



THE PRIORY ACADEMY

LSST

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Nature News

Florence Mayer and Ella Brandin-Lain

Our Eight-Legged Friends Rescue Mission

Washed up at the bay at New Quay in Wales recently, two octopi were discovered walking on the beach. These cephalopods were found by Fran Fitzpatrick and friend Joshua Pedley, who were excited to see if there was anything interesting washed up on the bay, the day after storm Franklin had enraged the coast. Fortunately, the two walkers wandering the sands noticed the struggles of the octopi to get back to sea, and were able to offer a helping hand to their watery home. Wildlife guide, Mr Pedley informed us: "To our knowledge, both octopus are still safe and sound."

Fitzpatrick explains that experiences such as this are what really draws him to the sea and connects his soul to the water and everything in it.

Fran and Joshua feel that they did what they could on land to help sea creatures, but who knows if they will strive to help something even bigger, or work towards stopping climate change?

Their story really sparks peoples' interest and is overall quite a unique phenomenon to have had experienced, and I'm sure that many will care for the climate now after hearing this.

Space News

Genevieve Thorne

Icons go to Space

There is a lot of controversy around the topic that Katy Perry went to space for a total of roughly 11 minutes. She was launched into space alongside the fiancée of Jeff Bezos, Lauren Sanchez, along with Amanda Nguyen- a civil rights activist, the co-host of CBS Gayle King, film producer Kerriane Flynn and former NASA rocket scientist Aisha Bowe. However, only two of these female figures have anything to do with being an astronaut (Nguyen studied astrophysics and interned at NASA before becoming an activist). The reason behind so little space expertise being involved in this was because people (such as Katy Perry) had made contributions to 21st century culture. Presumably, though, they were chosen because they were female. It's framed as a feminist statement but it seems that we are supposed to see it as a good thing and to show more equality. The fact that famous and wealthy people were chosen seems just a little bit unfair given the fact that many people dream and train to become astronauts and fail, yet these famous idols immediately get to go. However, this is not the fault of Katy Perry because she was merely ready to just take a chance of a lifetime to go to space. Despite all this controversy Katy is sure to still be a well respected singer and loved by many people around the world.

Film and Technology News

Ava Nesom-Rogers

Academy says AI movies could win Oscars.

The new rules issued by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Scientists on Monday 21st of April state that the use of AI would “neither help nor harm the chance of achieving a nomination”. In March, a few of the films that achieved top industry accolades were helped by generative AI – a system that uses single text prompts to generate anything from videos to text. Luckily for movie directors, the Academy explained that human-made movies would still be considered. Since the changes to the rules, it has been decided that members of the Academy should watch and review all nominations in each category to enable them to take part in the final vote (which determines the winners). You might be wondering why this new rule was made: it all started when AI was used to perfect the actor Adrian Brody’s accent while speaking Hungarian in *The Brutalist*. He later took home an award for Best Actor. This sparked quite a few people’s interest in AI, and a similar voice effect was used in the musical *Emilia Perez* – where it was used to enhance singing. This musical also won an Oscar. However, the usage of AI also sparked some controversy, with many artists and actors voicing their worries concerning the training of such tools and its impact on movie writers. Co-founder and chairman of the streaming service Rokit Fix, Jonathan Kendrick, who was against the idea, explained that “it’s like having a bad writer help you,” and that “Sure, it’ll get a outline done, but if you need something with emotional weight, AI isn’t going to get you an Oscar.”

National News

Vaanika Aggarwal

National Jellybean Day: An amazing day full of colour and joy

Whether you like jellybeans or not, National Jellybean Day is full of fun! This fun event was celebrated on 22nd April but if you are extremely interested you could always celebrate these sweet treats whenever you desire.

Jellybeans have a whole colour wheel of flavours to celebrate and enjoy. As these tasty and chewy treats are very popular and as Easter, has just passed by, this is the perfect time to honour the happiness they give to us even just by looking at them!

Now you may be thinking of how people celebrate this day so that you can join in next year: you could tell all your friends, write something about jellybeans or just eat as many jellybeans as you like! Jellybeans bring that hint of sweetness in to your life and they are wildly joyful.

What's your favourite jellybean flavour? Also, what kind of jellybean flavour would you add if you had the choice?

Sports News

Max Stothard

Arne Slot has an incredible first season with Liverpool F.C

The end of last season was quite hard for Liverpool fans with Jurgen Klopp leaving and a multitude of players leaving as well including Thiago Alcantara and Roberto Firmino to name a couple . It was a sad last game of the season but Jurgen made it a game Liverpool fans won't forget. Then there was the case of bringing in a new manager/head coach and after much consideration, one man was chosen: Arne Slot. Many thought that this would be a tough season for Liverpool because of the new manager scenario, but looking at how the season has gone, its safe to say those who thought that were quite far from the truth .

The Dutchman was in quite the battle to be chosen as new L.F.C manager with Xabi Alonso (Ex-Liverpool player) and Roberto De Zerbi also in the conversation for it. However Slot was chosen in the end to current Liverpool fans' delight. His experience at other clubs are thought to be one reason for the signing, like winning the Eredivisie title (Dutch league) in 2022/23 and the KNVB cup (Dutch cup) in 2023/24.

All this and he only made two signings in the summer transfer window: Federico Chiesa and Giorgi Mamardashvili, who has not yet made his debut for the club as the contract included him staying in Spain for this season. What you can't forget about however is what Liverpool have done in his time at the club already. He took them to a league cup final, and took them first place in the league stage of the Champions' League, before being knocked out by PSG in the round of 16. He has also led them to losing a minimal amount of games this season: one loss at home 1-0 to Nottingham Forest, who have had a shocking season themselves, a 3-2 loss away to Fulham, and a 3-2 loss to PSV in the Champions' League to name a few of the times they have lost this season. This is not to take away from all the wins this season, however, as it was official from Sunday 27th April 2025 that they have indeed won the league in Slot's first season! Truly extraordinary !!

Book News

Vaanika Aggarwal

'Make a Book' Day

Make a book day is celebrated on the 8th May. This is an amazing day to celebrate the beauty of books and create one of your own. If you are a big bookworm then this day is just for you!

If you love storytelling and writing, and you are interested in creating a book, what genre would you write it about? There are so many genres like comedy, horror, romance, drama, and so much more! If you do write a book, would you make it a comic style and add illustrations? And if you do include drawings or make it a beautiful comic, would you illustrate it yourself or ask someone else to draw all the pictures in your novel? Would you publish it or keep it as a story to your self?

Making a book sure takes a lot of planning. You could maybe take ideas about what to write from your favourite books, films, and exiting events that you have witnessed or have happened to you. You can even take ideas of what to write about from social media or your favourite games!

Make sure to celebrate this day if you're interested!

International News

Sara Stepien

Power Cut in Spain and Portugal

A cyber attack happened in Portugal and Spain which caused a massive power cut to happen. The first sign of it was when Peter Hughes reported that his train to Madrid had slowed down. Then the TV monitor and lights went out - emergency lights had to be used. Peter Hughes was stuck on his train for four hours with barely any food or water. The massive power cut that stranded Peter spread around all of Spain and Portugal and even to some parts of France and Andorra. Traffic lights shut off, metros were closed, and businesses were shut. Even card payments did not work as there were massive queues for ATM machines. Many people on trains were left stranded for hours without any air-con and there was nothing they could. Luckily, people from local villages gathered together to collect food and water for the stranded travelers. Commuters in Madrid were left confused in the dark when the power cut happened causing the city's metro station to have a huge blackout. One of the people who was there (Sarah Jovovich) said that people were panicking and screaming and the whole metro station was filled with chaos. Mobile phones had stopped working so there was no way to contact anyone, and as Sarah was leaving the metro station she was surprised to see the roads gridlocked in traffic. No one understood anything, businesses were closed, and the buses were full. People in restaurants reported that when the huge power cut happened, everything went off. Fire alarms started ringing and all the fire exit doors were closing. A teacher in a school in Lisbon and her students also experienced the blackout, but the teacher kept teaching in the darkness and the students were left in very good spirits. However, many parents took their children out of school that day.

Film News

Genevieve Thorne

The Minecraft Movie finally released!

The heavily anticipated Minecraft Movie was released on 4th April 2025. Acting sensation Jack Black plays everyone's favourite Minecraft icon Steve! Directed by Jared Hess the film is said to be about four misfits being pulled through a portal into the cubic world of Minecraft where they must embark on an incredible journey with the expert crafter Steve. These four are Garrett 'The Garbage Man' Garrison, Henry, Natalie, and Dawn. To get back home they will need to master this world (fighting off creatures such as zombies) and reconnect with the qualities that make them all uniquely creative... the skills which they need to be able to thrive in the real world.

Despite Hollywood offering to do a Minecraft-related television show in 2012, Mojang Studios (the developers of Minecraft) declined saying they would do it "when the right idea comes along", But in 2014 news came along that Mojang would be working with Warner Bros Studios to develop a film. The film however was postponed due to covid but is now thriving. The budget was \$150 million! The film is one hour and forty minutes long, which is the amount of time deserved given the long wait that we all had to endure before this long-awaited film. It will surely be a highly successful film.

Film review

Emily Dove

The Monkey

Written and directed by Osgood Perkins, 'The Monkey' was released on 21st February 2025. The film is based on Stephen King's 1980 short story of the same name. King has also written 'The Shining,' 'Stand by me,' and 'Cujo'.

'The Monkey' stars Theo James as twin brothers Hal and Bill, whose lives are turned upside down by a cursed toy monkey that causes random terrifying deaths around them.

Made on an estimated budget of \$11million, the film passes a major box office milestone of making a total of \$60.1million worldwide.

The original story featured the monkey toy banging cymbals, but they were replaced with a drum for the film.

The Guardian review by Benjamin "tiresome, juvenile adaptation of a Stephen King short story about an evil toy monkey", "There is no sense of dread or fear despite the setup [...] the gore itself is too cartoonish to penetrate." "The deaths here are neither funny nor scary or even gross enough to linger"

Personal rating: I do agree that there was not any message to take from this film, but there was a hint of humour and horror. This Film is good for older viewers who are not into horror, but do want a taste of it. I have not seen any other of Perkins films, so maybe this was a one time flop?

Nature News

Emily

Spring

Spring consists of the months of March, April, and May. Spring is the beginning of the period of time when plants and flowers start to regrow, animals waking up from their winter of hibernation and longer days. A small tilt in the axis of the earth as it orbits around the sun is what takes the Earth through the seasons. The Earth at Springtime is getting closer to the sun, which makes the temperatures rise.

In meteorology, 1st of March is the start of Spring, whereas astronomical Spring will start on 20th March as the astronomical Spring reflects a rhythm of the seasons.

The Met Office states that this Spring will be the warmest spring on record. To back this up, the peak temperature is seven or eight degrees warmer than average in the region for this time of year, according to BBC weather.

On the 8th March, Lincoln reached a whopping 17 degrees Celsius. This is unusual for an early spring day as the daily high temperatures range of March from nine degrees Celsius to two degree Celsius.

Spring is the time of year when the weather starts to get warmer, so we will be needing coats less and less. The Spring season can symbolise new beginnings, growth, and development which we can embrace to achieve something great.

International News

Vaanika Aggarwal

‘Worship of Tools’ Day

Why do we celebrate this random particular day?

‘Worship of tools’ day is celebrated on the 11th March. Tools are an important part of life. They are extremely important to us because they are used to craft everyday items, from schools to homes. We should learn to take better care of them by knowing their importance. On this day, we reflect how important tools are to us, and appreciate the huge difference they make to our daily lives.

The history of this day:

The exact origins of this day remain unclear. However it is believed to have originated from a popular TV show from the 1990s. On ‘Home Improvement’, the main characters actually celebrate tools! It got so popular that it must have been the reason that modern day people celebrate this occasion. Also, our ancestors from the stone age had carved out tools to hunt animals and build small houses.

Fun Ideas on how to celebrate it:

You can create posters and draw your favourite tools, bake something related to tools, dress up as a tool and brag to your friends about your fun costume, and make up a game about tools!

Now you should know about why we celebrate this day. Many tools make a big difference, from screwdrivers to hammers to drills!