Callum (Year 8) is the *Newshounds* technical expert and he's come up with a real (Christmas) cracker this time! Ladies and Gentlemen (drum roll, please), Callum brings you…

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The history of the iPhone…

Welcome back to my second *Newshounds* article of 2018-2019! In today's world you probably have a 'high-tech' iPhone that looks a little bit something like this:

With beautiful retina displays, great performance and an endless road of apps! However, we are going to travel back in time to the late 2000's where things weren't quite the same…

The original iPhone (the iPhone 2G)

June 29th 2007 was the day when the iPhone first graced the 'tech' industry

With a phone that could fit right into the palm of your hand, making phone calls had never been easier. It came with the first version of IOS, or at the time iPhone OS (which by the way

stands for operating system), a 4-inch display and an easy-to-use skeuomorphic interface (which is a design language that involved around more 3D textures, bump maps, shading and more). The iPhone was truly a revolutionary device, selling over 200 million units over its entire lifespan. Although it wasn't all sunshine and rainbows though…when the iPhone was first released, it didn't have an app store in any sort of way and you couldn't choose a background on your home screen. However, a year later, its predecessor had arrived…

The iPhone 3G

Released on July 11th 2008, this iPhone introduced several new core features to the iPhone as a whole, such as GPS 3G data and most notably *The App Store*.

A fun fact - did you know? When the iPhone was nothing but a twinkle in Steve Jobs' eye, he was working with Microsoft to make a multi-touch tablet that would have many of the features that we saw on the original iPhone. However, he thought that a 'phone would be much more important than a tablet, so the project was put on hold (this would later become the iPad).

The iPhone 3GS

On June 19th 2009, the iPhone 3GS was released. This release mainly focused on speed improvements but also added a digital compass, voice recording and voice control.

The iPhone 4

On June 24th 2010, the iPhone 4 was released with a brand new design that became the base design for most iPhones today. It had a stunning retina display, more powerful hardware and was Apple's longest lasting 'flagship 'phone'.
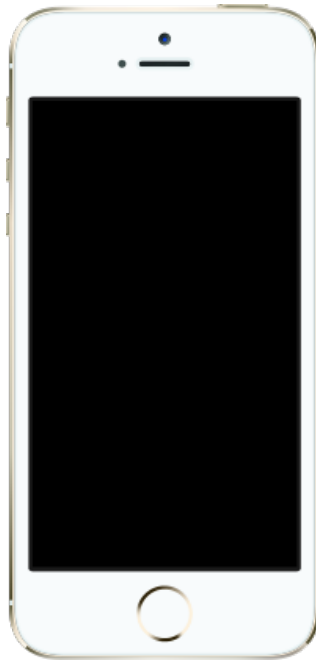
The iPhone 4S

Released on October 14th 2011, this model brought massive additions and changes to the iPhone as a whole such as iCloud, iMessage, Twitter integration and the voice companion Siri! A fun fact - did you know? The 'S' in iPhone 4S stood for *Siri* instead of speed or slim.

The iPhone 5

Released on September 21st 2012, this was the last iPhone to be overseen by former Chief Executive Officer and co-founder of Apple, Steve Jobs. Anyway, this iPhone brought a larger screen, a slight revamp to the design with aluminium instead of glass, a lightning cable port and it had a 16:9 aspect ratio.

The iPhone 5S

Released on September 20th 2013, this iPhone was the first to be installed with IOS 7 which came with a fully revamped design to fit today's design language (see my original iPhone description to find out about *IOS*).

The iPhone 5S was also the first iPhone to include 'touch ID' which reads the fingerprint of a finger to unlock your iPhone, which also added an extra layer of security. Some of you are maybe asking 'WHERE IS THE iPHONE 5C?' Well, there isn't much to talk about it aside from having a plastic back and a few other changes. Also, it was a commercial failure.
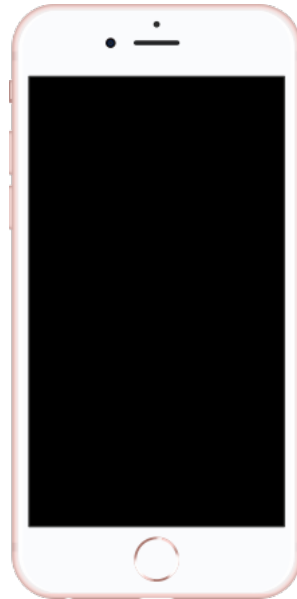
The iPhone 6 and 6 Plus

Released on September 19th 2014, these two iPhones had larger displays at 4.7 inches (iPhone 6) and 5.5 inches (iPhone 6 Plus). They also had faster processors and sold a staggering 220 million units throughout their entire lifecycle, therefore making them one of the best-selling smartphones of all time! However in all of this there were two major problems. The first one was 'touch disease', which caused inputs on the display and touch ID to 'not read' but nothing compares to the biggest trend of that period – 'Bendgate'! You might know that 'phones every now and then have a small bend – well, the iPhone 6 (particularly the 6 Plus) had lighter aluminium compared to previous iPhones, so even putting the iPhone 6 in your pocket could easily bend it! Here is an image of how bad it could get!
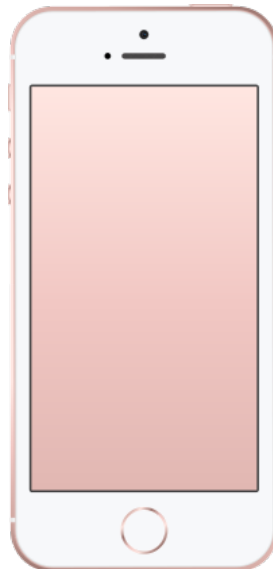
Anyway, enough of 'Bendgate' – let's move on!

The iPhone 6S and 6S Plus

Released on September 25th 2014 like other 'S' models, the iPhone 6S/6S Plus focused on speed and hardware improvements but also included 'Hey Siri' functionality wirelessly.
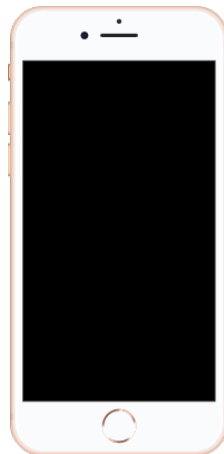
The iPhone SE

Released on March 31st 2016, the iPhone SE returned to the shell of the iPhone 5S, while carrying the hardware of the iPhone 6S. It was the most affordable of all the iPhones at the time and was often considered one of the best iPhones to this day!

The iPhone 7 and 7 Plus

Released on 16th September 2016, these models included a re-vamped design, a significant upgrade to the camera (mostly on the 7 Plus), and the unfortunate removal of the headphone jack.

The iPhone 8 and8 Plus

Released on September 22nd 2017, these models included a glass back, wireless charging and the standard hardware and camera improvements. However, the ageing design was getting old in days when 'tech' was advancing at such a fast rate. It was time for a complete overhaul…

The 'X' Trilogy

With the iPhone X released on November 3rd 2017, the XS version released on September 21st 2018 and the XR version on October 26th 2018, these models brought a huge overhaul to the design with almost no borders, a huge upgrade to the hardware and many other additions. The X trilogy of iPhones is where we leave our journey through the history of the iPhone…

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Phew! What a journey! Well done, Callum!