

Fake news fans trouble in UK; Antarctica's spinning iceberg; Kamala picks a running mate; and water found on the Moon.

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

I'm Bryce Corbett

It's Thursday, Aug 8 ...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Fake news fans trouble in UK; Antarctica's spinning iceberg; Kamala picks a running mate; and water found on the Moon.

THE LOWDOWN

Well, will you look at that? Squiz-E the Newshound has joined us at the top of today's podcast (SQUIZ-E HOWL) — and that's because he's sniffed out a case of fake news and misinformation that has captured the attention of the world.

You may have seen or heard on the news this week the riots that are happening in England.

It's all because of misinformation - and a great lesson on why we should never believe everything we read on social media.

Lots of damage has been done to lots of buildings, shops have been looted - which means people have smashed windows and stolen things - police have been attacked by mobs of angry people and a group of refugees have been targeted after fake news reports - or misinformation - circulated on social media.

It all began when posts began to appear on social media in the hours after a serious incident at childcare centre, claiming the person responsible had recently arrived in England as a migrant and that he was Muslim.

Neither of these things were true, but enough people believed it and became angry and without bothering to check if it was true, took to the streets.

They failed to do what Squiz-E is always telling us: and that's to Stop, Think + Check before believing everything we see, read or hear online.

Just because you see something written on a website or Instagram or Facebook or TikTok doesn't mean it's true. Because unfortunately, there are plenty of people out there who have plenty of reasons to try to trick us - and the internet has made it really easy for them to do that.

Thanks Squiz-E - what would we do without you?

And if you're a teacher or parent and are keen for your kids to learn to Stop, Think and Check - check out Newshounds - our free media literacy program for primary school kids - via squizkids.com.au - we're here to help ..

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 the United States - where a man called Walz has been anointed to potentially become the second most powerful person in the country.

I'm talking US politics people .. alright, alright ... don't nod off .. stay with me - because this is important.

A woman called Kamala Harris is going to be taking on Donald Trump at the upcoming US Presidential elections in November - and yesterday morning she chose as her running mate, a fella called Tim Walz.

He's a former school teacher from the state of Minnesota, who used to coach footy and lived and worked in China for a bit and loves going hunting but wants tighter gun control laws.

You can take this to the bank ... with the big election coming up in a couple of months and the battle lines now drawn - things are only going to get more interesting ...

WEIRD SCIENCE

And so to Antarctica ... brrrrr where thanks to some truly freaky science, the world's largest iceberg is in a spin.

The iceberg, called A23a, is twice the size of the city of London and weighs over a trillion tonnes - that's trillion with a T. The berg - which was slowly making its way north into warmer waters where it would gradually break apart - has been sent spinning on the

spot by something called a Taylor's Column - which is a naturally occurring circular current that's a little bit like a whirlpool you might make in your backyard pool - but on a massive scale.

And so, scientists expect the iceberg could now sit there slowly spinning for anywhere up to four or five years - maybe longer.

Isn't science incredible? And isn't the world a remarkable place?

SPACED OUT

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On the subject of amazing scientific discoveries - there was much excitement yesterday in star gazing circles after it was announced that soil samples retrieved from the surface of the Moon contain water.

You might remember we've talked about the various missions to the Moon as different countries work out whether or not it's possible to set up a permanent Moon base for humans to live in.

The fact that one of the Chinese moon rovers brought back to Earth samples of moon dirt that contained water molecules means plans to establish a permanent research base up there for scientists to live and work in just took a leap towards becoming a reality.

BOOK WEEK PROMO

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(ADULT SCREAM) Ahh yes ... do you hear that? That's the sound being made by parents all over Australia as they realise Book Week is fast approaching - and they haven't yet worked out their kids' costumes for the parade ..

Well - because we love Book Week as much as the next parent - we're launching a competition for the best outfits. All you have to do is take a photo of your Book Week outfit, and upload it to your mum or dad's Instagram account with the hashtag, SquizKids or by tagging us, @ [Squiz Kids](#)

Thankrrs to our friends at Allen+ Unwin, we've got some super-cool book packs to give away to the best outfits. And teachers: we've got a prize for the best dressed teacher too.

Book Week starts on Monday August 19 - but we're taking entries from now until the end of the big event. So don't just sit there - get glue gunning already!

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. What's the name of the massive iceberg in a spin in Antarctica?
2. Tim Walz was yesterday named as the vice presidential running mate of which US presidential candidate?
3. Water has been found on the moon thanks to a moon rover sent there by which country?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Thursday, Aug 8... today is International Cat Day ... so if you have a feline, give it some love and affection today. I mean, it probably won't care, or if it does care, it won't let you know .. but give it a go nonetheless. Ah h, cats ...

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today... Ween from Rochedale, Millie from Cheltenham, Pranita from Thurgoona and Theodore listening over in London, England.

A belated shoutout goes to... Steele from Chinchilla

Today's classroom shoutouts go to... class S3L with Mrs Lubina at Hebersham Public School, class Marri with Mrs Bassett-Scarfe at Como Primary School, class 2B with Miss Bennett at Kahibah Public School in Lake Macquarie, class 6C with Mrs Kelly at Ripley Valley State School, class 6A with Mrs Patterson at Mount Crosby State School and Katrina and Stephen Flynn who are homeschooling from Hazelbrook.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. A23a
2. Kamala Harris

3. China

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 or fill out the form on our website.

Well - that's all we have time for. Thanks for listening to Squiz Kids Today -We'll be back again tomorrow with the Weekly Kids v Adults News S'Quiz...

And don't forget, speaking of the Games, every morning of the Olympics we'll be bringing you the Squiz Kids Olympic Sprint — a quick catch up on what's been happening in Paris while you've been asleep.

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