

Melania is the favourite Trump



The First Family (from left)- Donald Trump, Jr; Melania Trump; President Donald Trump; Ivanka Trump; Eric Trump; and Tiffany Trump

Washington

On the eve of the one year anniversary of President Donald Trump's inauguration, a survey has revealed his wife is viewed more favourably by people than he is.

The poll included whether respondents viewed the most prominent members of the First Family 'favourably' or 'unfavourably'.

In addition to beating out the Commander in Chief in the popularity contest, Melania Trump has also stacked up as the most popular person overall, according to an *Economist/YouGov* poll released on Friday.

The 47-year-old mother of Barron Trump, 11, is the only family member included in the poll that is viewed more favourably than unfavourably.

And she's the only one whose favourability rating

has grown over the course of her husband's first year in office, with a current rating of 48 per cent favourable and 33pc unfavourable.

The eldest Trump sons landed just above the President's son-in-law, rounding out the rear of the pack.

Donald Trump Jr came in at being viewed 36pc favourably and 49pc unfavourably.

Eric Trump fared slightly worse than his older brother. Eric's favourability rating was listed as 32pc, and his unfavourable rating at 43pc.

A different poll, conducted by *NBC News* and *the Wall Street Journal*, showed President Trump with just a 39pc approval rating for his job performance.

By their count, that makes Trump the lowest-rated President at one year in to his Presidency, as compared to former Presidents Barack

Obama, George W Bush and Bill Clinton.

The *NBC-Wall Street Journal* poll showed job performance approval ratings of George W. Bush's (82pc for George W Bush, 60pc for Clinton and 50pc for Obama at the same points in their respect terms of office.

Based on a Gallup poll, the Hill determined that Melania Trump is also the only member of her family to have gone up in ratings over the last year.

She started out in January 2017 being viewed favourably by 37pc of respondents in that poll, and in December the same poll showed her favourability rating at 54pc.

The Gallup poll showed President Trump's favourability rating at 41pc, which is two percentage points lower than did the *Economist/YouGov* poll. (*MailOnline*)

#PollToday



How long do you think US Government shutdown would last?

- Less than 1 week
- 7 - 15 days
- 15 - 30 days
- More than 1 month



"The native Amazonian peoples have probably never been so threatened on their own lands as they are at present. Amazonia is being disputed on various fronts,"

Pope Francis

Rest in sight

'Pope' of French cuisine dies



Paul Bocuse, one of France's most celebrated chefs, has died at the age of 91.

67 Afghan security force members freed

Afghan security forces have freed 67 soldiers and police officials from a Taliban-run jail in Afghanistan's Helmand province.

Roadside bomb kills 1 in Afghanistan

At least one person was killed in a roadside bombing in Afghanistan's Paktia province yesterday.

China's gender imbalance reduces

China's gender imbalance was further reduced in 2017 due to the introduction of the "second-child policy".

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Pope holds outdoor mass in front of 200,000 worshipers



Pope Francis (R) greets members of an indigenous group from the Amazon region, at the Coliseum Madre de Dios, in Puerto Maldonado, Peru.

Trujillo, Peru

Pope Francis was set yesterday to hold a huge outdoor mass in a coastal region of Peru struggling to rebuild in the wake of devastating floods last year.

His visit to Trujillo province, some 560 kilometres (350 miles) north of Lima, will be a change of pace after a politically charged first day in the Latin American country where he railed against "great business

interests" for endangering the Amazon and its tribes.

The mass will take place on a wide swathe of beach able to accommodate 500,000 people, in the historic town of Huanchaco popular with surfers and known for its distinctive reed watercraft known as "caballitos de totora."

Many had already begun gathering there Friday night in anticipation of the pontiff, despite persistent drizzle. (*AFP*)

Thai police arrest 'kingpin' in Asian wildlife trafficking

Kabul

Four gunmen attacked Kabul's landmark Intercontinental Hotel on Saturday and started shooting at guests, officials said, in an assault that is still under way.

"Four attackers are inside the building," an official at the National Directorate of Security (NDS) spy agency told *AFP*. They are "shooting at guests", he said.

Another official said the attackers were armed with small weapons and rocket-propelled grenades when

they entered the hotel, which often hosts weddings, conferences and political gatherings.

"They are now on the third and fourth floors fighting with our forces. We don't know the details of casualties yet but they set the kitchen on fire," interior ministry spokesman Nasrat Rahimi told *AFP*. The fourth floor of the hotel is also on fire, the NDS official said.

A Ministry of interior spokesman confirmed that several attackers have entered the hotel. (*AFP*)

Putin visits war museum



Russian President Vladimir Putin watches an exhibit dedicated to the breakthrough the Nazi Siege of Leningrad in the World War II, at a war museum in Kirovsk, in Leningrad region.

Endangered orangutan shot before being decapitated

Jakarta

Acritically endangered Bornean orangutan found dead in Indonesia's Central Kalimantan province on Monday died three days earlier from air rifle wounds before it was decapitated, Indonesia's Centre for Orangutan Protection said.

Authorities previously said the great ape appeared to

have been stabbed multiple times in the latest in a string of unnatural orangutan deaths on the island to which they are native.

A necropsy carried out by police and the centre found 17 air rifle bullets in the male orangutan corpse, "proving" it died because of humans, said Ramadhani, the centre's habitat protection manager.

"Our strong suspicion is that this orangutan died because it was shot using an air rifle through the heart, lungs and stomach," he said in a statement on the centre's website.

The World Wildlife Fund estimates there are 104,700 Bornean orangutans, known for their broad faces and dark brown fur, left in the world. (*Reuters*)