The Daily Rigour

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Your free weekly numeracy newspaper!

Sun sets for final time in 2020 for Alaskan city

The sun has set for the final time this year in Utqiagvik, America's northernmost city, where residents have been plunged into darkness until January.

Residents of Utqiaġvik, the Alaskan city formerly known as Barrow, saw the sun set on their hometown at 1·30 pm on Wednesday, and have to wait another 62 days before it officially rises again! This annual phenomenon is known as 'polar night', which is when the sun remains below the horizon due to the tilt of Earth. When can residents expect the sun to rise again?

Belgian racing pigeon New Kim sells for record £1·4m

A female racing pigeon from Belgium called New Kim has been sold for a record £1·4m to a mystery Chinese buyer at an online auction.

This is £1·0325m more expensive than the most expensive sheep ever sold but £7·7m less than what was paid for the most expensive race horse.

(a) What is the highest fee ever paid for a sheep?

(b) How much was paid for the most expensive race horse?

Rupert Grint breaks David Attenborough's million Instagram followers record

Rupert Grint has shattered a record set by Sir David Attenborough by becoming the fastest person to reach one million followers on Instagram.

The Harry Potter star managed to reach the milestone in just four hours and one minute – that's a full 43 minutes quicker than Sir David Attenborough.

(a) How long did it take Sir David Attenborough to reach one million followers on Instagram?

Shown opposite is a list of the owners of the 10 most followed accounts on Instagram.

Owners of the 10 most followed accounts on Instagram

10. 4 × 2·5 _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _
9. Only even prime number _ _ _ _ _ _
8. A dozen _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _
7. 15 + (-4) _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
6. 16 + 12 ÷ 4 _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _
5. 7·8 + 3·2 _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _
4. -2 – (-6) _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _ _
3. √1 _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _
2. 57 ÷ 19 _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ _ _ _
1. √-1 _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

We have given you a clue for the first letter of each name/organisation. The answer to the calculation/clue corresponds to the number of the letter in the alphabet, e.g. a = 1, b = 2, etc.

(b) Can you name the owners of the 10 most followed accounts on Instagram?

Mum shares lovely note from the tooth fairy to apologise for late visit

A mum has shared a note left by the tooth fairy after her daughter was left disappointed at not receiving a visit.

As it turns out, the tooth fairy got tangled in a "sticky spiderweb" and by the time she broke free it was nearly morning.

A child begins to loose their milk teeth from the age of 6 onwards and this process can last until their early teens.

They have 10 on the top and 10 on the bottom.

The average payment per tooth in Scotland is 75p. How much does the average child in Scotland receive in total from the tooth fairy for all of their milk teeth?