



## Talented Teen Artist

Lockdown offered an opportunity for some people: the gift of a little more time. It may have been used to reflect, discover a new interest or hobby or pursue something enjoyable. For teenager, Makenzy Beard, it was painting. The 14-year-old from Swansea took to painting portraits with one of her neighbours, farmer John Tucker, going viral on social media and attracting global interest. Some of Makenzy's portraits are currently on display at Blackwater Gallery, Cardiff Bay. Director of Blackwater Gallery, Kimberley Lewis, said: 'I think anyone can be a good portrait artist, but I think it takes a lot to show real personality and the soul of a person through their pieces and I think for someone so young, Makenzy does this brilliantly.' The gallery also stated that three of MaKenzy's pieces have already sold, with

one buyer offering £10,000! Makenzy plans to keep her options for the future open. She said: 'I think it's quite nice to have a balance between art and academic stuff. I also want to travel and play sport.' Did you discover a new interest during Lockdown? Let us know.



*Pictured: Makenzy Beard with her portrait of her Grampa  
Source: @MakenzyBeard Twitter Page*

## France Bans Plastic Packaging



*Pictured: Fruit and vegetables without plastic packaging  
Source: Canva*

France have announced plans to ban plastic packaging for fruit and vegetables. The environment ministry have published a list of around 30 fruits and vegetables, including apples, oranges, cucumbers, onions and carrots, that can no longer be sold using plastic packaging. Retailers have been given the time to find alternatives with the ban coming into effect on 1 January 2022. In a statement, the ministry said: 'We use an outrageous amount of single-use plastic in our daily lives.' It is expected the new measure will eliminate one billion unnecessary plastic packages. The ban will be extended to all fruit and vegetables, even the more delicate fruit, such as berries, no later than June 2026.



## Giant Sunfish Caught In Fishing Net

A giant sunfish was caught off the Mediterranean Sea by a commercial fishing boat. The sunfish, with an estimated weight of a whopping 2,000 kilograms, became tangled in the nets of the fishing boat near the Spanish city of Cueta. Enrique Ostale, a marine biologist from the University of Seville, responded to the scene with a team and was there while the fish was taken out of the water using a crane. The team took measurements, photos and DNA samples. The measurements were used to estimate the weight of the sunfish as they were unable to use the scales! Ostale said: 'We tried to put it on the 1,000-kg scale but it was too heavy. It would've broken it.' The sunfish was released back into the sea, where it soon disappeared. It is thought the giant sunfish is the *Mola alexandrini*, part of a protected species in Europe. According to the

Guinness Book of World Records, the largest sunfish ever caught weighed in at nearly 2300kg!



*Pictured: The captured sunfish*  
Source: Universidad de Sevilla Facebook Page

## Your thoughts on last week's news...

*No, sometimes we should just do the right thing.*  
Ellie – age 11

*You should be rewarded for being kind because you're being a good person and making others feel good.*  
Daisy – age 9



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

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

*We think that although it feels good to receive compliments, you should do good deeds for the outcome.*  
Class 2 – age 10

*I think it's great to celebrate success!*  
Marcel – age 11

I think...



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