



## Record-breaking Echium?

Darren Wilson was working on a job when he came across an echium plant. Rather than throw it in the skip, the qualified tree surgeon, from Saltash in Cornwall, decided to rescue it. He planted it in his front garden and three years later, the plant now stands at a whopping 18 feet tall. After Darren and his wife measured the gigantic plant, they decided to do some online research to try and find out the height of the tallest echium in the UK. Their research revealed the tallest plant was 16 feet – 2 feet shorter than Darren's! Darren said, 'It's gone mad, when you come up the hill to my house, it's right in your eye line, you've got this massive plant just towering above.' Echium plants are biennial, which means they take two years to flower, but Darren's plant flowered in its third year, giving it a whole extra year of growing. He also believes good sunlight and a fleece in winter to protect the plant during the colder months have helped it grow. Darren has tried to contact Guinness World Records so who knows? Maybe Darren's 18 feet echium will become an official record-breaker!



*Pictured: Purple flowers of an echium plant*

*Source: Canva*

## Thank a Teacher Day!



*Pictured: A thank you message to a teacher!*

*Source: Canva*

School has been very different this year. We have taken part in lessons in the classroom and lessons remotely, we have video called, chatted to our teachers on the phone, received a variety of online tasks and more! And guess who has been there every step of the way? Your teachers! With National Thank a Teacher Day taking place on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June this year, we would like to help you say a big thank you to the teachers who have made a difference to you. We would like to collate your messages of thanks so send your written messages, short videos and pictures to [help@picture-news.co.uk](mailto:help@picture-news.co.uk). Please ensure we have received these by Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June if you would like to be in with a chance of sharing your thanks with your fabulous teacher in our special Picture News video!



## Arthur Inspired into Action!

For many, lockdown forced a move to online. 2<sup>nd</sup> Elm Park Cubs including member, Arthur, were no exception, holding their weekly Cub meets via Zoom. Cub leaders invited influencers to attend these online sessions, with two influences inspiring Arthur into action. Chris the Coast Walker told his story about how he planned to walk almost 11,000 miles of mainland Britain to raise funds for Children in Need and Colin from RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) discussed the struggles of raising funds and the amazing work they do at sea to save lives. They provide 24-hour search and rescue around the UK and Ireland and the lifeguards keep watch on 240 of the busiest beaches. Arthur combined the two, which would go towards his Chief Scout Silver Award, the highest award he can achieve as a cub. He video recorded a pledge to his pack to join in with the challenge, explaining that they would walk the boarder of Elm Park twice (8.6km in total) to raise funds for RNLI. Arthur felt this year was an important year to support such a charity because of the number of visitors predicted to visit the coast in the UK. The Cubs have a JustGiving page and have already raised over £100!



Pictured: Arthur

Source: Arthur's JustGiving page

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

*I love animals and wish I could live on a farm!*  
Willow – age 6

*I don't eat meat but I can see farmers are important to provide food for us. Not just meat but cereals, vegetables, fruits too.*  
Elijah – age 11



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!

*I think it is important for farmers to look after the eco-system because if they don't we will lose homes for animals and some plants. They shouldn't use chemicals as it wouldn't be good for the environment or us.*

Year 3 - Manston St James

I think...



YOUR COMMENTS

Share your thoughts on our online discussion board:  
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