



## Millthorpe Library News

### Weekly News to your Library!

# Sunak shocks Britain in conservative cabinet reshuffle as Rwanda plan ruled 'unlawful' by Supreme Court



Home Secretary Suella Braverman's highly divisive comments about the pro-Palestine marches has led to a cabinet reshuffle, with the furious MP subsequently criticizing her once-close ally. Just days later, as this issue went to press, we saw the Supreme Court ruling the Rwanda plan as 'unlawful' with Sunak aiming to enforce 'emergency legislation' to allow the plan.

(Read page 2 to find out more).

## UK inflation drops to lowest rate in two years

During October, UK inflation rates dropped to 4.6% from 6.7% the previous month, the lowest rates of inflation seen in two years. (Read page 3 to find out more).



## AI could predict hurricane landfall

It is thought that artificial intelligence could be able to save lives by predicting hurricane landfall much earlier on. For example, in september a new AI tool from Google DeepMind was able to predict the location of hurricane Lee's landfall in Canada 3 days prior to alternative methods.

(Read page 6 to find out more).

# Issue No.45 - 16/11/23



# Sunak shocks Britain in conservative cabinet reshuffle as Rwanda plan ruled 'unlawful'

## Why was Suella Braverman sacked and who replaced her in the cabinet reshuffle?

Home Secretary, Suella Braverman was criticized by many politicians and activists after calling the pro-Palestinian peace marches 'hate marches' and branding homelessness as a lifestyle choice and that many on the streets were 'from abroad' - which received a lot of backlash from the public and charities. "Nobody in Britain should be living in a tent on our streets. There are options for people who don't want to be sleeping rough, and the government is working with local authorities to strengthen wraparound support including treatment for those with drug and alcohol addiction.

"What I want to stop, and what the law-abiding majority wants us to stop, is those who cause nuisance and distress to other people by pitching tents in public spaces, aggressively begging, stealing, taking drugs, littering, and blighting our communities," Braverman added. It is fair to say Suella has said many controversial things, including "these guardian-reading, tofu-eating wokerati" are ruining British roads). She was accused of fanning the flames of hate by many and was publicly shamed by Scottish first minister, Humza Yousaf. Many said her actions had caused an aggressive far-right counter-protest condemned by the police that constituted for the majority of arrests that took place on armistice day on Saturday the 11th among pro-Hamas and anti-semites. Over 300,000 protesters attended the march alongside a huge police operation which separates different groups: the pro-Palestinians, the far right and remembrance day tributes. Braverman then went on to criticize the Met police of having a 'left-wing bias' in an article she wrote for the Times, further ruining her reputation for many. This plethora of controversy led to her lifelong ally of hers, Rishi Sunak, to sack her. The PM shocked the public again as he appointed ex-PM and Brexit organiser, David Cameron as Foreign Secretary. MP, James Cleverly replaced the ex-Home Secretary's role. Following her sacking, Braverman scolded her ex-friend and colleague by accusing him of weak policy, avoiding tough decision-making and political failures.

## Rwanda plan ruled unlawful by Supreme court - what next for a struggling PM?

After many failed legal attempts to get the Conservative Government's Rwanda plan (the Rwanda plan is the deportation of illegal migrants to the central African country of Rwanda on arrival to the UK in small boats with the motto being 'stop the boats') into action, the highest legal court in the UK, the Supreme Court, has ruled the policy as unlawful and a breach of international human rights.

The Rwanda plan was received this ruling after there was a risk of Rwandan authorities returning the migrants back to their home countries. The BBC has said that deporting a migrant to Rwanda is more expensive than allowing them to live in the UK but the conservatives seem very passionate about the plan. Despite the government spending £140 million on the scheme so far, the plan in its current form cannot go ahead as Rwanda is deemed an unsafe country for asylum seekers and refugees. The plan received an enormous amount of backlash from protesters (bottom left) and more. The plan had already been deemed unlawful by the Court of Appeal last year. PM Rishi Sunak says he is working to revive the plan and vows to make 'emergency legislation' to dodge the law system and force the policy into action, saying the 'we need to end the merry-go round' that is preventing the Rwanda plan and that flights to Rwanda deporting migrants will begin next Spring despite a breach of international law and human rights according to many courts.



# UK inflation drops to lowest rate in two years

During October, UK inflation rates dropped to 4.6% from 6.7% the previous month, the lowest rates of inflation seen in two years. Inflation, which acts as a measure of which consumer prices increase, fell sharply largely due to falling energy prices, and the government has said that their pledge to halve inflation by the end of this year has apparently been met early. Economists have stated that one of the major reasons for the fall in rate of inflation, which hit a peak of 11.1% in October last year, is due to a decrease in the energy price cap over last month, which regulates the amount of money that a company can charge a consumer per unit of energy. This means there is in fact a limit to the amount of credit ministers can take for the settling and fall of energy prices.

Also interest rates are notably higher, with the current rate situated at 5.25%, a 15-year high.

Though this does increase mortgage prices, it has also led to higher savings rates.

However, Paul Johnson, a director for the Institute for Fiscal studies, has told the BBC that the ministers did not “have a lot of control” over cutting inflation rates. Also, Grant Fitzner, the chief economist at the Office for National Statistics has also claimed that price rises slowed in October as “last year’s steep rise in energy costs has been followed by a small reduction in the energy price cap this year”. He also adds that food prices have changed very little, but he has noted that hotel prices have reduced.

Despite the positive news surrounding inflation rates, many households will not be eased from the pressure this winter, and it is predicted that many will actually spend more on energy costs due to government support and funding no longer being in place. Also, falling inflation does not necessarily mean that prices for goods and services will drop, but instead the rate of prices increasing will fall. James Smith, a research director at the Resolution Foundation who focuses on living standards of people with lower-middle incomes has stated that “the cost-of-living crisis is far from over”. “The scale of Britain’s inflation shock has left a legacy of higher prices”. “Over the past two years, the cost of energy has surged by 49% while food prices have risen by 28% - far greater than the 14% in average earnings over this period”, he added.

## UK inflation at 4.6% in October 2023

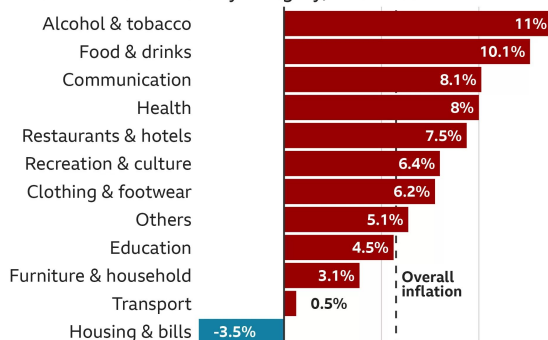


Office for National Statistics

BBC

## Biggest contributors to inflation

Consumer Prices Index by category, October 2023



Source: Office for National Statistics

BBC



# Colombia introduces world's first 'junk food law' to tackle health related diseases

In an ambitious plan (which has so far only been enforced by a few countries across the globe) to tackle unhealthy lifestyle choices, Colombia has rolled out a tax on unhealthy, ultra-processed foods. A junk-food tax, also known as a 'fat tax' is the principle of increasing unhealthy food prices to divert people away from buying damaging products. Many people believe that it will be a great way to tackle obesity, diabetes and more (see caption bottom right) however, some believe it is a war on the poor that will not affect those in a wealthy position to carry on buying expensive things. However, many health experts and campaigners have praised the Latin American country for its efforts to tackle a multitude of diseases caused by sugary items and ultra-processed products, urging others to take action like Colombia has done. After years of protesters demanding this law to come into effect, the government announced earlier this month that the tax would come into play. A gradual phasing in of this law will however occur, with the highlighted foods prices immediately becoming 10% more expensive, rising to 15% next year and 20% the following year in 2025.

"Countries around the world have been implementing health taxes, for example by taxing tobacco or sugary drinks, but few have extended them to processed foods," said Franco Sassi, international health policy and economics professor at London's Imperial College Business School. He added, "Colombia's model is more expansive than what we have seen before and could serve as an example to other countries."

The tax aims to control ultra-processed foods that are industrially defined as ready to eat products, including crisps and chocolates littered with salts and unsaturated fats. The government admitted some compromises to traditional Colombian culture have been made, such as the salchichón sausage.

The Colombian diet is particularly high in sodium, with the average citizen eating 12g daily (twice the daily recommended maximum). This huge sum is the cause of obesity and cardiovascular diseases like strokes which overall account for a quarter of deaths in the nation. Furthermore, 30% of adults have high blood pressure and a third of the deaths in under-70s are diabetes related. These figures and other estimates show that 76% of all deaths in Colombia are non-communicable or do not transmit to other humans - with the largest proportion of that sum being diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Politicians said they wanted to avoid America's issue of junk food however critics have said it will make Colombian inflation soar.

Some other nations and areas who have followed the same path in the past include Denmark which introduced a tax on saturated fats in 2011 and Kerala, India whose communist government enforced a 'fat tax' of 14.5% on fatty products in 2016.



The tax targets ultra-processed products defined as industrially made 'ready to eat' foods.

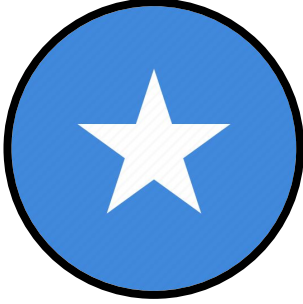


An online survey found that 79% of people want junk food to be taxed.




# Around The World

## UN gives aid to Somalia in 'once in a century floods'




The United Nations has promised to give the East African country of Somalia \$25 million (£20.5 million) in aid after at least 300,000 people have been displaced and 29 killed in 'once in a century floods'. Consistent torrential rains in the area have caused up to 1.6 million people and 1.5 million hectares of farmland to be affected. It is likely that El Niño (a weather warming phenomenon) and climate change are to blame.

## Lion on the loose in Italian town after escaping circus captured



On Saturday 11th of November, residents of Ladispoli, an Italian seaside town close to Rome, were told to stay indoors after a lion escaped from a circus. The local authorities quickly sedated and capture the animal who had been wandering the streets at night. The mayor of Ladispoli said: "I hope that this episode can stir some consciences, and that we can finally put an end to the exploitation of animals in circuses,".

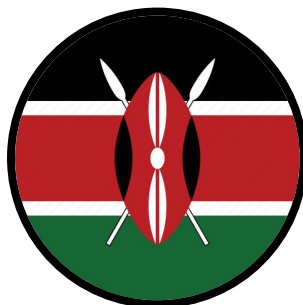
## Australia offers refuge to Tuvalu's climate migrants



Tuvalu, a sinking island nation among many others experiencing the effects of climate change in the Pacific Ocean, has struck a landmark deal with neighbouring giant, Australia. The small nation of 11,200 has urged world leaders to take climate action and could ultimately become non-existent due to rising sea levels in the future.

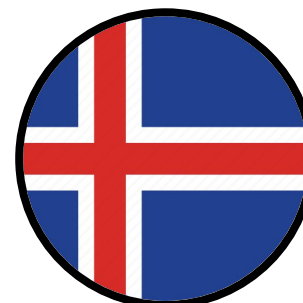
Every year from now on, 280 citizens will be granted visas to live and work in Australia in a "groundbreaking agreement."

## Kenyan nationwide tree-planting day made a public holiday



On the 13th November, the annual tree planting day in the East African country of Kenya, was made a public holiday. It comes as Kenya's ambitious environmental plan to plant 15 billion trees across the nation by 2032. The Government issued this message on social media calling for the public to take action to stop climate change by planting trees. Kenya is currently 7% forest cover but has invested £65 million to increase this to 10% this year.

## Iceland declares emergency over volcanic activity



Iceland has issued a state of emergency after the country's tectonic plates were becoming increasingly active, potentially causing earthquakes and volcanoes. Authorities have already ordered the evacuation of the southwestern town Grindavík near where thousands of tremors near the Fagradalsfjall volcano (a historically dormant volcano until recent years) have been recorded. Warnings of rising magma have also been issued, prompting the evacuation of all 4,000 Grindavík residents and only emergency transport in and out of the town.



# Science & Environment News



## AI could predict hurricane landfall earlier



It is thought that artificial intelligence could be able to save lives by predicting hurricane landfall much earlier on. For example, in september a new AI tool from Google DeepMind was able to predict the location of hurricane Lee's landfall in Canada 3 days prior to alternative methods. Though weather forecasts have become increasingly accurate over the past three decades, AI's speed and ability to accurately predict weather events based off previous events is thought to revolutionize weather forecasting, scientists say. This is due to traditional forecasting requiring vast amounts of computing power to make predictions, due to it involving creating hundreds of estimates based on various factors. The new AI tool, know as GraphCast, created by Google DeepMind was able to outperform the European Medium Range Forecasting Model, on 90% of factors. It can produce its predictions in less than a minute, using a very small amount of computing power compared to traditional methods, and is able to give crucial preparation time for extreme weather.

## Lightning fires threaten planet cooling forests



Climate change could bring more lightning to northern regions of the planet which is thought could increase the likelihood and risk of wildfires in the region, and research has shown that lightning was one of the main contributing factors to the wildfires witnessed in Canada earlier this year. This is thought to potentially lead to a dangerous cycle - as lightning strikes, areas of forest burn releasing more CO<sub>2</sub>, which would lead to more storms and with it potentially more lightning as well, and so on. Also, these northern forests are some of the main limiters of climate change by trapping large amounts of planet-warming carbon. Despite the amount of fires globally dropping over the last 2 decades the amount of forest fires situated outside of the tropics has gone up.

During last summer Canada experienced forest fires like none other. 18 million hectares (45 million acres, 182000 km<sup>2</sup>) with 6500 individual fires blazing across the country. The majority of these fires were started by lightning strikes.

# Military News

## **Poland strikes £4 billion deal with UK**

Defence giant MBDA have signed a contract with Polish company PGZ to provide Poland with a next-generation air defence system comprising over 100 launchers and over 1000 missiles which can strike threats such as cruise missiles and enemy aircraft at distances more than 40km away. It is the largest ever commercial agreement secured between the two close allies.

## **UK in the Israel-Gaza conflict**

Numerous Royal Air Force aircraft have delivered specifically requested supplies to Egypt in a bid to provide aid to the charities operating in the humanitarian crisis. Sunak recently increased the UK's support by £30 million.

However, British Royal Fleet Auxiliary (a fleet of vessels providing logistical and operational support to the Royal Navy) ships and RAF surveillance aircraft have been moved to the Eastern Mediterranean to track things such as the 'transfer of weapons to terrorist groups'.

## **Russian warship reportedly gets within 20 miles of Britain**

On the 8th November Russian frigate Admiral Grigorovich was shadowed by HMS Richmond as she fought her way through the turbulent waters of the English Channel. The British warships commander, Chris L'Amie stated that 'the Royal Navy is demonstrating our steadfast commitment to the NATO alliance and maintaining maritime security'.

## **President Biden seeks better military relations when he meets with Xi Jinping**

U.S. military leaders have repeatedly expressed concerns about the lack of communication with China, according to the pentagon, Beijing had 'denied, cancelled or ignored' military to military communications and meeting over much of the last two years. It is hoped that a scheduled meeting in San Francisco between the two world leaders would help maintain a peaceful Indo-pacific region.

## **22+ UN peacekeepers injured in northern Mali**

Six incidents have occurred on the 350km retreat with over 39 peacekeepers injured. It is currently unknown whether the improvised explosive devices were intentionally placed there or whether they had been there for a long time. It comes after Mali's military rulers (who teamed up with Russia's Wagner group) ordered the 15,000 strong force (MINUSMA) to leave. It is expected that they will complete their withdrawal by 31st December.



# Book of the Week

## Ender's Game

Andrew "Ender" Wiggin thinks he is playing computer simulated war games; he is, in fact, engaged in something far more desperate. The result of genetic experimentation, Ender may be the military genius Earth desperately needs in a war against an alien enemy seeking to destroy all human life. The only way to find out is to throw Ender into ever harsher training, to chip away and find the diamond inside, or destroy him utterly. Ender Wiggin is six years old when it begins. He will grow up fast.

But Ender is not the only result of the experiment. The war with the Buggers has been raging for a hundred years, and the quest for the perfect general has been underway almost as long. Ender's two older siblings, Peter and Valentine, are every bit as unusual as he is, but in very different ways. While

Peter was too uncontrollably violent, Valentine very nearly lacks the capability for violence altogether. Neither was found suitable for the military's purpose. But they are driven by their jealousy of Ender, and by their inbred drive for power. Peter seeks to control the political process, to become a ruler. Valentine's abilities turn more toward the subtle control of the beliefs of commoner and elite alike, through powerfully convincing essays. Hiding their youth and identities behind the anonymity of the computer networks, these two begin working together to shape the destiny of Earth-an Earth that has no future at all if their brother Ender fails.

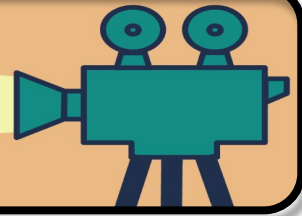
## Age Rating:

The age rating is 12+ and a great read for Sci Fi lovers, you could also watch the film which is good too!





# Media Review



## ***The Great Escaper Film Review + Friends stars pay tribute to Matthew Perry following tragic death last month***

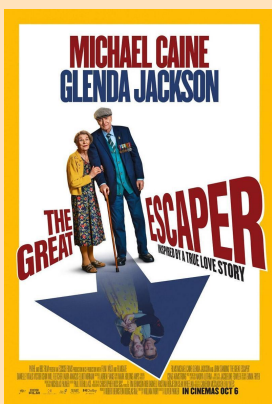
*\*may contain spoilers*

### ***The Great Escaper Review:***

The Great Escaper, featuring famous British stars, Sir Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson, released on 6th October and is available in cinemas such as Vue, and also Amazon Prime Video. It was Michael Caine's last movie before his retirement aged 90 and Jackson's final film before she unfortunately passed away on June 15th 2023 at 87 just months before the films release.

The film is about a D-Day veteran by the name of Bernie, who goes on a nostalgic, yet traumatic dash over to France where he fought on the beaches in WW2. He embarks on this journey (to commemorate the 70th anniversary of D-Day which actually took place in 2014) without notice in the care home he and his wife are in, and is labelled as 'the great escaper' by the press. He has lots of experiences and flashbacks on his trip back to the territory he fought in.

The film is 1 hour 36 minutes long and has an imdb rating of 7.2/10.



7/10

"It is a slow film without much action, but nonetheless a gripping and heart-warming emotional film. We will never forget you Perry."

- Freddie Newton



F.R.I.E.N.D.S



### ***Friends stars pay tribute to Matthew Perry following tragic death last month***

Friends star, Matthew Perry (who played Chandler), tragically died aged 54 on 29th October, and since has received praise for his acting career and also his books and activism to fight the cruel addiction that drugs brings in his book 'Friends, lovers and the big terrible thing' - the big terrible thing referring to his ongoing life struggle to stop his addiction to drugs which began when he first tried alcohol aged 14. In several interviews, the world-renowned star said that most of all his achievements, he wants to be known for helping people escape from drug struggles. Perry began taking drugs a lot and suffered health problem after health problem because of it including his near-death experience of his colon bursting in 2018, where he was given a 2% chance of surviving.

After several attempts at therapy and a rollercoaster ride of drug overdose and health concerns, Perry's final year was perhaps brighter than his previous years, in which he indulged in the new US sport of Pickleball and was no longer taking drugs. His cause of death is inconclusive, however, when reported that he had looked "fatigued" in his final hours and that he was found unresponsive in his hot tub, it is believed that he could have drowned - this is currently being investigated.

On November 3rd, his 'devastated' Friends co-workers and family attended his funeral. Colleague and friend, Matt Le Blanc, who played Joey in the much-loved 1990's sitcom, said his times with Perry were: "honestly among the favourite times of my life." Courtney Cox (Monica) added that she was: "so grateful for every moment they worked together."

David Schwimmer, who played paleontologist nerd Ross in the sitcom, said "I will never forget your impeccable comic timing and delivery. You could take a straight line of dialogue and bend it to your will, resulting in something so entirely original and unexpectedly funny it still astonishes. And you had heart. Which you were generous with, and shared with us, so we could create a family out of six strangers."

Hollywood star, Jennifer Aniston, who played Rachel, wrote: "Having to say goodbye to our Matty has been an insane wave of emotions that I've never experienced before."



# SPORTS NEWS

## Hong Kong 'gay games' 2023

### ***Asia's first 'gay games' delights Hong Kong but stirs discriminatory hostility in China***

After 16 months of coronavirus-related delays, Hong Kong hosted the Asia's first so-called 'gay games' sport competition in history. The opening ceremony of the event which is similar to the Olympics but targeted at supporting LGBTQ+ rights, took place on 4th November and the event ended on 11th November with over 600 competitions being held and 2,400 athletes representing the countries of the World. The Gay Games was an inclusive sports event that was first hosted in San Francisco, California in 1982 to promote LGBTQ+ inclusion and support and is now off schedule after delays but due to be in Valencia, Spain in 2026 for the 12th Gay Games competition. Many officials and people praised the event which divided the nation of Hong Kong and mainland China who have a history of being anti-LGBTQ+. Despite Hong Kong legalising gay sex in 1991, same-sex marriage is still illegal yet in a 2023 survey, 60% of the population wished for it to be legalised contrasting with 38% ten years prior. In addition, 70% of the surveyed population of Hong Kong said they wanted more concrete laws in place to protect and tackle minorities in the LGBTQ+ community from discrimination - this has not yet been achieved by the government. The hosting of the event was subsequent to the string of legal wins for LGBTQ+ rights in the nation, contrasting to the increasingly hostile atmosphere towards the LGBTQ+ community in mainland China, particularly towards the transgender community.

The sports and events included: the Rainbow Run in which anybody who wishes to run on 5 Hong Kong tracks is welcomed and can participate, swimming, dodgeball, tennis, table tennis, rowing, fencing, martial arts, badminton, squash, marathons, road runs, open-water swimming and Mahjong - a popular Chinese tile-based game of skill, strategy and luck similar to rummy or solitaire.

China's anti-democratic government sensitively threatens anybody who dares to criticize it, especially after the national security law in 2020, and as a result LGBT-run broadcasters such as We are Family in Hong Kong - which ran for 17 years - have recently been banned, likely due to the fact they could be seen as criticizing the Chinese government. Currently, the island-nation of Taiwan, east of China, is the only country that has legalised same-sex marriage in Asia. Despite the tensions caused by oppositions of the LGBTQ+ rights movement,, the gay games went ahead and have been praised as a step in the right direction in the 'best gay games ever'..



# Puzzles

## Riddles













Easy - I am running all the time, but never get tired or hot. What am I?

Medium - What has legs, but doesn't walk?

Hard - What has many teeth, but can't bite?

	8		3		7		9
9				6			7
		1				4	
4							3
	9			1			2
6							1
		9				3	
5				2			9
	4		7		8		1

\*(This sudoku will be cut out next to the issue stand for you to complete)!

	×		+		=	21
	+		+		=	30
	+		×		=	80
	+		×		=	?

## Last Issue's Answers

Riddles: Easy - Short, Medium - A Barber & Hard - A Staircase



# Visit Our Website!

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Here, you can read the newspaper digitally, view older newspapers and even take quizzes!

**Note: You must be signed in your school account to access it.**

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**[sites.google.com/millthorpe.southbank.academy/millthorpenews](https://sites.google.com/millthorpe.southbank.academy/millthorpenews)**

**Or for after school use only:**

**Scan the QR code:**



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### **Y10 - Tom Brook**

Head of Marketing and Military  
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### **Y10 - Jared Van Schalkwyk**

Graphic Designer & Debate of The  
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## Writers

### **Y10 - Freddie Newton**

Writer of: Around the World, Media Review, Sports News and Main  
News.

### **Y10 - William Bradley**

Science & Environment News Writer & Main News Writer.

## **You can be here!**

Email or ask a member of our team to join.





# **Covid-19 Inquiry Insider: How was the pandemic handled by our government?**

N/A



# Music Review

## Top of the charts

1. **Paint The Town Red**  
*Doja Cat*
2. **Strangers**  
*Kenya Grace*
3. **Greedy**  
*TATE MCRAE*
4. **Prada**  
*CASSO/RAYE/D-BLOCK EUROPE*
5. **3D**  
*JUNG KOOK Ft. Jack Harlow*
6. **Vampire**  
*Oliver Rodrigo*
7. **Adore you**  
*FRED AGAIN*
8. **Discount**  
*Becky Hill/Chase & status*
9. **Baddadan**  
*Chase & Status/Bou/Flowdan*
10. **Water**  
*Tyla*

## Pending.

N/A

## Guess the song:



# Pending Note...



## **Millthorpe Library News** **Weekly News to your Library!**

**Hello!**

**N/A**

**Thanks,**  
**The News Team.**