

Hey Smart Scoopers

We're back with your weekly mix of stories, facts, and fun all brewed to tickle your curiosity and keep those thinking caps shining bright!

This week's edition is packed with five fresh scoops from space surprises to museum heists, tech milestones, and jaw-dropping human grit (literally!).

So dive in, scroll on, and enjoy your SmartScoop fix for the week!

Scoop 1: Earth Has Got A New Moon: Hmm Sort Of!

Scoop 2: Heist At Louvre Museum(Again!): But Mona Lisa Stayed Put

Scoop 3: Free Software Foundation Turned 40: Fight For Digital Freedom Continues

Scoop 4: 80 Year Old Conquers Iron Man: Story Of Grit And Glory

Scoop 5: Tooth Be Told: All That's Hard Is Not Bone

Can't wait for you to dig-in!

Happy scooping!

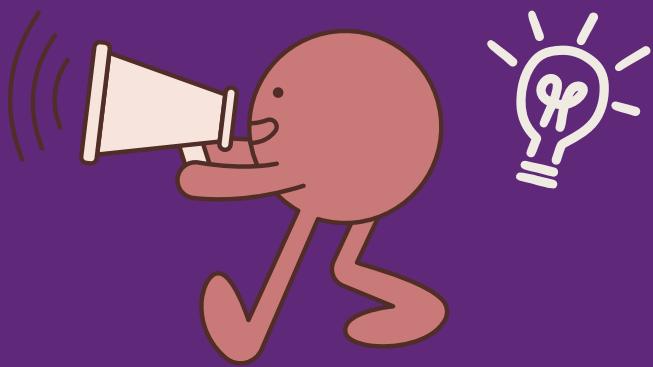
The SmartScoop Team

Our mascot, Blurt
will follow us
along the way.

Blurt /blurt/

noun:

A loud, round, super-curious character who just can't keep a fact in.



Earth Has Got A New Moon



HMM... SORT OF :)



Astronomers have discovered a new "quasi-moon" named **2025 PN7**, a tiny asteroid that follows Earth around the Sun in a synchronized orbit, making it look like our planet has a second moon until 2083. Unlike the real Moon, 2025 PN7 isn't gravitationally bound to Earth, it just travels alongside us for now, giving scientists a cool glimpse into cosmic orbital dance.

What is a Quasi-Moon? Let's break it down...

A quasi-moon (or quasi-satellite, if you want to get super technical) isn't orbiting Earth directly. Instead, it's orbiting the Sun, but in a really special way that makes it appear to be traveling alongside Earth. Let's understand this with an example:-

Imagine you and a friend are running laps on a track. Your friend is running on an inner lane, and you're on an outer lane. You're both going around the same central point (the Sun), but sometimes you might get close enough that it looks like you're running together for a bit. That's kind of what's happening with a quasi-moon! So the quasi moon is not gravitationally bound to earth!

About 2025 PN7

Duration: Caught by Pan-STARRS telescope in Hawaii on 29 Aug 2025. This tiny rock has been hanging around since the 1960s! It is expected to be near Earth until 2083.

Type: A quasi satellite, an asteroid that orbits the Sun. But for a while, seems to loop Earth because its path and speed are similar.

What it is not: It is not gravitationally bound to Earth like our Moon.

2025 PN7 isn't even our only quasi-moon! Scientists now know of **at least eight** quasi-moons tagging along with Earth.

Like Kamo'oalewa: This one's special because it might actually be a chunk of our real Moon that got blasted off by an asteroid impact!

China is even sending a spacecraft (Tianwen-2) to grab samples from it in 2027.

Well the story does not end here....there are more moons in our cosmic neighbourhood.

Wait, there are Minimoons!

Yep! While quasi-moons pretend to orbit Earth, minimoons actually do but only for a short period. These tiny space rocks orbit Earth for less than a year on average before shooting back into space. Only four have ever been discovered, and none are currently orbiting us.

And... Ghost Moons!

This is where it gets spooky. Scientists think there might be swirling clouds of dust officially called "Kordylewski clouds" that share Earth's orbit. First reported in the 1960s and only tentatively confirmed in 2018, there's still no agreement on whether they actually exist or just appear and disappear.

There may be quasi-moons, mini-moons, even ghost moons... but my dearest Moon, you'll always be my one true orbit, Moon bae!



Heist At Louvre Museum(Again!)

BUT THIS TIME MONA LISA STAYED PUT



On the morning of 19 Oct 2025, the world-famous **Louvre Museum** was rocked by a daring daylight robbery, as thieves disguised as construction workers stole over **\$100 million** worth of royal jewels **in just eight minutes**. The robbers arrived shortly after the museum opened, set up traffic cones like they were fixing the building, and robbed crowns, necklaces, and glittering treasures that once belonged to French royalty like Napoleon and kings of France.

Louvre Museum



The Louvre Museum in Paris is the world's largest and most visited art museum, home to more than 35,000 art works spanning ancient civilizations to the modern era. Once a royal palace, it now houses icons like the **Mona Lisa** and the **Venus de Milo**, attracting millions of visitors every year who come to see art that shaped human history.

The incident triggered a national outcry. France's Culture Minister described it as an assault on the heritage of the nation, and security protocols at museums across the country were immediately scrutinised.

Hmm...
History repeats
again!

The Mona Lisa story

If you've ever wondered why **Mona Lisa** is one of the most famous painting in the world, here's the twist: it wasn't always! Before **1911**, Leonardo da Vinci's mysterious lady was just another **Renaissance*** painting hanging in the Louvre. But in 1911, the

Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre by a man named **Vincenzo Peruggia**, an Italian handyman who had once worked at the museum.



Peruggia hid the painting in a trunk under his bed for two whole years, believing it rightfully belonged in Italy. When he finally tried to sell it to an art dealer in Florence, he was caught and the **Mona Lisa** returned home to Paris.

Before the heist, the **Mona Lisa** was well-respected but not world-famous. The theft changed everything. Newspapers worldwide ran the story for weeks and she became a celebrity. Today, the **Mona Lisa** sits behind bulletproof glass, surrounded by security, with millions of tourists snapping photos each year. Since then, it's come under attack with rocks, acid, spray paint, and even soup (in 2022).



Coming back to the recent heist...

Uh-oh! This one's tough!
we're not talking paintings, but jewels?
Melt them, cut them, and bye-bye evidence!

*Renaissance the word means "rebirth" in French, signifying revival of classical art, literature, and philosophy in Europe in the 14th – 15th century.

Free Software Foundation Turns 40

FIGHT FOR DIGITAL FREEDOM CONTINUES!



The Free Software Foundation (FSF) turned 40 years old on October 4, 2025, marking four decades of advocating for user's **digital rights**. Founded in 1985 by computer scientist **Richard Stallman**. The celebration featured talks, workshops, bringing together software freedom activists from around the world.

The event's slogan captured their mission perfectly:

4 decades, 4 freedoms, 4 all users!



Richard Stallman

Flashback: How it all started...

Back in October 1985, computing was very different. Big companies made software that you could use, but you often couldn't see the code behind it or change it if you wanted. That's when computer programmer Richard Stallman founded FSF. He believed software should respect user's freedom: Not just be "cheap" or free of cost, but "free as in freedom". Not like "Free Pizza" but like "Free Speech", got it!



**You may ask:
Why it matters?**

Imagine buying a car, but the hood is welded shut. You can't look at the engine, can't fix it yourself, and can't let a mechanic work on it. You're completely dependent on the original company. That's what **proprietary (non-free) software** is like.

Free software is like a car where you can pop the hood, tinker with the engine, and even rebuild it if you want. Even if you're not a mechanic yourself, you can take it to any mechanic you trust. FSF wanted users to have that freedom.

The FSF believes in four basic freedoms:

Freedom to use any program, for any purpose

Freedom to study how the software works

Freedom to share copies with anyone

Freedom to improve the software and share with others

FSF: REAL WORLD EXAMPLES

Linux Everywhere: The Linux operating system (built on FSF's GNU tools) runs most of the world's web servers, powers Android phones, and is the heart of many smart devices in homes and space stations.

Firefox and LibreOffice: Popular tools like Firefox, LibreOffice, Blender, and GIMP use FSF licenses, making them free for creative work, learning, or fun. No fees needed

Public Institutions Saving Money: Governments in many countries including India have switched to GNU/Linux and other FSF-inspired software in schools and offices, saving public money.



The bigger news?

The FSF announced an ambitious new initiative called **LibrePhone**, a project that could change how we think about smartphones. Most smartphones today, Android or iPhone rely on hidden **"binary blobs"**: secret bits of code that control things like Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and cellular connections. Because this code is proprietary, users can't see, change, or fully trust what their devices are doing. The LibrePhone Project aims to change that! A bold FSF effort to build phones that are truly under user control, not corporate surveillance.

80 Year Old Conquers the Ironman

NATALIE GRABOW'S STORY OF GRIT AND GLORY



At 80 years, **Natalie Grabow** became the oldest woman ever to complete the gruelling Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii.

For context: the Ironman* is a triathlon that consists of a 3.8 km swim, a 180 km bike ride, and a 42 km marathon run, all back-to-back! Natalie finished in 16 hours, 45 minutes, 26 seconds, just under the 17-hour cut-off. She proves that age is just a number when the heart, mind, and will align.



*The Ironman World Championship is the most famous triathlon, and one of the hardest. It takes place in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. The heat, the winds, and the uphill sections of the course make it very difficult even for young athletes.

From Ordinary to Extraordinary

**It's never too late,
Start from where you are!**



Persistence beats perfection



Set challenging goals & accept risk



Strong Mind + body together

Natalie's triathlon journey began in her late 50s. She learnt swimming when she was 59. It's more important to start the journey and be at it. It's never late!



Natalie said, "I was very, very awkward and slow ... but I was pretty determined." Keep going, even if you're not the best at first. Improvement comes with consistent effort.

The Ironman is tough even younger athletes drop out. But Natalie risked failure, accepted it could be hard but moved forward anyway. Pick something that scares you a little. That's growth!

Natalie says, "Strong in the body, strong in the mind." Physical fitness helps mental confidence; mental strength helps you persevere.



Natalie Grabow's story teaches us that it's never too late to start something new, overcome your fears, or chase your dreams. So the next time you think you're too young, too old, too inexperienced, or not athletic enough to try something new, remember Ms. Grabow. Remember that she learned to swim at 59, completed her first triathlon at 60, and made history at 80.

What's your excuse?

Tooth Be Told

NOT ALL THAT'S HARD IS BONE



Pop quiz: How many bones are in the human body
If you said 206, congratulations!



Now, second question:
Are your 32 teeth included in that count? Let's find out :)



At first glance, teeth seem like they should totally be bones. They're hard, they're white-ish, they're inside your body, and they definitely hurt when you accidentally bite your tongue.
But they are not bones...

Why does your skeleton get all the credit while your teeth are left out of the bone club?

Bones Can Heal. Teeth? Not So Much.

Break a bone? It hurts, but bones fix themselves with living cells and blood vessels. Bones are alive!

Teeth don't. Damage enamel (the outer layer), and it's gone! No regrowth, no self-repair.



VS



What are they made of...

Bones are built from collagen (a protein) and calcium phosphate (mineral) for strength.

Teeth are coated in enamel: the body's hardest material but it has no living cells.

Blood Supply Drama

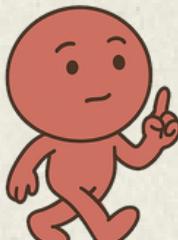
Bones get their food and oxygen from blood vessels running through them. That's what keeps them alive and able to repair.

Teeth? The inner pulp has blood vessels and nerves. Outer enamel + dentin are completely dead. Teeth is like a castle wall: tough, but lifeless on the outside.

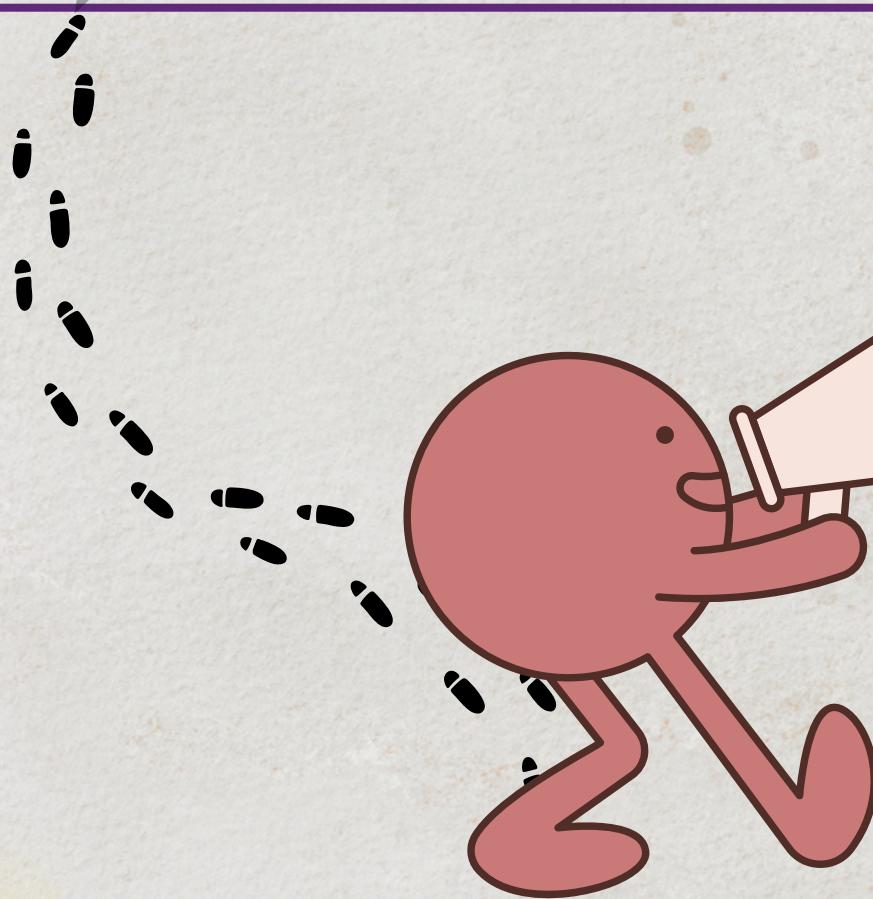
The Big Difference

Bones? They're your internal scaffolding built for strength, not snacking. They are part of your skeletal system.

Teeth evolved not to hold your body up but to crush, slice, and chew food. They are part of your digestive system



Now you know why dentists keep nagging about brushing and flossing your teeth. They can't repair or regrow like bones. So remember: take care of those teeth because you only get one permanent set!



Dolphins sleep with only half their brain at a time, keeping one eye open to watch for predators.



That's all for this
week folks!

Got some feedback or want to share something with us?
Write to us here:

smartscoopteam@gmail.com
<https://www.smartscoop.in>

We'd love to hear from you! Mostly Blurt tbh..



The freshest finds for clever minds!!!

SOURCES

[The Hindu](#)

[Economic Times](#)

[The New York Times](#)

[NPR](#)

[The Ken](#)

[The Finshots](#)

[Tech Crunch](#)

[NewsforKids](#)

[Wikipedia](#)

[Wikibio](#)

[Studiobinder](#)

[BBC News](#)

[CNN](#)

[Reuters](#)

[The Guardian](#)

[Bloomberg](#)

[Times of India](#)

[The Wire](#)

[Science News](#)

[National Geographic](#)

[Live Science](#)

[Popular Science](#)

Please write to us for any content modification or removal. We do not intend to violate any copyrights.

All credit goes to the original owner.

Declaration on the Use of AI

All content has been curated, authored, and refined through multiple stages of human writing and review to ensure clarity, accuracy and age-appropriateness. This content is not AI-generated; all pages have been manually edited and finalised by our editorial team. Generative AI was used for editing and creating a few images to improve engagement.