

## Wrapping Paper

By Eva W 7K

Wrapping paper is a thing everyone uses, right? But, did you know it is bad for the environment? Every year, 227,000 miles of wrapping paper is used. 32 miles<sup>2</sup> of this is thrown away. Any wrapping paper that is shiny or glittery is non-recyclable. Another way to test if it is recyclable is to use the scrunch test. Just take a piece of the wrapping paper and scrunch it into a ball in your hand. Next, open your hand. If the paper stays in a ball, you can recycle it. However, if it bounces back open, it can't be recycled. Here are some ways to avoid Wrapping Paper: Baskets, Newspaper, Tissue Paper and Festive Grocery Bags. In the UK, we send 5 million tonnes of wrapping paper to landfill every year. All of this wrapping paper creates a need for a lot of sticky tape as well - with some estimates putting this at around 40 million rolls! Wrapping paper even takes 2-6 weeks to decompose.



## The Australia wildfires

By Jasmine W 10K

If you have been keeping up with the news recently, then you have probably heard of the Australia wildfires with it being one of the biggest reported on stories so far this year and for good reason; about two thirds of Australia is on fire and 3,000 firemen working on putting them out alongside 70,000 volunteers. Scientists and experts say that Australia's fire season has grown longer and more intense due to climate change and according to the Bureau of Meteorology, climate change had led to an increase in extreme heat events and raised severity of other natural disasters, such as drought. Australia's conservative government has been criticized over its efforts to address climate change as last year a UN report said the nation was falling short of its Paris climate agreement commitments to cut CO2 emissions. Celebrities across the globe have supported the country with Marvel actor Chris Hemsworth Donating AU\$1,000,000 to help stop the fires as well as many others such as P!nk, Rebel Wilson, Selena Gomez and Dacre Montgomery just to name a few.



## What is the science behind global warming?

By Sian G 9Y

Global warming is the steady rise in temperature of the Earth's climate. After the industrial revolution, temperatures have been rising at an increasing rate. Especially in the past 40 years, average temperatures have been rising at an even faster rate. Evidence supports that increased carbon dioxide has an important role in the dramatic rise in temperature. Carbon dioxide is known as a greenhouse gas, meaning it can trap the sun's heat in the atmosphere, having the 'greenhouse effect'. Other greenhouse gases include water vapour, nitrous oxide and methane.

This rise in temperature has had a profound effect on ecosystems across the planet. It causes longer droughts, melting of ice caps, and flooding. It is thought to have made the Australian bush fires more ferocious, making the fires more widespread. These fires would also produce large amounts of carbon dioxide, contributing to a rise in temperatures.

