FRONT PAGE

THE WORLD CUP WIGGLE!

ENGLAND footballer Jack Grealish kept his promise to a young fan after scoring the final goal in the team's 6-2 win over Iran in their opening World Cup game.

Jack celebrated his first World Cup goal with a very special move meant for 12-year-old footie fan Finlay. The young Manchester City fan has cerebral palsy like Jack's sister Holly. Cerebral palsy affects the muscles in the body and causes problems with movement.

Finlay wrote a letter to his hero. It said: "I wish there were more people in the world just like you who treat people with disabilities the same as anyone else. It makes me really happy when I see that you, a famous footballer, knows what it's like to live with people with cerebral palsy. You're my hero and the best big brother to your sister."

A few weeks ago, the Man City and England star went along to one of City's disability football sessions to surprise Finlay. It was then that Jack promised to dedicate his next goal celebration to him and Finlay suggested he wiggle his arms about.

Little did the two know that Jack's next goal would be for England at the World Cup! After scoring his goal, Jack looked straight into the camera, broke into a dance and started spreading his arms before wiggling them around – just as he promised.

Speaking to BBC Radio Manchester afterwards, Finlay said: "It's the best thing ever. I love you Grealish!" The City fan almost missed England's first match, as he hurt his leg and had to go to hospital. Luckily, he got home ten minutes before the match began and said he was "jumping around, or trying to jump" after Grealish's goal!

Questions on: 'The World Cup wiggle!'

1) Who did England play in their opening World Cup game, and what was the score?

- ☐ England 6 – 2 Iraq
- ☐ England 2 – 6 Iran
- ☐ England 6 – 2 Iran

2) What is cerebral palsy, and how might it affect someone like Finlay who loves to play football?

3) Why do you think Finlay felt a personal connection with Jack Grealish?

4a) Name **two** teams that Jack plays for.
4b) Why do you think he can play for two different teams?

5) Can you find a **three word phrase** where the writer uses alliteration (each word starts with the same sound)? Here's a clue to help you!

f..... f..... F.....

6) Put the events in the order they happened.

- ☐ Jack visits Finlay.
- ☐ Jack copies Finlay's celebration.
- ☐ Finlay writes to Jack.
- ☐ Jack scores a goal.

7) Why did Finlay almost miss England's first World Cup match?

8) Finlay made up a special celebration move for Jack. Make up your own and describe it. If you want, you could stand up and do it, too!

BIG INTERVIEW

MAGICAL MATILDA

Relaxing in a hot-air balloon!

ACTOR Alisha Weir plays Matilda in *Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical*. We chatted to her to find out all about it.

Matilda is such a famous character, were you nervous about playing her?

Yes, definitely, but I just thought that all I could do was my best.

What was it like being on set?

I flew over from Ireland in February for seven months. Two months were for rehearsals and then for five months we were filming. I was quite nervous but everyone was really welcoming and all the kids were so nice.

People always think film sets are glamorous, but some of the scenes in the film don't look very glamorous!

Ha! The assault course scene was definitely not glamorous because we got covered in muck and water. It was a lot of fun going on all the obstacles though, and my favourite was definitely the monkey bars.

Do you have a favourite song in the film?

I love *Quiet* so, so much. I got to go up in a real hot-air balloon but we were filming in a warehouse so it only went up to the top of the warehouse. I definitely want to go on a real hot-air balloon ride now!

Naughty is one of Matilda's big songs, have you ever done anything a little bit naughty?

It was great to do that song because in the movie I got to turn Matilda's dad's hair green and glue his hat to his head, which was a lot of fun! I don't think I am too naughty in real life. I've only played jokes on my friends, nothing bad!

Matilda finds her superpower in the film, what superpower would you like?

I'd love to turn myself invisible. I'd also like to time travel. And also courage, like Matilda. Although Matilda can move things with her eyes and that is her superpower, I think that courage is her main power.

This is your first major film role, how did you feel watching the finished film for the first time?

I couldn't really believe it. When I watch it I know there's nothing else I can do, so I just enjoy the film. I love all the school scenes and I love Matilda's house, I think that looks really good on camera. I think viewers are going to like all the big dance numbers and all the big songs when all the kids are together!

Questions on: 'Magical Matilda'

1) Put the words that make the title of the film in order.

☐ Matilda ☐ Dahl's ☐ the ☐ Roald ☐ Musical

2) Match the lengths of time to the information.

two months	Time spent filming
five months	Total time Alisha worked on the film
seven months	Time spent rehearsing

3a) What scene does Alisha say was "definitely not glamorous"?
3b) What was Alisha's favourite part of this scene?

4) Why does Alisha want to go on a real hot-air balloon ride even though she's been in a hot-air balloon before?

5) Name **two** things that Matilda does to her dad during the song *Naughty*.

6) Who has which superpower? Some powers are what Matilda has, some are what Alisha wants and some are both.

	Matilda	Alisha	Both
Invisibility			
Time travel			
Courage			
Moving things with her eyes			

7) Name **two** things Alisha loves about the film.

8)

"I just thought that all I could do was my best."

"When I watch [the film] I know there's nothing else I can do, so I just enjoy the film."

a) What do these two **quotes** tell you about Alisha as a person?
b) Do you think this is a good attitude to have? Explain your opinion.

WORLD NEWS

ECUADOR

Manta ray discovery

The world's largest group of giant manta rays has been found off the coast of Ecuador.

Scientists think the group was made up of around 22,000 giant manta rays. They are usually found in groups of 1,000 to 2,000 so this massive group is more than ten times bigger.

Giant manta rays are the largest species of ray and can be up to six metres wide from fin to fin. Each manta ray can be identified by a spot pattern on their belly that only they have – a bit like how human fingerprints are all different.

Researcher Joshua Stewart says the huge group is a good sign, calling it "a rare story of ocean optimism".

AUSTRALIA

Lyrebird copies zoo alarm sound

Workers at Taronga Zoo in Australia are being made fun of by a lyrebird who can make the noise of the zoo's alarm sound, just weeks after five lions managed to escape.

The zoo, which is still working out how the lions got out, is now being constantly reminded of the escape by the lyrebird's spot-on impression.

Lyrebirds are one of the animal kingdom's best copycats, and this one is copying both the alarm sound and the warning that says "Evacuate now!" when there's an emergency. It even has an Australian accent when it says it!

We're sure that the zoo handlers will still be shaken by the sounds for years to come, reminded of the day that the lions escaped.

SINGAPORE

First Olympic Esports Week

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has said it will host the first-ever Olympic Esports Week in Singapore, in June 2023.

The week will follow on from last year's Olympic Virtual Series, where gamers from around the world played "virtual and simulated sports" games that covered things like baseball, motorsport, cycling, rowing and sailing.

While it's a big step for the Olympics to include esports, there's disappointment that it's just sports simulation games, which try to be as realistic to the real sport as possible. Some fans wanted more popular esports titles like *FIFA* or *Rocket League* to be included.

IOC President Thomas Bach said the first Olympic Esports Week was an important step in their plans "to support the growth of virtual sports within the Olympic Movement".

Questions on: World News

1) Match each country to the story.

Ecuador	Lyrebird copies zoo alarm sound
Australia	First Olympic Esports Week
Singapore	Manta ray discovery

2) Can you think of a reason why 'First Olympic Esports Week' is the odd one out?

Look at the story 'Manta ray discovery'

3) How can the giant manta rays be identified, and what human feature is it compared to?

4) Match the words to their meanings.

species	Feeling positive or hopeful
identified	A type of animal with similar features
optimism	Having recognised something

Look at the story 'Lyrebird copies zoo alarm sound'

5) What happened at Taronga Zoo a few weeks ago?

6a) What are lyrebirds well known for?
6b) How is the lyrebird at the zoo using its skill so cleverly and causing problems for zookeepers?

Look at the story 'First Olympic Esports Week'

7) Which sport did **not** feature in the Olympic Virtual Series?

- ☐ Baseball
- ☐ Rowing
- ☐ Sailing
- ☐ Motorsport
- ☐ Football
- ☐ Cycling

8) Do you think the Olympics should embrace esports, or can playing computer games never be thought of as a real sport?

UK NEWS

GWYNEDD

Mount Snowdon will be known as Yr Wyddfa

Mount Snowdon gets Welsh name

Mount Snowdon and Snowdonia National Park are to be known by their Welsh names rather than the current English names.

The decision was made after 5,000 people signed a petition calling for the change. Mount Snowdon, the tallest mountain in Wales, will now be known as Yr Wyddfa (spoken like "Er with-va"), and Snowdonia National Park will be known as Eryri (spoken like "Eh-ruh-re").

Naomi Jones, from the Eryri National Park Authority, said that the Welsh names will "give people from all over the world the opportunity to engage with the Welsh language and its rich culture".

OXFORD

Last 'clean' part of the River Thames is now polluted

The only place on the River Thames that was considered clean enough for people to swim is now polluted.

Tests on the section of river, called Wolvercote Mill Stream, found that it was unsafe because of the level of sewage, which is a mix of waste from dirty water to poo.

Claire Robertson, an Oxford Rivers Project officer, said: "We are disappointed, but not surprised, by these results." She said that Thames Water, the UK's biggest water company, "released untreated sewage into the rivers around Oxford for 5,600 hours in 2021".

NOTTINGHAM

Nottingham Castle closed to visitors

Nottingham Castle has closed its doors to the public, just one year after £33 million was spent improving the site to bring in new visitors.

The Nottingham Castle Trust, which looked after the site, said it was "saddened and hugely disappointed" to be closing, and that visitors were "significantly below" the 300,000 a year they had hoped for. Pavlos Kotsonis, who works for Nottingham council, said they will work to "reopen the castle as soon as possible".

The place where Nottingham Castle stands was actually the site of another castle that was mostly destroyed in 1651. It was rebuilt in the 17th century and only the original gatehouse and some parts of the walls remain.

Questions on: UK News

1) Which story is the only one that could be described as good news?

2) Match the numbers to the information.

5,000	visitors were hoped for
5,600	people signed a petition
300,000	hours is the length of time sewage was released into a river

3) Match the people to the places they work.

Naomi Jones	Oxford Rivers Project
Claire Robertson	Nottingham council
Pavlos Kotsonis	Eryri National Park Authority

Look at the story 'Mount Snowdon gets Welsh name'

4) Why does Naomi Jones think it is important to give the Welsh landmarks their Welsh names?

5) Complete the fact file about Mount Snowdon.

It is in ..... National Park.

It is the ..... mountain in Wales.

It will now be called Yr ..... .

Look at the story 'Last 'clean' part of the River Thames is now polluted'

6) What has made Wolvercote Mill Stream unsafe, and what are people being advised not to do?

Look at the story 'Nottingham Castle closed to visitors'

7) Name **two** parts of the original castle that were used in the rebuild.

8) Do you think it is important for historical buildings to be looked after and kept open to the public? Explain your opinion.