



HELLO! I'm Kaya, the leader of the First News FYI News Club.

I put together these pages every week, full of all your wonderful stories. I am very impressed by all your amazing fundraising efforts recently - with a special shout-out to the mini-marathon runners in Sefton!

We have lots of amazing stories this week. If you're feeling inspired, you can also send us your stories to be featured on the Your News pages by getting a trusted adult to contact us via email at yournews@firstnews.co.uk.

SCHOOL MINI-MARATHON



Mini-marathon runners with their medals



Supporting the campaign

HERE'S a great story about the schoolchildren from Kew Woods Primary School who have raised over £12,500 so far by running! They recently took part in the Mini London Marathon, as well as their own events, inspiring schools across Sefton to get involved. Junior journalist Thomas tells us more:

by Thomas Bone

As a school, we were inspired to take part in a fundraiser for our #kNOwknifecrime campaign, in memory of Colin McGinty. This campaign raises awareness of the importance of bleed control kits in our community and allows us to buy more cabinets around the borough to support our message.

For the campaign, our head teacher, Mrs Greaves, took on the brave task of running the London Marathon and this inspired us to take part in our own Kew Woods mini-marathon! From Reception to Year 6, we ran a whopping 2.6 miles around our school and loved being able to support our peers in the process.

All of our hard work and fundraising has inspired 80 other schools to get involved and we took part in a relay event across the whole of Sefton, in which 20 children from each school ran school to school, covering 90 miles. As we reached the next school, we passed on a bleed kit. If this wasn't enough, 54 pupils were chosen from across Southport Learning Trust to go to London to run a one-mile race on Saturday 20 April.

Watching the London Marathon and seeing the professional winners was incredibly inspiring and taught us that we can achieve anything that we put our minds to! We reflected on our experiences over the course of the week and realised that running is not just phenomenal for our own mental health, physical health and wellbeing, but also allows us to show off the immense power of our amazing community.

My optimistic thoughts and feelings brought me to think that the #kNOwknifecrime campaign is bringing everyone to justice, raising pound after pound after pound. Every day, I think about the incredible amount of money raised for this special campaign. Don't even get me started on the mini-marathon and how all the Sefton schools came together as one to conquer this treacherous journey. Even if people don't like running, they still committed themselves to run so many miles. We cannot wait to see what next year's marathon season brings!

THIS WEEK'S POLL!

We asked 1,987 of you:

Would you like to see the UK restrict the time that kids are allowed to spend gaming, like China does?



What do you think? Vote at first.news/polls GO ONLINE

Author's one-man show

AUTHOR Oliver Sykes recently visited Park View Community School in Manchester to perform a one-man show based on his book *Fishing For Rainbows*. Here you can read a great review from Yaseerah and Lydia!

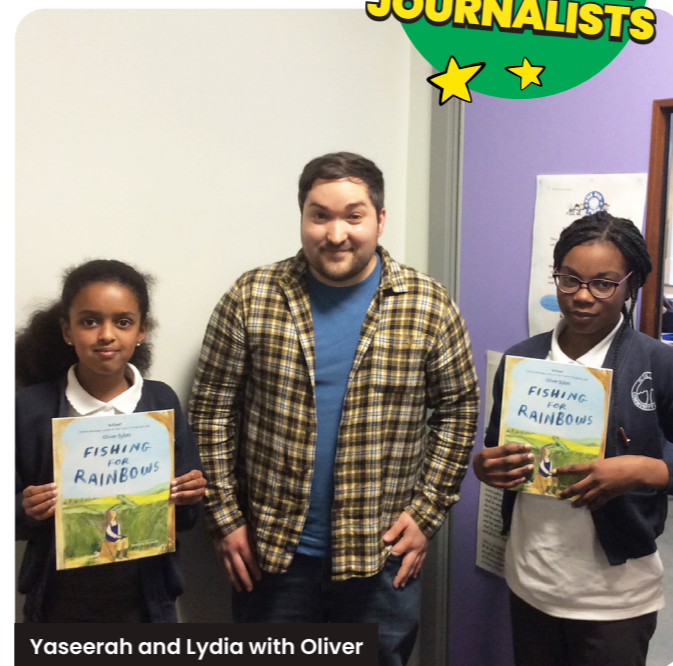
by Yaseerah and Lydia, aged ten

We really enjoyed it when Oliver Sykes came to our school to perform *Fishing For Rainbows*. He told the story with such tremendous voices and actions. And it filled us with a passion for having dreams and never giving up. It had us hanging on the edge of our seats.

It taught us that whatever may be in your way, plough straight through it until you reach your goal. It could honestly change people, particularly people who are mistreated because of their gender, age or race. It tells a message that whatever you face on your life journey, you must keep trying to be successful and never give up until you reach your dreams. It also includes themes of trust, motivation, patience, self-belief and that you can prove people wrong in such a fun and positive way.

This inclusive story shows that whatever males can do, females can do it too, if not even better. May we also add that it has inspired us to pursue our dreams in the future. If I could rate this show it would get a six out of five! Seriously, it is definitely five stars.

In conclusion, I think that it was certainly the greatest show I have ever seen, filled with amazing acting, expression and fabulous fearlessness!



Yaseerah and Lydia with Oliver

THIS WEEK WE'RE GIVING SHOUT-OUTS TO... Sealand Primary School, Norham High School, Old Ford Primary Academy, Tashiro Junior High School, Cavendish Primary School, Robert Gordon's College, Plaxtol Primary School, Inverurie Academy, Summit

Maple Cross Earth Day



Maple Cross schoolchildren on the litter pick

LAST week we celebrated Earth Day, a worldwide day dedicated to helping the environment. Here we hear more from Maple Cross JMI School on what they did to make a difference!

by Klara Erasmus and Falak Sajjad

A litter pick by 140 children from Maple Cross JMI School resulted in 11 bin bags full of litter being collected in just one hour - including smashed car parts, discarded cans and an endless trail of vapes.

Year 2 pupil Flynn exclaimed: "I was surprised by how much litter we found. It doesn't seem like much, but we ended up with four bags full!"

The whole-school mission last week on

Monday (22 April), was to clean the streets of Maple Cross and some of West Hyde for Earth Day. A power shutdown at the school in the morning also saw kettles, laptops and smart boards all being switched off.

"I was gasping for a cuppa," said the Year 5 class teacher Mrs Disdale, "but it was all for a good cause!" Analysis of the school's electricity meter later that day by the school's Eco Council revealed it had used less than half of the normal amount of power consumed in an average day.

Eco Council Leader Mrs Bone said: "I am so proud of the commitment and drive of Eco Council. They led the children of Maple Cross School to make a difference. Their leadership has been above and beyond but their care for our planet is inspiring."

Meet Zapping Zara!

QUESTFRIENDZ teamed up with National Book Tokens to celebrate British Science Week. As part of that, they ran a competition to design a new SuperQuesters character, with a special feature that helps the environment. Read more to find out about winner Yusra's character, Zapping Zara!

by Yusra Salahuddin, aged eight

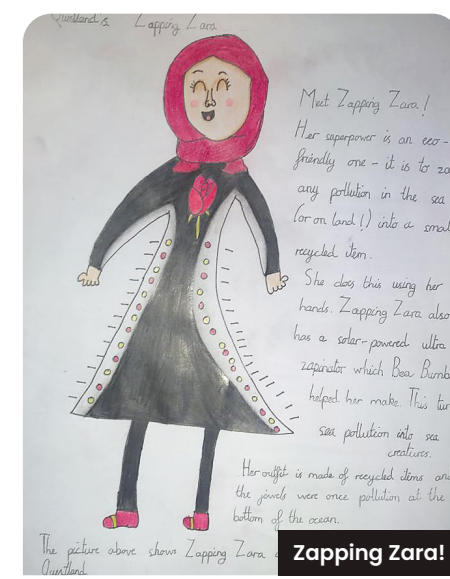
"Wow! I can't believe I won! I feel like a superhero myself! I was super excited to be the winner with my SuperQuesters character, Zapping Zara, in the QuestFriendz and National Book Tokens competition. Plus, I got to name a good pirate robot from *The Case of the Angry Sea*. I've called him Captain Cleanbot.

I'm very grateful for the opportunity to enter such a STEMtastic competition and to the judges for choosing my character. I've seen the runner-up entries and they are awesome! I hope all our entries inspire more children to get excited about STEM.

I love STEM, and SuperQuesters has really helped me engage and learn so much while having fun. To everyone reading, I would say be inquisitive, don't be afraid to ask questions and give everything a go because anything is possible with STEM! One day, our designs could become a reality!"



Competition winner Yusra



Zapping Zara!

A year of King Charles III



Adyaan

ON 6 May we mark a year since the coronation of King Charles III. To celebrate the occasion, we have a poem from Adyaan reflecting on the new monarch. Adyaan has received letters from the Mayor of London, as well as members of the royal family, thanking him for his wonderful poem. Check it out!

by Adyaan

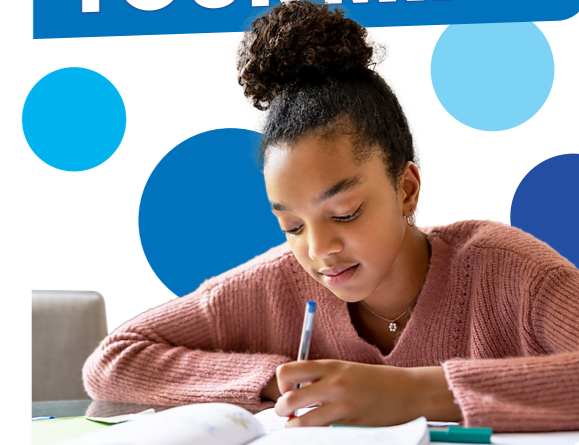
The end of one dawn, the start of another...
The solemn death of our dearly beloved Queen,
Could only mean,
That we would have a new monarch of our kingdom.
A monarch, that would make room,
For justice, equality and tranquillity.

But before any of this could proceed,
This blessed country had to perform a vital deed.
We reinforced and plotted a humongous ceremony,
For our late Queen, and for her only.
Bereavement came upon us, on that day, so suddenly.

And now, we have a new Sovereign,
That will banish every sin.
King Charles III (that is the new King's name),
Will treat us as if we are all the same.
He is going to start a new dawn.



SPEECH YOUR MIND

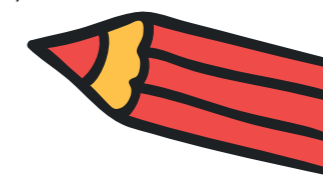


IS there an issue that you're passionate about?

Then make sure to take part in our speech writing competition. We want to hear what you have to say!

The competition closes on 10 May, so don't miss out on the chance to read your speech out loud at a special ceremony in London, and bag a £50 Amazon voucher.

You can find out more information by heading to first.news/speechcomp.



SHOUT-OUT!



Join the News Club! You'll get amazing opportunities to get involved, and to have your school's name featured here in First News. Just get your teacher to head to first.news/fynewsclub to find out more.