



## 3000 days on the Red Planet



*Pictured: Curiosity taking photos of the dusty red planet, Mars  
Source: @latestinspace on Twitter*

Last Tuesday, it was 3000 Martian days since the Curiosity rover robot landed on the planet, Mars. The American space agency, NASA's roving robot has been on Mars since August 2012, exploring the dusty red surface and taking photographs to detect if there is, or ever could have been, any life there. One day on Mars is longer than a day on Earth. It lasts for 24 hours and 39 minutes and is called a 'sol'. In July 2020, a second robot, Perseverance, was launched from the space station in Florida, USA but is not expected to join its robot friend on Mars until February. When Coronavirus threatened to delay the launch of the second robot, NASA made it a priority. One of a team of scientists in charge of the mission said, 'We could not be more proud of what this integrated team was able to pull off here, so it's very, very exciting.' Perseverance is expected to spend one Martian year or 687 Earth days investigating the possibility of life on Mars.

## Oldest known cave painting found in Indonesia

A cave painting of a wild pig that is thought to have been crafted over 45,000 years ago has been discovered by archaeologists in Sulawesi, Indonesia. The warty pig, which measures 136cm by 54cm, was painted using a natural material called dark red ochre. The painting shows two hornlike warts on the pig's face. Two handprints can also be seen beside the pig's hind quarters. As part of the scene, there are two other pigs facing each other so it is believed that the warty pig may have been watching the others fighting. 'The people who made it were fully modern, they were just like us, they had all of the capacity and the tools to do any painting that they liked,' said Maxime Aubert, who is the co-author of a new report published in Science Advances journal. The area where the cave is located floods during the



*Pictured: The Sulawesi warty pig on the wall of the cave in Indonesia  
Source: AFP*

wet season so it can only be reached during the dry season. It is situated in a remote valley a mile from the nearest road and is enclosed by sheer limestone cliffs.



## 'Ratatouille': The TikTok Musical!

You can become a star in the most unusual way! When schoolteacher, Emily Jacobsen learned that Disney World in Florida was planning to open a special attraction dedicated to Remy the rat from the movie, Ratatouille, she was overjoyed. So, the Disney channel fan wrote a song for him and posted it on TikTok in celebration. She only intended to make her friends laugh but before long, hundreds of actors and singers, posted their own Ratatouille songs on TikTok too. The idea snowballed and one of Emily's friends, a composer, Daniel Mertzlufft asked the TikTok stars to help him make a new musical based around Remy and his restaurant antics. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, fans could buy tickets online to watch 'Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical'. The money raised by the show went to The Actors Fund charity to support actors and singers, who have lost their jobs due to the global pandemic.



*Pictured: Remy from the 2007 film 'Ratatouille'*  
 Source: @RealMom@SFV on Twitter

## Your thoughts on last week's news...

*If there is a flood and people lose their homes, the army come and set up tents and bring food and water.*

*Dario – age 7*

*Soldiers help us in many ways. They can fight for our country, save people's lives and help us during any calamity. I feel very safe with them around.*

*Aadyha – age 8*



*I think soldiers help us in many different ways such as keeping our country safe and secure, but they are also around to help deal with Covid19. Thank you to all the soldiers that protect us.*

*Charlie – age 10*

*They are here to protect us in times of need.*

*Clara – age 10*

What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

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