

ST AGNES NEWS

Summer 2 2026



Summer is here!

Written by: Mrs Higgins



What a Fantastic Half Term!

It has been an incredible end to the school year! This half term has been packed with exciting events, wonderful achievements and unforgettable memories.

Our Year 6 pupils have enjoyed a fantastic final half term, including an amazing residential at PGL and a brilliant end-of-year production. We are so proud of everything they have achieved and wish them every success as they begin their new adventures at secondary school.

Across the school, children have taken part in exciting trips, celebrated Sports Day and shared their learning through Achievement Assemblies, showcasing everything they have accomplished this year. Our Social Action Leaders also organised lunchtime prayer groups, giving pupils the opportunity to come together in prayer and reflection.

We celebrated the Feast Days of St Alban and St John Southworth, enjoyed a wonderful Summer Fayre and even managed to keep smiling through an extreme heatwave!

As another successful school year comes to an end, we would like to thank our pupils, staff and families for making it such a special one. We hope everyone has a safe, happy and restful summer holiday!

A very special thank you to every journalist this year who have consistently written articles or completed guest articles.

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FAMOUS CHILDREN'S GUINNESS WORLD RECORD HOLDERS

Written by: Nick Nikolov

The famous book **Guinness World Records** about amazing records from all around the globe started as a simple idea to help people answer questions and settle friendly – or more heated – arguments. The idea began in the early 1950s when a man named Sir Hugh Beaver.

Here are some of the most famous and inspiring Guinness World Records set by kids and teens:

Speed Cubing Legend - Yiheng Wang (China): At a very young age, Yiheng secured multiple records, including the fastest time to solve a $(3 \times 3 \times 3)$ Rubik's cube (3.08 seconds) and fastest 2x2x2 average (0.88 seconds)

Human Calculator - Aaryan Shukla(India): At 13, he set a record for the fastest time to mentally add 50 five-digit numbers in just 25.19 seconds

Youngest Magazine Editor - Roxanne Downs (Australia): At 8 years old, she became the editor of IT GiRL Magazine

Football Freestyler - Chinonso Eche (Nigeria): Famous for his incredible ball control, he has set records for the fastest time to do 100 soccer ball touches with his head while balancing on a hoverboard .

Ryan has the most viewed YouTube channel for someone born after the year 2000. When he earned the record in 2017, he was just 6 years old, and his channel, Ryan ToysReview, had been viewed over 12 billion times. Now his channel boasts 24 million subscribers and over 37 billion views, and he makes \$22 million a year from it.

Nalanshi Patel, who hails from India, simply refused to cut her hair after getting a traumatizing haircut when she was 6. She hasn't cut it since then, and when her mane was measured at 170.5 centimeters (or 5 feet, 7 inches) in 2018.

WANT TO BE A RECORD BREAKER?

Every Guinness World Records title starts with one simple step: getting in touch

<https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/contact/application-enquiry>

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UNSAFE FOOD CAUSES 1.5 MILLION DEATHS A YEAR, SAYS WHO

Written by: Mathilde Grundeler

Every day we make dozens of decisions about food, what to eat, where to buy it, whether it's healthy. But one question can sometimes get overlooked: is it safe? According to the WHO (World Health Organization) unsafe food causes around 866 million illnesses and 1.5 million deaths every year. But not everyone faces the same risks.

Children under 5 account for nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ of all foodborne illnesses despite making up just 9% of the global population and the burden isn't spread evenly around the world either. Africa and South Asia account for nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of all foodborne illnesses and 60% of global deaths. But here's where the findings become more surprising. While viruses, bacteria and parasites cause most illnesses, chemical contaminants such as arsenic and lead accounted for 73% of deaths linked to contaminated food in 2021 and the impact doesn't stop with public health. Foodborne diseases have led to an estimated 310 billion dollars in lost productivity in 2021 alone.

Preventing deaths caused by unsafe food means improving hygiene, handling food correctly, and making sure people have access to clean water. Strong food safety rules are needed so that food is checked at every stage, from farming to transport and selling. Teaching food workers and consumers how to cook, store, and clean food properly helps reduce contamination. It's also important to focus on protecting children and other vulnerable groups. Using a "One Health" approach, where experts in human, animal, and environmental health work together, makes it easier to detect and control risks early. When all these strategies are combined, they help build a safer food system and reduce illness, deaths, and economic losses caused by foodborne diseases.

FOOD CRISIS



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LIONS

Written by: Olivia Romanowski

Lions are large carnivorous animals that belong in the cat family. A group of lions is called a pack. In the pack the females do most of the hunting and looking after their cubs. Lions have a good sense of smell and large claws to catch their prey. Although they can be lazy and sleep for around 20 hours a day, they are also fast and agile runners. They live for 10 to 14 years in the wild. They mark their territory with their scent and raws. The males have manes, darker and thicker the mane, the healthier the lion. They can go up to 5 days without any water. Lions are declining really quickly which means there isn't much of them left. Lions are known as a symbol of courage and strength. There are two subspecies of lions found in the wild. The African lion and the Asiatic lions are found in a small population in India's Gir Forest. Although both subspecies of lions look very similar, there are some differences. Male Asiatic lions tend to have darker, shorter manes compared to African Lions. Additionally, both male and female Asiatic lions are smaller than African lions.



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QUEENSLAND SHOCK EVERYONE IN ORIGIN II FINAL SCORE

Written by: Finnley Chapman

GameII-Melbourne

From the very start of the match, both teams' defence were impenetrable until Selwyn Cobbo made use of a gap in the Blues defence. That run gave Queensland a penalty which Sam Walker kicked, making the score 2-0 and starting his unbreakable streak of kicking. Off the kick-off, Tom Flegler dropped the ball, giving NSW possession and allowing Kotoni Staggs to score. Nathan Cleary then converted it, making the score 6-2. 10 minutes later, the Blues had another attacking chance and a long ball from Cleary gave Mark Nawanganitawase an easy try to make the score 12-2 after the conversion. Only a few minutes after the Blues try, Trent Leoiro walked in under the posts untouched for Queensland. Very close to half-time, the Maroons had a chance to level up the game when Walker put a kick behind the Blues defence and let Brian To'o[NSW] and Robert Toia[QLD] scramble in an intense foot race for the ball, To'o reached it first and hit it dead for a dropout. After Halftime, Cameron Munster(QLD) came back onto the field after passing his HIA(head injury assessment). 5 minutes into the second half, Mitchell Moses(NSW) kicked the ball from behind the halfway line, it was charged down by Max Plath and To'o caught it to break away from the Queensland defence giving the Blues a good chance to score a try, but he didn't have enough support to finish the job. Later, Lindsay Collins(QLD) dropped the ball from a kick and he used Queensland's captain challenge and it was unsuccessful. A few minutes after Collins' drop ball, Queensland were on the attack when Staggs head-high tackled Ponga and got 10 minutes in the bin and let Tabuai-Fidow(The Hammer(QLD)) score. During the second half, Munster and Harry Grant toyed with NSW defence and set up many tries: Cobbo(47th min & 53rd min), David Fifita(57th min) and Lindsay Collins(66th min). Just in the second half, Cobbo scored 3(47th, 53rd & 72nd min) and Queensland scored a total of six tries. However, only two tries were scored by NSW(Nawanganitawase 61st min & Barnett 77th min). Two very big Blues fans (my grandparents) stated: "After Game I, people said that the Blues needed to uplift the first 20 minutes of their game and credit to them they did, but that was all NSW played." A dominant first half gave NSW the lead 12-8 at halftime but they fell away in the second half to lose 44-24. Don't worry, the Blues still have a chance to win the series on the 8th July in Brisbane, Queensland.



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BEACHES

Written by: Emilia Wasiuk

The beach is one of my favourite places to visit. There are so many fun things to do, like swimming in the sea, building sandcastles, and collecting shells. I love spending time there with my family, especially on warm sunny days.

One of the best things about the beach is how relaxing it is. The sound of the waves crashing against the shore is calming, and the fresh sea air feels amazing. Many people visit beaches during the summer because they are a great place to have fun and enjoy nature.

Last summer, I went to the beach with my family and spent hours building a giant sandcastle. My brother kept decorating it with shells, but then a wave came and washed part of it away! We all laughed and built it again. It was one of my favourite days of the holiday, and it reminded me why I love going to the beach so much.

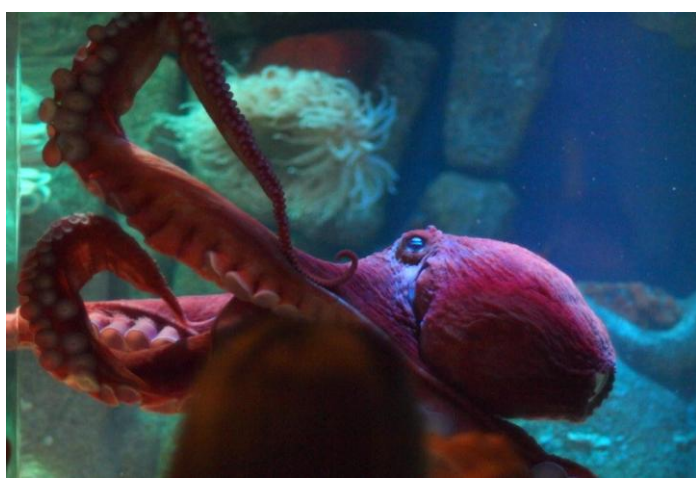


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OCTOPI

Written by: Cairo Gray

Octopus are some of the most fascinating creatures, known for their intelligence and adaptability. Unlike most animals, they don't have a backbone, yet they are highly - skilled problem-solvers. Octopuses can squeeze through gaps with ease, change colour and texture in seconds, and use their eight flexible arms to explore, grab and interact with their environment. Interestingly, each arm is packed with sensory cells meaning they can taste things directly through their suckers while they move!



What makes octopi impressive compared to other animals is their ability to defend themselves and escape danger. Famously, they can release a cloud of ink, to confuse predators, mimic other animals like sea snakes and flatfish. Astonishingly, some species of octopus can even open lids!

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THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST 🎤

Written by: Zachary Magnaye Palacios

My family and I have been watching Eurovision for many years and we have been guessing who will win. It unites people with music across Europe. In 1956 The Eurovision Song Contest was founded by Marcel Bezencon. On the 12th, 14th and 16th of May, the Eurovision Song Contest took place in Vienna after the Austrian singer, JJ won with his song in 2025 called Wasted Love. It is the most recognised song contest on the planet. This year 35 countries took part. To qualify to the grand final, you have to earn enough points to progress further from the semi final. This year the winner of the contest was DARA from Bulgaria with her song Bangaranga. Eurovision has many songs that are recognised around the world. For example: Waterloo by ABBA, Deslocado by NAPA, SNAP by Rosa Linn, ZITTI E BUONI by Måneskin, Arcade by Duncan Laurence, Tattoo by Loreen and so on. Next year it will be held in Bulgaria. I hope that next year will be full of amazing music and that you enjoy it as much as I do.

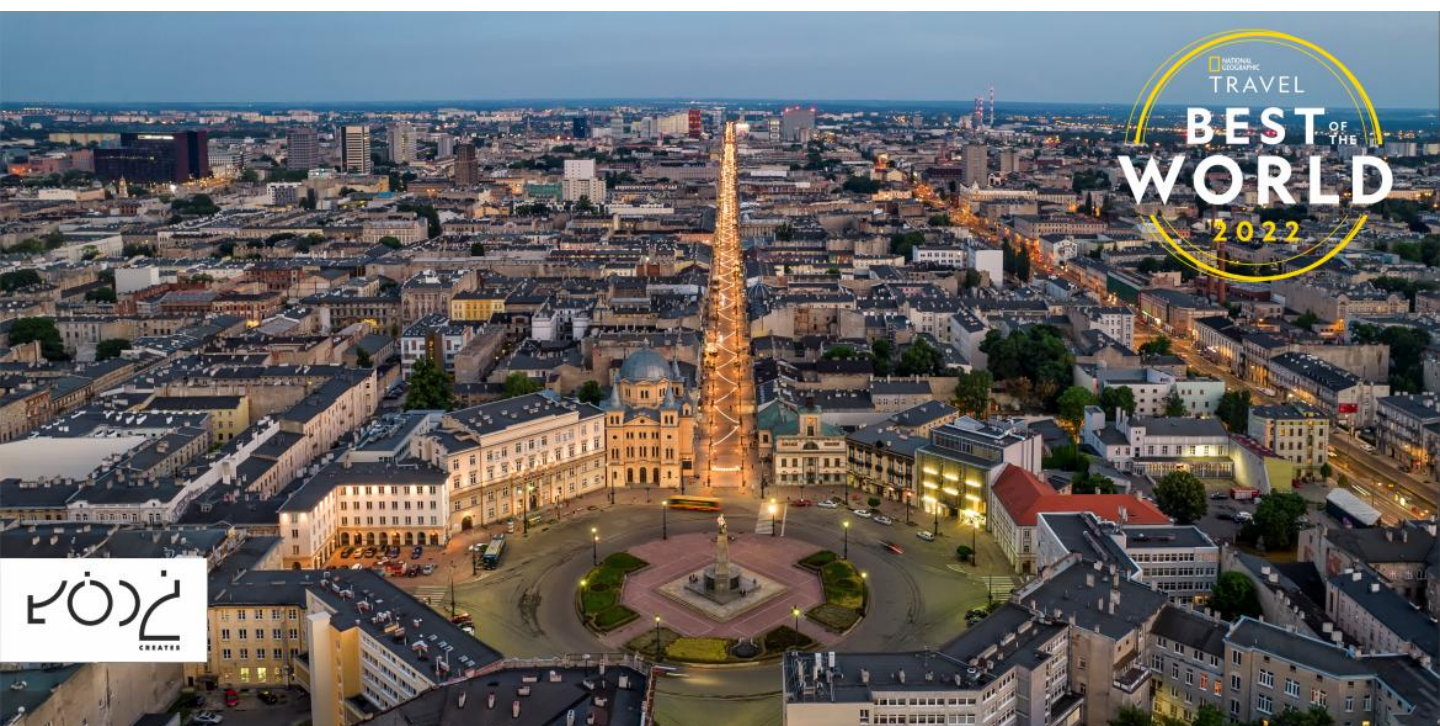


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POLAND

Written by: Jessica Lapacz

I would love to say things about my country, first its Poland the capital of Lodz. It's a very good place and they have restaurants and so many yummy things. We can explore, go swimming and do anything but it gets a bit pricey but it's okay all countries do so I would love for you guys to visit at any time.



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SUMMER 2 FUN



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