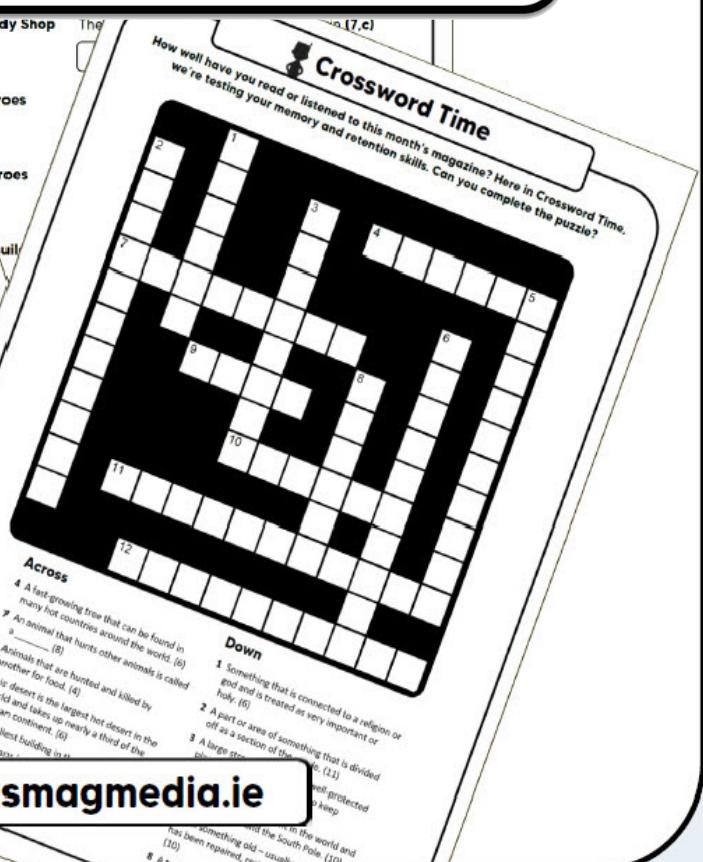
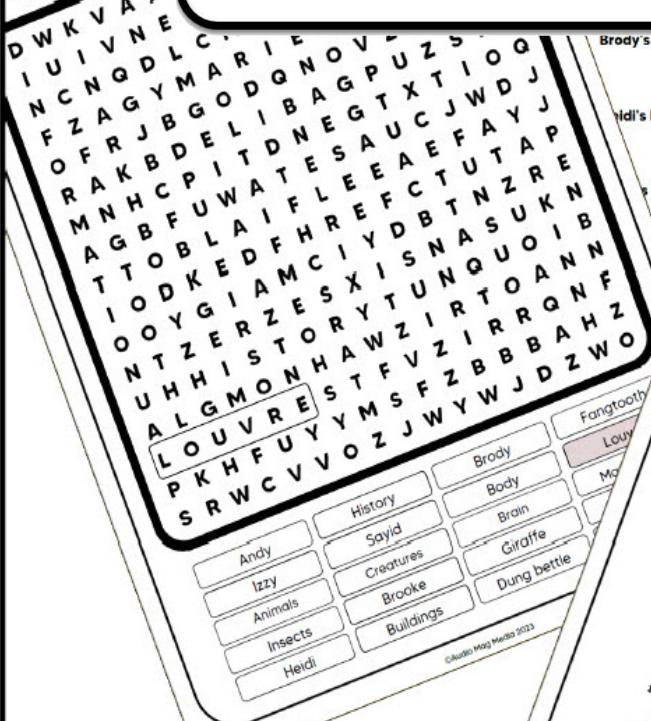


# News Flash

## Teacher Resource Pack

Teacher Resource Pack  
October 2025  
Issue #97



[www.newsmagmedia.ie](http://www.newsmagmedia.ie)



Copyright © News Mag Media Limited 2025. All rights reserved. If you or your school is not a paid subscriber, neither the whole of this publication nor any part of it may be reproduced, photocopied, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means without the written permission of the publishers News Mag Media.

## Sign up to our monthly newsletter

For monthly notifications to let you know resources and planning are ready for download, and for extra news articles, resources and relevant class news delivered direct to your inbox, sign up to our monthly newsletter and get the very most out of your News Mag Media subscription.



Scan this QR code to or visit <https://www.newsmagmedia.ie/resources-the-primary-planet/>



## New 68-PAGE AG MAG OUT!

We're delighted to let you know that AG MAG, Ireland's brand-new farming magazine for children, has just launched! Packed with stories, facts, interviews and safety tips, AG MAG is created especially for pupils who are curious about farming life and the world of agriculture.

Want to find out more? Full details are on the back page of this month's Primary Planet.

Visit [www.agmag.ie](http://www.agmag.ie)

For queries relating to resources, email [stephen@newsmagmedia.ie](mailto:stephen@newsmagmedia.ie)



20%  
OFF



Also  
available  
in  
Ukrainian

## The Fact Factory Reading Kit Available to SETs

Having collaborated with the Dyslexia Association of Ireland (DAI) and the National Council for the Blind of Ireland (NCBI), News Mag Media have proudly created the world's first audio-print magazine for children with print disabilities – dyslexia, visual impairment, reluctant readers, children with ASD and EAL being the most common. The purpose of the kit is to empower marginalised readers, inspire engagement with text, instil a love of reading and, ultimately, help every child, regardless of needs, feel included when it comes to reading. We hope (and believe) you will see the potential that the kit and magazines hold for print-disabled children.

“ We love *The Fact Factory* magazine and pen kit! It's a fantastic child-friendly resource. We have children with reading difficulties and dyslexia, as well as children with visual impairments, who absolutely love this resource!

Catherine, SET, Athlone

IDEAL FOR CHILDREN WITH ...

DYSLEXIA VISUAL IMPAIRMENT  
 EAL RELUCTANT READERS

For more information, visit [www.audiomagmedia.com](http://www.audiomagmedia.com),  
email [stephen@newsmagmedia.ie](mailto:stephen@newsmagmedia.ie) or call 087 659 7983



## Fill in the Blanks #1

Read through the words in the Word Bank first and make sure you understand them. Then, read the article. Make sure you think about the best place to put a word, not the first place. Careful as you go, as some words may fit in more than one place, while other words will only suit one.

### Westlife

McFadden

family

Ireland

albums

hits

comeback

suits

melodies

songs

Westlife is a famous boy band from (1)\_\_\_\_\_. The group became very popular in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The band was formed in 1998 and originally had five members: Shane Filan, Mark Feehily, Kian Egan, Nicky Byrne and Brian (2)\_\_\_\_\_.

Westlife became known for their love songs and ballads. Some of their biggest (3)\_\_\_\_\_ include 'Flying Without Wings', 'You Raise Me Up' and 'World of Our Own'. They often wore smart (4)\_\_\_\_\_ in their music videos and concerts.

In 2004, Brian left the band to spend more time with his (5)\_\_\_\_\_. The rest of the group continued as a four-piece and still had many hits. They have sold over 55 million (6)\_\_\_\_\_ around the world.

Westlife took a break in 2012 but made a big (7)\_\_\_\_\_ in 2018. Their fans were very excited to see them perform again. They often go on tour and sing their most popular (8)\_\_\_\_\_. Many people still enjoy Westlife's music today. Their songs are known for strong vocals, emotional lyrics and beautiful (9)\_\_\_\_\_.



## Fill in the Blanks #2

Read through the words in the Word Bank first and make sure you understand them. Then, read the article. Make sure you think about the best place to put a word, not the first place. Careful as you go, as some words may fit in more than one place, while other words will only suit one.

### Irish Presidential Election

duties

years

President

winner

Higgins

dogs

citizen

candidate

vote

In Ireland, people choose a (1)\_\_\_\_\_ to represent their country. The Irish President is not in charge of the government, but they do important (2)\_\_\_\_\_ for the country. The election usually happens every seven (3)\_\_\_\_\_.

Anyone who wants to be President must be an Irish (4)\_\_\_\_\_, over 35 years old, and get support from politicians or the public. During the election, people vote by putting a number beside each (5)\_\_\_\_\_, starting with their favourite.

The person who gets the most votes becomes the next (6)\_\_\_\_\_. The election is fair and peaceful, and everyone over 18 has the right to (7)\_\_\_\_\_. Michael D. (8)\_\_\_\_\_ is the current President of Ireland. He was first elected in 2011 and re-elected in 2018. He is known for loving animals, especially his two (9)\_\_\_\_\_, who are often seen by his side.

The Irish President helps bring people together, welcomes visitors from other countries, and represents Ireland at special events.



## Fill in the Blanks #3

Read through the words in the Word Bank first and make sure you understand them. Then, read the article. Make sure you think about the best place to put a word, not the first place. Careful as you go, as some words may fit in more than one place, while other words will only suit one.

### The O'Brien Press

readers  
publisher  
adventures  
schools  
adults  
stories  
classroom  
awards  
culture

The O'Brien Press is a book (1)\_\_\_\_\_ based in Ireland. It was started in 1973 and has published many books for children, teenagers and (2)\_\_\_\_\_. The company is known for telling great Irish (3)\_\_\_\_\_ and for working with talented writers and illustrators.

Many schools in Ireland use O'Brien Press books in the (4)\_\_\_\_\_. The stories are fun to read and often teach children about Irish (5)\_\_\_\_\_, history and life. Some of their books are about real people, while others are made-up (6)\_\_\_\_\_.

One of their most popular authors is Judi Curtin. She has written lots of exciting books for young (7)\_\_\_\_\_. Another well-known book from The O'Brien Press is Under the Hawthorn by Marita Conlon-McKenna.

The O'Brien Press has won many (8)\_\_\_\_\_ for its books. It continues to help children enjoy reading and learn about the world around them. You can find their books in libraries, (9)\_\_\_\_\_ and bookshops across the country.



## All the Mistakes #1

Read through the article taken from this month's issue and see if you can spot the nine spelling mistakes.

# Westlife Put a Stamp on 25 Years

Twenty-five years in the music business is a pretty impressive achievement – and not one reached by many pop bands. But Irish group Westlife have done just that.

To mark the milestone, An Post has released a set of commemorative stamps featuring all four members – Nicky Byrne, Kian Egan, Mark Feehily and Shane Filan.

Speaking to RTÉ Radio 1's *Liveline*, Kian Egan admitted he didn't realise how special it was until his mum rang him. 'It's not until your mother is ringing you up going "Oh my God, I can't believe you're on a stamp!" that you realise how special it all is,' he said.

Over the past two and a half decades, Westlife have enjoyed huge success, including 14 UK number-one singles, 55 million record sales worldwide, two Brit Awards and even a Guinness World Record for six consecutive UK number-one singles. They were also inducted into the Irish Music Association Hall of Fame.

The full stamp collection is available online and in post offices nationwide.

**Flashy Fact:** Westlife were originally called Westside – until they discovered another band had the same name.

### Correct spelling

Choose three of these words and put them into sentences.



## All the Mistakes #2

Read through the article taken from this month's issue and see if you can spot the nine spelling mistakes.

### Bluey's Big Screen Debut

Since first bounding onto our screens in 2021, Bluey – the loveable Blue Heeler pup – has stolen the hearts of children and adults alike.

Packed with fun, warmth, everyday adventures and plenty of laugh-out-loud moments, the show's popularity shows no sign of slowing down. Now Bluey is heading for the big screen, with a full-length movie due in August 2027!

While details are still scarce, we do know that Bluey's creator, Joe Brumm, will write and direct the film. Melanie Zanetti and David McCormack will return as the voices of Chilli and Bandit, while composer Joff Bush will once again provide the music.

It seems Bluey is set to stay a part of our lives for years to come. Which has to be a good thing!

**Flashy Fact:** Joe Brumm created Bluey with the idea that both kids and parents would enjoy watching it together – and it looks like he succeeded!

#### Correct spelling





## All the Mistakes #3

Read through the article taken from this month's issue and see if you can spot the nine spelling mistakes.

### Rare Albino Pudu Deer Spotted

Tiny, shy and utterly adorable – pudu deer are amonge the world's cutest creatures.

Standing at just 50 cm tall when fully grown, they live in the South American countrys of Chile and Argentina but are rearly seen.

But a group of tourists in Chile's Tepuhueico Park recintly had a rare encounter when they spotted an albino pudu deer. They named the little animal Blanquito, which means 'little white one' in Spanish.

Albinism occurs when an animal produces little or no melanen, leaving its fur wite and its eyes pink. This can make it harder for it to see and easier to fall prey to predators.

Luckily for Blanquito, Chiloé Island – where he was spotted – has very few predators, giving pudu deer a better chance of survival.

**Flashy Fact:** Pudu deer are nocturnel and usually live alone, hiding away from predators.

#### Correct spelling


Choose three of these words and put them into sentences.




## Word Workout #1

Find the page, fact or story to find the word that solves the clue to its meaning. The number of letters and the starting letter of the word are in brackets after each clue.

Page	Article/Paragraph	CLUE (number of letters, first letter)	
2	... Forgetful Flashy	The child of your aunt or uncle	(6, c)
3	The Nature Notebook	Lamp, torch, gaslight	(7, l)
4	... Stamp on 25 Years	Celebratory, in honour of something	(13, c)
4	... Netflix Record	Defending	(10, p)
4	... Candidates Decided	To stop working	(6, r)
5	... Deer Spotted	Happens	(6, o)
6	Picture This	Flightless birds that live in Antarctica	(8, p)
8	This Month in History	Goodness, compassion, unselfishness	(8, k)
8	This Month in History	Started, began (as in a company/organisation)	(7, f)





## Word Workout #2

Find the page, fact or story to find the word that solves the clue to its meaning. The number of letters and the starting letter of the word are in brackets after each clue.

Page	Article/Paragraph	CLUE (number of letters, first letter)
9	Art to Heart	Scary, creepy (6, s)
9	Art to Heart	Invented, fictional, not real (9, i)
10	A Speech Therapist	Anxious, fearful, jittery (7, n)
10	A Speech Therapist	Complete changes (15, t)
11	NF Book Club	Smart, bright, intelligent (6, c)
14	Farm Life	Equipment, appliance, apparatus, vehicle (9, m)
15	Breathe Easy	Catching (10, c)
18	Japan	Religious, sacred, divine (9, s)
22	Sports Desk	Loss (in sport) (6, d)





## Quiz 24

This month's 24-question quiz is based on the 24 pages of *News Flash*. The question number corresponds to the page it is taken from. For example, the answer to Q.7 can be found on page 7 and the answer to Q.14 can be found on page 14.

1. Which issue number is October 2025's *News Flash*?
2. On which page is Alphabet Animals?
3. What is the Harvest Moon?
4. How many members are there in Westlife?
5. When is Bluey due to hit the big screen?
6. What is the name of the very cute Cavalier King Charles Spaniel puppy?
7. What type of animal is Carina?
8. What did Henry Dunant become the first person to win in 1901?
9. Which country was Leonora Carrington's mum from?
10. How many words do people usually say each day?
11. What is the name of the author of *The Clubhouse Mystery*?
12. What size shoes did Robert Wadlow need?
13. When was the largest blue whale ever recorded found?
14. What is the wrap speed of the McHale Fusion 4?
15. How many breaths do you take each day?
16. Which mode of transport is in the autumn picture?
17. How many words are *listed* to be found in the wordsearch?
18. How many of Japan's islands are inhabited?
19. What is tofu?
20. How many tattoos did Ötzi the Iceman have?
21. Which animals are cousins with the vicuña?
22. How many events are in the heptathlon?
23. Who won the men's soccer World Cup when it was last held in North America in 1994?
24. In which country did the football match happen?



# Word Search Maker

Here's your chance to create a word search for your friend or classmate to complete. Fill in the 12 words in the word search grid (they can go backward, forward or diagonally) and then list them in the word boxes underneath the puzzle. Fill in all the other squares with random letters so your words become hidden. Perhaps you could include a secret word (not in the list) that your friend must try and find on their own.

A 10x10 grid of black lines on a white background. The grid consists of 9 horizontal rows and 9 vertical columns, creating a total of 81 equal-sized squares. The lines are thin and black, with the grid centered on the page.




## Sudoku Time

Each of the 9 boxes must contain the numbers 1 – 9. When you fill them in, you will then see that each line going across and each line going down also contains the numbers 1 – 9.

9			6		2			7
8				5		2		
	4	2		7	1			
	9			1		5		
8	3	2	6	5		1		
6				4		8	2	
					7		9	
	6			8		5		
		5	4	7		3		

			8		5			
9				3				1
5	7							
8		7	4			1		5
			3		7			2
4	5	6				3		7
		2		7			4	3
7	5	9		4				
3			5	8	2		1	



## Poster Print Time

For this month's poster challenge, we want you to create a poster for a Maths Week event. It can be a party, a quiz, a competition – whatever you want it to be! Remember to be both informative and creative – you want people to know about it AND look forward to it!



## Crack the Joke

In this month's Crack the Joke on Page 17, a funny joke is waiting to be cracked. When you solve the code and reveal the gag, see if you can come up with a drawing/illustration that you think best captures the joke.



## My Favourite Facts

Every issue of **News Flash** is packed full of facts and figures. Why not record the top four things that you learned from this issue? When you do, make sure to draw an illustration to go with each one. When you are finished, share and discuss your choices with your classmates. We have added one of our favourite ones below.

It takes about 100 muscles to speak – lips, tongue, throat, cheeks and jaw all work together.



1

2

3

4



## Talk Time

Based on articles from this month's magazine, we want you to think about some of the issues that arise. Remember, when you are trying to put forward an opinion, or an argument, make sure you know your facts and figures and be clear in how you feel about a certain topic and why.

Here are some questions and statements you and your class might like to consider thinking about and discussing. Some you will agree with, some you clearly won't!

1. KPop Demon Hunters should be shown at Irish cinemas.

2. Bluey episodes should be longer than seven minutes.

3. Every school day should start with breathing exercises.

4. The compass is the world's greatest invention.

5. SO l'Emyrne were right to take a stand against terrible refereeing.



## What's in the News?

How well have you read this month's paper? Here in 'What's in the News', as well as testing your memory and retention skills, we also test your imagination and creative skills. We base this activity on our News Desk section on pages 3, 4 & 5. Read the articles and answer the following

1. How many UK number-one singles have Westlife had?

2. What were Westlife originally called?

3. What is the name of Huntr/x's rivals?

4. How long is one term for an Irish president?

5. In which year could we first watch Bluey here in Ireland?

6. What does 'Blanquito' mean?

7. Name the three Irish presidential candidates.

8. When is the Irish presidential election?



## Know Your Sport

How well have you read this month's sports news? Here, in Know Your Sport, we're testing your memory and retention skills. We base this activity on the pages from our sports section. Read the articles and answer the following questions.

1. How many goals has Ronaldo scored in Portugal's opening two World Cup qualifiers?
2. Which group are Ireland in for the World Cup qualifiers?
3. Where did Kate O'Connor win her silver medal?
4. In which event did Cian McPhillips come fourth?
5. In which countries is the 2026 World Cup being held?
6. Which county is Aoife O'Rourke from?
7. Where do Ireland play New Zealand on November 1?
8. Which title does Alphonso Davies hold in Canada's national team?



## Word Search

This word search contains words to do with Japan! Can you find them all ... including the secret term not listed below. Clue: *Japan's national sport*



Bullet train	Imperial Palace	Manga	Origami	Sushi
Emperor	Islands	Mount Fuji	Ramen	Tokyo
Hokkaido	Karaoke	Nintendo	Robotics	Toyota
Honshu	Kyushu	Nippon	Shikoku	Yen

Front Cover Design Time: Issue 97, October 2025





# Answers

## Fill in the Blanks #1

1. Ireland
2. McFadden
3. hits
4. suits
5. family
6. albums
7. comeback
8. songs
9. melodies

## Fill in the Blanks #2

1. President
2. duties
3. years
4. citizen
5. candidate
6. winner
7. vote
8. Higgins
9. dogs

## Fill in the Blanks #3

1. publisher
2. adults
3. stories
4. classroom
5. culture
6. adventures
7. readers
8. awards
9. schools

## All the Mistakes #1

1. Achievement
2. Reached
3. Done
4. Milestone
5. Commemorative
6. Speaking
7. Believe
8. Including
9. Originally

## All the Mistakes #2

1. Lovable
2. Hearts
3. Popularity
4. Full-length
5. Scarce
6. Creator
7. Film
8. Composer
9. Succeeded

## All the Mistakes #3

1. Utterly
2. Among
3. Countries
4. Rarely
5. Recently
6. Melanin
7. White
8. Predators
9. Nocturnal

## Word Workout #1

1. Cousin
2. Lantern
3. Commemorative
4. Protecting
5. Retire
6. Occurs
7. Penguins
8. Kindness
9. Founded

## Word Workout #2

1. Spooky
2. Imaginary
3. Nervous
4. Transformations
5. Clever
6. Machinery
7. Contagious
8. Spiritual
9. Defeat



# Answers

## Word Search



## Eye Spy



## Quiz 24

- 97
- 21
- The full moon that happens closest to the start of autumn.
- Four
- August 2027
- Charlie
- A koala
- The Nobel Peace Prize
- Ireland
- 16,000
- Erika McGann
- Size 37
- 1909
- 18 seconds
- 20,000
- A bicycle
- 20
- 430
- Soft cubes of pressed soya beans
- 61
- The llama and alpaca
- Seven
- Brazil
- Madagascar

## In the News

- 14
- Westside
- The Saja Boys
- Seven years
- 2021
- 'Little white one' in Spanish
- Heather Humphries, Jim Gavin and Catherine Connolly
- October 24

## Know Your Sport

- Three
- Group F
- At the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Japan
- 800m
- Canada, Mexico and the United States
- Roscommon
- Chicago
- Captain



# Answers

From Puzzler Pages (pages 16 & 17 of News Flash )

## Crack the Joke

*There are three types of people in this world... those who can count and those who can't!*

## FIGURE IT OUT

1. 3 – An octopus has three hearts.
2. 6 – A standard guitar has six strings.
3. 8 – There are eight planets in the Solar System.
4. 8 – A spider has eight legs.
5. 206 – The adult human body has 206 bones.
6. 1,665 – The Eiffel Tower has 1,665 steps to the top.

## Sudoku

9	3	5	6	8	2	1	4	7
8	1	7	4	5	9	2	6	3
6	4	2	3	7	1	8	9	5
2	9	4	8	1	3	5	7	6
7	8	3	2	6	5	9	1	4
5	6	1	7	9	4	3	8	2
4	5	8	1	3	6	7	2	9
3	7	6	9	2	8	4	5	1
1	2	9	5	4	7	6	3	8

4	1	3	8	9	5	2	7	6
9	2	6	7	3	4	8	5	1
5	7	8	2	6	1	9	3	4
8	3	7	4	2	9	1	6	5
6	9	1	3	5	7	4	8	2
2	4	5	6	1	8	3	9	7
1	8	2	9	7	6	5	4	3
7	5	9	1	4	3	6	2	8
3	6	4	5	8	2	7	1	9

## Word Search (magazine)

