

**Plastic cleanup clash goes to court; Herculaneum's hidden treasure; Aussie skaters shine bright; and a royal Swiftie gets his groove on.**

Hello and welcome to Squiz Kids Today ... your fresh take on what's happening in the world around you.

I'm Christie Kijurina

It's Monday June 24 ...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Plastic cleanup clash goes to court; Herculaneum's hidden treasure; Aussie skaters shine bright; and a royal Swiftie gets his groove on.

That's what's making news, kid's style...

***THE LOWDOWN***

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Imagine this, you invite a friend over to your place and they bring lots of drinks and snacks. When they're done, they just leave all the empty soft drink bottles and chip packets scattered around your house. Who do you think should clean it up? Should you? It doesn't seem fair, does it?

Well, the city of Baltimore in the United States has a similar problem, but on a much bigger scale. The city is suing giant multinational companies (that's a big word for companies that operate in a lot of countries) because the plastic waste that they create becomes rubbish that the city spends a whole lot of money to clean up.

So how do they know which companies to sue? Well, earlier this year, a group of scientists released a study based on a whole heap of information collected over five years and from 84 countries all over the world. They looked at a whopping 1,870,000 pieces of plastic rubbish and discovered that half of the world's plastic waste is produced by just 60 companies, and get this, one-quarter of all that waste comes from just six companies, including the Coca-Cola Company and Pepsico who make soft drinks, and Frito-Lay who make chips and snacks.

Baltimore's lawyer says they're going after these companies because they say they "put profits before people" - and other cities in the United States are doing the same.

So, next time you think about buying something packaged in plastic, see if you can do one of the three 'r's and reduce, reuse or recycle, because every bit helps make our world a cleaner place.

## ***SPIN THE GLOBE***

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Each day, we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops, and today, we've landed in the Southern Italian seaside resort of Herculaneum, whose beach is reopening after almost 2,000 years. Confused? Let me explain.

You've heard of Pompeii right? The city that was buried in rock and ash when Mount Vesuvius erupted wayyy back in 79 CE. Well, Herculaneum was a neighbouring town, where rich and famous ancient Romans holidayed, and it too was buried on that fateful day.

A group of hardworking archaeologists have been excavating Herculaneum, meaning they've been removing all that ash and rock which had covered the town, uncovering amazing artworks, pots, jewellery, coins and even handwritten scrolls. But the most surprising discovery was at the beach and boathouses where many people had rushed in the hopes of being evacuated by boats that, sadly, never came.

After years of careful work, including finding a man carrying a satchel full of his most prized possessions, the beach, with its black volcanic sand, is ready to welcome tourists once again later this week.

## **SPORT TIME**

Three young Aussies made waves in the skateboarding world over the weekend, outshining American and Japanese favourites to claim first place in their Olympic qualifying semi-finals in Budapest, securing their spots on Australia's Olympic Team.

Tokyo gold medalist Keegan Palmer showcased his incredible skills once again, winning his event with an impressive 94.94.

Champion street skater Chloe Covell finished fifth in a tough group dominated by Japanese skaters, all fighting for a spot on their country's team.

And, champion park skater Arisa Trew finished on a high note, surpassing her previous performance with an outstanding score of 93.38 in her second run to claim first place.

Their qualifying journey has been long and tough, starting two years ago in Rome in 2022. But their hard work has paid off, and now these

talented skaters from the Gold Coast are ready to show the world what they can do.

And we have some super exciting news. Despite her intense training schedule, 14-year-old Arisa Trew has made time to hop into the Squiz Kids Q+A Hot Seat and answer some burning questions from the kids of Australia. Like, '*What's your favourite trick?*', '*Do you ever get nervous when you're about to compete?*' '*How do you manage your practice time and school time?*' and "*Will you get to live in the Olympic village & see other sports & meet other athletes?*"

Don't miss this exclusive Q+A session dropping tomorrow morning wherever you're listening to this podcast.

Aussie, Aussie, Aussie!

### **POP CULTURE CORNER**

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Has an adult or parent ever embarrassed you by dancing around in public? If they have, you can probably sympathise with Prince George and Princess Charlotte. Their dad, Prince William, has gone viral after a video of him rocking out with almost 90,000 other Swifties at Taylor Swift's first London concert at Wembley Stadium on Friday night was shared thousands of times over the weekend.

But maybe don't feel too sorry for them. While their little brother Prince Louis and Mum Princess Catherine were waiting for them back at home, George and Charlotte got to go backstage with their dad after the concert for a selfie with Taylor and her boyfriend, Travis Kelce.

It turns out their dad was celebrating his 42nd birthday and probably doesn't get to let his hair down too often. So, let's cut him some slack. After all, who can resist dancing to TayTay?

### **THE S'QUIZ**

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This is the part of the podcast where you get to test how well you've been listening ...

1. Earlier this year, a study found that one quarter of all the world's plastic waste comes from how many companies?
2. What is the name of the volcano that erupted in 79 CE, blanketing the towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum in ash and rock?
3. Who was the royal birthday boy spotted rocking out to Taylor Swift in London on Friday?

### **SHOUT OUTS**

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It's June 24 ... International Fairy Day! If you have fairies living at the bottom of your garden like I do, maybe leave them some honey or cake on this special day... I hear they love that!

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Alice from Warrnambool, Xzhalia from Rapid Bay, Juliette from Middle Harbour, Clover from Dubbo, Anabelle from Camden, Edie from Burwood, Indigo from Rapid Valley, Ava from Sydney, Evie from Unanderra, Elliot from Moonee Ponds, Olivia from Leura, Hazel from Marrickville, Austin and Lucy from Elgin, Eloise from Mentone and Erik listening over in Jaca in Spain.

Belated shoutouts go to... Eliza from Kew East, Hunter from Rosebay, Jonah from Wilton, Elenor and Claire both from Glenbrook, Selina from Frenchs Forest and Xanthe from Gladstone

Classroom shoutouts today go to... Year 6 with Mr Mr B and Mr Wilson at Taillem Bend Primary School, class 6H with Mr Hoy at Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar, class 5E and Mrs Edwards at Burleigh Heads State School and class 4 Gold with Miss Morabito at John the Baptist Catholic Primary School in Bonnyrigg Heights and Class F3 and Mrs Lannello at Hammond Park Primary School.

### **The S'Quiz Answers:**

1. Six
2. Mount Vesuvius
3. Prince William

Don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you want a shout out - or if you want a classroom shout out - drop us a line at [squizkids@thesquiz.com.au](mailto:squizkids@thesquiz.com.au) or fill out the form on our website.

Well - that's all we have time for. Thanks for listening to Squiz Kids Today -We'll be back again tomorrow  
In the meantime, get out there and have a most excellent day. Over and out.