



Sir Isaac Newton

**Jan. 4** Sir Isaac Newton was an English physicist, mathematician, and philosopher. He wrote one of the most influential works on physics of all times. In *The Principia*, Newton used math equations to explain how objects moved. His calculations changed the way people looked at the universe.

**Jan 8.** To calculate Elvis Presley’s age in a specific year, subtract the year of his birth from the year in question ( $1956 - 1935 = 21$ ) for an answer of 21 years old. Elvis had many hits in 1956, including “Heartbreak Hotel,” “Hound Dog,” and “All Shook Up,” which was included in *Rolling Stone Magazine’s* list of the 500 greatest songs of all time.



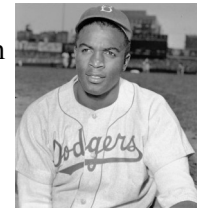
Elvis Presley in 1956

**Jan. 13** Triskaidekaphobia is a fear of the number 13. Throughout most of recorded history, the number 13 has been seen as an unlucky number. Some people believe Fridays that fall on the 13th of a month are particularly unlucky.

**Jan. 17** As the first United States Postmaster General, Benjamin Franklin had to figure out routes for delivering the mail; he also needed to measure the routes to keep track of the distance. In 1775, he invented an odometer and attached it to his carriage. The simple device counted the rotations of the wheels on the carriage.

**Jan. 19** Edgar Allan Poe was an American author and poet. While he is best known for his dark tales of mystery, Poe is also considered the inventor of detective fiction. His own death is considered a mystery to this day; he was found sick and delirious on a street in Baltimore days before he died. His famous poem “The Raven” was the inspiration for the Baltimore NFL team.

**Jan. 31** When he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first African American in the 20th century to play baseball in the major leagues. He was an outstanding player. Over ten seasons, he played in six World Series and six All-Star Games. Robinson was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962, and his uniform number, 42, was retired in 1997.



Jackie Robinson