

NO KIDDING!

For boys and girls aged 7 to 11

Number 3 • January 1997

Morse Code has
helped to save lives...

Answer our questions • and win a Bike! • Conductors • Dogs • Elections • Family
Concerts • Get your skates on! • Houses of Parliament • Ideas for machines • John
Major • Kings • "Larry Leech" • Morse Code • Nelson Mandela • Orchestras • Prizes
• Queens • Radio • Spot the mistake • Titanic • United States of America • Verrucas
• Wicked uncles • eXciting competitions • Your problems • Zoom in...

WIN

tickets to a February concert with the London Philharmonic Orchestra for your family...

5 lucky winners can take up to 2 other children and 2 grown-ups with them to the Family Concert with the London Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall on Sunday 9 February at 11.30am.



Just send your name, address, 'phone number, age and school name on a postcard or back of an envelope to



No Kidding! Concert,
Freeport Lon6868,
PO Box 10427,
London N8 8BR
by Tuesday
4 February.



The first 5 names drawn out of the hat on that day will be the winners! We'll 'phone you on the evening of Tuesday 4 February to give you time to invite your friends, and the tickets can be collected from the London Philharmonic Orchestra information desk (on level 2) at the Royal Festival Hall on the day of the concert, Sunday 9 February.

The concert will be introduced by conductor Bramwell Tovey who will talk about the music played by the London Philharmonic Orchestra. Tickets to Family Concerts cost £3.50 for children and £7 for grown-ups.

For more information or to book tickets ring 0171 546 1666 Monday to Friday between 10am and 5pm

Turn to page 19 to find out what our tester team of children thought about a Family Concert at the Royal Festival Hall.

No Kidding!
is edited,
designed and
produced by
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Here are some of
the children we met
when we visited
Wormholt Park Juniors
in Hammersmith
and Fulham.

PHOTOS: MYKEL NICOLAOU



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all the people
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who have
advised and
helped.

Competitions
are only open
to junior school
pupils. Winners
of competitions
will be notified
by post and
their names may
be used in future
issues of
No Kidding!.
Competitions
are not open to
children of
directors of
GibsonOrrSmith
or contributors
to No Kidding!.

Thanks to all of you who
have written to us to tell
us what you think of the
magazine!

Keep writing to
No Kidding!,
Freeport Lon6868,
PO Box 10427,
London N8 8BR.



On the cover are Juanita
Headley, 10, who goes to
Latymer All Saints
Juniors in Enfield and
Lyndon McGuckian-
Fripp, 7, who goes to
Queenswell Juniors in
Barnet.

Inside, you'll also see
pictures of Yasmin Barracks,
10 (Rokesly Juniors in
Haringey); Teon Beaubrun, 10
(Martin Juniors in Barnet);
Francesca East, 8 (Christ The
King Juniors in Islington);
Laura House, 10 (Rokesly
Juniors in Haringey); Rebecca
Hurrell, 10 (St Monica's RC
Juniors in Enfield); and
Rachel Miner, 10 (Sacred
Heart RC Juniors in Barnet).
If you'd like to be in No
Kidding!, write to us and
make sure you include your
name, age, address and
'phone number – and your
school's name.

Machines for your school

Look at some of the machines you
invented to help you at school **page 2**

Would you like to be in charge of grown-ups?

Find out about children your age who
became kings and queens **page 4**

Are you the right person to look after a dog?

Your problems, your advice **page 7**



Mysterious verrucas

What are they and how do you get them? **page 8**

Who is the right person to run the country?

Find out about government and a general election **page 10**



Send a message to your friends in Morse Code!

What is Morse Code,
who invented it and why? **page 13**

Win a Raleigh bike!

Just tell us what you think about No Kidding! **centre**

Find the United States of America

The No Kidding! wordsearch **page 16**

Who stands in front of an orchestra and waves a stick around?

A conductor – but what does a conductor do?..... **page 18**

Going to a Family Concert

What our tester team of children thought **page 19**

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..... **page 20**

On the shelf

Good books to borrow from your local library **page 21**

What happened on 14 January 1814 in London?

Interesting dates from the past **page 23**

Get your skates on!

...and learn to play skater hockey **page 24**

Life in St Lucia

Around the World visits the Caribbean **page 25**



Meet "Larry" leech!

.... he can be a best friend in hospital **page 26**

Competitions

Win computer games,
books, a football
game or a special
Morse Code torch.



MACHINES THAT CAN HELP AT SCHOOL!

We asked you to invent a machine for your school that can think for itself!

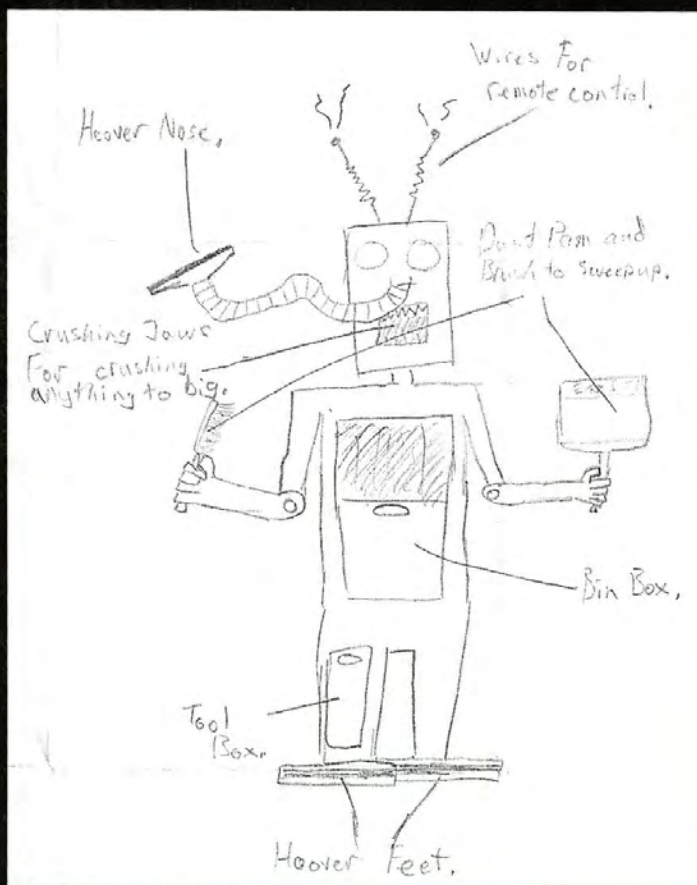
Thank you for all the entries to the competition in the last issue of No Kidding!

There's a computer game from Europress in the post for the winners.

Here are some of your ideas...



Design by Clara Chinnery, age 8,
Muswell Hill Juniors, Haringey.
"Being hurt in the playground."



Design by Clement, age 9,
Downhills Juniors,
Haringey.
"The Rubbish Robot
Machine."

Design by Emma Obichukwu, age 10,
Wilbury Primary, Enfield.
"A Fold-up Tennis Court, 2 tennis rackets and
6 tennis balls."

"This fold-up tennis court and 2 tennis rackets and 6 tennis balls kit is so easy to pack away and so easy to unpack. You can adjust it as high as you want and you can adjust how wide you want. You can set it up anywhere you want."

COINS

IN STOCK
CASH

PAY

EXP

MESSAGE
PAID

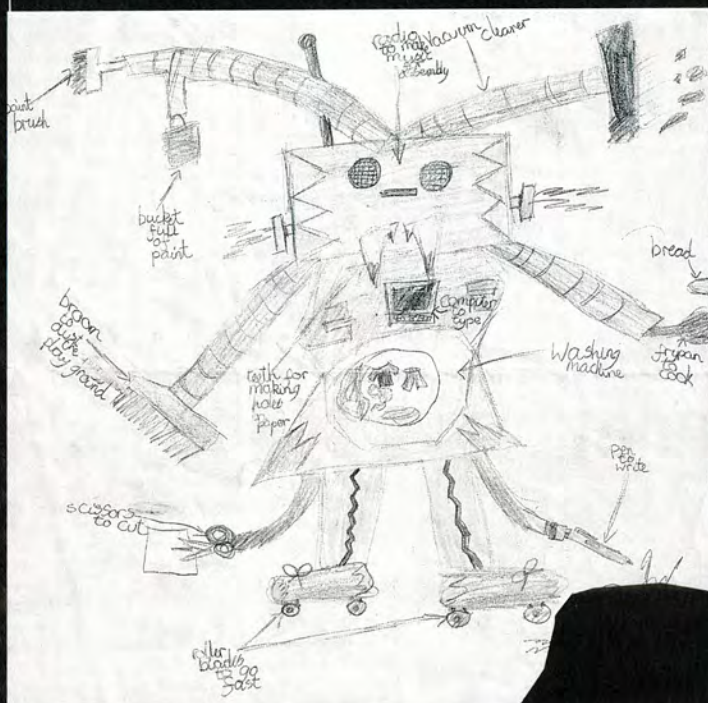
Automatic Register
And Dinner Money
Collector

A	B	C	D	E	F
G	H	I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X
Y	Z	E	C	F	I
B	↑	←	→	↓	

one week 1 2 3 4 5 Days

This machine can display messages such as the time date.

“The Robotnic Teacher.
It has eyes in the back of its head, can play the piano and give musical lessons. If a child is far away on the field, the robotnic teacher can automatically know that there is a fight, argument, or if the child is hurt, it can get there quickly.”



"My invention is called bullywatch. It will be in the playground at all times. It will record what the bully does and tell you the date and time that it happened. The machine will bring the tape with bullying in it to the teachers and the parents and the bully so he knows what he is doing to other people."

A “multi machine” that gives out work, supplies rubbers, sharpeners and pencils, tidies up, sticks work on the wall, sorts out unfinished work, helps out at playtime and has first aid kits.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TELL ADULTS WHAT TO DO?

Would you like it if all your teachers and every adult you met told you that you were the most wonderful and important person in the world? If they did everything for you? If you could be really rude to them and not be told off? That's what happened to children your age who became kings and queens years ago when rulers of countries were very important and had much more power than they do now.

But life could be pretty boring and lonely for these children too....



Thank you to Francisca Morgan-Kilner, who is 9, for being our queen.



TUTANKHAMEN

The famous king was just 9 when he became pharaoh of ancient Egypt. His people believed that he was not only a king, but also a god.

When he was crowned, he was already married to a girl who was probably a couple of years older than him.

Aya, one of the priests who looked after him, became king of Egypt after Tutankhamen's mysterious death when he was about 18. Scientists have x-rayed his mummy and think that he may have been murdered by the grown-ups.



We know what Tutankhamen looked like from the mask on his mummy and statues found in his tomb. Some of his board games were also buried with him.

EDWARD V

Edward V was king of England for just 2 months when he was 12. He was crowned when his father Edward IV died in 1483. But he and his 10 year old brother Richard were taken prisoners and put in the Tower of London while their uncle, Richard III, took control of England.

The 2 brothers were never heard of again and some people believe they were killed by their uncle so he could become king.

They had to wear fancy, stiff clothes and listen to long speeches. They didn't have many friends and couldn't go out to play when they felt like it.

QUEEN CHRISTINA

Christina became queen of Sweden when she was just 6 (in 1632) when her father, the king, died – and she loved it when grown-ups knelt down in front of her!

Christina was very clever and could speak German, Latin and French by the time she was 10, and had started to learn Spanish, Italian and Greek. As well as lessons which started at 6 o'clock in the morning, she also learnt to ride, shoot and sword fight. Her dad had said that she should be taught to be a "prince of Sweden".

LOUIS XIV

The French king was really young when he was crowned in 1643 – just 5 years old! When he was 9, everyone thought he would die because he was very ill with smallpox. But Louis got better and stayed king of France for 72 years!

Louis was quite big-headed – which isn't surprising because everyone told him kings could do exactly what they wanted. He didn't like learning very much and could see no point in reading books! He didn't laugh very much either and didn't play many games.

RICHARD II

10-year-old Richard became king of England in 1377. His father had died a year before Richard was crowned and so the boy became king after his grandfather, Edward III.

The people Richard ruled were very unhappy. The Black Death, or plague, had killed many families and food was very costly. The people were cross with their government. The boy was brave enough to ride out to try to calm his people down during the Peasants' Revolt in 1381.

Life could also be dangerous! Some of the grown-ups who looked after child rulers wanted to get rid of them so they could be in charge themselves!

CHINA'S LAST EMPEROR

The boy king Pu Yi was the last emperor of China before the country got rid of its kings. He became emperor at the age of 2 in 1908, and gave up the throne just 4 years later. But even though he was no longer ruler, he was allowed to live like a king in a palace. There were lots of grown-ups to look after him but he had hardly any friends of his own age. When he was a child, he believed he was very important and was sometimes mean to his servants – he once ordered one to eat a piece of dirt!

EDWARD VI

Edward was the son of Henry VIII and Jane Seymour, the favourite of Henry's 6 wives.

When Edward was naughty or did something wrong, his "whipping boy" Barnaby Fitzpatrick was punished instead of him. But Edward probably wasn't told off a lot by his teachers, as he is supposed to have been a real swot! He became king when he was 9 in 1547 when his dad died. But the young ruler was ill a lot and died from tuberculosis when he was just 15: there weren't antibiotics then.



DOGS

Are you the right person to look after a dog?



Do you have enough money to look after me?

It will cost you a lot of money – more than £75 – to buy me and make sure I have the right injections to stop me getting ill. I need to be fed once or twice a day, and I like to eat meat, cereal or dog biscuits and some vegetables. It can cost more than £5 a week to buy my food and take me to the vet regularly.

It can also cost a lot of money to put me in kennels so I'm looked after properly while you go on holiday.

Can you look after me properly?

I need exercise! – about an hour a day, whatever the weather is like! I shouldn't be allowed into the street on my own, and you should clear up my dog mess if I go to the toilet on the road or in parks. I don't like being left alone all day and I need to be brushed and given a bath every now and then. I like to know the rules of your house and I like to be taught how to behave properly so I don't annoy other people. If you go on

holiday, I may not like going into kennels and may prefer to be looked after by someone I know. You will have to regularly get rid of my fleas and lice and check I don't have worms.

You may need to give me an operation to stop me having puppies.

The bad things about keeping me as a pet are:

It can cost a lot of money to take me to the vet; You need to play with me and be with me a lot; I may walk muddy paw prints in your house and my hair will fall out over your furniture.

The good things about keeping me as a pet are:

I am a good friend; I like being with children; Taking me for walks can keep you fit!

Thanks to London Zoo for supplying information. Pet care leaflets are available from The Education Department, London Zoo, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY, and cost 50p each.



A PROBLEM SHARED

Catherine, aged 10, wrote to us and said: "I have a friend at school who I know doesn't really like me but hides it. When her other friend is not in, she wants to be my friend and is happy to come to my house. But when her other friend is in, she does not like to talk to me. It makes me feel sad and unhappy."

Thanks to everyone who has written with advice for Catherine. Here are some of the things you said:

Alicia Taylor-Adams wrote: "This so called friend is using you! You need to get out there and find a real friend."

Nina, age 8, from Earlsmead Juniors in Enfield, said: "I think you should say to her 'if you want to be my friend, be nice to me, not just when you feel like it.'"

Children from 5W class at St Mary's RC Juniors in Tottenham, Haringey, wrote lots of letters with advice! Here are some of their different ideas:

"I think you should just ignore her and say 'no' when she has no-one to play with and says 'can I play with you.' Then go and make another friend. If she is unhappy, then say 'okay, we can all play together.'"
Ashley.

"Make friends with her other friend, then you can play with both of them. Or don't be her friend and make other friends because they are probably going to treat you better than she does."
Guisseppina.

"Catherine should say 'if you do not want to be my friend, just say.' Or she should just tell her she does not want to be her friend anymore."
Dennis.

"Tell your teacher and tell your mum that you don't know what to do. Ask someone if you can play with them, look around the playground and ask someone who is lonely."
Karl.

"Catherine, it happened once to me and my friends, but we talked about our feelings and we are all best friends now. So don't worry, be happy!"
Carla.

"Stand up for yourself and tell her that you don't want to be her friend anymore."
Carmel.

10-year-old Marina Lazarou wrote:

"I think Catherine should play with other girls and boys because the girl is using her."

Rubina, aged 8, said: "Find another friend who does like you and try to forget about the old one."

Tara, aged 10, said: "I used to have a friend like that but I just made new friends and told her that she should play with me most of the time or not play with me at all."

Can you help these 2 readers?

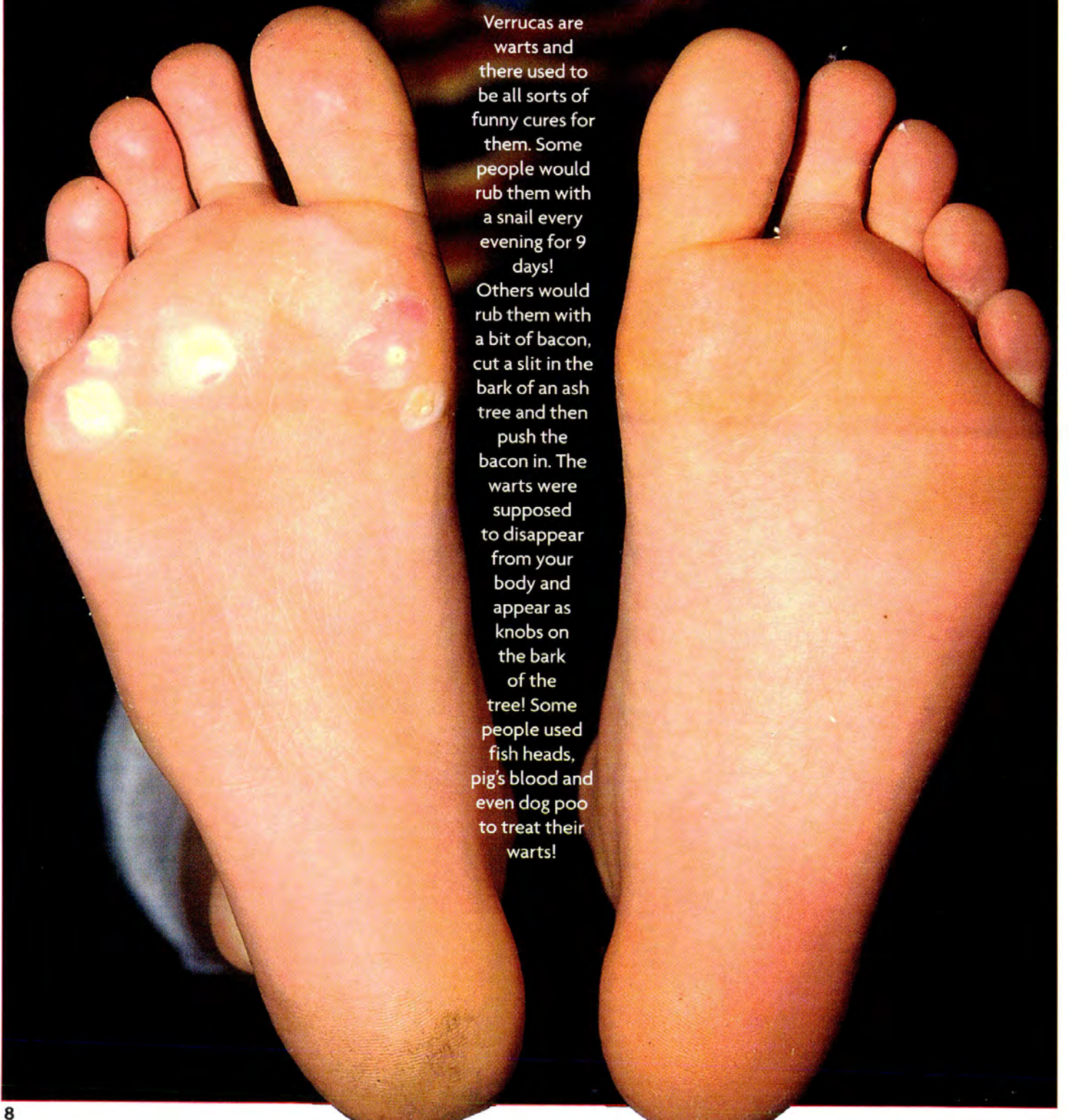
"I love football but when I ask to play, the boys say no! What can I do?"

"The other day I had a fight with my friend because she spied on me and found out who I sort of fancy. She opened her big mouth and told some of the girls in my class and it's really, really annoying me when they come up to me and say things. This girl just won't shut up and soon the whole school will know and it will be the worst year ever in primary school. I don't know what to do."

**Write to No Kidding! at
Freepost Lon6868,
PO Box 10427,
London N8 8BR
and we'll print your advice
next time. If you've got a
problem you'd like to share,
write to us at the same
address!**

WOULD YOU RUB YOUR VERRUCA WITH A SNAIL?

PHOTOS: KAREN WHITEREAD

A photograph of two human feet, viewed from the bottom. The left foot has several bright yellow, circular verrucas on the sole. The right foot is clean. The background is dark and out of focus.

Verrucas are warts and there used to be all sorts of funny cures for them. Some people would rub them with a snail every evening for 9 days!

Others would rub them with a bit of bacon, cut a slit in the bark of an ash tree and then push the bacon in. The warts were supposed to disappear from your body and appear as knobs on the bark of the tree! Some people used fish heads, pig's blood and even dog poo to treat their warts!

Warts and verrucas are mysterious things. No-one really knows how you catch them, or why they sometimes just go away overnight.

What is certain is that warts and verrucas are caused by a virus, a sort of germ, that is so small that it can't even be seen under a microscope. There are lots of tiny, tiny cracks in our skins, and the virus sneaks its way through one of those cracks. It gets into one of our skin cells and tells the cell to make more cells, really quickly.

There is a protein in our skin called keratin, which is in our hair and nails too. When the wart or verruca virus takes over a cell, it makes much more keratin than normal and this becomes a lump on top of the skin.

There are about 60 different kinds of wart virus, and 3 of them cause verrucas. The most common type is a single verruca which has black dots inside. These black dots are the tiny tubes that carry blood through your skin which have been pushed into a funny shape by the cell which is multiplying.

The second type of verruca is called a "mosaic" verruca and this is the sort that spreads out on top of your skin. The third type is a verruca surrounded by smaller verrucas – a sort of mother verruca with babies. The type of verruca you get depends on the type of virus you catch.

But no-one is really sure just how you catch the virus. Jill Ferrari is a podiatrist, or chiropodist, who looks after feet. She works at the London Foot Hospital.

"Some people think you might catch the virus by touching another

verruca," she says. "This is because if you've got a verruca on one foot, you might get one on the other foot, or on your hand, especially if you pick the skin on top.

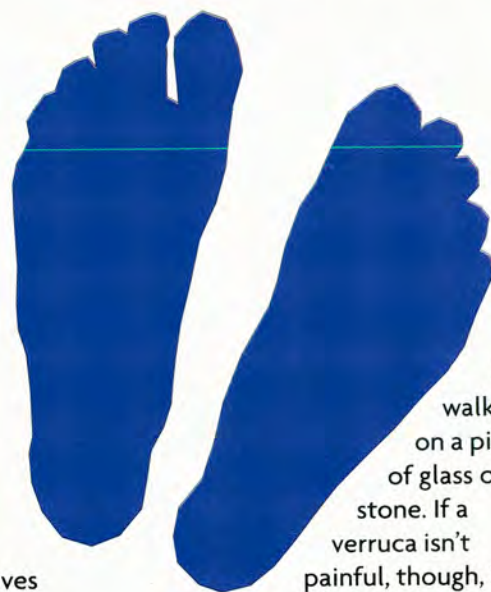
"When people walk barefoot, they shed dead skin, so some people think you might catch the virus by walking on other people's dead skin.

"Another idea is that the virus lives with all the other bacteria that lives on our skin. When you go swimming, for example, the chlorine, which is added to the pool to keep the water clean, may kill off other types of bacteria and then give the verruca virus a chance to act."

So if you do catch a verruca, what should you do?

Jill Ferrari says a third of verrucas disappear by themselves and most go after 2 years if you leave them alone. Some people may fight off the virus, like fighting off a cold, or it may be that the virus dies after a certain amount of time.

But verrucas can be painful – if the lump of keratin on top is quite big and on your heel or ball of your foot, it can feel



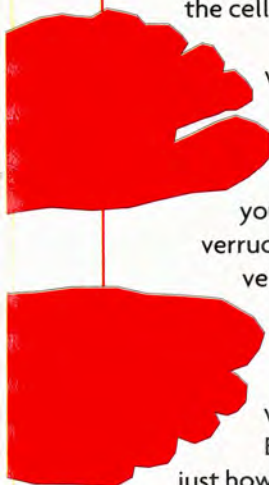
like walking on a piece of glass or a stone. If a verruca isn't painful, though, it doesn't do any harm!

"You don't have to treat verrucas unless they are painful or spreading," says Jill Ferrari.

If you do decide to try to get rid of a verruca, you can't kill the virus – so you have to try to kill the skin that contains the virus. You can buy chemicals in the chemist's shop which kill the skin at the top – but you have to rub away the dead skin each time with an emery board or pumice stone. Getting rid of verrucas this way can take ages!

Podiatrists or chiropodists like Jill Ferrari can use stronger chemicals and speed up the fight against the virus. Liquid nitrogen, for example, freezes the skin and so shatters the cell containing the virus. Verrucas can also be burnt away by small pieces of electricity passed through the skin – or they can be cut out by doctors.

Verruca originally meant a steep place or height. It was used to describe warts because they looked like little hills on the skin.





IF YOU COULD PICK CHILDREN TO RUN YOUR SCHOOL...

Who would you
choose to be in charge?

Suppose there are 3 gangs in your playground. Each gang has a leader, and each leader thinks the school should be run in a different way.

Each gang leader gets someone in every class to be on their side. You can choose which gang member in your class you think will do the best job by putting your hand up – or voting – for them.

That's more or less what happens in Britain when people choose a new government to run the country. Instead of playground gangs, there are "political parties", and each party has a leader. Each party believes they will run the country

better than the others will – and ask people to vote for them in a "general election".

Instead of classes, the country is divided into areas called "constituencies" and most of the people aged over 18 who live in a

constituency can vote for a member of one of the political parties. Instead of putting hands up, people go to a "polling station" on one special day chosen for the election, and put an X on a piece of paper next to the name of the

How will my
junior school
change if you
become
prime minister?



Paddy Ashdown,
leader of the Liberal Democrats, says:
"Education is so important for young people like
yourselves – you are the future and
need the best possible start in life.
The Liberal Democrats intend to
give you that start.

"We would give extra
money to help primary
schools like yours – so
you and your classmates can
have extra books and extra equipment.
But we also want to make sure that
you have the best possible school
buildings and classrooms to work in,
and this means extra money to repair
those buildings which are damaged.
Finally, we want to reduce class sizes so
you can have more one to one attention
with your teachers."



person they want to vote for. Their vote is secret.

The person who gets the most votes in the area then becomes the "Member of Parliament" or "MP" for the constituency. There are 651 constituencies in England, Wales, Scotland and northern Ireland. The political party that gets the most MPs makes a "government" to be in charge of the country. The leader of the winning political party becomes "prime minister".

There are many different political parties. Smaller parties often don't get enough MPs elected to make a government. There are 3 bigger parties – the Conservative, or Tory, party, the Labour party and the Liberal Democrat party. You can join a political party if you believe in the way the party thinks the country should be run. Anyone can try to be an MP though, whether they belong to a political party or not.

The current prime minister is John Major and he is leader of the Conservative party. There is normally an election about every 5 years. Mr Major's government won the general election in 1992, so in 1997 there will be another general election.

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT



MPs meet in the House of Commons to talk about how best to run schools, how best to run hospitals, what roads should be built, and which countries Britain should be friends with. They also have a say on how to raise money to run the country. MPs can vote how they like, but mostly vote for what their party thinks is right.

The House of Commons is in the Palace of Westminster which is on the north side of the Thames. Big Ben is part of the Palace, which used to be the home of kings and queens until Henry VIII decided to move out.

There is also the House of Lords at the Palace of Westminster where "peers" meet. Some people are peers just because their father was. When their parents died, they became a peer. Others are made peers by the prime minister. Some bishops and judges are also members of the House of Lords. There are about 1,200 people who have the right to go to the House of Lords.

What do you think of their answers?



John Major, leader of the Conservative party and currently prime minister, says: "I want to make sure that every child has a good education to make the most of all the opportunities in life. Conservatives have done a lot to help already, including spending more money on schools and setting standards for schools across the country. I am sure you want lessons and games to be interesting and fun – I hope they are – but these early days at school are also very important for you. You and your teachers and parents need to know how you are getting on and the tests we have brought in for 7 and 11 year olds will help with this.

"As you know, reading, writing and arithmetic are subjects which you will use every day of your lives and we want to ensure that junior schools concentrate more on these lessons and use the very best ways of teaching them. I hope you enjoy your school days."



Tony Blair,

leader of the Labour party, says: "The time you spend at school is the most important in your life. And junior school is the place where you should learn basic skills that will last you a lifetime. Like reading and writing. That is why

Labour will offer a literacy guarantee to make sure that every child can read and write before he or she gets to secondary school – with extra lessons in the summer for those falling behind. And by the way there will be more homework under Labour!

"We also want to see every school linked up to the information superhighway, so that children can use computers to help in their learning. We want to make sure that no child will be without access to a computer and no school unable to use them properly."



turn the page...

About 100 people from the House of Commons and House of Lords are part of the **government**. The prime minister chooses people to be in a **cabinet** which is the sort of government head office. These people are called **ministers** or **secretaries of state** and each one has a different department to run. Each secretary of state has various different deputies to help run his or her department. They are called **junior ministers**, **parliamentary under secretaries of state** or **parliamentary secretaries**.



All the MPs who get elected but are not a member of the winning party are part of the "opposition". They don't believe what the government believes in.

MPs also help people who live in their constituency. People can go and see them or write to them to ask for their help.



You can go and listen to MPs in the House of Commons. They meet more or less during school terms. You have to queue outside the St Stephen's entrance, after 4.15pm on Mondays to Thursdays, and at 10am on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Order! Order!

In the House of Commons, MPs sit on rows of benches. The government and MPs who are in the same party sit on one side, and the opposition MPs sit on the other. Members of the cabinet sit on the front bench, and are sometimes called "front benchers." All the other MPs sit on the back benches – and are known as "back benchers". The opposition has front benchers and back benchers too. On the front bench are the people who may become ministers themselves



one day if their party wins an election. One MP becomes the "speaker" and sits between the benches to make sure MPs get a fair chance to speak during

meetings. If the meetings get too noisy and rowdy, the speaker shouts: "Order! Order!"

Making the law

The rules of the country are called laws, and each country has its own set of rules. About 100 new laws are made in this country each year by "Acts of Parliament". Parliament is the House of Commons, the House of Lords – and the Queen, who has to formally agree to every new law being made through "Royal Assent".

New laws start life as a "Bill", a plan or set of proposals which are discussed in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The proposals are normally drawn up by the government, and may get changed before the Bill becomes an Act.

Because Britain is part of the European Community, some of our laws are made by the European Parliament. This Parliament has people elected from all the countries that are part of the Community.



**CQD CQD CQD
SOS SOS CQD SOS.
COME AT ONCE WE
HAVE STRUCK A
BERG!**

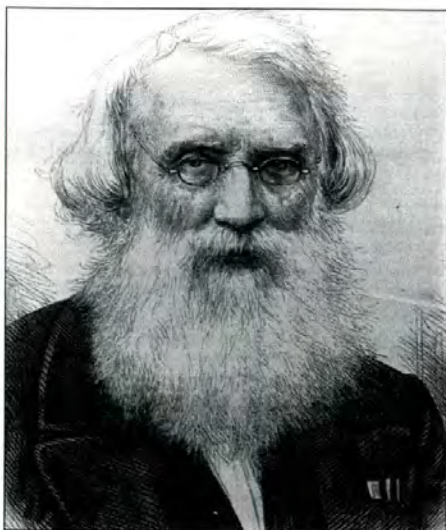
This was the urgent cry for help sent from the Titanic on the night of 14 April 1912. After running into an iceberg in the north Atlantic Ocean, it sank to the bottom of the sea in just 2 hours and 40 minutes. More than 1,500 people died. But more than 700 survivors, huddled together in lifeboats in the icy sea, were picked up by the Carpathia which steamed to the rescue after hearing the first SOS message ever sent by a liner at sea.

“SOS” is the “distress signal” sent by ships in trouble and in need of urgent help. Before SOS was used, ships used the signal CQD. In 1912, the SOS signal had just come into use – that is why both signals were used by the sinking Titanic.

THE MESSAGE WAS SENT IN MORSE CODE...

Suppose you wanted to invite a friend who lives outside London to come to stay with you? You'd either send a letter, which would be delivered the next day, pick up the telephone, or even send a fax or e-mail!

But post delivered the next day, telephones, fax machines and e-mail weren't invented in the early part of the 19th century. If you wanted to send a message to someone, the only way to send it was by messenger on foot, by stagecoach or on horseback. It could take days, weeks or even months for a



Samuel F.B. Morse.
The F.B. stands for "Finley Breese".

message to arrive somewhere. Then an American called Samuel F. B. Morse realised that messages could be sent really quickly along wires, using electricity. The wires were hung on telegraph poles and linked one town to another. A special code was sent along the wires using short and long bursts of electricity. The short bursts were called dots and the long bursts were called dashes. Morse and a man called Alfred Vail worked out this special code, called the Morse Code, and made a different sign for each of the letters of the alphabet using these dots and dashes.

"Dot dash" means "a", for example, and "dash dot dot dot" means "b". To send the dots and dashes, Morse used a "Morse key", pressing it down and

letting it up quickly for a dot, and holding it down for a longer time before letting it up to make a dash.

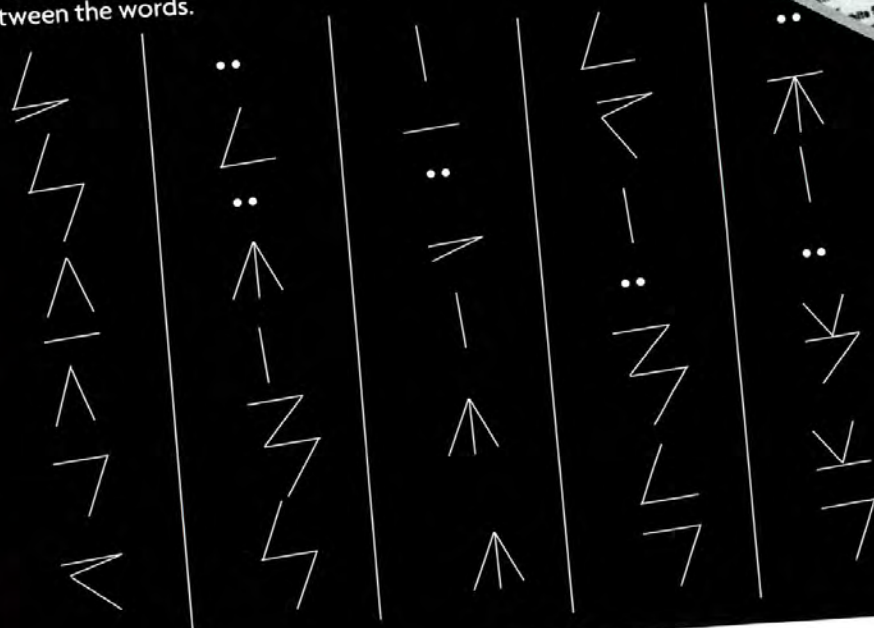
An instrument called a "sounder" received the dots and dashes sent along the wires. The sounder made a loud clicking noise which Morse operators learnt to recognise as the letters of the alphabet.

Morse's first telegraph line, in 1844, was 40 miles long and linked the American cities of Washington and Baltimore. People were amazed that messages, or telegrams, could be sent so far so quickly – and didn't always believe it! One group of people travelled by train from Baltimore to Washington to check that an important message they had received was really true!

After this, Morse telegraph lines were put up all over America and soon people could send telegrams anywhere in the country. Within a few years, there were Morse telegraphs in many parts of the world, including Britain.

Wires called "submarine cables" were laid under the sea by special ships to link countries and by the end of the 19th century, Morse messages could be sent by wire to almost anywhere in the world.

You can write messages to each other in Morse Code that others can't read! One unusual way is to use what looks like Chinese writing. Write a dot as a downwards line and a dash as a sideways line. Then write your message from the top to the bottom of the page with two little dots to show a space between the words.



In war-time, Morse Code was used by spies to send secret information back to their own countries over the radio.





WIN A RALEIGH DIRT CROSS BIKE!

All you've got to do is to tell us what you think about No Kidding! and a little bit about yourself to help us make sure you like the magazine.

Just answer the questions on the next 2 pages, ask one of your parents to answer a few questions, then pull the centre 4 pages out and send them to: No Kidding! Views, Freepost Lon6868, PO Box 10427, London N8 8BR by Friday 28 February.

**The first 3 names
drawn out of a hat
on that day will
each win a Raleigh
Dirt Cross bike.**

Your name

.....

Your age

.....

Your address

.....

.....

.....

.....

Your school's name

.....

What is your favourite
part of this issue of
No Kidding!?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Were there any parts
you haven't looked at
because you thought
they might be boring?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If yes, which parts?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Is there anything you
would like us to write
about in No Kidding!?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Are you a
boy?

☐

a girl?

☐

[please tick]

Your school
year

☐

Do you read No Kidding!
all at once?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Do you keep looking at
No Kidding! and reading
different bits?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Has your teacher talked
about any parts of No
Kidding! with you?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Have you entered any
competitions?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Would you like to be on
the front cover or have
your picture used inside
No Kidding!?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If your answer is yes,
please fill in your
'phone number

.....

Do you read any
other magazines?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If yes, which ones?

.....

.....

.....

What's your favourite
television programme?

.....

What's your
favourite film?

.....

What book are you
reading at the moment?

.....

.....

What do you like best
at school?

.....

Do you use a
computer at school?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Do have a computer
at home?

Yes

☐

No

☐

What's your favourite
computer game?

.....

.....

Ask your mum, dad, or guardian to answer these questions...

Have you looked at No Kidding! with your child?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Have you looked at No Kidding! on your own?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Have you read any of the articles?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Does your child use a computer at home?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If yes, what sort of computer?

.....

.....

If yes, are you on the internet?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If No Kidding! were not free, would you buy it for your child?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Your name

.....

Thank you! Don't forget to post these middle 4 pages to us to have the chance to win a Raleigh bike!



Radio was invented just over 100 years ago, but you couldn't hear speaking and music on it like you can today. It was invented so that Morse messages could be sent without wires. That was why it was called "wire-less" and its most important use, at first, was to allow ships at sea to keep in touch with each other and with special wireless stations set up on coastlines around the world.

The first wireless fitted to a ship was in 1900, but by the time the Titanic sank, many ships had them and had specially trained wireless operators on board to use them. Morse on the wireless did not sound like the clicking of a sounder. It sounded something like a buzzer, with short and long sounds for the dots and dashes.

Over the years, Morse has been responsible for saving thousands of lives at sea. Many radio officers have gone down with their ships, sending out the vital SOS signal until the very last moment so any survivors could be rescued.

Other ways of sending messages have now been invented and Morse has gradually stopped being used. It is still used by some ships but after 1999, there will be no more Morse at sea. By then, all ships will be sending their SOS and other messages by telephone through satellite links in space or special radio systems.

The people who use Morse Code the most today are radio amateurs who send radio messages to each other as a hobby – sometimes around the world! Many of them get a lot of a fun from using Morse.

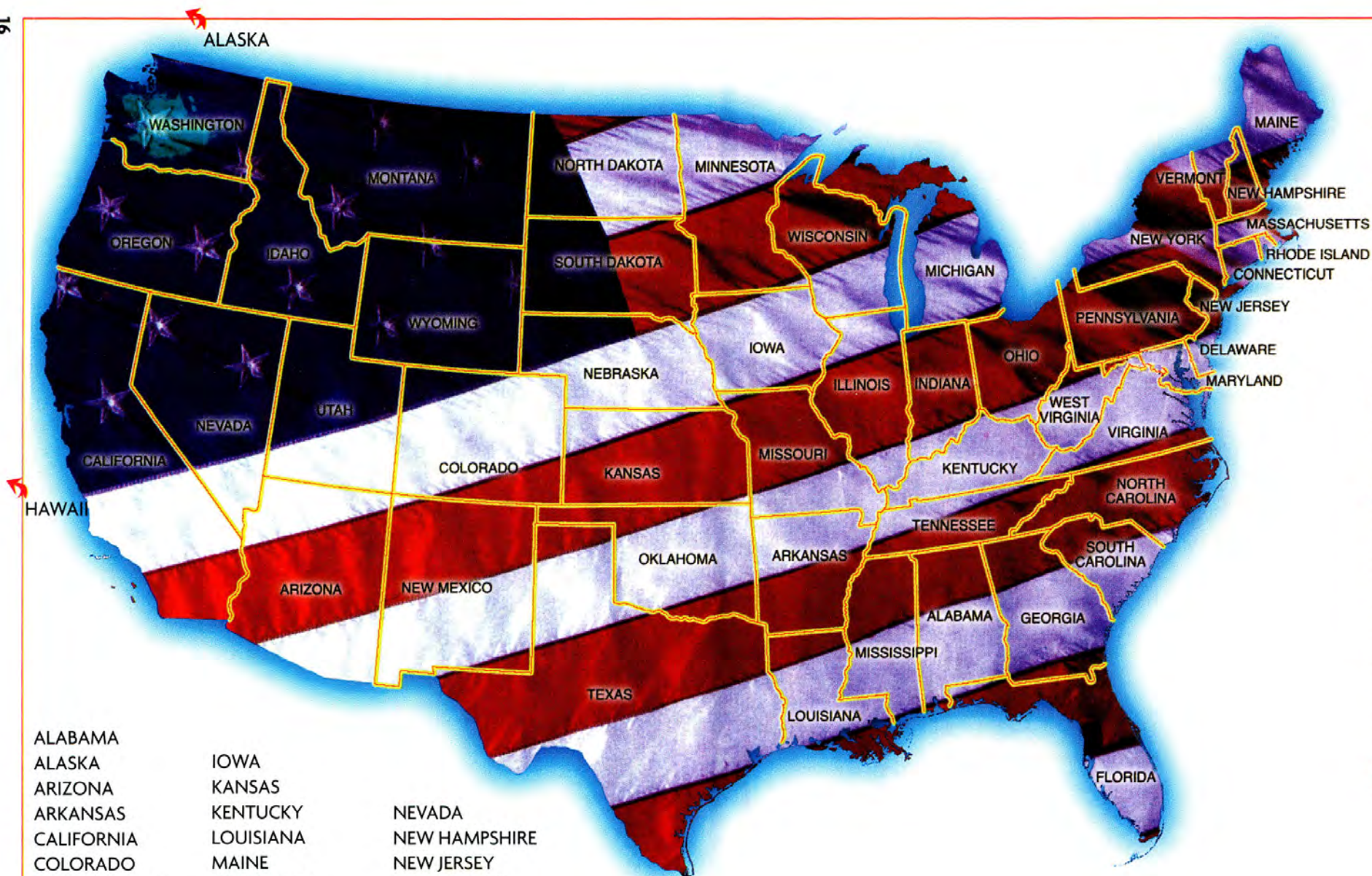
The code used by Samuel Morse in 1844 was called "American Morse". The rest of the world used a different code – "International Morse". This was introduced in Germany in 1852 so that all countries could use the same code. Some countries invented their own versions of Morse, and, as well as American, there are special codes for Arabic, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, Russian and other languages. Morse messages sent to other countries, however, are always sent in the International Code.

International Morse Code

a	● ■
b	■ ● ● ●
c	■ ● ■ ■
d	■ ● ●
e	●
f	● ● ■ ●
g	■ ■ ●
h	● ● ● ●
i	● ●
j	● ■ ■ ■
k	■ ● ■
l	● ■ ● ●
m	■ ■
n	■ ●
o	■ ■ ■
p	● ■ ■ ●
q	■ ■ ● ■
r	● ■ ●
s	● ● ●
t	■
u	● ● ■
v	● ● ● ■
w	● ■ ■
x	■ ● ● ■
y	■ ● ■ ■
z	■ ■ ● ●

You don't need a morse key, a sounder or a buzzer to send secret messages to your friends! Ships at sea near to each other sometimes talk in Morse using special signalling lamps. Why not trying flashing a secret message in Morse using a torch?

Turn to page 28 and find out how to win a Morse torch...



ALABAMA
ALASKA
ARIZONA
ARKANSAS
CALIFORNIA
COLORADO
CONNECTICUT
DELAWARE
FLORIDA
GEORGIA
HAWAII
IDAHO
ILLINOIS
INDIANA

IOWA
KANSAS
KENTUCKY
LOUISIANA
MAINE
MARYLAND
MASSACHUSETTS
MICHIGAN
MINNESOTA
MISSISSIPPI
MISSOURI
MONTANA
NEBRASKA

NEVADA
NEW HAMPSHIRE
NEW JERSEY
NEW MEXICO
NEW YORK
NORTH CAROLINA
NORTH DAKOTA
OHIO
OKLAHOMA
OREGON
PENNSYLVANIA

RHODE ISLAND
SOUTH CAROLINA
SOUTH DAKOTA
TENNESSEE
TEXAS
VERMONT

VIRGINIA
WASHINGTON
WEST VIRGINIA
WISCONSIN
WYOMING
UTAH

... THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Turn the magazine on its side to do the wordsearch. The state names run vertically, diagonally or horizontally from right to left or from left to right!

WORDSEARCH

C	L	T	U	I	V	R	A	L	I	F	F	N	V	D	A	Y	U	Y	T	I
N	E	O	N	E	B	R	A	S	K	A	L	C	A	L	A	V	I	R	O	X
N	U	U	U	M	M	I	N	N	E	S	O	T	A	A	D	L	O	W	X	Y
E	C	A	Y	I	A	K	I	Y	T	C	R	I	O	U	A	X	A	T	U	V
W	E	A	K	U	S	C	A	A	I	N	I	G	R	I	V	Z	W	S	A	A
J	E	R	C	X	S	I	F	O	U	R	D	T	H	R	E	C	A	L	K	I
E	S	K	U	A	A	O	A	V	V	A	A	N	A	T	N	O	M	C	A	A
R	S	A	T	T	C	N	U	N	E	W	M	E	X	I	C	O	V	S	M	L
S	E	N	N	N	H	A	O	T	A	I	U	B	V	E	X	T	O	O	A	A
E	N	S	E	E	U	T	F	R	H	A	W	A	I	I	H	U	H	D	R	B
Y	N	A	K	K	S	T	U	G	T	C	S	O	P	H	T	A	J	A	Y	A
A	E	S	A	X	E	T	J	A	N	H	A	D	E	H	L	A	T	R	L	M
Y	T	U	C	I	T	C	E	N	N	O	C	R	D	K	O	N	O	O	A	A
S	O	P	T	K	T	C	H	G	T	T	S	A	O	Y	U	A	H	L	N	A
W	W	U	I	A	S	A	Y	U	V	N	K	K	R	L	I	I	V	O	D	E
A	J	I	I	N	H	I	A	S	O	O	A	P	H	O	I	D	J	C	A	B
I	D	R	E	S	N	G	I	S	T	M	I	C	A	L	L	N	O	F	T	Y
N	O	U	U	A	R	R	A	A	N	R	N	O	O	O	L	I	A	O	O	T
I	A	O	U	S	E	O	A	O	E	E	A	B	R	I	I	J	N	O	K	L
G	A	S	N	E	U	E	T	S	S	V	V	B	R	I	N	H	A	A	A	K
R	N	S	A	N	O	G	E	R	O	L	L	D	E	N	O	O	O	D	D	E
I	O	I	G	G	N	J	A	N	E	W	Y	O	R	K	I	S	T	E	H	P
V	Z	M	I	I	J	O	I	P	P	I	S	S	I	S	S	I	M	A	T	N
T	I	R	H	O	D	E	I	S	L	A	N	D	J	O	S	A	A	N	R	I
S	R	S	C	C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A	C	I	D	A	H	O	X
E	A	W	I	S	C	O	N	S	I	N	E	J	A	N	O	O	A	A	N	E
W	Y	O	M	I	N	G	C	C	R	E	P	D	E	L	A	W	A	A	R	E
E	R	I	H	S	P	M	A	H	W	E	N	S	O	P	H	I	A	G	I	B

Who stands in front of an orchestra and waves a stick around?

A conductor!

Read the question out loud and think about different ways of saying it. You could make the “who” sound most important – give it “emphasis”. That would sound like a teacher asking someone in class to own up to something! If you emphasise the word “orchestra”, it means something else. And what does it sound like if you emphasise the word “waves”?



Andrea Quinn didn't start learning to play the clarinet until she was 13 and then liked music so much she made it her job. She spent 3 years learning to be a conductor.

Music is full of sentences called “phrases” and these phrases can be played in different ways, just as you can make the question sound different.

Most people think a conductor just beats the time to a piece of music so all the different instruments can keep up with each other. That's how conductors started, sometimes beating the time with a stick on the floor!

But nowadays, a conductor also decides how the different phrases of a piece of music are played. “You have to know all about the different sorts of instruments in an orchestra and what they can do, and understand the music,” says Andrea Quinn who conducts different orchestras, including the London Philharmonic's Youth Orchestra which is made up of people who are learning to be musicians.

Even though she might only rehearse twice or three times with an orchestra before a concert, Andrea starts looking at the written music, which is called a score, several months before. She reads the music, plays bits of it on the piano and listens to different recordings of the piece to try and find out what the composer, the person who wrote the music, meant or wanted to hear.

She learns the piece almost off by heart!

“Most musicians who play in orchestras could perform a piece of music without a conductor,”

she says. What a conductor does then, is to signal to the players not only the time beat, but also how the music should be played.

“Conducting an orchestra is like blending lots of different colours together in a certain way to make a wonderful picture,” says Andrea.

So how do you become a conductor? Most conductors first play an instrument in an orchestra and then go on a special training course to learn how to conduct!



TESTER TRIP

Family Concert,
London Philharmonic Orchestra
Royal Festival Hall

11.15am

Arrive at Waterloo tube. 5 minutes walk to the Royal Festival Hall.

11.30am

Lights dim and conductor Christopher Bell asks us all to clap different rhythms. We listen to those rhythms as the orchestra plays "Short Ride in a Fast Machine" by American composer John Adams. The music gets faster, "like a roller coaster or a fast car," says Christopher Bell.

He talks about living in Scotland (though he comes from Ireland), about mountain mists and Scottish dances, and then the orchestra plays "Four Scottish Dances" by English composer Malcolm Arnold. He talks about the next

piece of music, "The Ride of the Valkyries" by Richard Wagner, and says it comes from an opera. The Valkyries are women who are taking the souls of dead people.

During the concert, Christopher Bell has shown us all how to lead different pieces of music with different numbers of beats in the bar. Everyone has had a go. Then he picks a boy to go on stage and conduct the orchestra during the next piece of music – "The William Tell Overture" by Gioacchino Rossini. The orchestra does whatever their new conductor says! When Christopher Bell takes over again, the audience clap along to the music.

12.30pm

The concert ends.

Cost:

Tickets for the Family Concert cost £3.50 kids, £7 adults.

What our team said:

Our tester team included kids in years 3,4,5 and 6 as well as their younger sisters and brothers. Here are some of the things they said (their age is in brackets):

"The bit I liked best was when the boy was conducting the orchestra. I liked joining in the clapping and trying to conduct. I also liked the conductor talking and telling us about the music." (10)

"What the conductor said was interesting. I think it would have been better if the conductor had explained all the different instruments in the orchestra. The worst bit was the crowd – it's a very big place and there were lots of people there." (7)

"I thought the music was okay. I thought the wordsearch in the programme was good." (9)

"I liked it very much. I liked the music – it was different to listening to music on tape. It sounded different. I liked the boy being the conductor and I liked joining in, but the best bit was the different sorts of music." (6)

Family Concerts at the Royal Festival Hall are held on Sunday mornings.

The next 2 planned are on Sunday 9 February at 11.30am and Sunday 4 May at 11.30am. To book tickets, call 0171 546 1666.

You can win tickets to a Family Concert! ➡

Enter our competition on the inside front cover of this issue.

SPOT THE MISTAKE

Holly Whittaker is the winner of our Famous Five competition. She wins an Apricot multi-media computer and the first 3 Famous Five interactive CDs published by Systems Integrated Research.

Holly, who is 9, and goes to St Barnabas and St Philip's Juniors in Kensington and Chelsea, found 20 mistakes in the passage from Five on a Treasure Island – her entry was the first correct one to be drawn out of the hat.

Second was Sammia Ahmed, who is 9 and goes to Colindale Juniors in Barnet, and wins a set of 6 Famous Five videos produced by First Independent Films. Third was Daniel Bradley, who is also 9 and goes to Moreland Juniors in Islington. He wins 5 Famous Five books published by Hodder.

None of you spotted the spelling mistake on the front cover of the last issue of No Kidding!

Can you see which word was spelt incorrectly?

We wondered how many of you would notice – even though you sent us lots of letters about all sorts of different things, none of you mentioned the mistake!

Don't worry – you're not alone! None of the adults we showed it to noticed either, except for one mum in Muswell Hill!



Sometimes mistakes get printed no matter how many times people who make magazines, books and newspapers read them. Checking for mistakes is called "proof-reading" and proof-readers don't just check spelling, they look out for commas, full stops and capital letters too!

It's not always easy to spot mistakes, unless you look at the words really carefully, just like you

did for the Famous Five competition. So many of you entered that competition that we're going to include a "spot the mistake" section in every issue of No Kidding! for you to do at home for fun.

And if you read the rest of the magazine really carefully, you might find another spelling mistake in this issue! If you do, write and tell us – and we'll send you a mystery prize!

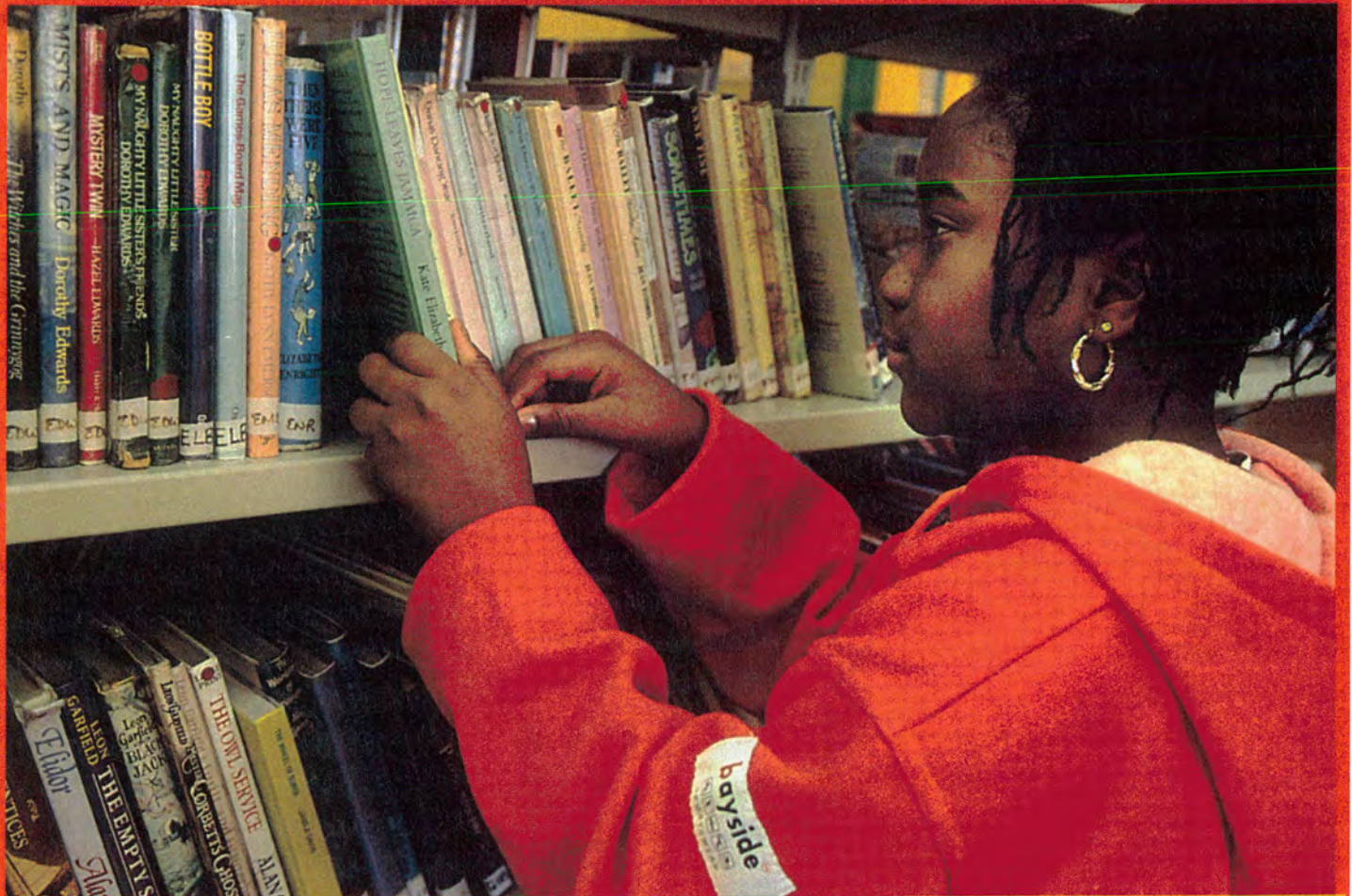
Find 23 mistakes on the yellow!

The French king was really young when he was crowned in 1643 – just 5 years old! When he was 9, everyone thought he would die because he was very ill with smallpox. But Louis got better and stayed king of France for 72 years!

Louis was quite big-headed – which isn't surprising because everyone told him kings could do exactly what they wanted. He didn't like learning very much and could see no point in reading books! He didn't laugh very much either and didn't play many games.

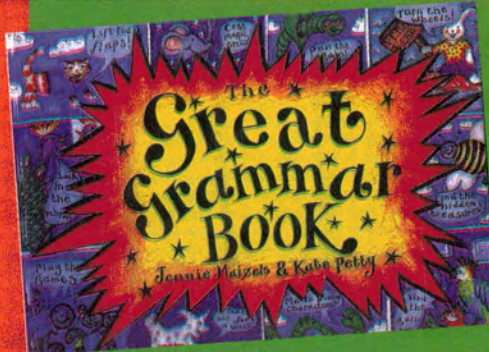
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Lewis was quite bigheaded which isn't surprising because everyone told him Kings could do exacly what they wanted. He didnt like learnig very much and could sea no point in reeding books! he didn't laugh very much either and did play many games.



3 of these books are information books, they tell you about real things. They all cost quite a lot to buy – but you can borrow them free from your local library. If you can't find the book you want to read on the library shelves, ask a librarian for help, or, if someone else has already borrowed it, ask them to reserve the book for you. They will let you know when it's returned.

Information books are called "non fiction" (story books are called "fiction"). There are lots of different ways of finding out information as well as reading books. You can watch videos, programmes on the television, CD roms or even use the internet. It's the same information – just a different "format".

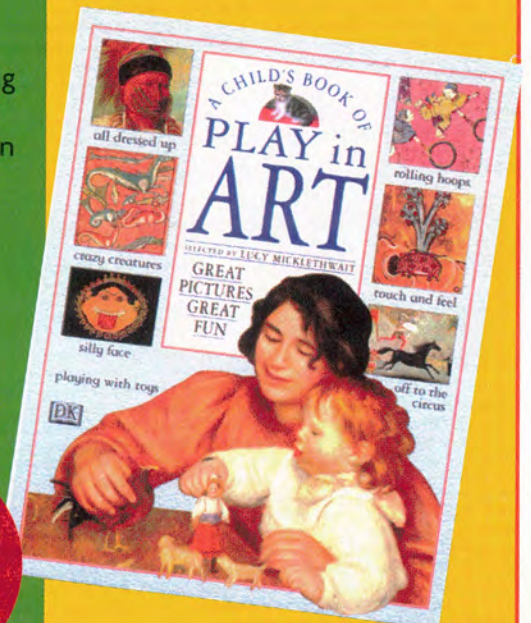


The Great Grammar Book
Jennie Maizels and Kate Petty

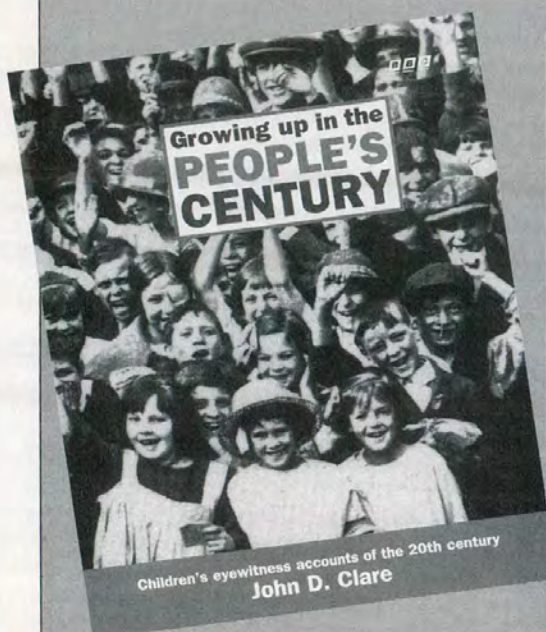
You might think grammar is boring – but not in this book! Pull flaps, open tabs, look in the mirror, even take a dog for a walk....and you'll learn everything you need to know about nouns, verbs, adjectives and more. This books is brilliant fun!
Published by Bodley Head (£12.99)

A Child's Book of Play in Art
Lucy Micklethwait

The pictures in this book are stunning. Some of them are really detailed and you can spend ages looking for animals, patterns, and other things each time you look at them.
Published by Dorling Kindersley (£9.99)



Turn to the inside back cover to win a copy of this book!

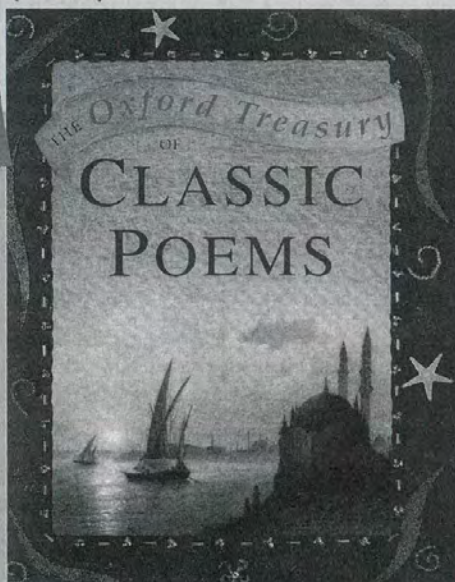


Growing up in the people's century
John D. Clare

This is a history book with a big difference. It's history told by real people who were children when the events that are described happened. There is Ted Smout who was still at school when the First World War started in 1914; Danny Patt who played the piano when movies were still silent in 1924 when he was age 12; Horst Westphal who, in 1941, collected meat bones to help make explosives in Germany. You can read about hundreds of children who helped to make history in the 20th century. Published by BBC (£12.99)

The Oxford Treasury of Classic Poems
Michael Harrison and Christopher Stuart-Clark

This book includes sad and funny poems with beautiful pictures. This is a lovely book to borrow and dip into. Published by OUP (£14.99)



Did you know?

The biggest library in the UK is the British Library. There are more than 18 million books there!

Check out your local library!
It's free to join and you can borrow hundreds of books. All you have to do to join is to ask your parent or carer to come with you and sign a form.

Most libraries in London also have music and stories on tape which you can borrow. Some libraries also have videos which you can borrow, but you may have to ask your parent or carer to borrow them for you.

Look out for...

True Tilda
Sir Arthur Quiller Couch

This book is set in 1908 and tells of 9-year-old circus girl Tilda who rescues Arthur from the evil owner of an orphanage. It has been published to mark the television series starring Morgan Bell who goes to Drayton Park school in Islington and was interviewed in the September issue of No Kidding!. Published by Hodder Children's Books (£4.99)



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WHAT HAPPENED ON...

14 JANUARY

1814

The last Frost Fair was held in London on the frozen river Thames.

15 JANUARY

1559

Queen Elizabeth I was crowned.

15 JANUARY

1880

The first telephone directory was published in London. It listed 255 'phone numbers.

31 JANUARY

1606

Guy Fawkes was hanged, drawn and quartered.

7 FEBRUARY

1989

It rained sardines on a town in Australia. Scientists said stormy winds had probably lifted the fish into the sky from the sea, 30 miles away.

11 FEBRUARY

1990

Nelson Mandela, now South Africa's president, was freed after 27 years in prison.

8 FEBRUARY

1750

London was really hot and there was a small earthquake.

29 FEBRUARY

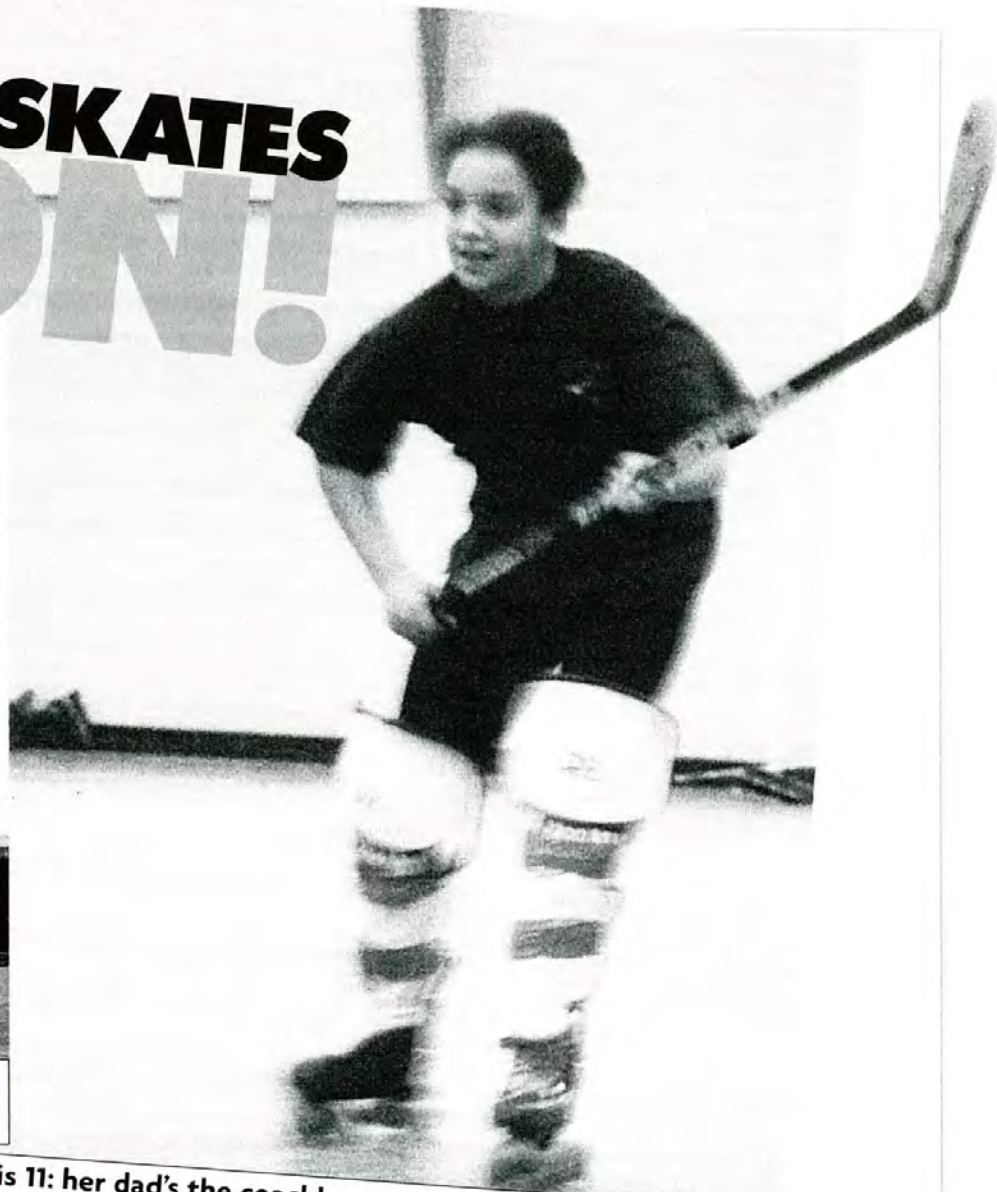
is Leap Year Day and only happens every 4 years.



GET YOUR SKATES ON!



Nicholas Baker is 10 and goes to Highgate Juniors in Haringey.



Cashael Nwokeji is 11: her dad's the coach!

If you want to have some great fun and play a really popular sport, then you had better get your skates on!

Because roller skates, or roller blades, are just what you need to join thousands of kids around the country who are playing skater hockey.

The sport was popular in this country more than 60 years ago. But it went out of fashion until recently when roller skates started to make a comeback and roller blades hit the shops.

Thousands of kids are making up teams and trying to score goals by hitting the ball with sticks while skating in parks and car parks. And there are hundreds of clubs where you can play, though it can be

quite costly to buy helmets, elbow pads and knee or shin pads.

Some clubs though, like the Highbury Grove-based Islington Panthers, can lend you kit if you can't afford to buy it.

The Panthers are one of 8 teams that play in the London league's "Pee Wees" age group which is for players aged between 10 and 14. Kids under 10 are called "Minnows" and can join clubs to play games.

THE RULES

- Skater hockey, also known as street hockey, is played on a pitch between 15 and 20 metres wide and between 30 and 40 metres long.

- The goal is 1.85 metres wide and 1.20 metres high and the game is played with a plastic ball.

- No more than 5 players in a team are allowed on the pitch, although a team can have up to 18 players in their squad, and you can change players as many times as you like during a match.

- Shoulder-charging and other contact is part of the game – that's why protective clothing is recommended!

Want to know more about skater hockey and find out where you can play? Ask a grown-up to ring Sarah Ferguson, the secretary of the London league of the British Skater Hockey Association. Her number is 0956 492862.



St Lucia

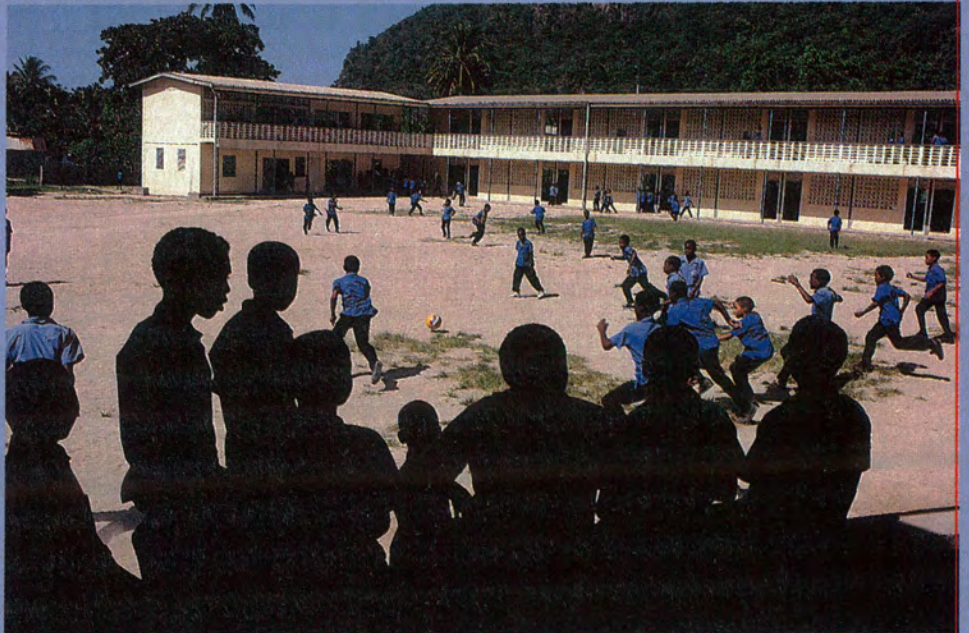


PHOTOS: PHILLIP WOLMUTH

Marcellus, Craig, Cuthbert and the other boys are 10 years old. They all go to the Boys' Primary School in Soufriere on St Lucia, a small island in the Caribbean. Only about 160,000 people live on St Lucia, which is very beautiful with mountains, a rainforest and beaches. The Sulphur Springs is a volcanic mountain and people bathe in the warm water from the springs.

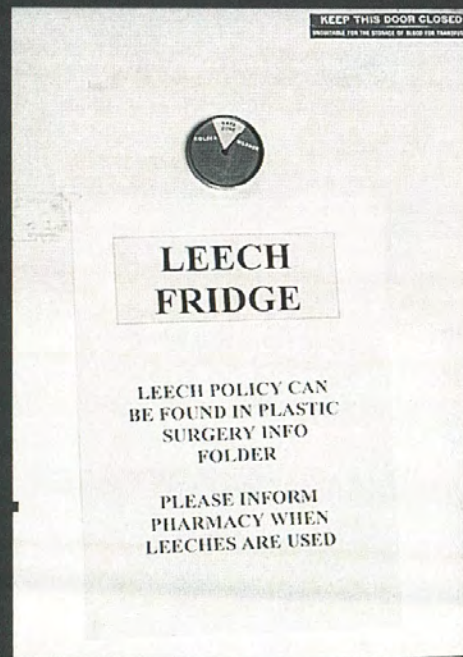
Soufriere was named after the Sulphur Springs by the French who fought the British for control of the island. The British won, but the people of St Lucia started to run their own island in February 1979.

Most families have small plots of land where they keep chickens and goats and grow much of the food they eat. Many bananas are grown on the island and sold to other countries, including Britain. The bananas are cut each week and loaded onto boats with fridges, but the banana farmers only get paid a small amount of money for the fruit they grow.



This is Soufriere where Marcellus and his friends live. Soufriere is on St Lucia, a small island in the Caribbean.

Meet “Larry” leech!



**He may be slimy
and slithery –
but he can be a
best friend to
both children and
grown-ups who
have had an
operation and
are being looked
after in hospital.**



A leech will stick very close to you – because it sucks blood for breakfast, lunch and tea. But while it is eating its meal, it is helping to keep the blood flowing in the veins of someone who has just had an operation to save a part of their body. If doctors put an arm, ear or finger back on after an accident, for example, the repaired part of the body needs blood to stay alive. While a leech feeds, it keeps the blood flowing out – and flowing to the repaired part of the body.

“A leech can make the difference between having a finger and not having a finger,” says Charge Nurse Steve Harulow who works at the Royal London Hospital. “Some people are shocked at the thought of a leech, but most people don’t mind us putting them on after we have explained why we use them and how they can help.”

Many people name their leech – “Larry” is the most popular name.

“The leech then becomes a

friend, almost like a teddy bear,” says Steve.

A leech can’t be used on more than one person in case it passes on any germs. And before a leech starts eating, a patient is given antibiotics to make sure they don’t catch any leech bugs.

There is a special fridge to store between 10 and 20 leeches at the Hospital. Leeches can move very quickly before eating, so they are kept in a jelly to slow them down a bit. Once they are fed, they are very fat and hardly move at all.

Leech facts

☛ A leech has 3 sharp jaws with many tiny teeth. A leech bites with the mouth end of its body and sticks itself to the skin with the other end. It falls off by itself when it is full up.

☛ Leeches have been used by doctors for many years. Ancient Egyptians, people living in ancient India and ancient Greeks and Romans used them. In Europe in the 17th century, many doctors treated their patients with leeches, and in the early 1800s,

the doctors in the French army were very keen on them.

☛ A leech is related to an earthworm.

☛ Leeches are hermaphrodites – they are male and female at the same time – and can live for up to a year without food.

☛ The Royal London and other hospitals get their leeches from Swansea in Wales where they are bred especially for medical use.

COMPETITIONS

Do you fancy some fast football action on top of a table?



Just tell us who scored the winning goal in the 1996 FA Cup Final, and you could win Proaction Football from Parker to play with your friends.

Send the answer to No Kidding! Football, Freepost LON6868, PO Box 10427, London N8 8BR by **Monday 24 February**. **The first 25 correct answers drawn out of a hat on that day will be the winners!**

TERMS: 1. Entrants must be in years 3,4,5 or 6 at school. 2. Closing date 24 February 1997. 3. There are no cash alternatives. 4. Winners will be sent their prize by post. 5. For a full list of winners, send an SAE to No Kidding! Football, PO Box 10427, London N8 8UP.

SEND MORSE CODE MESSAGES TO YOUR FRIENDS WITH AN ENERGIZER 2 IN 1 AREA FLASHLIGHT!



It's small enough to fit into your pocket and has Morse Code written on it! You can also turn it into a light to see what's in the darkest of corners by stretching its body.

We've got 50 of them to give away. Just answer the following question and send it on a postcard or back of an envelope to

**No Kidding! Torch,
Freepost Lon6868,
PO Box 10427,
London N8 8BR**

by Monday 24 February.

Don't forget to include your name, address, age and school name. The first 50 correct answers drawn out of a hat on that day will be the winners!

The question is:
What does the F and the B stand for in Samuel F.B. Morse?

TERMS: 1. Entrants must be in years 3,4,5 or 6 at school. 2. Closing date 24 February 1997. 3. There are no cash alternatives. 4. Winners will be sent their prize by post. 5. For a full list of winners, send an SAE to No Kidding! Torch, PO Box 10427, London N8 8UP.

TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD AND FIND OUT ABOUT DIFFERENT COUNTRIES WITH **THE PINK PANTHER!**



You can win a copy of The Pink Panther's Passport to Peril,

a computer game by Anglia Multimedia.



Name 3 countries beginning with P! Send them, with your name, address, age and school name to No Kidding! PP, Freepost Lon6868, PO Box 10427, London N8 8BR by Monday 24 February. The first correct 35 answers drawn out of a hat on that day will be the winners!

The Pink Panther's Passport to Peril is multimedia PC compatible (Windows 95 or 3.1), 486 SX, 66MHz or faster, 256 colours, VGA, 8MB RAM, 2 speed CD rom, plus mouse.

Other games from Anglia Multimedia which our Pink Panther testers really enjoyed are



Being a Scientist and *Romans*. Become a scientist or a Roman yourself if you play – both cost £14.99 in the shops.

If your name's not drawn out of the hat, you can buy a copy and save £5 by mentioning No Kidding! when you ring the Anglia Multimedia Hotline on 0500 600191. The game is on sale in the shops for £29.99 – but is available by telephone order for £24.99 (get a grown-up to call).

Terms: 1. Entrants must be in years 3,4,5 or 6 at school. 2. Closing date 24 February 1997. 3. There are no cash alternatives. 4. Winners will be sent their prize by post. 5. For a full list of winners, send an SAE to No Kidding! PP, PO Box 10427, London N8 8UP.

Win

A CHILD'S BOOK OF PLAY IN ART

We've got **20** copies of this book to give away!



TERMS: 1. Entrants must be in years 3,4,5 or 6 at school. 2. Closing date 24 February 1997. 3. There are no cash alternatives. 4. Winners will be sent their prize by post. 5. For a full list of winners, send an SAE to No Kidding! Art Book, PO Box 10427, London N8 8UP.

Just answer this question:

What was artist Van Gogh's first name?

Send the answer with your name, address, age and school name to No Kidding! Art Book, Freepost Lon6868, PO Box 10427, London N8 8BR by Monday 24 February.

A Child's Book of Play in Art is published by Dorling Kindersley. See On the Shelf on page 21



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OF NO KIDDING!
— COMING TO
YOUR SCHOOL
IN MARCH 1997**