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This week's big news

Theresa May talks to the French president.



DID YOU KNOW?

Even though 10 Downing Street is the official residence of the Prime Minister, every leader since 1997 has actually lived next door in number 11 because it has more space.

Labour could support another EU vote



Labour Party members have voted to keep "all options on the table" if Members of Parliament reject May's Brexit plan in Parliament. This means Labour, the main opposition party, might decide to hold a second vote on whether the UK should leave the EU or not – if Labour were in power. Members said they wanted that option at their annual conference, which brings Labour politicians and party members together to discuss new plans and ideas.

EU leaders refuse to back the PM's plan for Brexit

The Prime Minister's plan for how the relationship between the UK and the European Union (EU) would work after Brexit have been rejected by EU leaders. After a tense meeting in Salzburg, Austria, Theresa May gave a speech on 21 September, telling the EU that it must show the UK more respect.

What is Brexit?

Brexit is the word for the UK leaving the EU (an organisation of 28 European countries who trade together and follow the same rules). This will happen on 29 March 2019, although some of the old rules will remain in place until the end of 2020 to let people and businesses get used to the change. May is trying to reach a deal with the EU to keep British jobs and trade secure after the UK leaves.

What is May's plan?

In July, May and her most senior politicians met at Chequers, the Prime

Minister's official country home. Their plan, known as the Chequers deal, would keep free trade (meaning no taxes or charges on goods entering or leaving the EU and the UK) while allowing the UK to make new trade deals with countries outside the EU. It would also stop EU citizens from freely entering the UK, which they are allowed to do at the moment.

What happened in Salzburg?

May hoped EU leaders would accept her plan, but instead it was hugely unpopular. Donald Tusk, president of the European Council (a central part of the EU), said the plan needed to be changed, adding key parts "will not work".

Why does the EU not like May's plan?

The EU has four rules which all countries in the EU must follow. These are the free movement of goods (items you can buy), services,

capital (wealth in the form of money or other valuable belongings) and people (allowing citizens of all EU countries to live, work and study in every other EU country). Among other problems, Tusk said May's plan breaks these rules because she wants to get rid of the free movement of people entering and leaving the UK, but keep free trade with the EU. The EU says the Prime Minister can't pick and choose.

How did May react?

After Salzburg, May made a speech live on TV. In a warning to the EU, she said talks had reached an "impasse" (a situation with no possible progress). She added, "I have treated the EU with nothing but respect. The UK expects the same." She told Tusk and the EU to come up with an alternative plan if they didn't like hers, otherwise there would be no way of reaching a deal.

What will happen next?

Tusk says a meeting on 18 October will be a "moment of truth", and a final deal could be made in November if "maximum progress" is made before then. If a deal is reached, the UK Parliament still has to vote on it. If there is no deal, it may be difficult for UK businesses to trade, and it could lead to job losses.



May gives her speech.

This week's big news



Young people are hopeful for the future

A survey carried out across 15 countries including the UK, has found that teenagers are more positive about the future than adults. Around 33,000 adults and 7,000 young people aged 12–17 took part. Overall, 87% of teenagers were optimistic about the future, compared to 77% of adults.

For teenagers, the results differed between developing countries (where people may be growing richer but others still have low incomes and a low standard of living) and developed countries (where fewer people are in poverty and more people have a high standard of living).

Teenagers from developing countries, such as Kenya and Nigeria, were more optimistic about their future than those from developed countries, such as France and the UK. Around 95% of teenagers in Kenya said they feel positive about their future, but in France it dropped to 69%, and in the UK it was 78%. Many reasons have been suggested for this gap. Some experts say that loneliness, which is thought to be on the rise in developed countries, might have influenced the responses of teens in Europe.



Teenagers are optimistic.



Aldi Novel Adilang just before his rescue.

Teen survives on drifting fishing hut for 49 days

A teenager from Indonesia has managed to survive onboard a floating fishing hut for 49 days. He was rescued on 31 August near Guam, a US island territory in the Western Pacific, having drifted roughly 1,200 miles out to sea.

Aldi Novel Adilang, who turns 19 on 30 September, has worked on a rompong since the age of 16. A rompong is a fishing trap shaped like a hut that doesn't have an engine or paddles. Instead, it floats in the sea, but it is moored to the seabed to stop it drifting away. Adilang's job on the hut, nearly 80 miles off the Indonesian coast, was to light lamps on the hut to attract fish. Every week, someone

from the company he worked for dropped off supplies and collected the fish he caught. Yet on 14 July, the ropes anchoring Adilang's rompong snapped because of strong winds, sending him drifting for miles out into the Pacific Ocean.

He only had enough supplies to last him a few days, yet the teen managed to survive.

He caught fish, cooking it by burning the wood from his hut, and sipped seawater through his clothing, to reduce how much salt he drank.

It wasn't until 31 August that Adilang was found by a vessel off the coast of Guam and taken to Japan, where the ship was headed. He flew home to his family in Manado on 8 September and is in good health.



Adilang with pictures of his rescue.

SALTY SEAWATER
On average, every litre of seawater contains 35 grammes of salt.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

GOING ON HOLIDAY

Herman Gordon, a university cleaner, is on the holiday of a lifetime after students raised £1,500 for him to go to Jamaica. He is visiting family thanks to the help of 230 well-wishers at Bristol University, who said he brought a jolly mood to their campus.



Gordon with his wife on their trip.



A RECORD-BREAKING CYCLIST

Cycling fast can be fun, but Denise Mueller-Korenek took that to a whole new level when she cycled at an incredible speed of 183.9mph – three times as fast as a cheetah. Breaking the existing men's and women's records, Mueller-Korenek was towed along until she reached 100mph and then pedalled to go even faster.

AN INCREDIBLE FIND

A tapestry ordered by Henry VIII has been discovered in Spain after it disappeared in 1770. Measuring around six metres wide, the piece of fabric has gold and silver thread woven into it and features a spectacular bonfire. Henry VIII owned about 2,500 tapestries and experts have described the newly found piece as "the Holy Grail of Tudor tapestry".





Home news



Protesters outside No.10.

Protesters march for UK wildlife

On 22 September, thousands of people marched in London to demand that the UK Government does more to protect the country's wildlife.

What happened?

The People's Walk for Wildlife began in London's Hyde Park and travelled through the city to Downing Street where protesters handed a manifesto (a written document that outlines an organisation's beliefs and aims) directly to the Prime Minister's office. Nature-lover and broadcaster Chris Packham helped create the manifesto, along with 17 other wildlife experts. In the document, the experts call for an end to the "war on wildlife" – a phrase used by Packham because he believes the UK's wildlife is being destroyed at an alarming rate.

What does the manifesto include?

The People's Manifesto for Wildlife includes 200 ways in which the Government can help animals and plants across the country. Ideas include pairing primary schools with farms to give children a better understanding of how food is produced; ending Scottish seal culling (when an animal population is reduced); and making it illegal to collect scallops by dredging – when a frame of spiked metal is dragged on the seabed to dig up scallops and other shelled creatures to be sold in shops and restaurants.

What's the problem?

In recent decades, the populations of more than half of the UK's species have declined. A 2016 report labelled the UK as one of "the most nature-depleted

countries in the world", with around 1,200 species at risk of going extinct. For example, between 1970 and 2015, farmland bird numbers dropped by over 50% because of some harmful farming practices.

What is the Government's plan?

At the beginning of the year, Prime Minister Theresa May announced the Government's 25-year environment plan. It set out goals for looking after the environment, such as getting rid of all plastic waste by 2042. Packham says that this will take far too long, and action needs to be taken now. He believes that we're too used to hearing about the decline of UK wildlife, and it's becoming almost normal. "We are talking about declines of 95, 97, 98%, so we are a few percent away from losing these species," he said.



WORD OF THE WEEK

DANK

New slang words are often difficult to track because they tend to be spoken rather than written down. Slang also often reverses the traditional meaning of a word – we usually associate dank, for example, with unpleasantly cold and damp places, but in the late 1980s it became a top term of approval in US teen-speak. The flip from bad to good can also be seen in the word wicked.



THE WEEK IN HISTORY

2 October 1836

Darwin returns home

On 2 October 1836, scientist Charles Darwin arrived back in the UK after sailing around the world for five years collecting evidence to support his theory of evolution (how species develop). Darwin's ship, HMS Beagle, was greeted by delighted locals when it arrived back in Falmouth, Cornwall. Darwin used evidence from the trip to prove his theory of natural selection – the process by which living things best suited to their environments survive and pass their characteristics on to their offspring.



Home news

WOW!
Some say the London Stone is the rock from which King Arthur drew the Excalibur sword, which no one else could remove.



Most popular baby names

Sarah has dropped out of the 100 most popular baby names in England and Wales for the first time since records began. The Office for National Statistics has monitored every new baby's name in the two countries since 1904. Although Sarah may have vanished from the list, Sara made it to number 82. Recently released figures for 2017 show Oliver and Olivia topped the list for boys and girls, which was the same result as 2016. New entries into the top 100 include Aurora, Bonnie, Edith, Hallie, Hunter and Orla.



Dictionary needs bare help

The Oxford English Dictionary (OED) is asking for young people's help as part of an appeal to track new slang terms. The OED said it was particularly hard for them to monitor existing words that now mean new things, because their definitions change very quickly. Examples of new slang include bare (very, or a lot of), dank (good quality) and hench (strong). To contribute to the appeal, visit tinyurl.com/TWJ-oed



Shorter chips due to heat

Frozen chips could be up to three centimetres shorter this year because of the hot, dry summer that has affected potato crops in Europe. Almost all of the frozen chips eaten in the UK come from Belgium and the Netherlands, both of which had little rain during the summer months. As a result, the number of spuds harvested by farmers this year has dropped by around 25%, and the potatoes themselves are much smaller than usual.



The London Stone on display.

Heart of London returns home

It might look like just a piece of old rock, but the London Stone is actually surrounded by myth and mystery. It usually stays, largely unnoticed, behind a grate at 111 Cannon Street in central London. It is not known where the stone originally comes from but if it is destroyed or moved, London will be in danger – or so the story goes. For this reason it is sometimes referred to as the heart of London.

It was with some uneasiness, then, that the 76-kilogram stone was moved to the Museum of London in 2016 while building work took place on Cannon Street. Roy Stephenson, a curator at the museum, told *The Guardian* newspaper that as the rock hadn't been moved far, he hoped it hadn't been disturbed.

On 4 October, the London Stone will be on the move once again, as it is returned to Cannon Street. Stephenson said the developers of the new building had made it a "lovely" home. He added, "It is like a mini city centre apartment for the stone, with a view out on to Cannon Street."

The stone is made from a type of limestone that was first brought to London during the Roman period (43–410AD). It has been mentioned in plays and poems by writers including William Shakespeare and William Blake. One myth suggests it was part of an altar built by Brutus the Trojan, who is said to be one of the founders of the city of London.

Another myth is that "so long as the stone of Brutus is safe, so long shall London flourish". Stephenson joked that once the stone is returned to its usual home "maybe there will be a solution

to Brexit." (Brexit is the word used to describe the process of the UK leaving the EU – which is an organisation of European countries who trade together and follow the same rules.)

He added, "It all might be a load of rubbish but who knows, it is better to be on the safe side."

The stone throughout history



The Great Fire of London.

The London Stone has been in London while all of these events took place:

- 1666 The Great Fire of London
- 1705 Buckingham Palace is built
- 1914–1918 First World War
- 1939–1945 Second World War
- 1966 England wins the football World Cup at Wembley
- ... and two London Olympics (1948 and 2012)

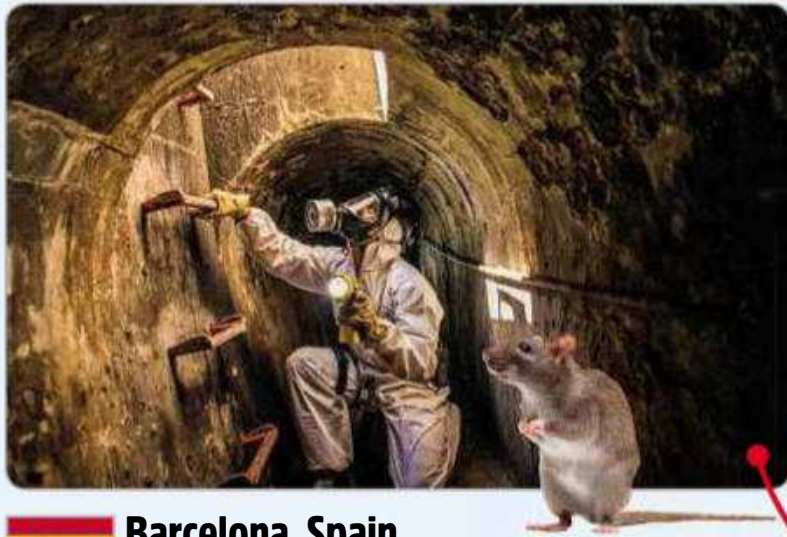
THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"London train delayed after driver locks himself in toilet" telegraph.co.uk





Around the world



Barcelona, Spain **Rats! City counts its rodent residents**

The results of a study to see how many rats live beneath the city of Barcelona suggest there are 213,000 of the creatures in the sewers. That's one for every seven human residents. Experts from the city's public-health agency and a pest-control company began the research in 2017, monitoring more than 1,000 miles of sewers. The survey looked at the health risks of such a big rodent population, because some rats carry diseases that can be passed to humans.



Nigeria **Flooding destroys homes and farms**

Nigeria has been hit by flooding in 12 regions, which has killed more than 100 people. Heavy rain caused the country's two biggest rivers to burst their banks, spreading water across the countryside into cities and towns. The government has declared a national disaster and urged people who live by the rivers to move to safety. Thousands of people have fled their homes and farms have been destroyed.



Santiago, Chile **Police puppies on parade**

Chile's smallest police officers stole the show at the country's annual military parade on 20 September. Nine puppies from the police's canine unit were carried by their trainers in heated bags during the march. They were followed by fully grown dogs, some wearing tiny boots. More than 9,500 members of the military took part in the parade.

Potsdam, Germany **Self-driving tram sets off**

It drives itself and reacts to traffic and pedestrians to avoid accidents. The world's first autonomous tram – one that doesn't rely on a human driver – is on track to be a success. Developed by 50 engineers, mathematicians and scientists, the 10-tonne vehicle made its first journey on 21 September. It uses radar, lasers and sensors to check its surroundings and can respond faster than a human to hazards.



South Africa **Good news for rhinos**

The number of rhinos killed by poachers in South Africa is falling, according to information released to mark World Rhino Day, which was held on 22 September. In the first eight months of 2018, 508 rhinos were killed – 26% fewer than in the same period in 2017. Poaching reached a record high in 2014, but has dropped each year since then. The South African government says moving rhinos away from heavily poached areas and better law enforcement have helped reduce the number. Nearly 200 suspected poachers have been arrested this year.



Around the world



Look closely and you can see the webs...

Aitoliko Lagoon, Greece Creepy cobwebs cover beach

Spiders have made a 300-metre-long web on a Greek beach. The creepy-crawlies are going through their mating season and, thanks to an increase in mosquitoes (which the Tetragnatha spiders eat), their population is booming. Sometimes known as stretch spiders because they have long bodies, the web-builders can run faster on water than they can on land. Thankfully, the spiders can't harm humans.



China Foreign content erased from textbooks

The Chinese government will begin checking all textbooks used in primary and middle schools for any unsuitable foreign content, which will be removed. The aim is part of a wider plan by the government to promote Chinese ideas and history to school pupils, and limit access to foreign ideas. From the spring term in 2019, all courses will have to be taught from approved textbooks. Any schools using non-approved content could be breaking the law.



Bali, Indonesia New rules for tourists

Authorities in Bali want to stop tourists disrespecting sacred temples. In the coming weeks, guidelines will be set to prevent tourists from wearing what the government says is inappropriate clothing, such as swimwear, and clambering over ancient sites. Bali deputy governor Tjokorda Oka Artha Sukawati explained that "the temples need to be preserved since they are the spirits of Bali's cultures and customs".



Ahvaz, Iran Tensions rise after attack on parade

At least 29 people, including children, died after a military parade in Ahvaz was attacked on 22 September. Iran accused Israel, Saudi Arabia and the US of supporting the people who carried out the attack. The US and Saudi Arabia have denied any involvement; Israel had not said anything about the attack when *The Week Junior* went to press.

Lake Victoria, Tanzania Ferry disaster claims lives

On 20 September, a ferry capsized in Tanzania's Lake Victoria – a disaster that has claimed the lives of more than 220 people. Two days after the ship overturned, a man was rescued, although he is in a serious condition. He is thought to have survived thanks to a pocket of air that formed underneath the vessel. The ship's managers are being questioned because it is likely that more people than are legally allowed were on board, causing the ferry to tip over.





The big debate

Should pet cats be banned?

Cats are cute, but some say they are bad for the environment.

What you need to know

- Officials from a village in New Zealand want to ban people from keeping cats to help protect local wildlife. Worldwide, cats kill billions of birds and mammals each year.
- If the plan goes ahead, cat owners in Omaui will have to microchip and register their moggies with local authorities and will not be allowed to get a new one when their current moggy dies.
- There are around eight million cats in the UK, meaning around 18% of UK households have one.
- Cats in the UK catch around 55 million birds every year.



FELINE-PROOF FENCE
Australia has built the world's largest cat-proof fence to protect endangered species from feline attacks. It stretches for 27 miles.

Officials from Omaui, a village in New Zealand, want to ban people who live there from keeping cats as pets, in an attempt to protect the area's natural wildlife. They say cats kill too many birds and small mammals. They want cat owners to register their moggies and when the cats die, their owners won't be allowed to get a new one. Cats aren't only a problem in New Zealand. In the US, they are estimated to kill 2.4 billion birds a year, and in the UK, the number of birds is declining. Wildlife presenters Chris Packham and Sir David Attenborough have both said cats contribute to the problem. Others claim moggies don't have that much impact on bird numbers and that owning one can be beneficial to humans. So should pet cats be banned in the UK?

Yes – moggies are a menace

Although having a cat may be enjoyable for the owner, they're bad news for the environment. Cats kill birds and other mammals, which is a big problem in the UK where bird numbers are declining. What's more, feeding so many felines means a lot of meat has to be produced. Raising animals, such as cows, to use for meat creates carbon dioxide, which contributes to global warming. In the US, making pet food has roughly the same environmental impact as a year's worth of fumes from 13.6 million cars. Cats also spread disease through their poo. It is thought around 350,000 Britons a year catch a parasite called toxoplasmosis. It's usually just a harmless infection, but it can cause serious problems for some people.

No – cats are cute and cuddly

Cats are cute, funny and bring joy to lots of people – of course they shouldn't be banned. If owners are responsible and keep their pets indoors or put a bell on them, as suggested by Sir David Attenborough, then they will not be able to cause so much trouble. Even if they do catch birds, cats usually only kill the sick or injured ones. Our feline friends also help people feel better – studies have shown they can help people with anxiety feel calmer. One study says that stroking a cat releases a chemical in the body called oxytocin, which can make people feel less stressed. The idea of telling someone who loves cats that they can never get a new one is really mean and upsetting and could do more harm than good.

YES

Three reasons why there should be a ban on pet cats

- 1 Cats kill a high number of birds in British gardens, so banning cats would help protect more wildlife.
- 2 They are bad for the environment. Making food for cats produces lots of carbon dioxide, which contributes to global warming.
- 3 Cats spread parasites, affecting around 350,000 people a year in the UK.

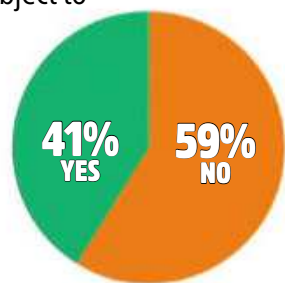
NO

Three reasons why there shouldn't be a ban on pet cats

- 1 If cats wear bells, as suggested by Sir David Attenborough, birds will hear them coming and it will reduce the number killed by cats.
- 2 Cats mainly kill sick or injured birds, so they're not that much of a danger to wildlife.
- 3 Studies have shown keeping a cat can help make people more relaxed. Lots of people would be upset if they were banned.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked you whether religious education should be replaced with a wider subject to include non-religious views. Most of you voted no, RE should focus on religion.



SHUTTERSTOCK



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about it, tell us what you think by voting in our poll at theweekjunior.co.uk/polls. Vote **YES** if you think pet cats should be banned, or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The aim of the Big debate page is to present two sides of an issue fairly and objectively, in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on the page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties. The page is created in association with the English-Speaking Union, an educational charity helping young people discover their voice and realise their full potential. For more information, please see esu.org


ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION
discovering voices



People

Wizards, dragons ... and writing

Cressida Cowell shares her advice on how to tell stories.

"Books should be like sweets, not Brussels sprouts," Cressida Cowell tells *The Week Junior*, and she is keen to let children know that they too can be writers.

The much-loved author of *How to Train Your Dragon* and *The Wizards of Once* started writing when she was six years old. She was inspired by books such as *Lord of the Rings* and also her holidays in Scotland. "My dad and I would go looking for dragons," she says. It was from this particular experience that the *Dragon* books were inspired, many years later.

One of Cowell's tips for writing stories is to just "write whatever you want – no rules, no marking, just fun." She says not to worry about handwriting or spelling, because you will learn how to master these over time. To prove her point, Cowell sometimes shows people how bad her own handwriting and spelling were when she was young. Writers, she says, should concentrate on ideas and creativity.

"Find a space to write joyfully and try to find your voice," Cowell says. "Write for

pleasure and write what you would like to read." Cowell says this is what she does and that she "never underestimates children as they are incredibly clever".

Cowell writes because she wants to make children love books. It can be challenging, though. "(Writers are) competing against the most wonderful film and television so have to work really hard," she says. "We have to make books very exciting and wonderful."

When Cowell's *Dragon* books were made into films she said it was "nerve-wracking" but that the company, DreamWorks, had done "a wonderful job" and she is so proud of how they turned out. The company is turning *Wizards of Once* into a film as well.

When asked if she would rather be a dragon rider or a wizard, Cowell replies, "That's an impossible question! I love both but I'd have to say wizard, though I would like to own a dragon."

Cowell's new book *Wizards of Once: Twice Magic* is out now.



Turmel has lost 95 elections.

Ninety-sixth time lucky?

John Turmel is the world's biggest loser, at least when it comes to elections. The Canadian first tried to win an election in 1979 and, almost 40 years on, he has managed to lose 95 of them in a row. There was one election he didn't lose, but that was only because it was cancelled. His political ideas have included allowing people to make tokens to be used as money.

Turmel is confident he can keep the record for most elections lost, as the next-closest contender is already dead and only managed 30 campaigns. Having campaigned to be elected to positions including city councillor and member of parliament, he is now running for mayor of Brantford, in Canada, with a result expected in October.

Hoping to live forever

Serge Faguet plans to live forever, and the 32-year-old is doing something about it. He believes humans are like complex robots and can therefore be tuned and improved. As a result, he has spent nearly £200,000 on biohacking. Biohacking is the term used to describe people who use technology and medicine to try to make their body and mind work better.

Faguet takes 60 tablets a day, puts on hearing aids worth £4,500 to give him perfect hearing, wears a ring on his finger that measures his quality of sleep and has a monitor implanted in his skin that tracks sugar levels. He also says he does not tell lies as it is too stressful. Faguet says he often feels "superhuman because of how much control I have over my health".



THEY SAID IT!

“ ”

"We have to be careful, like two loving hedgehogs."

The president of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, gives his advice on how the UK and the European Union should reach a deal over Brexit.





Animals and the environment

PLENTY OF PLASTIC

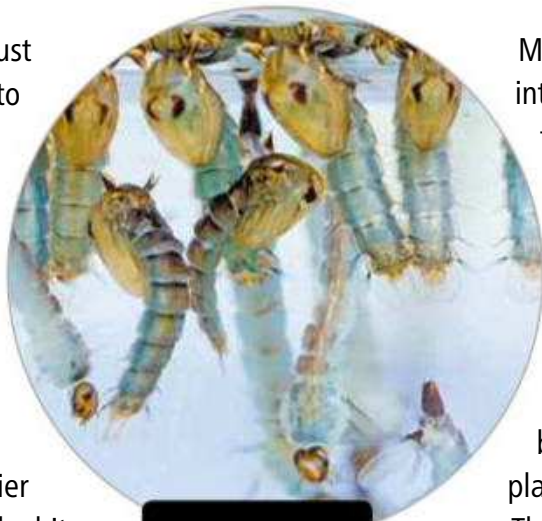
A 2015 study suggests there could be up to 51 trillion (51,000,000,000,000) pieces of microplastic in the world's oceans.



A green sea turtle in the Philippines.

Study reveals dangers of plastic for turtles

A sea turtle can die after eating just one piece of plastic, according to a new study. Researchers from Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation discovered that one bit of plastic has a 22% chance of causing death. Because they can't bring back up what they swallow, turtles are especially at risk. Flimsy plastic bits, such as carrier bags, can block their guts, and harder bits can cause internal injuries.



Mosquito larvae hanging out.

More and more plastic is getting into the sea, raising fears over the long-term impact on marine life. The study estimates that half of the world's sea turtles have eaten plastic. Younger turtles face a higher rate of plastic-related deaths, simply because they seem to eat more plastic than older ones.

This causes more problems, according to Dr Britta Denise Hardesty, who

worked on the report, because turtles might die before they get to the age where they can have babies. She said this could have an impact on the long-term population of turtles, adding, "It's very concerning."

A different study has highlighted the dangers of microplastics (extremely small pieces of plastic, less than five millimetres long). Researchers found that mosquito larvae that grow in water containing plastic end up with bits of it inside their bodies, even after they turn into adult mosquitoes. This means that plastic is getting into the food chain, as it is potentially harming animals that eat mozzies, and any creature that eats them in turn.

The fight against microplastics

Microplastics are extremely small pieces of plastics. They come from lots of objects, including broken-down bits of larger plastic debris.

Microbeads are tiny pieces of polythene, which are added to health and beauty products like face scrubs and toothpaste. This year the UK banned them from being used in these products, following similar moves in Canada, India, New Zealand, the US and others. Work is under way to find ways to mop up microplastics. A team at Imperial College London suggested that offshore floating booms near densely-populated areas could remove nearly a third of the pollution.



Sifting microplastics.



PLACE OF THE WEEK

The Trossachs National Park, Loch Lomond

Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park has many different habitats, from mountains, lochs (a Scottish word for lakes), to glens (valleys) and forests. Golden eagles soar overhead, otters swim in the water, red deer

roam the mountainsides and red squirrels clamber in the woodland. There are campsites as well as places you can camp away from it all, which makes the park a great place to visit and explore for a few days.

Find out more at lochlomond-trossachs.org



A stag in the glens of The Trossachs National Park.

Animals and the environment



Ice shelf in Antarctica.



CHILLING THOUGHT

If all the world's glaciers melted, sea level would rise by 80 metres. This would flood every coastal city on Earth.

Underwater wall could save glaciers

Building an underwater wall in the Antarctic could help stop glaciers from melting and reduce the rise in sea levels. That's according to surprising new research, which suggests ways of slowing down the effects of global warming on large ice sheets.

Glaciers around the world are retreating fast, and if the problem gets any worse, it could have a drastic effect. For example, if the Britain-sized Thwaites Glacier in Antarctica keeps melting, it could trigger a collapse of the entire West Antarctic ice sheet. The ice would raise global sea levels by about three metres.

One idea is to build an underwater wall that would stop warmer water from reaching

the ice shelf. Another suggestion is to create underwater mounds of sand or gravel to prop up the glacier and help it regrow.

Michael Wolovick and John Moore, the authors of the report, say that even with these glacier-saving ideas, cutting down emissions (the production of harmful gases) is essential to slowing climate change. According to the study, the smallest of them (building 300-metre-high mounds on the sea floor) would only have a 30% chance of success.

However, it's unlikely their engineering projects will get started any time soon, as it would be a hugely challenging task in one of Earth's harshest environments.

Animal of the week

Eurasian bittern



DID YOU KNOW?

Bitterns have gone extinct in the UK before. Eaten in medieval times, they had vanished by 1870 but returned in the early 20th century.

Eurasian bitterns are making a comeback after coming close to extinction in the UK. A record number of male birds have been reported this year – 188, up from just 11 males 20 years ago.

- **LIFESPAN IN THE WILD:** Around 10 years
- **HABITAT:** The birds can be found in wetland parts of Africa, Asia and Europe.
- **DIET:** Bitterns eat a lot of things – crayfish, fish, frogs and other small swamp and marsh animals.
- **FUN FACT:** Because they are hard to see, bitterns are counted by listening out for their distinctive booming call.



Good week / Bad week



Whales

The International Whaling Commission, an organisation set up to manage whale hunting, has voted to continue giving whales protection from being hunted for meat. After an angry debate, 41 countries chose to keep the whaling ban; 27 wanted to get rid of it.



Nightingales

Known for their beautiful singing, nightingales are facing extinction in parts of the UK. Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust said it had recorded just 18 males this year, down from 335 in 1980. There is a real possibility the species could go extinct in these counties, it warns.



What is a Gila monster?

Joe Capon Keeper, ZSL London Zoo

The Gila monster is one of only two known species of venomous lizard in North America and eats eggs, small birds, frogs and insects. It mostly uses its venom for defence – its bite is painful to humans but rarely causes death. Unlike snakes, the venom is produced in salivary glands in its lower jaw. These lizards are covered in bead-like scales.



Do you love animals? ZSL London Zoo's Junior Zoo Academy is a great way to learn about creatures from all over the world. Find out more at zsl.org/experiences



All about vexillology

Let the flags fly high

On 1 October, people all over the world will celebrate flags for World Vexillology Day.

Flags are bright, colourful and it's fun to guess where they come from. They're also very important. They're used to display the design, colours or emblem of a nation, armed forces, community, organisation or individual, and can make people feel very proud.

It's believed that flags originated in either India or China around 1000 BC. They would traditionally be carried on chariots and placed on the walls of a captured city to show who owned it. During battle, the fall of a side's flag would often signal defeat. Later in history the waving of a white flag would indicate a side's wish to surrender or reach an agreement. World Vexillology Day is a celebration of flags. It's held on 1 October because this was when the first flag studies journal, *The Flag Bulletin*, was published in 1961.

What is vexillology?



Vexillology is the name given to the study of flags. The word comes from the Latin word *vexillum*, which means banner. Vexillologists (people who study flags) examine all aspects of flags including their design, history and symbolism how they've been manufactured. A general admirer of flags is a vexillophile.

OLDEST FLAG DESIGN

Denmark's flag was officially adopted in 1625, making it the oldest continuously used national flag in the world.



Flags of the world on display in New York.

Famous flags

There are countless flags around the world used to represent different ideas or places. Here are the stories behind five of the world's most fascinating and recognisable flag designs.



UNION JACK

Called the Union Jack or Union Flag, the UK's flag is made up of flags representing England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Neither the red dragon nor St David's Cross of Wales are included because when the Union Flag was first used in 1606, Wales was already united with England.



NEPAL

Nepal, a country between India and the Tibet region of China, is the only country in the world to have a non-quadrilateral flag – that is, a flag that is neither rectangular nor square. Nepal's flag is two triangles.



All about vexillology



FLAG FACT

The Union Jack only flies over Buckingham Palace when the Queen is not there.

Fantastic flag facts



The record-breaking Mexican flag.

- In 2011, the largest flag ever flown from a flagpole was put up in Mexico. It was 60 metres wide.
- If a ship is flying a yellow flag, it means that someone on board is suffering from an infectious illness. It is only lowered once the ship has been cleared and declared safe.
- The flag of Belize, a country on the coast of Central America, is the only national flag to feature people.



Test yourself

Can you identify the five national flags below? You can find the answers at the bottom of the page.



1 _____



2 _____



3 _____



4 _____



5 _____

DID YOU KNOW?

The part of the flag closest to the flagpole is called the hoist, and the outer part of the flag is known as the fly.

JOLLY ROGER

Starting in the 1700s, pirates flew this flag on their ships. It's thought pirates were inspired by captains who drew skulls in logbooks to indicate a death.



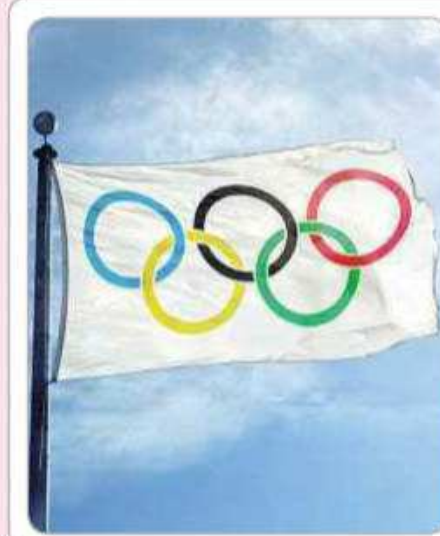
BLUE PETER

This is the name of the flag that goes up when a ship sets sail from a harbour. The creators of the well known CBBC children's show *Blue Peter* used the name because they wanted the new programme to go "off on adventures".



OLYMPICS

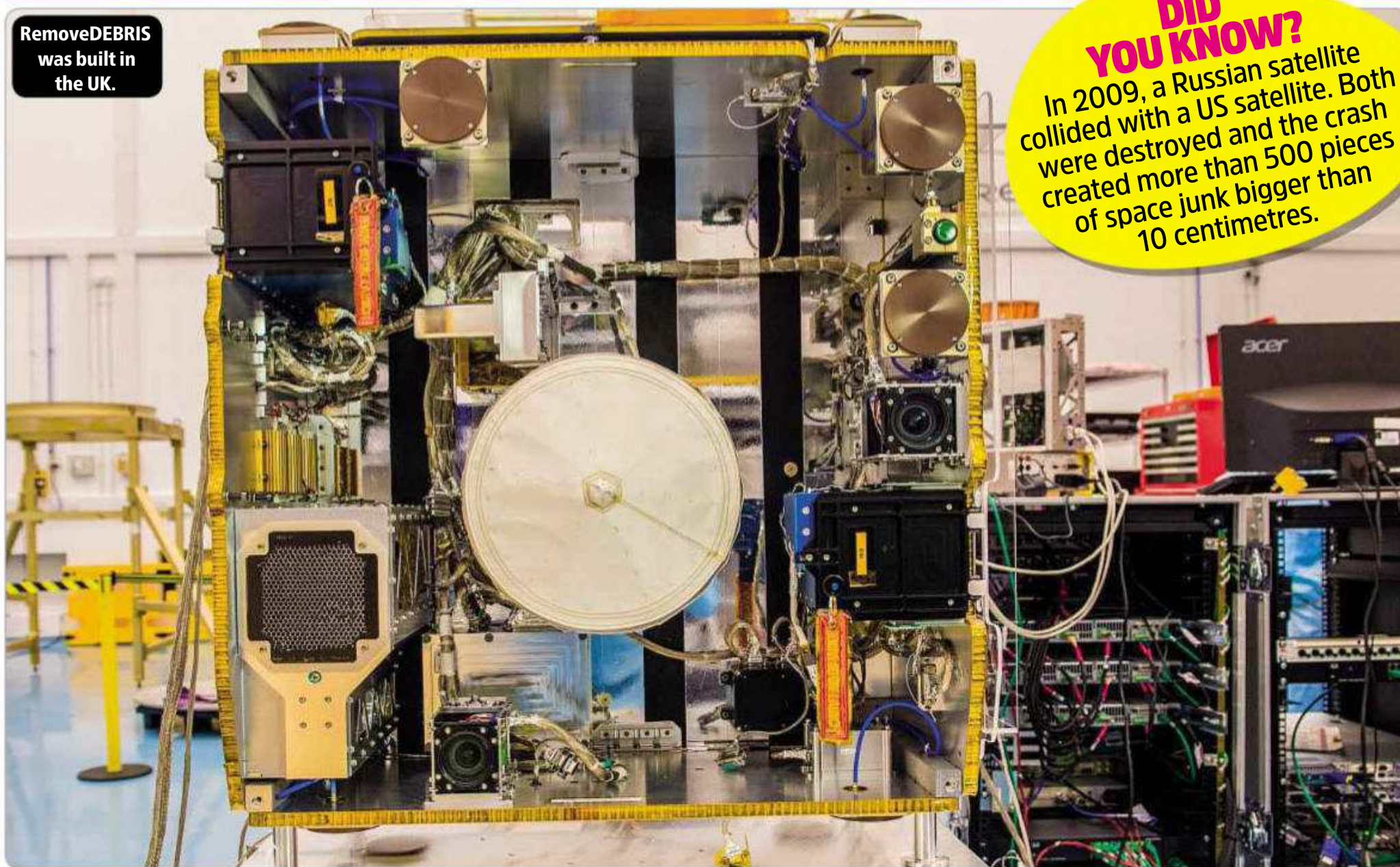
Each connected ring is said to represent one of the five continents that were part of the Olympic movement at the time the flag was designed in 1914. The rings are made up of colours used in national flags.





Science and technology

RemoveDEBRIS
was built in
the UK.



DID YOU KNOW?

In 2009, a Russian satellite collided with a US satellite. Both were destroyed and the crash created more than 500 pieces of space junk bigger than 10 centimetres.

Cleaning up space junk

There are more than 500,000 pieces of man-made rubbish orbiting planet Earth. They include old satellites, nuts and bolts, used rocket boosters and tiny debris from objects that have crashed into one another. To try and clean up this space-junk problem, a team of scientists from the University of Surrey blasted a satellite called RemoveDEBRIS into space earlier this year. On 16 September, it began its first test.

In the test a shoebox-sized object was fired from the satellite into space. Then, the satellite shot out a net to capture the object by wrapping itself around it. "It worked just as we hoped it would," said Professor Guglielmo Aglietti, director of the Surrey Space Centre.

When used for real, the net will catch space debris, which it will pull back into the satellite. However, the test was done in low orbit, so the net and the small object used in the test will eventually fall towards Earth and burn up in the

atmosphere (a layer of gas that protects the planet) long before they reach the ground.

"The target was spinning like you would expect an uncooperative piece of junk to behave, but you can see clearly that the net captures it, and we're very happy with the way the experiment went," said Aglietti. You can watch the net snare the test object here: tinyurl.com/TWJ-removedebris

This is a very important mission. Most space junk travels at around 17,500mph. At this speed, even the smallest piece of rubbish could punch a hole in the International Space Station, risking the lives of the astronauts on board.

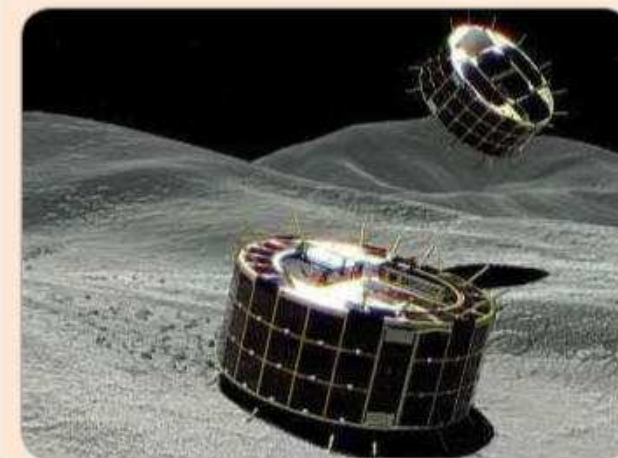
The next stage of the mission, expected to take place next year, will be to test a harpoon to see if it can function as an effective rubbish grabber. A large sail will then be deployed by the RemoveDEBRIS satellite to drag the whole thing into the Earth's atmosphere so that it doesn't end up becoming space junk itself.

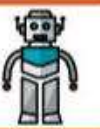


A map of space junk.

Hopping rovers land on asteroid

Earlier this year, *The Week Junior* wrote about Japan's Hayabusa-2 spacecraft reaching an asteroid called Ryugu after travelling 180 million miles. On 21 September, the spacecraft dropped two mini-landers onto the asteroid. Weighing just one kilogram, each machine is fitted with different cameras and temperature sensors. They will hop around the surface of the asteroid to find out what it is made of, and send the data back to the orbiting spacecraft. Next year, Hayabusa-2 will release more landers, before collecting samples from the asteroid and heading back to Earth at the end of 2019.





Science and technology

Shocking secrets of gut bacteria

There are millions and millions of microbes (microscopic living organisms, including bacteria) living in your gut that do all sorts of jobs, from helping with digestion to fighting harmful bugs. There are also some microbes that can make you sick. Now, scientists from the University of California, Berkeley, in the US, have discovered a group of gut-dwelling bacteria that can produce electricity.

Electricity-producing bacteria are nothing new. Their normal home is in lakes, soil, around hydrothermal vents underwater and in acidic environments. People have even used this bacteria to make cheese and yoghurt, and purify water. However, this is the first time these electric bacteria have been found in the body.

Many bacteria naturally generate electrical charge inside their cells and



Sparky bugs – part of a healthy gut.

need to get rid of it. They normally use a series of chemical reactions to do this. However, the electricity-producing bugs in the gut use different chemicals – ones similar to vitamins in the body – to other types of bacteria seen before.

The team measured the size of the electrical current from the gut bacteria to be a mighty 500 microamps, using an electrode. Most of the electric bacteria can cause illnesses, such as

Listeria monocytogenes, a diarrhoea-causing bug, and *Enterococcus faecalis*, which can be spread by poor hygiene. But one, *Lactobacilli*, is a "healthy" microbe, found in yoghurt.

The fact that so many electric bugs interact with humans had been missed before. Dan Portnoy, an author of the report says, "It could tell us a lot about how these bacteria infect us or help us have a healthy gut."

Brilliant belly bacteria

- Your microbiome is defined as all the micro-organisms – bacteria, fungi, protozoa and viruses – that live on and inside the human body.
- You arrive in this world without any bacteria, but start building it up the second you are born.
- You have about the same amount of microbes in your gut as human cells.
- As yet, scientists don't know which bacteria in your microbiome are good and which are bad for you.



Robot designers are often inspired by the animal kingdom.



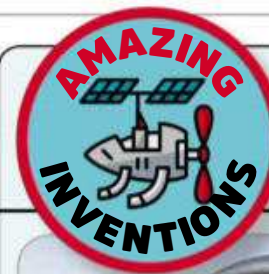
Robot flies are the latest buzz

A new high-tech robot based on the humble fruit fly can avoid obstacles even when whizzing through the air.

Created by a Dutch research team, the DelFly Nimble has a wingspan of around 33 centimetres, which is much larger than the average fruit fly, and weighs around 29 grammes. This is so that the robot can carry devices, such as sensors or a camera. It can travel at a speed of around 15.5mph for about half a mile. The robot is propelled by double wings, on either side, which flap in and out of an X shape.

Nimble is capable of pulling off acrobatic tricks such as rapid turns and backflips, and could be used to monitor real fruit flies so they stay away from crops. "They can use an onboard camera to spot whether fruit is already ripe, or to see whether plants are under stress and need more water or nutrients," says Guido de Croon, a co-author on the paper.

Eventually, the team want to scale down the robot so it is much smaller, while keeping the same agility of the DelFly Nimble.



World's first solar-powered yacht



Sleek solar power.

The first ocean-faring boat that runs with the help of solar-powered electricity has been unveiled by SolarImpact at Cannes Yachting Festival. Solar energy is much better for the environment than fuel, because it doesn't release harmful gases into the Earth's atmosphere. Solar panels attached to the top of the yacht use special cells to

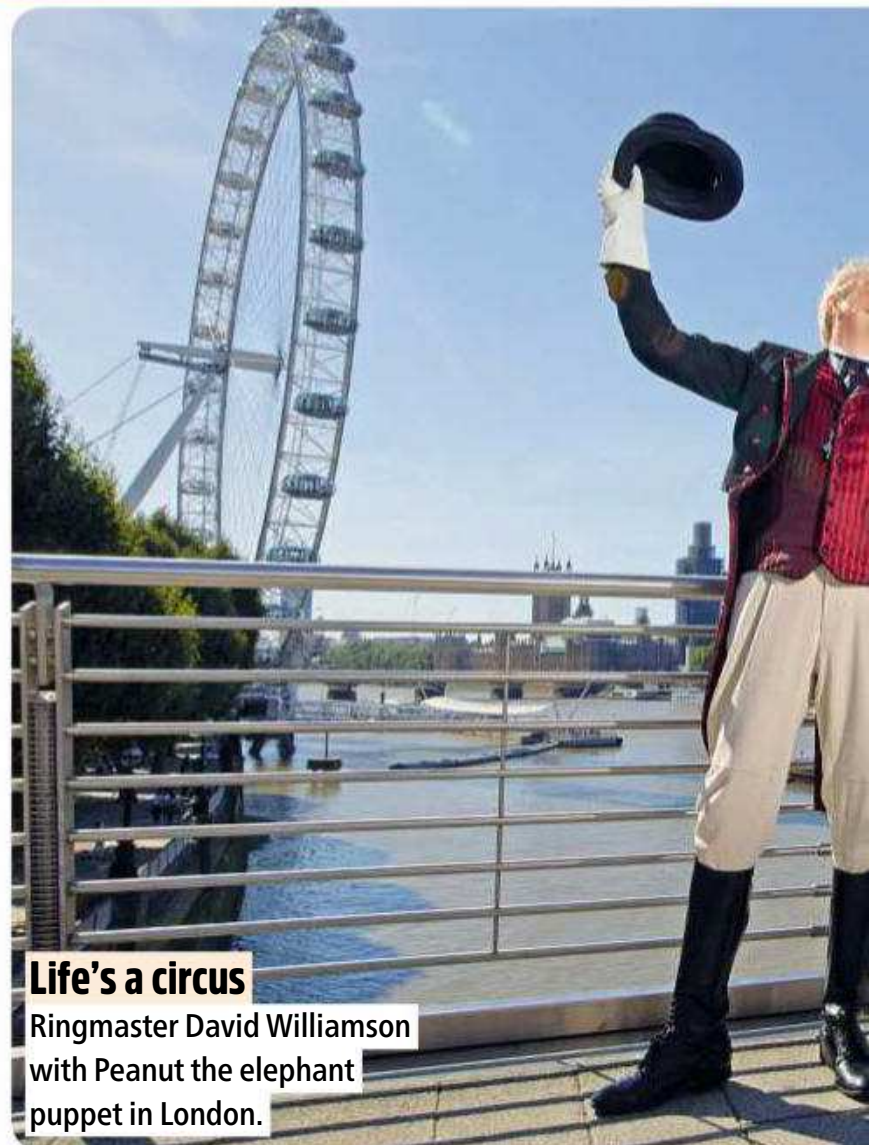
capture the Sun's energy. The energy is converted into electricity, which helps power the boat. The eco-friendly, 24-metre yacht has a top speed of around 25mph, which drops to around 6mph if the boat relies solely on solar power. A boat of a similar size uses around 100 litres of fuel an hour if travelling at around 11mph.



Photos of the week

Bear-ly visible

Dave Pennant, who owns Teeny Weeny Teddies, at an event in Birmingham.

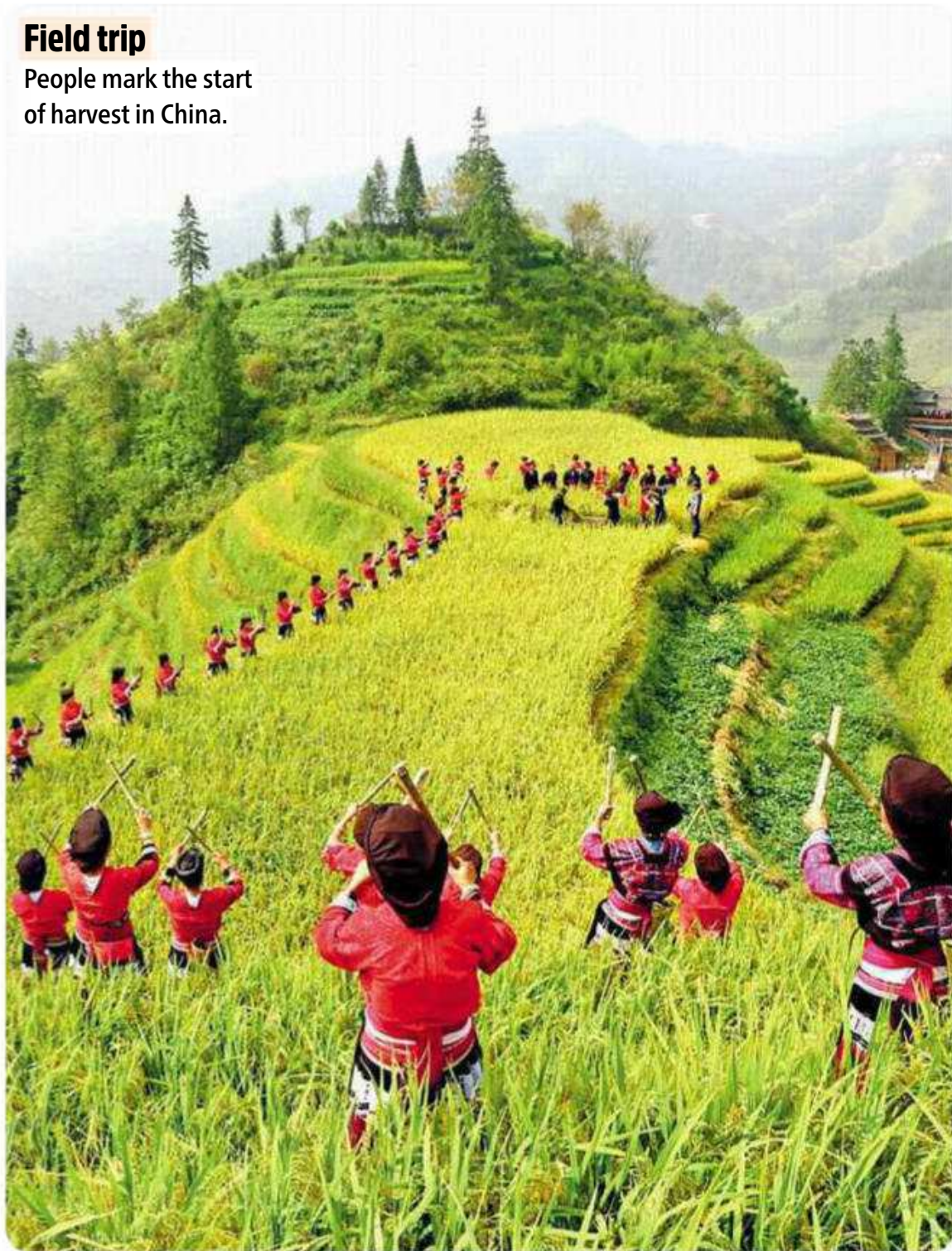


Life's a circus

Ringmaster David Williamson with Peanut the elephant puppet in London.

Field trip

People mark the start of harvest in China.



PA - ALAMY

Photos of the week



Reach for the sky

A Moon stars in the mid-autumn festival in Nanjing, China.



Take flight

Rolf Zimmermann holds one of his creations at a kite festival in Germany.



Making a pointe

A ballet dancer enjoys the sun in London's Southbank skatepark.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can race as one of the Oncu twins in the new MotoGP 18 bike-racing game on PlayStation, Xbox, Nintendo Switch and PC.

Deniz and Can Oncu had their first motorbikes at the age of four.

Sport



Sporty siblings



It's rare that twins compete in the same sport professionally, but at the 2016 Olympics a set of triplets made the news. Leila, Liina and Lily Luik from Estonia all took part in the marathon race. It's thought to be the first time triplets competed at the Olympics.

Two-wheel twins triumph

You may know of famous siblings like the triathlon stars Jonny and Alistair Brownlee and tennis players Andy and Jamie Murray. The sporty siblings Can and Deniz Oncu are also now making headlines.

The 15-year-old twins from Turkey finished first and second when the Red Bull MotoGP Rookies Cup finished on 23 September in Aragon, Spain. It's a high-speed event for teenage motorbike riders who are beginning their careers in track racing.

Between May and September there were 12 races in Austria, Italy, Germany, Netherlands and Spain.

Can was crowned the overall champion after winning five of the races and collecting 235 points. Deniz secured second place, thanks to two wins on the final weekend of racing, and finished with 192 points. Britain's Dan Jones came 15th and Max Cook came 17th out of 24 riders.

Can and Deniz's father is a keen motorbike rider and has trained the brothers to reach this level. When they were just four years old, he bought them both small motorbikes and they began taking part in races back in 2011. The pair also like to ride BMX and



Can Oncu (61) leads the way.

mountain bikes. Their dream is to compete in MotoGP, the highest level of motorbike racing, and their favourite rider is Spain's four-time MotoGP champion Marc Marquez.

THE WEEK'S WINNERS...

Anthony Joshua

The British heavyweight boxer beat Russia's Alexander Povetkin in front of 80,000 spectators at Wembley Stadium, London, to keep his IBF, WBA and WBO titles.



Luka Modric and Marta

Brazilian star Marta won the annual FIFA award for world's best female footballer. Croatia's Luka Modric won the male prize.



Bryony Page and Luke Strong

The gymnasts were crowned singles champions at the Trampoline, Tumbling and Double Mini Trampoline British Championships, held in Birmingham.

Tiger Woods

The famous US golfer won the Tour Championship event in Atlanta, US. It was his first title in five years.

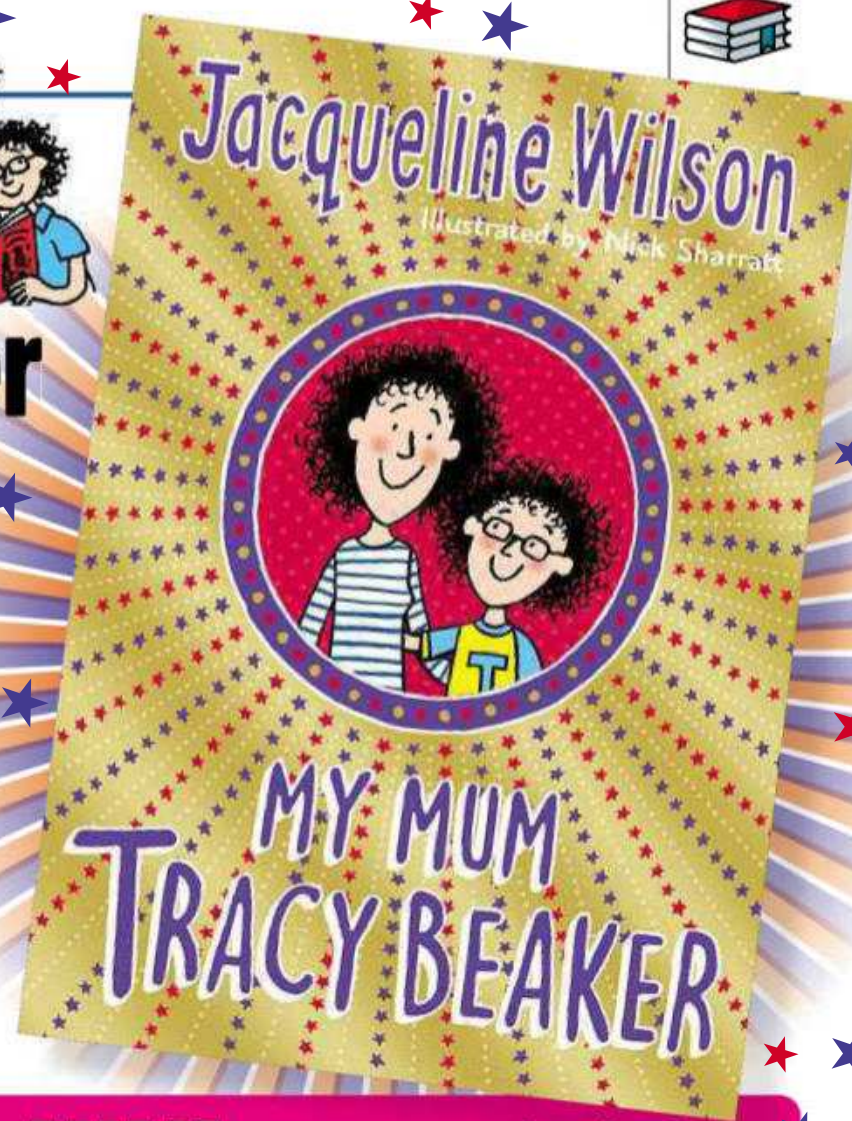
Book club

BOOK OF THE WEEK

My Mum Tracy Beaker

by Jacqueline Wilson
Illustrated by Nick Sharratt
(Random House Children's)

Have you ever wondered what happens to Tracy Beaker when she grows up? The favourite character from top author Jacqueline Wilson is back – and now she's a mum. Her daughter Jess thinks Tracy is the best mum ever. They might not have much money, but Jess loves the little flat where they live, and things are always fun and exciting when her mum's around. But when Tracy starts going out with a new boyfriend, super-rich Sean Godfrey, everything begins to change. His posh mansion and fancy cars might be straight out of one of Tracy's childhood dreams, but Jess isn't so sure about their new life. This warm-hearted story about the importance of family and friends is classic Jacqueline Wilson. A must-read for fans of Tracy Beaker.



WIN! We're giving away six copies of *My Mum Tracy Beaker*

For a chance to win a copy, just send your name and address to competitions@theweekjunior.co.uk and put **BEAKER** in the subject line. Closing date: midnight on 5 October 2018. See theweekjunior.co.uk/terms for rules.

FESTIVAL TIME



Cheltenham Literature Festival

5-14 October

Enjoy 10 days of literary fun in Cheltenham next month with Philip Pullman, Chris Riddell, Jacqueline Wilson and many others at the Cheltenham Literature Festival. You can also catch lively performances from the likes of comedian and author James Campbell, and the bursting-with-energy poet Joshua Seigal. Find out more at tinyurl.com/TWJ-cheltenham

ASK THE AUTHOR

Jacqueline Wilson

The Tracy Beaker creator on writing for a living and making Tracy a grandmother.



What is your favourite thing about Tracy Beaker?

I like that she's so optimistic in spite of having so many things going wrong. She's also wonderfully feisty, determined and imaginative – though she can be a pain at times, too. I'd love to have her as a friend, but I'd be worried if she was my enemy!

What did you want to be when you were little?

I wanted to be a writer from when I was six – but I also fancied being a hairdresser and combed all my dolls' hair so enthusiastically they developed bald patches. I became a junior magazine journalist when I was 17 and I've been earning my living by writing ever since.

Who is your favourite author?

I loved Noel Streatfeild's books when I was a child, especially *Ballet Shoes*. I used to pretend I was at stage school with the three girls in the book.

Do you think you'll write a book called *My Nan Tracy Beaker* in the future?

What an excellent idea! I think Tracy would make a really fun grandma. I'm sure Jess would try hard to give her children lovely balanced meals and take them to museums and art galleries – while Tracy would feed them on wicked treats and take them on roller-coasters in amusement parks.



5 books with magical libraries

There's mystery and magic galore within these spellbinding stories...

Pages & Co: Tilly and the Bookwanderers



by Anna James

(HarperCollins Children's Books)

Tilly can scarcely believe it when her favourite book characters – Alice in Wonderland and Anne of Green Gables – begin appearing in her grandparents' bookshop. Things get even more exciting when Tilly learns she can follow Anne and Alice into their stories, and she discovers the hidden world of the Bookwanderers and their incredible secret Underlibrary.

How to Live Forever



by Colin Thompson

(Random House Children's)

Peter makes his home in the cookery section of a magical library. At night, when the library comes to life, he ventures forth in search of a mysterious book called *How to Live Forever* – but will he ever find it? This clever and unusual illustrated book will intrigue readers of all ages.

The Grimm Legacy



by Polly Shulman

(Oxford University Press)

In this fun blend of fairy-tale and modern-day adventure, Elizabeth gets a job helping out at the New York Circulating Materials Repository. There, she is amazed to discover a world of magic. When powerful objects from the collection disappear, it's down to Elizabeth to investigate the mystery.

The Forbidden Library



by Django Wexler

(Random House Children's)

When Alice overhears her father arguing with a fairy, a strange adventure begins. The next day, she learns her father has disappeared and she is sent to live with her uncle, who has a library he keeps strictly off-limits. Even so, Alice finds her way inside – and there she finds danger and mystery.

Archie Greene and the Magician's Secret



by D.D. Everest

Illustrated by James de la Rue

(Faber Children's)

On his birthday, Archie receives an old book written in a strange language. Before long, he's on his way to Oxford to visit the Secret Library. There, he discovers the world of the Book People, who find and preserve magical books.



This week's big event



DID YOU KNOW?

David's surname is actually Williams, but he changed it to Walliams when he wanted to be an actor. Another performer had already registered as David Williams.

WIN! We're giving away three signed bundles of 10 David Walliams books

Three lucky readers will each win an incredible prize of 10 signed David Walliams books. Just send your name, address and the title of your favourite David Walliams book to competitions@theweekjunior.co.uk and put WALLIAMS in the subject line. Closing date: midnight on 12 October 2018. See theweekjunior.co.uk/terms for rules*.

A decade of storytelling

David Walliams celebrates 10 years of quirky characters and brilliant adventures

He began as a comedy actor and now appears as a judge on *Britain's Got Talent*, but for many young people, David Walliams is best known for being an author. The writer is behind successes such as *Mr Stink* and *Gangsta Granny*, and this year marks a decade since his first book, *The Boy in the Dress*, was published. To celebrate, he's releasing special new editions of some of his most popular stories.

Walliams said, "It is hard to believe there are children reading my books who hadn't been born when I started writing them. What started off as something of a hobby for me has completely taken

over my life." In the 10 years he's been writing, Walliams has sold more than 25 million copies of his books, each packed with quirky characters, funny adventures and heartwarming stories. He is also the first children's writer ever to spend 100 weeks at no.1 in the children's charts.

Walliams first became famous by acting in comedy shows he wrote with fellow performer Matt Lucas. In the past he has explained, "I never really wanted to be a writer. I really just wanted to be on television doing comedy." However, he realised that he needed to write his own material and then

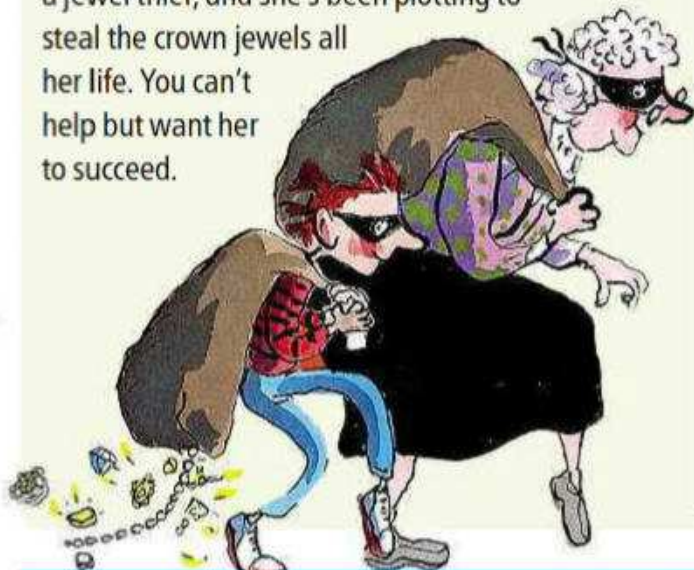
discovered he preferred writing "because you're starting with a blank page and really the only limit is your imagination". His books have been compared to those of Roald Dahl, thanks in part to the fact that illustrator Quentin Blake drew images for both authors. "If you're compared to the best children's writer of all time you've got to take it as a compliment," said Walliams. "I grew up reading his books so of course he's an influence."

Special editions of *Mr Stink* and *Gangsta Granny* are on sale now. *The Boy in the Dress* and *Grandpa's Great Escape* will be republished in November.

The best David Walliams characters

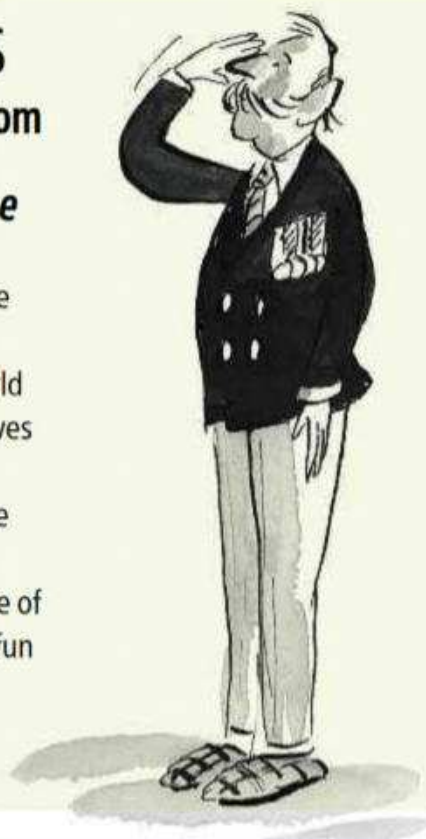
Granny from *Gangsta Granny*

Ben's granny is boring. At least, that's what he thinks. What he doesn't know is that she was once a jewel thief, and she's been plotting to steal the crown jewels all her life. You can't help but want her to succeed.



Grandpa from *Grandpa's Great Escape*

Grandpa was a Royal Air Force fighter pilot in the Second World War, but now lives in an old folks' home run by the wicked Matron Swine. His sense of adventure and fun makes him a hugely popular character.



Dennis from *The Boy in the Dress*

The star of Walliams's first children's book, Dennis lives in a normal house, on a normal street, in a normal town, and goes to a normal school. He learns it's ok to be different, however, thanks to a passion for sport and wearing dresses.



★★ ENTERTAINMENT NEWS ★★

SCHOOL STAR

LeBron James recently opened a school in his hometown of Akron, US. He is buying the pupils everything from bikes to meals, and will pay for their university education, too.

LeBron James is a basketball star.

LeBron joins Space Jam 2 team

Two decades after the original *Space Jam* film, featuring Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and legendary basketball player Michael Jordan, the hit is getting a sequel.

Space Jam 2 will feature LeBron James, who currently plays for the Los Angeles Lakers in the US, and will be made by *Black Panther* director Ryan Coogler. The first *Space Jam* film



was released in 1996 and has made more money than any other basketball film in history.

"The collaboration is much more than just me and the Looney Tunes getting together and doing this movie," James told *The Hollywood Reporter*. "I'd just love for kids to understand how empowered they can feel and how empowered they can be if they don't give up on their dreams."

FILM CLUB

Spiders are everywhere in this funny horror film.

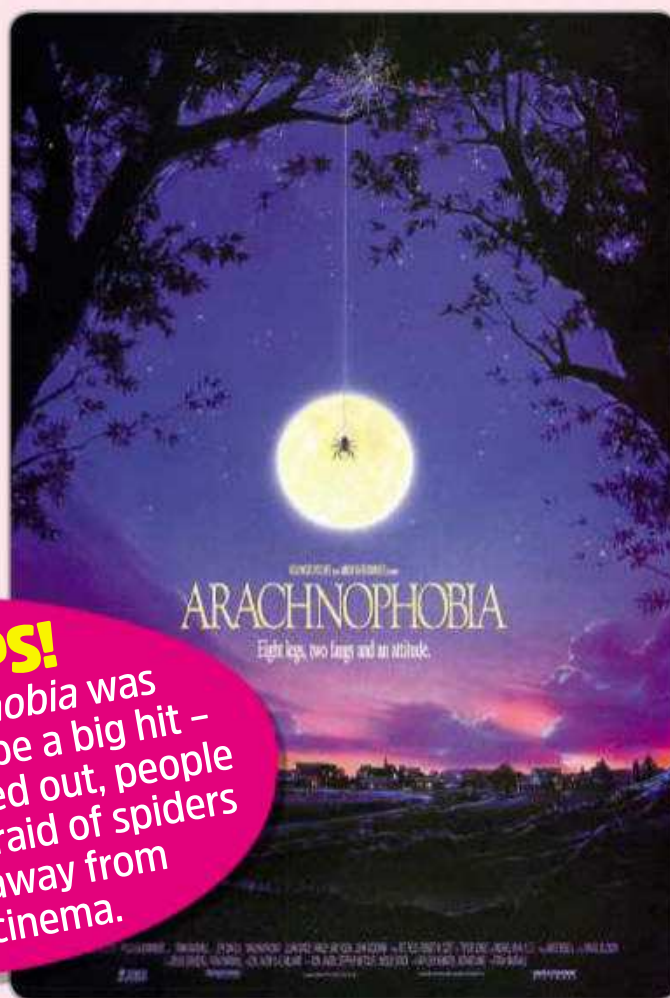
Arachnophobia (1991)

DVD, iTunes, Amazon

Here's a film you don't want to see if you're absolutely terrified of spiders. *Arachnophobia* cleverly mixes comedy with lots of tension, telling the story of a small town overrun by deadly arachnids. It's PG-rated, but very tense. It's also one of the few Hollywood horror films made for family audiences (new film *The House With a Clock in Its Walls* is a more recent example). It balances the nervous moments with lots of funny bits – but you still may want to watch this one with the lights very much on.



OOPS!
Arachnophobia was expected to be a big hit – but as it turned out, people who were afraid of spiders stayed away from the cinema.



THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



Captain Marvel trailer

tinyurl.com/TWJ-captainmarvel

After a string of hits such as *Avengers: Infinity War* and *Black Panther*, Marvel is now getting ready to release its first female-led superhero film. Captain Marvel, described as the most powerful character ever to appear in a Marvel film, will fight to save 1990s Earth from aliens.



Skylanders Academy

Out on 28 September on Netflix

Based on the popular video-game series, the TV show is back for a third season. After Strykore turns Spyro evil, the Skylands face new dangers. Spyro returns to the Academy as an undercover agent, as his master plots to take over the world.



Drowning in Plastic

8.30pm on 1 October, BBC One

Plastics pose a huge threat to our oceans and the sea creatures who live in them. This documentary follows scientists such as Liz Bonnin, who are researching the effects of plastic on Earth's rivers and seas, to see how it could also affect humans.



On screen

This week's new apps

Take flight, solve Japanese puzzles and increase your maths skills.

Amber's Airline - High Hopes

Android / iOS (Free)

The life of an aeroplane's cabin crew may not seem like the perfect material for a mobile game, but Amber's Airline turns the high-flying job into a fun game – with a proper story around its hero, Amber Hope.

The app starts with Hope practising her professional skills, helping passengers to



check in before flights, handling suitcases and carrying out a safety demonstration on board. Do this well and you'll help Hope pass her flight-attendant exams.

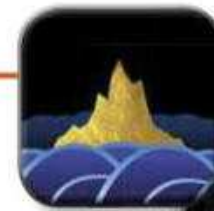
You play by tapping on the passengers, machines and items in the right order – which gets complicated when dealing with impatient people.

As you play, you'll learn Hope's history and how she feels about her job, as well as helping her deal with her worst nightmare: a crash. The first few levels are free, more are unlocked via an in-app purchase.

WOW!
The Airbus A380,
the biggest passenger
plane in the world,
has 22 wheels.



Shi•Ro iOS (£2.99)



There are lots of puzzles to solve in this app, but it's also a story about a Japanese empress and some spooky spirits. You'll find out more about them as you play through the game's 60 levels. The levels involve swiping your finger between little planets to send orbiting objects travelling between them. It's relaxing to play and will also teach you some Japanese words.



Four Plus

Android / iOS (Free)

Four Plus is a game that doesn't use letters, numbers or colourful gems. Instead it uses symbols familiar from maths problems. Your job is to swipe your finger across the symbols to create square groups of pluses, which can then be removed. Every day, there's a new bonus level to test your skills.

FOUR
PLUS

GAME OF THE WEEK

Little Dragons Café

Switch / PlayStation 4

You don't get many restaurants with a resident pet dragon in the real world, sadly, but that's the setting for Little Dragons Café. The game puts you in charge of the restaurant (and its dragon) as one half of a brother-sister duo hoping to save their mum from a mysterious illness.

The game is partly about going out foraging for ingredients – meat, vegetables and spices from your own garden and the wider world. Then you have to cook them, discovering new recipes and cooking them for your café's visitors to help it grow – all while raising your dragon to be big, powerful and helpful in the kitchen.



On screen



Nintendo upgrades online service

Nintendo's Switch console has some new features for people who want to play online – but they'll have to start paying for them.

The games company has launched Switch Online, Switch's equivalent of PlayStation Plus and Xbox Live Gold. People will now have to pay for Switch Online if they want to carry on playing the likes of Mario Kart 8 Deluxe, Splatoon 2 and Rocket League online – something that's been free until now. Some other

games, including Fortnite, will still be free to play online, though.

Switch Online also offers a growing collection of classic Nintendo Entertainment System games, including the very first Super Mario and Legend of Zelda games from the 1980s. An extra feature of

the online service is that users' saved-game data will be stored, so that if a player's Switch gets lost or broken, they won't have to start their games all over again.

LATECOMER
The Nintendo Entertainment System came out in the UK in 1987, four years after the Japanese launch.



Screens now cover the front of the iPhones.

Apple reveals new iPhone features

Apple has unveiled its three new iPhones during an event at its US headquarters, and two of them are already on sale. The iPhone XS and XS Max have better cameras than previous iPhones, with screens that cover the entire front of the phone, now that Apple has got rid of the Home button.

This means that instead of using a person's fingerprint to unlock the device, the phones will scan their face using the front camera, to check that it's

really them. In October, the third new phone, the iPhone XR, will come out with similar features.

You might not be buying a brand new iPhone, but Apple has also released the latest version of its iOS software, iOS 12, which works on older Apple devices. It will make them run faster, and a new feature called Screen Time aims to show people how much they're using their phones – and perhaps persuade them to take a few more breaks.

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM VIRTUAL TOUR

tinyurl.com/TWJ-smithsonian

The Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in the US capital Washington DC is one of the world's best museums. Now you can explore its exhibits, thanks to an online virtual tour. Peek at ancient artefacts, dinosaurs and sea creatures.



SECRETS & HACKS

FIND YOUR ART SELFIE DOUBLE

Do you look like a famous artwork? Find out with the Art Selfie feature in the Google Arts & Culture app. It takes a photo of you, then compares it to portraits, showing the best matches. The app is available on Apple and Android's app stores.



VIRAL VIDEO

HOW WE COULD BUILD A MOON BASE TODAY

tinyurl.com/TWJ-moonbase

Humans have only visited the Moon a handful of times, but could we live there? This video explains how we could – even if it's expensive and takes a long time to create a Moon base.





Do something



BANG!
During the First World War, the Government collected conkers. A liquid inside them was supposed to help make an explosive but the plan didn't work and piles of conkers were left to rot.

"IT FELT GOOD TO BE A CHAMPION"



Name:
Benjamin
Year: **8**

Benjamin was crowned the 2017 junior champion at the World Conker Championships. He began playing in school, after his mum showed him how to play. "It was the first time I had entered the championships and it felt really good to be the champion," says Benjamin. "To any newcomers, I'd say to just enjoy it. If you're in a competition, just think of it as a fun game with friends."



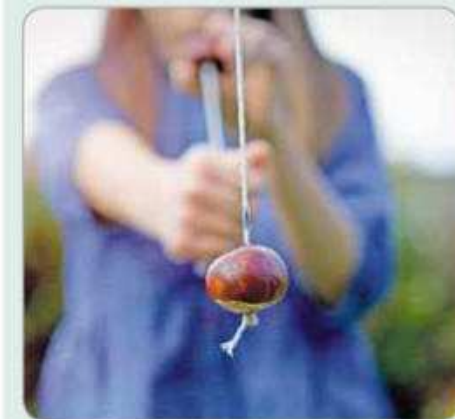
Benjamin won the junior title.

HOW, WHAT, WHERE?



How easy is it to play?

It's very easy. Even children as young as three should be able to have a go, as long as an adult supervises and shows them how it's played. The trickiest part is swiping or striking at the other conker, which takes practice.



What should I not to?

Never climb horse chestnut trees to collect conkers. It can be dangerous, and anyway, the conkers are only ready to be used once they fall to the ground. Never shake branches to make them drop.



Any top tips?

Conkers left over from last autumn will be dried out now and very difficult to break in a game. Letting a conker soak in vinegar for a couple of days will make it tough, too. Be careful though; some players think using old, or soaked, conkers is cheating.

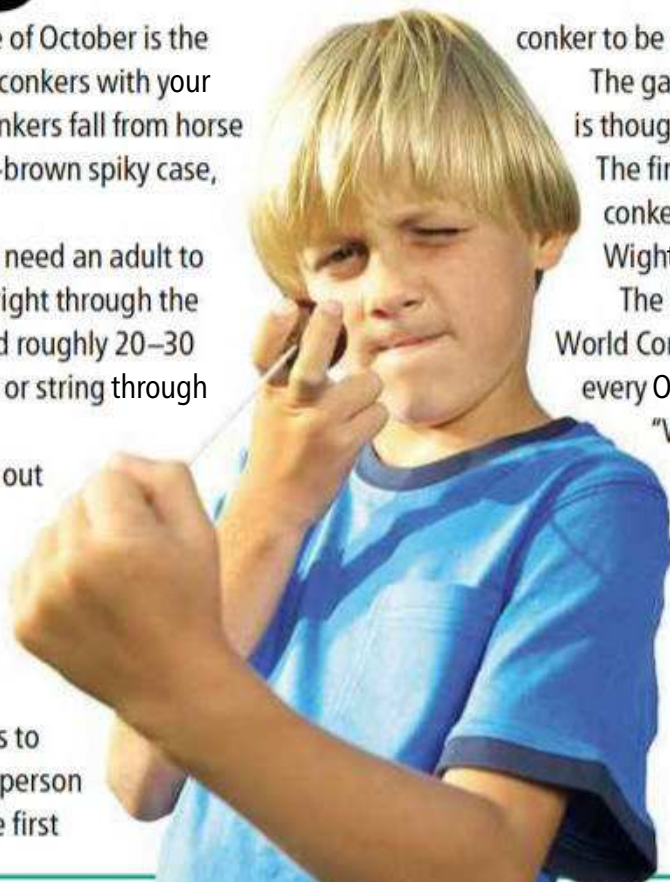
Do you like nature and traditional games? Go outside and...

Play conkers

Late September to the middle of October is the perfect time to start playing conkers with your friends. This is usually when conkers fall from horse chestnut trees, inside a greeny-brown spiky case, and can be collected.

To begin playing, you'll first need an adult to carefully drill or skewer a hole right through the conker. You then need to thread roughly 20–30 centimetres of cord, a shoelace or string through it and tie a knot at the end.

One person holds their arm out and dangles their conker. The other person swings their conker, which is also on a string, in an attempt to hit the dangling conker. Rules vary, but you usually have three goes to hit the conker before the other person has their turn. Whoever has the first



conker to be smashed is the loser.

The game has a long tradition in the UK and it is thought it has been played since the 1700s. The first official record of a game using conkers is said to be from 1848 on the Isle of Wight, off the south coast of England.

The biggest conkers competition is the World Conker Championships, which is held every October in Northamptonshire, England.

"We collect up to 3,000 conkers each year for the competition," says St. John Burkett, who helps organise the event. He has some tips if you want to have a go "Ideally a conker shouldn't be too big, because bigger conkers are easier to aim at and hit and have weaker shells. Use conkers that are as spherical as possible because they are harder to break."

How to...



Make oaty chocolate energy balls

What you need

- 80g oats
- 130g peanut butter (smooth not crunchy)
- 46g chocolate chopped up into small pieces, or choc chips
- 5tbsp honey
- 1tbsp cocoa powder
- 2tbsp flax seeds (optional)
- 2tbsp chia seeds (optional)
- Large bowl
- Wooden spoon
- Tea towel
- Tablespoon
- Food storage container

Instructions

Put all the ingredients into the bowl and mix together with the wooden spoon until everything is evenly combined. Cover the bowl with a tea towel and place it in the fridge for around 30 minutes to allow the mixture to set. Once ready, you can begin turning the mixture into energy bites. Using a tablespoon, scoop out a small portion of the mix and (with clean hands) roll it into a ball. When you're happy with the size, pop it in a container. Repeat this process for the remaining mixture until it's gone. These make for a tasty energy boost, perfect for tackling homework. They'll keep in the fridge, covered, for three days.



TIME TO EXPERIMENT

The great thing about energy balls is that you can use any flavour combination you like – mixing fruit, nuts, seeds and different types of chocolate.

These oaty balls are a delicious treat.



Play sporty animal charades

What you need

- Pen
- Paper
- Two bowls

Instructions

Charades is a game in which players silently act out a word, phrase or title for everyone to guess. First of all, make two piles of paper – one pile with names of animals on them and another with different types of sport. Make sure you have the same number of pieces of paper in both piles, and there are enough for each player to have a go. All the animal pieces of paper go in one bowl and the sports go in another. Each player takes it in turns to pick one animal and one sport from each bowl, and then acts out that combination for everyone to guess. You might end up trying to act out a giraffe playing tennis or a skiing cat.

Design a colour window

What you need

- Pencil
- Sheet of paper
- Sheet of acetate
- Sharpies or other coloured markers
- Sellotape

Instructions

Start by drawing your design on a piece of paper in pencil. When you are happy with your design, place your sheet of acetate on top of the paper and trace over the lines in pencil. Next, colour in each segment on the acetate with the coloured markers. Once the whole design is coloured in, finish off your window by drawing over the pencil lines with a black marker. Stick it onto the window with some tape.



Got an idea? Made something cool? Share it with us at hello@theweekjunior.co.uk



Over to you

Editor's note

The story on page 3 about Aldi Novel Adilang, the Indonesian teenager who survived for an unbelievable 49 days at sea, got us all talking this week. He was understandably scared, so his relief at eventually being rescued must have been overwhelming. Happily he is now safe and sound. Incredibly, that wasn't the only tale of survival in the news this week. An Indian around-the-world sailor who was competing in a competition was left stranded 2,000 miles off the coast of Australia after a violent ocean storm damaged his vessel and left him with a serious injury. Luckily he's now safe too, after an international rescue mission. They're both fantastic tales of human bravery and endurance, the type of story that sounds like something straight out of a book or film.

Talking about books, we've got three great authors featured in this week's issue. Cressida Cowell shares her top tips for writing on page 9, Jacqueline Wilson talks about her new novel on page 19 and make sure you enter our competition on page 20 to be in with a chance of winning some David Walliams books. Good luck!

Felicity Capon

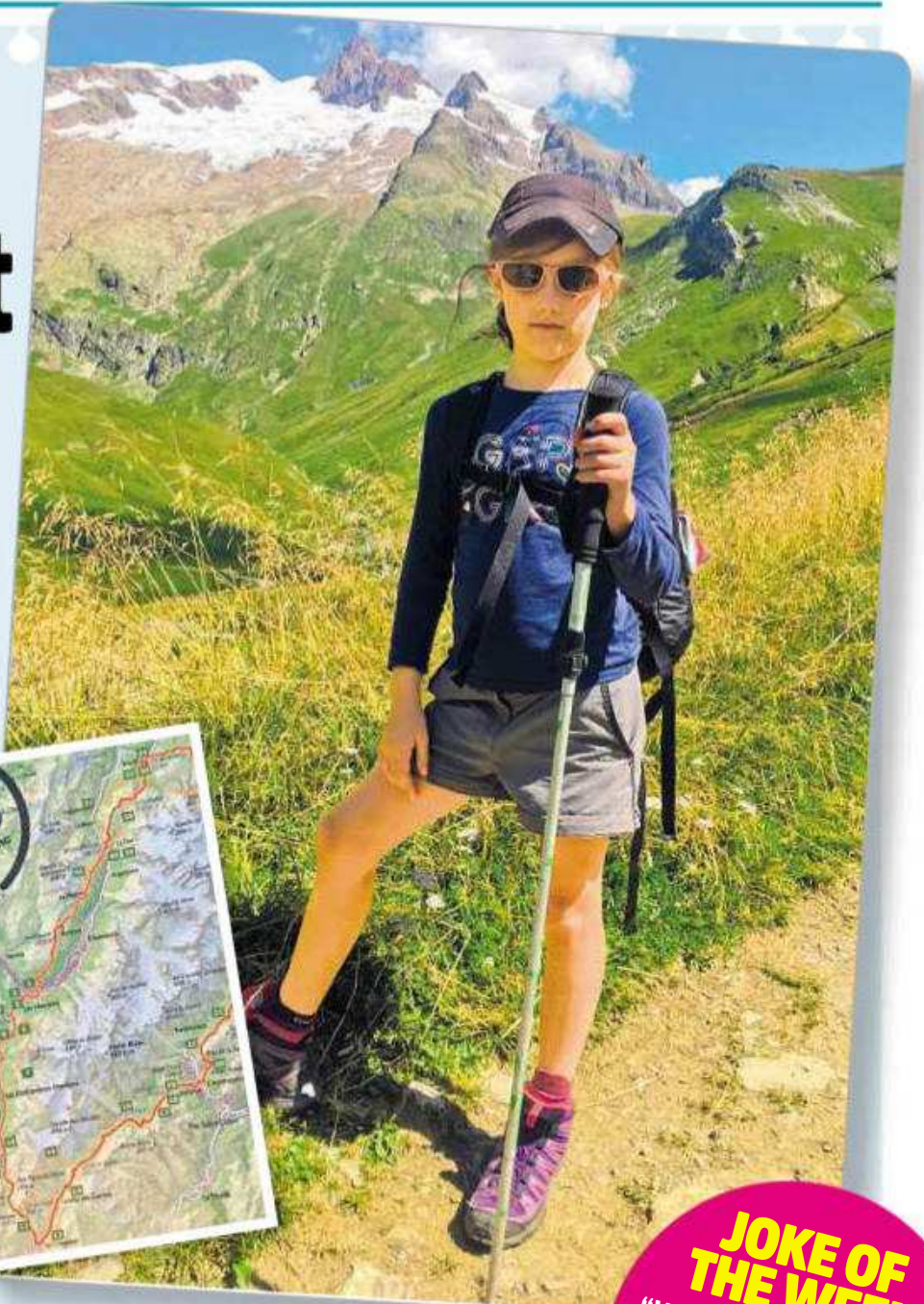
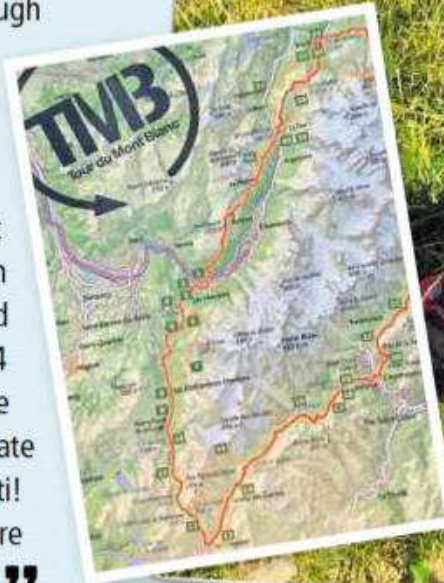
Editor, *The Week Junior*



Tour de Mont Blanc

Name: Alexandra Year: 3

“I just completed the 170 kilometre [106 mile] long-distance walking route, the Tour de Mont Blanc. It passes through three countries; France, Italy and Germany, and I walked all of it, camping every night and carrying my own bag. I walked around the mountains for 14 days. The things I ate were cheese, chocolate and a lot of spaghetti! It was a big adventure and I am only seven.”



JOKE OF THE WEEK

“Why don't you do maths homework in the jungle? Because if you add 4+4 you'll get ate!”
Nancy, Year 3



What's going on at your school? Have you taken part in a sporting event, put on a show or done something fun to raise money? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.co.uk

CHARITY OF THE WEEK



Paintings in Hospitals

Paintings in Hospitals is an organisation that uses art to help patients recover from their illnesses during their stay in hospital away from home. The charity believes that art has the ability to help people feel better, stay well and live happier lives. That is why they run art lessons and loan out works of art to hospitals from the charity's collection. To learn more, head to paintingsinhospitals.org.uk



GET INVOLVED

GOSH RBC Race for the Kids

Get set to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) Children's Charity, who have organised the RBC Race for the Kids 5k fun run for the ninth year. Taking place in Hyde Park, London, on 13 October, tickets cost £18 for adults and £12 for children, and the money raised will go towards improving the lives of seriously ill children from across the UK. For more information about the event and to register head to gosh.org/raceforthekids

Thousands will take part in the five kilometre RBC Race for the Kids.



GET INVOLVED Email your news, views and pictures to

Over to you



YOUR PHOTOS We'd love to see your snaps. Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.co.uk Don't forget to tell us why you took them.



Poppy jumping her way to victory.

"My dog, Poppy, is amazing and we are training her to jump. I'd love to enter her into Crufts one day! I worked really hard to get her mid-flight. Our other dog is called Coco and he is also a fantastic jumper." **Gaia, Year 6**

"Willy Wonka is my favourite Roald Dahl character so I decided to draw him in the style of Quentin Blake."

Harry, Year 5



"Me, my brother and my cute little guinea pigs love reading *The Week Junior* together!"

Briony, Year 3 and Marcus, Year 6

POPJAM

Follow *The Week Junior* on Popjam @TheWeekJunior. You can download the free Popjam app from the App Store or Google Play.

A hoard of 5th century gold coins have been found in a stone urn in Italy. You said...

"Ooh shiny!"
@FOOTBALLCRAZY467

"Wow! I wish I could find some as I collect coins"
@littlemisssew

"Wow! Lucky find!"
@profpuplex



Researchers have discovered that Cornwall and South Devon were part of France millions of years ago. You said...

"Omg! I was so shocked when I read this article!"
@ArtyDolphin101

"Cool!"
@firebubble2209

"Wow! I never would have known!"
@PinkAndPurple6



Tell us what you think of this week's issue. We'll give you a shout-out if your post is printed here.

The Week Junior is delivered in a recyclable LDPE plastic bag to protect it in the post. Check if your council collects LDPE products. Many larger supermarkets take these bags for recycling.



Teacher OF THE WEEK



Teacher's name: **Mr Gould**

School: **Chacewater Community Primary School, Cornwall**

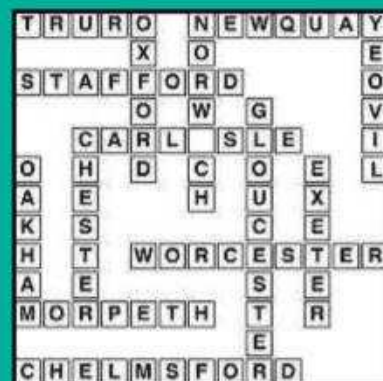
"Mr Gould went above and beyond to help my mum and dad get me into secondary school. I was the **ONLY** one in my class who didn't get in and it would have been awful if I was split up from my friends. Mr Gould is also a great headmaster. He lets us have fundraising days and dresses up with us."

Holly, Year 7

If we pick your teacher as Teacher of the Week, we'll send your school three free issues of *The Week Junior*. Send your nominations, along with a picture of your teacher and your school's full name and address, to hello@theweekjunior.co.uk



Puzzles page answers



ANAGRAMS
Mouse, internet



		431					
	244	187					
	141	103	84				
	81	60	43	41			
	44	37	23	20	21		
	22	22	15	8	12	9	
	12	10	12	3	5	7	2

- 1 c) The Chequers deal 2 False, it's the name of a stone said to be "the heart of London"
- 3 Bali, Indonesia 4 c) 55 million 5 A wizard 6 False, they can be up to 5 millimetres wide
- 7 a) Nepal 8 Fruit fly 9 True 10 Tiger Woods 11 c) Jacqueline Wilson 12 False, it was *The Boy in the Dress* 13 b) Nintendo 14 Horse chestnut tree 15 a) A black rat snake

GETTY IMAGES - COURTESY OF QUENTIN BLAKE - PAINTINGS IN HOSPITALS - REX SHUTTERSTOCK - SHUTTERSTOCK



Every reader who has a report, review, Teacher of the Week nomination, joke or a picture printed in the magazine will be sent a Roving Reporter badge.

hello@theweekjunior.co.uk



Puzzles



Word fill in

All of these English towns and cities can be placed on the grid. Can you work out where each name goes to complete it?

5 letters

Truro

6 letters

Exeter
Oakham
Oxford
Yeovil

7 letters

Chester
Morpeth
Newquay
Norwich

8 letters

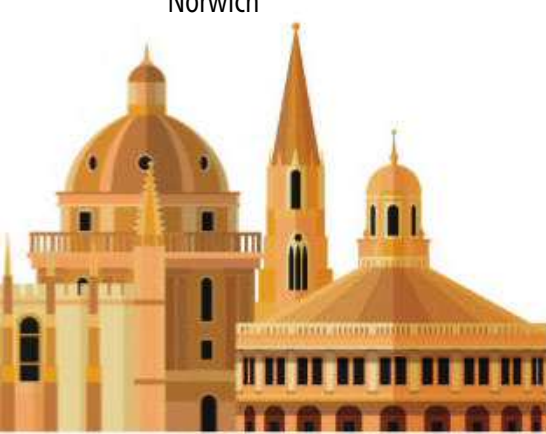
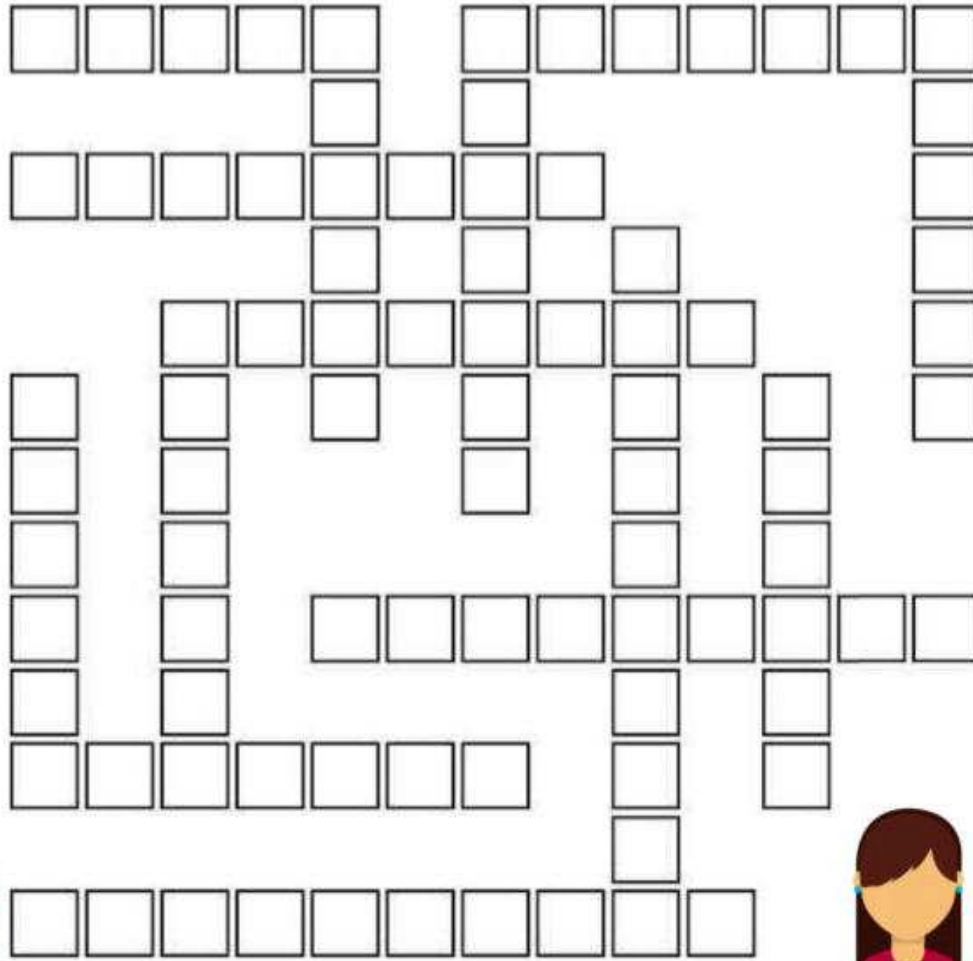
Carlisle
Stafford

9 letters

Worcester

10 letters

Chelmsford
Gloucester



WORDSEARCH

Can you find all of these capital cities? They are hidden horizontally, vertically or diagonally, and may read forwards or backwards.



AMSTERDAM	LISBON	ROME
BEIJING	LONDON	STOCKHOLM
BERLIN	MADRID	TOKYO
CANBERRA	PARIS	VIENNA
DUBLIN	PRAGUE	WELLINGTON

ANAGRAMS

Rearrange the scrambled letters to form words.

SOEMU

(CLUE: Rodent)



ENTERTIN

(CLUE: Online)

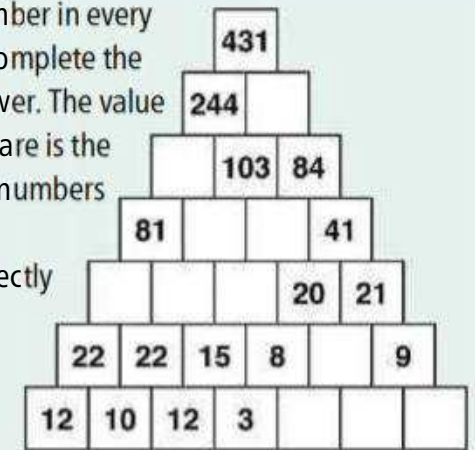


ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 27



Number tower

Place a number in every square to complete the number tower. The value in each square is the sum of the numbers in the two squares directly beneath it.



Spot the difference

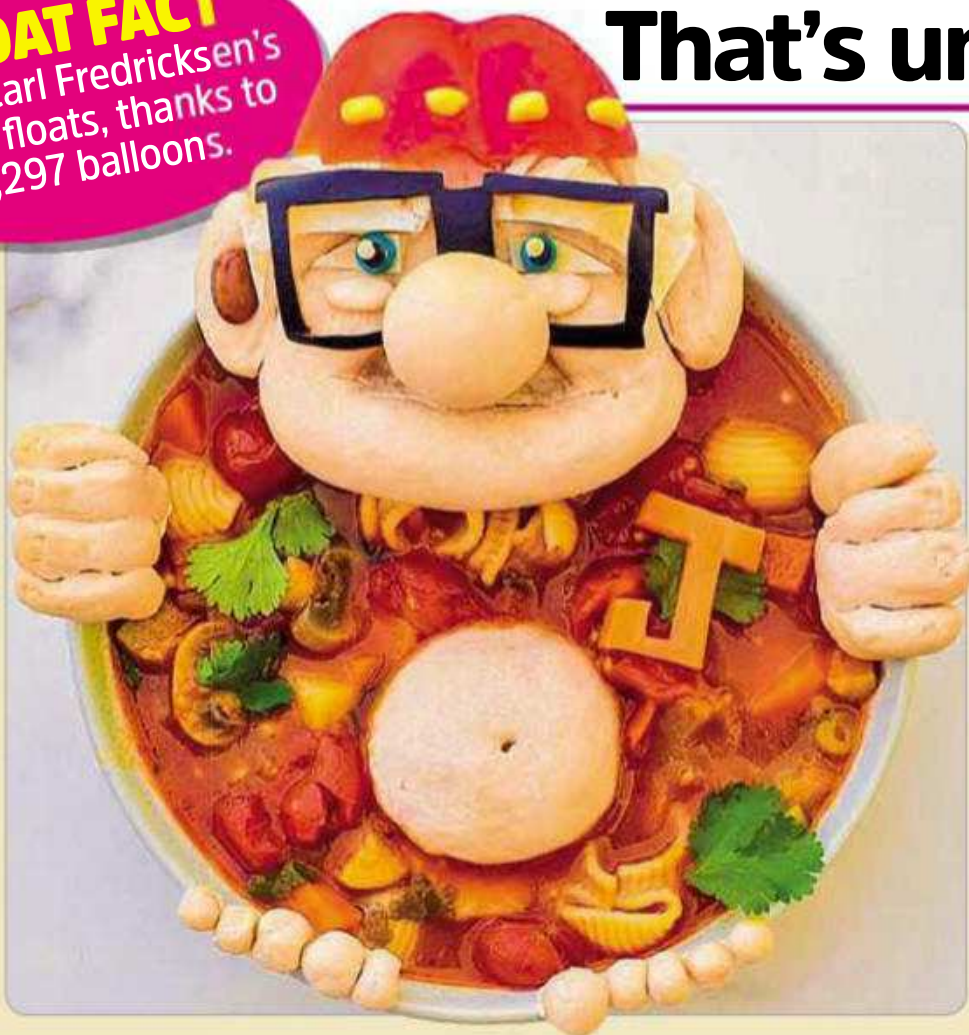
These two pictures of flags appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are five fiendishly hard-to-find differences. Can you spot them?



SHUTTERSTOCK - GETTY IMAGES



FLOAT FACT
In Up, Carl Fredricksen's house floats, thanks to 10,297 balloons.



Is this too good to eat?

The picture above might look like modelling clay, but it's actually made from food. Laleh Mohmedi designs meals for her son Jacob using his favourite cartoon and film characters. She's been inspired by Mickey Mouse and *Finding Nemo*, but her favourite character is Carl Fredricksen from *Up*. Mohmedi, who lives in Melbourne, Australia, tried the idea of turning pancakes into a lion and her son "absolutely loved it". She set up an Instagram page called Jacob's Food Diaries and it now has more than 120,000 followers.

That's unbelievable!

Trolley tunnel voted top attraction

A supermarket trolley tunnel in the Cornish town of Bude, which protects shoppers from the rain as they walk between the shop and its car park, briefly became the area's top attraction on a review website. One comment described the tunnel as a "hidden gem" likening it to India's famous Taj Mahal palace. The website said that recently there had been lots of "spoof (joke) review submissions". It has now lost its spot at the top to a local walking route.

The tunnel was a hit with reviewers.



The harmless snake was returned to the wild.

Snake in airport causes hiss-terics

Passengers waiting to board a plane in the Philippines leapt out of their seats when a snake appeared. The black rat snake, which is common in the country, made its way past security at Daniel Z. Romualdez Airport to reach the departure lounge. Despite being harmless, the reptile caused a commotion before it was caught by staff. The unharmed snake was released back into the wild outside.

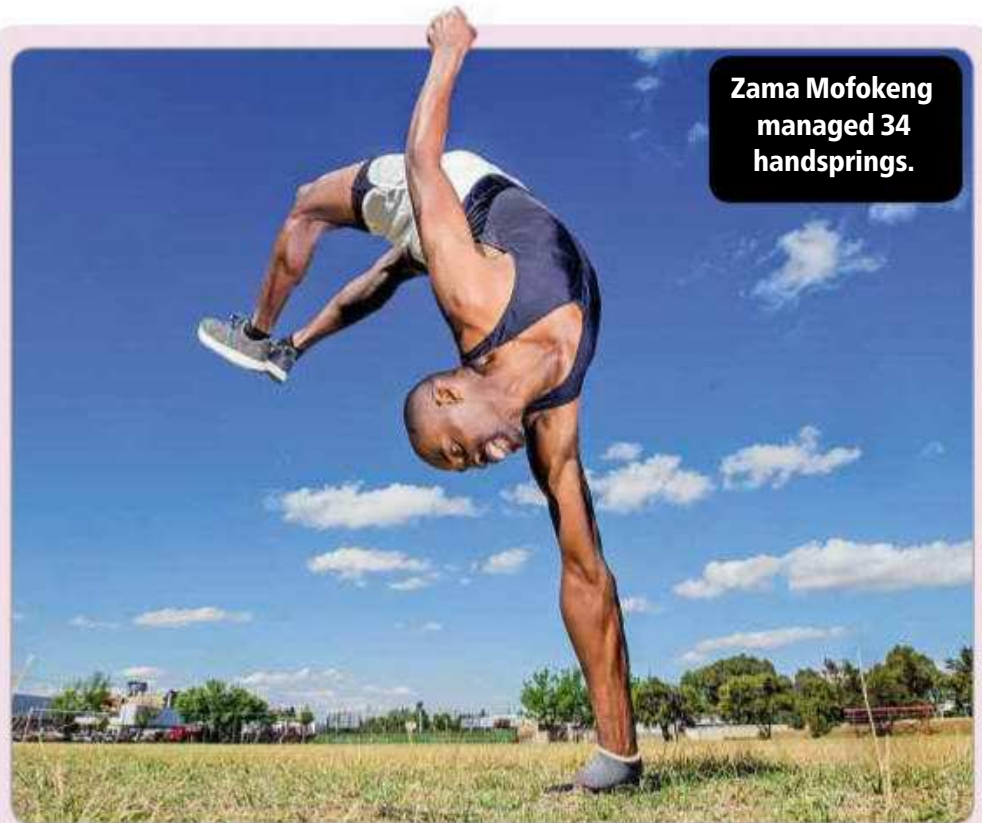
Real OR Rubbish?



Kevin Smith's lawn took 273 hours of work.

For the love of lawns

Keith Smith, from Birmingham, spent 273 hours mowing his lawn so his children could enjoy playing on it. Smith mowed it three times a day, creating patterns by cutting some areas shorter than others. He also made sure the grass had enough water, saying, "If there'd been a hosepipe ban (which limits the water people can use in gardens) it would have been a disaster." Did he really design this lawn for his children or should we cut it out?*



Zama Mofokeng managed 34 handsprings.

Flipping into the record books

A 28-year-old gymnast has landed a place in the Guinness World Records 2019 for completing the most one-handed backflips in a row. Zama Mofokeng, from South Africa, performed 34 handsprings, landing on just one hand. To qualify for the record, there had to be no more than three seconds between each flip. Mofokeng has been flipping since he was 10, and his single-handed acrobatics began when, at the age of 13, he hurt his hand "I told myself I have my other hand, which is not injured, and that means I am still able to do the sport."

*Rubbish! Smith designed the lawn for a contest, but his children were not allowed on the grass in case they trampled it. He won and it was his third victory in a row.



Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 What is the name of Theresa May's proposed Brexit deal?

- a) The chess deal
b) The Cluedo deal
c) The Chequers deal
- a b c

2 True or false? The London Stone is another name for Christmas cake.

3 Where are authorities on a mission to stop tourists disrespecting their sacred temples?

4 How many birds do cats kill each year in the UK?

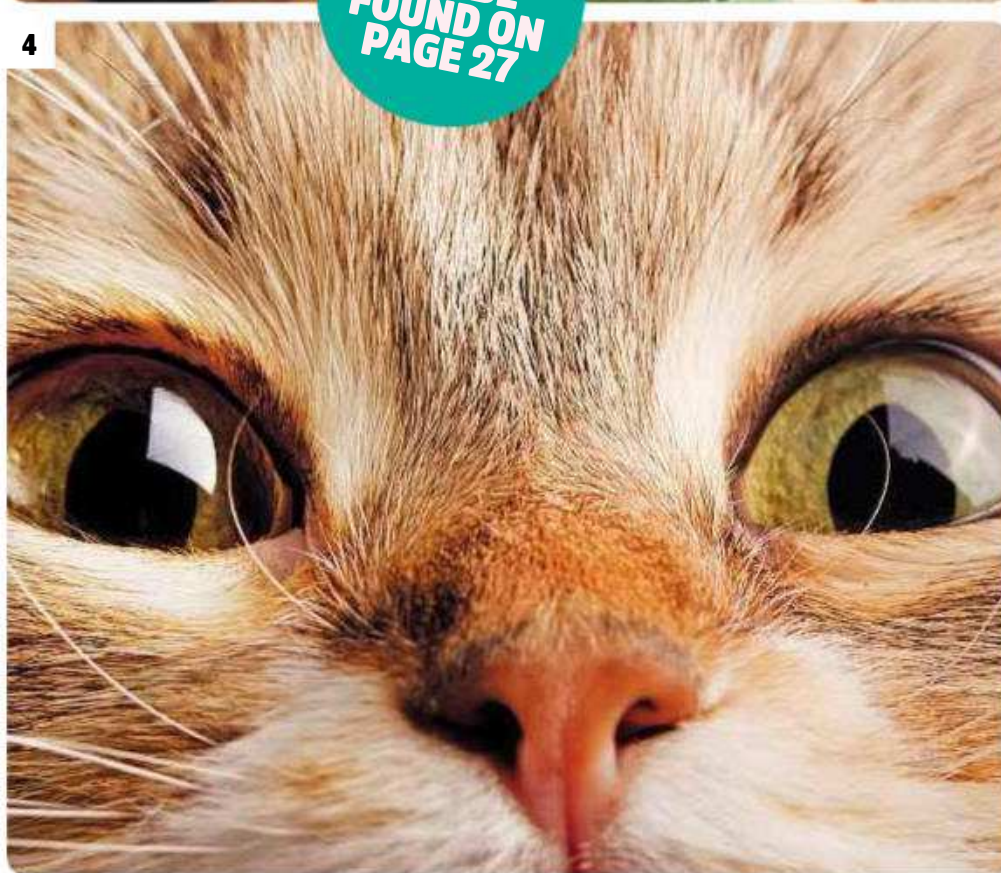
- a) 2,000 b) 2 million c) 55 million
- a b c

5 Would author Cressida Cowell rather be a dragon rider or a wizard?

6 True or False? Microplastics are pieces of plastic smaller than one millimetre.

7 Which country is the only one in the world to have a non-rectangular or square flag?

- a) Nepal
b) Netherlands
c) New Zealand
- a b c



8 Which insect is the DelFly Nimble inspired by?

9 True or False? The Moon features in the mid-autumn festival in Nanjing, China.

10 Which golfer won his first championship in five years?

11 Which author is responsible for creating the famous fictional character, Tracy Beaker?

- a) J.K. Rowling b) David Walliams
c) Jacqueline Wilson
- a b c

12 True or False? The first book written by David Walliams was *Gangsta Granny*.

13 Which games company has recently launched Switch Online?

- a) Sony b) Nintendo c) Ubisoft
- a b c

14 Which species of tree do conkers fall from?

15 Which unexpected guest made its way into an airport in the Philippines?

- a) A black rat snake
b) A black rat
c) A donkey
- a b c

ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 27

THE WEEK Junior

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