

**New rules for Roblox; AFLW footy finals kick off; Squiz-E sniffs a cricket fake; and
Buddy the owl takes off.**

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, November 20 -

In Squiz Kids Today ... New rules for Roblox; AFLW footy finals kick off; Squiz-E sniffs a cricket fake; and Buddy the owl takes off.

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

THE LOWDOWN

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There are big changes to Roblox on the way - with new rules set to be introduced preventing kids from talking online to people who are older than them.

I have a sinking feeling many of you are familiar with Roblox ... with 150 million people playing the online game every single day - there's a better than average chance you're aware of it.

As part of new government rules cracking down on social media platforms - Roblox will now enforce something called 'facial age estimation' - which means the game will guestimate how old you are by looking at your face - and only allow you to interact with people your own age.

It's all about protecting kids from stranger danger .. and making sure that any contact you have with people you don't know on Roblox is with people who are the same age as you.

From next month, users will be placed in one of several age groups - under nine, nine to 12, thirteen to 15, sixteen to 17, eighteen to 20, or 21 and over.

It's all part of the teen social media ban - new laws making it illegal for social media platforms to allow kids under 16 to be on them ...

The laws kick in on December 10 ... and we'll have more information about what it all means, closer to the date ...

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 England ... where bird watchers have been told to be on alert for an owl who flew the coop ...

Buddy is an eagle owl ... a massive bird with a wing-span of five foot ... which is to say, when his wings are outstretched - from wing tip to wing tip is about the same size as your average 14 year old kid ... yikes ...

Buddy has spent most of his life in an enclosure in a wildlife park in the English countryside - but keepers came to feed him the other morning to discover the lock on his gate was busted and Buddy was gone.

No doubt popped out on an adventure - to stretch his wings and maybe go and visit cousins somewhere ... Eagle owls are really good hunters ..

Tell you what .. I wouldn't want to be a mouse in England countryside right now ... Gulp.

SPORT TIME

Footy fans ... it's time to get excited.

And that's because it's AFLW finals season ... with a big weekend of footy action coming your way.

And the question seems to be ... who's going to stop the red-hot Roos from going back to back?

I'm talking about the North Melbourne Kangaroos, who go into the preliminary finals this weekend as favourites to claim the premiership.

Hoping to stop them will be the Brisbane Lions - with all of Brisbane crossing their fingers that the home team can bring home another trophy to add to the Lions' mens premiership cup, plus the premierships that were taken north to the Sunshine State by the Brisbane Broncos mens' and womens' teams.

As we reach the pointy end of the comp - there are only four teams left.

North Melbourne face the Melbourne Demons in the first of the games this Saturday afternoon in front of a Melbourne home crowd, followed in the evening by the clash between the Lions and Carlton at the Lions' home ground in Brisbane.

May the best teams win ..

And while we're talking all things sport: it's a big day for cricket lovers tomorrow - when The Ashes begins - with the bowling of the first ball at Perth's Optus Stadium around 10.20 local time ... Settle in for a long summer of cricket folks ..

NEWSHOUNDS

Every Thursday, Squiz-E the Newshound sticks his snout into Squiz Kids HQ to report back on fishy things he's sniffed out online ... and today, with The Ashes cricket competition about to begin, he's been knocked for six by a piece of disinformation he's stumbled upon on social media.

There's a famous Aussie cricketer called Adam Gilchrist .. he played for Australia in the 90s and early 2000s - and is widely considered one of the best wicketkeeper/batsmen to pull on a baggy green ..

He's never involved himself in politics or world affairs - but then curiously, in the past week, a series of posts on social media claiming to be written by Adam Gilchrist make some pretty inflammatory comments about a recent bomb attack in India.

Inflammatory is a fancy word for likely to make people angry.

Except the social media accounts are fakes. They are people pretending to be Adam Gilchrist – trying to make it seem he has said things he never said.

And sadly: that's all too easy to do these days. And it's why we need to always do as Squiz E the Newshound tells us, and that's to STOP, THINK and CHECK before believing everything we see online.

And teachers: if you're looking for a fun, stimulating end-of-term activity to do with your kids - why not join the more than 5,000 classrooms around Australia who have already signed up to do Newshounds - our free media literacy course for primary school kids .. the perfect activity before the social media ban kicks in ..

QTT PROMO (FOR WED + THURS PODS)

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Today's the day folks ... the first ever Squiz Kids Question Time Takeover podcast drops today.

We sat down with House Speaker Milton Dick and put to him suggestions you had sent in on things he might say or techniques he might use to calm noisy politicians during the often shouty Question Time part of Federal Parliament proceedings.

From cheeky interjections, to tried and true classroom techniques - your suggestions were excellent - and Milton goes through the top ten in the pod.

And the best bit? He was so impressed, he's going to try and use some of them in an upcoming sitting of Parliament ... how good is that?

If you're listening on an app - keep listening at the end of this podcast and it should play automatically .. or hop on over to our website and find it in the Evergreens - Q+A drop down menu.

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. What sort of an owl is Buddy, the owl on the run in England?

2. What's the name of the Aussie cricketer caught in a social media fake?
3. Which team is currently favourite to win the AFLW premiership?

SHOUT OUTS

It's Thursday November 20... big night for Aussie music tonight as the ARIA Awards take place in Sydney ... and a big day for witches too - as the Wicked sequel hits cinemas today ...

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

Evelynn from Paraburdoo, Archie from Brisbane, Mia from Kurri Kurri, Emily from Doncaster, Linken from Pakenham, Niamh from Box Hill, Matthew from Marsden Park, Allegra from Clairvaux and Emily from Kyle Bay -

And a special shout out to Keeve and Cree from Calwell in the ACT ..

Belated shoutouts go to...

Classroom shoutouts go to... Year 4 with Ms Perry at the Australian Christian College in Singleton, class 5B with Miss Beaumont-Jones at Knox Grammar Preparatory School in Wahroonga, class 2AC with Andy at Clairvaux Catholic School in Geelong and classes 5TQ and 5DH with Miss Quinn and Mr Ham at John Henry Primary School in Pakenham.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. Eagle owl
2. Adam Gilchrist
3. North Melbourne Kangaroos

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 weekly Adults vs Kids Quiz

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