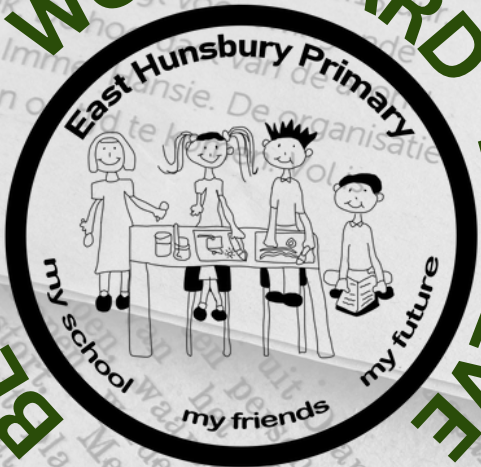


WORK HARD
BELIEVE
BE KIND



IN THE

SPOTLIGHT

YOUR WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

The weekly newspaper for children

**WHAT'S IN THE
NEWS THIS WEEK?**

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Spiney Sightings

Pedalling to Paris

Two Penny Farthing enthusiasts are taking on a challenge to raise money for the charity, Macmillan Cancer Support. Matt Richardson and Bill Pollard are collecting sponsorship to ride on their Penny Farthing bicycles from Henley to Paris! In June, the two friends will pedal their way from Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, UK to the capital of France, in memory of Mr Richardson's father. The two gentlemen can be seen wearing traditional dress whilst training for the event. 'As the ride will be in June, it'll hopefully be warm, so I have a vintage desert jacket and a pith helmet,' said Matt. A Penny Farthing is an early type of bicycle that was popular over a hundred and fifty years ago in the 1870s. Its name came from the largest and smallest British coins that were in use at the time - a penny, representing the huge front wheel and a much smaller farthing coin, the tiny back wheel. The front wheel often measured just over 2 metres in diameter.

Would you like to learn how to ride a Penny Farthing?
How do you think it would feel to travel this way?



Pictured: Matt Richardson and Bill Pollard (above) and a Penny Farthing (below).
Source: Henley to Paris on Penny Farthing Facebook page.



Pictured: Hedgehogs **Source:** Canva.



BBC Gardeners' World Magazine has announced that sightings of hedgehogs in people's gardens are on the rise! It is hoped that, after years of hedgehog numbers decreasing, the spikey mammals' numbers could be increasing in urban areas. The researchers, who conducted a survey of 2,000 people, said they are 'cautiously optimistic', following small signs that hedgehogs could be making a comeback. Garden sightings in urban areas of the arguably adorable creatures have gone up by two percent in the last year! The report shows thirty-three percent of people asked said they had spotted hedgehogs in their garden in 2023, up from thirty-one percent in 2022. The report also reveals actions that have helped the hedgehogs, for example creating wild

patches of 'messy' garden for hedgehogs to dig in, and making 'hedgehog highways' by installing 'hedgehog doors' or holes in fences so that they can travel around more safely. Kevin Smith, from BBC Gardeners' World Magazine, said, 'The recent surge in hedgehog sightings is a positive indication that we're making progress in coexisting with nature.' Did you know that hedgehogs are nocturnal animals? They eat insects, worms, slugs and berries, and their bodies have over 5,000 spines. Their name comes from where they build their nests, in 'hedges', and the noise they make, a small snorting, grunting sound similar to the noise made by a pig or warthog, 'hog'.
Have you ever seen a hedgehog? Can you think of anything you could do to make your local area more hedgehog-friendly?

Free Tuition Thanks To \$1bn Donation



Pictured: The University Hospital building and students at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York, USA. **Source:** Albert Einstein College of Medicine – Official @EinsteinMed X page.

Medical students at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York, USA, have been rejoicing as they have recently been told that they don't have to pay their tuition fees! This has been made possible due to a huge donation of \$1 billion made by a former professor at the college. All current fourth-year students will be refunded their spring 2024 tuition fees and, from August of this year, all students at the medical college will receive free tuition! Dr Ruth Gottesman made the very generous gift on behalf of her late Wall Street investor husband. It is thought to be the largest donation made to any medical school in the country. Dr Gottesman said, 'I am very thankful to my late husband, Sandy, for leaving these funds in my care,

and I feel blessed to be given the great privilege of making this gift to such a worthy cause.' Dr. Yaron Tomer, a Dean at the University, commented on the 'transformational gift' saying, 'This donation radically revolutionises our ability to continue attracting students who are committed to our mission, not just those who can afford it. Additionally, it will free up and lift our students, enabling them to pursue projects and ideas that might otherwise be prohibitive. We will be reminded of the legacy this historic gift represents each spring as we send another diverse class of physicians out across the Bronx and around the world to provide compassionate care and transform their communities.'

Last week's topic:

How can you make your voice heard?



I agree that climate change is very important, but I don't agree with blocking the road because I think they should do something different. I agree with them because the government are not making sure the farmers are looked after properly and things need to be more fair.

2K Julian's Primary School

You can maybe get someone to help you be heard because two voices [are] better than one usually.

Ava

I believe this is a bad way to make your voice heard for instance if an ambulance came by or a fire engine came by as well as a police car, they would all need to get past quickly. Actions speak louder than words sometimes.

Katie

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

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

19 - 25 Feb

YOUR WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Restoring Rainforests

A large-scale project to re-establish approximately 123 acres of temperate rainforest and other wooded habitats is currently underway in north Devon. Over 100,000 trees will be planted by the National Trust across three sites: Arlington Court, Exmoor and Woolacombe/Hartland. Temperate rainforest is also known as Atlantic or Celtic rainforest and is incredibly rare. John Deakin, Head of Trees and Woodlands at the National Trust said, 'Temperate rainforests used to be expansive wooded habitats along the western seaboard of the UK, but now all that's left are fragments, covering only one percent of Britain and limited to small patches in Devon, Cornwall, North and West Wales, Cumbria, the West of Scotland and parts of Northern Ireland.' Temperate rainforest is found in areas influenced by the sea, as it has high rainfall and humidity and a low variation in temperature each year. This special habitat with its lush conditions is perfect for plants, lichens and fungi, as well as birds and mammals. Bryony Wilde, Project Manager for the

National Trust at Arlington Court said, 'Through this tree planting, we're helping to create a living landscape where both nature and people can thrive. These trees will not only provide a habitat for wildlife but also fix carbon into the soil, purify air and water, and provide a place for people to enjoy.' The project has been made possible by donations from the Trust's Plant a Tree fund, HSBC UK, and Utility Warehouse. The planting at all sites will be carried out by National Trust ranger teams, contractors and local community groups with plans for more planting to follow in the coming years.

Did you know there are rainforests in the UK? Do you think more should be done to protect them?



Pictured: Temperate rainforest in Devon.
Source: National Trust @nationaltrust X page.

Wonderful Wildlife

The Wildlife Photographer of the Year, People's Choice Award winner has been announced! The award is voted for by the public, and over 75,000 people voted for their favourite this year - the highest number ever! The winner, 'Ice Bed' by Nima Sarikhani, shows a young adult male polar bear, who had used his large paws to carve himself a comfy bed in a small iceberg. The amateur photographer from the UK described how the beautiful bear settled down and went to sleep after midnight off Norway's Svalbard archipelago. Four runner-up places were also given out, one to 'The Happy Turtle' by Tzahi Finkelstein, from Israel. This photo shows a dragonfly landing on the nose of a Balkan pond turtle, who surprisingly doesn't eat it! Another to a photo of two lionesses lovingly grooming a cub, called 'Shared Parenting' by Mark Boyd, from Kenya. Mark commented, 'Here the youngster was clearly enjoying the moment of affection and attention'. A third to Starling Murmuration by Daniel Dencescu, from Germany/Romania, is a photo of hundreds of birds flying together forming the shape of a giant bird in the sky! The final runner-up was Aurora Jellies - Audun Rikardsen, from Norway, whose photo showed a moon jellyfish swarm in a fjord, against a sky illuminated by the Northern Lights. You can check out the photographs at the Natural History Museum or on their website.



Pictured: Ice Bed by Nima Sarikhani (above) The Happy Turtle by Tzahi Finkelstein (below). **Source:** Wildlife Photographer of the Year @NHM_WPY X page.



Do you enjoy taking photos of animals? Do you have a favourite animal to watch or photograph?

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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WINTERACTIVE Art Experience



Pictured: Island of warmth (left) and Light Lane Bikes (right). **Source:** Downtown Boston Facebook page.

WINTERACTIVE, a Canadian art experience has begun in Downtown Boston, USA. The free, walkable art display will run until April and features 16 artworks and interactive play elements. Downtown Boston Business Improvement District, who are presenting the display, invite visitors to embrace the joy of winter and say that the pieces of art are meant to delight, confuse, or inspire. All the pieces are creating great talking points, even the ones that divided opinion, like the two giant clown heads that are positioned between two buildings, reenacting a scene from a play! A giant whale, a unicorn in a lightbox, a mysterious metallic cube containing a miniature landscape and Island of Warmth by ATOMIC3, (shown above) are also displayed. ATOMIC3 is an 'urban bonfire'

made up of 220 light bulbs that flicker in response to the movements of people who view it. The embers and flames can be triggered to dance, spark and swirl, creating warmth, light and music.

The winter festival also includes five play features: the Light Lane Bikes (shown above), the Bird House, the Music Box, the Guitar Slide, and the WINTERACTIVE photo frame. The public are encouraged to play on these installations which will in turn create music and lights. The organisers hope that the art experience will bring lots of people to the area to enjoy the 1.25-mile trail of amazing and entertaining art!

Would you like to visit, or have you ever visited an interactive display?

Do you think you would enjoy art that you can touch?

Last week's topic:

What makes someone inspirational?



They can do something different to other humans and that means people look up to them.

Jake

Someone who makes you want to persevere and try your best.

Neve

They can do something someone else can't or they can do it in a different way.

Evie

Someone that is good at something so you can see how they got good at it and follow their ideas.

Tommy

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