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## Children should start school at six says Cambridge review of primary education

By LAURA CLARK

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Children should not begin formal lessons until the age of six, according to the biggest review of primary schools for 40 years.

In a damning report on British education, experts said five-year-old children should continue play-based learning of the kind



INST. OF DAIL  
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used in nursery and reception classes.

The Cambridge Primary review - which was based on 28 surveys, 1,052 written submissions and 250 focus groups, said there was no evidence suggesting formal teaching styles benefited young children.

However, the authors concluded that there were suggestions it could be harmful.

Dame Gillian Pugh, chairwoman of the review, said: 'If you introduce a child to too formal a curriculum before they are ready for it then you are not taking into account where children are in terms of their learning and their capacity to develop.

'If they are already failing by the age of four-and-a-half or five it's going to be quite difficult to get them back into the system again.'

The proposals conflict with existing Government policy and were today robustly rejected by Schools Minister Vernon Coaker.

He claimed the recommendations would actually disadvantage British school children.

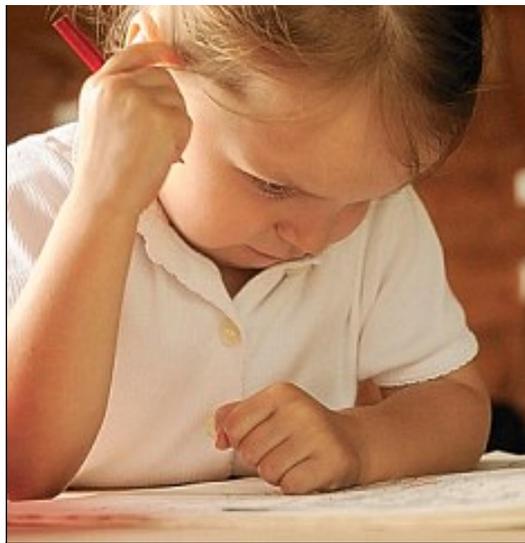
'For many of those children coming into school, it is of crucial importance they are in that formal but appropriate type learning environment so they can gather the skills and get the skills they need as they go through life,' he told GMTV.

'Leaving it to six would leave many of our children, particularly those in disadvantaged areas, it would mean they would start a long way behind others.'

He added: 'For the reception children coming into school, for the four-year-olds, it is a play-based curriculum, then moving into year one and obviously there is an emphasis on reading and writing.'

Labour's own review of primary education published earlier this year recommended moving forward the school starting age from five to four.

In many European countries, children start school later, but in Britain almost all three to four-year-olds are already getting at least 12.5 hours



**A report claims an obsession with testing and basic skills has dragged down standards (posed by model)**

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**TODAY'S POLL**

**Should children start formal schooling aged six?**

of education per week.

Finland regularly tops the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) lists for reading literacy and science and is regarded as having Europe's best education system.

There, as in countries such as Germany and Sweden, children begin school in the year they turn seven, but start pre-school at six. In France, children begin lessons at six.

The independent review - carried out over six years and undertaken by 14 authors, 66 research consultants and an advisory committee - recommended a series of sweeping reforms to the state's 'Stalinist' control over teaching which, it said, is condemning young children to an inadequate education.

An obsession with testing and basic skills has 'politicised' schools and dragged down standards, the inquiry warns.

It says primary pupils now receive a less rounded education than those in Victorian times.

**SIX**  
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## PRIVATE PUPILS WIDEN THE GAP

**PRIVATE** school pupils are four times more likely to get three straight As at A-level than those at state schools, official figures showed yesterday.

Private schools produce more pupils achieving these results at A-level than every comprehensive put together - despite educating just 7 per cent of children.

Nearly 12,000 pupils at fee-paying schools achieved three As this summer, against 10,090 at comprehensives.

Overall, one in eight youngsters achieved a trio of As. For pupils educated at comprehensives,

the figure was 8 per cent, while for privately-educated pupils it was 31.9 per cent, and 26.1 per cent at grammars.

Independent school pupils increased their haul of top grades by 1.6 percentage points over last year, against 0.4 per cent at comprehensives.

Meanwhile, only half of state school pupils - 50.4 per cent - finished with a basic set of GCSE qualifications including English and maths.

It means almost 300,000 failed to meet the Government's benchmark for achievement.

It calls for a radical overhaul of primary schooling, including the scrapping of SATs tests and league tables.

**sunbathes in a skimpy yellow bikini while her nanny holds baby North during Mexico getaway**  
Soaking up the rays



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He took a stand



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Anticipated addition seen in Elsa's signature dress and braid



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Son and daughter posed



Youngsters would instead be assessed in all subjects at the end of primary school, and by their teachers instead of outside examiners.

The traditional system of a single class teacher covering every subject would also be phased out.

Pupils would retain a class teacher but more lessons would be taken by specialists in specific subjects.

Six-week summer holidays should be shortened because children are left unsupervised for too long, the review suggests. It also says all parents should have access to advice on how to encourage their children to learn.

The review, led by Cambridge don Professor Robin Alexander, is the biggest to cover primary education for 40 years.

The Government's claim that standards have risen is 'unsafe' and the impact of increased taxpayers' investment is less than might have been expected, the report says.

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In fact, a rigid focus on literacy and numeracy at the expense of science, history, geography and the arts may have 'depressed standards'.

One teacher who gave evidence to the Cambridge Primary Review said it amounted to a 'state theory of learning', policed by Ofsted and the SATs testing regime.

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She's a style icon at 41



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Mom of his two children



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Children in Finland do not start school until the age of seven, yet have the highest levels of literacy, maths and science knowledge in Europe

The report says: 'The Stalinist overtones of a "state theory of learning" enforced by the "machinery of surveillance and accountability" are as unattractive as they are serious.'

It adds: 'Many experienced and able teachers resented this degree of control of their work, its inflexible and monolithic character, and the overt politicisation of the act of teaching.'

'Pupils will not learn to think for themselves if their teachers are merely expected to do as they are told.'

Professor Alexander attacks the official notion that the function of primary schools is to teach children 'to read, write and add up'.

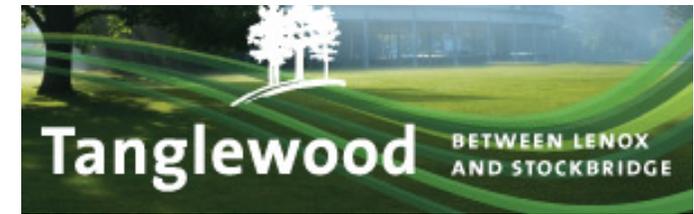
'Such a diet, after all, is even narrower than that of the Victorian elementary schools whose practices most people claimed the country had outgrown,' the report says.

It calls for SATs to be scrapped, but that assessment in some form should remain at the end of primary schooling and should cover all subjects, including geography, history and the arts.

It says the curriculum should be overhauled so pupils study eight subject 'domains', broadly reflecting traditional disciplines.

The proposals drew a mixed reaction from the Conservatives.

Tory schools spokesman Nick Gibb agreed that the 'wave of bureaucracy over the past



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decade has been deeply damaging'.

But he said the Conservatives do not accept its proposals for changing the curriculum or raising the school starting age.

Schools Minister Vernon Coaker said: 'The report is at best woolly and unclear on how schools should be accountable to the public - we're clear that it would be a retrograde step to return to days when the real achievements of schools were hidden.'

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a winner on his birthday



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The stars looked summery and sexy



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Meg Ryan still looks beautiful at 52



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Carried his son Axl



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Her latest film role





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siobhan, belfast n. ireland, 4 years ago

nasta, i agree completely children should be playing!!! caoily, belfast, all children are not as lucky as you, yes of course there are those, like you who are the youngest in the class who do really well and like wise there can be the oldest in the class that have learning difficulties but it is common knowledge that the MAJORITY of the younger children in classes dont do as well and are at a disadvantage and of course most kids can read write and do small sums but there is a difference between being academically ready and emotionally ready to go to school at 4. some parents even plan when there child will be born so they will be the oldest in class so they get of to a better start which i think is sad that you are so obsessed with a child being so academic , of course we all want the best for our children but let them find their own way-they may be creative ,musical, artistic, being top of the class is'nt the be all and end all.

## Avengers: Age of Ultron

The hunk's ripped arms were on display



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Metallic gowns popular



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Mommy-daughter day



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Jojen's new role



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[nasta](#), Cheltenham, 4 years ago

i come from eastern europe where children start school at the age of six/seven. the first year they stay at school until noon. they never stay longer than 2pm until the age of 15. here a four or five year old stays at school until 3pm at least (not taking afternoon clubs into consideration) comes home and has to do homework and spends all day doing school work where he or she should - at this age- be playing.i think that the fact they have to go to school and spend there such long hours is the most damaging of all the aspects mentioned here. I have worked as a nanny in england for the past 12 years and when i compare the level of general education to european it is very poor indeed. no doubt there are exceptions as the lady from northern ireland in every country, but we are talking general here.

Click to rate  10  0

[rw](#), southampton, Hampshire, 4 years ago

I was at college 40 years ago after the last similar primary report - The Plowden report - which we had to know off by heart! It also recommended learning through play, environmental education and discovery learning!

Click to rate  7  0

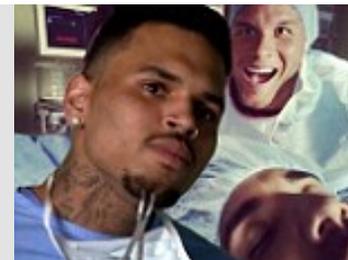
[not impressed...](#), uk, 4 years ago

The only thing that is letting children down with education is parents,any other issues with our education system is the evident lack of ability to implement systems,all political bodies utterly exploiting their positions to justify their own themselves,instead of ensuring delivery of what is actually a second to none education system that is very very poorly delivered because of all external infiltrations,the first thing to do is to wake up every single parent to their responsibility,then give children the clear, structured instructions,expectations,it is discusting the funds that have been spend over time, wasting time, using this as a stand of ? ? ? ? ? p.s Take the deviants out of main stream school,no school should have to even try to do a job that is not their responsibility,if a child

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She's been relaunching her career



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Dined at a steakhouse in Beverly Hills



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She grew up with the Spice Girls



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can not conform, it is the parents responsibility to ensure this, why should other children suffer and resources be used on something which is beyond the schools control, it is more damaging to try lead

Click to rate  8  2

[Elizabeth Forty](#), Uckfield, UK, 4 years ago

It might also be the case that starting school at the age of six would solve the current problem of summer-born children being at a permanent disadvantage throughout their schooling. In countries where formal education starts at six, e.g. America and Finland, statistics show that there is no gap between the achievements of summer-borns and their autumn-born peers. In this country there is considerable and measurable disparity. It should also be recognised, however, that in a country like Finland, where a large proportion of mothers work, they have an excellent system of childcare and pre-schools which lay the groundwork for a successful transition to school.

Click to rate  13  0

[DG](#), Cheltenham, 4 years ago

Starting school at 6 will mean already low literacy and arithmetic skills fall behind even further, as many parents make little or no effort to teach their children recognise letters and numbers, believing such is the school's job.

Click to rate  4  14

[Charlotte](#), Boston, USA (ex pat), 4 years ago

The unfortunate fact is that too many parents in this day and age are far too interested in getting their children out of the way at as early an age as possible. These same people believe it is up to others to educate their children...they do not care what goes on as long as they do not have to bother..you know who you are!! The truth is social learning, educational skills etc begin at home, they start with talking to your baby, reading to your baby. Once your child is in school..one needs to take an interest in after school work and activities..this includes PTA at schools..too many parents just do not bother with their childrens education! So many parents whine and complain about their childrens teacher..education, yet

The 30-year-old is back in her best shape



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you never see these complaining parents at PTA meetings suggesting ideas or helping out to make their childs school better! It takes a village.....

Click to rate  9  3



[Geoff Wall-Davis](#), Longbridge Birmingham England, 4 years ago

It is good for children to start learning at an early age to give them a head start in life,but, real learning comes from the university of life which lasts for ever.

Click to rate  8  3

[Vivienne](#), Arizona, USA, 4 years ago

The only worry is that some families/child carers do not provide that basic level of education and children who start school at 6 with no skills would be severely disadvantaged or would hold up the rest of the class - Gail, Benissa Spain This is a real problem, with children entering school unable to form sentences, identify colors, or use a fork and spoon because their lazy parents figure, "Oh, the school will teach them all that." Parents need to take as much part in their kids' education as the schools do, and very often, they just don't care. Starting kids later in school would just mean they have an extra year or two NOT to learn anything at home. Frankly, it doesn't matter what age they start school, if the parents don't take part in the learning process, then children will be disadvantaged.

Click to rate  9  1

[squibsey](#), weymouth dorset, 4 years ago

i must totally disagree with you america lives in a mickey mouse world,how can you say a child will not be gifted after the age of 8 if they dont have it by then lol,you say its not good for a child to spend all day at a desk aged 6 i did not mention all day in the uk they start between 8.30 and 9 and finish at 3 and a very good part of that is spent in the playground as well they have god knows how many terms off now and inset days off as well,other eu countries dont have problems with there kids at school a little longer so we should fall in line after all we are in the eu or is only when this country suits itself,less tv less computers and a bit more education it certainly did'nt do us any harm when we were kids or will it be

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The 33-year-old hid her svelte figure



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The pop star is worth over \$200 million



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Made sure he was running on a full tank



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Plenty to talk about



down to some political do gooder again who dont know what the hell they are talking about.

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2



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She was a lady in red



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Said the transformation



was 'just for me'



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during solo outing in LA  
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▶ 'We're engaged!':  
Danica McKellar  
announces she's  
accepted a proposal  
from boyfriend Scott by  
sharing photo of  
diamond ring on Twitter



▶ Make-up free Angela  
Simmons pulls faces  
while casually dining  
with her assistant in  
NYC  
Scored a gig on BET's  
webseries



▶ A trip down memory  
lane! Australian model  
Shanina Shaik re-visits  
her iconic angel outfit at  
the Victoria's Secret  
store  
Reliving the memories



▶ Julianna Margulies is  
casual but chic in  
sleeveless top and slim  
fitting jeans as she  
takes a stroll around  
New York City  
In the SoHo area of NY



▶ **Ginnifer Goodwin back on set of Once Upon A Time less than TWO months after giving birth... and is joined by husband Josh Dallas**  
Gave birth in May



▶ **'Everyone I knew suddenly wasn't so sure about me': Lana Del Rey on how THAT disastrous SNL performance left her reputation in tatters in music world**



▶ **Jude Law's ex Sadie Frost and Gerard Butler lead the celebrity party pack as they step out at London's hottest haunt**  
Another night, another celebrity pilgrimage



▶ **'Botox changed my life': Youthful Kelly Ripa, 43, discusses her beauty regime as she steps out in floral mini-dress for Andy Cohen interview**



▶ **It's over! Jennifer Garner's ex-boyfriend Michael Vartan is divorcing wife of three years Lauren Skaar**  
Irreconcilable differences were cited



▶ **He really IS Mr Perfect! Ryan Gosling 'cooks and does all the groceries' for pregnant girlfriend Eva Mendes... as they**



house hunt for their 'growing brood'



▶ **Bathing beauty: Lena Headey displays athletic physique during ocean swim in Italy ahead of being presented with Fantasy Award during Ischia Global Fest**



▶ **Inside Yolanda Foster's romantic yacht vacation photo album with her music mogul husband as she battles back from Lyme disease**  
In picturesque Turkey



▶ **'My boyfriend dumped me for being too fat': 252lbs woman loses 84lbs after traumatic split - and she's now a size 6 personal trainer with a new love**



▶ **Justin Bieber's DUI case delayed another three weeks as attorneys work out possible plea deal**  
For driving under the influence



▶ **How does a celebrity chef lose 150lbs? Graham Elliot's surgeon reveals the secrets behind his incredible transformation**  
His weight loss journey



▶ **Too bashful for a**



**bikini? Slip into a SKIRTINI**

Dreading the big reveal on the beach? So was CHARLOTTE KEMP, until she discovered these



▶ **All bun-dled up! British model Kelly Brook comes over all shy in baggy clothes as she satisfies food cravings with a trip to In-N-Out Burger**



▶ **Gym junkie Khloe Kardashian shows off her pert body on New York outing with pregnant Kourtney**  
The sisters are both health aficionados



▶ **Brave Prince Michael of Kent speaks out about his secret battle with prostate cancer**  
The 72-year-old grandson of George V revealed all



▶ **British TV presenter Lorraine Kelly: 'I'm 54 and proud. Us mature women are feisty and fashionable, ignore us at your peril!'**  
Age is only a number



▶ **Something to tell us? Mena Suvari wears diamond sparkler on her ring finger after previously denying engagement to Salvador**



Sanchez



▶ **'It's '90s Rock!'**  
Dwayne Johnson treats fans to a flashback picture on Instagram... and claims he looks like a 'buff lesbian'  
Not his best decade



▶ **Now Prince George gets magazine**  
Photoshop treatment: Royal baby graces the cover of People with noticeably redder lips  
Snap from Australia tour



▶ **'Lorde has gone from teen goth to grown-up power woman': Meet the stylist behind the pop star's trailblazing red carpet looks**  
She's transformed Lorde



▶ **'I know my time is limited': Newly crowned NFL cheerleader, 40, reveals incurable kidney disease has already claimed the lives of family members**



▶ **It's a runaway success! Oscar nominated Rachel Griffiths sends House Husband's popularity soaring as series goes global in France and Italy**



▶ **'I felt ashamed!' Jillian Michaels reveals**



**Biggest Loser** champion's extreme weight loss contributed to her quitting the NBC series



▶ **Summer wedding?** Charlize Theron and Sean Penn 'to marry in South Africa where they're shooting a movie... before adopting baby together'



▶ **Boy genius and robot sidekick** take on masked villain in Disney and Marvel's first animated superhero flick **Big Hero 6**  
Watch the trailer here



▶ **Bathing beauty Daisy Lowe** reclines in a bathtub full of pink fur stoles in behind-the-scenes snap from new fashion campaign  
Dad is Gavin Rossdale



▶ **He's a dreamboat:** Lindsay Lohan wears white bikini to hang out with hunky manager on board super yacht off the coast of Italy  
Taking time to relax



▶ **Any woman must be MAD to marry over 60:** What's the point in being tied down to an ailing old man, asks **LIZ HODGKINSON**  
Against the union





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**DON'T MISS**

▶ **United in grief: Nicole  
Brown Simpson's  
children Justin and**



Sydney pictured for the first time in years at the funeral of their grandfather



▶ British swimming champion Tom Daley poses topless in low-slung jeans as he tops Attitude Magazine's Hot 100 Sexiest Men list for second year running



▶ Katie Price 'wants a fresh start and is selling her marital home where her third husband cheated on her with her best friend'  
Ready to start fresh



▶ Having a Fab(regas) time! Chelsea soccer star Cesc soaks up the sun in Sardinia with girlfriend Daniella Semaan and daughter Lia



▶ LeAnn Rimes puts an ab fab twist on little black dress as she promotes new reality show  
The 31-year-old country singer flashed some leg



▶ Victoria Silvstedt shows off her toned curves and peachy derriere in a super short summer dress as she frolics on the beach in Mykonos



▶ **Uptown girl! Miranda Kerr is the height of chic in fitted beige frock as she steps out in Manhattan**

Made a name for herself as a lingerie model



▶ **'I'm so f\*\*\*ing hammered!': Charlie Sheen has a bizarre encounter with fans at a Taco Bell drive-thru**

The 48-year-old actor looked worse for wear



▶ **Forgot something? Busy mom Tori Spelling heads out of the house barefoot with pink-haired daughter Stella in tow**

Amidst marital woes



▶ **Bethenny Frankel responds to critics by shrouding her petite figure in baggy men's clothing after coming under fire for posing in daughter's pajamas**



▶ **Spray yourself beautiful: Full face make-up, grey hair cover-up, even fake tights - all at the squirt of a can**

We test it out for you



▶ **A dressed-down King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia enjoy a rare night off royal duties with a trip to the movies**



Had a night off official engagements



▶ **Joe Manganiello steps out for lunch as Sofia Vergara's co-star Julie Bowen jokes they're 'like a genetic explosion'**  
Sofia has found new love after Nick Loeb split



▶ **Baby it's gold outside: Tamara Ecclestone wears tight mini dress with chain detail and metallic shoes to dine out in London**  
Headed to a top eatery



▶ **Gisele Bundchen earns an eye-watering \$128,000 a DAY and has a higher net worth than Cristiano Ronaldo, claims new rich list Forbes magazine list**



▶ **Double date night! Bradley Cooper and girlfriend Suki Waterhouse dine with Gordon Ramsay and wife Tana in Venice, California**



▶ **Amber Le Bon shows off her long, shapely legs in a floaty white tunic dress as she steps out for Kasabian premiere**  
Perfect summer style



▶ **'I ate scraps out of**



**wheelie bins': X Factor Australia star Dean Ray reveals his rough past of eating out of garbage and living on the road as a touring musician**



**▶ 'I'm past my sell-by date for surfing': Prince Charles says his Action Man days are behind him and he as Camilla visit Watergate Bay Showed his funny side**



**▶ Prince of mischief! William reveals George is already 'charging around and opening doors' at Kensington Palace ahead of his first birthday**



**▶ 'Luckiest girl in the world!': Jessica Hart's sister Ashley shows off her diamond engagement ring after longtime love Buck Palmer proposes**



**▶ PICTURED: Amal Alamuddin in silks and wig as she graduates from the New York Bar at start of her impressive career To wed George Clooney**



**▶ Leather clad Michelle Rodriguez hits the town without her boyfriend Zac Efron after wrapping up filming of Fast & Furious 7**



Had a solo night out



▶ **This one looks painful!**  
**Hilaria Baldwin performs the splits up the side of her posh Hamptons house in another effort to shock followers**  
Alec Baldwin's wife



▶ **Denise Richards, 43, frolics at the beach in tiny bikini on bonding day with daughter Lola**  
The mother-of-three bonded with her daughter in California



▶ **She's ready to pump it!**  
**Twerking sensation Miley Cyrus picks dollar bills off the ground... while filling up her Porsche at a gas station**  
Miley in West Hollywood



▶ **'Wealthy men are more romantic': Woman who claims she 'only dates millionaires' says singletons shouldn't be ashamed to say they want a rich husband**



▶ **Zara rides again! New mother returns to eventing as baby Mia watches from the sidelines**  
The 33-year-old was competing



▶ **Cara Delevingne is a wild child in new jeans**



**campaign as she fools around in the bath - and a trash can! - with hot male models**

Photo shoot in London



**▶ Reformed addict Jaime King posts controversial 'heroin chic' image of herself taken by her late boyfriend, fashion photographer Davide Sorrenti**



**▶ Vanessa Williams opens up about being molested by an 18-year-old girl when she was only 10-years-old**  
'Made me promiscuous'



**▶ 'I just stared in horror': Melissa McCarthy's husband on the moment he first caught sight of her at high school during her 'really scary' goth phase**



**▶ Tamra Barney coyly confesses to having 'just a little bit' of cosmetic work done as she displays fuller cheeks and squinty eyes during TV appearance**



**▶ A star in the making! Giuliana Rancic's son Duke pulls silly faces on the red carpet while his mother stuns in white lace dress**

Joined his star mom



▶ **It's Nicole TWERK-zinger! Former Pussycat Doll gives Miley Cyrus a run for her money as she pulls off raunchy dance moves in skintight hotpants**



▶ **Three charged with vandalizing Taylor Swift's Rhode Island mansion revealed to be an MIT graduate, a nuclear scientist and a ferry driver**



▶ **Pregnant Chelsea Clinton pictured smiling as she is dismissed from New York jury duty after serving for a day**  
The 34-year-old is expecting her first child



▶ **Run Reese, run! Witherspoon displays trim pins in fringed cowboy boots and short red dress on set of Don't Mess With Texas**  
Southern girl at heart



▶ **United front! Karreuche Tran goes clubbing with boyfriend Chris Brown... after opening up about 'heartbreaking' love triangle with Rihanna**  
Spoke in TV interview



▶ **Ready for her close-up: Emma Stone gets last-minute touch-up as she promotes new Woody**



**Allen movie during TV appearance**

Star was in New York



**▶ Don't fall off! Lindsay Lohan strips down to a bikini while on a dinghy just a day after taking embarrassing tumble at film festival in Italy**

Sped around the coast



**▶ Jeff Goldblum, 61, and fiancée Emilie Livingston, 31, celebrate their engagement with a PDA session in the sea in Hawaii**

Age is just a number



**▶ Sean Penn seen arriving in Cape Town as he prepares to get to work on new movie with girlfriend Charlize Theron**

Been dating four months



**▶ Plenty of Friends! Jennifer Aniston hangs out with boyfriend Justin Theroux and BFF Courteney Cox at star-studded magazine bash**



**▶ 'It reminds me of a day spent in the ocean': Beach babe Jennifer Aniston smoulders in shoot for her new perfume 'J by Jennifer'**

Her new fragrance



▶ **Zayn Malik hits back at claims he's already married after posting image of himself appearing to wear a wedding band**  
Did they secretly wed?



▶ **Mila Kunis satisfies her pregnancy cravings by grabbing burgers with Ashton Kutcher**  
The actress indulged in some custom-made burgers



▶ **That's one fit family! David Beckham takes Brooklyn, Romeo and Cruz to a spin class as they arrive in LA for summer holidays**  
Back in the States



▶ **Welcome home! JWoww arrives back from the hospital with baby Meilani... to discover a party thrown by best pal Snooki**  
With pink balloons



▶ **'Models with disabilities is like finding a needle in a haystack': Nordstrom wins praise for featuring a woman in a wheelchair and an amputee in new catalog**



▶ **It's getting serious! Lea Michele holds hands with her new beau Matthew Paetz... days after touching tribute to**



**Cory Monteith**  
She's found love again



▶ **Double take! Nicole Kidman channels her TV presenter sister Antonia in the same short brown bob on set of her latest movie with co-star Jason Bateman**



▶ **Boasting of getting wasted on drugs. Bragging about their lurid - yet joyless - sex lives. Why are today's successful women such rotten role models?**



▶ **There's no time for sleep in Theatreland! Cressida Bonas heads to matinee performance after late-night show (and cheeky trip to the pub)**



▶ **Tatt's a relief! Adrienne Bailon excited to finally remove booty tattoo of Rob Kardashian's name FIVE YEARS after they called it quits**  
They split up in 2009



▶ **What cheating crisis? Tori Spelling the loyal wife carries Mrs. McDermott purse and flashes wedding vows tattoo in gaping top**  
Putting on a united front



▶ **PICTURE EXCLUSIVE:**



**First look at Sir Ian McKellen on set as he prepares to shoot new scenes as retired sleuth Sherlock Holmes in post-war London**



**▶ Two And A Half Men star Aly Michalka reveals she's engaged to her 'great love' Stephen Ringer**  
Announced with a hashtag, of course



**▶ Rolling in kash: How Kim Kardashian will pocket \$85 million from her \$200m app in her most lucrative deal ever**  
Reality star is a Jack of all trades



**▶ 'On the treadmill right NOW!' Kim Kardashian pines for her 'skinny days' while sharing an old photo of herself in a tight white dress**  
Shared a throwback pic



**▶ It's a sheer thing! Ashley Benson and Olivia Wilde don see-through tops as they attend the launch of H&M's Fifth Avenue store**



**▶ They've not lost that loving feeling! Lisa Vanderpump kisses husband goodbye as she films Real Housewives Of Beverly**



## Hills

▶ **Another baby on the way! Scott Foley and wife Marika Dominczyk announce they're expecting third child with funny tweets**

Scandal actor turned 42



▶ **One Direction star Niall Horan wishes nephew Theo a fabulous first birthday with touching throwback snap from the day he was born**  
He's feeling broody



▶ **'Just like The Notebook... only better': Scott Disick imitates classic romance movie by kissing Kourtney Kardashian on a boat ride**



▶ **Kyle Richards saves her daughter from running into traffic by gently tugging the five-year-old's hair**

Real Housewives reality star acted fast



▶ **Rain... then shine! LeAnn Rimes reveals her slender legs in a little blue dress as she and Eddie Cibrian dash through downpour to an event**



▶ **Suki Waterhouse joins Bradley Cooper in LA as**



**the couple step out in matching sweaters and sunglasses**

Long distance can be hard at the best of times



**► Pregnant Kelly Rowland lays a protective hand on her growing baby bump as she poses with Beyonce's mom Tina Knowles**



**► The bad guy is back! Funnyman Ken Jeong joins Kevin Hart and Ice Cube to film action-packed car scenes for Ride Along 2**

The first film was a hit



**► My baby shot me down! Justin Bieber poses with a paintball gun before showing his softer side as he cradles infant**

Working on his 'tough guy' image



**► Not getting down Lo(han) for once! Lindsay manages to stay upright for a change as she wows in pretty red dress while embracing her manager**



**► EXCLUSIVE: Michelle Mone reveals she's looking for Mr. Right and would pay \$85,000 for dinner with her 'dream man' Bill Clinton**

Wants the perfect man



▶ **A-Rod is being sued by his OWN LAWYER for at least \$380,000 in unpaid legal bills related to his drug suspension case**  
David Cornwell's law firm filed papers



▶ **Charles gets snap happy! Prince follows in William, Kate and Harry's footsteps as he becomes the latest royal selfie star**  
Made some locals happy



▶ **That's one way to take the weight off your feet! Pregnant Kristen Bell is in high spirits as she goes for a bike ride with husband Dax Shepard and daughter Lincoln**



▶ **Is that you Kate? Bosworth stuns in '60s bouffant hair and cat-eye makeup with metallic mini dress for Singapore edition of Harper's Bazaar**



▶ **Peek-a-boo! Nicole Richie flashes her black bra under striking striped semi-sheer blouse as she steps out for dinner date**  
A beauty in monochrome



▶ **Chace Crawford reveals he has split from model Rachelle Goulding after moving from New**



**York to set up new home in Los Angeles**

Revealed on radio show



**▶ Has William succumbed to the loom band craze? Prince spotted wearing plastic bracelet loved by the Duchess of Cambridge and David Beckham**



**▶ Whatever floats your boat! Cameron Diaz promotes new movie Sex Tape by rowing an inflatable kayak around Jimmy Fallon studio**  
On the promo trail



**▶ Simply tan-tastic! Fresh-faced Jessica Alba goes make-up free as she jets home from Mexican beach break with husband and daughters**



**▶ Chloe Lattanzi shows off her midriff as she steps out with hunky fiance Jamie Driskill in Los Angeles**

They called off their wedding in the past



**▶ 'For one person's light to shine, everyone else has to dim theirs': Sheryl Crow says despite feeling small in past affairs she has not given up on The One at 52**



▶ **Pampered princess!**  
Radiant Elle Fanning goes make-up free as she slips into a cute pleated dress for trip to the nail salon  
A day of beauty admin



▶ **'No matter how many people you've slept with, it will always be too many': Why women should NEVER reveal how many lovers they've had**



▶ **Flirting With Disaster:** Patricia Arquette steps out in ill-fitting shirt dress with bizarre across the body bag, clunky anklet and wobbly wedges



▶ **Quick change!** Svelte Nikki Reed goes from tight jeans and cowboy boots to yoga master outfit in one day  
The actress is a Jack of all trades



▶ **Goodness gracious, they're tiny!** Ellie Goulding steps out in miniscule leather shorts and floral crop-top as she impresses crowds in Poland



▶ **Finally doing demure!** Courtney Stodden arrives at LAX and does her best to look chic and sophisticated



By Courtney's standards,  
she was conservative



▶ **Soccer star Rafael Van Der Vaart puts on an amorous display with girlfriend Sabia Boulahrouz as they soak up the sun in St Tropez**  
In the South of France



▶ **Make-up free Ashley Benson trades in her Spring Breakers bikini for baggy green pants on casual outing in New York City**  
In the NoHo, Manhattan



▶ **They're unlikely friends! Gerard Butler and Kellan Lutz bond in Rio as they pose for photos with fans**  
The World Cup has united the stars



▶ **Seth MacFarlane sued by company claiming Ted 'copied web series Charlie The Abusive Teddy Bear without permission'**  
Accused of stealing idea



▶ **That just-rolled-out-of-bed look: Jessica Biel heads to a studio in LA in a striped purple nightgown-inspired dress**  
A rather frumpy number



▶ **'I think he'll be an actor**



too': Actress who gave birth on Burberry coat on Hollywood Road describes dramatic arrival of her baby  
Vivian Gray's story



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**Jerry Sandusky's adopted son opens up to Oprah about his father's bedtime 'ritual' during his seven years of...**



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**'We are a jail, not a hotel': Cops fury as double murder suspect and son of fellow officer complains he is...**



'My blood pressure goes up when I think of the regulations we have': Rupert Murdoch hits out at excessive...



**Passenger arrested after 'threatening to kill flight attendants and set off bomb' on board British Airways...**



Redhead twins, 19, arrested on prostitution charges after allegedly posting risqué ad offering to 'make your...



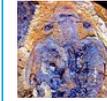
**Healthy student, 17, dies after suffering a cardiac arrest during a tennis lesson**



Hostage is killed and two others thrown from a moving vehicle in high-speed police chase and gun battle with...



**AIDS epidemic could be 'wiped out by 2030' after new infections and deaths fall by a third in a decade**



Scientists discover a 520-million-year-old BRAIN: Neural structure found inside fossil of the world's oldest...



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 **lawyer insists he's 'proud' to be back...**

 **Mystery of the Russian abyss remains:**  
Scientists still struggling to explain how enormous hole at the 'end...

 **Extraordinary junkyard dog travels same dangerous four-mile route every night for three years to get food...**

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