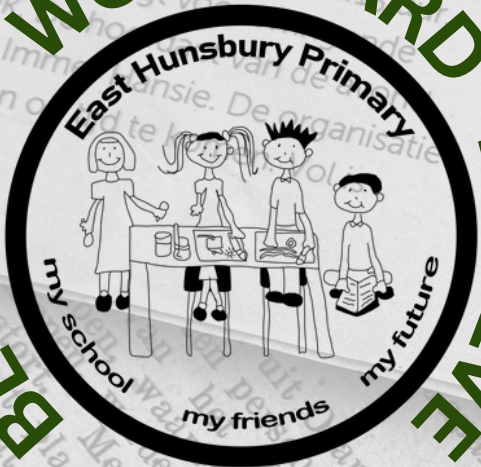


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IN THE

**SPOTLIGHT**

YOUR WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

The weekly newspaper for children

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# Conker Controversy!

This year's World Conker Championships had a surprising twist! David Jakins, also known as 'King Conker', won the men's competition after 40 years of trying. But some players thought he cheated by using a metal conker instead of a real one. Mr Jakins, who is 82, said the claims are not true. 'It's impossible to cheat at conkers – it's a load of nonsense,' he said. Event organiser, Jim Packer, agreed, saying, 'Somebody's a sore loser, I think.' Mr Jakins explained that he carries a metal conker to make children laugh by letting them try to break it. 'Their conkers always break, and they

can't believe it!' he said. Even with the drama, Mr Jakins proudly took home the 'King Conker' title. The overall winner was Kelci Banschbach, who became 'Queen Conker'.

***Will you be collecting conkers this autumn?***

***Why not challenge your friends to a game of conkers?***



Pictured: Conker collection. Source: Canva.

# Northern De-Lights

People in the UK have been treated to some incredible light displays this year as the northern lights have been visible across the country. The lights, also called the aurora borealis, could be seen as far south as London, which doesn't happen very often. The northern lights are created when tiny particles from the Sun mix with gases in the Earth's atmosphere, making beautiful colours like pink, green, and purple. This year, there have been more sightings in the UK because of special activity on the Sun. Professor



Pictured: Northern lights display. Source: @SpaceHumanity on X.

Sean Elvidge, who studies space, said, 'It's been the best year for seeing the northern lights in a long time. We might see more in the coming months!'

***Have you ever seen the northern lights?***

## Why do people give gifts?



*People offer gifts as an act of kindness, care and love.*

**Obinna**

# Royal Navy Rescue

Six rare turtles, that were blown off course by a storm, have been returned to their original habitat thanks to the Royal Navy. Royal Navy patrol ship, HMS Medway, assisted in the repatriation of six loggerhead turtles, called Jason, Gordon, Perran, Hayle, Holly and Tonni! The turtles were thousands of miles away from home when they were rescued and nursed back to health by carers at Newquay Blue Reef Aquarium and Anglesey Sea Zoo. HMS Medway was able to transport them back to their home in the Azores, during its transatlantic crossing on the way to the Caribbean.



**Pictured:** The turtles being returned to their natural habitat by the HMS Medway. **Source:** HMS Medway on X.

‘As professional mariners, many of us are keen to do what we can to reduce the loss of biodiversity at sea,’ said Rod Jones from the Royal Navy. ‘Encountering marine wildlife is one of the great joys of seafaring and if we can assist, even in a small way, to make that more likely in the future we are pleased to be able to do that. Assisting turtles to return to warmer waters may not be the Royal Navy’s primary role but as a government body we are very pleased to be able to support the UK’s ambition for more healthy and diverse seas.’

**What do you know about loggerhead turtles?**



# Journey to Jupiter!

A NASA spacecraft has launched from Florida on a mission to find out whether Jupiter’s icy moon, Europa, could support life. The Europa Clipper weighs nearly six tonnes, measures 30m long, 17m wide, and is the largest spacecraft NASA has ever built for a planetary mission. The US space agency mission successfully launched aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket from Kennedy Space Centre. This marks the start of a six-year, 1.8-billion-mile journey to find out whether Jupiter’s moon has everything needed to support life. ‘There is very strong evidence that the ingredients for life exist on Europa. But we have to go there to find out,’ said Bonnie Buratti, the mission’s deputy project scientist. Jupiter has 95 officially-recognised moons! Europa, the fourth largest, has

a vast global ocean of salty liquid water, 40-100 miles deep, beneath its up-to-15-mile icy shell. NASA explained, ‘The mission’s three main science objectives are to understand the nature of the ice shell and the ocean beneath it, along with the moon’s composition and geology. The mission’s detailed exploration of Europa will help scientists better understand the astrobiological potential for habitable worlds beyond our planet.’

**Do you know any facts about Jupiter and Europa?**

**Would you like to journey into space?**



**Pictured:** Europa Clipper mission successfully launching aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket from Kennedy Space Centre. **Source:** NASA on X.

## Why do people give gifts?



People give gifts to show love and kindness towards other people.

**Ella**