

Magic Michael Rosen

Perhaps you are already familiar with children’s author, Michael Rosen. He has recently been very busy meeting young book lovers in Jersey, an island just off the south coast of England. At a special event in the town library, Michael read his famous story *We’re Going on a Bear Hunt* – but with a local twist! He performed parts of the story in Jèrriais, a traditional language from Jersey, which made the audience cheer with delight. Talking about why he continues to write and perform, Michael said, ‘It’s fun apart from anything else – I just have lovely fun!’ Michael is in Jersey for the 2024 Festival of

Words. He’s excited to see young people enjoying stories and believes they’re writing more than ever, through social media and texting. ‘When I see children laugh and enjoy stories, it feels like magic,’ he added.



Pictured: Michael Rosen reading his famous story, *We’re Going on a Bear Hunt*.
Source: @JerseyWordFest on X.

World Leaders Meet

Leaders from around the world are meeting at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters in New York City, to talk about big problems facing the planet. The UN was created after World War II to help countries work together for peace, human rights, and helping people in need. Today, almost every country in the world is a member, and when issues or problems arise, the UN is one of the first places where countries share their concerns. This year, the UN will meet for the 79th time! There are many important issues to discuss,



Pictured: Debating at UN Headquarters in New York, USA. **Source:** @UN on X.

such as wars and the climate crisis. Leaders will also discuss new rules to keep artificial intelligence (AI) safe and helpful for everyone. UN leader António Guterres said, ‘It’s not just about signing agreements, it’s about taking action.’

How important is it to know about the author behind the book?



I think it is important because it helps to understand why they write these books.

Shannay

Cozy Joeys!

Incubators, donated by a local hospital, are helping to care for orphaned baby kangaroos in Australia. The humidicribs, that previously cared for premature babies, are now being used by Mandy Watson at Kununurra Kangaroo Rescue Haven in East Kimberly. The cribs imitate the conditions of a mother kangaroo's pouch, where baby kangaroos, called joeys, live for the first eight months of their lives. Kangaroo Haven rescues, rehabilitates and releases orphaned and injured wildlife. Mandy explained, 'In 20 years, we've released 823 back into the wild. It's really hard, especially in the dry season, for us to keep up that constant temperature.'



Pictured: Rescued Joeys being cared for at the centre. **Source:** Kangaroo Haven Wildlife Rescue on Facebook.

The incubators were donated after paediatric nurse, Jane Darlington, saw a volunteer raising awareness of the rescue centre while she was shopping. Jane realised she could help save lives as, luckily for the centre, Kununurra District Hospital needed to replace outdated incubators with more modern versions. 'It was very cute and caught my attention [...] I'm very pleased we've been able to give [the incubator] to somebody [who will] use it.'

Can you think of a way to help a rescue centre near you?



Timed Tricks

Teenage magician, Cillian O'Connor from County Meath in Ireland, is celebrating after completing 28 magic tricks in 60 seconds! The former Britain's Got Talent contestant now holds the world record for the most magic tricks performed in one minute (under 16 category). The 15-year-old's set involved making a wand appear out of nowhere, a trick that changed the colour of two pieces of silk, and making pencils disappear. Cillian often talks about difficulties with socialising and why he became a magician: 'I was looking for something to help me engage and interact with people, and I thought maybe magic would help. The rest, as they say, is history. Magic has allowed me to interact more with people. I've also made friends with similar interests and travelled to the most amazing places.' Looking to the future, he added, 'I hope by sharing my



Pictured: Cillian O'Connor with his Guinness World Record certificate. **Source:** Cillian O'Connor on Facebook.

story that I can inspire other kids. I would love to be able to bring magic into schools, as a form of therapy someday.' Cillian says he loves to perform with playing cards, 'My favourite magic trick is a card trick called Triumph, by Dai Vernon.'

Do you know any magic tricks?

How many do you think you could perform in one minute?

How important is it to know about the author behind the book?



It is important to know the author behind the book because they might relate it to their culture or even what has happened in their life or where they are from, their happiness and their struggles.

Ibrahim