



60 years since first person orbited Earth



*Pictured: Yuri Gagarin was 27 years old when he launched into space
Source: Robert Course-Baker*

It isn't every day that a 5-year-old spots something orange and beautiful falling from the sky! Rita Nurskanova was helping her Granny plant potatoes in a field in Moscow, Russia on 12th April 1961. 60 years later, she recalls what happened that day, 'Granny was frightened. She grabbed my hand and we wanted to run back to the house.' But when they heard a friendly voice shouting at them to stop, they realised that he was speaking Russian. It was cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, returning to Earth from the first ever mission into space in spacecraft Vostok 1. The first ever orbit took just over 1.5 hours to complete at a height of 327 kilometres above the Earth's surface. The event is now marked by a monument in a park called Space Conquerors Park on the spot where he landed. Gagarin became a household name after the event because Russia had sent a cosmonaut into space before America.

Google Maps tackles climate change

When drivers search for routes on Google Maps, they will soon be given the most eco-friendly directions as their first journey option. They have made this decision to fight climate change. The search engine is being designed to find journeys with the lowest carbon footprint after Google street view cars (like the ones pictured on the right) have tested the emissions from different car and road types. When other routes are a lot faster but have higher carbon emissions, Google will let road users compare the estimated carbon emissions against each other. The new feature will be available to drivers in the United States first and then rolled out globally after that. Street View cars have also collected data to include how carbon emissions are affected when cars travel on routes that are flatter or have more hills.



Pictured top: Routes in and out of London. Source: google-maps-uk-traffic-large

Pictured bottom: Google street view car in Athens, Greece. Source: John Karakatsanis



Minions 2 movie release delayed

The release of the new movie Minions: The Rise of Gru (or Minions 2) has been delayed until July 2022 due to the global pandemic. The fifth instalment in the Despicable Me series features those lovable banana yellow torpedo-shaped creatures and the supervillain, Felonius Gru. The topic of animated movies drew young journalist, Aman Chal's attention so he decided to ask 25 members of Telford society what their favourite movie titles were. James Stevenson told him, 'Mine is Despicable Me 3, as it's funny and Gru meets his brother and Evil Brat, a 1990s villain who steals the biggest diamond in the world.' Jasmine Chal cited Shrek 1 as her favourite. She told Amal, 'It's daring, exciting and it makes you sit on the end of your seat. My favourite character is Donkey as he's very amusing!' Despicable Me 3 was the top choice for 10% of those he asked. Aman attends Woodlands Primary School, Madeley

Thank you to all our young journalists for their amazing contributions to our weekly newspaper!



Pictured: Advert for Despicable Me Minion Mayhem, a popular attraction at Universal Studios, Florida, USA Source: Joshua

Your thoughts on last week's news...

I think reusing telephone boxes is a great thing as it shows that we CAN reuse and recycle and it would really help communities.

Joe – age 11



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

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to share your thoughts!

...What's unique about it is that the colour red was chosen to make them easy to spot. From 1926 onwards, the fascia of the kiosks were emblazoned with a prominent crown, representing the British government.

Obed – age 10

I think the ones that are most useful are the ones with medical things in to help people in trouble.

Jake -age 8

I think...



YOUR COMMENTS

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