

Youngest Aussie pollie ever; NSW win State of Origin; Squiz E vs the snakes; and meet the new Harry Potter.

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, May 29 -

In Squiz Kids Today ... Youngest Aussie pollie ever; NSW win State of Origin; Squiz E vs the snakes; and meet the new Harry Potter.

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

THE LOWDOWN

On the night of the recent Federal Election, a young woman from South Australia called Charlotte Walker was blowing out the candles on her 21st birthday cake.

Fast forward a couple of weeks, and she's now become the youngest person ever to be elected to Australia's Federal Parliament.

Charlotte learned of her new job on Tuesday afternoon - after all of the votes had been counted in the Senate ballot.

If you've listened to the Squiz Kids special series on civics - that explains our system of government - you'd know that the Senate is one of two houses in which politicians sit in Canberra ... there's the House of Representatives - and then there's the Senate. Of course, neither of them are actual houses. They're both just great big meeting spaces, inside Parliament House in Canberra - where politicians that we have elected gather to make decisions about how to run the country.

Which is something that young Charlotte will be doing now that she's a Senator.

The previous youngest Senator was another South Australian, called Sarah Hanson-Young - from the Greens Party. Charlotte is a member of the Labor Party - which is the

party of the Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese - the one that won the most recent election.

So .. if you thought politics and Canberra were just for old people - think again. And then get planning - because by my calculation, you've got about ten odd years to get there - and maybe break Charlotte's record and become an even younger member of parliament.

Oh - and I've stuck a link in our episode notes today to our special civics podcast series .. have a listen - it's loads of fun.

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 Kingdom ... where shooting has begun on a brand new Harry Potter TV series. (CHEER)

I know right? How exciting! That means every single twist, turn, golden snitch, hippogriff, quidditch match, battle with three-headed dog, goblin, glass of butterbeer or face off with You Know Who will be captured for the small screen for us to spend hours and hours and hours gawking at.

And yesterday, the three lucky kids who have been picked to play Harry, Hermione and Ron were announced - three kids from the United Kingdom called Dominic McLaughlin, Arabella Stanton and Alastair Stout - who I have a sneaking suspicion are about to become superstars.

These three were chosen from a group of some 30,000 kids who put their hands up to audition for a role in the series. What the what??

Filming is expected to begin in the next couple of months - with the series expected to be released sometime next year.

Wingardium Leviosa!

SPORT TIME

They went in favourites and came away with the win - as the NSW Blues were just too strong last night against the Queensland Maroons - taking a one-nil lead in the best-of-three State of Origin series.

The full-time score board showed 18-6 to NSW - but it didn't really reflect just how dominant the Blues were - despite Queensland team of young guns putting on a brave show for their home crowd.

It's the first time since 1997-98 that the Blues have gone back to back at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane - which is normally a fortress for the Cane Toads - as the Queensland team is known.

Goal kicking was definitely the other loser on the night - with hardly any of the attempts at goal - by either side - crossing between the posts.

And so: the competition now moves to Perth for Game 2 on June 18. State versus State, mate versus mate - and footy is always the winner on the night.

NEWSHOUNDS

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Every Thursday, Squiz-E the Newshound sticks his snout into Squiz Kids HQ to report back on fishy things he's sniffed out on the internet ... and today his nose is twitching after seeing a video circulating online of a river full of anacondas.

The reptile experts among you will know the anaconda is a famously enormous snake renowned for capturing its prey and squeezing them to death before eating them.

I know right ...gross.

And this video - which I've stuck a link to in today's episode notes - shows a helicopter flying over the surface of a river which has more snakes than you can poke a ladder at.

Except the video is not real. Yes, its been viewed more than 10 million times on X and Facebook, and shared many hundreds of thousands of times too - but it's not real, and is the result instead of some clever AI video creation.

And that's why Squiz-E is your best friend whenever you find yourself online. Because he knows we've always got to ... say it with me ... Stop, Think and Check before believing everything we see online - because there are plenty of people out there who want to trick us.

It's also a good reminder to have a word to your teacher and get them to sign-up to a free Newshounds account - and join the 4,500 primary school teachers who have already started teaching media literacy to their students. Check it out at squizkids.com.au

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. How old is Charlotte Walker, Australia's youngest ever parliamentarian?
2. How many kids put their hands up to audition for a part in the new Harry Potter TV series?
3. What sort of snakes were featured in the fake video that Squiz-E sniffed out this week?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Thursday, May 29 ... today is World Otter Day ... which is so cool - because I feel like otters might just be the coolest animal on the planet. Happy World Otter Day you cute little critters.

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today.... Emmett from Pascoe Vale, Noah from Langwarrin, Sage from Richmond Lowlands, Ryan from Camden, Parker from Deebing Heights, Abram from Wagga Wagga, Luther from Canberra, Dolev from Chatswood, Sam listening over in Hong Kong and May listening over in Bangkok Thailand – and a special shout out to Joy Quinn and all of Year 3 with Mrs O'Kane at Inglewood Primary School in Perth - AGAIN .. and yes, I know Christie did this already yesterday - but I promised Joy's dad I would do it - so you get two bites of the cherry because I'm just a little bit disorganised this week.

A belated shoutout goes to...Yet from Pymont and Jackson from Lower Tent Hill

Classroom shoutouts go to ... class 3 Redgum with Mrs L at Salisbury Park Primary School in Adelaide, class 5K with Miss Klemke at Koorinal Public School in Wagga Wagga, class 1W with Miss Lucy at Trinity Gardens School, Mr Gate's class at Killarney Heights Public School, class 3/4N with Mr McKenzie at Minchinbury Public School.

And don't forget next week we will be announcing the winner (s) of Bryce's virtual classroom visit... So if you haven't already submitted a classroom shoutout request, now is your chance..

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. 21
2. 30,000
3. Anacondas

Otherwise ... don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you want a shout out - or, if you're after 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

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