



Saturday, April 22, 2023: Earth Day Worldwide action to save the planet

An estimated billion people around the world will tomorrow take part in Earth Day.

Now in its 53rd year, Earth Day is marked on April 22 every year to raise awareness of the damage being done to the planet by climate change and global warming.

Earth Day started in the United States in 1970, prompted by an oil spill off the coast of California, and became a global event from 1990 onwards.

The earthday.org website says: "Our world needs transformation. It's time for the people of the world to hold governments and the private sector accountable for their role in our environmental crisis while also calling for bold, creative and innovative solutions."

"This will require action at all levels, from business and investment to city and national government."

Events will take place around the world, but campaigners say every-

body can play their part in helping to improve the environment.

Planting a tree, planning how to use less plastic or writing to local councils to ask for more action are all ways that people can help.

This year's theme is 'Invest in our Planet', highlighting the need to dedicate time, resources and energy to solving climate change and other environmental issues.

The Paris Accord, signed on April 22 seven years ago, set a target of limiting the rise in global temperatures compared with pre-industrial times to 1.5°C by drastically cutting harmful emissions.

But scientists believe that rise could now happen by the 2030s if action is not taken now. Scientists at the most recent United Nations summit on climate change issued what they called a 'final warning' that urgent action is needed across the world.

SCIENCE



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WORD IN THE NEWS

A weekly feature in which we turn the spotlight on a single word which has been used in the news, looking at its meaning and where it came from.

PROTEST

Environment *protesters* disrupted the World Snooker Championship by spraying orange powder over a table while a match was in progress.

Definition

A statement or action expressing *disapproval* of or *objection* to something.

Derivation

From the Latin *protestari*, meaning to declare publicly. The 'pro' means 'outward', not 'in favour'.

Synonyms

Demonstration, dissent, challenge.

NUMBER IN THE NEWS

82

Trombone player Tom Street, who is 95, has been recognised by Guinness World Records for playing in the same brass band in Derbyshire for 82 years.

The NEWS Shed

■ The News Shed is a digital newspaper, produced weekly to inform, entertain and educate pupils and to provide resources for their teachers.

■ It is among a whole host of educational resources at: www.literacysshedplus.com

■ For contact details please see the website.

CATCHING UP SOME OF THE STORIES WHILE WE WERE AWAY



■ AN amateur gold digger has found a 'once-in-a-lifetime' nugget of gold in Australia.

The man, who does not want to be identified, took it to Darren Kamp's gold prospecting shop where he hoped the rock might contain gold worth 10,000 Australian dollars (£6,400).

In fact, there was so much gold in the 4.6kg rock it was worth 240,000 Australian dollars (£130,000).

Mr Kamp said: "When it hit my hand, my jaw dropped with it. It was just incredible. A once-in-a-lifetime find."

The nugget was discovered in part of the state of Victoria famous for gold rushes in the 1850s and where a nugget weighing 90kg was once found.



■ A pair of basketball shoes worn by sports legend Michael Jordan in his final championship series for the Chicago Bulls have been sold at auction for a world record \$2.2million (£1.77m).

He wore the black and red Air Jordan 13s in game two of the Bulls' winning series against the Utah Jazz in 1998.

The shoes were sold at Sotheby's in New York and broke the record of \$1.47m (£1.18m), set by another pair of Jordan's shoes.

The most expensive piece of sportswear ever sold was a Jordan shirt for \$10.1m (£8.13m).



■ Campaigners are hoping a public park on Merseyside will join the likes of the Taj Mahal and the Galapagos islands on a list of world heritage sites.

Birkenhead Park is believed to be the oldest public park in the world. It is among several places the UK government is hoping will be awarded world heritage status by Unesco, the United Nations' cultural organisation.

York city centre and an Iron Age settlement in the Shetlands are also in the running. Stonehenge and Hadrian's Wall are among the UK sites already on the list.



■ The new Super Mario Bros Movie has broken box office records despite getting the thumbs down from many film critics.

The second film based on the iconic video game earned £303million in the first five days after it was released.

That is the most ever earned on release by an animated film, breaking the previous record of £288m set by Frozen 2.

Audiences have flocked to cinemas to see the film despite many critics expressing disappointment with it.

One called it "soulless" and another said the film was "tedious and flat".

The 1993 live action version starring Bob Hoskins was also panned.

Shaun the (space) sheep

» Telly character's mission to the Moon

Shaun the Sheep is back at Mossy Bottom Farm after his most exciting adventure yet.

The animated character from Wallace and Gromit creators Aardman was the official mascot of the European Space Agency (ESA) aboard the recent Artemis I mission.

Shaun, wearing an official ESA uniform, was on board as the unmanned – but not unsheeped – Orion spacecraft orbited the Moon.

Aardman said: “The woolly astronaut safely splashed down to earth

and, after a much needed rest, has now returned home to Aardman before continuing his astronaut duties on a post-flight tour.”

Senior ESA officials were at Aardman headquarters in Bristol to congratulate Shaun on his mission before he visits various space centres across Europe.

ESA director David Parker said: “I am delighted to welcome Shaun the Sheep, alive and wool after a well-deserved rest on the farm.

“As the first sheep to fly to the Moon and back, he’s got a lot to teach us about Europe’s exploration of space. I am sure everyone will flock to meet him during his post-flight tour.”



Picture: Aardman

Picture: Nasa



The crew of astronauts for the second Artemis space mission has been named.

While Artemis I was unmanned – apart from Shaun the Sheep – Artemis II will have a crew of four as it orbits the Moon.

Artemis is a joint project between American space agency Nasa and the space agencies of Canada and Europe.

If Artemis II’s journey past the Moon next year is a success, the plan is for Artemis III to put two astronauts on the surface of the Moon in 2025.

Artemis II will be led by Commander Reid Wiseman and he will be joined by three astronauts making history. Pilot Victor Glover will be the first black astronaut to travel beyond low Earth orbit, Christina Koch the first woman and Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen the first non-American.

Self-driving buses will start carrying passengers on a route in Scotland from next month.

Although they are autonomous – meaning they can operate on their own – the buses will actually have two staff on board, twice the number of a normal bus. A ‘safety driver’ will be in the driver’s seat to check the technology and a second person will help passengers with boarding and buying tickets.

The five buses will operate on a route from Fife, across the famous Forth road bridge and into the country’s capital, Edinburgh, starting on May 15.

The service is being operated by bus company Stagecoach, which said: “With the ability to see 360°, react faster and see further in bad weather, all while being risk averse and not getting tired or distracted, the technology is designed to be safer than even the most experienced human drivers.”



Something doesn't smell right here!

Commuters in London were in for a shock when they were joined at a bus stop by a skunk!

They were waiting for a bus in the suburb of Muswell Hill when the creature trotted towards them.

Shop worker Lauren O'Hara was at the bus stop and said: "At first I thought it was a cat. Suddenly I realised it was a skunk. I couldn't believe it.

"The way it stopped at the bus stop, I thought it might be hopping on with me."

The creature was caught on film and the RSPCA confirmed it was a skunk. It asked anybody who might make another sighting to report it to the charity.

The black and white creatures are best known for giving off a horrible smell when they feel threatened.

Skunks are normally found in woodland in North and Central America

– not in popular London suburbs! This one is thought to have escaped from captivity and set up home in a nearby nature reserve.



Sneaky Doris wants a lie-in

Many of us would prefer a lie-in in our warm beds to getting up for work or school on a chilly morning – and it turns out that doesn't just apply to humans.

A cow called Doris became an internet sensation when a video was posted of her pretending to be asleep to avoid going out in the cold to be milked early one morning.

Farmer John Brodie shot the video on a farm on the Isle of Wight to show his wife. She then posted it on social media and the film was even featured on an American television news programme.

John said Doris was cheeky and that he had built up a great bond with her.

He added: "Doris has a fantastic personality – she's definitely more person than cow."

NINE-year-old Harvey was understandably upset when his pet tortoise Mary went missing from their home in Wigan.

Mary had disappeared from a pen in the garden and Harvey's family feared she may have been stolen.

But seven months later, an electricity company worker spotted the runaway reptile when tidying up a nearby substation. He decided to knock on doors in the area – and by an amazing coincidence the first house he tried turned out to be Harvey's grandmother's. She identified Mary who was soon reunited with Harvey.



CROSSWORD

1		2		3			4
		5					
				6		7	
8	9		10				
			11				
				12	13		14
15							
			16				
17					18		

ACROSS

- 1&3 Football club playing at the Etihad Stadium (abbreviation) (3,4)
- 5 Repeated sound (4)
- 6 Feeble (4)
- 8 Middy (4)
- 11 Alien spacecraft? (1,1,1)
- 12 Hard pull; slang term for an American (4)
- 15 Young sheep (4)
- 16 ___ _ Watson, actress who played Hermione Granger (4)
- 17 Norse god of thunder; Marvel hero (4)
- 18 Type of flour for making bread; East Sussex town (3)

DOWN

- 1 Destination for Apollo 11 to 17 (4)
- 2 Missing film fish (4)
- 3 Horse-riding, stetson-wearing Wild West character (6)
- 4 Long-haired Himalayan cattle (3)
- 7 River running through Bristol (4)
- 9 Killer whale (4)
- 10 1, 2 or 3, for example (6)
- 13 Slightly open (of a door) (4)
- 14 Leg joint (4)
- 15 Allow (3)

Ask your teacher to find the solutions online with the reading comprehension answers

This week in history

APRIL 22, 1969

■ When Robin Knox-Johnston sailed his yacht *Suhaili* into Falmouth harbour on April 22, 1969, he became the first man to have sailed around the world solo and non-stop.

The feat had taken him 312 days aboard the 32ft (9.8m) yacht, having left Falmouth on June 14 the previous year.

He was one of nine sailors to have entered the Sunday Times Golden Globe Race – but was the only one to finish. One sank and was rescued, six retired from the race and one died.

Knox-Johnston donated his £5,000 prize money to the family of the sailor who died, Donald Crowhurst.

In 2007, Knox-Johnston set another record when he became the oldest person, at the age of 67, to sail solo around the world, although this time the *Velux 5 Oceans Race* was sailed in stages rather than non-stop.

APRIL 23, 1985

■ Coca-Cola has long been one of the world's most popular drinks – but in the early 1980s the company was losing sales to rival drinks companies.

Bosses decided to change the traditional recipe and, on April 23, 1985, introduced New Coke and stopped production of the traditional drink a few days later. The change did not go well. Customers complained and, on July 11, just 79 days after New Coke was introduced, the company announced the original drink would be brought back.

APRIL 24, 1916

■ British rule in Ireland had caused protests for hundreds of years and these came to a head at Easter in 1916.

The Easter Rising was a rebellion which began on Easter Monday, April 24, with the aim of creating an independent Irish republic. Republicans seized important buildings, mainly in Dublin, and declared independence.

But despite being in the middle of World War I, the British army sent in thousands of reinforcements and fierce battles were fought. The rebels were soon overpowered and on April 29, six days after it had started, the Rising was over when its leader, Patrick Pearse, agreed to surrender – 16 of the rebel leaders, including Pearse, were executed.

Ireland would eventually become an independent country six years later, in 1922, although the counties which now make up Northern Ireland elected to remain part of the UK.

APRIL 25, 2007

■ English sport was in mourning on April 25, 2007, the day two great figures died.

Arthur Milton, who was 79, was the last of the 12 men who had played for both the England cricket and football teams.

He played county cricket for Gloucestershire for 26 years, not retiring until he was 46, and made six Test match appearances for England in 1958 and 1959. He scored more than 32,000 runs for his county and 204 for his country, including an unbeaten century on his debut.

Milton also played football for Arsenal between 1951 and 1955, winning the League title in the 1952-53 season. A right-winger, he won

one England cap, against Austria at Wembley in 1951.

On the very same day Milton died, English football lost Alan Ball, who was widely rated as man of the match when England won the World Cup final against West Germany in 1966.

A tireless midfielder, he was a Blackpool player at the time and went on to have a successful career with Everton, Arsenal and Southampton. He also managed seven different League clubs.

Ball played 72 times for England and was the second member of the World Cup-winning team to die, after captain Bobby Moore. Now only two survive, Bobby Charlton and hat-trick hero Geoff Hurst.

APRIL 26, 2019

■ The most successful superhero film of all time went on general release on April 26, 2019.

Avengers: Endgame, part of the **Marvel Cinematic Universe**, would go on to earn more than **£2.26 billion** at the box office.

In the list of top earning films of all types, it is narrowly second only to **Avatar**, which earned more than **\$2.34bn**.



APRIL 27, 1992

■ The first – and so far only – female Speaker of the House of Commons took up the role on April 27, 1992.

Betty Boothroyd would serve in the role for eight years before joining the House of Lords as **Baroness Boothroyd**. She died earlier this year, aged 93.

The Speaker's job is to act as the chair of parliamentary debates and ensure MPs stick to the rules of the House of Commons.



APRIL 28, 1967

■ Muhammad Ali is rated by many as the greatest heavyweight boxer of all time, but he became a divisive figure on April 28, 1967.

That was the day when he refused to be drafted into the US Army to fight in the Vietnam War, saying it would be against his religious beliefs. He was immediately stripped of his world title.

Refusing the draft was a criminal offence and he was found guilty, but Ali did not go to jail while appeals were considered and the Supreme Court eventually overturned the conviction four years later.

Euro final was such a

BUZZ!



Winning the European Championship final made the England women's football team the UK's most positive sporting story of the past year.

Public opinion researchers at YouGov's SportsIndex produce an annual 'buzz ranking' measuring the difference in people's perception of positive and negative news stories about sports teams or events.

England's 2-1 win over Germany in the women's Euro 2022 final at Wembley last July saw them top the table ahead of the men's team which reached the quarter-finals of the World Cup in December.

The two national football teams even finished ahead of the England men's T20 and Test cricket teams, which both also had positive years.

And there was another boost for

Fact SHED

SportsIndex domestic ranking

Team/event	Sport
1 England women.....	football
2 England men.....	football
3 England men's T20.....	cricket
4 England men's Test.....	cricket
5 England women.....	rugby union
6 Premier League.....	football
7 England men.....	rugby union
8 EFL Championship.....	football
9 The Hundred.....	cricket
10 Cheltenham Gold Cup.....	racing

women's sport in rugby union, where the England women's team's journey to the final of the Rugby World Cup, where they were narrowly beaten by hosts New Zealand, saw them ranked two places ahead of the men's team.

Revealed: the leagues where refs are busiest



Bolivia's Primera Division is the most badly-behaved league in world football according to new research.

Statisticians at the CIES Football Observatory have counted the number of yellow and red cards shown to players in every game in 76 different leagues around the world over the past three years.

Bolivia tops the list of bad behaviour with an average of more than seven cards in every game, 6.46 yellows and 0.55 reds per match.

Fellow South American leagues in Uruguay and Venezuela complete the top three divisions with most cards shown per game.

The best-behaved leagues are the Japanese first and second divisions with only 2.19 and 1.99 cards respectively per game on average.

The English Premier League comes 71st out of 76 on the league with an

Fact SHED

Most cards per game 2020-23

	yellow	red	total
■ Bolivia.....	6.46	0.55	7.01
■ Uruguay.....	6.04	0.44	6.48
■ Venezuela.....	6.01	0.42	6.43
■ Ecuador.....	5.70	0.48	6.18
■ Portugal*.....	5.72	0.32	6.04
■ Costa Rica.....	5.55	0.47	6.02
■ Peru.....	5.55	0.47	6.02
■ Portugal.....	5.55	0.35	5.90
■ Colombia.....	5.44	0.33	5.77
■ Ukraine.....	5.41	0.35	5.76

* Second division

average of only 3.49 cards per game.

The Championship, League One and Two and the Scottish Championship are also among the 11 best-behaved leagues.

Premier League to reveal latest legends to join Hall of Fame

The latest players to join the Premier League Hall of Fame will be announced next month.

A group of 15 former players have been shortlisted (see below) and the results of a public vote will see the top three receive the honour on May 3.

An expert panel has already chosen former Manchester United boss Sir Alex Ferguson and his Arsenal counterpart Arsene Wenger (pictured) as the first managers to be inducted.

The Hall of Fame was launched in 2021 when David Beckham, Dennis Bergkamp, Eric Cantona, Thierry Henry, Steven Gerrard, Roy Keane, Frank Lampard and Alan Shearer were the first players to be inducted.



They were joined last year by Sergio Aguero, Didier Drogba, Vincent Kompany, Wayne Rooney, Peter Schmeichel, Paul Scholes, Patrick Vieira and Ian Wright.

Players are shortlisted for the award on the basis of their individual and team honours won since the Premier League was founded in 1992 as well as on statistics including appearances, goals, assists and clean sheets. Achievements in other competitions and international football are not taken into account.

2023 shortlist: Tony Adams, Sol Campbell, Michael Carrick, Petr Cech, Andy Cole, Ashley Cole, Jermain Defoe, Les Ferdinand, Rio Ferdinand, Robbie Fowler, Gary Neville, Michael Owen, John Terry, Yaya Toure, Nemanja Vidic.