

## CONGRATULATIONS

...MA'AM

### The Queen and Prince Philip celebrate 70 years of marriage

The bells of Westminster Abbey in London, where the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh married in 1947, rang to mark the occasion on the 20th November.

They are the first royal couple to celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary. When they married, the then Princess Elizabeth was 21 years old while her groom, Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, was 26.

Just two years after the Second World War, Britain was still recovering from the Blitz and rationing was in effect for everyone, even the royal family. The Queen saved up clothing coupons to purchase her ivory satin wedding gown. A thrifty Princess Elizabeth also did her own make-up on her wedding day.

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The couple were married in front of 2,000 invited guests. The ceremony was broadcast on radio, to 200 million listeners worldwide.

More than 2,500 wedding presents arrived from around the world, and 10,000 telegrams of congratulations.

The couple went to Buckingham Palace after the ceremony where they waved to large crowds from the balcony.

The official wedding cake was 9ft tall and was made by McVities and Price. Eleven other cakes were given as presents. With post-war food rationing still in place ingredients were sent as wedding presents from overseas, for example the official cake was made using ingredients given as a wedding gift by Australian Girl Guides. Pieces of cake and food parcels were later distributed to schoolchildren and institutions.

The grave of the Unknown Warrior was the only stone that was not covered by the special carpet in the Abbey. The day after the wedding, Princess Elizabeth followed a Royal tradition started by her mother, of sending her wedding bouquet back to the Abbey to be laid on this grave.

The royal couple celebrated their platinum wedding anniversary with a private dinner with family and friends at Windsor Castle.



## NEWS...

## INTERNATIONAL

### ...CHRISTMAS ISLAND!

Christmas Island is an island belonging to Australia in the Indian Ocean.

The island is famous for red crabs, of which there are an estimated 40-50 million! The island is 52 sq miles - so there are crabs everywhere.

The Government decided to make them a bridge across the busiest stretch of the road, so the crabs can get safely to the sea.



## BALI VOLCANO

Thousands of people on the island of Bali have been told to leave because a huge volcano there is expected to erupt very soon.

Bali is part of Indonesia, a country in south-east Asia, and is a popular place to go on holiday.

But as the volcano, Mount Agung, is expected to erupt, the island's airport has closed and there's a huge no-go area around the volcano. Officials say dark smoke and ash have been billowing up to 3,400m above the mountain's summit.

Mount Agung's volcanic tremors began in September.

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## RANDOM...

## CHRISTMAS FACTS

The Christmas cracker was invented by a London sweet shop owner called Tom Smith. In 1847, after spotting French bonbons wrapped in paper with a twist at each end, he sold similar sweets with a "love motto" inside. He then included a little trinket and a "bang". His "Bangs of Expectation" included gifts such as jewellery and miniature dolls. By 1900, he was selling 13 million a year.

During the 20th century there were only seven official white Christmases in the United Kingdom.

For a Christmas to be officially classified as "white" a single snow flake needs to be observed falling in the 24 hours of 25th December on the rooftop of the Met Office HQ in London.

Do you know why we say the Twelve Days of Christmas? It is believed that it took the 3 kings 12 days to find baby Jesus.

Holly and Ivy have been used to decorate homes since the 9th century because they symbolise everlasting life. The holly represents Christ's crown of thorns and the berries his blood.

In Home Alone, the ugly photo of Buzz's girlfriend is actually a boy because director Chris Columbus thought it would be too cruel to make fun of a real girl. The boy used in the picture is the art director's son.

What are the origins of Boxing Day? The name originates from the time when servants and staff would receive gifts known as a "Christmas box" from their employers. Sometimes the employer would give their staff the once a year opportunity to visit relations.

Did you ever wonder where X-Mas came from? X is a symbol for Christ in Greek, so to shorten the word Christmas we sometimes use X-Mas.

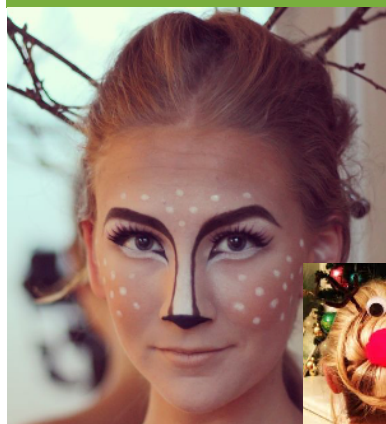
If you received all the gifts from the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" you would have 364 presents.

The tradition of naughty children getting a lump of coal in their stocking comes from Italy.

Electric Christmas tree lights were first used in 1895.

## ITS THAT TIME OF YEAR...

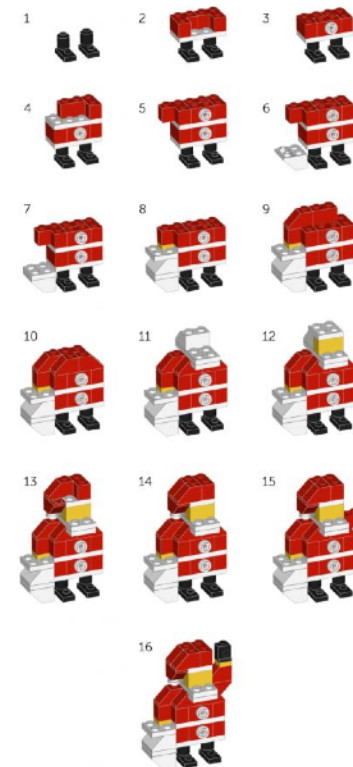
## CRAZY CHRISTMAS FASHION





CRAFTY!

## LEGO CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS!



ELF NAME

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WHATS YOUR...

- 1 Find the first letter of your first name.
- 2 The month you were born.

A	HAPPY	N	INKY
B	MERRY	O	BELLA
C	COOKIE	P	CANDY
D	TINKER	Q	SHIMMER
E	JOLLY	R	TRIFLE
F	TINY	S	SHERRY
G	SUNNY	T	NUTTY
H	GRUMPY	U	SUNSHINE
I	BUBBLES	V	BOB
J	ELFIE	W	McSPRINKLES
K	FRILLY	X	JINGLE
L	GLITZY	Y	NAUGHTY
M	SPARKLE	Z	BAUBLES

**JANUARY**  
**FEBRUARY**  
**MARCH**  
**APRIL**  
**MAY**  
**JUNE**  
**JULY**  
**AUGUST**  
**SEPTEMBER**  
**OCTOBER**  
**NOVEMBER**  
**DECEMBER**

McJINGLES  
 GLITTER-BOTTOM  
 VON TOYMAKER  
 ANGEL-EARS  
 MERRY-MESS  
 SUGAR-STITCHES  
 McBELLS  
 McRIBBON  
 CRAFTY-PANTS  
 JINGLE-BELLS  
 CURLY-TOES  
 TWINKLE-TOES



YOUNG SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR...

2017

## Meet the 10 stars who are in the running for 2017's Young Sports Personality of the Year award

## 16 year-old para-athlete

Kare Adenegan competes in the T34 wheelchair races. She picked up silver in the 100m and bronzes in the 400m and 800m at the World Para-athletics Championships in London

## 17 year-old footballer

Rhian Brewster plays for the England Under-17 team and in this year's World Cup he won the Golden Boot for the tournament's top scorer. He also scored the opening goal for his team in the final - which they won

## 18 year-old gymnast

Ellie Downie became the first Brit to win all-around gold at a major international event - the European Championships. She won two silvers in the vault and floor and bronze in the uneven bars at the event too.

## 18 year-old cricketer

Sophie Ecclestone was chosen for the England's Women's Ashes squad in Australia where she was one of the best bowlers for the team. She also played for Lancashire Thunder in the Women's Super League.

## 17 year-old footballer

Phil Foden plays for the England Under-17 team and in this year's World Cup he won the Golden Ball for the tournament's best player. He also scored twice in the final - which they won!

## 18 year-old canoeist

Ieuan James won gold in the K1 200m European Junior Championships and World Junior Championships. He is the first Brit to become World Junior Champion in 22 years.

## 18 year-old para-skier

Millie Knight won downhill gold at the World Para-alpine Skiing Championships. It was the first world title for a British Para-skier, and she also won silvers in the giant slalom, slalom and super combined events.

## 18 year-old rugby union player

Marcus Smith is usually the number 10 at his Premiership club, Harlequins. After playing really well for his team he got chosen for the England squad for the autumn international series.

## 17 year-old para-archer

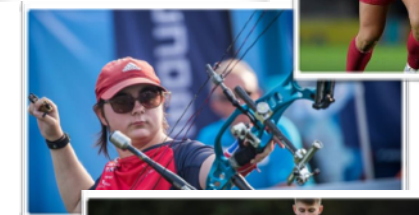
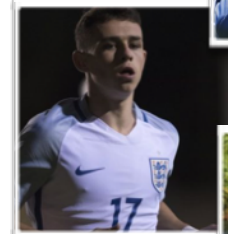
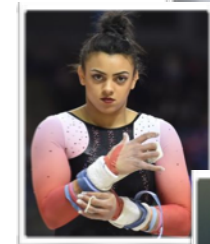
Jess Stretton won two gold medals at the World Para-archery Championships - one for the W1 pairs, which she won with partner John Cavanagh, and the second for the individual title, beating fellow Brit Jo Frith.

## 18 year-old footballer

Ben Woodburn scored the winning goal for Wales in their World Cup qualifying match over Austria. It was the first time he'd played in the senior team for his country and that goal made him Wales' second youngest scorer after Gareth Bale.

*Last year, swimmer Ellie Robinson won the prize. This year, the top three finalists will be announced on Blue Peter on Thursday, 7 December, and the overall winner will be presented with their trophy during the Sports Personality TV show on BBC One on 17 December.*

BBC Newsround



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