

## Happy Hellos

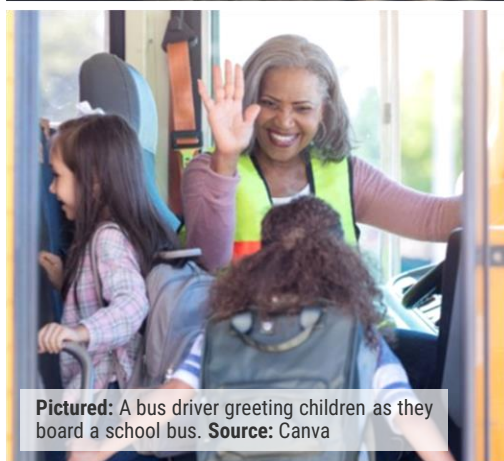
Research conducted by the University of Sussex, Transport for London (TfL) and research company, Neighbourly Lab, has revealed that passengers saying, 'good morning' or 'thank you' had a positive impact on bus drivers' happiness and job satisfaction, making them feel 'respected', 'seen' and 'appreciated'. The small study showed that although 80% of passengers questioned at one bus stop believed it would have a positive impact to say 'hello' to their bus driver, on average only two in ten passengers did. The bus company have now introduced signs on buses encouraging people to speak to their driver. This has increased the number of interactions to three in ten. Grainne O'Dwyer, who led the research, said, 'This research makes an exciting contribution to our understanding around the value of small, daily interactions. The positive impact that something as small as a 'hello' or 'thank you' can make for our brilliant bus drivers demonstrates the power of these small actions. It argues the case for looking up from your phone, even briefly, and giving a friendly smile or greeting when on your daily commute, grabbing

your daily coffee, grabbing a few bits from the shop. After all, a thanks or hello means more than you know.'

***Do you think a friendly greeting is always a good idea?***



**Pictured:** Buses in London. **Source:** Canva



**Pictured:** A bus driver greeting children as they board a school bus. **Source:** Canva

## Sardinian Seagrass

One million seagrass seedlings will be planted by 2050 as part of a new project to protect Sardinia's beaches. Scientists working at the Med Sea Foundation say the reintroduction of seagrass meadows in the Mediterranean sea, surrounding the Italian island, will not only protect their beaches, but help to combat climate change, and contribute towards saving the planet. The amazing plant provides habitat for nearly all species in the sea, and importantly gives a nursery area for young wildlife. The sea forests anchor the sediment on the seafloor and dissipate wave energy, helping to protect the seabed and prevent the erosion of beaches. The plant also produces and releases oxygen, which helps to regulate the ocean's acidity. Seagrass



**Pictured:** Caprera Island, Sardinia, Italy. **Source:** Canva



**Pictured:** Posidonia oceanica in the Mediterranean sea. **Source:** Canva

stores 35 times more carbon per area of rootstock than trees in rainforests. Seagrasses are also the only flowering plants able to live and pollinate whilst fully submerged in seawater. 'If there was no seagrass there, then the coastal areas would get much more damaged. It's important for biodiversity, it's important for the life that lives in the ocean, but it's also important for those of us who live on the land,' says Lucy Woodall, a marine biologist who is involved with the project, and works at the University of Exeter, UK. Sardinia is the second largest island in the Mediterranean Sea (measuring 24,090 km<sup>2</sup>). It has around 1850km of coastline and beautiful beaches.

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# Cheetahs Check-in

Two cheetahs have arrived at Yorkshire Wildlife Park, which provides a walkthrough wildlife experience near Doncaster. Darcy, a 4-year-old female, and Brooke, a 13-year-old male, are both endangered Northern Cheetahs. The pair will move into the specially designed Cheetah Territory that covers 10,000 square metres of bespoke habitat. 'The habitat comprises three new reserves and two houses, forming a breeding complex which, at approximately 2.5 acres, is believed to be the largest in Europe. The landscape is enriched with trees, rocks, sandy areas to relax, caves and lookout points which are expected to be popular

with the new arrivals. Cheetahs have excellent sight and can see prey up to 3 miles away,' said Dr Charlotte Macdonald, Director of Animals at the park. Cheetahs, the smallest of the big cat species, are known to be the world's fastest land animal, capable of running at 128 km/h in short bursts. However, they usually chase their prey at half this speed. They also need about 30 minutes to recover before they eat their catch. Another interesting fact about the spotted feline is instead of roaring, they meow and purr!

***Do you know any other interesting facts about cheetahs?***



**Pictured:** A Cheetah sitting and running **Source:** Canva



## Last week's topic: What makes art valuable?



Although I enjoy looking at pretty art, I do think the millions of pounds could be spent better to help people in need.

**Marika**

I love painting. I keep all my pictures and my Gran puts them up.

**Ismay**

I think art has different value to each person looking at it, it's a matter of opinion.

**Norman**

I think a story behind art can make it very valuable - sometimes hearing about what the artist was thinking when they painted their piece is more interesting to me than what the art is.

**Jess**

## Let us know what you think about this week's news?



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