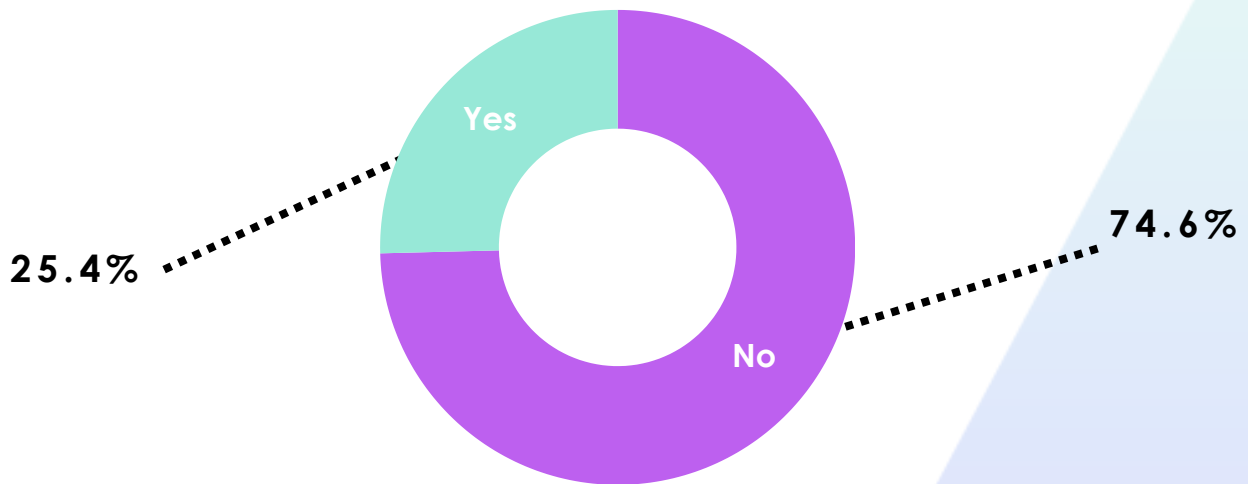


YOUR LATEST RESULTS

Should school holidays be redistributed?



This VoteTopic received 48,444 total votes.

THIS WEEK'S BIG QUESTIONS

Do you think alien life exists?

- What do you think alien life looks like?
- How many planets do you think there are which could support life in our galaxy?
- Do you think there is enough convincing evidence that aliens have visited Earth?

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

- *"Considering the number of planets and stars that we know exist, it's extremely unlikely that we are the only form of evolved life." - Professor Stephen Hawking*
- *"Biologists argue that the number of evolutionary pathways leading from one-celled organisms to intelligent beings is miniscule." - Professor Frank Tipler*
- *"I sometimes wonder where the aliens are, but I have little doubt that they're out there." - Doctor Maggie Aderin-Pocock*

A CLOSER LOOK: AREA 51



Area 51 has been linked to stories about aliens and UAPs (Unexplained Aerial Phenomena) for several decades. Located deep in the Nevada desert in the USA, it started out as a test site for aeroplanes in the 1950s during the Cold War. Scientists were working on creating anti-radar aircraft, which they kept secret as they did not want other countries replicating the technology.

However, in 1989, a man called Robert Lazar gave an interview where he claimed that Area 51 was where alien spacecraft were kept and studied so that their advanced technology could be used.

Even though investigators found that Lazar had never worked at Area 51, this area is still full of alien-themed restaurants, museums, shops and festivals for people who don't believe it is just a military research base.

YOUR COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- What does UAP stand for?
- During which conflict was Area 51 constructed?
- Find a synonym for the word "copying" in the text.
- Who started the first rumours about Area 51?
- What kind of attractions can you find around Area 51?

THIS WEEK'S OTHER NEWS STORIES

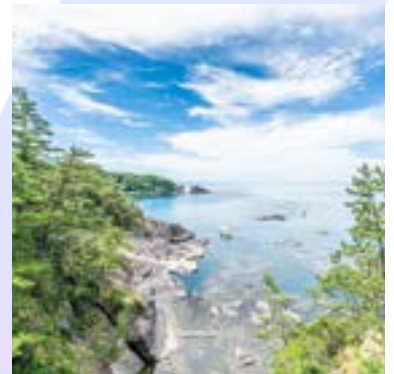
NHS strike is one for the history books

Junior doctors have taken part in the longest strike in NHS history, with six days of walkouts taking place. The British Medical Association has said the profession needs to be better-valued.



New Year's Day earthquake shakes Japan

A 7.6 magnitude earthquake hit central Japan on 1st January, damaging roads and houses. A tsunami was predicted to follow the quake, but thankfully waves were not as strong as was feared.



King's New Year Honours list announced

People from across the world of sport, media, medicine, and fundraising have been named on the King's New Year Honours list. The youngest recipient, Tony Hudgell, is just nine years old!



Luke Littler gives a darts masterclass

Luke Littler has astounded darts fans by becoming the runner-up in the World Darts Championship at just 16. He has climbed over 130 places in the world rankings since the tournament began.



For more news stories, check out CBBC Newsround, First News, The Week Junior and Simple Politics.