEST

AS *First News* went to press, the Government hadn't said too much about the end of lockdown.



According to reports earlier this week, the prime minister Boris Johnson will reveal on Sunday 10 May how we'll be leaving lockdown.

The news came after the PM announced that we had "passed the peak," and that cases had begun to fall.

Until now, Government officials have decided not to explain their 'exit strategy', as they say that doing so would make the message to stay at home less effective.

Labour leader Keir Starmer said that his party agreed the lockdown "needs to remain in place, but to maintain morale and hope, people need a sense of what comes next".

WOW!



TV chef John Torode (right) had a kitchen nightmare last week when he accidentally set a tea towel on fire while cooking on live television! The chef was in the middle of making a homemade version of a McDonald's Egg McMuffin, for ITV's *This Morning*, when flames could be seen behind him! Fortunately, the chef stayed calm and dealt with it quickly. "I felt like a bit of a duffer," he said later.

A HELPING PAW!



RICOCHET the surfing dog is offering free virtual canine therapy sessions to healthcare workers.

While Ricochet is perhaps best known as a champion surfing dog, she's a pup of many talents, and can also provide support to those suffering from anxiety or depression.

Her website has a place where you can sign up for a video chat with Ricochet, along with a bunch of pictures of her lovely furry face – set to calming music to relax you.

Give it a try by heading to www.surfdogricochet.com.

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PROTECTING CHILDREN



GRETA Thunberg has teamed up with UNICEF for a new campaign to help protect vulnerable kids affected by coronavirus.

The environmental activist is giving UNICEF the $100,000 prize money she received from the Human Act Award 2020 for inspiring climate action. Danish organisation Human Act is matching her donation.

UNICEF says that all children, of all ages and in all countries, are being affected by the pandemic, either directly or from knock-on effects like food shortages, healthcare systems under great pressure, violence and lost education.

Money raised by the campaign will go towards UNICEF's emergency work to fight the coronavirus, including providing soap, masks, gloves, protective equipment, life-saving information and other healthcare, as well as educational supplies for children in more than 190 countries.

LOCAL HEROES

POPPY PEDALS FOR A GOOD CAUSE







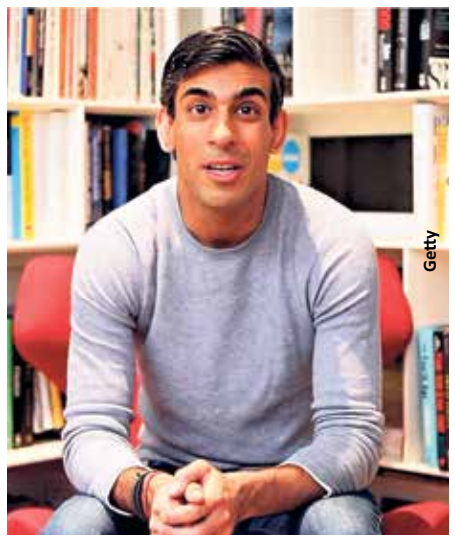
A FOUR-YEAR-OLD girl has cycled a mammoth 26 miles for charity.

Poppy Napthine has completed the huge journey over seven days to raise money for YMCA DownsLink Group, which tackles the issues of youth homelessness and provides a safe home to 1,400 young people across Surrey and Sussex.

So far, Poppy has raised more than £1,400 as part of the 2.6 challenge, which was set up to raise money for charities that will have lost out because the London Marathon was cancelled. Poppy admitted she had found going up hills hard and that she also liked to "stop for snacks". Us too!

Poppy's dad told us: "The family are really proud of her… I can't believe that she has cycled so far. It's a real positive that will come out of these times." Well done, Poppy!

E-BOOK BARGAIN



GOOD news, book fans. Chancellor Rishi Sunak has announced plans to make e-books cheaper.

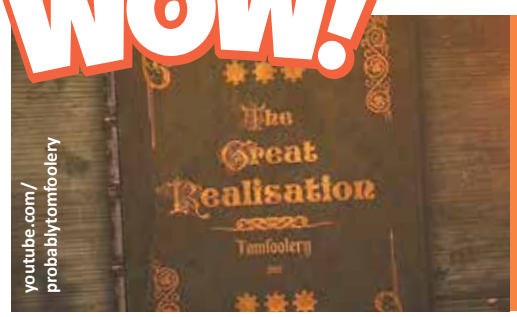
"These days, more and more people are reading books or magazines on their tablets or phones. My family love reading," the Chancellor told us. "Not only is it a great way to learn more about the world, it's also a fun thing to do while we're all staying indoors. *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls* is one of our favourites; full of profiles of inspiring women, we love to read them before bedtime.

"To help make it cheaper for you to read what you want, the Government will get rid of the tax on e-books, e-magazines and e-newspapers.

"This means it could be cheaper for you and your friends to buy a digital book or magazine, like a Percy Jackson or Harry Potter book."

What are you going to read first? Try to read it to the end though, as new research shows that only 5% of e-books are finished by more than 75% of readers!

WOW!



EVERYONE'S been talking about a lovely video poem about the coronavirus pandemic called *The Great Realisation*. Have you seen it?

Tomos Roberts's poem takes the form of a bedtime story being told in the future.

In it, a dad tells his sleepy son the story of The Great Realisation, about how the coronavirus caused everyone to rethink our priorities and make positive changes to how we live. Check it out at first.news/realisation.

TRACKING APP GETS ISLAND TRIAL

A NEW NHS app that tells you if you've come in contact with someone with coronavirus was due to be trialled this week on the Isle of Wight.

The 'contact tracing' app will alert people if they've been near someone who is later diagnosed with having coronavirus.

If they have, they could be asked to self-isolate or get tested so that, if they have caught the virus, they won't pass it on.

Contact tracing is already being used in countries including Germany and Hong Kong, and it's hoped it will prevent a second wave of the virus here.

The Isle of Wight will be the first place the app is used before it becomes available to the rest of the UK later this month.



Remember that the best way to protect yourself and other people is by staying home, and washing your hands regularly and thoroughly for at least 20 seconds.

For the latest, most accurate health advice, see:

- **tinyurl.com/whocv2019**
- **www.gov.uk/health-and-social-care**

20 THINGS TO KNOW AND TELL

QUICK NEWS TO READ YOURSELF AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS

1. PLANT MORE TREES

A study suggests that planting more trees in cities could be a life-saver. The research found that increasing tree coverage from 20% to 30% in a city of 1.5m people could prevent 400 deaths and save £3.2bn in health costs every year. Michelle Kondo, author of the study, said that "urban reforestation programmes are essential for improving public health".

2. CORONA HAIRDO


Getty

Martha Apisa and Stacy Ayuma are two friends living in the Kibera slums, the largest in Nairobi, Kenya. They have braided their hair to look like the coronavirus and spread awareness of the disease.

3. CURLEW COLLAPSE

The curlew, one of the UK's most endangered birds, has seen its numbers dwindle by 80% over three decades. Experts say that legal challenges protecting the killing of their predators, like foxes and crows, have accidentally harmed curlew populations.


Getty

4. HORSING AROUND

Every morning in the German city of Frankfurt, Anna Weischedel lets her horse Jenny out for a walk on her own. Jenny has strolled the streets for more than a decade and never caused a problem. In fact, locals love Jenny more than ever, as she is brightening up the coronavirus lockdown for everyone.


Getty

5. CURE FOR ANXIETY?

A protein that causes anxiety in humans has been discovered. Researchers found that people with obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) had up to six times more of the protein, nicknamed iMood. It is hoped that by lessening the effects of iMood, an effective way to treat mental illnesses like OCD could become available. The London researchers said trials could be carried out within the next five years.

6. DUMP DISASTER

A fire in the Dominican Republic has been raging for six days at the time of writing. It began in a landfill in the city's capital, Santo Domingo, and has been spewing harmful smoke.

7. BIG BOOK AWARD

The shortlist for the Branford Boase Award, which recognises the best debut children's authors, has been announced. See the picture below for the contenders – the winner will be announced in September.



8. POO PARK

Worried officials in the Swedish city of Lund dumped chicken poo in their parks last week, to stop people gathering for the festival of Walpurgis Night and spreading COVID-19.

9. WORLD MOOS

A few weeks ago, we told you about the UK town of Belper in Derbyshire, whose residents had started a nightly moo as a fun way to lift the town's spirits. Now cities as far away as India, Japan, the USA and Australia are copying the cattle chorus, with locals using moo-crophones and even didgeri-moos to make their bovine bellowing heard.

10. POTHOLE PROBLEMS

Holes in UK roads are causing damage to thousands of cars each year. In fact, since data collecting began in 2006, a driver is now one-and-a-half times more likely to break down because of potholes. The Government has said it will spend £2.5bn over the next five years to repair an estimated 50m potholes in the UK.

11. SIZEABLE SOUP

The city of Julián Augusto Saldívar in Paraguay celebrated May Day by hosting the biggest soup kitchen in the country. Volunteers fed some 7,000 vulnerable people by cooking up these giant pots of soup.


Getty

12. PUSH-UP PRO

An Australian fitness fanatic has pushed his way into the record books by performing 2,806 push-ups in a single hour. Jarrad Young beat the previous record by 124 push-ups.

13. CREATIVE WRITING

An online writing programme has been set up for kids aged 7-12. Daily Writers' Club offers 20-minute bursts of writing fun every day. Just visit dailywritersclub.com to find out more.

14. ROBOT GREETERS


Getty

Japan is using hotels to house patients with mild COVID-19 symptoms, so that hospital beds can be freed up for more severe cases. At a hospital in Tokyo, patients will be greeted by a robot called Pepper (above left). Another robot, Whiz (above right), will be cleaning up communal areas to reduce infection risks for staff.

15. KIM JONG UNCOVERED

There was speculation recently that Kim Jong-un, the leader of North Korea, was unwell. He had not been seen for a while, but after a three-week absence, the controversial figure appeared in public for the opening of a fertiliser factory.

16. SNIFF TEST HOPES

A sniff test for patients in a vegetative state (a state of unconsciousness where people do not respond) could be an early sign that a patient's condition will improve. Out of 43 tested patients, the ten who showed some kind of response to strong smells like rotten fish and sweet shampoo later regained consciousness. Dr Anat Arzi, who led the research, said: "In some cases, [a sniff response] was the only sign that their brain was going to recover – and we saw it days, weeks and even months before any other signs."

17. SPEEDY SPACE ROCK

A mile-wide asteroid raced past the Earth last week at around 19,000mph. The space rock orbits the sun every three years but shouldn't come as close to the Earth again until 2079.

18. LOOSE GOOSE

There was an unusual sight at York train station recently. A goose settled down in the flower beds of the station entrance and laid an egg! Police said they will leave the goose alone while the normally busy station is unattended.


BTP North Yorks/Twitter

19. NOT SO FUNNY

Clowns in Mexico are protesting in full costume and face masks. They are demanding government aid, as COVID-19 restrictions mean they can't work on the streets as usual.


Getty

20. LEGO GLASTONBURY

With Glastonbury music festival being cancelled, two friends from Cheshire decided to recreate their own version… with LEGO! Jono Oakes and Adam Hardman recreated the festival's Pyramid stage and crowd. Their performances have received millions of views on social media.


Adam Hardman/Facebook

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FirstNews is even better in print!

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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ALXA, CHINA



A PINK lake in the Badain Jaran Desert. There are two theories to explain the particular colour of the lake: either special minerals in the water; or brine shrimp, a tiny creature that lives in salty lakes like this one.

INDIANA, USA



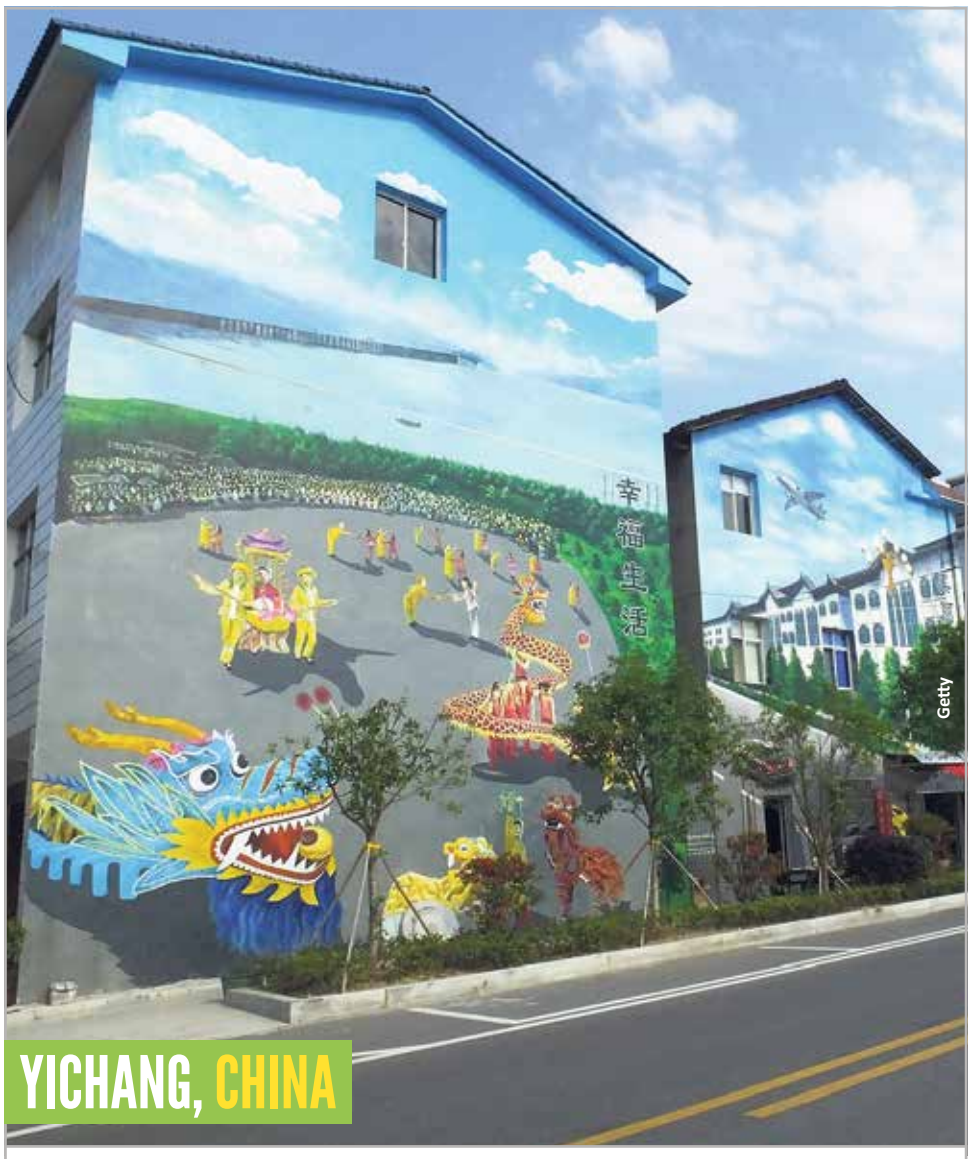
BETTY the cat has become an internet star after she appeared in one of her owner's at-home weather forecasts. Since the lockdown in America, Jeff Lyons has been recording his weather reports from his dining room. After Betty popped in one day during recording, Jeff's boss suggested he put the cat on air with him – and a star was born.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



THE first swimmers run into the water as Bronte Beach is reopened. Beaches across the country are opening up, with special social distancing rules and time restrictions in place.

YICHANG, CHINA



HOUSES painted with pictures showing stories of the residents' lives.

DUMFRIES, SCOTLAND



DURING the weekly clap for carers, a double rainbow appeared over Whauphill. Officers from the local Roads Policing Unit captured the beautiful sight and posted it to Twitter.



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UK

Cash for charities

Harry Potter author JK Rowling has donated £1m to two UK charities. Half will go to Crisis, which helps homeless people get back on their feet, while the other half will be given to Refuge, a charity that supports victims of domestic abuse.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Rowing records

Seventy-two-year-old Graham Walters has broken three records by rowing across the Atlantic. His 3,000-mile journey began on the island of Gran Canaria, and he arrived on the Caribbean island of Antigua 13 weeks later, on 29 April. Walters is now the oldest person to row across the Atlantic – as well as any ocean – and is also the oldest person to cross the same ocean multiple times.


grahamwalters72/ Facebook

BRISTOL

WW2 bunkers found

Bunkers from World War 2 have been discovered under four Bristol primary schools in the last year. Two of the bunkers have already been filled in and the other two will be made safe at a cost of £75,000. The bunkers were used as shelters to protect people from bombing in the early 1940s.

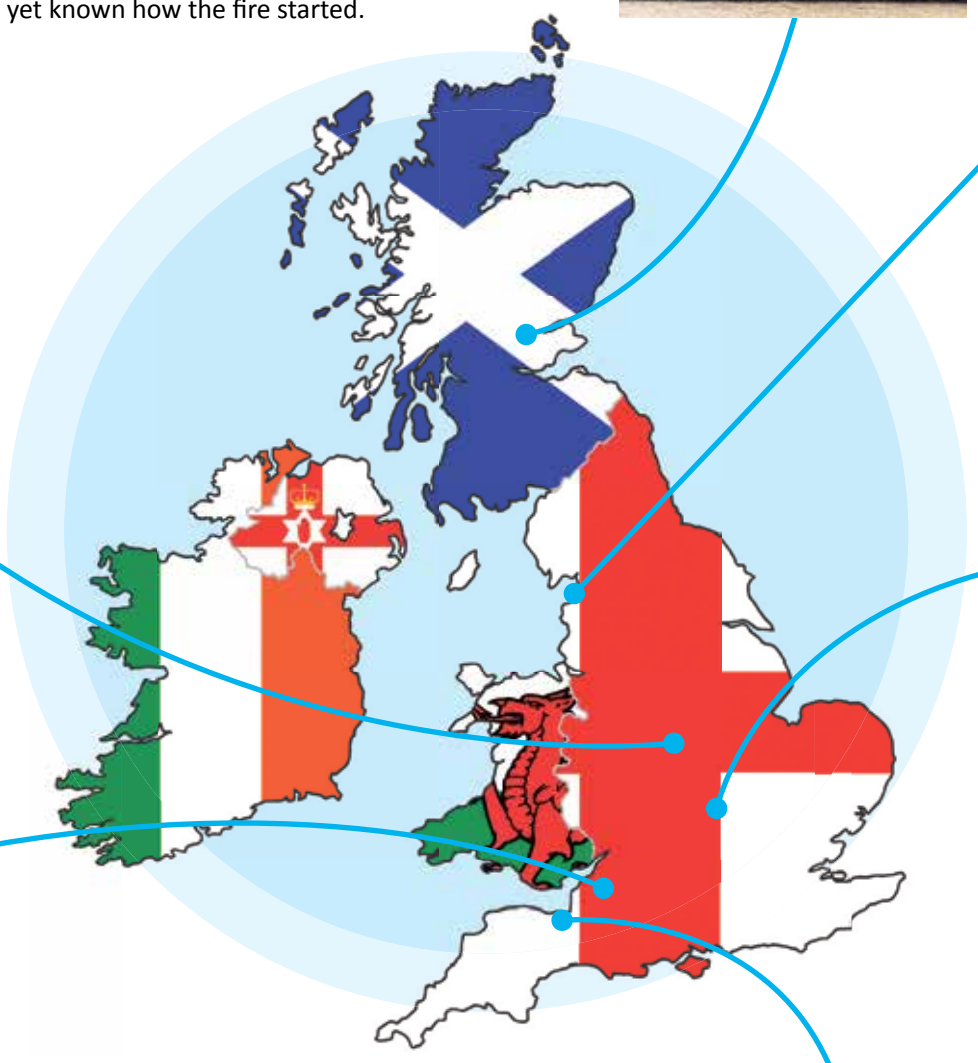

Bristol City Council

PERTH AND KINROSS

Fire threatens wildlife

A huge blaze has erupted along the reed beds of the River Tay. The area is a nature reserve, and rare breeding birds such as marsh harriers and bearded tits nest among the reeds. Police told people to stay inside and close their windows to avoid the smoke. It took lots of firefighters and a helicopter dumping water several hours to put out the blaze. It's not yet known how the fire started.


JViegend18/Twitter



SOMERSET

Meadows give bees a boost

An endangered species of bee has been helped to thrive thanks to two "exemplary" (very good) UK sites, says the National Trust. Lytes Cary Manor in Somerset and Rainham Marshes in Essex have helped the shrill carder bee recover. Since the 1950s, 97% of the UK's wildflower meadows have disappeared, causing problems for many bee species. Wild bees are important as they pollinate plants, which means they move pollen from one plant to another, which allows lots of flowers, fruits and vegetables to grow.


Bumblebee Conservation Trust Daisy Headley

LANCASHIRE


bigkidcircus/Facebook

The show must go on!

A group of 25 Cuban circus performers stuck in the UK are performing their shows online. The Big Kid Circus troupe were due to begin their tour in Morecambe when lockdown restrictions began, so they have been living in their trailers since March. They have been helped by, and now help, the Morecambe Bay Foodbank. Their shows can be watched online in return for donations.

MILTON KEYNES



VE Day stamp surprise

Last issue, we gave you the chance to win a set of stamps marking 75 years since the end of World War 2, but one woman was shocked to see her younger self in one of the Royal Mail's commemorative stamps. Ninety-year-old Bette Williamson (on the right, behind the US flag) was just 14 when she posed for the pic. Describing the historic day, she told the BBC: "The atmosphere was electric, you kissed and hugged everyone, it was wonderful. We're in a similar war spirit now, everyone coming together to help one another and it's lovely to see."

NEWS IN NUMBERS

30 nights have been spent in a tent by siblings William and Sophie Lacey. At the time of writing, they have raised £2,440 for Treetops Hospice Care in Derbyshire by camping in their garden.



14 gloves pinched by a cheeky cat are being offered back to their owners. Vikki Maddocks, from Belper, said her cat Elmo "drops them at my feet and looks at me, really proud". It's not the first time we've brought you strange goings-on from Belper. The town also has the Belper Moo, where residents moo every evening, and there's new moos about that on p4.


Vikki Maddocks/Facebook

£120,000 has been donated to Severn Hospice after a couple sold their house in a charity prize draw. Nigel and Jane Chaloner are looking to get a smaller home for their retirement. They sold raffle tickets for £2 each to give people a chance to win their home, and gave £120,000 to the hospice.

FirstNews ● Issue 725 ● 8 – 14 May 2020

GREEN RECORD


Getty

HAPPY NEWS

BRITAIN has gone for the longest period without using coal to create electricity since the Victorian times.

The lockdown has meant that most factories, businesses, schools, shops and restaurants are closed, so there's less demand for electricity. The recent sunny and windy weather has also meant higher levels of renewable power, so coal-fired stations weren't needed to supply the grid.

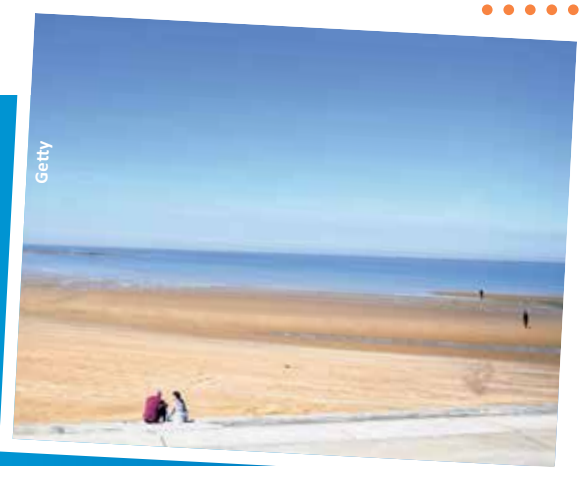
The public electricity grid was established in 1882. The previous longest period without coal supplying the grid was set last June and lasted 18 days, 6 hours and 10 minutes, but that was broken on 28 April this year and was still ongoing as we went to press.

That's great news for the environment but now, according to new research by Bloomberg NEF, solar and onshore wind power are also the cheapest new sources of electricity for most of the world. Globally, prices for wind and solar energy are around 50% less than they were just two years ago.

In times like these, we feel that the world needs to be reminded that it's not all doom and gloom out there! That's why we're promoting Happy News! If you like this story, and want some more positivity in your life, head to first.news/happynews now!

WOW!

THE Met Office says the UK had its sunniest April since records began in 1929! Britain had an average of 224.5 hours of sunshine this April, which beat the 2015 record of 211.9 hours. Although the sun may have cheered us up, it's also sadly an indicator of climate change.


Getty

BEES IN A BOTHER

A DEADLY virus is spreading through the bee population in England and Wales, killing entire colonies.

A study by a team of researchers from Newcastle University has found that the viral disease, known as chronic bee paralysis virus (CBPV), has risen alarmingly since 2007, when it was only recorded in Lincolnshire. Data collected from 24,000 visits to beekeepers in the UK from 2007-2017 found the virus in 39 counties in England and six in Wales. The huge increase in the spread of the disease is a great worry, as it can wipe out an entire colony in just a week. Further studies are now focusing on the best way to keep bees and bee colonies healthy.

The full report was published in the scientific journal *Nature Communications*.


iStock

EDITOR'S COMMENT



TODAY (Friday 8 May) is the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

It's an irony that, during the Second World War, people had to stay indoors because of bombing. And, 75 years later, we are staying at home again because of a very different world war – with the coronavirus that has swept across the globe. We came through WW2 together and we will come through this together, too.

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GOOD WEEK FOR...


iStock

LUNGS

ACCORDING to public health charity ASH, at least 300,000 people have quit smoking due to concerns over coronavirus and the increased risk the virus can cause to smokers. A further 550,000 people are said to have tried to quit and 2.4 million have cut down.

BAD WEEK FOR...


Getty

ELON MUSK

THE billionaire tech entrepreneur managed to wipe over £10 billion off the value of his own company, Tesla, when he tweeted that he thought the share price was too expensive. Oops!


Colombian farmers collecting coffee beans
iStock

SPREADING FAIRNESS

TOMORROW (Saturday 9 May) is World Fair Trade Day, but what's it all about?

Organised by the World Fair Trade Organization, the aim of the day is to celebrate and raise awareness of fair trade and encourage everyone to become fair and ethical (doing the right thing) consumers. Fair trade is a system that helps to improve pay and working conditions for farmers and other workers in poorer countries, so that they get a fair price for what they produce.

Fair trade groups also help to make sure that no child labour is used, and that women and minorities are treated equally. The fair trade movement also promotes respect for the environment, so that businesses look after the planet as well as people.

CANADA

Assault weapon ban



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has announced a complete ban on "military-grade" assault weapons, following the deadliest mass shooting in Canadian history, when 22 people died. "These weapons were designed for one purpose and one purpose only: to kill the largest number of people in the shortest amount of time," said Trudeau. "There is no use and no place for such weapons in Canada." Those who already own assault weapons will be given the opportunity to hand over their guns, which the government will give a "fair amount" of money for.

USA

"Murder hornets" arrive in US

The Asian giant hornet has been spotted in the state of Washington for the first time, with newspapers giving the insect an attention-grabbing name: 'the murder hornet'. The arrival of the creature has caused alarm in every country that it's been spotted in, including the UK. The Asian giant hornet is about the size of an adult's thumb and, while dangerous to humans, it is much more scary to European honeybees, who fall prey to the hornet's long stinger and powerful venom.

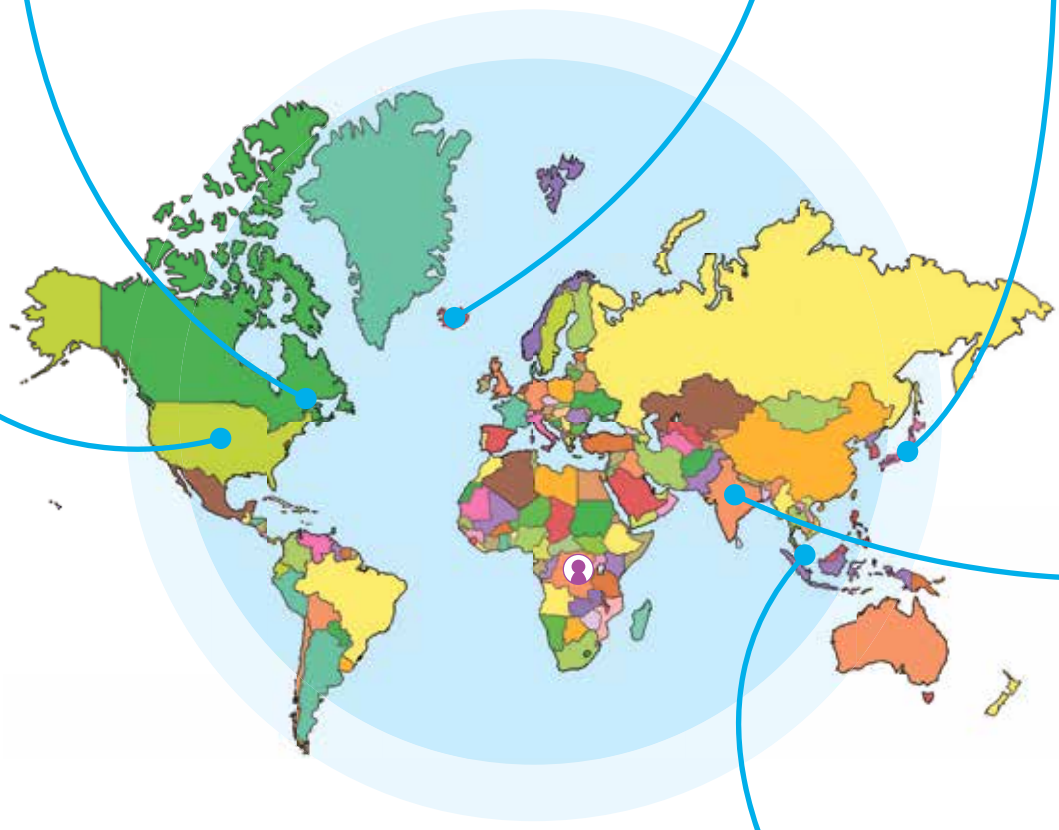


ICELAND

Deadlift record broken

Actor and strongman Hafthor Bjornsson, 31, has beaten the world deadlift record, after lifting 501kg for two seconds. The previous record was held by British man Eddie Hall, who lifted 500kg – which he said "nearly killed him". While no doubt impressive, Bjornsson's half-a-tonne haul faces controversy. Some of his rivals believe that he should have broken the record at an official strongman event, rather than in his home gym.





MALAYSIA

Migrant arrests



Malaysian police have arrested hundreds of undocumented migrants (those without permission to stay) to "stop the spread of COVID-19", and "to ensure that they did not move around and spread the disease." The UN says the arrests could make the coronavirus outbreak in Malaysia worse, as there may be a spread of the infection inside the camps where the migrants are to be held. It also may make undocumented people less likely to co-operate, or even go into hiding to avoid the police.

JAPAN

Anxious eels

The eels at Tokyo's Sumida Aquarium appear to have forgotten what people are like because of lockdown. So, when workers pass the creatures, the eels have been burrowing their heads in the sand. This means that staff can't check whether the eels are healthy, or find out if they're thin or ill. To try to remind the eels of just how friendly humans are, the aquarium hosted a "face-showing festival", where people from around the world could video-call the creatures to say hello! The only request from the aquarium was that callers do not yell loudly at the anxious eels.



INDIA

Flamingo takeover

India's lockdown has meant that air, noise and light pollution across the country has dropped dramatically. In Mumbai, this has meant that the usually polluted city has been over-run by flamingos! It's not unusual for flamingos to be seen in Mumbai, but it is rare for so many to arrive at once.



OUR WORLD

NAME: GIFT
LIVES: DRC

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

FOUR years ago, Gift was forced to flee war in his homeland of South Sudan.

His father was killed in the fighting and he lost contact with his mother. Now aged 15, Gift lives with his uncle in a refugee settlement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He taught himself French so that he could go to school (French is the official language) and was soon top of his class. He even designed his own torch, made out of spare parts from a broken solar lamp, so he could study at night when the electricity in his settlement goes off.

Gift knows he is lucky: 92% of secondary-age refugee children from South Sudan do not go to school. "The war makes a lot of people suffer – I had to quit school because of the war," he told the UNHCR. "When I found out I was going back, it made me happy. There should be a way for everyone to study."



UNHCR

BAREFOOT BETTER?



A NEW study says that modern running shoes are actually doing more harm than good.

The research, published in the *British Medical Journal*, suggests we might all be better off running barefoot rather than using certain types of trainer. It concludes that we were much less likely to get hurt before cushioned running shoes became all the rage.

Led by Dr Peter Francis of Leeds Beckett University, the study found that a staggering 35-50% of runners are injured at any one time.

The five most common injuries all take place below the knee. According to Dr Francis, that's because shoes have changed the way we move and have developed more quickly than humans have evolved. Since the 1970s, a lot of running shoes include cushioning and support for our foot's arch, which the new study says can lead to a "disconnect" between our feet and our brain, which puts us at risk of injury.

Running barefoot could be the way we reduce getting hurt. But, of course, that isn't always possible or safe. So the study recommends that, for those who cannot run barefoot, "minimalist shoes" (basic ones) may help to rebuild strength in the areas of the foot that barefoot runners would use.

THE TWO Rs



The coronavirus can spread rapidly if its R value is not kept very low

YOU might have heard a lot in the past week about the 'R' number and a drug called remdesivir. So what's all the fuss about?

The R number has been talked about a lot lately in relation to relaxing the lockdown. Also known simply as R or the "effective reproduction number", it's a way for scientists to monitor a disease's ability to spread.

R is the average number of people who one infected person will pass the virus on to. It's vital that R stays below one, because if it rises above that, the virus will spread faster and faster. The closer to zero it is, the slower the virus is spreading. As *First News* went to press, the Government's scientific advisers say that R is between 0.6 and 0.9.

If R stays below one, the epidemic should eventually die down – though it takes time, and without social distancing and other measures, R can quickly rise again.

When the COVID-19 epidemic started, scientists think R was between 2-3. To give you an idea how that compares with other diseases, measles' R number is thought to be 12-18. That's why it's so important that people are vaccinated against measles – it spreads really quickly and easily.



Another 'r' has been in the news a lot lately, and that's the drug remdesivir (right). It was originally developed to treat Ebola, and works by stopping a virus from multiplying inside the body. In the US, the agency that controls the medicines doctors are allowed to use has issued an emergency approval so that it can be used to treat people with COVID-19. President Trump has been hyping it up, but is it all it's cracked up to be?

Perhaps not. A study of 237 adults in Wuhan, China, found it "did not provide significant benefits" over a placebo (a substance given to a patient in a trial that has no physical effect on them). The study may also not be as accurate as was hoped. That's because it was stopped early after scientists were unable to recruit enough patients due to the steep fall in COVID-19 cases in China.

CELEBRATING SPACE HEROES



Mae Jemison, the first black woman to travel into space

A NEW app has been released that allows you to "meet" women who have led the way in space science.

Called *Reach Across the Stars: A Universe of Explorers*, it's a free augmented reality (AR) app developed entirely by women at the US space agency NASA and the Smithsonian Institution (a group of American museums).

According to its makers, the app will allow users "to explore the universe, and unlock the often-overlooked stories of women and their contributions to space exploration and science".

Pioneering women and their work are featured in one-to-two-minute stories and longer "journeys". You can get a 3D look at their work environments too. Some of those featured include computer scientist Grace Hopper (right), astronomer Nancy Roman, mathematician Katherine Johnson, physicist and chemist Marie Curie, and astronauts Mae Jemison and Sally Ride.



The app also features a 3D journey to Mars, which sounds like a much safer way of visiting the Red Planet!

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

INNOVATIONS

SCIENTISTS at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden have found that wearing weighted vests can reduce human body weight and fat mass.

Some 69 people with a body mass index (BMI) of 30-35, the lowest level of obesity, took part in the study. For three weeks, they all wore heavy vests, some weighing as much as 11kg, for eight hours a day.

Those who wore the heavier vests lost 1.6kg in weight, while those wearing the light vests shed 0.3kg.



Scientists concluded the body may have a form of "in-built scales". If these "scales" note a sudden change in weight, they trick the body into reducing a person's appetite so that they eat less, and therefore lose weight.

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

This report is from our friends at the National Railway Museum



IN the early 19th century, British engineer George Stephenson developed locomotives for use across Britain.

His designs became so popular that the track width used by his locomotives quickly became one of the standards for railways all over the world.

Track width for the railways is known as the rail gauge. It is the distance between one rail and the other.

Many engineers who developed their own locomotives used different track widths to Stephenson's design, including Isambard Kingdom Brunel, who developed a wider locomotive that travelled between London and Bristol.

But while rail gauges vary all over the world, from very narrow to much wider, Stephenson's 19th-century design is still one of the most popular in use today.

HELPING HEDGEHOGS



iStock

DURING Hedgehog Awareness week (3-9 May) the British Hedgehog Preservation Society has been asking people to think about hedgehogs and how we can help them while we are spending more time at home.

Hedgehogs are one of the UK's native species, but sadly their numbers are falling quickly. As more houses and building developments take over green spaces around the UK, hedgehogs are finding it harder and harder to survive.

Why not ask your family if you could help hedgehogs in your area by trying these five easy things?

1. Make 13cm (5in) square holes at the bottom of fences or walls. This makes sure hedgehogs have access to neighbouring gardens or wild spaces, creating a hedgehog highway!

2. Create a log pile, which will provide both shelter and food for hedgehogs.

3. If you know there is a hedgehog in your garden, offer them meaty cat or dog food in the garden at night. You can create a simple feeding station so the food isn't stolen by cats and foxes!

4. Leave shallow bowls of water in the garden for them to drink. A bowl of water can be a lifesaver in hot, dry weather.

5. Build a hedgehog home for them to nest in and use as a nursery.

You can find instructions on how to build a hedgehog feeding station or hedgehog home at **britishhedgehogs.org.uk**.

LION LOOKOUT



Edinburgh Zoo

EDINBURGH Zoo has launched a live webcam so that wildlife fans can get to know their eight-month-old Asiatic lion cubs.

Alison MacLean, the animal team leader at Edinburgh Zoo, said: "Our playful Asiatic lion cubs, Mitaali, Keshari and Kushanu, love exploring outside with mum Roberta and dad Jayendra and are getting bigger and more adventurous every day. It is really exciting to be able to livestream their antics to viewers at home."

Asiatic lions can only be found in the Gir Forest in India, with only an estimated 350 animals left in the wild. Their numbers have declined because of poaching, loss of habitat and conflict with humans.

Edinburgh Zoo has launched a number of live webcams in recent months, allowing people to watch animals like Sumatran tigers, koalas, rockhopper penguins and the zoo's giant panda, Yang Guang.

Since zoos closed their doors in March, many of them have been relying on donations from supporters to help feed their animals.

You can see the webcams for yourselves at **edinburghzoo.org.uk/webcams**.

CORAL BREAKTHROUGH



A ridged cactus coral (left) and its larvae (right)

Florida Aquarium

THE Florida Aquarium has made history by becoming the first to reproduce ridged cactus coral in captivity.

Video and photographs of the ridged cactus coral larvae – and the moment they are spawned [released into the water] – have been captured for the first time ever. The aquarium has now successfully reproduced eight species of coral.

"These advances give us hope that the round-the-clock work we are doing will make a difference to help conserve this species and save these animals from extinction," said Florida Aquarium senior coral scientist Keri O'Neil.

The work is part of a collaboration between the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service, which aims to save the Florida Reef Tract from extinction. The Florida Reef Tract spreads across 270km but is under threat, just like many coral reefs around the world.

UNDERSTANDING HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT CORONAVIRUS


iStock

THE new coronavirus, which causes the disease known as COVID-19, has been affecting people across the world. For the past six weeks, everyone in the UK has been required to stay at home to stop the spread of the virus. This means that you can only go out for essential things like food and medicine, or to exercise once a day.

How do the children and young people who are contacting Childline feel?


iStock

Childline is a free helpline for children and teenagers that is run by children's charity the NSPCC. It is there to provide support and advice about whatever is on your mind. Since the end of January, Childline has delivered 2,789 counselling sessions about the coronavirus.

Many of those who have reached out to Childline are struggling with their mental health and emotional wellbeing, and have talked about feeling lonely, isolated and anxious because of the pandemic.


iStock

Schools across the country have been closed since March

What are they telling Childline?

Childline is hearing from lots of children about the impact of school closures, with many saying that they are missing their friends and teachers, as well as struggling to keep up with schoolwork.

Now that everyone is spending more time at home, children are speaking about family problems such as arguments, with some young people who don't feel safe at home reaching out for support.

Young people are also telling Childline that they are worried about the wellbeing of their parents, who may be under additional financial pressure, as well as young carers struggling to look after their siblings when their parents have become ill.


iStock


Children are now connecting with family members, teachers and friends via computers and tablets

iStock

What can you do if you have any concerns about the virus?


iStock

Wendy Robinson, manager of the NSPCC's Childline base in London, has this advice for any young person worried about the coronavirus.

"It's very normal to feel worried. You may be concerned about your friends and your family, as well as school closures, but there are things you can do to help yourself cope.

"You may find there is lots of information out there that is confusing and overwhelming, so try to only read websites you know and trust, like Newsround or the NHS. It's also important to ask a trusted adult any questions you may have.

"It can be helpful to keep talking to your friends and family online, or letting your feelings out and sharing your worries with an adult. It is also important to maintain a healthy routine, and keep busy with schoolwork or hobbies. While the internet is a great way to stay in touch with people, it's important that you understand how to stay safe online. When online, only talk to people you know and always tell someone you trust if you have any worries."

If you would prefer not to speak to an adult you know, you can speak to Childline online or by phone between 9am and midnight. Visit childline.org.uk, call 0800 11 11 or download the *For Me* app. The Childline website is available at all times, and has resources like the Calm Zone to help you relax, a mood journal for you to let your feelings out, and the Art Box for your creative side.



25

CELEBRATING
25 YEARS OF
CHANGING LIVES

GET YOUR SCHOOL INVOLVED WITH JEANS FOR GENES DAY

MON 14 – SUN 20 SEPT

1 in 25 children in the UK are born with a life-altering genetic disorder.

Ask your teacher or school council if your school can hold a Jeans for Genes Day and help us provide vital care, equipment and support for children like Bianca.

Meet Bianca

Bianca, 8, was born with the genetic disorder Pfeiffer syndrome which affects the development of her skull and the bones in her hands and feet. She has had nine surgeries including two operations on her skull to allow her brain to grow. Bianca loves to dance at her ballet class.

Sign-up for your digital fundraising kit, packed full of ideas including some great home-based and virtual fundraisers at jeansforgenes.org

Select your fundraising day whether you are back at school or still at home, and remember if you can't make 14-20 Sept you can hold your Jeans for Genes Day at any time!

GENETIC DISORDERS UK

Jeans for Genes ® and ™, © Genetic Disorders UK.
Registered Charity Number 1141583

TABLE FOR ONE?



All pics: Linda Karlsson/Bord för en



A POP-UP restaurant in Sweden has taken social distancing to a whole new level.

The restaurant consists of one table and a chair in the middle of a field in Värmland, Sweden. Bord för en, which translates as 'table for one', opens this week and will be serving a maximum of one person a day until August. There are no waiters to take your order, so the three-course meal will be delivered in a basket down a rope that starts in the kitchen and ends at your table.

Rasmus Persson and Linda Karlsson came up with the idea after visiting Linda's parents. Rasmus used to be a chef and he delivered his in-laws' lunch through a window to keep socially distant.

"[We thought] we should make this available for everyone," said Linda. "It will be the only COVID-19-safe restaurant in the world. We want to encourage people to sit down and spend quality time with themselves."

BARMY BET



Getty

A CANADIAN man who lost almost £300,000 on a game of rock, paper, scissors has had his debts cancelled.

Edmund Mark Hooper lost in a best-of-three game to Michel Primeau in January 2011. The unwise gambler risked losing his house over the crazy bet, but he has been saved by the Quebec Court of Appeal. The decision by the court hinged on whether rock, paper, scissors was a game of luck or skill, as well as if the bet was for an "excessive" amount.

According to Quebec law, a contract for a bet must involve an activity that requires "skill or bodily exertion [effort] on the part of the parties" instead of just luck. An earlier 2017 court judgment said that there could be some skill involved in rock, paper, scissors, but that the bet was for an excessive amount. The Court of Appeal has agreed that the amount was excessive, but also said that rock, paper, scissors mostly relies on luck.

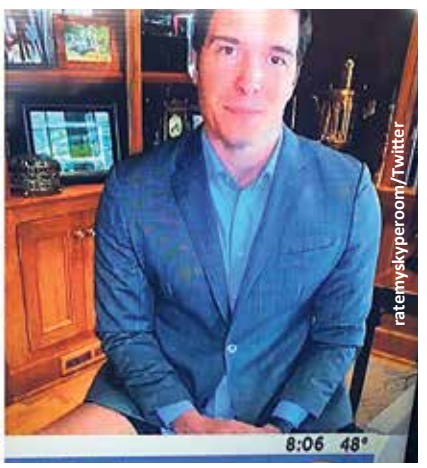


WHICH DOG ALWAYS KNOWS THE TIME?
A WATCH-DOG!

WHY DID THE DOG SIT NEXT TO THE RADIATOR?
HE WANTED TO BE A HOT DOG!

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





ratemyskyperoom/Twitter

TROUSER TROUBLES

WITH lots of meetings being conducted from home over the internet, there have been lots of jokes that you only need to be dressed from the waist up. But one news reporter got caught out on live TV!

Will Reeve (son of Christopher Reeve, who played Superman in the 1970s and 80s) was appearing on TV news show *Good Morning America*. When he finished his report, the caption at the bottom of the screen disappeared, showing that he wasn't wearing trousers.

Reeve later said that it wasn't his pants that you could see, but a pair of short shorts. He claimed he was trying to be efficient by dressing his bottom half for a workout straight after his news report.

"Hope everyone got a much needed laugh!" he tweeted.

MONEY BOX DOG



moneyboxdog/Instagram

I am not amused...



moneyboxdog/Instagram

A GOLDEN retriever who had an accident with hair clippers looks like a Guide Dogs for the Blind money box!

Rachel Sharpe was trimming her husband's beard when their one-year-old son got upset by the noise of the clippers. Rachel put them near their dog Evie to show that she wasn't scared.

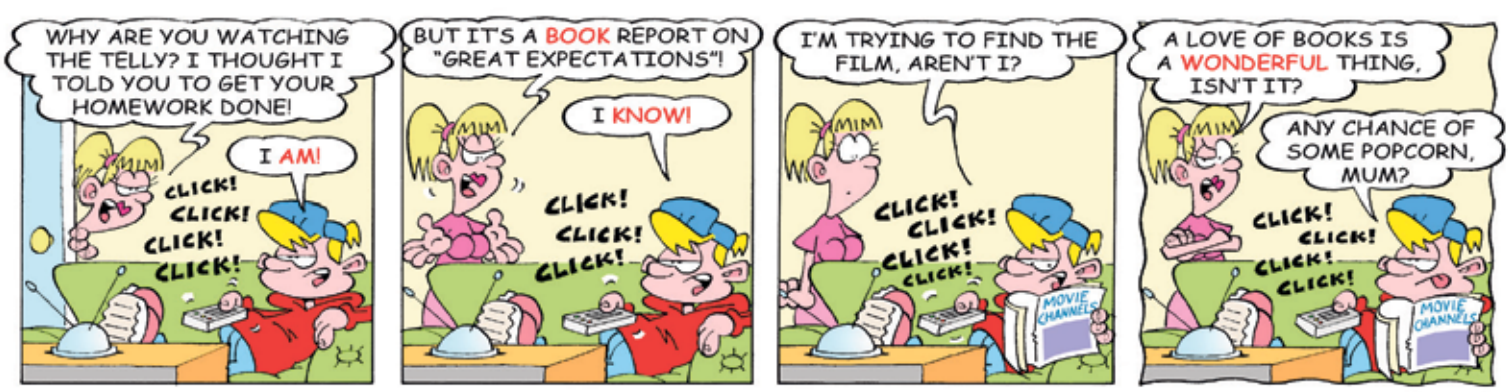


GuideDogsNW/Twitter

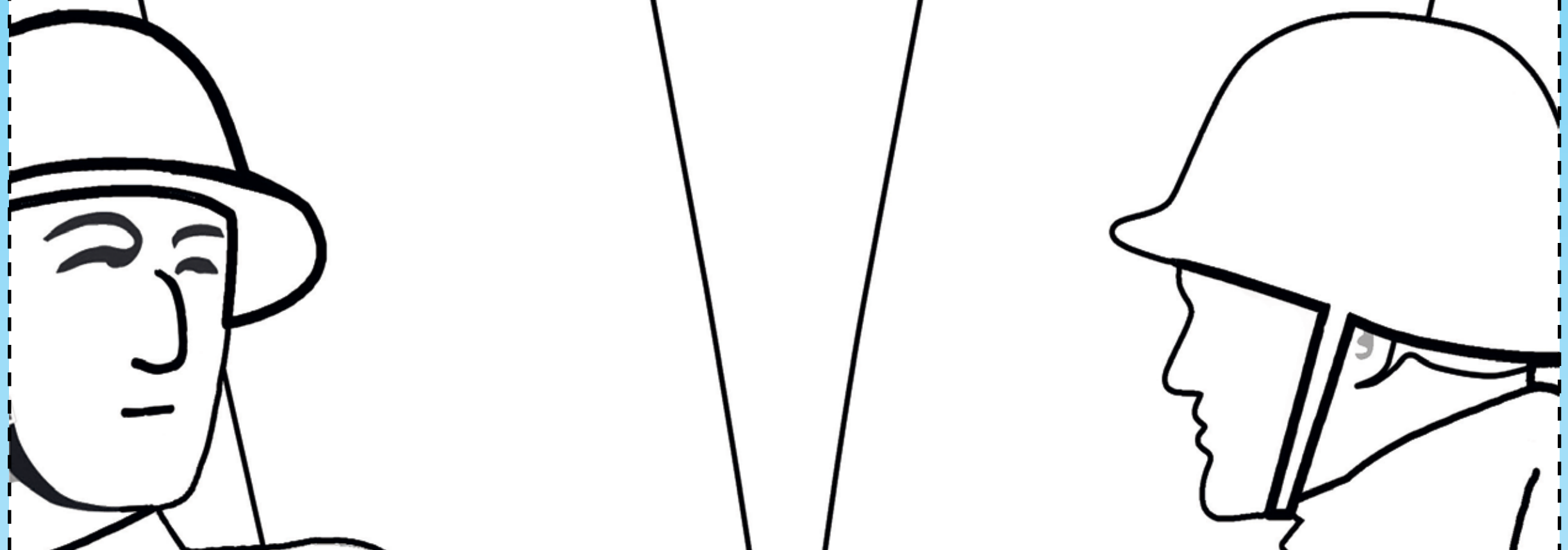
Sadly, eager Evie headbutted the clippers and got a chunk of fur shaved from the middle of her head! Rachel said: "Evie has been left with the perfect shape of a piggy bank on the top of her head. [She] looked at me like: 'What have you just done?'"



Written and illustrated by Paul Palmer



VE Day 75



#CelebrateThem



USA IN UK

VE DAY ACTIVITY

Colour in and display this poster in your front window to help remember and celebrate the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, VE Day.

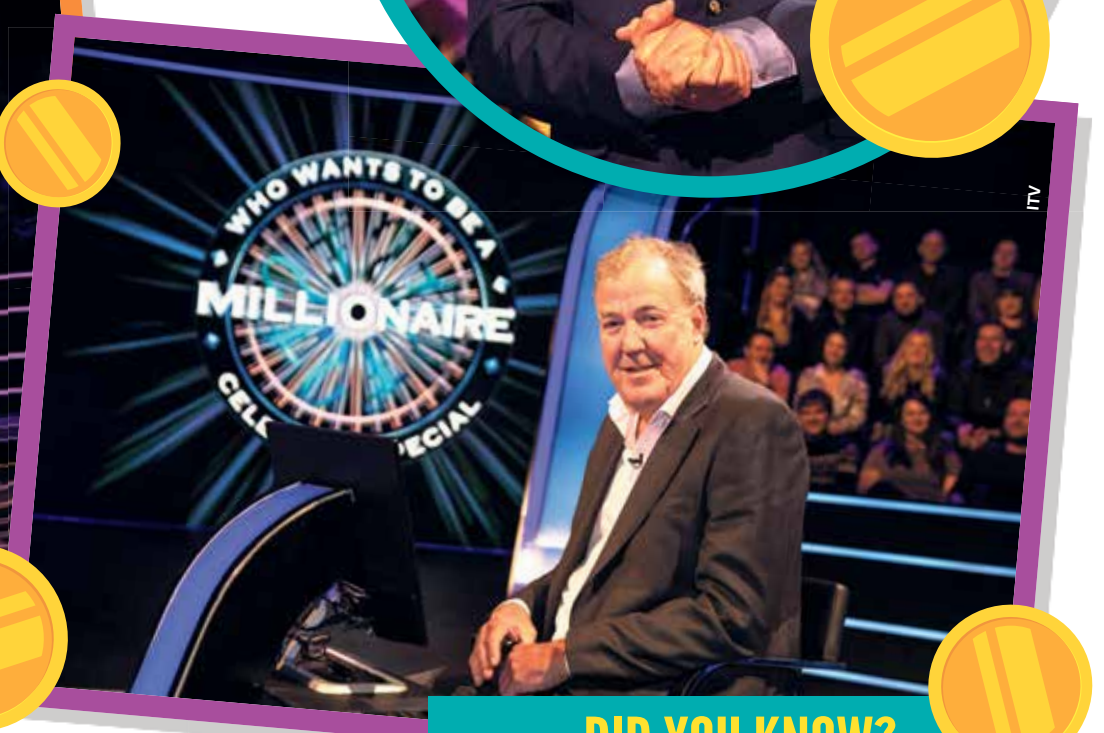
Share the poster online using **#CelebrateThem**

FirstNews ● Issue 725 ● 8 – 14 May 2020

QUIZ MASTER

THIS week a brand-new series of famous quiz show *Who Wants to Be A Millionaire?* is back on our screens. We chatted to quizmaster Jeremy Clarkson.







● What have viewers got to look forward to this series?

It's well worth watching. There are some really good, uplifting moments this series. When you watch someone who is doing really well, and you feel deserves the money, I'm just willing them on.

● What do you think are the qualities that make a good *Millionaire* contestant?

A photographic memory, that seems to be the most important thing. You have to be able to look at the dates of every king and queen and be able to remember them. Rather than allow it to dribble out of the chin! That would be a very useful attribute to have.

● And if you can take some risks as well?

Well, if you know things then you don't have to take risks. But risk-taking makes you popular on television.

● How much information do you remember after coming across it on the show?

Well, I know the *Yellow Pages* has ceased production, but I can't remember the year! It's useless information that I retain, because I can't remember the important bit of it.

● Do you think you've become more intelligent?

Knowing things doesn't make you intelligent. You can know nothing at all – a dolphin knows nothing at all and is quite intelligent. Intelligence is the ability to look at point A and point B and then make an opinion out of those two things. That is what makes you intelligent! Knowing when the Battle of Agincourt was doesn't make you intelligent, but knowing the effects of the Battle of Agincourt does. I know lots of people who know a lot of things but it doesn't necessarily mean they're intelligent.



Dolphins wouldn't be good on *Millionaire* – but that doesn't mean they're not intelligent!

● What do you think is the most difficult part of your role?

The usual boring television stuff… remembering not to dribble! Simple things like that. I think television presenters have a particularly easy ride; I don't think we have any difficult bits. Oh, actually, I know what is difficult for me: I've never worked with an autocue and I can't read it from a long way away because of my failing eyesight!

● What other quizzes do you enjoy watching?

BBC's *Pointless*. It's a nicely-paced game show. If you're watching it with a friend or family, you've got time like you have on *Millionaire* to discuss among yourselves what you think the answer is. That is the cleverness of it.

● What is the best advice you could give to someone who is hoping to come and play the game?

Don't waste my time! If you think you might be a bit stupid, just don't bother making the phone call. Don't waste my time, don't waste the viewers' time and don't waste our time. There is one man in the current series, and that is the type of contestant we like. We're looking for great contestants with great stories who we want to get behind and we want them to do well. Everybody likes to see somebody they like have good fortune. That is all we want. Likeable people who know lots of stuff!

● In these slightly odd days on lockdown, how are you spending your time?

I'm farming. Getting up at 6am and driving tractors until the sun goes down. And then continuing to drive them, as they've got headlights! I'm creating a new wetland area for insects and lizards and voles. But I've got a thousand acres to farm. Unfortunately I can't just sit and watch the insects. But I will say my potatoes are very lovely and my broad beans will be ready soon!

DID YOU KNOW?

***Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* has been on the air in the UK since 1998, and there have been more than 600 episodes of the show!**



***Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* returns to ITV from 10 May at 7pm**

PICS OF THE WEEK

KIDZ Bop have teamed up with their fans to create their new music video.

The video for *Dance Monkey – Home Edition* features the Kidz Bop kids and families from around the UK joining in with the dance routine. The video is in partnership with the Youth Sport Trust, which is encouraging families to stay active during the coronavirus lockdown.

The band have also launched the Kidz Bop Daily Dance Break, a different dance routine to learn every weekday, which is posted on their social media channels, and a Kidz Bop livestream on their YouTube channel every Wednesday. Why don't you and your family join in this week?







THIS WEEK

1 Anthony Horowitz is calling on his fans to help him write his next book. The best-selling author is releasing the first chapters of his new novel, *Where Seagulls Dare*, on his website and asking fans for their feedback. He said: "As I sit here, locked down in London, I have almost no idea what's going to happen in the story. I'm not even sure I know what to write in Chapter Two!" The book is a new story in the Diamond Brothers series about a hapless private detective and his smart younger brother. The finished book will be released in 2021, with all royalties being donated to the NHS Charities Together. Read the first chapters at www.anthonyhorowitz.com.



2 If you love craft, then Channel 4's brand-new TV show, *The Fantastical Factory of Curious Craft*, is perfect for you. Hosted by Keith Lemon and Anna Richardson, it starts on Channel 4 on 10 May at 8pm. Look out for an interview with Keith and Anna in next week's issue of *First News*.



3 If classical music is something you enjoy, then why not try to compose your own masterpiece? BBC Music is calling on young composers aged 12-18 to write their own 30-second piece of music. Find out more at tinyurl.com/yb4kx8yh.

FIVE MINUTES WITH... DAISY RIDLEY



TO celebrate Star Wars Day (May the 4th be with you…) the final film in the *Skywalker* trilogy has been released on Disney+, two months earlier than planned. Adam Tanswell chatted to Daisy Ridley about playing Rey.

This film is the conclusion of the trilogy. Are you ready to say goodbye to the character and are you satisfied with the conclusion?

I'm very satisfied with the conclusion. It is weird to think that it's over. But Rey isn't a million miles away from any woman I know. She's brave and she does the best thing. All the women I'm surrounded by are like that, so it's not such a leap to imagine that the next projects I do are going to be somewhat like that. I think she has all the best qualities of any person.

Rey flirts with the dark side in this film, and even gets a red lightsaber. What was that like?

I'm not going to lie… it felt amazing. I was like: "This is so cool!" It was really interesting, because I noticed that people responded to me differently in that outfit. Over the last three movies, I've never really worn anything dark and hooded. I haven't looked scary at all, so it was funny to see how people reacted to me in this costume. I'm super chatty anyway, but people were not as chatty, which I found quite curious and quite fun. But no, it was great. I loved it.

Did you have to learn how to fight with the red lightsaber?

I don't want to ruin the moment in the movie where Rey has the red lightsaber, but a fun thing about it is that it was quite heavy and it was weighted differently to the other lightsabers I'd used in the past. This one was really quite hard to hold. And when it flips around, I have to catch it – but there were many times where I didn't. I would try to be super intense, but the lightsaber would just be swinging around, which was hilarious. That's my lasting memory of that lightsaber: laughing a lot! But it was fun to play dress-up anyway and it was fun to do that side of things, which is a different vibe.



How much did you enjoy the physical training to play Rey?

Well, I got my green belt in kickboxing, which I was really thrilled about. A guy called Jamie came in to help with some of the fight stuff and I said to him: "I want a green belt." And he trained me, so that was great, because that was a skill I definitely never had before!

***Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* is available to stream on Disney+ now**

REMEMBERING VE DAY



VE Day celebration in New York's Times Square, 1945

THIS year, we mark the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day – or VE Day. On 8 May 1945, the war in Europe was ended after Nazi Germany surrendered, and celebrations took place in Allied countries across the globe.



US AMBASSADOR WOODY JOHNSON ON VE DAY

To mark VE Day, we thought we'd talk to the man who today represents one of our closest allies during the war, the USA. Here's what the United States Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Woody Johnson, had to say.

Why is VE Day so important?

It is a monumental opportunity to remember and pay tribute to the millions of people who gave so much to make that victory possible – those who resisted behind enemy lines, those who worked tirelessly in our factories and on our farms, those who fought on land, sea and air. We can draw tremendous pride and inspiration from the courage, determination and sacrifice of all those who came before us.

Do you have any relatives who took part in the war?

Yes, I'm particularly proud of my mother's involvement. Like most American women then, she was determined to help win the war any way she could, so she actually served in the US Navy, teaching navigation skills to sailors.

Why didn't the whole war end when Germany surrendered?

The war in Europe was just one part of the story. There was tough fighting all over the world – particularly in the Pacific and Far East. That didn't end until months later, with the surrender of Imperial Japan on 15 August.

Did the war bring America closer to Europe?

Undoubtedly. Look at America's relationship with Britain, for example. Our countries went through so much together, and it forged an unbreakable bond of trust and friendship between us. But we should also remember that our former enemies in Europe are now some of America's closest friends and allies, which shows how much progress is possible.

What would it have meant for the world if the Nazis had defeated the Allied forces in Europe?

I'll leave it to the TV producers and authors to imagine what that world would have looked like! What I do know is that life under the Nazis would have been full of oppression [cruel treatment], fear and suffering – and that's why so many people gave so much to stop it ever happening.

WHAT IS VE DAY?

VE Day is the name given to the date that the Allied Forces formally recognised the surrender of Nazi Germany.



What happened on VE Day?

Huge celebrations were held across the West, especially in Great Britain and North America. More than one million people celebrated in the streets throughout the UK, including Princess Elizabeth (who would become Queen Elizabeth II) and Princess Margaret, who wandered through the crowds in disguise.

What's happening this year?

It's the 75th anniversary of VE Day so, even in lockdown, the country is being encouraged to take part. A two-minute silence will be held at 11am, and Brits are being encouraged to decorate their homes in red, white and blue decorations.

VE Day was the end of fighting in Europe, but millions of people died, so should it be a happy or sad day?

For me, it's always a bit of both. On the one hand, it's impossible to reflect on the end of the war without thinking about the millions of lives lost and the full horror of the war, including the Holocaust. But I think we should also take enormous pride in all the people of our countries, who stepped up to fight for the liberty of others, whatever the price might be. That's something we should always remember and celebrate.

Has the world changed enough now so that there won't be another world war?

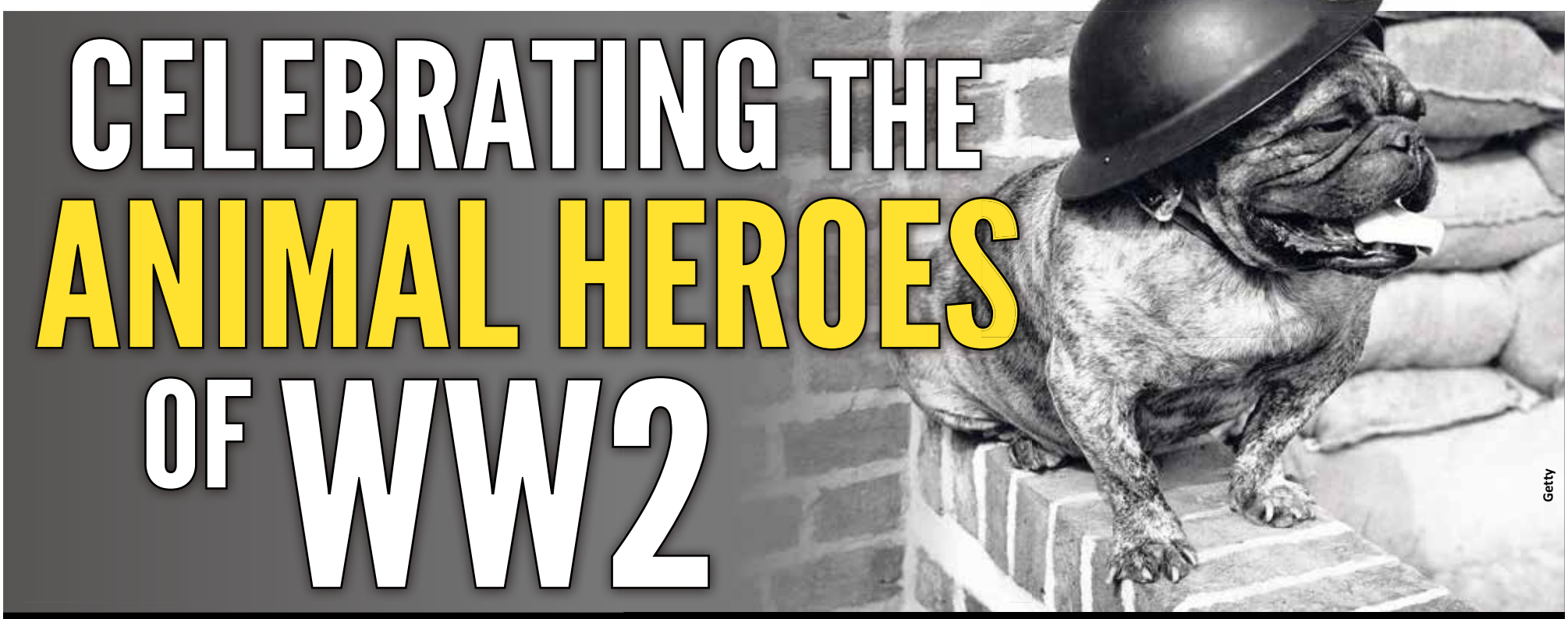
I would like to say yes. Certainly, we have a lot of international institutions now, like the UN, NATO and even the EU, which have helped preserve peace over the last 75 years. But there are still a lot of threats to our collective security, and the fact is, we have to remain vigilant and we have to remain capable of defending our rights and liberties if necessary.

How will you be marking VE Day this year?

Well, sadly I had to cancel the big party I had planned. But there are still lots of ways to celebrate from home, so my family will be getting involved from our residence, Winfield House, in London. We'll be joining in the nation's toast and tuning in to hear the Queen like the rest of the country. With my sons, I'll be colouring in and displaying the poster that you'll find in this edition. I encourage everyone reading this to do the same.

Head back to p14-15 to see the colour-in VE Day poster from the US Embassy!

CELEBRATING THE ANIMAL HEROES OF WW2



Getty

AN estimated 75-85 million people died in World War Two, and on 8 May for the 75th anniversary of VE Day, we will honour the deceased and the brave with two minutes of silence. But few of us will think about the role that animals played in preserving future generations. And nor would I, if I hadn't written two anthropomorphic [see below] novels that draw upon the true stories of animals caught in the crossfire of the war: *The Umbrella Mouse* and *Umbrella Mouse to the Rescue*.

HELPING PAWS, HOOVES AND WINGS

One of the reasons I decided to write the books was to remind people that animals have served and died alongside humans in wars for thousands of years. Ancient civilisations used horses and dogs on battlefields, and pigeons to deliver messages; the Romans even used flaming pigs as weapons against Carthaginian elephants, but it wasn't until the height of WW2 that animals gained any recognition for gallantry.

Instituted in 1943, the PDSA Dickin Medal acknowledges outstanding acts of bravery displayed by animals serving in military or civil defence units during wartime. Thirty-four dogs, 32 pigeons, four horses and a cat have been recipients, and some appear in the *Umbrella Mouse* books, so more people can be aware of these incredible creatures who saved countless lives while risking their own.



Getty

A cavalry training regiment of the British Army in Maidstone, Kent, during World War Two

MEET SOME HEROES

Rip was a stray mongrel terrier who became our first search and rescue dog during the Blitz. He took to the job instinctively, without any formal instruction, and his abilities became so highly regarded that other dogs were officially trained. He was awarded the Dickin Medal in 1945, and he appears as Dickin in *The Umbrella Mouse*.



PDSA Dickin Medal



PDSA Dickin Medal

GI Joe was an American carrier pigeon who flew 20 miles in 20 minutes to deliver a message when radios were down. He reached his destination just in time and prevented bomber pilots attacking a village with over 1,000 Allied soldiers and civilians. He was given the Dickin Medal in 1946 at a special ceremony in the Tower of London and returned home as a national hero.



PDSA Dickin Medal

Brian and **Bing** were two Alsatians who were fully qualified paratroopers. Both parachuted into Normandy for D-Day, trained to silently round up the human soldiers after a parachute drop, guard the men, detect mines and locate enemy positions.

REMEMBERING THEM ALL

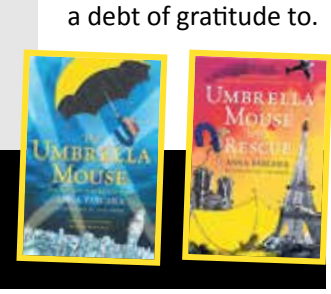
In the beginning, I didn't know I was going to write an animal story. It wasn't until I found out about Marie-Madeleine Fourcade that the penny dropped. She was the leader of one of the most significant and influential French Resistance groups in France, which was nicknamed Noah's Ark by the Gestapo [Germany's secret police] because Fourcade gave her network of spies animal codenames. Hers was Hedgehog, and on reading her memoir, I encountered betrayal, daring escapes and heroic sacrifice on almost every page. I knew I had to bring these courageous men and women and their animal codenames to life in an anthropomorphic children's book so that they, and the Dickin Medal-winning animals, could be better known. VE Day gives us a chance to remember everyone who helped stop the spread of evil through Europe. I will also take a moment to think of the war animals, the unsung heroes, who we owe a debt of gratitude to.



DICTIONARY

Anthropomorphic – giving human traits and actions to things that aren't human. In this case, animals.

***The Umbrella Mouse* is out now in paperback.**
***Umbrella Mouse to the Rescue* is out on 23 July, published by Macmillan Children's Books**



WIN! A MARVEL PUZZLE

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

Send in your answers and five winners will each win a Clementoni MARVEL Impossible 1,000-piece puzzle!

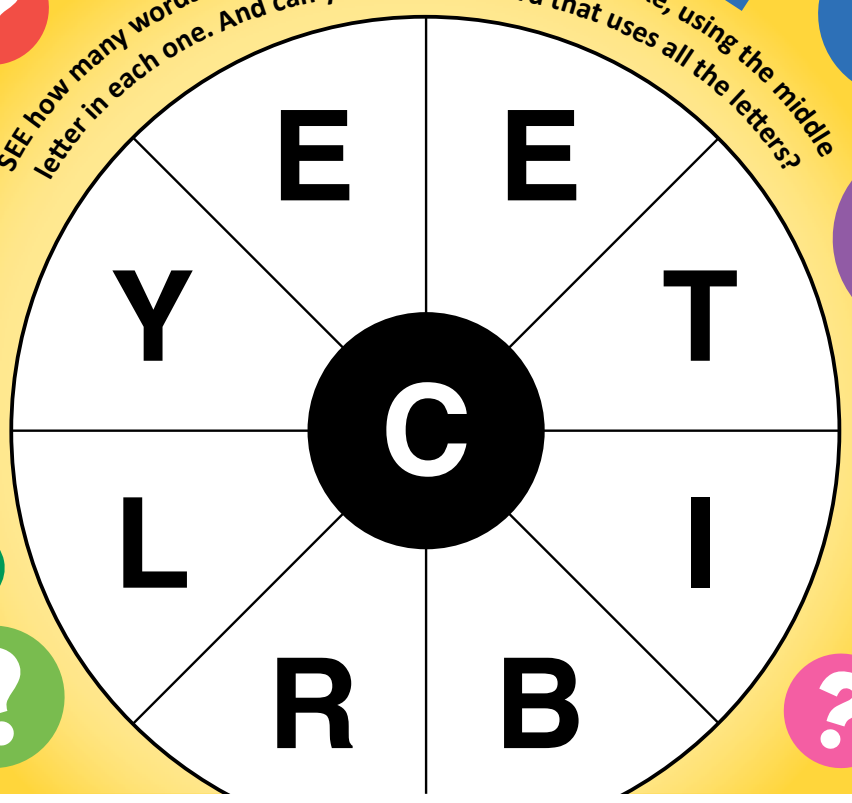
The head-scratching puzzle is of the highest quality and has fantastic imagery featuring all of your favourite Marvel characters.



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

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?



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.

SOIL

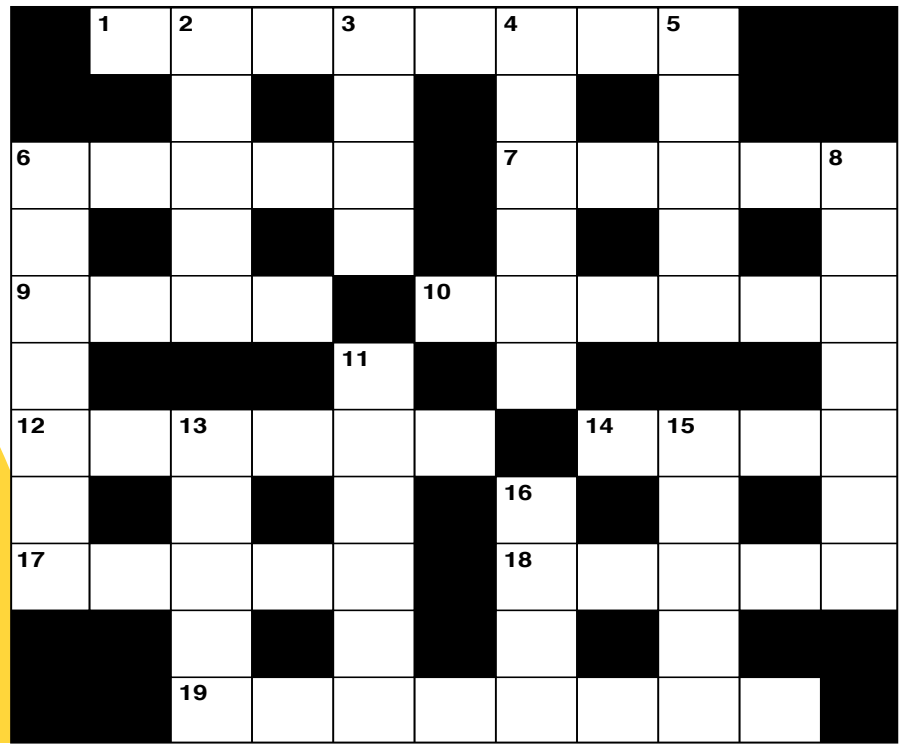
FARM

WIN! GAZILLION BUBBLES



CAN you complete our crossword by using the clues below?

Send in your answers and two lucky winners will win a Gazillion Bubbles Tornado machine. Instantly create a bubble storm with the Gazillion Bubbles Tornado! With no pump and no wait time, you'll be creating a gazillion bubbles in a flash. This ultimate bubble machine blows 4,500 bubbles per minute at the push of a button.



ACROSS

1 Recognise (8)
6 The path of a planet around the sun (5)
7 Opposite of sit (5)
9 Cut so as to look tidy (4)
10 Smells (6)
12 Meal eaten outdoors (6)
14 Type of transport (4)
17 Opposite of north (5)
18 Challenges (5)
19 Feeling despair (8)

DOWN

2 Member of the United Arab Emirates (5)
3 Short letter (4)
4 Eg, bee or ant (6)
5 Desire strongly (5)
6 An animal with eight arms (7)
8 Send away (7)
11 Senior Christian leader (6)
13 Squash by pressing hard (5)
15 Cares (anag) (5)
16 Hero (4)

HOW TO ENTER: Send your finished puzzles by email to **win@firstnews.co.uk**. Don't forget to put **Puzzles 725** in the subject box. We're afraid that we can't accept postal entries for now. The closing date for puzzle entries is **Thursday 14 May 2020**.

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

JUST for fun this week! Can you spot the five changes we've made to this picture from *Oz the Great and Powerful*?





WORDSEARCH

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

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

- [ ] Celebrations
- [ ] Spitfire
- [ ] Allies
- [ ] Churchill
- [ ] Soldiers
- [ ] Remembrance
- [ ] Airshows
- [ ] Victory
- [ ] London
- [ ] Street party
- [ ] Peace
- [ ] Europe

WHAT ON EARTH?

THESE are all birds. Do you know what they are?













COMPETITIONS: You can enter First News competitions in one of two ways. **1.** Go to firstnews.co.uk/competitions and follow the instructions. **2.** Write to us at 'competition name' (eg, Holiday), First News, 7 Playhouse Court, 62 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 0AT. **Please note:** First News will not share your personal details with third parties. First News will only use your details to contact the competition winners. First News competitions are open to those aged 17-and-under and residents of the UK & Republic of Ireland, except employees of First News, First Group Enterprises Ltd, Trinity Mirror and any associated companies and their families. Winners will be the first correct entries drawn after the closing dates. No purchase necessary. No responsibility can be accepted for entries that have been lost or damaged in transit. First News will not enter into any correspondence. All winners will be notified accordingly and their names and addresses will be available on request. No cash alternative for any prizes will be offered. The winner may be required to partake in media activity relating to the competition.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:

Spot the difference: head is larger, hat has been added, shoulder patch is a different colour, armband is larger, background wall has been changed.
Word wheel: armadillo.

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

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

Oxford Children's Books



Perfect for fans of the Tom Gates series

Out NOW!

The first book in a funny new series about saving our planet!

AVAILABLE ONLINE AT ALL GOOD BOOKSTORES

Artwork © Nick Shepherd

@OUPChildrens
www.oxfordchildrens.co.uk

OXFORD

ANYONE FOR MARIO TENNIS?



CELEBRITIES including the Williams sisters, Naomi Osaka and Hailey Bieber, have taken to the virtual tennis courts of *Mario Tennis Aces* to raise money for charity.

With sports tournaments cancelled, online multiplayer games have stepped up and are offering an alternative that's just as competitive.

The Stay At Home Slam was hosted by Facebook Gaming, their new livestreaming platform, and every celebrity was given $25,000 (£20,000) to send to a charity of their choice, while the winning doubles pair were awarded a whopping $1,000,000 (£800,000) to give to any charity they wanted.

It was a fierce competition, with fantastic commentary from tennis legend John McEnroe and internet celebrity iJustine. In the end, tennis star Taylor Fritz and his TikTok-famous partner Addison Rae took home the trophy, after beating Kei Nishikori and DJ Steve Aoki.



The winners decided to send their $1m donation to a charity called No Kid Hungry!, which aims to end child hunger in America.

If you want to watch a replay of the big event, you can find it at facebook.com/facebookgaming, but please be aware of age restrictions on Facebook.

VIRTUAL PARTY!

***FORTNITE* (PEGI 12) has introduced a new game mode that's been designed just so you can hang out!**

Gaming can be a great way to spend time with friends that you can't see or spend time with in real life at the moment – but sometimes it can get a bit stressful.

Maybe you keep losing, or your team just aren't working together properly. Whatever the issue may be, there's now a place in *Fortnite* where you can just spend time with your friends, with no stress!

On the main menu, you should be able to find the new Party Royale, which will send you to an all-new island that's packed with low-key, chilled out things to do – and no weapons or materials whatsoever.

There are vehicle races, football games and glider challenges, plus special phone booths that you can change your skin in, whenever you want.

Excitingly, the team at Epic Games who make *Fortnite* say that the new Party Royale mode is an "experimental and evolving space". We hope that means more in-game concerts!





***FLEDGLING Heroes* is a side-scrolling "flap 'em up" game featuring brave birds taking on a wild world. *First News* games reviewer Devan Barodia told us what he thought.**

"This easy-to-learn game tests your skills of flying and is fun for all the family!

Fledgling Heroes is a bit like *Flappy Bird*. You start off as a macaw and the aim of the game is to manoeuvre up through different levels on three different maps (jungle, pirate isles, fairy forest).

During the game, in each map you can unlock and collect two additional animal characters (better suited to the map you are in) and can customise the ones that you have. You can also find and use different variants of your characters around the map.

Once you've completed all the levels on a map, you unlock the next map. You can even create levels for you and your friends to beat. Race dragons, collect different maps and, most importantly, have fun! The possibilities are endless!

I give the game a score of an eight for my age (12), but would say nine out of ten if I was younger, as I used to really enjoy these types of games!"



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WHAT'S IN THE SHOPS?

INSECT HOUSES

WOODEN BEE HOUSES
BAKERROSS.CO.UK £5.95 – PACK OF TWO

Attract bees to your garden and give them shelter in this sturdy wooden house. Learn about bees and pollination as you watch the bees buzz around. Why not add a touch of colour to your house and decorate it with acrylic paint or Deco pens? Easy construction details are included.



THE BUTTERFLY HABITAT
ETHICALSUPERSTORE.COM £19.99

This butterfly habitat offers a comfortable place for butterflies to rest during the summer and winter, with two feeding dishes that fold out to form a safe landing area. The front dish can be used to place nectar in, while the larger one can hold small pieces of fruit and sugar water. When the weather starts to get colder, close the feeding trays up to provide greater protection for butterflies.



LADYBIRD HOUSE
FINDMEAGIFT.CO.UK £13.99

Provide a safe and sheltered place for ladybirds to rest with this ladybird house. The house has a hollow chamber that provides natural insulation and protection. The holes for ladybirds to get in and out are drilled upwards to prevent rain water getting in. Simply place this ladybird haven in a warm, sheltered spot in the garden, and let nature work its magic.



*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.

WIN! THE WIZARDS OF ONCE SERIES



KNOCK Three Times continues the adventures of Wizard Xar and Warrior Wish as they try to save their ancient, magical wildwood worlds from evil forces.

In this third book in the series, Xar and Wish face their most dangerous task yet in their search for the last two ingredients of the Lovespell, leading them away from the wildwoods and towards the Lake of the Lost, where monstrous peril awaits.

One lucky winner will win all three books in the *Wizards of Once* series and the *How To Train Your Dragon* series.

Plus, ten lucky winners will get all three books in the *Wizards of Once* series. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:



KNOCK THREE TIMES is book three in Cressida Cowell's epic _THE WIZARDS OF ONCE_ series and is out in paperback on 14 May, published by Hodder Children's.

Who wrote the *Wizards of Once* series?
a) Jacqueline Wilson
b) Cressida Cowell c) JK Rowling

www.cressidacowell.co.uk
www.hive.co.uk

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY KNOCK

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

WIN! A BEAST QUEST ULTIMATE HEROES BUNDLE



THIS week the brand-new mobile game *Beast Quest Ultimate Heroes* launches for all Android and iOS devices.

Featuring magic, battles, wizards and beasts, *Beast Quest Ultimate Heroes* is a fantasy mobile game based on the best-selling *Beast Quest* novels by Adam Blade.

In *Beast Quest Ultimate Heroes*, an evil wizard has enslaved the magical Beasts of Avantia, the fantasy land of Beast Quest, a place which is rife with adventure, heroism, and magic. Players must control Tom, the son of the legendary Taladon the Swift, as well as other heroes and Beasts to defend Avantia, defeat evil hordes of enemies, and ultimately free the enslaved Beasts from evil's thrall.

To celebrate the launch, we're giving one lucky winner the chance to win this amazing *Beast Quest* bundle containing a Kurio Advance tablet, three new *Beast Quest* books and *Beast Quest* Top Trumps cards.

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

Who wrote the *Beast Quest* books?
a) Alan Blade b) Adam Blade c) Albert Blade

ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY BEAST

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

WRITE A STORY WITH CRESSIDA COWELL

WORDS FOR LIFE



THOMAS Taylor trained as an illustrator, and his first professional piece of work was the cover art for *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. Thomas now lives beside the sea, which has inspired him to write his award-winning novel *Malamander*, about the legends of a strange little seaside town, and its sequel, *Gargantis*. Thomas told us what the best thing about reading is:

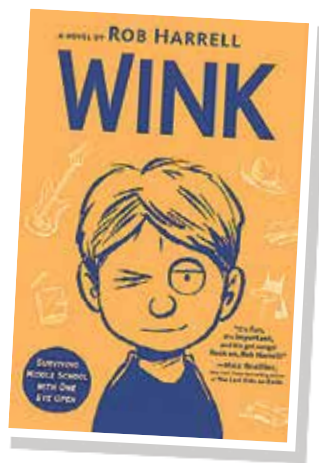
"Time out from the real world, in endless vistas of imagination and wonder. When you read, you meet the author halfway and create the world together, in your mind. This isn't the same with TV or film, where you passively wait for the creator to push the whole story into your head. This makes reading a richer experience."

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

YOUR READS!

WINK ROB HARRELL

reviewed by Freddie Weatherhead-Pusey, aged ten



This book is about a boy called Ross. His mum has died and he is living with cancer. His dad is really sad until he meets Linda!

Wink was a great book with a big heap of feelings. Most of the time it was sad but at the same time it was very interesting. I never wanted to put it down! Throughout the book there were different feelings like embarrassment, shame, sadness, happiness and anger.

My favourite bit of the book was when I found out who made the cruel memes. I felt bad for him when the memes were made and everyone treated him differently.

I also quite liked it when he smashed his guitar. I thought the book was like a rollercoaster because it was up and down and you never knew what was coming next. I enjoyed it immensely!

WE WANT YOUR BOOK REVIEWS!

Looking for something to do? Send us a book review! Whether you've read a book recently that you desperately want to tell people about, or have read one that you think others should avoid – write us a review!

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.



FIVE weeks ago, Cressida Cowell, the Waterstones Children's Laureate and the author and illustrator of the *How To Train Your Dragon* and *Wizards of Once* series, began a new story in *First News*. Then, she handed things over to YOU to write what happens next. Every week the story has continued, written by our readers, 250 words at a time. To read the first five parts of the story, head to:

FIRST.NEWS/CRESSIDACOWELL

SO FAR IN THE STORY…

Ferocity the young spellcaster and her pet boggart, Guggalugs, became lost in the forest after escaping the clutches of an evil child-snatching Tapper. Fortunately, they were rescued by a mysterious boy named Trick, who says he can take them somewhere safe.

PART SIX BY ALANI CLAY, 11

'Where do we go now?' asked Ferocity, with a grin on her face.

'To Perum Hollow, of course!'

'What's Perum Hollow?'

'You DON'T know?! It's the most sacred place in this whole forest! I'll take you there to see my grandfather. And before you ask, he controls all magic around here. C'mon, we'll start now.'

They set off through the forest, Trick taking sharp turns and avoiding wider paths.

After a while, they stopped, and Ferocity was glad as her arms were aching from carrying Guggalugs. They sat down and she accepted a drink from Trick. Ferocity glanced down at her feet and saw something unusual. Half-hidden beneath a leaf was a piece of copper with blunt, jagged edges. Ferocity picked it up.

'Drop that,' said Trick with a growl in his throat.

'Why?'

'Just drop it.' This only made Ferocity grip it tighter. 'Fine,' croaked Trick. 'But keep it hidden. Especially where we're going.'

The three started off again, moving cautiously, as it was getting dark. The moon was round, silvery and full of light.

After hours of trekking through the forest, Trick stopped at the foot of an enormous trunk. The tree that it belonged to must be at least three hundred years old, Ferocity thought. 'Five hundred years old,' breathed Trick, as if in answer to her thought. Ferocity gaped in awe as Trick pressed different parts of the trunk without any second thought as to where to put his hand. He stepped back as a door revealed itself, set into the tree.

Trick opened it and motioned for Ferocity to follow.

PART SEVEN: BY YOU!

Well done to everyone who sent in their suggestions of how the story should continue. We enjoyed reading them all, and love how talented our readers are! If your story wasn't chosen this time, be sure to have another go. 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!

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

All in, all together. Stay

LOCKDOWN CLUB

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

by Ethan and Aaron

WE have created a task that we think is really good, it's called the Lockdown Club.

The idea came about when we were listening to the Beatles album, *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*.

We saw the cover of the album and tried to work out who was on it. It made us think about who would be in our Lockdown Club band.

We created our own version of the cover with all the people we've been watching, listening to or reading over the last five weeks. We found their images online and cut them out to make a huge poster.

We've included people like Maddie Moate, who we watch every day at 11am on YouTube. We've got Rob Biddulph, who is helping us to draw, and we've got some of the characters we've been reading about, including Dog Man and Dennis the Menace. We've also included politicians, royals and Captain Tom Moore.

We thought everyone could create their own Lockdown Club. It is a lovely way to create a memory of this time and say thank you to everybody for helping us to stay busy.

It could be a piece of art, a collage or even a list or a video!



Ethan and Aaron



The poster for the Lockdown Club

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! How have you been learning at home? Have you been getting creative? How have you been keeping fit and active? 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.

MY IDEA WON

SCHOOL NEWS

by Ava Garside, Allerton Grange School

I RECENTLY won a national science, technology, engineering and maths competition.

It should be healthier to walk to school than go in the car, right?



Ava

Imagine a connected world where we can all make sense of our planet. That would make 'Perfect Sense' and that was the name for my project in the Youth Industrial Strategy Competition.

Getting involved has been one of the best things I have ever done!

I started with a passion and a determination to allow everyone to breathe healthier air on the way to school. Real-life scientists and engineers have now also shown a commitment and excitement to my project.

Working with a team of nano-scientists from Graphene@Manchester has been an amazing experience with our shared belief in the project. Responding to comments from the Youth Industrial Strategy Competition judges has also really helped me to improve on ideas.

Virtual judging was an experience in itself and a great boost for my confidence in speaking in front of a camera, as well as my writing skills to share the main aims of my project in a brief way.

DAD'S NEW BOOK

by Hannah and Emily

OUR dad, CJ Hansen, is the author of a book called *Omega Awakens*, which is a fantasy adventure set in real life.



Hannah and Emily

JUNIOR JOURNALIST

It's great to have a dad who's an author. We've always enjoyed reading books like *Harry Potter* with him, but reading a book with the person that has written it is really cool.

He started it as a book just for us, so it's very exciting that other people are really enjoying it now too!

The main character is a teenager who, with her friends, is forced to face a huge battle against evil and overcome many other challenges. We think the story is brilliant!

People have compared it to *Harry Potter*, Philip Pullman and even *Star Wars*, so if you like those kinds of stories, we think you will like this too!

Dad is writing the next book now, and we will get to read it before it's published, which is another cool thing about him being an author! We can't wait.

It was amazing to see the book in our local library, and it's so nice when our friends and their parents read it and really enjoy it.

We really hope other people will enjoy it too!

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

SPORT IN NUMBERS

8 October is when the Women's PGA Championship is now scheduled to start. The golf major has been postponed from June due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Australia's Hannah Green (below) won the title last year. The LPGA wants to restart the 2020 Tour by the middle of July.


Getty

1 title has been won by Andy Murray this year. Last week, the Brit won the Madrid Open by beating Belgium's David Goffin 7-6 in the final. Although it wasn't a real game, but rather the *Tennis World Tour* game on the PlayStation 4! Murray was still awarded €45,000 (£39,000), which he is giving to charity.



Getty

28 members of the USA's women's football team have failed in their attempt to earn the same amount of money as the men's team. The players took the US Soccer Federation to court to try to earn $66 million (£52.8 million) in pay. US presidential candidate Joe Biden has told the team not to "give up this fight".


Getty

DID SPORT SPREAD THE VIRUS?


Getty

Some of the 3,000 Madrid fans at the match


Getty

Liverpool's Mo Salah (left) and Renan Lodi of Atlético Madrid during their Champions League clash on 11 March

THERE are growing calls for an investigation into whether sporting events led to a rise in COVID-19 cases.

New data suggests there was a spike in deaths in English hospitals near to where major horse racing and football events were held in March. But there is no confirmed link yet between sport and any COVID-19 cases.

The four-day Cheltenham Festival of horse racing, which attracted 250,000 spectators, took place from 10-13 March. At the time, it was thought there were hundreds of cases of the new coronavirus in the UK. We now know there were actually more than 2,000 cases by 13 March.

Last week, the chief executive of the governing body of horse racing in Ireland said the event should "probably" not have taken place, because it might have led to an accidental spread of the virus among fans.

Public health experts have already called for an investigation into whether the festival led to a rise in coronavirus cases locally. Professor John Ashton, a former director of public health for Cumbria, said that an apparent rise in COVID-19 cases in the Cheltenham area "deserved to be properly investigated". Organisers have defended the decision to go ahead with the event.

Edge Health, a data analysis company, published figures last week that they say showed the Cheltenham Festival, Liverpool v Atlético Madrid in the Champions League on 11 March, and the Manchester derby in the Premier League on 8 March, all resulted in a significant increase of deaths in local hospitals 20-35 days later.

Before the new data was published, the Government's deputy chief scientific adviser, Angela McLean, had said it would be "very interesting" to find out if there was a link between the Liverpool v Atlético Madrid game and the coronavirus outbreak.

A Champions League match in February between Italian side Atalanta and Spanish team Valencia has been blamed by health experts and politicians for spreading the virus. The match was attended by 44,000 fans. One senior Italian doctor described it as a "biological bomb".

CLASSIC SPORTS PIC OF THE WEEK


Getty

Captain Eoin Morgan lifts the trophy after England beat New Zealand in the final of the Cricket World Cup at Lord's last summer

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