

BOWIE'S BACK... AND OTHER KIDS NAMES FOR 2017

- **Bowie, Bodhi, Neo, Lula and Ariana are emerging baby names to watch in 2017**
- **Current names influenced by Brexit, popular culture and grandparents**
- **Re-worked classic names such as Thea and Jamieson are on trend**

Brexit, celebrity culture and our Grandparents are three of the biggest influences on baby names for the year ahead, predicts leading parent blog [Milk Drunk Diary](#). Along with traditional names, such as Harry, Alice and Edgar – the blog expects Bowie, Ariana and Lula to be some of the less obvious names we'll be hearing more of in 2017.

The 'Brexit Effect' is said to be one reason why traditional British names are 'remaining in' - with Ellie, Jack and Harry still going strong in the top ten names of 2016 to date ([bounty.com](#)).

Another trend is for 'grandparent names' hailing from a bygone era, such as; Edgar, Camilla, Edith and George. Actor Eddie Redmayne was ahead of the curve naming his daughter Iris earlier this year. Similarly, rock star Ronnie Wood and wife Sally opted for classic names Gracie and Alice for their twins this year.

Celebrity culture again influences the mainstream, with a surge in baby Bowie's in tribute to the rockstar - including Take That's Howard Donald and model Tess Holliday. Other names in this category include Ariana - from both the musician and Huffington Post, as well as Elsa from the it movie Frozen. Should Donald Trump win the next election, it's expected that a new generation of baby 'Donnies' will emerge!

Milk Drunk Diary's Top 10 names for 2017 are:

Boys

1. Bowie - in tribute to the late David Bowie
2. Neo - so popular in USA, it has risen by 127% (Nameberry)
3. Edgar - a classic name not yet overused for a new generation
4. Roman - one of the few 'international' names growing in popularity year on year ([names.darkgreener.com](#))
5. Bodhi - making waves in USA, the UK is sure to follow

Girls

1. Ariana - influenced by the popstar Ms Grande

2. Sadie - another bygone name making a comeback
3. Thea - a modern twist on Theodora - the name of Robbie William's daughter
4. Lula - an adaptation of Lola or Lulu, a classic name with a modern twist
5. Felicity - bringing back Grandma chic, Paddy McGuinness was on trend by giving this name to his daughter this year

Re-working classic names, to give them a 'millennial' twist is another emerging trend. These include Thea, Leonidas, Flynn and Lula - a name chosen by Liv Tyler for her baby daughter at the start of the year.

Sophia Walker, editor of Milk Drunk Diary, said: "With Brexit causing some unrest, we've noticed a return to classic British names - some with a 'millennial twist' to make them relevant to a new audience, like Thea and Lexi. There's also been a surge in baby Bowie's following the untimely death of the legendary musician.

"When it comes to baby naming, parents tend to fall in to one of three categories – traditionalists, non-conformists and experimentalists. The former tends to prefer classic British names like Olivia and Oliver. Non-conformists opt for names that aren't widely used, but aren't too controversial, such as Flynn, Lula and Bhodie. And then you have experimentalists – the Jamie Oliver's of the world who dare to be different with names such as 'Honey' and 'River'!"

Celebrity parents expecting to give birth at the end of this year and in 2017, include actresses Marion Cotillard and Natalie Portman. There's a new baby spice in town with Geri Horner due next year, and Mick Jagger will be a Dad again at 70 with girlfriend Melanie Hamrick. First-time Mum's Alex Jones, Paloma Faith and Janet Jackson are also due in the coming months. And if you've been keeping up with the Kardashians, Blac Chyna and Rob are expecting their first child together soon too.

Some of the more unusual celebrity baby names this year have been 'Onyx' by Alanis Morissette, 'Journey' by Megan Fox and 'Buddy' by Tom and Giovanni Fletcher.

In a recent poll on [Milk Drunk Diary's Twitter page](#), Bowie was voted the most popular name (40%) for 2017.

Milk Drunk Diary is a leading parent blog, covering all things parenting - for more visit www.milkdrunkdiary.com

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