

Today, we are celebrating the birthday of Stephen Hawking. He was a brilliant British physicist who revolutionized the way we think about black holes and space.



Little Stephen was born in Oxford, England, just as a great world war was raging. At night, he would look up at the stars and wonder what else was out there.

His parents loved science, as did Stephen and his three siblings. They all ate dinner with a knife, a fork, and the company of a good book.



Stephen was never at the top of the class, but at school everyone called him "Einstein," like the famous scientist. One day, he built a computer from clock parts and an old telephone.



Stephen was busy enjoying himself studying cosmology,
when suddenly...



...he started dropping things and tripping for no reason.
Even his speech became hard to understand.



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Doctors told him that a rare disease was paralyzing his body and he had only two more years to live. Stephen felt like the whole universe was falling down around him...





Instead of looking down at his feet, Stephen decided to look up at the stars. Maybe he couldn't control his body, but in order to study the universe, all he needed was his mind.

The chalkboard contains the following content:

- Top left: $S = (E) W$
- Top right: $\frac{10/9}{30}$ and $\frac{4}{88}$
- Middle left: A diagram of a circle with a dot in the center and an arrow pointing clockwise, labeled $(V.t)$ and $\frac{F \cdot 24}{\sqrt{3}}$.
- Middle center: A square with an upward-pointing arrow, labeled $cfun$ and $\frac{V \cdot 4}{V(1)}$.
- Middle right: $\frac{AE}{w \cdot 41}$ and $\sqrt{4^2 = R}$
- Bottom left: $\frac{V \cdot V \cdot r}{V(t)}$ and $F(\sqrt{2} R)$
- Bottom center: A diagram of a star above a circle with a vertical line through its center, labeled $S = WH \cdot 24/7$ and $T = S + Q \sqrt{3}$.
- Bottom right: $\frac{dT}{7.49}$ and $\frac{f3.24}{N \rightarrow b}$
- Other numbers and symbols: 4.7 , 16 , $h+A$, $3\sqrt{4}$, $1/2$, $10/9$, 30 , 4 , 88 , $D.H$, 16 , $h+A$, $N \rightarrow b$.

A person with glasses and a blue sweater is pointing at the chalkboard.



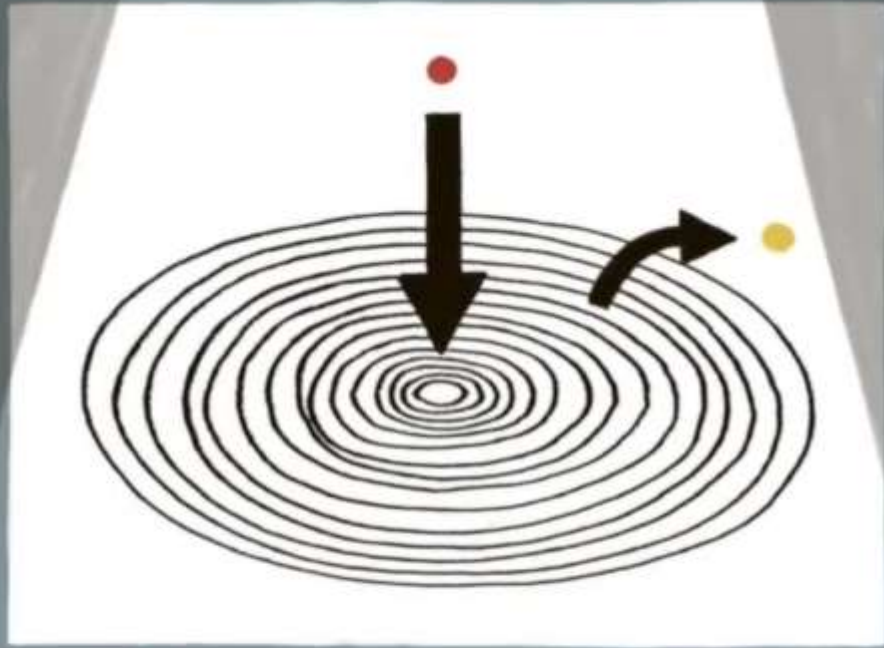
His wife, Jane, stood by his side and gave him all the support he needed. They had three children and Stephen loved to give them rides on his wheelchair.



Stephen turned his attention to black holes, some of the
strangest and most powerful objects in the galaxy.
So powerful, not even light could escape
from them. Or so scientists thought...



But Stephen proved that black holes were not so black after all. There was a tiny light escaping from them. It was named "Hawking radiation."



By this time, Stephen had lost his voice and found a new one with a robotic drawl. With his new voice, he dictated a book that helped the world understand the meaning of the universe.





Stephen believed that, one day, humans would cross galaxies to live on faraway planets. He celebrated his 65th birthday by taking a zero gravity ride with a team of astronauts, leaving his wheelchair for the first time in 40 years.



By becoming the most brilliant scientist of today, little Stephen made an amazing discovery:

"However difficult life may seem, there is always something that you can do and succeed at."

Do you think that Stephen Hawking would have been able to make his *amazing discoveries* if he hadn't had amazing health care? Can you imagine how different his story would be without access to doctors?





School Reflection

This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
Let the rooms be full of contentment.

Let love abide here,
Love of one another,
Love of mankind,
Love of life itself.

Let us remember

That as many hands build a house,
So many hearts make a school

Help us to learn, play and share together.

We hope our school will be a place of great discovery, adventure and creativity.

May it be a place where we love to learn and where we learn to love,

A place where everyone is respected, and all are deeply valued.