



Number ten

Earth Hour 2021, what's new this year?

March/ April

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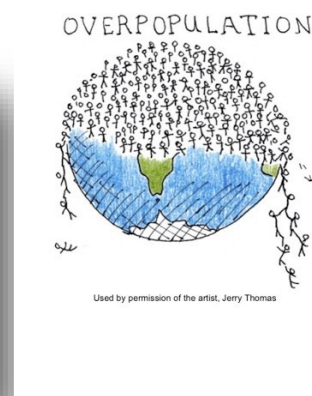
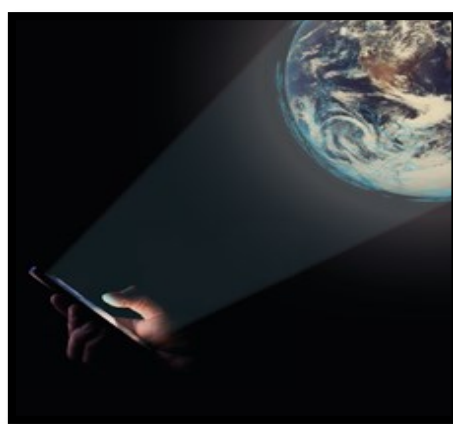
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A magazine created by students for students...

Festivals and Celebrations

Earth Hour



The event is held annually encouraging individuals, communities, and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights, for one hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on a specific day towards the end of March, as a symbol of commitment to the planet.

It started by WWF and partners as a symbolic lights-out event in Sydney in 2007, Earth Hour is now one of the world's largest grassroots movements for the environment. Held every year on the last Saturday of March, Earth Hour engages millions of people in more than 180 countries and territories, switching off their lights to show support for our planet.

But Earth Hour goes far beyond the symbolic action of switching off - it has become a catalyst for positive environmental impact, driving major legislative changes by harnessing the power of the people and collective action.

Earth Hour is open-source and we welcome everyone, anyone, to take part and help amplify our mission to unite people to protect our planet.

2021: The year that counts

2021 presents an unmissable opportunity for change. In 2021, world leaders will come together during key global conferences and forums to set the environmental agenda for the next decade and beyond. Crucial political decisions will be made on climate action, nature, and sustainable development — decisions that will directly affect the fate of humanity and our planet for years to come.

With your support, Earth Hour 2021 could be a spotlight moment that puts nature at the center of international conversations. Together, we can speak up and show world leaders and other decision-makers around the globe that nature matters and urgent action must be taken to reverse nature loss.

Our first-ever Earth Hour "Virtual Spotlight"

Over the years, the lights-off moment saw entire streets, buildings, landmarks, and city skylines go dark - an unmissable sight that drew public attention to nature loss and the climate crisis.

This year - amidst the current global circumstances - in addition to switching off your lights, we also invite you to raise awareness and create the same unmissable sight online, so that the world sees our planet, the issues we face, and our place within it, in a new light.

👉 How? It's simple. On the night of Earth Hour (March 27), we'll be posting a must-watch video on all our social media pages - **and all you have to do is share it.**

https://youtu.be/hvBsgfn_cvY

🎧 Our goal is simple: put the spotlight on our planet and make it the most watched video in the world on March 27 (or beyond!) so that as many people as possible hear our message.



Festivals and Celebrations

Celebration of World Water Day 2021 – Valuing Water



On 22 March, 2021, World Water Day was celebrated in an online event. The World Water Day celebrates water and raises awareness of the global water crisis, and a core focus of the observance is to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030.

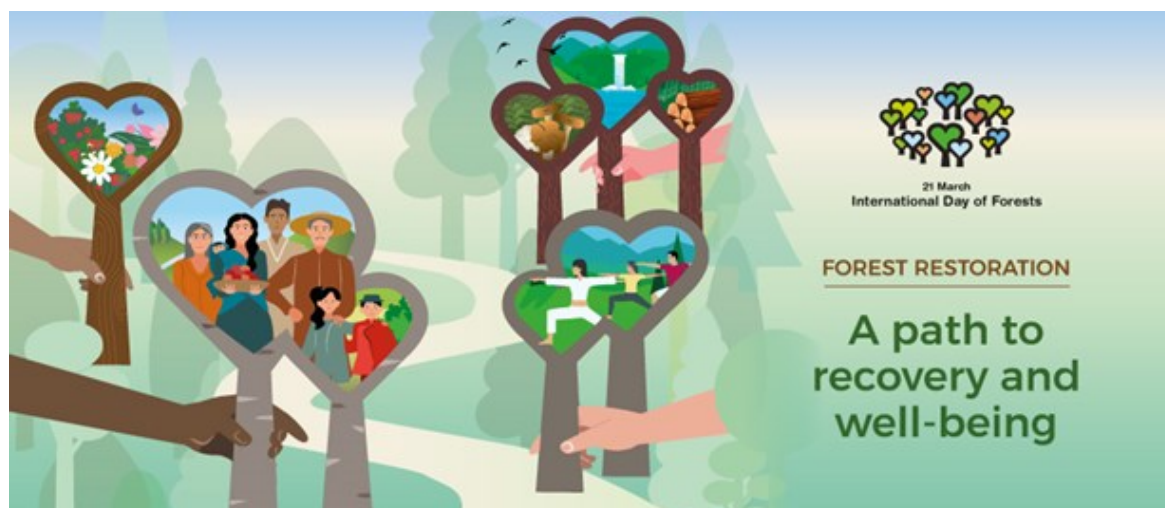
The theme of World Water Day 2021 is valuing water. The value of water is about much more than its price – water has enormous and complex value for our households, food, culture, health, education, economics and the integrity of our natural environment. If we overlook any of these values, we risk mismanaging this finite, irreplaceable resource. SDG 6 is to ensure water and sanitation for all. Without a comprehensive understanding of water's true, multidimensional value, we will be unable to safeguard this critical resource for the benefit of everyone.

On the day itself, the United Nations World Water Development Report is also released, focusing on the same topic as the campaign and recommending policy direction to decision makers.



The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21 March the International Day of Forests (IDF) in 2012. The Day celebrates and raises awareness of the importance of all types of forests. On each International Day of Forests, countries are encouraged to undertake local, national and international efforts to organize activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns. The theme for each International Day of Forests is chosen by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. The theme for 2021 is "Forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being".

👉 To celebrate the day watch and share the International Day of Forests video 2021 (English, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish).



Festivals and Celebrations

What will the Queen do on Easter?

EASTER is this weekend, but with lockdown ongoing, most families will be planning a pared-back celebration. So what about the Queen? The Queen usually spends Easter in Windsor, staying at Windsor Castle.



Earlier this month, Buckingham Palace announced Trooping the Colour, the Queen's official birthday celebration, will be cancelled for the second year in a row as the coronavirus pandemic continues impacting the lives of everyone. But when it comes to Easter, how much will the Queen have to sacrifice?

This year, however, the Queen has received her covid vaccine, so she might try to attend church. Other than church on Easter Sunday, the Queen usually spends the holiday privately with family.

She distributes Maundy Money each year on the Thursday before Easter Sunday, which will still happen this year.

However, in usual times she travels to a different cathedral across the country to hand out special coins to men and women in recognition for their contribution to their community and church, which won't take place in 2021.

Parks were opened but visitors were being asked to observe social-distancing measures



Special News

Vaccine Passport

The discussion of COVID-19 vaccine passports has risen as more of the world gets vaccinated. Vaccine passports are certificates or digital cards testifying to the apparent low-risk status to their holders.

Greece is the most noticeable country in an effort to revive travel with the help of so-called vaccine passports that are gaining traction in tourist-reliant economies from the Caribbean to Thailand. Businesses that have suffered a yearlong battering from the pandemic are also coming as a route to salvation. Airlines have supported a number of tech solutions to verify passengers' Covid vaccination or test results.

However, none of the available shots is 100% effective which means that travellers with vaccine passports could possibly continue to spread the virus in crowded resorts. Questions are also surrounding the fairness of vaccine passports, which would favour richer nations over poorer ones where vaccination has only just begun. Also, the passports would open up travel to the elderly and middle-aged who have been prioritized for vaccination.



Fashion Companies and the Environment

The fifteen largest fashion companies are falling short when it comes to meeting the social and environmental targets of the 2016 Paris Climate Agreement.

Brands were scored out of 100 in their progress towards meeting 16 targets relating to emissions, waste, workers' rights, water, and materials. Companies ranked based on transparency of their practices and the average score for the 15 big companies was 36 points. On average, waste and workers' rights were the companies' biggest downfalls.

The fashion industry is under increasing pressure from consumers and governments to clean up its act, and according to statistics, it is responsible for at least 4% of global greenhouse gas emissions. According to reports, more than 70% of consumers regard sustainability when making a purchase.

Special News

Meghan Wins

- Meghan Markle won 630,000 dollars as a provisional payment towards her legal costs after she won a privacy claim against the Mail on Sunday paper. The paper printed extracts of a letter that Markle wrote to her father.
- The 39-year-old Duchess of Sussex sent the handwritten letter to her father, Thomas Markle, in August 2018, following her marriage to Prince Harry. The wedding took place in May that year; however, Mr. Markle didn't attend it. Extracts from the letter appeared in a double page spread in the paper and, according to a High Court judge, the publication of the letter was manifestly excessive and unlawful.
- The duchess is speaking of 2 million dollars in legal fees with half the amount to be paid within fourteen days; however, the paper has described the sum as disproportionate.



David Attenborough UN Speech

Sir David Attenborough addressed the United Nations Security Council on Tuesday, stressing the dangers of climate change on global security.

Attenborough is an English broadcaster and natural historian, and in 2020, he was named among the 100 greatest Britons.

In 2019, he narrated 'Our Planet', an eight-part documentary series, for Netflix. Attenborough told the UN council that it was too late to avoid climate change and that the poorest and most vulnerable people are certain to suffer.

According to Attenborough, the most significant lesson brought by the last 12 months has been that we're no longer separate nations looking after our own needs and security. We are a single truly global species whose greatest threats are shared and whose security must come from acting together in the interests of us all.

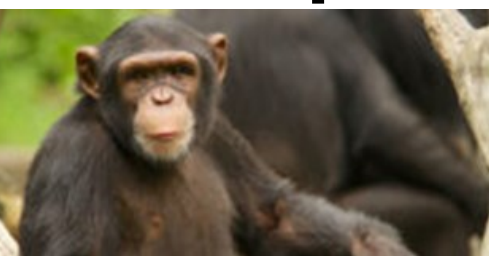


Chimp Knocks Down Drone

A drone flew in the skies above a chimpanzee enclosure at a zoo in the Netherlands, as it tried to take footage for a TV show.

Program makers had hoped to capture the enclosure from above, but another camera caught the moment that a chimp hit the aircraft with a stick. It looked like it is not just humans who are concerned about their privacy.

As the drone approached, the chimpanzee was perched on a branch. The chimp then lashed out with a stick and scored a direct hit. The aircraft fell to the ground and the chimpanzee wandered over for a closer look. Once the chimp got hold of the camera, it captured a video selfie.



Special News



Queen makes first public appearance of 2021

The Queen has made her first public appearance of the year outside Windsor Castle, to mark the centenary of the Royal Australian Air Force.

The monarch said she was "delighted" to attend the service at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Air Forces Memorial in Runnymede, Surrey.

The Queen was last seen in November, at the Cenotaph in London for Remembrance Sunday.

It has been two weeks since her husband, Prince Philip, left hospital.

At the ceremony, which began with a flypast by the Red Arrows, the Queen paid tribute to the "skill and sacrifice" of the RAAF.

Sending her "best wishes and congratulations" to the RAAF, she wrote in a foreword to the order of service: "Throughout my reign, the Royal Australian Air Force has shown immense dedication to duty and has defended our freedom in many conflicts around the world."

More than 350,000 men and women have served in the RAAF since its formation in

1921. They have fought in conflicts ranging from the Second World War to Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Wednesday's event was the fourth royal engagement the Queen had attended outside the walls of Windsor Castle since the pandemic began.

The Queen has taken part in a number of virtual royal engagements via video call during the pandemic, while a number of high-profile events have been staged in Windsor Castle's grounds.





This month is all about making teens' voices heard. They wrote about the charity Population Matters and Happiness. Send in your ideas and opinions and you might appear in the next month's magazine. Thank you!!!

Population Matters



Population Matters

As years go by, we have been watching humanity consume more natural resources than our planet ecosystems can renew in that same year. Along that rate, our population is increasing every year at the speed of light, and in order to meet our demand, human activities are changing and destroying our ecosystems. To my point of view, that is where the British charity Population Matters comes in handy, by campaigning in favour of reducing the number of children a couple has.

Deforestation, biodiversity loss, the immeasurable usage of disposables, greenhouse gases and climate change are, to name a few, some of the reasons why planet Earth could say we are not really making a brilliant job down here. Nevertheless, the great environmental elephant in the room is human overpopulation. Every day we sum 227,000 more people to the planet, adding "fuel" to this existent climate change "fire". This organization is having a considerable impact on discouraging families to exceed two offspring.

However, I believe that the headquarters of the institution are in the wrong place. We should focus on the root of the problem, developing countries, where the fertility is way high than in Britain. Countries like this are the poorest on Earth, even though the average family still has an average of eight kids. A lack of trained teachers, inadequate learning materials, makeshift classes and poor sanitation facilities make learning difficult for many children - and education is and will be the solution for this problem.



Population Matters



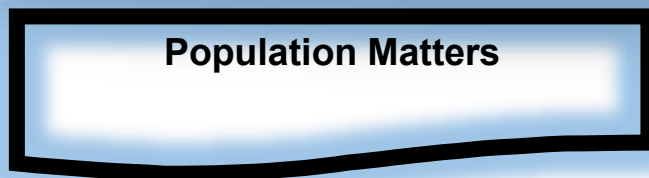
Population Matters

Ultimately, the existence of an association whose aim is to fight climate change should be praised and encouraged.

A.T.11°SE2



**for a
sustainable
future**



Population Matters

Due to the increasingly high amount of global population growth every year and people's mindset that resources are unlimited, soon there won't be enough means to fulfil everyone's necessities. As far as I'm concerned that's where the Charity Population Matters and one-child families come in handy.

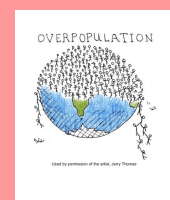
In general, it's believed that overpopulation hence overconsumption are two of the world's biggest issues. That's why Charity Population Matters could be extremely helpful as their purpose is to only provide support to families with two children. That way, people will feel discouraged to have more than two kids since they'd have no benefits whatsoever and, consequently the world's population would drop.

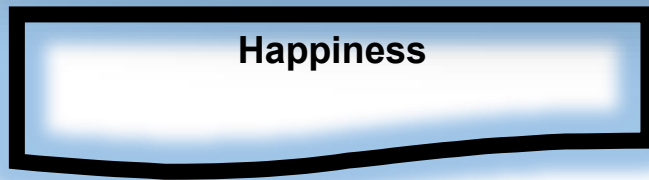
If on the one hand, parents decide to have a large family, this will likely result in many confrontations and conflicts between siblings along the years. Examples of such conflicts could be the constant search for attention, the belittling of siblings, where one is smarter or less intelligent than the other.

On the other hand, parents could organize themselves better and dedicate more time, not spoiling, to help in the development of their child's independence and responsibility as a future contributing citizen.

Ultimately, some things need to change in order to avoid overconsumption and the extinction of resources, starting by reducing the number of children per family to one or, at most, to two. But, overall, before taking drastic measures, perhaps we could all go back to basics and learn to spend less, waste less to save on the resources that remain.

S. P. 11°SE2



M. S.11^oLH3



Happiness

Throughout our life, we pass through many stages of mind. There are times that we feel really sad and times we feel on the top of the world.

However, like the quote mentions we should accept sadness, because when we accept it, we start to understand what real happiness feels like.

Normally, what makes me happy is reading. I love to enter in other worlds where I can be another person and just forget about my problems. That is also by reading that I overcome sadness.

Music and movies also make me happy. I must admit that buying new things makes me happy too, but I am trying to change that habit.

What makes me sad is a real difficult thing to say. I mean, there are specific things that make me sad like bullying or homeless people. I hate to see every type of bad treatment towards the people who cannot defend themselves. The pressure that people usually put on me, expecting me to be the perfect girl with the perfect grades and attitudes makes me real sad and anxious too because, above all, I am human and sometimes people seem to forget that.





Happiness

Frequently, I am the positive person on the group, trying to see the best in everything and always expecting the best from everyone and hyping up my friends. However, there are times that I just cannot be positive, and I enter in a bad mood, where I cannot see the hope at the end of the tunnel but, in the end, the sun always shines again.

To conclude, I can say that happiness and sadness are very hard to describe, and it is different for everyone. We should respect the feelings of the others because we never know what is really happening in their lives.

M. R.10°LH3



POETRY

CORNER

Being a Teen

They say be yourself
but not like that

They say tie your hair up
No, put your hair down

They say don't eat too much
You wouldn't want to look chubby
But then you don't eat enough
You look too skinny
What's the problem?
Tell me, are you anorexic?
Or are you bulimic?

Dress up, but don't dress up too much
And of course you can love yourself
But baby, don't show it
You wouldn't want people to think
that you are full of yourself
You can be shy, but don't be too shy
You want people to know your name, right?
"But why? Why they have to know my name?
They don't know me anyway."
And honey, try to smile
Don't you want to look pretty?

By the way you should put some make up
But don't put too much

Put just enough

Although you will never be enough
Because you may look good
but you will never be flawless
You will never look perfect

Because, darling
If you have blonde hair and blue eyes
They say you would look better
with dark hair and brown eyes
And if you aren't pretty perfect, don't worry
You can always get some plastic surgery
Lip fillers and nose jobs may work
Oh, and if your waist isn't thin enough
Don't worry, you can always take one or two pair of
ribs

Although they protect your lungs
You don't need all of those bones to breath
And of course it's going to hurt
But don't you want to look pretty?
So make an effort

Natural beauty may be better
but this kind of beauty no longer exists
People are too busy trying to look like Barbie
So they forget to be unique
Because being unique and being pretty
doesn't mean the same thing
Being pretty nowadays

POETRY

CORNER

means being in pain

It means crying almost everyday

So go ahead and cry

Because being pretty

means being in pain

Because beauty today

is looking to the mirror

wishing to be born again

But this time in the right way

In the perfect body

with the perfect face

By Giovanna Sturm

11°LH2

