

## **Inside the global computer crash; big weekend for the Moon; good news for panda preservation; move over mullet, here comes the perm.**

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

I'm Bryce Corbett

It's Monday, July 22...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Inside the global computer crash; big weekend for the Moon; good news for panda preservation; move over mullet, here comes the perm.

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

### ***THE LOWDOWN***

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Supermarkets, airlines, TV stations and work computers all over the world were back up and running over the weekend after a global IT crash late on Friday afternoon which showed just how reliant we all are on computers and technology.

In what was the biggest global computer crash in decade, more than 8.5 million computers around the world went blank on Friday afternoon - after a cybersecurity upgrade went wrong.

Airports were thrown in chaos as check-in systems crashed, long queues started forming in supermarkets as check-out registers stopped working and some TV and radio stations were forced to go off air because their systems died.

Luckily - the problem was identified quickly and within hours, those clever people who fix IT systems swung into action to fix the problem. And while the problem was an innocent enough tech issue - there were warnings over the weekend for all of us to have our Newshounds magnifying glasses at the ready .. because fraudsters were likely to try to exploit the situation and launch what are called 'cyber scams' off the back of the meltdown. A cyber scam is when someone sends emails or makes phone calls trying to trick people out of their money. Be good Newshounds and make sure to tell your parents and grandparents to be on high alert.

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And then there was snow .. and lots of it.

As Tassie, South Australia and our friends in the ACT return to school this week - it will be against the backdrop of a bug dump of snow on the Aussie ski-fields.

Reports from ski resorts in Victoria over the weekend said up to 50cms of the white fluffy stuff had fallen over Friday night and into Saturday - creating perfect conditions for snow lovers.

Meanwhile it was a balmy 30 degrees in Darwin yesterday. How good is 'Straya?

## ***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 on the Moon ... not technically on planet Earth - but work with me on this one ..

And the reason we've landed there is to mark a special occasion ... yesterday marked the 55th anniversary of humans landing on the Moon for the first time.

Out of a tiny spaceship - or lunar lander - a man called Neil Armstrong climbed slowly down a ladder and stepped on the surface of the Moon - calling it 'a small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind'.

And the reason this is all back in focus is because multiple countries around the world are now busy making plans to not only have astronauts walk on the Moon again - but also eventually establish a permanent human base on the Moon - where people would live and work.

Whoah.

So take a look up at the Moon tonight - which is happily in full moon mode - and think about how amazing science is, and how wonderful the possibilities of human existence are - and imagine what life might one day be like for life on the Moon.

Amazing.

## ***ANIMAL KINGDOM***

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Remember in the podcast about a month ago we talked about the visit to Australia by a Chinese leader - and how Adelaide Zoo was home to a pair of pandas on loan to us from their natural habitat in China?

Well there's evidence now that as well as providing a super cute attraction at Adelaide Zoo, having the giant pandas in overseas zoos is doing wonders for getting them off the endangered species list.

A report over the weekend suggests that giant panda numbers in the wild have grown to 1,900, up from about 1,100 in the 1980s. And

some of that success has to do with the conservation efforts of zoos around the world who provide homes to the super cute species and take part in breeding programmes - to help the pandas have babies.

I've stuck a link in today's episode notes to a cute National Geographic video of baby pandas - and an explanation of how breeding programs are helping to make sure planet Earth preserves them.

[CCC]

Oh...there goes the CCC, telling us that our very own Primary School Teacher, Christie, has crafted an exciting worksheet on evaluative language, all centred around the fascinating world of Panda Diplomacy. Whether you think it's fantastic, terrible, brilliant, or chaotic, dive into Squiz Kids Classroom Companions and elevate your language skills. Teachers - hop on in by going to the Squiz Kids website or searching for Squiz Kids Classroom Companion in your favourite search engine.

## **POP CULTURE CORNER**

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And it's a retro edition of Pop Culture Corner this Monday - as we celebrate the return of the perm - and some startling news from Hello Kitty!

Starting with the perm: and it appears the curly hair do is making a come back - with hairdressers all over Australia reporting that perms are making a comeback. Perm is short for permanent - which is a chemical process that turns straight hair curly.

But get this: it's not girls who are coming into salons and requesting perms - it's boys. According to some hair trend spotters, the perm may soon replace the mullet as the stylish hair do of choice among Aussie men .. hmmm ... I'm not sure I've got the head for either of those.

And in other retro-inspired pop culture news .. you've heard of Hello Kitty! right? She celebrates her 50th birthday this year - which is pretty good for a cat. Except that in news that has surprised her millions of fans all over the world, her creators this weekend told the world that she's not in fact a cat, but a little girl - who weighs three apples and stands five apples tall.

Clearly they're not familiar with the old the expression: if it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck ...

## ***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. How many years ago did humans first walk on the Moon?
2. Which country is the natural habitat of Giant Pandas?
3. Which hair style is making a comeback among Aussie men?

## ***SHOUT OUTS***

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It's Monday, July 22 ... first day back of Term 3 for our friends in South Australia, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory ... nice to have you back guys! Hope you enjoyed your hols - and here's to a successful Term 3.

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Benedict from Atwell, Dylan from Neerim South, Tatum from Unanderra, Olive from Cammeray, Ivy from South Brisbane, Jack from Dalby, Casey from Currambine, Amos from Goodna, Annelise from South Brisbane, Harry from Eltham, Sailor from Grovedale, Judah from Glen Iris, Evan from Footscray, Hieu (pronounced Hugh) and Aarush from Forest Lake and Jason from Pacific Pines.

Belated shoutouts go to... Tyler from Thursday Island, Xavier from Goodna, Sarah from Sydney and Jhon (pronounced John) from Queensland.

And we're back to Classroom Shoutouts for the Term .. will your classroom be among the lucky ones getting a ShoutOUt this term? Don't just sit there! Send in a request quicksticks ..

Today's classroom shoutouts go to... Prep A and Mrs Marini at Glen Huntly Primary School, class 8S and Mr Litchfield at Windsor High School, all of the students at Mandama Primary School, class 4C and Mrs Karthik at Rockhampton Grammar School, class 5/6F and Mrs F at Glenbrook Public School and the Learning Centre with Mrs Mckinnon at Sacred Heart College in Newtown, Hobart.

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

1. 55 .. the year was 1969
2. China
3. Perm

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 with an excellent Squiz Kids Shortcut on the Ancient Olympics ... all the history of the big sporting event, stretching back to its origins in Ancient Greece – with some surprising facts - including one athlete who came into the stadium carrying a cow ... what he did with it next you won't believe...

In the meantime, get out there and have a most excellent day. Over and out.