

Sunshine State picks new premier; Kids banned from playgrounds in Pakistan; WA's big cricket fail; and a bat beauty contest.

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, October 28...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Sunshine State picks new premier; Kids banned from playgrounds in Pakistan; WA's big cricket fail; and a bat beauty contest.

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

THE LOWDOWN

It was all happening in Queensland yesterday as the state woke to a new government and a bunch of nude people on the biggest bridge in Brisbane.

Starting with the new government: and the Sunshine State has a new premier as of this weekend after a state election there saw David Crisafulli beat Steven Miles for the right to form the government that will make decisions for Queenslanders for the next four years.

The new Liberal National Party government - or LNP for short - managed to get enough votes to win enough seats up and down and right across the 1,727,000 square kilometres that makes up Australia's second biggest state to take the reins of government from the Labor Party.

And while all eyes in Queensland were on the political contest - all eyes in the capital city of Brisbane were trying not to look at the Story Bridge - the huge iron structure that connects one side of the city to the other.

And that's because a couple of thousand nudists gathered on the bridge yesterday morning to participate in a photo shoot.

The American photographer, Spencer Tunick is renowned for travelling the world and taking photos of large groups of people with their kit off.

It was quite hot and sunny here in Brisbane yesterday morning - I hope they were all wearing sunscreen.

SPIN THE GLOBE

Each day we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops. And today we've landed in Pakistan .. a country just to the north of India - where school kids are being banned from playing in the playground because the smog is so bad.

Lahore is what's called a mega-city in Pakistan - because it has almost 14 and a half million people living in it. That's 14 and half million people in one city .. compare that to Sydney and Melbourne which have about 5 and a half million people in them and Brisbane which has two and half million. It's super crowded.

Exhaust fumes from cars and motorcycles, smoke from factory chimneys and smoke from crops being burned by farmers just outside the city have seen a spike in air pollution - meaning it's not safe for kids to play outdoors.

So be sure to take a deep breath this lunch time at school and think about how lucky you are ..

ANIMAL KINGDOM

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And so to Oregon - a beautiful, forested state in the west of the United States - where bats have come out for a Halloween beauty contest.

You'd know of course that it's Halloween this coming Thursday .. maybe your house is already decorated with spiders' web? Maybe you've got your costume sorted for trick or treating?

Well some clever wildlife conservationists in Oregon are staging an online beauty contest asking the public to vote for the prettiest bat on the block - hoping to demonstrate that despite their bad reputation - bats are actually beautiful creatures.

I've stuck a link in today's episode notes to photos of the bats. I'll let you be judge.

And while we're on the subject of bats: a shout out to the clever bat that escaped a zoo in Germany last week by flying down and hiding inside a zoo visitor's puffer jacket .. hitching a ride to freedom at the end of the day. Clever ...

And speaking of Halloween ... keep your ears peeled for our inaugural Squiz Kids Spooky Halloween Bedtime Story on Thursday ... if you think you're brave enough to listen
(EVIL LAUGH)

SPORT TIME

You can tell when summer is approaching because the footy is replaced with cricket and suddenly you can't move for yorkers, run-outs, googlies and maiden overs.

Or, in the case of the weekend just gone, some pretty remarkable results from India to Western Australia.

Starting with India - where cricket is practically a religion - and the country was in shock over the weekend after the national team was beaten at home in a test series by New Zealand for the first time in 12 years. After scoring 359 runs, The Kiwis bowled India out for 245 ... and the country went into shock.

Which is what the the Western Australia team was feeling on the weekend after WA was bowled out for a not-very impressive total of 53 runs ... and get this: they lost their last eight wickets - that's 8, count 'em - for only one run.

Now that's got to hurt.

Well done Tassie ... and if you want to take a look at the 8 for 1 bowling and fielding effort, i've stuck a link to video of it in today's episode notes. Sorry WA...

MID-ROLL - ZOWN (updated for Monday)

Mums and Dads .. here's a little something we think is just great. It's called ZOWN - that's Z-O-W-N - and it's the new, safe and fun option to social media for tweens and teens. Created by a mum with kids in mind, it's all about positivity, good news and cool resources to help kids thrive! From daily positivity posts, good news stories, goal setting, trivia and riddles, mood check-ins and safe ways to contribute your own content - ZOWN is THE safe space for kids online. And kids - you'll love it too, thanks to Zed, ZOWN's very own digital buddy. Think of him as your online friend who only says nice

stuff. Available to chat about anything, anytime! From help with homework to handling tricky situations at school, Zed is the friend who will always listen.

ZOWN is available in the app stores - or find out more at www.zown.app

It's free and there's a premium option for more features. And because we're peas in a safer internet pod, Squiz Kids has joined with ZOWN to offer for free access to premium for 3 months! Just use the code SQUIZ24 .

If you're interested to learn more - keep listening at the end of today's podcast for chat between me and Zown founder, the wonderful Lauren Adlam – with whom I may or may not have walked the Kokoda Track. True story.

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. In which country did a bat escape the zoo by hitching a ride hidden in a woman's puffer jacket?
2. In which country are school kids banned from the playground because of smog?
3. What's the name of the bridge in Brisbane where thousands of locals got their gear off yesterday morning? And for the record, I was not one of them ...

SHOUT OUTS

It's Monday October 28 ... it's singer Frank Ocean's birthday ... plus today will see the shutdown of the 3G network across Australia - here's hoping it goes smoothly.

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Rory from Yass, Skylar from Woongarra, Ava and James from Mt Gravatt, Efthalia from Darwin, Avery from Sans Souci, George from Ivanhoe, Ronan from Bradbury, Ivy from Flemington, Charlie from Hornsby Heights and Lewis listening over in Otewa, New Zealand.

A belated shoutout goes to ... Zoya from Lakemba

Classroom shoutouts go to... class 5B with Mrs Evans at Grace Lutheran Primary School in Clontarf, class 3/4C with Miss Cole at North Rocks Public School, class 4 Blue with Ms Buttigieg at Mt St Patrick's Catholic Primary School in Murwillumbah, class 3B at Nearnung Primary School and happy birthday to their teacher Ms Low and a shoutout to Mr Lyon's class at Pacific Pines Primary School and happy birthday Mr Lyon.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. Germany
2. Pakistan
3. Story Bridge

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 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

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