

Your normal issue of **First News** is inside

# First News

Issue 729 £1.99 5 – 11 June 2020

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

We can help control the virus if we all



# Stay Alert!

Keep our distance, wash our hands,  
think of others and play our part.

**All together** >

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

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

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



reducing the size of classes



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



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



more cleaning



reducing the use of shared items



schools using outdoor space as much as they can



not travelling to school on public transport if possible

**All together** >

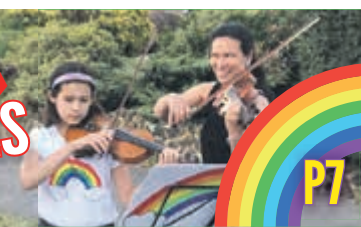
[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

WEEKLY  
PUZZLES!  
P14-15



SUNNIEST  
MAY EVER!  
P5

OUR NEW  
LOCAL HEROES



MAN MARRIES  
HIS CAT!  
P17



# First News

Issue 729 £1.99 5 – 11 June 2020

THE UK'S ONLY  
NEWSPAPER  
FOR CHILDREN

## FIRST DAY BACK

THIS WEEK SAW SOME CHILDREN WHO HAD BEEN IN LOCKDOWN RETURNING TO SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME. SO, HOW WAS IT?

FIRST NEWS READERS  
HAVE BEEN TELLING  
US WHAT THEY THINK  
ABOUT SCHOOLS  
GOING BACK



Year 6 boys returning to Moulsoford Prep split into bubbles to ensure staff and boys stayed within set groups

**Harvey says:** "I didn't realise how much I missed the school. It was so good to see friends, and the teachers were great, as I felt quite nervous at first when I got out of the car, but they quickly made it feel all okay to be there. We even managed to do some sport, which was fab."

"If some social distancing measures are still working in school, I think it's much better for a student's mental health and education to be back there. However, if someone doesn't want to at the moment for health reasons, they should be able to stay home and carry on with online learning."

"I am very happy about returning to school because I miss the support from my teachers and friends."

"I am not going back to school because my mum has a health condition. Nearly all of my friends are going back to school (I am in Year 6) but me and a handful of my friends are staying home. We would have done a production and a leavers' assembly but now we won't and it is really disappointing."

"I'm really excited to go back to school, as I have only seen my friends through a screen, which doesn't have the same effect as when you actually see them face to face. Also, it is my last year at primary school, and I wouldn't want to go off to secondary without seeing all my friends first."

"We still haven't beat the virus. I think we should wait until Christmas. It's sad but true."

by editor in chief Nicky Cox

**AROUND a million children returned to schools across England this week, for the first time since the coronavirus lockdown began in March.**

It was the start of the Government's slow reopening of schools, with pupils in nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 returning to classes from 1 June.

A similar number of children who could have gone back stayed at home, some because their parents or schools didn't feel ready yet.

Caldecote Community Primary School in Braunstone,

Leicester, stayed open during the lockdown for up to 70 children, including those of key workers.

Head teacher Matt Alcock welcomed another 140 pupils back on Monday. He said: "There's a sense of joy today. It's just nice to see kids outside playing, doing what they do well. It's been interesting to see. They are naturally self-distancing."

## 1. KENT CLIFF FALL

Cliff erosion in Kent has caused houses to be evacuated and left one property dangling over the edge. Surf Crescent on the edge of the Isle of Sheppey has seen several cliff falls in recent weeks. Luckily, the family who live in the house below left after an earlier cliff fall caused a road to collapse. “They are just waiting for the house to fall,” said neighbour Malcolm Newell.



## 2. PUFFIN BOOK FESTIVAL

Children’s publisher Puffin is launching a week-long online book festival for families from 8 June. The Puffin Festival of Big Dreams will take place each day until 14 June on Puffin’s YouTube and Facebook channels. It will be full of creative workshops and online activities from authors like Jeff Kinney, Jacqueline Wilson, Carrie Hope Fletcher and Robin Stevens.

## 3. DISNEY RATS

Three abandoned rats have been named after Disney characters by their rescuers. A family found the trio, who had been left in their cage in the rain. The rats, Mickey, Simba and Tayo, are now in the care of the RSPCA.

## 4. OLDEST MAN DIES

Three months after becoming the world’s oldest man, Bob Weighton has died at the age of 112. His family said Bob, from Alton in Hampshire, was an “extraordinary man” and that he “died peacefully in his sleep”.

## 5. DEEP DEEP DOWN

The deepest ever sighting of an octopus has been recorded by cameras on the Indian Ocean floor. The octopus, from the *Grimpoteuthis* family, was filmed 6,957m down in the Java Trench, almost 3km deeper than the previous reliable recording. It is also known as the Dumbo octopus because of its ear-like fins that make it look a bit like the famous Disney character.

# 20 THINGS TO KNOW AND TELL

QUICK NEWS TO READ YOURSELF AND SHARE WITH FRIENDS

## 6. 111-YEAR-OLD RECOVERS

A 111-year-old woman in Chile has recovered from COVID-19. Juana Zúñiga had breathing issues before getting sick, but luckily she didn’t suffer from severe symptoms.

## 7. BABY KOALA JOY

An Australian wildlife centre is celebrating the arrival of the first baby koala since the bushfires that raged there earlier this year. Staff at the Australian Reptile Park have named the joey Ash, in honour of the many koalas who died in the fires.



## 8. CHILD LABOUR DAY

Friday 12 June is World Day Against Child Labour. The United Nations estimates that 152 million children are still working. Seven out of ten of those children work farming fields.

## 9. LONELY ELEPHANT

A court has ordered that an elephant in Pakistan must be set free into the wild. Kaavan has been in chains at Islamabad Zoo for 18 years and without a mate for eight. The Islamabad High Court demanded that the lonely elephant be found an appropriate sanctuary within 30 days.

## 10. TOXIC PLANT

People are being warned not to touch a toxic plant called giant hogweed. The plant can reach 4.5m and contains a sap that can cause burns on your skin. The tall plant has green stems with purple blotches, huge leaves with jagged edges and umbrella-like heads with small white flowers that appear in June and July.



## 11. PRINCE PARTY

A prince who attended a party in Spain has tested positive for COVID-19. Prince Joachim, nephew of Belgium’s King Philippe, was said to have visited Spain on 24 May for professional reasons. However, after admitting he also attended a party of nearly 30 people, the prince said he regretted his actions and apologised for “not respecting all quarantine measures during my trip”.



## 12. WORLD COLOURS

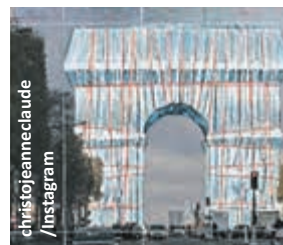
Crayola is releasing a new pack of crayons to reflect all the different skin tones in the world. Colours of the World will feature 24 different shades, and was made with the help of make-up expert Victor Casale. The new crayons will be released in July.

## 13. OLDEST BUG FOUND

A millipede fossil found on the Scottish island of Kerrera is believed to be the world’s oldest bug. It is around 425 million years old, older than any known insect fossil.

## 14. FABRIC ARTIST DIES

Christo, the artist most famous for wrapping giant buildings in fabric, has died at the age of 84. However, his final project of wrapping France’s Arc de Triomphe will still go ahead in September 2021.



## 15. WORLD OCEANS DAY

The National Maritime Museum will hold a day-long festival of activities to mark World Oceans Day on 8 June. For obvious reasons, this one will be online. It will include interviews with scientists and oceanography experts, a scavenger hunt and a live quiz!

## 16. LICENCE TO DRILL

Pictures of the HS2 tunnel boring machines have been unveiled. They will help create the route for HS2, Britain’s next high-speed railway. The giant machines will drill under areas of natural beauty, like the Chiltern Hills. They are as long as five football pitches and will run non-stop for three-and-a-half years.



## 17. DRONE DELIVERIES

The NHS is trialling the use of drones to deliver medical supplies. Drone delivery service Skyports has been transporting medical supplies and tests to NHS hospitals in remote parts of Scotland.

## 18. RINGS REUNION

The cast of *The Lord of the Rings* movie have reunited over Zoom for an online chat show. Elijah Wood, Orlando Bloom, Sir Ian McKellen, Sean Astin, Billy Boyd and Dominic Monaghan, alongside other cast members, appear in actor Josh Gad’s (who voiced Olaf in *Frozen*) *Reunited Apart* series on YouTube.

## 19. DINO COINS

The Royal Mint has released three special dinosaur 50p coins that use augmented reality (AR). The coins feature the *Megalosaurus*, *Iguanodon* and *Hylaeosaurus*. You can scan the coin’s packaging using an app to see facts and pictures of the dinos.

## 20. LOUD LOBSTERS

A new study has found that European spiny lobsters are really loud. So loud in fact that their ‘antennal rasps’ can be heard almost two miles away! The sound is created by the lobsters rubbing their antennas against a rough spot beneath their eyes. The fascinating creatures are considered vulnerable due to overfishing.



# SUNNY RECORDS (WITH A DARK SIDE)



Even though the weather's been nice, we still need to remember to obey social distancing rules

**THE recent heatwave and sunny weather has certainly made lockdown more enjoyable. In fact, it's been the sunniest spring on record in the UK and the driest May in England for 124 years. But is all this sunshine good news for the planet?**

Not only have we had the sunniest spring since 1929, all four UK nations (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) have broken sunshine records too. The Met Office recorded 626 hours of sunshine during the month of May for the UK, absolutely thrashing the previous record of 555 hours, set way back in 1948.

But while we've all been enjoying this sunny weather and have been able to play outside, experts are concerned that it's being caused by climate change. Met Office meteorologist Marco Petagna told the *Evening Standard*: "The fact we're seeing more extreme weather events generally does tie in with global warming."

# MARATHON ACHIEVEMENT



**A NINE-YEAR-OLD boy with cerebral palsy has raised more than £92,000 by completing a marathon with his walker.**

Tobias Weller walked a total of 26.2 miles on the streets near his home in Sheffield by doing 750 metres at a time, after being inspired by Captain Tom Moore. He smashed his original target of £500 on his way to raising such a huge sum, which will be split between his school, Paces, and Sheffield Children's Hospital.

Tobias told Sky News: "I'm chuffed to bits to raise loads of money. Other children who aren't as lucky as me can benefit from the money that's been raised."

His mum, Ruth Garbutt, gave him a well-earned medal as he crossed the finish line at the end of his marathon. Well done, Tobias!



Tobias has cerebral palsy, which is the name for a group of conditions that affect movement and co-ordination, caused by damage to the brain

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](https://www.first.news/happynews) now!

## EDITOR'S COMMENT



**AROUND a million of you went back to school this week.**

Others stayed at home to continue learning at home – perhaps because your family or school don't feel ready yet.

It can be a worrying time after being strict about staying at home to suddenly be going out in the world again.

We've been listening to readers about how you feel (front page) and will have more of your thoughts in next week's *First News*. Remember, we are all in this together.

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## GOOD WEEK FOR...

### ELON MUSK

ELECTRIC car company Tesla has rewarded its boss with £623m, because the company has been doing so well. Also, this week, Mr Musk's SpaceX became the first private company to launch a rocket carrying astronauts to the International Space Station (see p11).



## BAD WEEK FOR...

### THE CLIMATE

THE UN Climate Change Conference (known as COP26) has been postponed for a second time, because people can't travel due to the coronavirus pandemic. World leaders were supposed to meet in Glasgow this November for the important talks, but the conference will now take place in November 2021.



# DIP DANGERS

**WITH the summer sun shining, it's tempting to take a dip in the sea or local pool, which is why a new campaign by the Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) aims to help us all learn how to enjoy the water safely.**

Around 700 people lose their lives in the water each year, and across the UK there is a rise in drowning incidents in the summer months. This year there have been several deaths already, and three people were seriously injured jumping into the sea in Dorset. Drowning Prevention Week takes place from 12-19 June, and the RLSS wants to raise awareness of water safety. It has loads of tips on how to stay safe at [www.rlss.org.uk/drowning-prevention-week](https://www.rlss.org.uk/drowning-prevention-week).



Even in summer, water can be very cold and shock your body, making you unable to swim

## BIDDINGHUIZEN, NETHERLANDS



WALIBI Holland, a Dutch theme park, put 22 giant teddy bears on a rollercoaster while the park was closed for quarantine. The bears looked like they were having a great time!



## MERTHYR TYDFIL, WALES

A VIEW of low water levels in the Llwyn-on reservoir. The Met Office said this May was the second driest on record in Wales, with only 14.3mm of rain – 17% of what is normally expected. See p5 for more.

## GIPUZKOA, SPAIN



ANDONI Bastarrika is an incredible sand sculpture artist who has become well known for his realistic creations. His works of art include a bull, wolf and an octopus. The amazing life-like displays can take up to 24 hours to create.

## ROME, ITALY



THE Colosseum is lit up in the colours of the Italian flag to honour the victims of the new coronavirus, as the country starts to ease out of the lockdown.



## SUSSEX, UK

A WHITE stork tends to its chicks. There are several breeding pairs in the area now, but the last hatchlings in the UK were seen on top of St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh in 1416 (although other sources say they still bred after that).



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Watch our new "I Don't Get It" explainer video about racism at [first.news/idgi](https://first.news/idgi)

# USA PROTESTS

**PROTESTS** have been taking place all over the world following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, USA, after he was held down by police officers.

During his arrest, George Floyd, who is black, died after white police officer Derek Chauvin knelt on his neck. The officer has since been charged with murder, while three other police officers involved in the arrest have lost their jobs.

Protests against police violence and racial hatred then began in Minneapolis, before quickly spreading across the world, as people took to the streets to campaign against the police using unnecessary force against black people in the US.

There were demonstrations everywhere, including UK cities London, Cardiff and Manchester. Celebrities including Ariana Grande and Halsey joined in protests in the States too.

The majority of the protesters walked peacefully, carrying Black Lives Matter signs and calling for justice. But in some parts of the US, demonstrations became violent.

Although US President Donald Trump called George's death a tragedy, he has also been accused of glorifying violence, after threatening protesters in a tweet that said: "when the looting starts, the shooting starts".

For the first time in Mr Trump's presidency, Twitter tagged the tweet with a message that said it "violated [broke] their rules about glorifying violence". Twitter hid the tweet but did not remove it as they feel "it is in the public's interest" to see it.

At a speech in Minneapolis, the brother of George Floyd spoke at a rally, where he called for "peace" and "justice" through voting, rather than violence.

As First News went to press, the National Guard (the US reserve military force for domestic emergencies) was being sent to several states across the country.



## A FLYING FUTURE



**THE world's largest electric plane has made its first flight.**

The all-electric eCaravan, which can carry nine people, took off from a Washington airport and managed to stay in the air for 28 minutes.

The plane is more environmentally-friendly and costs less to operate than normal planes. It's hoped it will be in commercial use in 2021.



**A FAMILY** of talented musicians have been entertaining their street with weekly concerts!

Ethan, 13, Lara, 10, and their mum Sarah played *Somewhere Over The Rainbow* for their street eight weeks ago as part of the Clap for Carers on the Thursday night.

Their neighbours enjoyed the performance so much that the family decided to keep performing, playing a new song each week.

They received cards thanking them, and were told that their music encouraged an elderly gentleman who barely leaves his home to come to listen.

For the last Clap for Carers, the family held a special socially-distanced charity street concert, where they performed all the pieces from the last eight weeks, along with a few extras. Bravo!



## THE MINI POET



**A FOUR-YEAR-OLD** has become an internet hit with his poems.

Nadim Shamma was discovered by teacher Kate Clanchy from Oxford Spire Academy after his mum asked her for tips on how to get young children writing creatively.

His first poem was prompted by his mum asking: "What do you put down on the table by the door when you get home?" His list became his *Coming Home* poem, which featured the lines: "You take off your brave feeling, because there's nothing to be scared of in the house. No dark caves, no monsters, no witches, no bees, no howling sounds."

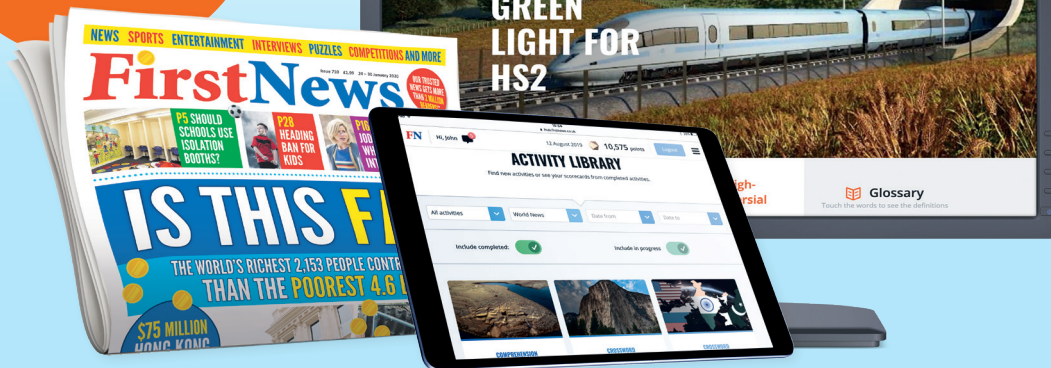
Do you know a coronavirus local hero? Send us an email about them to [newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk](mailto:newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk) with 'Local Hero' in the subject box

# FIRST NEWS iHUB: THE INTERACTIVE NEWS AND LITERACY PLATFORM

**AWARD-WINNING**  
GREAT FOR  
HOME  
-SCHOOLING

By popular demand the First News iHub used by schools is now available for parents to subscribe to at home.

OVER  
**300**  
LITERACY  
ACTIVITIES



Based on the weekly stories in First News enjoy:

- interactive weekly comprehensions
- vocabulary puzzles
- polls

These activities will engage children with news from around the world and support the development of key reading comprehension skills. As well as new activities every Monday morning, there is a huge archive of activities to work through giving children the opportunity to find stories that are of interest to them whether they're into sport, science, the environment or Crazy But True. In the News Gallery section, have a go at writing news reports. When these are printed, they look like the front page of a newspaper.

## INSTANT FEEDBACK

The iHub at home gives children feedback on everything they do. There is no set-up or marking needed by parents. The subscriber will receive a regular email from First News letting them know how the child is getting on, and letting them know what the week's news poll is so that it can be discussed with the family.

**Purchase now for £20 to give you access until the end of August\***

\*New activities updated weekly during term-time only.


## THREE LEVELS TO CHOOSE FROM

The activities are levelled to support different reading comprehension levels and confidence:


**LEVEL 1:** For children with **reading ages of 7-9 years** (three short compressions, one crossword and one poll published every week + access to archives and My News Gallery.)

**LEVEL 2:** For **reading ages 10-11 years** (one comprehension, one vocabulary puzzle and one poll published weekly + access to archives and My News Gallery.)

**LEVEL 3:** For **reading ages 12-14 years** (one comprehension, one vocabulary puzzle and one poll published weekly + access to archives and My News Gallery.)

 I'm sure that many kids will agree that iHub takes away the boring from reading. It teleports you around the world in three paragraphs. It can give you a science lesson about a species that was thought to be extinct. I've never wanted to read news this much. The iHub is fun, educational but most of all informative. I love it! 💡

**10-year-old boy, Dubai, May 2020**

 The iHub has become a regular and popular choice for our 'home-school' during lock-down, incorporating elements of English, Geography, History and Science. Although the children (aged 7 and 11) are three school years apart, they are able to compete against each other whilst doing activities that are suited to their age range. They can pick and choose things that interest them and I'm happy that they are suitable and they are learning useful and relevant information and skills. 💡

**Angela Crawford. parent, Loughborough May 2020**

**TO ORDER: [WWW.FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK/HOMEIHUB](http://WWW.FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK/HOMEIHUB)**



## UK

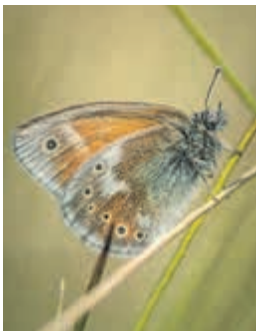
### ● Swimming apart

Swimmers may have to arrive in their costumes and fewer people will be allowed in when pools reopen, for social distancing. It's thought chlorine in swimming pools will kill coronavirus but Swim England has warned strict rules will still be needed when they are open again. Pools cannot reopen before 4 July under the Government's current plan for lifting lockdown.

## MANCHESTER

### ● Butterflies return

After 150 years of absence, large heath butterflies have returned to Greater Manchester. Chester Zoo and the Lancashire Wildlife Trust teamed up



to help the creatures make a comeback to Manchester's peatlands. Over the last 40 years, the UK has lost 20% of all butterflies.

## BRISTOL



### ● Boost for SEND kids

Bristol City Council is giving £1.3m of its schools budget to support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Ofsted school inspectors labelled the city's performance as "disturbingly poor" in 2019. Last month, Bristol's school leaders approved the funding switch to help SEND children, but there is concern there still won't be enough money.

## LEICESTERSHIRE

### ● Safe havens for newts

Leicestershire County Council hopes to increase numbers of its endangered great crested newt population. It has approved two sites, in Mowsley and Kibworth, to become safe havens for the creatures. Council member Blake Pain said he hoped to protect the great crested newt for future generations as well as working more to support the variety of plant and animal life in the world.



## ISLE OF WIGHT

### ● First UK fossil find for dinosaur

The fossil of a type of pterosaur known as a tapejarid has been found in the UK for the first time. The fossil is a fragment of the dinosaur's jaw and was found by a man walking his dog along Sandown Bay on the Isle of Wight. Evidence of the dinosaurs has been found in China and Brazil before, but never in the UK until now. Professor David Martill, from the University of Portsmouth, said the UK is "one of the most important places for Cretaceous dinosaurs in the world".

A tapejarid may have looked like this



## READING



### ● Art for auction

A nurse has called on local artists to create and auction art to raise money for a hospice. The Sue Ryder Duchess of Kent Hospice in Reading, like many places, has lost a lot of money due to fundraising being affected by the lockdown. Nurse Gillian Alderton reached out to her artistic friends to make and donate postcard-sized "mini-masterpieces". All money made from auctioning the artworks will go toward helping the hospice.

## SOUTHAMPTON



### ● Chop stopped

Campaigners in Southampton have managed to stop three "irreplaceable" Monterey pine trees from being chopped down. Southampton Airport, which bought the land at Marlhill Copse in 2018, says the 160-year-old pines are "diseased and damaged" and dangerous for people in nearby bungalows. But protest leader Gareth Narbed said: "These trees are irreplaceable and their loss would have a huge effect on the very special nature of Marlhill's woodland."

# NEWS IN NUMBERS

**573** species have been found in a Cambridge garden by nature lover Paul Rule. He took part in the Cambridge Natural History Society's wildlife survey over three years. Mr Rule recorded everything from foxes and badgers to ivy bees and incredible elephant moths (right).



**7.1m** keepy-uppies is the goal that Imogen Papworth-Heidel is hoping to reach to raise money for charity. The 7.1m represents one keepy-uppy for each of the UK's key workers. When the ten-year-old realised it would take 100 years to do it alone, she asked for help. Many people have 'donated', including England star Lucy Bronze, who did 500 in a row! Imogen has so far done around 185,000 of her own in just over a month.



**80** years is how long it took for a soldier's wartime letter to reach his family. Private Henry Cole wrote the letter in 1940, days before he was killed in Dunkirk. The letter was never delivered but now it's been sent to his surviving brother.



# TACKLING TOBACCO

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Tobacco kills more than eight million people per year.

**A CHARITY has warned that 280 kids in England are taking up smoking every day.**

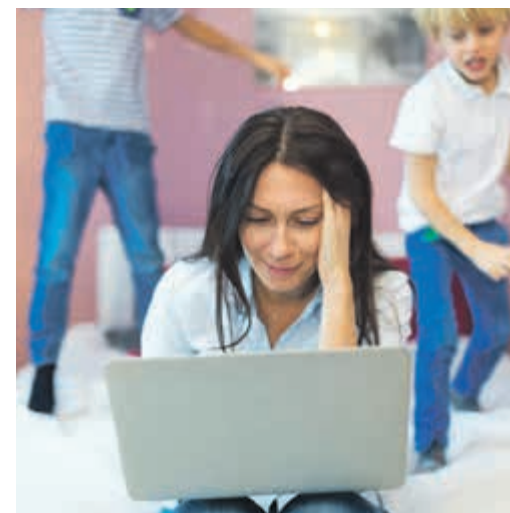
The number of children smoking has been going down for the past 20 years, but one in 20 children in England still smoke, says health charity Action on Smoking and Health. On World No Tobacco Day, (31 May), the charity called on the Government to make tobacco companies pay to help end the “smoking epidemic”.

In July 2019 the Government said it wanted England to be smoke-free by 2030. Scotland is aiming to have a “tobacco-free generation” by 2034.

The World Health Organization says that tobacco kills up to half of the people who take up smoking.



## “MUUUUM?!”



### STUDY SAYS WORKING MUMS INTERRUPTED MORE THAN DADS

**BIG differences have been found between working mums and working dads.**

A report from the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) and University College London (UCL) found that for every three hours of work that men were doing at home before being interrupted by something (or someone), women are doing just one hour.

The study, which interviewed 3,500 families with two opposite-gender parents, also found that mums are looking after children for an average of around ten hours a day, while dads are doing around eight hours.


The results of the survey are similar to what you told us for our poll, when we asked you: “Who has been helping most with your home learning?”

More than half of you said mum had been doing most of the work, while in the comments, lots of you told us that dad is helping with the maths homework!

**IN March 2019, Kylie Jenner was named by Forbes magazine as “the youngest self-made billionaire ever”, at the age of 21. But the magazine now says she no longer deserves the title, after they took a closer look at the social influencer’s finances.**

Forbes says that Kylie Jenner and her family had exaggerated the amount the business was worth, and that, even after selling part of Kylie’s make-up company last year, she was still not a billionaire.

Kylie has hit back at the magazine, saying: “I’ve never asked for any title or tried to lie my way there EVER.” The magazine now estimates the influencer is worth just under \$900 million (about £700m).



## LIFE AFTER COVID-19

**ONE million Brits will be asked how they think life in the UK should change after the pandemic is over.**

The new group, called The People’s Commission on Life After COVID-19, will be led by former Government minister Nicky Morgan and adviser Nick Timothy, along with money expert Martin Lewis, who founded the website [moneysavingexpert.com](http://moneysavingexpert.com).

The commission has said that it aims to survey a million people in what would be “the largest ever public conversation on the future of the UK”.

Mr Lewis said: “Life has changed for ever. Not just the way we work, support

each other, travel, shop and spend, but also the roles people play in society.”

The survey will ask people about everything that’s changed for them since the pandemic began, including community connection, air pollution, unemployment and loneliness.

And First News also wants to hear your thoughts on how life should change after the pandemic is over, so make sure you enter our Poll of the Week and let us know what you think the UK should do next.



**POLL OF THE WEEK**

After the pandemic, what should the UK do next?  
[first.news/polls](http://first.news/polls)

Left to right: Nicky Morgan, Martin Lewis and Nick Timothy

## THE EU



### Branching out

The European Commission has revealed a massive plan to plant three billion trees in the European Union by 2030, and to better protect the continent's last ancient forests. Environmental campaigners at Greenpeace "welcomed the new goals", but said that it wasn't clear how the EU planned on meeting the goals, or when it would start planting the trees.



## CHINA



### Hainan hopes

The Hainan gibbon is the world's rarest primate, with only 30 thought to be in existence. Known for swinging through the treetops and loudly calling out to mark territory, when two gibbons start a new family, they sing together. Now, researchers at the Hainan Gibbon Conservation Project have just spotted a new breeding pair, singing together.



Hainan Gibbon Conservation Project

## INDIA



### Harassed hospitals

Patients in the emergency ward of Mumbai's Sion hospital are sharing beds and oxygen tanks, as coronavirus cases overwhelm the city's healthcare system. The state of Maharashtra, the third largest in India, has become the centre of the coronavirus outbreak in India and, as First News went to press, had seen a steady increase in case numbers for weeks. New hospitals and quarantine centres are being built, but experts worry that India is still facing difficult challenges. The country is starting to relax its lockdown, even though Saturday 30 May saw the largest single-day rise in COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began.



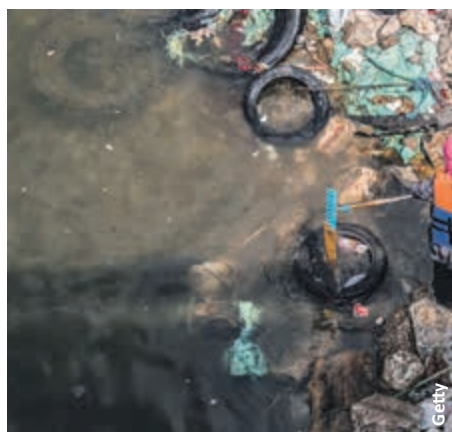
Getty

## EGYPT



### Shocking study

An investigation by Sky News has found that 75% of the fish in the river Nile contain microplastics. The research was completed in secret, as Egyptian authorities have jailed some who have questioned the Nile's cleanliness. Dr Farhan Khan, the British scientist in Denmark who led the investigation, said that a follow-up study was needed urgently, to find out the effect of the microplastics on fish, as well as on the humans who are eating them.



## AUSTRALIA



### "We're sorry"

Anglo-Australian mining company Rio Tinto has apologised after blowing up parts of the 46,000-year-old Aboriginal Juukan Gorge caves in Western Australia. Many prehistoric artefacts have been found in the caves, including a 4,000-year-old belt made of human hair, which had a direct DNA link with the current owners of the cave, the Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura People (PKKP). A chief executive of the mining firm said that the company was "sorry for the distress caused."



Puutu Kunti Kurrama and Pinikura People

## SOUTH KOREA



### Schools close again

Just days after reopening, more than 200 South Korean schools have been forced to close again, after a new spike in cases of COVID-19. The 79 new cases were thought to have spread from a warehouse near the capital, Seoul. A student in the city, whose mother worked at the warehouse, tested positive for COVID-19. As of last Friday (29 May) there had been 11,402 total cases reported in South Korea and 269 deaths.



Getty

## OUR WORLD

NAME: JASMIN  
LIVES: UK



TO FIND OUT MORE, GO TO  
[WWW.UNHCR.ORG/PROTECTREFUGEES](http://WWW.UNHCR.ORG/PROTECTREFUGEES)

**JASMIN'S father died shortly after she was born, and she was raised by her mother in a refugee camp in Bangladesh. Jasmin is from the Rohingya community, a Muslim minority group in Myanmar who have lost many of their rights.**

When she was eight, Jasmin was resettled in Britain and now lives in Bradford, but her challenges didn't stop there. Her mother was seriously injured in a car accident a few years later.

But cricket put a smile back on her face. At an after-school club, a coach suggested she join the cricket team. Jasmin excelled at the sport, which is popular with

young Rohingya refugees in cricket-mad Bangladesh. She soon became captain and last year led an England team to the final of an international competition organised by the charity Street Child United.

"Sport is something that I feel I'm born to do," said Jasmin, 19. "It's something that I'm really confident in and shows who I am."



© UNHCR

# KILLER COPPER



**SCIENTISTS investigating how the new coronavirus survives on different surfaces have found that copper appears to stop it spreading.**

It's not entirely surprising, as it was already known that other viruses were killed within minutes by the metal. The coronavirus survived for just four hours, whereas on steel and plastic it was found to last for up to 72 hours.

Other countries are already using it in public places and we are now likely to see copper used much more widely in shops and on public transport.

Professor Bill Keevil of Southampton University says that doorknobs, stair rails and grab rails on trains and buses should all have copper in them, to help in the fight against the coronavirus.

# AT LAST BLAST OFF!



The SpaceX craft blasts into space to link up with the ISS

**THE SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft finally launched on Saturday, and has successfully docked with the International Space Station (ISS).**

Crowds had gathered in Florida for a second time, following a postponed launch earlier in the week due to bad weather. They were rewarded with a spectacular sight as the craft soared into the sky. The company that created SpaceX, owned by the billionaire businessman Elon Musk, has been sending rockets into space for a number of years, but this was a special and historic flight. The two NASA

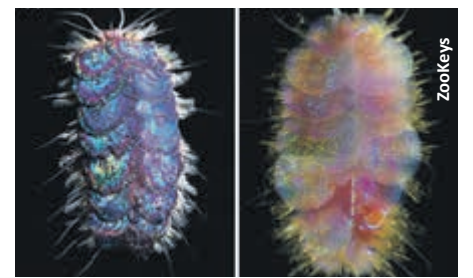


Doug Hurley (far right) and Bob Behnken (second right) with other crew on board the ISS

astronauts aboard, Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken, were the first to go into space from US soil in almost ten years. It was also the first time that a manned spacecraft has been launched by a private company rather than a country or group of countries, who have until now paid for all space travel. NASA, the US space organisation, bought the seats for the astronauts in the same way that we buy seats on aeroplanes – except the cost is thought to be around \$55 million (about £43m) per seat!

On Sunday, the spacecraft successfully docked with the ISS, which orbits the Earth 250 miles above us while travelling at 17,000mph. The astronauts will stay there with other scientists for about three months, carrying out experiments. They will then return in a Crew Dragon capsule that will enter the Earth's atmosphere and parachute into the Atlantic Ocean.

# ELVIS LIVES!



**DEEP at the bottom of the Gulf of California, scientists have discovered four new species of scale worms that are glittery!**

The four new worms belong to a group nicknamed 'Elvis worms', after famous American singer Elvis Presley, as their shiny scales look like the sequins on some of the singer's suits.

Marine biologist Greg Rouse spotted some of them "wiggling and then fighting and biting each other," adding that nothing like it had ever been seen before in similar worms.

"It's hard to believe that the deep sea is still largely unexplored and teeming with mysterious animals," said study leader Avery Hatch.

# BEE BITES

**WHEN pollen is scarce, bees can be tough on the plants that provide it.**



New research shows that bees bite the leaves of plants to stimulate them into flowering. Scientists were observing the bees for other research, so it was a surprise for them to see this behaviour. They looked closer and found that the damaged plants flowered up to two weeks earlier, giving the bees what they needed.

# KEEP IT UP!



**WASHING your hands properly has become part of everyday life, but it could keep us healthier even when the pandemic is over.**

A new study has shown that thorough and frequent hand-washing (six to ten times a day) considerably reduced the risk of infection from other types of coronavirus, such as flu. So keep washing!

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES

## INNOVATIONS

**A SEEING, artificial eye is one of science's biggest challenges that could be one step closer to reality.**

The complexity of the eye, and in particular the shape, has been the hardest thing to overcome. Now, scientists from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology have managed to create a curved retina with light sensors that mimic the function of a real eye. The incredibly complicated structure is made from metals, liquid, tiny wires, rubber and silicon, and is a big leap forward. However, reducing the cost and the size of some of the parts are needed to make it a realistic option for robots in the future.



Artificial eyes are hard to create

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

This report is from the Science Museum in London

**A LOT has changed since humans first travelled to the moon in an Apollo command module, but the new Crew Dragon spacecraft (right) looks surprisingly similar to those used more than 50 years ago.**

The Crew Dragon designed by SpaceX took off on NASA's Demo-2 mission on 30 May.

Like the famous Apollo capsules, the new spacecraft has a cone-shaped design but is more elongated (stretched). It is also larger and can carry up to seven astronauts, while the Apollo 11 command module only had room for a cosy three. And unlike the Apollo 10 capsule that was brought to the Science Museum shortly after its mission, the Crew Dragon will be reused!

Find out more at [blog.sciencemuseum.org.uk/crew-dragon](http://blog.sciencemuseum.org.uk/crew-dragon).



# GO WILD IN JUNE

**THIS month The Wildlife Trusts are encouraging people to engage with nature every day, as part of the 30 Days Wild challenge.**

The aim is to do something 'wild' every day in June, even while social distancing. Almost half a million people are expected to join in this year.

Time in lockdown has seen more and more people learn to appreciate nature on their daily walks, and studies show that experiencing a little bit of nature every day makes you feel healthier and happier.

There are free activity packs available to download from The Wildlife Trusts, along with a huge list of suggestions of things you can do with your family this

month. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Go for a walk in the woods
- Make a bird feeder or bug hotel
- Go on a scavenger hunt
- Sketch something from nature
- Plant some wildlife-friendly seeds
- Stay up until it is dark, so you can do some stargazing

There are lots of ways to go wild in June, and it isn't too late to join in. Visit [wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild](http://wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild) for more details.



## WOW!

**THIS week is World Oceans Day (8 June), a day to celebrate the natural wonder of our oceans and look at ways to help protect them. You can help by making sure you put all of your litter into a bin, so that your rubbish doesn't end up washing into the sea.**

## BEETLE WATCH



**STAG beetle season is here, so the People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) is asking for your help to monitor this rare species.**

Stag beetles are the largest beetle species found in the UK. They start life underground as larvae, but will soon be emerging as adult beetles, ready for the summer.

The PTES is asking for the public to help spot stag beetles, so they can build a clearer picture of where in the country the species can be found.

The best time to spot stag beetles is early evenings, particularly in wooded areas. They love rotting trees and are easily identified by their large antlers.

You can register your stag beetle sightings and find out how you can help this amazing species in your garden by visiting [www.ptes.org/stagbeetles](http://www.ptes.org/stagbeetles).

## BACK TO WORK BLUES

**AS the UK lockdown slowly starts to loosen, more and more people are returning to school and work, leaving lots of pets home alone again.**

The RSPCA animal charity is urging pet owners to think about their animals and how they will feel when their routine changes again. Over the last few months, while schools have been closed and people have been working from home, your pets will have got used to having more time with you. The sudden change of an empty house all day may upset them.

Sarah Tapsell from the RSPCA says: "Changes in routine are something a dog can adapt to, but it is important to think ahead and begin to make gradual changes before you change your routine again. Remember that your dog is a social animal; it is normal for them to want and need to spend time with you."

While it is exciting that life is starting to return to normal, it's important to remember your pets and how it will affect them too.



## WHAT IS KNITTING?

Knitting is the skill of using two needles to weave fabric thread together – normally wool – to make things like clothes and toys. It's also done by machines, but what we're talking about here is hand-knitting.

## WHY KNIT?

Lots of reasons. Once you learn the basics, you can make a whole bunch of things: cool clothes, must-have accessories and fun toys are just a few ideas. It's also a great way to relax and spend time away from things like gaming and mobile phones to let your mind unwind.



It's also a great way to make presents and, with Father's Day coming up, why not make a male role model something special?

## THE IDEAL LOCKDOWN ACTIVITY FOR YOU!



While we're all at home with a bit more time on our hands than normal, spending your time doing crafty stuff like sewing and knitting is a great way to learn a new skill and be creative.

You can also work remotely on projects with friends by picking, say, an animal to make and then both doing your own versions.



Knitting is a great hobby!



# LET'S GET KNITTING!

ANYONE who thinks knitting is just for grannies, needs to think again. On 13 June, committed knitters all over the world will get their needles and wool out to celebrate World Wide Knit In Public Day – a celebration of wool artists everywhere... including some grannies!

## CELEBS THAT KNIT!



KATE MIDDLETON

DEMI LOVATO

LORDE

GEORGE LUCAS



RYAN GOSLING



KRISTEN STEWART

## HOW TO GET STARTED

Anyone can learn the basics of knitting and, after that, the only limit is your imagination. You'll need two knitting needles and some wool, plus some simple guidance.

## EXPERT ADVICE



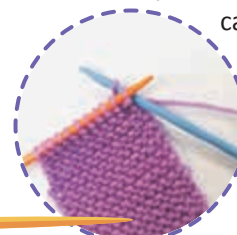
Michele Hall is the owner of Vanarags Studio, which runs sewing and knitting clubs for schools in southwest London. "We have knitters and sewists of all ages attend our clubs, so it's never too late or early to start," she says. "We help children



learn the basics, like how to make a slip knot and how to cast on and cast off. These can be the trickiest things to master, but once you learn these, you can knit pretty much anything!



"The most important thing to do is start off with a straightforward project to get your confidence up and then you can try out different and more advanced ideas with your newfound skills.



"Our kids love making cute animals and, since schools shut their doors a couple of months ago,

we've been creating cool make-at-home sewing and knitting kits to help them keep up their crafty ways while on lockdown.



"Our kits contain everything that you'd need, and we've been donating £1 from every kit that we sell to the NHS since lockdown started."



See the kits on [Insta @vanaragsstudio](#). Please be aware of age restrictions on social media

# WIN! FUN SCRATCH PROGRAMMING BOOKS



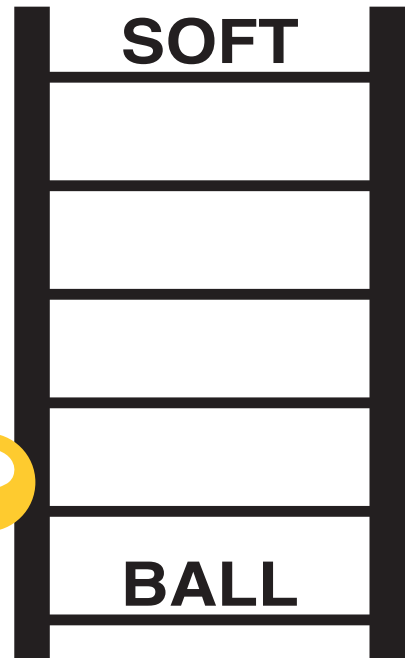
CAN you complete our sudoku puzzle and fill in the numbers one to nine?

Send in your answers and two lucky winners will win a copy of *Scratch Programming In Easy Steps*. This great introduction shows you how to make games, art and music on your computer using Scratch. The full-colour book has a friendly, step-by-step approach and uses free software.

Get a free sample and find stockists at [www.sean.co.uk/books](http://www.sean.co.uk/books).

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

# 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.



# WIN! THINK! WORDS GAME



CAN you complete our crossword by using the clues below?

Send in your answers and two lucky winners will win *Think! Words*. It's the fast-paced category word game that challenges players to think quickly! Simply choose a category card and press the timer to start. The first player has ten seconds to say a word matching the category, then reset the timer for the next player to say a word starting with the remaining letters! The pressure mounts as the letters get used up – you'd better think fast or you're out!

Suitable for ages 8+.

	1	2		3		4		5	
6						7			8
9					10				
				11					
12		13					14	15	
17							16		
							18		
				19					

**ACROSS**

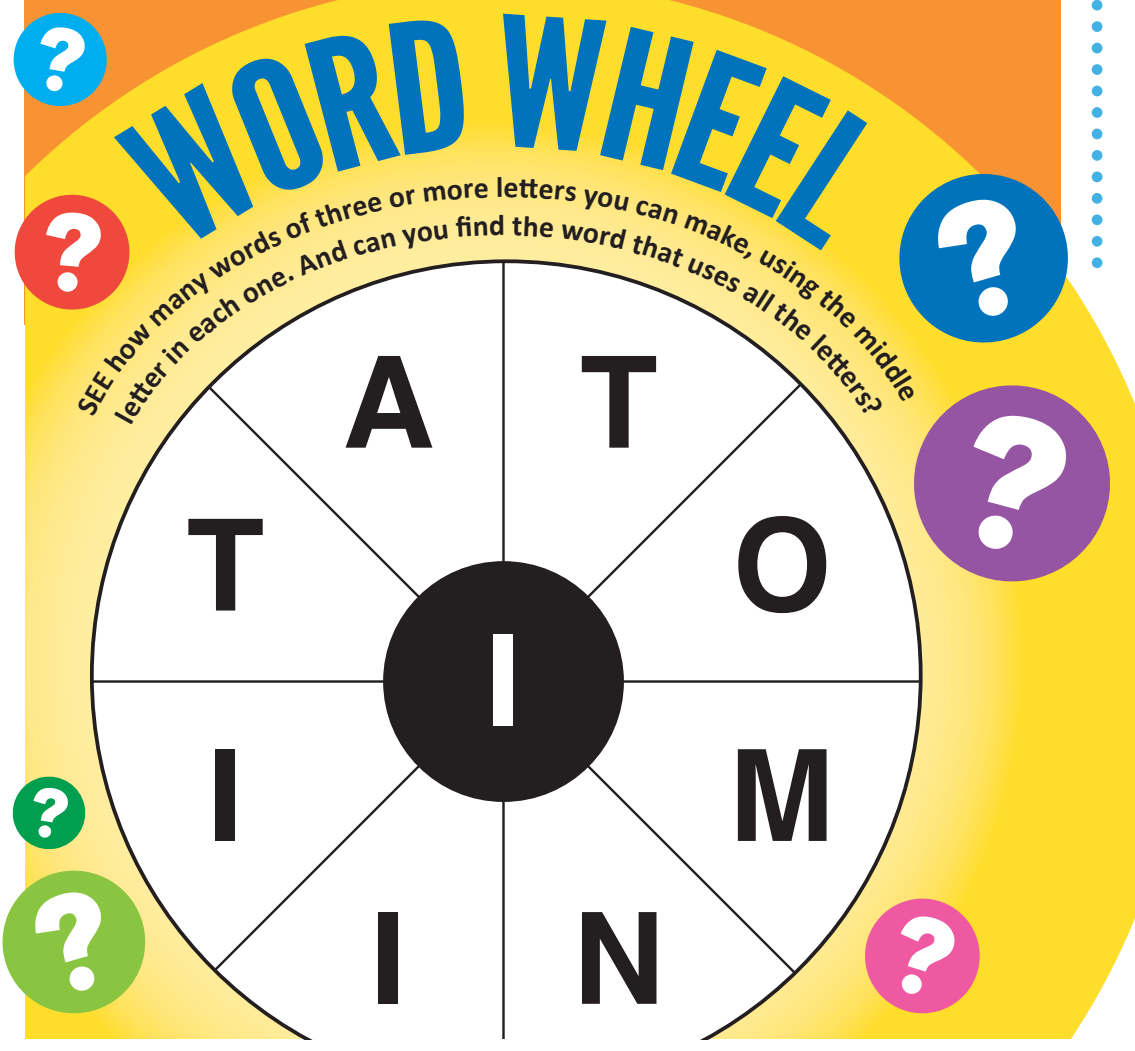
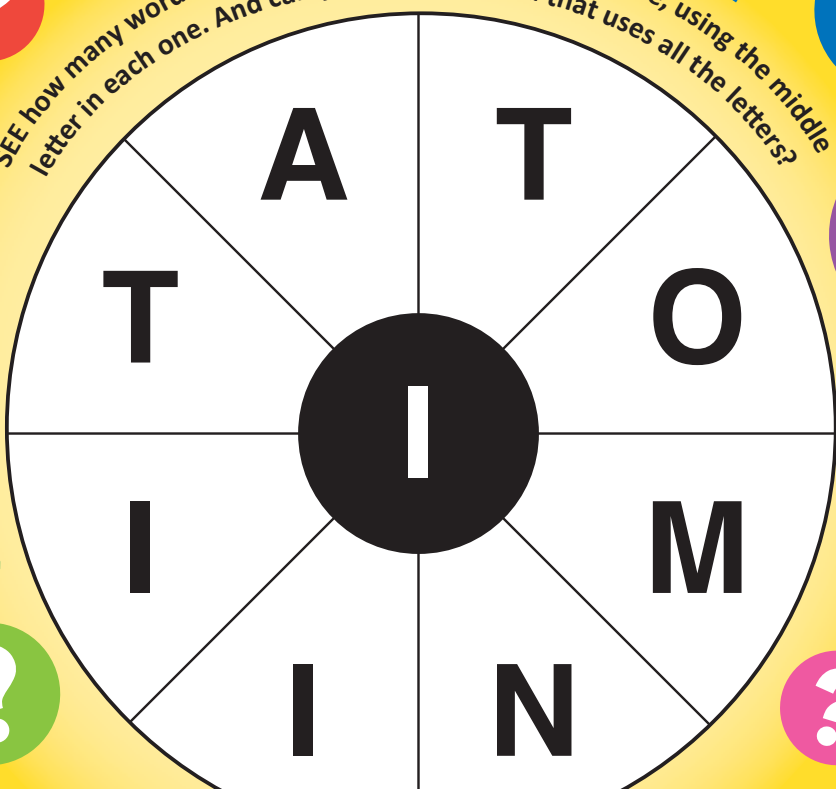
- 1 Annoy (8)
- 6 Move quickly to avoid something (5)
- 7 Important; serious (5)
- 9 Main stalk of a plant (4)
- 10 Coloured wax drawing stick (6)
- 12 Scratches (6)
- 14 Run away (4)
- 17 Large waterbirds that are usually white (5)
- 18 A deep chasm (5)
- 19 Having several parts (8)

**DOWN**

- 2 Long narrow hilltop (5)
- 3 Time (anag) (4)
- 4 Respect and look up to (6)
- 5 Derive pleasure from (5)
- 6 Send away (7)
- 8 Joggers (7)
- 11 Ship or boat (6)
- 13 State something is the case (5)
- 15 Faithful (5)
- 16 Indian dress (4)

# WORD WHEEL

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







## YOU'VE JUST PUBLISHED *MR DOG AND THE FARAWAY FOX*, SO CAN YOU TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE SERIES SO FAR?

The series is about a mongrel called Mr Dog, who is very clever and most sensible. The books follow his encounters and adventures with various species of British wildlife, from foxes to hedgehogs. I've always loved dogs and always had dogs, so I wanted to write a series of children's books with a dog as the lead!

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT THE CHARACTER OF MR DOG?

I like the fact that he is very kind and a little aloof [detached]. He is nomadic [a wanderer]. He doesn't have a home but everyone is his friend. I suppose he is a little like me, only cleverer. He is curious and likes everyone.

## HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHICH KEY ANIMALS TO USE IN EACH BOOK?

They are often based on my own experiences with animals over the years. I bring influence from the stories I have heard and the animals I have worked with.

## YOU'VE TRAVELLED A LOT AND ENCOUNTERED LOTS OF CREATURES, BUT WHICH ONES HAVE INSPIRED YOU THE MOST?

I am inspired by life, the people and animals I meet and the places I go. I have had some extraordinary encounters with wildlife during expeditions, like the whale that followed us when I rowed across the Atlantic Ocean.

## CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT ANOTHER MEMORABLE ANIMAL ENCOUNTER?

I have walked across the Empty Quarter of Oman with camels and followed the migration of the wildebeest from Tanzania to Kenya over the course of a year, but scuba diving with wild Nile crocodiles in Botswana was one of the most scary and incredible experiences of my life. My research for the books is largely from life experiences. I am like a little book of information and stories that I have collected all around the world over the years.



**“READING WILL TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE!”**

TV presenter, adventurer and author Ben Fogle is an ambassador for this year's Summer Reading Challenge, which asks children to read for fun over the summer. We caught up with Ben to talk about reading, adventures with wildlife and his Mr Dog book series.

## WHERE DO YOU WRITE YOUR BOOKS?

I write my books in tents, hammocks, buses, planes and on the kitchen table. I write whenever I have a moment of inspiration. I always have ideas when I run, so I often write when I get back from a jog.

## WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE YOU WANTED TO WRITE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN?

I have written a dozen books in non-fiction for adults and I wanted to write for children. As a father to two children, Ludo and Iona, I wanted to write for them. We love reading as a family and I often share my stories with them.

## DO YOU TEST OUT YOUR STORIES ON YOUR CHILDREN?

Of course! They were my most feared critics. I was very nervous to hear their feedback. The thing about children is that they are brutally honest. Grown-ups often dress things up, but children never lie. If it's bad, they will tell you so. Luckily, they loved Mr Dog. They helped me name the characters and we brainstorm ideas together.

## YOU'RE AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE THIS YEAR. WHY DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH IT?

It's a brilliant initiative and couldn't be more timely, given the number of children who have been affected by the lockdown and are about to go into the summer holidays. Reading is pure escapism and the beauty of it is that it can be done almost anywhere. The more we can encourage children to love reading for fun, the better. And the 'Silly Squad' theme is just what is needed during these times of uncertainty.

## WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO KIDS WHO FIND READING HARD?

I found reading difficult. Don't try to be perfect. Persevere, because reading will transform your life. It brings so much light and colour to your mind. It's like fuel for the head.

## HAVE YOU REDISCOVERED ANY CHILDHOOD FAVOURITES WHILE READING WITH YOUR CHILDREN?

I loved all the Dr Seuss books. They are so lyrical and quirky. I still love them, so we have read all of the Dr Seuss books and, of course, Roald Dahl. They have introduced me to David Walliams too, who is brilliant!

### Mr Dog and the Faraway Fox

is out now. Why not add it to your reading list for the Summer Reading Challenge? It starts on 5 June and this year the theme is about getting silly. Find out all the details and sign up at [sillysquad.org.uk](http://sillysquad.org.uk).



## CHARITIES SUPPORTED BY FIRST NEWS

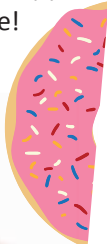


# BEARS ♥ CAKE

**FORGET marmalade sandwiches – apparently, bears will do anything for a doughnut or cake!**

When a black bear was found wandering around Fort Myers in America, the police and Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission came up with a tasty plan to get him back to the wild. Officers lured the 17st 12lb (113kg) bear into a trap using Krispy Kreme doughnuts and a spray that smelled of blueberry pie!

Once they had caught the hungry bear, they were able to relocate him to a safe wildlife area away from people.



# NOT VERY NICE CREAM



**A SHOP in Hong Kong has started selling the oddest flavour ice cream we've ever heard of – it tastes like tear gas.**

The tear gas flavoured ice cream, whose main ingredient is black pepper, is said to have a really strong taste and makes it a bit difficult to breathe after you've eaten some.

The weird ice cream has been made by the owner to remind locals about the pro-democracy protests that were taking place there before the coronavirus pandemic.



# FLY SPY

**A PIGEON has been accused of being a spy in India.**

Maybe the Disney movie *Spies In Disguise*, where secret agent Will Smith turns into a pigeon, isn't so crazy, after all!

The bird, which has been caught by locals in a village close to the Indian border with Pakistan, had a ring with numbers on around its leg, which some believe to be a coded message. Security agencies are said to be trying to decipher the message.

However, a man in Pakistan says the bird is his and the number is in fact just his phone number – and he'd like his pigeon back, please. Birds have allegedly been used for spying in the region before.



# YOU MAY NOW KISS THE CAT!

**A MAN in California has raised money for an animal shelter by marrying his cat.**

Scott Perry adopted his cat Olivia from the Best Friends Animals Society in Los Angeles five years ago. The duo are such a purrfect pair that Scott decided to hold a wedding with Olivia to help raise awareness and money for the shelter. He said he wanted to help other animals during the lockdown.



**WHY ARE ICE CREAMS SO RELAXED? THEY ARE ALWAYS CHILLED!**

**WHAT DID THE BEAR PACK WHEN IT WENT FOR A WALK? THE BEAR NECESSITIES!**

**SHARE YOUR JOKES WITH US AT [NEWSDESK@FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:NEWSDESK@FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK)**

# Paper Boy!

Written and illustrated by Paul Palmer



# DOWNLOAD

## THE TCS Digital Innovators

# EDUCATION PACK



TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES in partnership with FirstNews

TATA Consultancy Services (TCS) has teamed up with First News to create a free education pack to inspire young innovators. We believe the decisions and innovations of young people are the future. That's why we want you to know that you can start innovating right now!

## WHAT'S IN THE EDUCATION PACK?

The education pack is free to download and aimed at getting 7 to 14-year-olds thinking about how to identify problems (big or small) and use innovation to solve those problems. Specifically, it encourages you to think of an invention that can help older people live safer, happier and healthier lives.

It features case studies and interviews to help you focus your innovation ideas. This includes three examples of TCS innovations that have gone on to help older people, one of which is on the page opposite. There's also an interview with the head of Age UK Camden, which will help you to identify the immediate needs of the elderly.

Ask your teacher or your lockdown teachers (mum and dad!) to download the TCS Digital Innovators Education Pack at [first.news/innovators](https://first.news/innovators).



## DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS

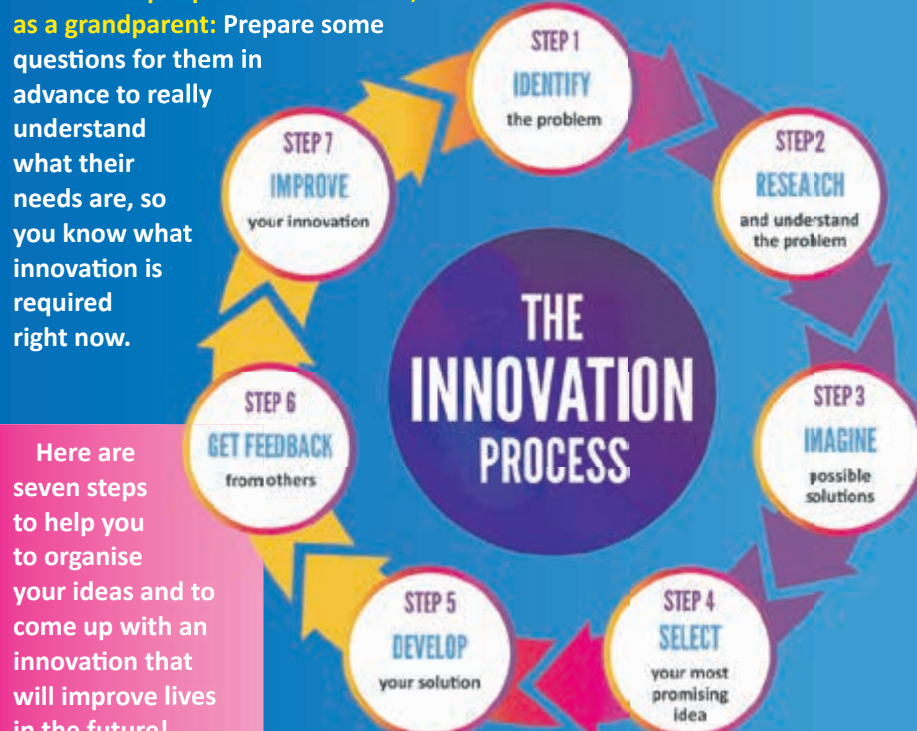
All innovations, big or small, are developed to solve a specific need – be that a personal need or a larger one in society. Your innovations should solve a particular need facing older people, and that 'need' and 'solution' should be very clear. Read the case study on the next page and ask yourself:

1. What was the need?
2. What innovation has been created?
3. What digital technology has been used in the solution?

## IDENTIFYING NEEDS IN SOCIETY

Ageing happens to us all. As we grow older, our bodies change and some things become harder or impossible to do. Here are some tips to help you identify needs that people have when they get older.

1. **Make a list of your initial thoughts.**
2. **Ask an expert:** Look for information on the websites of charities such as Age UK, British Home and The Cinnamon Trust. The TCS Education Pack has an interview with Nikki Morris, the CEO of Age UK Camden, too.
3. **Talk to people in the situation, such as a grandparent:** Prepare some questions for them in advance to really understand what their needs are, so you know what innovation is required right now.



Here are seven steps to help you to organise your ideas and to come up with an innovation that will improve lives in the future!



## CASE STUDY:

# DEVELOPING A DIGITAL SKIN TWIN

A NEW computer model known as Digital Skin Twin is an upcoming innovation by super smart company TCS that could revolutionise the way we take medicine.



### WHAT IS DIGITAL SKIN TWIN?

Some innovations are so revolutionary that they can actually change the way the world does things. Cars changed the way we travel on land. Planes changed the way we travel across seas. Social media changed the way we communicate online.

TCS's Digital Skin Twin, which is in development (innovations such as this require a huge amount of research and testing), could transform the way we take medicine and, in turn, save the lives of countless human beings and animals.

### INNOVATION IN HEALTHCARE

Innovation is constantly changing the healthcare industry. And be thankful that's the case, because without great innovations in healthcare we'd still be wearing unwashed lamb's hair drenched in brandy to get rid of our colds, and rubbing live snails against our burns and scratches!

Innovation has transformed the ways we take medicine and transformed the ways in which they are actually made. With their Digital Skin Twin model, those clever clogs at TCS are continuing to innovate these processes.

### IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEMS

In the very early stages of the Digital Skin Twin innovation, TCS looked at the medical industry and saw two problems. One, it takes far too long for

companies to develop new drugs and cosmetics and get them onto the market so that people can benefit from them. Two, a huge number of animals still undergo animal testing in labs before a new drug or cosmetic can be released. These two problems are affecting the wellbeing and lives of humans and animals.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

TCS proposed its Digital Skin Twin platform as a solution to these two problems. It is essentially a digital replica of every unique layer of a person's skin. This very complicated digital replica allows scientists to explore hundreds of thousands of different molecule and drug combinations. TCS says that this is far more useful than anything animal testing can achieve and, of course, it's far more ethical.

The Digital Skin Twin platform uses a technique known as multi-scale modelling and virtual reality for "transdermal pharmaceutical and cosmetics delivery", which means that the drugs are given through the skin after lots of digital analysis.

### TREATING DIABETES

Beena Rai, Head of Physical Sciences Research at TCS, helps paint a picture using a well-known disease: "Take the example of diabetes. If somebody has to take insulin, they have to inject it. I can put in a new formulation – the combination of insulin

with certain other chemicals – and test it against the digital skin to see if it works. In this way, the model helps us to design formulations."

### ROBO-SKIN!

TCS has even said that the innovation is helping to develop robo-skin for robots of the future! Here's where you go: "Wow! The future is here!"

So, not only will TCS's Digital Skin Twin model help develop pain-free delivery of drugs through the skin (like a patch), but it could also help eliminate animal testing. So here's an innovation that could change the world – and it all started with the desire to solve a problem.



CHECK OUT OUR SCHOOL RESOURCES AT [FIRST.NEWS/INNOVATORS](https://www.firstnews.co.uk/innovators)



# “I’M VERY COMPETITIVE”

BLUE Peter has teamed up with supercar manufacturers McLaren to offer viewers the chance to design a supercar of the future. Blue Peter presenter Richie told us more...

## HOW ARE YOU DOING? IT MUST BE SO STRANGE NOT BEING IN THE STUDIO!

I know, I keep pestering the Blue Peter dog’s owner to see if I can borrow him for a day or two to go on some lovely walks. I actually filmed yesterday in the Blue Peter garden and it was probably the highlight of the last two or three months for me. It wasn’t like it was even something exciting like the McLaren film, for example, it was just making slime, but it was wonderful to be back. No doubt we’re going to wind up a lot of parents by teaching kids how to make slime, but that’s what we like!

## YOU MENTIONED YOUR VISIT TO MCLAREN; CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE SUPERCAR COMPETITION?

So Blue Peter has teamed up with McLaren, who are one of the premier car makers in the world, to give viewers the chance to design their supercar of the future. It’s really about pure imagination, as it asks viewers to consider the look of the car, how it impacts the environment, how many people it will be made for, whether it will be on land, underwater, on the sand... it can literally be anything, the limit is your imagination. It’s a competition that I would have entered when I was watching the show growing up. The winner gets a VIP tour of the McLaren Technology Centre and gets to ride in a McLaren supercar driven by The Stig from Top Gear. Plus the very special orange Blue Peter competition badge.

## THAT SOUNDS PRETTY COOL! YOU VISITED THE MCLAREN FACTORY, SO WHAT WAS THAT LIKE?

I went behind the scenes at the Technology Centre and



Richie visited the McLaren Technology Centre for Blue Peter

it was the very first time that a camera crew had been allowed behind the scenes in certain areas, which was just a real privilege. I’m a bit of a car nut, so to discuss the intricacies of each car was just so special. Each car is made for the individual person. I discovered that even the way the seat is stitched has an impact on the speed of the car itself. Every little tiny detail has an impact.

## WHAT KIND OF DETAILS WOULD YOUR SUPERCAR HAVE?

That’s a very good question! I was always told that red cars apparently go faster, so I would always go for a red car! I would make it a single-seater so that it is lighter and can go faster. I love driving and I was lucky enough to drive through America – I did that on my own with just music for company, which is why I’d make my car a single-seater. We want the competition entries to be personal, as well as people using their imagination. We want ingenuity, imagination and a story behind their vehicle and what makes it special to them.

## WHICH FAMOUS CAR WOULD YOU LIKE TO DRIVE FOR A DAY?

There are so many iconic cars to choose from, so which one would I drive? I think I would drive the Aston Martin Vanquish from the James Bond film Casino Royale. Or the Batmobile from The Dark Knight. We actually had the Batmobile on Blue Peter and I got to sit in it!

## THERE’S A COOL RACING GAME ON THE BLUE PETER WEBSITE CALLED BLUE PETER RALLY RACING. HOW MUCH HAVE YOU BEEN PLAYING DURING LOCKDOWN?

Probably far too much! We have a video going up on the site of me, Mwaksy and Lindsey going head-to-head. I’m very, very competitive, so I wasn’t going to submit my video until I was sure I was going to come first. I’ve been playing a lot of it because I do love car computer games.

## WHO IS THE MOST COMPETITIVE BLUE PETER PRESENTER?

Me and Lindsey have had some very fiery head-to-heads. Mwaksy is still new to the team and I haven’t done any head-to-head challenges with her yet, so the jury is still out on her. Me and Lindsey did a canoe race together and that was fiery, but I won. Then, when it came to basketball, I’m much taller than her but she somehow won. You never know who will win between us!

Find out how you can enter the Supercar of the Future competition at [bbc.co.uk/bluepeter](http://bbc.co.uk/bluepeter)

# A NEW STORY BEGINS...

JK Rowling is releasing her first children’s book since the Harry Potter series.

The author announced on social media that she is releasing *The Ickabog* for free online over the next seven weeks. In a statement, JK said: “I’ve decided to publish *The Ickabog* for free online, so children on lockdown, or even those back at school during these strange, unsettling times, can read it or have it read to them.”

The story is not about magic and has nothing to do with Harry Potter, although it was actually written just after Harry Potter had finished. She said: “Until very recently,

the only people who’d heard the story of *The Ickabog* were my two younger children.”

A physical version of the book will be published in November, with illustrations drawn by fans as part of a competition. All proceeds from the sale of the book will go to help people who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Find out how you can submit your illustrations and read *The Ickabog* for yourself at [www.theickabog.com](http://www.theickabog.com).



# PICS OF THE WEEK

**SHOOK** is the brilliant new show launching on Disney Channel this week.

It follows the life of Mia Brooks (Sofia Wylie), an incredible dancer who is terrified to dance. When life gets in the way of her dreams, she meets a hip-hop crew who show her a new way to look at life and a new way to make the most of her talent.

The show premiered on Disney Channel's YouTube channel as a series of short episodes, but will air on the Disney Channel as an hour-long special from Friday 5 June.



## DOVE CAMERON



**Descendants 3 is the last film in the series – how do you feel about that?**

Descendants 3 is kind of the culmination [ending] of everything you've been looking for in the Descendants films. It answers all your questions, heals relationships, brings things full circle, and you get to know a lot about the characters' back stories.

**You spend a lot of time in the UK, so what do you like about it?**

I love that it's very old. If you walk around America we don't really have much history in our buildings. I'm big on architecture and I'm big on history, so I love it anytime I'm here.

**What about UK foods? Are there any that you hate or love?**

Oh, I love haggis! Love it. Love black pudding, love haggis, love a traditional English breakfast. Oh, yeah! If Thomas [Doherty, who plays Harry Hook] and I are here, we'll go to Borough Market in London and get a big greasy English breakfast and fill up on coffee. That's my favourite.

**What were you like when you were Mal's age?**

I was very odd; I think that's why I like Mal so much. I think Mal represents in her character what I would have needed growing up, because I did not relate to

## THIS WEEK



**1** A sequel to this year's hit film *Sonic The Hedgehog* has been confirmed by Paramount Pictures. The team who created the first film have signed up to work on the live-action sequel. The film is still in its very early stages, so we may have to wait a few years before it hits our cinema screens!

**2** The big Disney Channel film for 2020 has been announced, and it's called *Secret Society of Second-Born Royals*. The film follows Sam, a royal teenager who is second in line to the throne of the kingdom of Illyria. Sam unexpectedly finds herself joining a secret society who are tasked with keeping the rest of the world safe. The brand-new film is perfect for fans of *Descendants* and will premiere on 17 July.



**3** Football fans can now enjoy a whole range of activities linked to the Jamie Johnson book series. Premier League Primary Stars has taken over the National Literacy Trust's Family Zone website this week, with a packed schedule of activities. Author Dan Freedman has filmed a very special creative writing challenge, and there's a free ebook download of the very first Jamie Johnson book, *The Kick Off*. Visit [literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone](http://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone) for your copy!



the princesses. I didn't relate to the girls on Disney Channel. They were very girly and shiny and good-looking and I never was. I loved salamanders and I was a woodsy girl. I was never wearing shoes. I always cut my own hair. I was always getting into stuff that was quite dirty. I was a very artistic kid. I would have loved to have had someone like Mal who's a bit scrappy, but still also running things and still also considered important, worth hearing and smart. You know, I didn't want to have to be like all the other girls, and I think Mal is a really great role model for girls like that!

Catch *Descendants 3* on the Disney Channel throughout the summer

THE actor talks about her love of the UK and playing Mal in *Descendants 3*, which is back on Disney Channel.



# OUR THANK YOU

by pupils from Douglas Primary School, Scotland

**WE take part in an inter-generational programme with our local hospital, Lady Home Hospital. As we couldn't be there in person, working with the nurses and patients, we thought we would send them a message.**

Lady Home Hospital is a cottage hospital in our village. Our school has built a strong relationship with the hospital over the last few years and many of our classes visit the hospital regularly to cheer up the patients there.

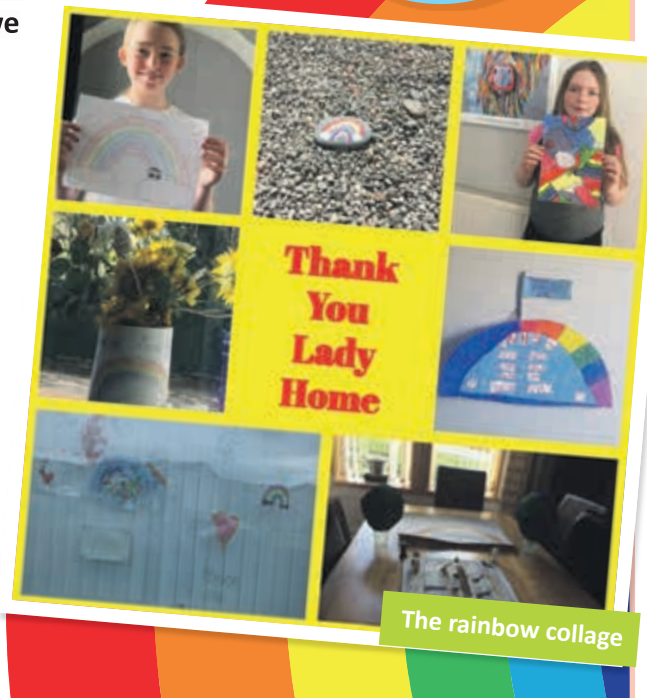
We do things like carol singing at Christmas, reciting Scottish poetry for St Andrew's Day, plus planting and harvesting vegetables in their garden with some of the staff and patients there.

This term, our class would have visited the hospital and carried on with these types of activities, but are now unable to because of the pandemic.

So, instead of visiting, we have been doing other things to keep the connection and to show our appreciation of the hospital and especially the staff there. Mrs Charnley organised a collage of our rainbows to send to the hospital to show the NHS staff there that we really appreciate them at this difficult time, and to cheer the patients up when they will be getting fewer visitors. Our collage has been hung on the wall in the hospital for all to see.



SCHOOL NEWS



**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](mailto: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.

## CHARITY HAIRCUT

by Ollie, Highfield and Brookham Schools

**MY dad and I shaved our heads for charity. We volunteered to take part in a fundraiser to show our support and respect for NHS staff and their tireless work throughout the COVID-19 crisis.**

The shave took place live over a video conference. My younger brother Sammy and I helped do the honours and shaved dad's head. After we'd completed the shave, I decided that I wanted to show my support and asked dad to shave my head as well.

So far, me, dad and his work colleagues have raised more than £13,000 for NHS Charities Together.

NHS Charities Together provide extra vital funds and services to NHS hospitals, ambulances, mental and community health trusts and health boards. This funding is above and beyond what the Government provides and is spent on enhancing care for patients.




SCHOOL NEWS

## RAINBOW ART

by Mimi Nash

**I WANTED to create a rainbow for the NHS using everyday objects.**

When I started it, I had different expectations for what it would look like, but I'm still happy with how it looks, especially as it took forever to make because I kept changing it!

My school asked us to make mini rainbows, and that gave me the idea to make the sculpture out of different-coloured household objects like pens, rulers, paper, candles, rubber gloves, a magnifying glass, spoons and a dog's lead.

I'm also saying thank you to my family and to two of my friends for being really supportive to me, and a special thanks to the NHS!



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

**CALL: (020) 3195 7256 EMAIL: [SCHOOLS@FIRSTNEWS.CO.UK](mailto:schools@firstnews.co.uk)**



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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**



To order, visit [www.firstnews.co.uk](http://www.firstnews.co.uk) or call 0330 333 0186



# OH SO WHOLESOME!

FANS and developers of independent videogames have created a special Wholesome Direct video, where they showed off a ton of games that don't always get a lot of attention.

When something is described as wholesome, it means that it's good for your wellbeing. That might just be something that makes you smile, or it could be something that genuinely improves your mental health.

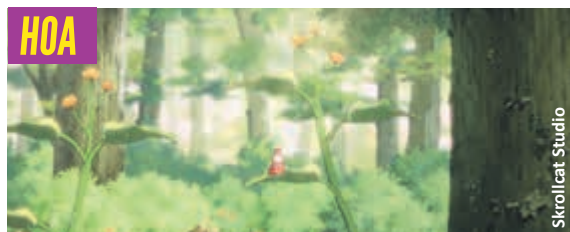
While you might not immediately think of videogames as wholesome, the many games shown off at the first ever Wholesome Direct were all absolutely delightful!

Here are a few of our favourites.



**MONDO MUSEUM**  
Mondo Museum puts you in charge of your own museum! Fill it with artefacts and fossils, and create a cultural hotspot envied around the world!

The gorgeous-looking HoA features entirely hand-drawn art and looks like an absolute masterpiece! We don't know too much about it at this point, but we're already blown away.



**LITTLE WITCH IN THE WOODS**  
Little Witch In The Woods is one of the cutest things we've ever seen. Developed in South Korea, you play as a little witch, learning to be the best witch you can!



JUST last week we told you that we weren't massive golf fans here at the First News Game Zone and yet, for the second week in a row, we've been playing a game about golf! Well, sort of...

Golf With Your Friends is a mad game of multiplayer mini golf, with a few added rules that you wouldn't typically have down at the local mini golf green.

For example, unlike real mini golf, where you patiently take your turn to putt, in Golf With Your Friends you're all putting at once, and your balls can bounce and bash off each other. And that's only the start of the madness.



There are power-ups that can sabotage your opponents, and truly insane courses to navigate your way around. It's not always fair, but it's often very fun!

ADVERTISEMENT

From £4 a month

## DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO LOVES ORCAS?

### ADOPTING AN ORCA HELPS PROTECT THEIR FUTURE...

Orcas are amazing but too many are dying. Poisoned by polluted seas. Accidentally caught in fishing nets. Some are even taken into captivity. **By adopting an orca with Whale and Dolphin Conservation you can help us give orcas the protection they need to survive.** Your support will help us protect them from activities such as industrial development, fish farming, logging and pollution. We'll send you your very own adoption pack, including, a personalised certificate with a picture of your adoption whale, a set of fun stickers and a colourful WDC badge. We'll keep you up-to-date on their daily lives through a great quarterly magazine, a monthly e-newsletter and you'll receive an email birthday and Christmas card.



### YOU CAN ADOPT:



**BEND**

Bend was a surprise from the time she was born. No one had ever seen an orca quite like her. On the front edge of her dorsal fin was a deep cut and it grew lopsided taking on a comical look of the sorting hat from Harry Potter!

OR



**FIFE**

Fife is the younger brother of Corky. Tragically, he has never met his sister as she has been held in captivity by SeaWorld. He is quite a character, extremely handsome and easy to recognise by his tall dorsal fin.

**WDC** WHALE AND DOLPHIN CONSERVATION

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT [ADOPTAWHALE.COM](http://ADOPTAWHALE.COM)

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# WHAT'S IN THE SHOPS?

## WATER WARRIORS POWER RAIDER WITH RED DOT SCOPE SMYTHSTOYS.COM £19.99

This air pressure water blaster shoots water up to 12 metres. There are three adjustable nozzles so you can choose which water blast to go for. The water blaster has a large-capacity tank and features a battery-operated, light-up, red-dot scope for pinpoint water aiming.



## CACTUS SPRINKLER TPTOYS.COM £19.99

This Giggle 'n' Splash Cactus Sprinkler will bring some prickly fun to your garden this summer. Simply inflate, attach a hose and throw the rings on the cactus's arms to gain points! Includes inflatable cactus, sprinkler function, three inflatable rings and repair kit.



## ZURU BUNCH O BALLOONS PACK AND BLASTERS THETOYSHOP.COM £15.00

Epic water bomb fights are easy with this Bunch O Balloons set. Attach the special nozzle and balloons to a water hose to fill up 100 water balloons in just 60 seconds! The pack includes 130 balloons and two water blasters that fire up to five metres. Water fights will never be the same!



\*All prices correct at time of printing

# WIN! AN ORCHARD TOYS GAMES BUNDLE

THANKS to Orchard Toys, three lucky winners will win a games bundle, including four fantastic games:

**Magic Maths:** A magical addition, subtraction and multiplication game. Players use the rub-and-reveal cards to check their answers and, if correct, add a yucky ingredient to their board!

**Magic Spelling:** A spellbinding literacy game. Find hidden letters through the magic viewer to spell words, then check the spelling using the magical rub-and-reveal cards!

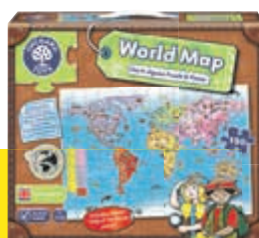
**Times Tables Heroes:** This set features two games in one! One is a board game where players complete multiplication sums and battle it out to save the city with superhero powers! Plus there's fast-paced bingo, where players practise times tables as they race to get three in a row.

**World Map Jigsaw:** Explore the countries and continents of the world in this 150-piece jigsaw, which also includes a giant poster!

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

How many continents are there in the world?

a) five b) six c) seven



## ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY GAMES

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 15. The closing date is 18 June 2020.

# WIN! SCRUFF-A-LUVS

## SCRUFF-A-LUVS: who will you rescue?

These unloved and abandoned pets are in need of your help! Scruff-a-Luvs arrive as sad balls of matted fur, but once you have rescued and cared for your poor little Scruff-a-Luv, they will be your Furry Friend forever!

**Scruff-a-Luvs Babies:** Open the pet carrier to reveal who you have rescued! Is it a lamb, duckling or bunny? Once you find out, it's time to transform them from scruffy to fluffy!

**Scruff-a-Luvs Jungle:** Open the box to find a jungle animal tangled in vines. Unwrap the vine leaves, wash them, dry them and comb them to reveal their true beauty. Have you rescued a lion, a parrot or a monkey?

Seven lucky winners will win two Scruff-a-Luvs Babies and a Scruff-a-Luvs Jungle pet!

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

Which of these animals would you find in the jungle?  
a) Sheep b) Camel c) Orangutan



Find out more at [www.scruff-a-luvs.com](http://www.scruff-a-luvs.com)

Available from Amazon, Argos, Smyths and The Entertainer.

## ENTER NOW! MARK YOUR ENTRY SCRUFF

firstnews.co.uk/competitions or see page 15. The closing date is 18 June 2020.

# WRITE A STORY WITH CRESSIDA COWELL

**WORDS  
FOR LIFE**



JENNIFER Bell worked as a children's bookseller and piranha keeper before becoming an author. Her debut novel, *The Uncommoners: The Crooked Sixpence*, was an international best-seller. Her latest book, *Wonderscape*, is inspired by some of her favourite heroes from history and her love of gaming. Jennifer told us what her favourite book was:

“ Peter Pan. I've never read a story quite so bursting with magic. It has some of the most iconic characters, and JM Barrie's language makes the entire story feel like a dream. ”



TO READ THE FULL INTERVIEW, VISIT [WORDSFORLIFE.ORG.UK/AUTHOR-INTERVIEWS](http://WORDSFORLIFE.ORG.UK/AUTHOR-INTERVIEWS) FOR BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS, ACTIVITIES AND GAMES, GO TO [WORDSFORLIFE.ORG.UK](http://WORDSFORLIFE.ORG.UK)

## YOUR READS!

### THE VANISHING TRICK JENNI SPANGLER

reviewed by Isabella Irvin, aged eight

The *Vanishing Trick* is about an orphaned boy called Leander living in Victorian times. He has to steal to survive, but then he meets a lady called Madame Pinchbeck.

Leander wears a precious locket that his mother gave to him before she passed away. It means everything to him. Then he meets Pinchbeck, who makes a deal with him: the locket for her help. He agrees and that's when things start to go wrong!

Madame Pinchbeck is a very sneaky character and all she wants is to be rich and famous. She's such a unique and mischievous character and that's what I like about her. She also uses magic to trick Leander and imprison him rather than help him.

The other characters that Leander meets on his journey are Charlotte and Felix. They have also been kept prisoner by Madame Pinchbeck, and together they must help each other to escape.

Charlotte is tough on the outside but deep down she has a soft side and Felix is brave and loyal. Charlotte can be tough, but has her secrets, while Felix is searching for his little brother, who is missing.

The book is full of mystery and surprise and lots of lovely description. You never know what will happen in the next chapter, which makes you want to read more.

I would definitely recommend this book to anyone who enjoys magical, mysterious adventures.



TWO months 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 nine parts, head to:

**FIRST.NEWS/CRESSIDACOWELL**

### SO FAR IN THE STORY...

Young spellcaster Ferocity and her smoke-producing pet boggart, Guggalugs, have been tasked with saving the world by locking a door that keeps evil away, and finding a strange piece of metal to finish the job. They're joined by Trick, a mysterious boy who is about to share the metal's secret...

### PART TEN BY SOPHIA WATERS

*Ferocity's mind was exploding with questions. 'A maze! W-why a maze? What for?' She instinctively ducked as a vulture swooped viciously overhead. It hissed in frustration as it darted off empty-handed.*

*'Something's hidden in the middle. I don't know what, but it's vital to controlling the magic. Ever since it went missing, the Tappers and Prowlers that used to be concealed by a magical boundary have been released.'*

*Trick dodged a circling vulture.*

*'Ferocity,' Guggalugs squealed anxiously, violet clouds of smoke gushing out of his ears, 'Shouldn't we keep moving?'*

*The three trekked on, shielding themselves with their arms as an icy wind bit at their faces. Ferocity retrieved the map from her pocket, and it was battered by the fierce weather.*

*'Where do we go now?' she called to Trick. He glanced at the map over Ferocity's shoulder, and froze. Ferocity whipped around at the sudden silence. 'What is it?'*

*'This map... I've seen it before. It was much clearer, but it's definitely the same one, and this route is perilous.'*

*'Why did your grandfather send US then?' Ferocity queried, feeling sick. There was no answer.*

*The crisp, bitter gale was whistling in her ears and seemed to be echoing inside her brain. As they neared the mountain, they saw what seemed to be a tiny entrance to some sort of cavern. Cautiously, they moved inside, grateful for the shelter and the friendly fire crackling and dancing in the hearth. However, this also meant something...*

*'We're not alone.'*

### PART 11: BY YOU!

A big thanks to everyone who took the time to send us their creative efforts. We enjoyed reading them all, and love how talented you all are! If your story wasn't chosen this time, don't let that stop you having another crack at it. We could choose you to continue the story in next week's issue!



You can submit the next part of the story by email at [newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk](mailto:newsdesk@firstnews.co.uk), popping **Story** into the subject line, or at [first.news/cressidacowell](http://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!

### WE WANT YOUR BOOK REVIEWS!



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

# SPORT IN NUMBERS

14

England cricketers out of 55 called in to start training are previously uncapped.

England face a busy schedule, including a three-match Test against the West Indies and one-day internationals, in order to catch up on the season. They will need to call on a much bigger pool of players.



Getty

4

Olympics is Eilish McColgan's dream. She will run in the 5,000 metres for the third time in the postponed Games in Tokyo next year.

She then intends to switch to the marathon for Paris 2024. She will be the first Scottish track and field athlete to compete in four Olympics if she succeeds.



Getty

10

is the number of rule changes that World Rugby is considering, to reduce the risk of players catching

COVID-19 during games. They include speeding up and reducing the number of scrums, and being tougher on certain types of tackle. New hygiene measures will also be adopted and players may even have to change their kit at half-time.



Getty

# BACK ON SCREEN

Arsenal players in training for their first game since lockdown

**FOR a nation of sport lovers, the lockdown has been hard, as Britain's favourite sports were put on hold and quickly disappeared from our TV screens. Now the wait is over and competitive sport within the UK can start again behind closed doors.**

The sports minister, Oliver Dowden, confirmed the news, saying: "Football, tennis, horse racing, Formula 1, cricket, golf, rugby, snooker and others are all set to return to our screens shortly." But not everyone is happy. There are concerns over whether it may be too soon. The chief executive of Championship team QPR, Lee Hoos, says his club are appalled at the decision to restart on 20 June.

The priority is of course the safety of sportsmen and women and the support staff. The Government has provided guidelines, but it is up to the organisers of each sport to determine when is the right time for them to resume. Not many footballers and coaches have tested positive for COVID-19, but around 20 were confirmed only last week.

Amid worries that lockdown rules are being eased too soon across the country, it's not surprising that there is some nervousness in sport too.

For the athletes themselves it has been particularly tough. Their lives revolve around training and playing, and they want to get back to something nearing normality soon, in as safe a way as possible.

Greyhound racing was the first sport to get going on Monday. Horse racing and snooker followed, but all took place in empty venues. The Premier League begins on 17 June, with the game between Arsenal and Manchester City. Others will follow to get through all the games needed to finish the season. The Government has said that some games should be free to view.

There is no doubting the fans' appetite for live sport is as strong as ever. A charity cricket match in Guernsey at the weekend attracted 84,000 YouTube views, but the big question is how watchable sport will be without the atmosphere of the crowds.



ANDY Murray's brother and fellow tennis player, Jamie (above left), has organised a tennis tournament later this month to raise money for NHS charities. It will be the first live event since tennis was suspended because of COVID-19. It will also be the first time Andy has played since November. Schroders Battle of the Brits will be played at the National Tennis Centre behind closed doors between 23-28 June, and will feature many top British players, including Kyle Edmund.

Getty

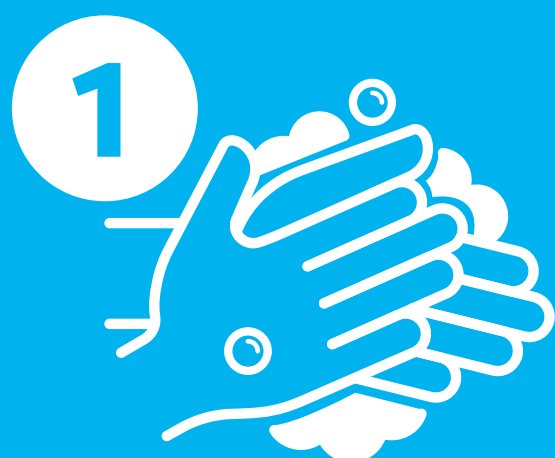


# **SPEAK UP IF YOU'RE FEELING DOWN**

**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**

**We can pick up bugs from things we touch and spread them to others.**

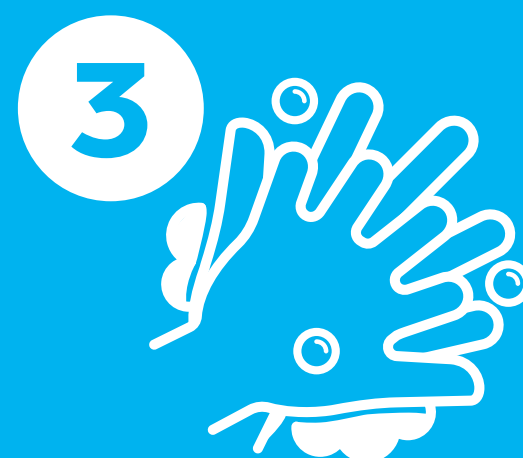
**So remember to wash your hands frequently with warm water and soap.**



**Palm to palm**



**Backs of hands**



**Between fingers**



**Backs of fingers**



**Thumbs**



**Tips of fingers**

**It should take 20 seconds. To help keep time, sing *Happy Birthday* twice.**

**All together** >

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

