

Heatwave sweeps the east; Kangaroos shape up for Ashes; AI Summaries under a cloud; and 6-7 gets ready for Halloween.

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, October 23-

In Squiz Kids Today ... Heatwave sweeps the east; Kangaroos shape up for Ashes; AI Summaries under a cloud; and 6-7 gets ready for Halloween.

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

THE LOWDOWN

Did you get a little hot under the collar yesterday? Or perhaps you were blown sideways by extreme winds? Welcome to spring time in Australia - where wild weather has become the new normal.

Sydney sweltered in temperatures usually seen in the middle of summer yesterday - with the mercury climbing to 39 degrees in some places - while down south in Victoria, a low pressure system was pushing a cold front across the state bringing with it destructive winds that had emergency services on alert.

Fire crews were on alert across NSW yesterday as hot winds tore across the state in the afternoon - sparking fears the bushfire season may start early this year.

Get this ... The weather bureau was yesterday saying we're on track to clock the hottest October since records began ... phew-eee.

And Queensland - don't you sit there looking smug ... it's your turn today. With forecasters predicting the hot air will move north today and send temperatures in the Sunshine State skyrocketing up into the mid-30s in Brisbane and the South East.

And up into the high forties in the Queensland outback where the town of Birdsville already experienced the hottest October day on record with a blistering 46 degrees.

Aye carumba ...

Stay indoors, stay hydrated, ... I'll be in the pool if you need me ...

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 the 6-7 craze has invaded a popular burger chain.

Yes, alright ... you know it was only a matter of time before I said 6-7 on the podcast .. and yes, I know it's sending you kids into a spasm of excitement and sending your teachers and parents into a vortex of despair ... but bear with me.

The popular In n' Out burger restaurant in America is being filled with excited pre-teens, ordering their food and then waiting excitedly - phones at the ready - to record the moment when the dude or dudette behind the counter reads out the order number... you guessed it .. 67.

And adults: if you thought this was a trend that was about to disappear - think again.

New data out of the United States indicates searches online for a '6-7 costume' for Halloween are at an all time high.

Yes, fellow big people — we might need to weather this six-seven nonsense for a little while longer yet. But take heart: the internet has given kids notoriously short attention spans ... this too will pass ..

SPORT TIME

Just when you thought NRL had disappeared from the sporting calendar, and all sporting roads now led to cricket - comes one more weekend of footy action ..

I'm talking about the Australian Kangaroos - the mens' national rugby league team - who are in England as we speak and preparing to take on the English at Wembley Stadium in London this weekend.

Reece Walsh has been named as fullback for the first game to air here at 11.30 Saturday night - snatching the jersey from Panther Dylan Edwards. And the Brisbane Bronco will be joined on the paddock by two fellow Broncs - and first time Kangaroos - Gehemat Shibasaki and Ktoni Staggs.

But in case you thought England was the venue for all the NRL action this weekend - think again .. with Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane playing host on Sunday to an almighty clash of the Pacific Islanders When Samoa takes on Tonga. Some of the biggest names in footy will run out representing their homeland - including Robert Toia, Sione Katoa and Addin Fonua-Blake for Samoa - and Blaize Tailagi, Jarome Luai and Brian To'o for Tonga.

Game on!

NEWSHOUNDS

—

Every Thursday, Squiz-E the Newshound pops his head into Squiz Kids HQ to report back on fishy things he's sniffed out on the internet – and this week, he's kicking back in a deck chair, with sunglasses on his snout, sipping on a mocktail - because it's Media Literacy Week - and all the heavy lifting is being done for him this week.

And because he's letting his friends do the work for him this week, we're going to point you in the direction of an excellent episode of Behind The News - which has produced a 30 minute Media Literacy Special - the link is in the episode notes.

One of the stand outs from that episode? When a bunch of school kids are given a set of questions to research on the internet .. and the discovery that the AI Summaries that are increasingly common when you do a web search these days, are very often wrong.

The motto? Stop, Think and Check - which are the three things that Squiz E tells us to always do whenever we're online. Check that the information AI Summaries is giving you - or ChatGPT or any of those chatbots for that matter - is actually correct. Get out your Newshounds magnifying glass and dig a little deeper - look for links to reliable sources.

And teachers: if you're keen for your kids to develop critical thinking skills to better prepare them for a digital life: jump on into our free media literacy program - Newshounds - via the Squiz Kids website. Nine 30 minute podcast sessions with classroom workbook, a full teacher guide - it's the perfect Term 4 activity ...

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 burger joint where teens are crowding to hear 6-7?
2. What's the name of the outback Queensland town where temperatures climbed to 46 degrees this week?
3. Which other Pacific Island nation will Samoa take on in the Pacific Cup footy this Sunday?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Thursday, October 23 ... today is World Snow Leopard Day ... which is ironic, given how hot it's going to be ...

Today's also a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today...

Eric from Exeter, Abigayle from Curramulka, Charlie from Ringwood, Eden from Launceston, Rhys from Windale and Madelyn listening over in Minnesota, USA.

Classroom shoutouts go to... Class 5B and Mrs K at Holy Spirit Catholic School in Kurri Kurri, class 3W with Mrs Mackie and Mrs Mackenzie and class 1L with Mrs Tidey and Mrs Williams both from St Phillips Christian College in Waratah and class 5/6F with Ms Fox at St Colman's Catholic School in Home Hill.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. In 'n Out Burger
2. Birdsville
3. Tonga

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 Adults vs Kids Weekly Quiz.

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