



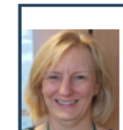
International Zebra Day

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Joanne Fennelly.
Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads



Rachel Rosevear. Deputy Headteacher



Jennifer de Board.
Assistant Headteacher



Laura Cunningham. Inclusion Lead



Hannah Garrard.
Family Support Worker



Natalie Richards. EYFS Lead



Five facts from CBBC about these stripey animals:

1. There are three different species of zebra
2. Every zebra has a different stripe pattern
3. Some zebras have spots!
4. Zebras spend most of their day eating
5. They can run pretty fast!





Dear Parents and Carers,

I know that you will have been as proud of your child's work as I was when you came to visit the showcase today. The work across the whole of the school was outstanding and the level of attainment for the writing and art was phenomenal. The children are so proud of themselves!!

As the children toured the classrooms they were thrilled with the works across all classes, and it was wonderful for them to read the positive comments from the staff when they returned to their own classroom.

Our children are amazing, and our staff are superb! What a fantastic school we have!

Please enjoy the weekend, keep warm and I look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Mrs Fennelly

Dates for your



| Date | Year group | Event |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| February 6th | Year 1 Parents / Carers | Phonic knowledge 9am and 2:45pm |
| February 8th | Children in school only. No parents | Mayor & Mayoress opening our playground reading area 2pm – 2:30pm |
| February 9th | All Year Groups | Short Reports Sent Home |
| February 14th and 15th | All Year Groups | Nearly New Clothes Sale. Feb 14th –2pm-4pm Feb 15th 9am-11am |
| 13th & 15th February | All Year Groups | Parents Evenings 3:30pm-6:10pm. Book Fair & Jules at Home will be in school |
| 21st March | Rowling class | Recorder performance to parents at 09:30 |



A reminder that if your child has sickness or diarrhoea, they must remain at home for 48 hours after the last incident of illness.



Please contact school every day of absence.



Thank you for your support.



The Merchant of Venice Showcase

Please click on the link below to see the photographs of the showcase across the whole school.

[The Merchant of Venice 2024](#)

[Go to this Sway](#)

NEARLY NEW CHILDREN'S CLOTHING SALE AT SdS

Thank you for all the clothes that are coming into school. If you have any other old clothes at home that you think could add to our sale, please bring them in next week.

Thank you for your support!!



PRE-LOVED CLOTHING SALE

FEB 14TH 2PM-4PM
FEB 15TH 9AM-11AM
ALL ITEMS £1 CASH

**CLOTHES DONATED FROM JAN
15TH TO FEB 13TH**

PLEASE BRING DONATED CLOTHES TO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER



Think of the Week

A **think** is an **unusual question** that makes you **think**. A beguiling question about everyday things that stops you in your tracks and helps you start to look at the world in a whole new light.



**What are you
most proud of?**



Friendly February 2024

MONDAY



5 Make time to have a friendly chat with a neighbour

TUESDAY



6 Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while

WEDNESDAY



7 Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others

THURSDAY

1 Send a message to let someone know you're thinking of them

8 Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust

FRIDAY

2 Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently

9 Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you

SATURDAY

3 Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone

10 Look for good in others, particularly when you feel frustrated with them

SUNDAY

4 Invite a friend over for a 'tea break' (in person or virtual)

11 Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost

12 Focus on being kind rather than being right

13 Smile at the people you see and brighten their day

14 Tell a loved one or friend why they are special to you

15 Support a local business with a positive online review or friendly message

16 Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help

17 Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life

18 Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself

19 Share something you find inspiring, helpful or amusing

20 Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun

21 Really listen to what people say, without judging them

22 Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today

23 Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise

24 Tell a loved one about the strengths that you see in them

25 Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why



26 Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones

27 Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them

28 Give positive comments to as many people as possible today

29 Acknowledge someone's problem or pain rather than trying to fix it



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

**Take a look at this website for ideas on fun
and play outside:**
**[Fun Autumn Outdoor Activities for Kids - Thimble
and Twig](#)**



**Everyone loves hedgehogs!!!
If you are feeling creative and want to help our little friends, how about making a hedgehog house?**

Make a simple hedgehog house

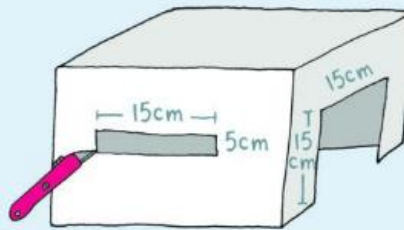
wildlife watch



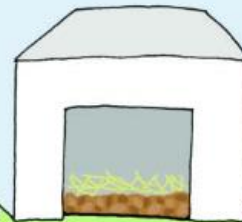
You will need:

- Medium-sized plastic storage box 
- Stanley knife 
- Leaf litter 
- Dry grass or straw 
- Carrier bag 
- Twigs and dry leaves 

1 Cut two side air vents and an entrance into the plastic box.



2 Put some leaf litter inside the box, with clean, dry grass or straw on top.



3 Tuck the box near a hedge (with the entrance facing south if possible).

4 Put an opened-up carrier bag over the top of the box, then cover with twigs, dry grass and leaves.

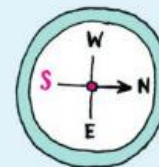
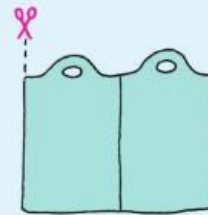


Illustration: Carinne Welch © Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2015

Food Aid / Community Larders. No referral required

| Day | Time | Location | Membership / costs |
|-----------|--------------------------|---|---|
| Monday | 1:30pm – 2:15pm | Roade village Hall. Bailey Brooks Lane. NN7 2LS | Access to all. £10 subscription, £5 p/w |
| Monday | 4pm – 7pm | McCarthy Dixon Food Larder @ Swan & Helmet. Northampton Town Centre | No referral - Turn up £5 per 8 Items |
| Tuesday | 2pm – 3pm & 6pm - 7pm | The Nest, Woodford Halse Primary Academy, Scrivens Hill, Woodford Halse, NN11 3SU. | Access to all. £10 subscription, £5 p/w |
| Tuesday | 4pm – 7pm | McCarthy Dixon Food Larder @ Swan & Helmet. Northampton Town Centre | No referral - Turn up £5 per 8 Items |
| Wednesday | 11am - 1pm | Dostiyo Community Fridge. Northampton Town Centre | No Criteria |
| Wednesday | 4:15pm – 6pm | Towcester Community Larder Riverside Centre, Islington Road, Towcester, NN12 6AU | Access to all. £10 subscription, £5 p/w |
| Wednesday | 4:30pm – 5:15pm | Brixworth Community Larder | Access to all. £10 subscription, £5 p/w |

Food Aid / Community Larders. No referral required

| Day | Time | Location | Membership / costs |
|-----------|-----------------|---|---|
| Wednesday | 5:30pm – 6:15pm | Moulton Community Larder | Access to all. £10 subscription, £5 p/w |
| Wednesday | 4pm – 7pm | McCarthy Dixon Food Larder @ Swan & Helmet. Northampton Town Centre | No referral - Turn up £5 per 8 Items |
| Thursday | 10am – 11:30am | Towcester Community Larder Riverside Centre, Islington Road, Towcester, NN12 6AU | Access to all. £10 subscription, £5 p/w |
| Thursday | 11am - 1pm | Dostiyo Community Fridge. Northampton Town Centre | No Criteria |
| Thursday | 4pm – 7pm | McCarthy Dixon Food Larder @ Swan & Helmet. Northampton Town Centre | No referral - Turn up £5 per 8 Items |
| Friday | 4pm – 7pm | McCarthy Dixon Food Larder @ Swan & Helmet. Northampton Town Centre | No referral - Turn up £5 per 8 Items |
| Saturday | 12pm - 2pm | McCarthy Dixon Food Larder @ Swan & Helmet. Northampton Town Centre | No referral - Turn up £5 per 8 Items |
| Sunday | 12pm - 2pm | McCarthy Dixon Food Larder @ Swan & Helmet. Northampton Town Centre | No referral - Turn up £5 per 8 Items |

IN ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

- This week in ks2, we built on the ideas of the last two assemblies- Sustainability with the Saints and dealing with rubbish- led by the Litter Wombles- and thought about how important fashion is. We considered our love for clothes and how important it is to be happy in our clothes- pyjamas being a firm favourite in this school- and how to protect the world's natural resources. We linked this to the British value of individual liberty and discussed our right to make our own choices about these things.
- In ks1, we thought about friends and how to treat

SAVE THE DATE

The Friends of Simon de Senlis would like to give you advanced warning about the date of the school summer fete.

We are delighted to let you know that this year, the fete will be held on Saturday 29th June, 2024. We look forward to seeing you all at this amazing school community event.

See you there!



SEND FAMILY SWIMMING

(BOTH SWIMMING POOLS WILL BE OPEN)



**28 January &
25 February
2.30 - 3.30 pm**



**Brackley Leisure
Centre, Brackley,
NN13 6JJ**

Family ticket - £12
(2 adults & 2 children)
Adult swim - £4.75
Junior - £3.80



SPORTS – RUGBY

- If you are a rugby fan, then you may be glued to the Six Nations matches on the TV for the next few weeks cheering for your favourite team.
- Why not try and develop your very own rugby skills and go along to Northampton Old Scouts who welcome all new players in all age groups particularly the under 6 's.

Enjoy the matches and Stay Active

Miss Bland



For more details follow the link
<https://www.northamptonoldscoutsrfc.com/a/mini--junior-section-21202.html>

Sports

Looking for something active to do at Half Term?

Try out some new sporting activities at Benham Sports Arena with Northamptonshire Sport. The daily activities are themed around the multi-abilities, creating an environment where everyone feels a sense of belonging, achievement and success – regardless of ability. Skills will be taught and developed through a series of fun games and activities. Even if your child is not ‘sporty’ then our nurturing approach is ideal for them.

Go to the website for more details or scan the barcode. <https://www.northamptonshiresport.org/type/events/february-half-term-activity-camp/>

Stay Active.
Miss Bland

February Half Term Activity Camp

northamptonshire
sport

19 – 23 February 2024
9:00am – 4:00pm

Benham Sports Arena
5 – 11 year olds

Experienced & knowledgeable staff with enhanced DBS checks

Safe & inclusive activities designed for all ability levels

Fun & enjoyable sports & physical activities

£25 per child per day
10% discount for siblings



We are Northamptonshire's leading physical activity, health and wellbeing charity.

www.northamptonshiresport.org

UK registered charity number: 1184107



School Mental Health Leads

Ms Cunningham and Miss Garrard are the Mental Health Leads at Simon de Senlis

If you have any worries or concerns about any aspect of your child's mental wellbeing please speak to your child's class teacher or contact us in school.



Laura Cunningham

Inclusion Leader
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Senior Mental Health Lead



Hannah Garrard

Family Support Worker
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mental Health First Aider



Simon de Senlis Primary



Dear parents and carers, as you are aware we have recently joined a school SEND partnership with Hunsbury Park Primary. As a result of this, we are able to offer parents access to some free online workshops run by a host of SEN practitioners across the year.

This term we are pleased to offer you a Zoom online session with Mosaic Psychology Service on Tuesday 6th February 2024 from 7-9pm. Details of the session content are below:

Neurodiversity: ADHD, ASD and Understanding Neurodivergent Masking

This session is completely free to all parents with children at Simon de Senlis. To register your interest you must consent to share your email address with Kate Burt from Hunsbury Park Primary School. Closer to the time we will then send out a Zoom link. This link must not be shared with anyone else whose children do not attend our school as Kate Burt will collate a list of parent's email addresses and these will be checked during the meeting.

We hope that you will take up this exciting offer.



Please register your interest by replying to the email (sent to all parents on Parentmail) by Friday 2nd February.

Any questions please contact me via the school.

Many thanks, Ms Cunningham

School SEND Partnership Offer
Academic Year: September 2023 – July 2024

Next online parent event:

| | | |
|--|---|--|
|  <p>MOSAIC PSYCHOLOGY</p> | <p>Mosaic Psychology Service</p>  <p>HUNSBURY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL</p> | <p><u>Tuesday 6th February</u> 7-9pm</p> <p>“Neurodiversity: ADHD, ASD Understanding Neurodivergent Masking” Online via Zoom</p> |
|--|---|--|

Children's Mental Health Week 5th -11th February 2024

In school next week the children will be completing PSHE lessons focused on the theme of 'My Voice Matters'. Below are some top tips on how you can further explore this theme at home to support your child's mental health.



TIPS FOR FAMILIES

Talking to your child about mental health

Are you a parent or carer who wants to talk to your child about mental health?

This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, wherever they are, and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say – and believe – "My Voice Matters".

We visited primary and secondary schools to ask students what they wanted from the week – to help shape the activities we create for schools, the messaging we give to teachers, the tips we give to other children, and the advice we give to parents, carers and families.

Here's what children and young people told us they need from you:

- ① We don't need to have 'one-off conversations about our mental health' – sometimes a chat on a journey or at bedtime is enough.
- ② I need to know it's okay to talk to you about any and all of my feelings. Please hear what I have to say, without interrupting me.
- ③ Please listen to me carefully and acknowledge how I am feeling – it might seem silly to you but what I am going through is important to me.
- ④ Playing with pets can make me feel better. Same with playing football, basketball or whatever type of sport I am into.
- ⑤ Don't compare my experiences to your own when you were a child.
- ⑥ Sometimes I just need you to listen and hear what I'm saying – I don't always need answers (or lectures)
- ⑦ Please don't worry about trying to fix things for me – I often just need to know you are there for me and understand what I am going through.
- ⑧ If you are open with me about your feelings, this can help me to be more open about mine.
- ⑨ Sometimes I don't want to talk. Please trust that I will come to you (or another grown-up or someone my own age) when I'm ready. Sometimes it's easier for me to talk to someone nearer my own age – my siblings, cousins, friends, younger teachers at school - because they 'get it'.
- ⑩ Sometimes a hug is all it takes to make me feel supported.

If your child ever has any worries they want to share with us, please let us know by emailing or phoning the school and asking for a message to be passed on to the class teacher, Miss Garrard or Ms Cunningham and we will get back to you to offer support.

Many thanks,
Ms Cunningham

For more information please visit:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

DO YOU SOMETIMES WORRY ABOUT HOW YOU ARE FEELING?

If so, read on!



Here are some brilliant tips from children just like you*. These children have also had ups and downs with their mental health and want to pass on some ideas that have helped them:

- Ask for help – from a teacher, parent, brother, sister, or other family member. Keep telling until someone listens to you.
- Remember you are not alone – everyone goes through tough times. Be kind to yourself – everyone is perfect in their own way.
- Stay calm – take some breaths or find somewhere to sit quietly for 2 minutes.
- Go outside and get some exercise to make yourself feel stronger.
- spend time with your family and friends (or pets).
- It's okay to not always be okay.
- Think of your favourite thing and write it down.
- Keep a diary to track all your emotions.
- Stay positive and focus on things that make you happy. If you can't think of anything, maybe a friend can help you.
- Remember you are enough, and you are the only you.
- If you are being bullied, maybe the bully is being bullied or has something going on at home and they're taking it out on someone else. Tell an adult or trusted friend.



DO YOU SOMETIMES FEEL A BIT WORRIED ABOUT HOW SOMEONE ELSE IS FEELING?

If so, read on!

Things you can say to help support someone else:



*With thanks to the pupils at Seascape Primary School and Ark Globe Primary School.

Beano Characters: A Beano Studios Product ©DC Thomson Ltd (2021)

BEANO





YOUTH Inspired

Youth Clubs in

- Daventry
- Kilsby
- Crick
- Kingsthorpe
- Litchborough
- Spratton
- Hartwell
- Rothwell

clubs for young people

Northamptonshire

involve ■ enjoy ■ achieve

Photography



Spratton Parish Council
Litchborough Village Parish Council
Crick Parish Council

Kilsby Parish Council
Hartwell Parish Council
Serving the people of Hartwell

07760891181 / 07422573625

sarah@cypn.org

FACEBOOK

@youthinspireduk

INSTAGRAM

@youthinspired

TIKTOK

@youthinspirednhants

SNAPCHAT

@youth_inpired



Players Wanted U9

Grange Park Rangers Football Club

Training is on Wednesdays 6-7pm at Woodland
View PS MUGA, NN4 5FZ
Matches are played on Saturday mornings.

Home Ground is Foxfield Country Park NN4 5BE

If you are interested contact the Coach via
telephone: 07708 637 654 or
email: e.coughlan1982@live.ie

The DfE's 10 top tips for parents to support children to read at home.

1. Encourage your child to read

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

2. Read aloud regularly

Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

3. Encourage reading choice

Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

4. Read together

Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

5. Create a comfortable environment

Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

6. Make use of your local library

Libraries in England are able to open from 4 July, so visit them when you're able to and explore all sorts of reading ideas. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and ebooks to borrow. See [Libraries Connected](#) for more digital library services and resources.

7. Talk about books

This is a great way to make connections, develop understanding and make reading even more enjoyable. Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

8. Bring reading to life

You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

9. Make reading active

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.



NPAT Academic Calendar 24/25

Teacher Training Days
 Monday 2 September 2024
 Tuesday 3 September 2024
 Monday 4 November 2024
 Monday 24 February 2025
 Monday 2 June 2025

| September 2024 | | | | | |
|----------------|----|---|----|----|----|
| Mon | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 |
| Tues | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Wed | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Thu | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Fri | 30 | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |

| October 2024 | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Mon | 30 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Tues | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Wed | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Thu | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Fri | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |

| November 2024 | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|----|----|----|
| Mon | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Tues | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Wed | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Thu | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Fri | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |

| December 2024 | | | | | |
|---------------|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Tues | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Wed | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |
| Thu | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | |
| Fri | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | |

| January 2025 | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Tues | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Wed | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Thu | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Fri | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |

| February 2025 | | | | | |
|---------------|---|----|----|----|--|
| Mon | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | |
| Tues | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |
| Wed | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | |
| Thu | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | |
| Fri | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | |

| March 2025 | | | | | |
|------------|--|---|----|----|-------|
| Mon | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 31 |
| Tues | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Wed | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Thu | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Fri | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |

| April 2025 | | | | | |
|------------|---|----|----|----|----|
| Mon | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Tues | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Wed | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Thu | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | |
| Fri | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |

| May 2025 | | | | | |
|----------|---|---|----|----|----|
| Mon | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Tues | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |
| Wed | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Thu | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Fri | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |

| June 2025 | | | | | |
|-----------|--|---|----|----|----|
| Mon | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 |
| Tues | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 |
| Wed | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 |
| Thu | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 |
| Fri | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 |

| July 2025 | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|
| Mon | 30 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |
| Tues | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 |
| Wed | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
| Thu | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 |
| Fri | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | |

| August 2025 | | | | | |
|-------------|--|---|---|----|-------|
| Mon | | | 4 | 11 | 18 25 |
| Tues | | | 5 | 12 | 19 26 |
| Wed | | | 6 | 13 | 20 27 |
| Thu | | | 7 | 14 | 21 28 |
| Fri | | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 29 |

News For your Children



What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

29th January - 4th February 2024

This week's story looks at events related to ...



Let's look at this week's story



A new BBC television programme, called Style It Out, gives nine young promising fashion designers from all over the UK the chance to compete in designing different outfits. The winner will have their clothes showcased at London Fashion Week. The main focuses of the challenge are creativity and sustainability, with the contestants having to use second-hand materials. As people's awareness of the impact of fast fashion increases, sustainable clothing is becoming more at the forefront of shoppers' minds.



Is fashion important?



Dinosaur Discovery

A new giant dinosaur species, called *Tyrannosaurus mcraeensis*, has been discovered in New Mexico, USA. Palaeontologists made the announcement after examining parts of the animal's fossilised skull that had been found at the Hall Lake Formation, a geological formation in Sierra County. The skull is currently on display at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science (NMMNHS). 'Once again, the extent and scientific importance of New Mexico's dinosaur fossils becomes clear – many new dinosaurs remain to be discovered in the state, both in the rocks and in museum drawers!' said Dr. Spencer Lucas, Paleontology Curator at NMMNHS. The massive carnivore, thought to have lived approximately five million years before the *Tyrannosaurus rex* (T. rex), is thought to be its closest relative! The huge theropods that lived between 71 and 73 million years ago, would have been similar in size to their relative the T. rex – 12m long, up to 4m high and weighing around 8.8 tonnes. Like the T. rex, their humongous skulls



Pictured: An image of *Tyrannosaurus mcraeensis* released by the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. **Source:** NMMNHS Paleontology @NMMNHS_Paleo X page.

were balanced by their long, heavy tail. Discussing how the identification of the new species was made, Dr. Nick Longrich, a co-author of the study from the University of Bath, said, 'The differences are subtle, but that's typically the case in closely related species. Evolution slowly causes mutations to build up over millions of years, causing species to look subtly different over time.'

Scotland's 'biggest ever' snowball fight?

What started out as a joke between an Aberdeenshire couple, may have turned into Scotland's biggest ever snowball fight! During the heavy snowfall experienced this month, Roxanna Miskelly suggested that they organise a fun snowball fight at their local park in Inverurie for the community. The idea 'snowballed' on social media, and they created two teams out of the over 300 people, who met them at Strathburn Park! Organisers claim that this was Scotland's biggest snowball fight – there is no doubt that it was large, but no one knows how to prove this statement. The opposing teams were given three minutes to get their snowballs ready, before dramatic music started to play, indicating the beginning of the match. Organiser Roxanna said, 'It's been amazing - it started from a



Pictured: The community fun snowball fight at Strathburn Park. **Source:** Garioch Sports Centre Facebook page.

kind of half-baked idea of 'wouldn't it be funny' and then 24 hours later, to potentially having Scotland's biggest snowball fight is unreal and it's been such a good atmosphere. As long as it snows - definitely an annual thing.' She also thanked Garioch Sports Centre, who turned on their floodlights and allowed them use of a generator to illuminate the event. Karla, who was there on the night said, 'It kind of lets you relive your youth a little bit. Us adults don't get to have this much fun and it's just something really wholesome that brings the community together.'

How do you think it would feel to be involved in a snowball fight with hundreds of people? How many people do you think have been in the largest snowball fight ever?



Pictured: Playing in the snow. **Source:** Canva.

Why Wag?



Pictured: A Dog Walk. Source: Canva.

Researchers from Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in the Netherlands and the University of Rome have been looking into why dogs might wag their tails. The four scientists have recently published their results and some of them might surprise you! Most people think that dogs wag their tails when they are happy or excited, but this may, in some cases, show nervousness or submission. The scientists said they found that dogs wag their tails much more than other animals that are closely related to them, for example, wolves. Canines in the wild use their tails to improve their balance and to swat away insects. These experts looked at the existing research on tail-wagging and concluded that there may be two reasons why dogs wag their tails so much. The

first theory is that people intentionally selected dogs that wag their tails to breed because humans find the rhythm of it soothing and enjoyable. The second reason is a side effect of choosing to breed dogs with other desirable traits, such as tameness. Dr Taylor Hersh, a co-author of the article said 'We may not be able to take a time machine back to the beginning of the dog-human relationship, but we can look at dog behaviour today in tandem with human behaviour to try and understand what that domestication process looked like. Tail wagging is a very apparent and interesting behaviour to start with.'

Why do you think dogs wag their tails? Do you think being involved in research like this would be interesting?

Last week's topic:

Is an e-reader better than a book?



I think e-reader is better, because it helps the environment... and you can also read your books anywhere without having to carry a bunch of books around.

Jackie

Print reading is better.

Imaya

I think they are both good but in some cases a book is better like when you want to read sometimes everything about the book is better when you are on a plane an e-reader is best.

Janaya

Let us know what you think about this week's news.



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help@picture-news.co.uk



@HelpPicture



Picture News Ltd,
Colber Lane,
Bishop Thornton,
Harrogate,
North Yorkshire, HG3 3JR

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Reflection



When we need new clothes as our current ones no longer fit or we no longer need them, it's important to consider where they come from and their impact on the wider world.



TAKEHOME

29 Jan -
4 Feb



Is fashion important?

In the news this week

A new BBC television programme, called Style It Out, gives nine young promising fashion designers from all over the UK the chance to compete in designing different outfits. The winner will have their clothes showcased at London Fashion Week. The main focuses of the challenge are creativity and sustainability, with the contestants having to use second-hand materials. As people's awareness of the impact of fast fashion increases, sustainable clothing is becoming more at the forefront of shoppers' minds.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Can you remember the last item of clothing you bought or were given? Where was it from and what was it for?
- > What does 'being fashionable' mean to you? Is it important to you? Talk to others at home.
- > What do you do with the clothes that you no longer need or that no longer fit?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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