

UK's Prince George starts at Eton College



Britain's Catherine, Princess of Wales (L) and Britain's Prince William, Prince of Wales (R) walk with their 13-year-old son, Britain's Prince George of Wales (C), as he arrives for his first day at Eton College, in Eton, west of London

London, United Kingdom

Britain's Prince George started at the prestigious private school Eton College yesterday, arriving for his first day with parents Prince William and Catherine, Princess of Wales.

Under a steady drizzle, the 13-year-old prince was welcomed to the world-famous school by its headmaster Simon Henderson who told the future king: "Welcome, good luck, enjoy it."

George -- who is second in line to the throne, after his father -- will complete his secondary education at the school, which charges more than £63,000 (\$85,000) in annual fees.

According to UK media, the young prince will board at the elite institution, despite it being just a few kilometres away from the family home in Windsor, west of London.

George is following in the footsteps of his father and

uncle Prince Harry who both attended the exclusive school, situated in the county of Berkshire.

Eton has also famously educated 20 past prime ministers, including Boris Johnson and David Cameron, as well as a roll call of other well-known people, from actor Tom Hiddleston to James Bond creator Ian Fleming.

Long a byword for elitism and the class divide in Britain, Eton was founded by King Henry VI in 1440.

It educates boys aged 13 to 18, and has preserved many of its traditions, including a distinct uniform comprising a black tailcoat, black waist coat, white shirt and bow tie, and striped trousers.

The school welcomes nearly 1,350 pupils each year, according to its website.

Tuesday was also the fourth anniversary of the accession to the throne of George's grandfather King Charles III, which was marked with a gun salute in central London.

Putin and Trump discuss Ukraine in 'extremely frank' call

Moscow, Russia

Russian President Vladimir Putin and US counterpart Donald Trump yesterday discussed the Ukraine conflict in an "extremely frank" and constructive hour-long

phone call, the Kremlin said.

It came after US negotiators Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner visited Moscow and Kyiv over the weekend in an attempt to kickstart long-stalled US efforts to end the fighting.

Thieves steal works worth \$10 mn from France Renoir museum

AFP | Marseille, France

Two thieves broke into a museum dedicated to French impressionist painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir in southern France on Tuesday, stealing "four works of art", one of which they dropped as they fled, a mayor said.

"This morning, two individuals broke into the Renoir Museum and stole four works of art," said Bryan Masson, the far-right mayor of the town of Cagnes-sur-Mer.

"Spotted thanks to the town's video surveillance cameras, the two individuals fled, abandoning one of the stolen

paintings as they ran," he said, adding his office estimated the value of the stolen works at 9 million euros (\$10 million).

The Renoir Museum was opened in 1960 in the painter's last home before his death in 1919. Its collection includes objects and furniture that belonged to Renoir, including his easel and wheelchair, as well as portraits, landscapes, and nudes painted by the artist.

The mayor said it took just five minutes for the authorities to respond. "The museum alarm went off at 5:48 am. At 5:53 am, just five minutes later, our municipal police were on the scene," he said.

China hands former governor suspended death sentence

AFP | Beijing, China

The former governor of a northern Chinese province was handed a suspended death sentence on Tuesday for accepting bribes worth millions of dollars.

Jin Xiangjun, 62, is the latest to be swept up in President Xi Jinping's wide-reaching anti-corruption campaign, which has brought down huge numbers of high-ranking officials.

Jin, the ex-governor of Shanxi, took advantage of various government positions from 2004 to 2025 to accept bribes totalling more than 148 million yuan (\$22 million) for promotions and contracts.

Jin's actions involved "an especially large amount and caused particularly large losses" to the country and other citizens, the court added.

He was thus sentenced to death with a two-year reprieve -- a punishment that is typically commuted to life imprisonment after two years if no further crimes are unearthed.

Nepal glacier saw exceptional heat before collapse caused deadly floods: researcher

AFP | Paris, France

The mountain section whose collapse triggered fatal floods in Nepal and China on August 26 had experienced unprecedented heat for the time of year, meteorological data analysed by a researcher shows.

Average temperatures on the mountain glacier at an altitude of 5,200 metres (17,060 feet) were estimated at around five degrees Celsius between August 21 and 26.

This is exceptionally high. They had not exceeded 4.0C over the same period in more than 55 years of data recording, although no direct link to the collapse has so far been established.

This series of highly localised temperatures was reconstructed by Robert Rohde, chief scientist at the independent Berkeley Earth organisation in California.

At the site of the collapse, the average temperature recorded over that six-day period has risen by about 1.8C since the mid-20th century.

Without the additional heat brought by climate change, a comparable temperature pattern "would probably occur only once in a few thousand years", Rohde



A man looks at the remains of sludge-ridden houses in the aftermath of flash floods at Devighat in Nepal's Nuwakot district

calculated for AFP.

The collapse came during the Langtang region's fourth-hottest summer on record, according to AFP's analysis of data from Europe's Copernicus observatory dating back to 1970.

Tipping point

"These hot conditions can also explain permafrost thaw and combined slope and glacier collapse," said French climatologist Valerie Masson-Delmotte.

Permafrost acts as ice cement, holding rock faces together. Its degradation makes them more unstable.

Satellite images also showed significant snowmelt in the days before the disaster, providing "a substantial source of liquid water that can infiltrate fractures in the mountain and facilitate landslides", said Etienne Berthier, a glaciologist at France's CNRS research agency.

Experts remain cautious, however, about the precise role played by the heatwave.

"It's not as straightforward as 'high temperature equals collapse,'" Kristen Cook, a geomorphologist at the Grenoble Alpes University in France, told AFP.

Trump sparks fury with map of Canada, Iceland as part of US

● Iceland responded to the new map post on Tuesday, announcing that it had summoned the US ambassador

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump has sparked fury by posting a map that seemingly showed Canada, Greenland, Iceland, Mexico and the Caribbean as part of the United States.

Monday's post -- the latest of several from Trump with an outlandish territorial design -- came amid a flurry of around 100 messages on his Truth Social platform over the Labor Day weekend.

Iceland responded to the new map post on Tuesday, announcing that it had summoned the US ambassador to make it clear that the image was "wholly inappropriate."

The map showed the US, Canada, Greenland, Iceland, Mexico and the Caribbean colored in with the US flag.

The entire landmass was labelled "United States of America" and the image was posted without any further explanation.



The map that US President Donald Trump posted on his Truth Social page on Sep 7, 2026. (Image: Truth Social/@realDonaldTrump)

Trump unleashed his avalanche of posts at breakneck pace -- around 60 on Sunday alone and 37 in 10 hours on Monday, according to an AFP count, relying as he often does on artificial intelligence.

Trump also posted a cartoon of himself playing in an ice hockey match against Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney.

In the image, Trump tells

Carney, who is lying on the ice: "Get up governor."

Canada is locked in a trade war in Washington, with retaliatory tariffs on billions of dollars in US products taking effect

Tuesday.

Trump has also made insistent claims that Canada should become the 51st US state.

In another post, an image showed Trump receiving George Washington in the Oval Office.



Israel's actions in Syria could constitute war crimes: UN investigators

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

Israel's military activity in Syria including the detention

of hundreds of people could constitute war crimes, United Nations investigators said yesterday.

"The Commission is deeply alarmed about continued Israeli violations," said commissioner Fionnuala Ni Aolain of the In-

dependent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic. "Such acts may amount to war crimes."