

Day 3 – practising the skill

12. WORLD NEWS

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USA



Dead Sea deception

This week, 16 fragments thought to be from the Dead Sea Scrolls were found to be fakes. After months of re-testing, the Museum of the Bible has announced that the pieces are likely to be made of ancient leather and the Hebrew on them was written in modern times, but carefully made to look like the real scrolls. The real Dead Sea Scrolls are ancient religious manuscripts that were discovered in 1946 in caves in the Middle East, close to the Dead Sea. They are thought to be more than 2,000 years old and contain some of the oldest-known biblical writing in the world. The Museum of the Bible bought the fragments for millions of pounds.



BRAZIL



Ecosystem collapse

Scientists have said that large ecosystems could collapse sooner than originally thought. A report in the science journal Nature Communications says that the Amazon could become "a savannah-type ecosystem of trees and grass in only 49 years" (a savannah is a flat grassland with trees spaced out very widely). Computer simulations and real-world data from 40 natural environments found that once these ecosystems reach a "tipping point", they can quickly collapse.

USA



Is this a cow-nvict or a ref-moo-gee?

Police in the town of Pembroke Pines, Florida, are asking for help to track down an escaped cow. Officers released a wanted poster for the 'unknown cow', which was described as: "Brown with a white head. Faster than it looks. Talented fence jumper. Enjoys pools." As First News went to press, the bovine fugitive was still on the loose.

WANTED UNKNOWN COW



RUSSIA



More power for Putin

President Putin could stay in charge of Russia until 2036, after the country's ruling party, United Russia, announced it would back a change to Russian law. At the moment, the law bars Putin from running for more than two terms in a row (12 years). But Putin has asked Russia's constitutional court if it is legal for him to change the constitution (the laws of a country that set out people's rights).



WEST AND EAST AFRICA



African adventures

Star Wars actor John Boyega (above), has signed a deal with Netflix to develop film projects focused on West and East Africa. Netflix said that it is thrilled to be creating movies focused on Africa, which will "bring unique African stories to members in Africa and around the world".

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO



Epidemic ends

The last Ebola patient in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has been discharged from hospital. The disease has killed more than 2,200 people in the country, since this outbreak began in August 2018. Health workers were seen dancing to celebrate the end of the epidemic. "This is very good news," said World Health Organization boss Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.



OUR WORLD

NAME: TAIJUAN LIVES: LONDON

TO FIND OUT MORE, GO TO
WWW.SPORTRELIEF.COM

TAIJUAN is a Year 9 student looking forward to his future.

He loves football and dreams of playing professionally. When he first started secondary school, Taijuan struggled with his behaviour. But things improved when he started attending Football Beyond Borders. The organisation uses football to build trust and break down barriers between kids from neighbouring areas of south London, thanks to funding by Comic Relief.

Taijuan says taking part has helped him be a better student at school and his behaviour has improved dramatically.

COMIC RELIEF



1. Read the text

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2. Answer the retrieval questions in your book:

- A. What year could President Putin be in charge of Russia until?
- B. Which parts of Africa will John Boyega focus making films on?
- C. When did the Ebola outbreak begin in the Democratic Republic of Congo?
- D. Find and copy the phrase that tells you what a savannah is.
- E. How many fragments were thought to be part of the Dead Sea Scrolls?
- F. Write down 3 facts about the cow that escaped in Florida.
- G. What does Taijuan say helped him become a better student?
- H. Which organisation helped pay for Football Beyond Borders?