



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

China's Ideal Taiwan is disappearing.



Today, Taiwan is a democratic nation, and at this moment they are holding elections to determine the country's future. However, there was once a time where the Taiwanese nation was ruled under a dictator, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, who set up the KMT, a political party whose main goal was eventual reunification with China.

(Read page 2 to find out more).

Cooking with George

Spaghetti bolognese

(Read page 10 to find out more).

In this recipe I create spaghetti bolognese perfect for delicious saturday night tea. It's easy to be made vegetarian or vegan and still extremely tasty. I have provided a full ingredient list and have sayed all of my spices that i use when cooking at home.

New antibiotic which can kill drug-resistant bacteria found

Zorusalbapin is a new drug which can erode the secondary membrane of Crab (a dangerous bacterium which was previously antibiotic resistant.)

(Read page 7 to find out more).

Issue No.48 - 11/01/24



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This has come of a democratic transition in the country in recent times, and China believes that this new freedom is a danger to the Chinese Communist Party's hopes of reunification. The DPP, a political party that was once struggled to win parliamentary seats and local elections, is now the largest party in the Taiwanese Government, and they have ruled the nation for the past 16 years. The party is not in support of chinese reunification, and many of its young supporters are strongly passionate about the environment and LGBTQ+ rights, and many speak fluent english. Many of China's fears have arisen from a recent rally in Taipei, where the vice-presidential candidate for the DPP, Hsiao Bi-khim, made her first big public address, and she was very popular with the crowds, being charismatic and young. The chinese government hate Hsiao, mainly due to her most recent job as a de-facto ambassador to the United States and lack of family ties to the mainland. However, the latter is a trend with many potential politicians, and China feels they may lean toward Tokyo and Washington in the future. The DPP no longer talks about formally becoming independent, and though the KMT still talks about dialogue with Beijing, they have begun to sidestep the possibility of unification, and both are now embracing Taiwan's status-quo - they are not considered a country, but still elect their own leaders.



Far Left: The statues of former dictator Chiang Kai-shek



Left: Much of the younger Taiwanese population feel exclusively Taiwanese



Government to change transgender guidance in schools

In 2018, the UK government said they would evaluate transgender guidance in schools - what was the guidance and response?

What did the document say?

Schools and teachers have long been waiting for clear guidance regarding young trans people. The Department for Education (DfE) says that it is working with teachers to serve the best interests of the pupils.

The reformed guidance article on GOV.UK said that schools in England should take a “cautious approach” to pupils who wish to use an alternative name, different gender pronouns or uniform. Education Secretary Gillian Keegan said: “Parents’ views must also be at the heart of all decisions made about their children.” Conservative Minister for Women and Equalities said that “schools do not have to accept a child’s request to socially transition” - changing names, pronouns etc. It continued saying that parents must be informed before any decision is made unless teachers feel a student could be at risk if consulted with family members. It said that it allowed teachers to not observe somebody’s wishes to change their gender pronouns if they hold beliefs against it. It affirmed that primary school students shouldn’t be able to change their gender pronouns. The Government encourages schools to hold gender-questioning children to “the same uniform standard as other children of their sex.” It also affirmed that single-sex facilities, sports or schools should be based on biological sex. The government’s original plans to ban social transitioning in schools was deemed unlawful without introducing new legislation.

What was the response?

Teaching union the Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) says it welcomed the fact the government was paying attention to the guidance with teachers saying it was sometimes difficult to navigate transgenderism in schools. However, the plans have conversely been met with a lot of backlash, with many people believing the government’s approach was underlying hostility and scepticism in many cases towards trans people. Many are worried that it could create a fear for those at risk of being unaccepted by family members and would rather be independent in education. Some felt outraged by the government allowing people to not use requested pronouns. The guardian said many schools will be forced to rely on it, but accuses the document of being insufficient, unfair and showing language skeptical of transgenderism. Others felt that they would continue using their own policies of working with the children to help them the best they can. One teacher from Safe Schools Alliance said “it’s about safeguarding young people , and teachers should always speak to parents.”



Welcome Back!



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Hello!

Welcome back, we hope you all enjoyed your Christmas Holidays! Another Term, another set of MLN issues! This issue will be slightly shorter than usual due to some time constraints, but we hope you enjoy it still!

We have plans of a bumper issue for issue No.50 coming in a few weeks, which is expected to contain ~30 pages, and this time we are thinking of getting it all released in 1 week instead of over two, so more content for you readers!

Sorry for missing the last few issue deadlines before Christmas due to us being busy with exams, but we are now back and are aiming to release as normal.

Thanks to all those who have stuck with us through these few weeks, and we hope to see your continued support throughout the term!

Thanks,
The News Team.



Around The World

Antelope species no longer extinct in the wild



Due to a recent breeding program that took place in central Chad, a type of antelope, the scimitar-horned oryx is no longer classed as extinct in the wild. The species used to be common and widespread throughout northern Africa, but due to people over-hunting them for their meat and horns, the species was unfortunately declared extinct in the year 2000.

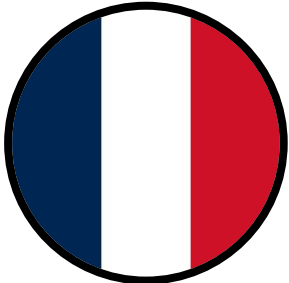
However, as a result of the program, 510 oryx are currently living in the wild.

Legal action taken by students in South Korea



39 students in Seoul, South Korea have decided to take legal action against the government due to one of their very important exams, the Suneung, finishing 90 seconds too early. The exam is very important as the results are used to determine a student's possible university and career options. The students want £12,000 each in order to cover the cost of studying and retaking the exam.

Macron's pick for next PM is youngest ever



Gabriel Attal, at age 34, has been selected to become France's next PM, with Emmanuel Macron doing so in order to revive his presidency with a new government. Attal will be the successor to Élisabeth Borne, who struggled during her time without a majority within parliament, and resigned after 20 months. He is now set to lead the French government into important European parliament elections next year in June.

Fuel in Cuba to become 5 times more expensive



The Cuban government has recently announced that fuel prices will be increased over five fold in order to deal with an economic crisis deepening throughout the country and national shortages of fuel. The price for a litre of petrol is expected to rise from 25 pesos (£0.16), to 132 pesos in February. Not many people in the country actually own a vehicle, but the increase in prices will most likely push many more people out of a position to own a vehicle in the future.

Australia puts public referendum on hold



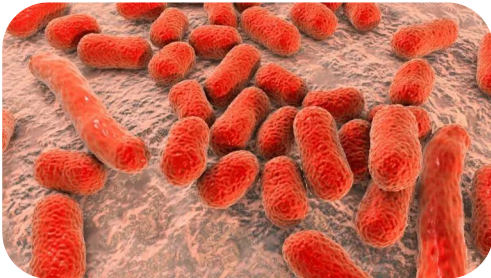
The Australian government has taken the decision to postpone the proposal to hold a public referendum on whether to remove King Charles III as the head of state. Though the proposal has been a longstanding policy of PM Anthony Albanese, a minister has suggested to the local media that there is "no timeline" for such a vote and that it is currently "not a priority". According to a government spokesperson in a statement to national newspaper The Australian, the PM is currently in a "warm relationship" with King Charles III, and the government has said they are expecting a visit from the King later this year.



Science & Environment News



New antibiotic which can kill drug-resistant bacteria found



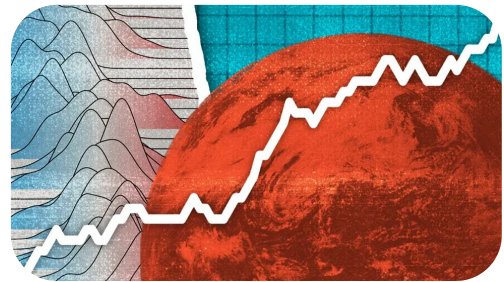
The new compound, zosurabalpin under a microscope.

Antibiotics have been a lifesaver for millions of people across the globe after their discovery in 1928. But due to a population increase and overconsumption of these drugs since then, bacteria have become increasingly resistant to them - this is known as antibiotic resistance and according to some studies, claimed 1.2 million lives in 2019 alone.

In the race to beat this killer, scientists have recently discovered an entirely new class of antibiotic which managed to kill one of the 3 antibiotic resistant bacterium's that were listed as posing the biggest possible threat to humanity. Carbapenem resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (Crab) is a serious disease classified as "priority-one critical pathogen" by the World Health Organisation (WHO). It was among 3 of the tested bacteria and is highly antibiotic resistant to the point where few treatments were previously available.

The bacterium Crab is so resistant due to its double walled membrane which prevents some of even the toughest antibiotics from penetrating its interior. Zosurabalpin, however, destroys the ability of Crab to make this key membrane, allowing the drug to get inside and do its job. Scientists have hailed this as a stepping stone towards fighting antibiotic resistance.

It has happened again: 2023 wins the hottest year on record award



Edging closer to the 2015 Paris Agreement's +1.5C degrees threshold year on year, (+1.48C in 2023) the EU has confirmed that 2023 was the hottest year on record since pre-industrial levels. According to the BBC, almost every day between July and December 2023 broke a new global air temperature record for that time of year. In particular, sea surface temperatures rose the most, with some areas of Florida experiencing an unprecedented Ocean temperatures of 36 degrees celsius - this is actively leading to coral bleaching, where coral reefs turn white due to a temperature increase.

This increase was largely caused by climate change, but also driven much further by a natural weather phenomenon called El Niño in which average global temperatures generally rise by about 0.2C degrees. 2023 was predicted to be hot, but not to this extent - in fact there were even 116 consecutive days where global surface temperatures broke world records for that period. This kind of temperature boost in the early stages of an El Niño event, are very unusual and have baffled scientists who say 2024 could surpass 1.5C. We saw the effects of this temperature boost with wildfires erupting in Canada and the US, and even many mediterranean regions, Arctic sea-ice at an all time low, droughts and floods displacing hundreds of thousands in East Africa and much more.

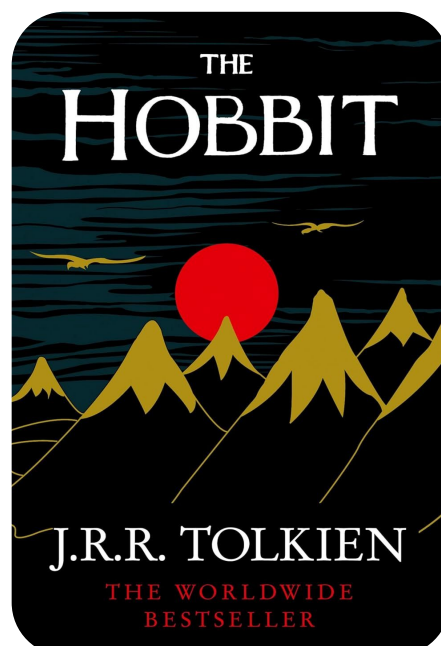


This Weeks Book of the Week is: The Hobbit

Bilbo Baggins is swept into a quest to reclaim the lost Dwarf Kingdom of Erebor from the fearsome dragon Smaug. Approached out of the blue by the wizard Gandalf the Grey, Bilbo finds himself joining a company of thirteen dwarves led by the legendary warrior, Thorin Oakenshield. Their journey will take them into the Wild; through treacherous lands swarming with Goblins and Orcs, deadly Wargs and Giant Spiders, Shapeshifters and Sorcerers. Although their goal lies to the East and the wastelands of the Lonely Mountain first they must escape the goblin tunnels, where Bilbo meets the creature that will change his life forever ... Gollum. Here, alone with Gollum, on the shores of an underground lake, the unassuming Bilbo Baggins not only discovers depths of guile and courage that surprise even him, he also gains possession of Gollum's "precious" ring that holds unexpected and useful qualities ... A simple, gold ring that is tied to the fate of all Middle-earth in ways Bilbo cannot begin to know.

Age Rating:

This books age rating is 12+, so almost everyone in the school can read this. It is also worth noting that this is a prequel to the famous "lord of the rings" series!





Media Review

Doctor Who the 60th anniversary special: an honest review

**may contain spoilers*

If you haven't yet watched the doctor who 60th anniversary episodes and Christmas special yet then stop reading this right now and go to watch it when you get home because it is fantastic and this may ruin it.

Last year we experienced Doctor Who's 60th anniversary episodes with the 10th doctor returning again played by David Tennant (the one and only). In the first episode we are introduced to some returning characters such as Donna Noble played by Catherine Tate as well as new characters like Rose Noble (Yasmin Finney) one of the first openly trans actors in Doctor Who. She has her own trans plot line and is a huge step towards representation in the BBC. In this episode a martian named The Meep lands nearby Donna's house so they have to protect it until they realise it was evil. In the end Donna sacrifices herself by remembering who the Doctor is (it's a plot line). In the end she's fine. This episode was a very decent first episode to introduce David Tennant again and in my opinion set up the plot of the second episode very well.

The second episode features Donna's and the Doctor's adventure in space and is well worth the watch. I won't spoil too much of the plot, as I really believe that you should go and watch it. The third episode features the toymaker played by Neil Patrick Harris, a call back to the first Doctor. It finished the plot



line set up in that first season perfectly. It is a brilliant episode with a song and dance number in the middle ('Spice up your life' by the Spice Girls). This episode also features the first 'bigeneration' of the Doctor. This resulted in the creation of the new 15th Doctor played by Ncuti Gatwa, whilst David Tennant could relax with Donna and her family. One common critique of this episode was that the 14th was allowed to keep his own TARDIS. I think that this observation does hold merit but I also think that in some ways we need to cut it some slack, as it was a very enjoyable watch.

The Christmas special was the 15th's first full episode and debuted his latest assistant Ruby Sunday. The Christmas special introduces both of them in a fun and interesting way. The episode includes a new antagonist created purely for the episode which is a welcome change from the recent trend of Doctor Who to resort to old villains like the Daleks to try to get nostalgia points.

I think that the Christmas special and 60th anniversary episodes are very fun and worth the watch.

Cooking with George

Spaghetti bolognese – british version

Ingredients:

For 5 people

* *optional*

- 300 – 500g your choice in mince / mince alternative
- 2 large or 3 small onions
- 1 courgette *
- 1 aubergine *
- 9 chestnut mushrooms
- 1 whole pepper
- 1 carton tomato passata
- 1 can of chopped tomatoes
- 2 or 3 carrots *
- 1 tbsp tomato puree
- Assorted spices
- spaghetti

Instructions:

1. Put a large saucepan on the hob on a medium heat with a small amount of neutral oil in the bottom and a knob of butter to melt.
2. Wait until the butter is sizzling then add your choice of mince to cook as you're finely chopping the onions.
3. When the mince is cooked add the onions.
4. Chop the courgette and/or aubergine into slices or small pieces then add to the saucepan.
5. Chop up the peppers and mushrooms then add them too.
6. You can add the tomato passata now. If you don't feel like there is enough bolognese then you can add a can of chopped tomatoes or a couple of grated carrots.
7. When you think that there is enough bolognese add a squirt of tomato puree, and your choice of spices. My spice

mixture consists of: dried basil, oregano, italian seasoning, kashmiri chilli flakes, paprika, nutmeg and ras el hanout.

8. When you are fifteen minutes before you want to serve tea then you can set the water to boil and cook your spaghetti to the instructions on the packet.
9. Serve to your liking with parmesan or an other cheese of your specifications.



Puzzles

Riddles

Easy - What goes up but never comes down?

Medium - Where do you take a sick boat?

Hard - What has many keys but can't open a single lock?

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

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

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{Basketball} - \text{Ping Pong} \times \text{Basketball} = -135 \\
 \text{Tennis Racket} + \text{Basketball} \times \text{Tennis Racket} = 210 \\
 \text{Ping Pong} - \text{Ping Pong} \times \text{Tennis Racket} = -164 \\
 \text{Basketball} \times \text{Tennis Racket} \times \text{Ping Pong} = ?
 \end{array}$$

Last Issue's Answers

Riddles: **Easy** - Lunch and dinner, **Medium** - Teapot & **Hard** - The match.

Visit Our Website!

Hello! As you may have known, Millthorpe News actually has its own website!

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.

All this is available at:

sites.google.com/millthorpe.southbank.academy/millthorpenews

Or for after school use only:

Scan the QR code:



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Writers

Y10 - Freddie Newton

Science & Environment News Writer
and Main News Writer .

Y10 - William Bradley

Around the World Writer & Main
News Writer.

Y10 - Alex Lawson

(Not in this issue)

Y10 - George Moir

Writer and graphic designer

You can be here!

Email or ask a member of our team to join.