

Good news for Gaza; Venezuela's peace prize winner; Diamonds netball clean sweep; and Tay Tay's record breaks a record.

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, October 13 -

In Squiz Kids Today ... Good news for Gaza; Venezuela's peace prize winner; Diamonds netball clean sweep; and Tay Tay's record breaks a record.

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

THE LOWDOWN

And it's a welcome back to Term Four of the Aussie schooling year - did you have a good break? Yeah - us too — it's fantastic to be back in all of your ears!

And we start the new school term with some good news about how by taking care of the environment, threatened species can be brought back from the brink.

This week in a place called the United Arab Emirates, loads and loads of conservationists and scientists whose job it is to look after our planet are gathering for a big meeting.

They're discussing the state of the world's biodiversity .. which is to say, how the many wonderful species of animals and plants on our planet are going. And there's plenty of red flags for plenty of species.

But the good news: populations of the green sea turtle around the world have stabilised after we humans decided some 30 years ago to take extra special care of their ocean habitats and nesting sites - in places like Brazil, Mexico and Hawaii.

The result? The population of green sea turtles has grown by 28% in that time - meaning they're no longer an endangered species.

Proof that when we put our minds to it - everything is possible.

You're going to hear a lot today and tomorrow about something called a ceasefire in a place called Gaza ...

So what does it all mean?

Hopefully it means that the two year-old fight between the country of Israel and the militant organisation Hamas has come to an end.

You'll remember we've spoken before in the pod about how these two warring neighbours have been fighting over land in the Middle East - and most specifically a place called the Gaza Strip - home to millions of Palestinian people.

All going well - later tonight our time - a ceasefire will take effect, prisoners and hostages will be swapped, and both sides of the conflict will work towards a lasting peace.

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 Venezuela ... a country that sits at the top of the continent of South America.

And the reason we've landed there is because that's the home country of this year's Nobel Peace Prize winner.

What's the Nobel Peace Prize? It's only one of the most famous, important prizes in the world - awarded to the person who has done the most to try to achieve peace or promote harmony in the world. Someone who - sometimes in the face of great personal danger - has what we call the 'courage of their convictions' to stand up to critics and opponents and try to make the world a better place.

And this year's winner - announced at the weekend - is Maria Corina Machado - the opposition leader of Venezuela - who was last year banned from running in the

presidential elections there despite being massively popular - because the man running the country does not want to give up power.

And while that might sound surprising: that happens around the world much more than you might think. Which means when you live in a democracy - like ours - where the people's vote is more powerful than any one individual - it's something never to be taken for granted.

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SPORT TIME

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It's been forty years since the Diamonds, Australian women's netball team, lost a game in Adelaide ... and yesterday afternoon they kept the record clean, beating South Africa and taking out a clean sweep in the international series.

The Aussies hang on to their world champion status beating the Proteas 65 goals to 42. Go Diamonds!

There was news from the NRL too - with the name of the Papua New Guinea team being revealed.

From 2028, the Papua New Guinea Chiefs will join the competition, with their home ground in the PNG capital of Port Moresby.

The team name Chiefs was announced yesterday by PNG's Prime Minister- as a nod to the many tribes that make up the country just to Australia's north.

POP CULTURE CORNER

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So what's been happening in the world of entertainment while you've been on holidays .. oh not much ... only the biggest album launch of the last ten years AND the arrival on the pop culture radar of Huntr/x's real life singers.

I'm talking of course about Taylor Swift - who, you'd have to have been living under a very large rock not to know that she's released a new album called Life Of A Showgirl - and it's totally taken over TikTok dance trends - i'm practicing Opalite as we speak - AND along the way has become the biggest album launch since power balladeer Adele's album '25' was released back in 2015.

Within the first week of it being released, The Life Of A Showgirl sold 3.5 million copies ... which is just wild.

Almost as wild as the reception that K-Pop Demon Hunters' real life pop-stars EJAE, Rei Ami, and Audrey Nuna are receiving since hitting the promotional trail these past two weeks.

The South Korean singers are the voices of Huntr/x - the all-girl group that slay the demons in the Netflix movie that has swept the world. And they've been doing a couple of live performances - notably for US late night TV shows - that have had fans begging them to form their own real-life k-pop group and start touring. That would indeed be Golden ..

Q+A CALL OUT

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Let's kick this school term off with a Squiz Kids Q+A with a difference.

Our next guest in the Q+A hotseat is a man called Milton Dick ... he's what is called the House Speaker in Federal Parliament in Canberra ..

He's the bloke you see on the TV news at night - sitting in the big chair in the middle of all those shouty politicians during Question Time - doing his best to make sure everyone plays nicely.

But here's the thing .. he's finding it harder and harder to get our politicians to play by the rules.

He's all for disagreement - but only if it's done in a respectful way.

And this is where he needs your help.

He's looking for new things to say to our Federal politicians to keep them in line. And he reckons there's no one better than Aussie kids to help him out.

Send in your suggestions of what Milton should say to our politicians when things get heated in the House of Reps. He'll choose the best ones and read them out in an upcoming session of Federal Parliament - and read out your name too!

It might be something your parents say to stop you fighting with your siblings, or something your teacher says to turn the classroom from chaos to calm ...

Send your suggestions via email to squizkids@thesquiz.com.au.

PLANET WARRIORS PROMO

They're fun, they're fierce and they're on a mission.

Strap yourselves in kids and get ready to meet PLANET WARRIORS ... a super-connected bunch of superheroes who will be flying into Squiz Kids' ears starting tomorrow.

There's Rocky, the geothermal genius, Blaze the solar energy supremo, Gust the wind energy wonderkid and Flo - the tidal energy titan.

Each one is blasting towards an exciting future where all your devices, your homes and classrooms are powered by renewable energy.

Part science and technology podcast series, part rampaging romp into a world of cheeky superheroes - Planet Warriors drops tomorrow and will run for the next six weeks on this very podcast channel.

And teachers: be sure to check out the Squiz Kids website for curriculum-aligned classroom worksheets tied to each episode.

Because ... we like to give.

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. On which continent is the country of Venezuela located?
2. Which singer has Taylor Swift toppled in the charts since selling 3.5 million copies of her new album?
3. Which marine mammal has seen its population increase in the wild by 28 percent in the last 30 years?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Monday, October 13 ... it's the first day back at school for kids in NSW, South Australia, Tassie, WA and NT ... welcome back to week two Victoria and Queensland .. just think, it won't be long before it's Christmas ... aggggh!

Today's also a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Riley from Yass, Mia from Indooroopilly, Ella from Hamilton Hill, Rosie from Belmont, Yan-Shin from Canberra, Maddie from Tennyson, Cary from Wavell Heights, Stella from Watson, Jaxon from Woodcroft, Isaac from Drummoyne, Zali from Wagga Wagga and Terence from Minto.

And because lots of you had birthdays over the school holidays, and we don't want anyone to miss out—we'll be catching up on all the belated shoutouts this week, starting with...

Grace from Vermont South, Cady from Springvale, Hayley and Teo from Exeter, Rachel from Lakes Entrance, Bella from Burnett Heads, Rebecca, Trent and Austin from Forest Hills, Sadie from Ogunbil, Indi from West Albury, Francis from Wahroonga, Elijah from Lugarno, Oliver and Ruben from Eglington, Alice from Yass, Harrison from East Lindfield, Kate from Peregrine Springs, Emi from the Gold Coast, Charlie from Roseville, Gideon and Paisley from Lake Macquarie, Noah from Adelaide, Victoria from Indooroopilly, Bronson from Windsor and Ava listening over in Engelberg, Switzerland and Mu'adh listening over in Abuja, Nigeria.

Classroom shoutouts will resume next week.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. South America
2. Adele
3. Green sea turtle

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 the first episode of our new series, Planet Warriors!

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

