

Record Aussie team heads to Tokyo; Croatia's really long strudel; blood moon in the skies; and who wants a Halloumi McMuffin?

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 Monday, September 8 -

In Squiz Kids Today ... Record Aussie team heads to Tokyo; Croatia's really long strudel; blood moon in the skies; and who wants a Halloumi McMuffin?

THE LOWDOWN

Do you like running races? Sprinting down the school oval at recess to see who's the fastest? What about hurling a discus? Or attempting the high jump? Maybe you're a secretly talented pole vaulter. Or maybe, like me - you just like to watch.

Well - this is the week for you as preparations are finalised for the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo which kick off on Saturday.

And in a sign of how popular athletics have become - and how good we are at the many different events - Australia will be sending its biggest team ever to this year's championships.

In what will come as a surprise to approximately no one - all eyes are going to be on our teenage running sensation Gout Gout - the 17 year old from Ipswich near Brisbane who is being compared to the world's fastest man, Usain Bolt - and who will be taking part in his first ever senior Australian team.

Another first: all five of our national relay teams have qualified for the championships - which is incredible.

And Nicola Olyslagers will also be jumping for gold ... fresh from winning a high jump comp last week, the double Olympic silver medallist is looking to out leap her 2 metre 4cm jump record and bring home a gold medal.

Matt Denny will be chucking the discus, Jess Hull has qualified for not one but two middle distance running events and Rohan Browning and Torrie Lewis will be looking to recreate some of their Paris Olympics form.

With 88 Aussies slipping into the green-and-gold - it's the biggest team we've ever sent to an international athletics meet.

So - look - with a home Olympics in Brissie only seven years away - now might be the time to set your sights on perfecting that long jump or start practicing your hurdles. Maybe just check with mum and dad though before using the broom handle to practice javelin in the backyard ..

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 Croatia ... where the world's longest strudel has just been assembled.

What's a strudel? It's a yummy apple and sugar and pastry dessert - popular in Germanic and Eastern European countries - shaped a bit like a flag log.

Stretching over 3 kilometres, the strudel set a new Guinness World Record - a record, you'd have to think isn't attempted all that often.

So - what exactly goes into a 3 kilometre long strudel?

According to organisers, that would be two tonnes of flour and three tonnes of apples - all of which went into making more than 8,900 individual strudels which were then lined up end to end.

And what happened to the strudel once it was measured? It was cut and up and given away to local charities to feed locals in need. Now that's what I call a win-win.

And don't forget .. if you love a Guinness World Record - we did an excellent shortcut on them last week - find it in your podcasting app or on our website.

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Anyone out there like Maccas? Yes ... well I thought so. And as a special-sometimes food, there's nothing like a burger and fries .. and we're not alone.

According to a new book about how Maccas has spread around the world - the golden arches now has some 42,000 stores in more than 100 countries serving about 65 million people a day.

And the book - called McAtlas - details how the incorporating local cuisine into the menu has contributed to Ronald McDonald's world domination.

From the ski-thru burger windows in Sweden to spicy paneer wraps in India and McBaguette in McDonald's in France - the burger chain - according to the author - makes sure to give locals a little bit of what they already know and love.

It's why you can get a McRaclette in Switzerland or an egg bulgogi burger in South Korea and a Halloumi McMuffin in Jordan.

Because as I am always telling my kids: variety my friends - even if it is in a McHappy Meal - is the spice of life ..

SPACED OUT

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If you were awake at about 3am this morning and happened to roll over in bed and look out your window - you would have been treated to a very special sight in our night's sky.

And that's because overnight there was what's called a 'blood moon' - or total lunar eclipse - which is what happens when the Earth's shadow completely covers the Moon, and the Moon's surface turns red.

It's a pretty amazing sight .. and relatively rare .. the last one happened three years ago ... but don't worry if you missed it ... you'll get another chance in March when there will be another total lunar eclipse ... and then an even more spooky solar eclipse - which is when the sun is blacked out for a minute or so - in 2028.

Isn't the universe just incredible?

PROMO

* Bryce to insert here a generic promo for Planet Warrior series commencing early next term

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. In which country have they just baked the world's longest strudel?
2. In which city, the capital of Japan, will the World Athletics Championships take place on the weekend?
3. In which country can you pick up a McBaguette with your Maccas order?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Thursday, September 4 ... today is MTV Music Awards day in the United States ... get ready for all your favourite pop stars hitting the red carpet in Long Island USA and some epic music performances ...

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Ned from Coolamon, Matilda from Ivanhoe, Rocco from St Clair, Henry from Sydney, Joy from Mernda, Rockwell from Sydney, Xavier from Forest Lake, Akitha and Wesley from Lyneham, Elliot from Brisbane, Jarvis from Kallangur, Poppy from Wagga Wagga and Teddy from Ferny Grove.

Belated shoutouts go to...

Classroom shoutouts go to... class 5/6J with Mr Jago at Devonport Primary School, grades 4/5/6 with Miss M at Goornong Primary School, years 5 and 6 with Miss H, Mrs Holmes and Miss Briggs at Emerald State School and all the students at Livingstone Primary School and happy birthday wishes to Miss Vantarakis.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. Croatia
2. Tokyo
3. France

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 a special Squiz The World episode on Italy ... strap yourself into the Squiz Kids Super Fast, Supersonic Jetliner as we visit the country of pasta, leaning tower of Pisa, Michelangelo and Monza. It's got it all ...

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