



## Don't give presents, please plant trees

King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, the "Dragon King" of the Kingdom of Bhutan, recently celebrated his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday. Instead of gifts, he asked the people of Bhutan to honour the occasion by either planting a tree, adopting a stray animal, or cleaning up their neighbourhood. Bhutan, a tiny country situated between China and India is said to be the world's most eco-friendly country. It is carbon neutral, has a constitution that says 60% of the country must be forest and has set a Guinness World Record for planting the most trees in one hour! The King and Queen have asked the people of Bhutan to plant trees to mark happy occasions before. In May 2016, when they had a baby, they asked each household to plant a sapling, resulting in more than 108,000 trees being planted.

*Would you like it if people planted trees for your birthday?*



*Pictured: King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck of the Kingdom of Bhutan, taken from Prime Minister of Bhutan's Twitter page.*

## Why dogs have cold noses revealed



*Pictured: A typical dog.*

Researchers from Sweden and Hungary think they have solved the mystery surrounding why dogs' noses are so cold. Experts studied three dogs, Kevin, Delfi and Charlie, who are able to detect very faint heat sources with just their noses. The tip of a dogs' nose, called the rhinarium, is filled with lots and lots of nerves and can sense heat sources from a distance. This study revealed the phenomenon is down to their sniffers serving as ultra-sensitive heat detectors, able to detect the presence of weak heat sources, such as small mammals, from over 1.5m away. They said the dogs can detect heat sources too weak to be felt by human hands! The scientists also scanned the brains of 13 dogs to see how they responded when exposed to a warm object compared to one kept at room temperature. The part of the brain connected to the dogs' noses lit up when exposed to the warmer object but not the cooler one.



## Prawns into biodegradable plastic



Pictured: Angelina Arora, with the biodegradable plastic she invented using prawn shells, taken from @jdgroundswell Twitter page.

An ingenious Australian Student has turned waste product, prawn shells, into biodegradable plastic wrap. Angelina Arora says, "The dream is to basically have every single plastic in the world made out of my plastic." The new material is flexible, durable, insoluble, and transparent, making it the perfect alternative for common plastic packaging. It has been recently reported that it will degrade in landfill in 33 days or as prawn exoskeletons are rich in nitrogen, the used product could be useful as a fertiliser to farmers. The remarkable innovation has earned Angelina the BHP Science and Engineering Award, and last year she was named the Australian Geographic Society's Young Conservationist of the Year. The 17-year-old also hopes to adapt her bioplastic for use as packaging for medical supplies.

## Your thoughts on the news...

I think if we didn't have weather reporters it would be very hard. But sometimes they get it wrong because the other day they said it would snow, but it didn't, so I was very mad.

Isabel – Age 9



Very important because if we get flood warnings we can be prepared and get sandbags.

Nathan Donohue -  
Age 11

You should always know the weather forecast because you should know what to bring so you don't get a cold.

Zach - Age 7

What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)  
to share your thoughts!

So, then we can plan ahead our day and when we do go out, we pack the right clothes.

Grace Millington - Age 10



YOUR COMMENTS

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