



## Maxine's Shout

Hi boys and girls,  
I hope you had a good weekend and are having a fun week. On Saturday and Sunday, Capital Radio's Jingle Bell Ball took place at London's O2 arena.  
Were you there on either day dancing and singing along to Take That, Jessie J, Ed Sheeran and many more? Don't forget to write and let me know. I'd love to know who your favourite Jingle Bell

Ball 2014 artist was.  
This week on Press Gang we are giving away sets of Qbees. If you want to be part of this new craze, don't forget to enter and good luck to you all!  
To contribute to this page, please tell your parents, or staff, at your school or club, to contact me at maxine.leckerman@archant.co.uk, phone 020 8477 3807 or by post at the usual Media House

address. If you would like the chance to be our Star of the Week, please ask a parent or teacher to contact me. Finally, don't forget to send us your lovely weather pictures to brighten up our weekly forecast. See page 2 for more details.  
Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to hearing from you very soon.  
Maxine x

# See your ideas brought to life

## Inventor hands out top tips on how to succeed

Budding inventors must make sure their ideas are unique and carry out their research if they want to succeed.  
That is the advice being given by Jason Palmer, the man behind popular children's fashion accessories - Qbees.  
Mr Palmer, 44, from Barkingside, conjured up the idea for the snap around headphone cable decorations while travelling on a train.  
He said: "A couple boarded the train and as they sat down, between two other passengers, it occurred to me that they were all wearing the same white earphones.  
"The passengers all looked so individual apart from the earphones. This got me thinking, how could you personalise those little cables and in a flash Qbees were born."



From left; Jerome Olukanmi, Jacob West, Macky Driscoll and Zak Woolf

Mr Palmer has been turning his dream into a reality since 2012 and believes good designs are essential. He worked with designers to create the initial products but believes future creations could come from con-

sumers themselves.  
He said: "Our 'Become a Qube Designer' competitions have brought in exciting new designs from young people who want to showcase their talents. Who knows? We could see

the designers of the future starting with a simple Qbees design.  
"My advice for budding inventors is to make sure ideas are unique, commercially viable and to conduct market research."

## Star of the Week Emilia Nygaard Parsons

Emilia started at Bancroft's Senior School in Woodford Green this September and has already made a great impression. The 12-year-old recently achieved the best set of academic grades in her year group, earning herself a headteacher commendation. Emilia is a talented musician and will soon be taking grade six piano, grade four clarinet and grade seven violin. She's even started to learn to play the saxophone because of her love for jazz. And she is also a star on the sports field playing in the school's hockey, netball and indoor cricket teams. She plays for Colebrooke Football Club and recently completed a 53km bike ride. On top of all of this, Emilia still finds time to bake cakes and loves origami.



## Win sets of new craze for headphone wire decoration

The latest craze to hit the UK are fun, highly collectable and inexpensive. Qbees are fashion accessories that snap around headphone cables, giving tweens and teens the opportunity to decorate and accessorise their look.  
Qbees are made up of mini plastic snap-frames and interchangeable images (called Qubes) that sit inside. Rachel Masters, age 10, reviews the Qbees product for Press Gang and this is what she says:  
"You can decorate the wire of your earphones with Qbees. They come in lots of shapes, colours and you can pick your own picture.  
"I like the fact that you can have any picture because it can make your Qbee personal.  
"I love the picture with the eye and long eyelashes with a pink diamond background. I also like the skull and cross bones with a pink and white diamond background.

"I love the heart shape in all colours  
"I would buy them for my friends. They are a good present!  
"I like the fact that I can make my own Qbee on the website."  
Press Gang have three sets of Qbees to give away. The winners will be able to choose any colour or combination of Qbees and the latest range of stock Qube images which are all available on www.loveqbees.com. The successful winners will receive a special code to enable them to choose their prize. For your chance to win, fill in the coupon and send it to Qbees Competition, Press Gang, Media House, 539 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1UD. The first three correct entries selected at random on Friday, December 19 will win.  
You can connect with Qbees on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/loveqbees> and Twitter @LoveQbees



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Many happy returns to these Press Gang members with birthdays this week:  
Jyotsna Mony, 13, East Ham;  
Charice Wright, 14, Dagenham;  
Thomas Gardiner, 10, Dagenham and Ryan Whitbread, nine, Romford.  
To see your child's birthday mentioned here, email their name, address and date of birth to philippa.cave@archant.co.uk.

### INTERESTING FACT

Did you know...  
The roar of a lion can be heard from 8 kilometres (5.0 miles) away.  
Most lions found in the wild live in southern and eastern parts of Africa.

### JOKE OF THE WEEK

Q: Why did the computer go to the doctor?  
A: Because it had a virus.

### JOIN IN THE FUN

Try your hand at ice skating this week as a Christmas ice rink is being set up in Ilford High Road near Waterstones.  
It runs from December 11 to 18, from noon to 7pm.

### WINNERS

The winners of our Peppa Pig competition are Frances Lawrence, of East Ham and Grace Rorke, of Ilford. Congratulations to you both!

### Qbees competition

Q: What material are Qbees made from?

- A. Plastic
- B. Rubber
- C. Wood

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

Tel no.....

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