

Astronaut launches new space research hub

British astronaut, Tim Peake, has officially opened a new £100m space research hub in Leicester. Space Park Leicester is a pioneering space research, innovation and teaching cluster expected to boost the regional economy and create lots of new opportunities and jobs. Tim Peak, the first British European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut to visit the International Space Station (ISS), declared Space Park Leicester open. He, along with other scientists and school children,

joined in with a celebration of Mars Day. Tim said, "Every successful space mission calls for experts from a wide range of backgrounds to pull together and collaborate to answer bigger questions: and that's exactly what somewhere like Space Park Leicester helps to provide. I'm also excited to see this project highlighting the exciting careers available within the space sector and helping to train, educate and inspire our future generations."



Pictured: Tim Peak, talking to local school children at Space Park Leicester on opening day.
Source: Space Park Leicester @SpaceParkLeicTwitter page.

500% rise in green turtle eggs laid

A breeding ground for green sea turtles has reported a 500 percent boom in the number of eggs laid since hunting them was banned. Scientists at Aldabra Atoll, one of Seychelles' most distant islands (it is over 1,000km southwest of the main island of Mahé), say this is a great conservation success story. An atoll is a coral island consisting of a reef surrounding a lagoon, generally over a former oceanic volcano. The endangered reptiles are one of the world's largest species of turtle, weighing up to 130kg and measuring up to 1.2m. They are great swimmers, who eat marine plants such as seaweed and sea grass, and they can live for up to 80 years! Professor Brendan Godley, from Exeter University, who helped to analyse the figures provided by researchers from the Seychelles Islands Foundation said, "The ongoing population increase of Aldabra's green turtles is testament to long-term protection and offers some clear evidence of the fact that we can be optimistic about marine conservation, well enacted."



Pictured: A green sea turtle.
Source: Canva.

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4-year waiting list for Sunday roasts

The Bank Tavern, in Bristol city centre, has announced that its Sunday roasts are so popular it now has a 4-year waiting list and they have had to stop taking new bookings! Landlord, Sam Gregory, says he has switched off the pub's online reservation system to allow people who missed their meals due to Covid lockdowns and restrictions, to eat their Sunday roast at the venue. They are only just now seating tables that were booked for January 2020 as the pub has always had a long waiting list. The eatery, which originally only had three sittings on a Sunday, has now added a fourth to try and cut down the backlog of people waiting to enjoy the tavern's delicious roasts. Sam explained why he thinks the meals are such a hit with their customers, "We stick to the same meats all year round but add seasonal alternatives like lamb and venison, but our starters and desserts change every week." He added, "A lot of places doing Sunday roasts only release bookings for three-month slots and if we knew we were going to be this popular, we would have done that but it's a nice problem to have!"



Pictured: Sunday roast dinner. Source: Canva.

Last week's topic: How important is it to show bravery as a leader?



I think it is important to show bravery as a leader because if you sound brave more people will think it is the correct thing to do. If you sound scared and unsure many people won't listen to you.
Nadia – age 10

I think it is important to be brave as it might inspire other kids to be brave. At the same time, they shouldn't have to feel pressurised to be brave.
Ella – age 10

It is good to be a brave leader as otherwise people won't take you seriously. When something serious happens, you need to stand up for yourself and be brave. If you're not prepared to take on a challenge people won't take you seriously and trust your choices.
Year 4 – Frizington Community Primary

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