

## **A quantum leap in Aussie computing; the NFL touches down on the Gold Coast; a cat's Californian adventure; and Wednesday Addams is in print.**

Hello and welcome to Squiz Kids Today ... your fresh take on what's happening in the world around you.

I'm Christie Kijurina

It's Wednesday May 1

In Squiz Kids Today ... A quantum leap in Aussie computing, the NFL touches down on the Gold Coast; a cat's Californian adventure; and Wednesday Addams is in print.

That's what's making news, kid's style...

### ***THE LOWDOWN***

-----

Imagine being able to predict exactly when it's going to rain, or creating special medicines just for you, or even controlling traffic lights so well that traffic jams just disappear. Sounds like something from a sci-fi movie, right? Well, it might not be as far off as you think!

That's because the Australian Federal and Queensland Governments are putting a whopping one billion dollars—yes, that's billion with a 'b'—into building the world's first supercooled, warehouse-sized, useful quantum computer right here in Queensland!

So, what's a quantum computer, you ask? Well, unlike regular computers, which work like a light switch that can only be on or off, quantum computers have weird quantum light switches that can be on, off, or both at the same time! This special ability is called "superposition."

Quantum computers also have something called "entanglement." It's like having invisible strings connecting puzzle pieces together. If you move one piece, another piece moves instantly, no matter how far apart they are! This helps quantum computers solve big puzzles super fast.

And here's the big news: this project isn't just about cool tech. It's expected to create 400 new jobs and bring in billions in investments. And by 2040, Australia could be a world leader in this tech, creating

hundreds of thousands of jobs and earning billions for the economy. You could say we'll be quantum leaps ahead.

## ***SPIN THE GLOBE***

-----

Each day we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops, and today, we've landed in California, in the United States, by way of Utah which is two states, or a 12-hour road-trip away. That's the journey that was taken recently by one house-cat with a taste for travel, Galena.

Do you have a cat, or know someone who does? If they're anything like Galena, they probably can't resist a good cardboard box. Am I right? Well, while Galena's family were busy packing up a box of boots to return to an Amazon warehouse, little Galena decided it was the perfect spot for a cat nap. Before you could say "meow," she was unknowingly taped up and shipped off!

After days of searching high and low with no sign of their beloved cat, Galena's family got a call from a vet in California.

Some warehouse workers had opened that box to find a very hungry, thirsty but safe Galena inside. They took her to a vet, who thanks to her microchip, contacted her family and they immediately hopped on a plane to come and get their travelling torty.

This story literally gives a whole new meaning to the idiom "to let the cat out of the bag"... or box.

## ***SPORT TIME***

-----

With the Olympic Games now only 86 days away, opportunities are springing up all over the place for Australia's future sports stars.

First up, gymnastics is back in the spotlight thanks to Georgia Godwin, a super Aussie gymnast setting a high bar by aiming for the Paris Olympics. After clinching the gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and dominating national championships for years, Georgia is a testament to where hard work and passion can take you. With her leadership, the Australian team is stronger than ever and hoping to shine in Paris.

And secondly, the NFL is making a touchdown on the Gold Coast with the launch of a new academy for teens aged 12 to 18. The National Football League or NFL is the name of the major professional American Football, or Gridiron, league in the United States. This academy will not only help young hopefuls hone their football skills but also give them

access to a top-notch, high-performance facility that's under construction and due to finish by 2026. Recruitment camps start soon. I've stuck a link with the details in the episode notes if you want to show 'em what you've got!

## ***POP CULTURE CORNER***

-----

Things are busy over here in pop culture corner this week. Firstly, the amazing pop superstar Billie Eilish is coming back to Australia next year! She's planning a big tour with 12 shows in Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne. Billie, who is just 22 years old, won an Academy Award for her song "What Was I Made For?" in the Barbie Movie, and has even snagged nine Grammys! Her tickets go on sale this Friday, so if you're a fan, don't miss out!

And guess what else? If you love the mysterious Miss Wednesday Addams from the Addams Family, you're in for a treat this July! There's a whole series of new books coming out about her. There will be a colouring book for the little ones, a special Golden Book, a young adult novel for the older kids, and even a cookbook! Although, I'm not sure you'll find what you need for her porcupine cupcakes or jellyfish flambe at the regular supermarket!

## **CHALMERS Q+A (from end of pod)**

-----

Remember last term, when we asked you to send in questions for a Squiz Kids Q+A with Treasurer Jim Chalmers? You all outdid yourselves with some fantastic questions - and we're excited to say that the podcast will be dropping [drumroll] next Tuesday - as the Treasurer prepares to deliver the Federal Budget. What's his favourite music? Why are his toenails painted? And is it nerve wracking making decisions on how to spend the country's money? All will be revealed. Keep a lookout for the special Q+A in this channel next Tuesday.

## ***THE S'QUIZ***

-----

This is the part of the podcast where you get to test how well you've been listening ...

1. Which type of computer are the Australian Governemnt investing in in Brisbane?

2. What do the initials NFL stand for?
3. How many shows will Billie Eilish be performing in Australia in 2025?

## **SHOUT OUTS**

---

It's May 1st ... School Principals' Appreciation Day in the United States, but I think we can celebrate it here too. If you see your Head of School today, why not give them a high-five or a fist-bump and thank them for all they do.

It's also a special day for the following Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today...

Maya (pronounced Myer) from Cobbitty, Owen from Castle Hill, Aadya from Doncaster, Izzy from Duffy and Isaac from Holland Park.

Belated shout outs go to... Jules from Craigieburn and Judah from Reem Island in Abu Dhabi.

Classroom shoutouts today go to... class S3I with Mr Stewart at King Street Public School in Singleton, year 3 with Mr Rixon at Quirindi Public School, 4/5 class with Mrs Duley at Jannali Public School, class 3M with Mrs Edwards at St Christopher's Catholic Primary School in Holsworthy, class 5/6P with Miss Lewis at Millfield Primary School, class 2CM with Mrs McCormack at Trinity Anglican College in Thurgoona, class 5B with Ms Biddlecombe at Fairfield West Primary School and lastly to class 6B with Mrs Murdoch at St John the Baptist Primary School in Maitland.

### **The S'Quiz Answers:**

1. A quantum computer
2. National Football League
3. 12

Don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you want a shout out - or if you want a classroom shout out - drop us a line at [squizkids@thesquiz.com.au](mailto:squizkids@thesquiz.com.au) or fill out the form on our website. Teachers: there's a form there too for you to fill out the birthdays of every kid in your class.

Well - that's all we have time for. Thanks for listening to Squiz Kids Today - we'll be back again tomorrow.

In the meantime, get out there and have a most excellent day. Over and out.