

# na bumps up against the US; UK comes out blinking (and dering); Trump flops, OK

**the United States have been on course for years - but has nic hit the accelerator on a ar?** Despite a new outbreak China has mainly controlled and is flexing its muscles in on its Indian border and likely , too. Its economic power also rucial investor in Europe, Latin America. The US now liance of nations to stand up ut would such a coalition be a normal US administration, mald Trump's? Our diplomatic ck Wintour finds out.

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**he UK prime minister, Boris is expected to announce a ng of lockdown restrictions in** owing museums, art galleries, rants and hairdressers to early July. Johnson was also reduce a 2-metre public social ale - to the relief of business worry of some workers and officials. It's an important the government, which, reaction to the pandemic



in March, has been on the back foot and left the UK as one of the world's worst-impacted nations.

It followed a bad week for the government when it was forced by the Manchester United footballer Marcus Rashford into a U-turn on free school meals for disadvantaged children in England over the summer. It also had to scrap the NHS England test-and-trace app, which health secretary Matt Hancock had launched to much fanfare just six weeks earlier.

This week, Toby Helm reports on how weeks of blunders have dragged a once-buoyant PM down to earth. Before that though, there's some optimistic news: health editor Sarah Boseley reports on the treatments and developments that have made UK scientists and doctors more confident they could cope with a new wave of Covid-19.

**UK Spotlight from p18 →**

**Last weekend Donald Trump kicked off his re-election campaign with a rally in Tulsa in Oklahoma, not exactly the swingiest of states.** The sight of a half-empty BOK Center amused many critics, and infuriated the president. The 6,000 or so in attendance were still enthralled, however, as Oliver Laughland reports on page 30. It capped a week for Trump in which he fell further behind his Democratic rival Joe Biden in the polls, and when his former national security adviser John Bolton published a book accusing him of seeking Xi Jinping's help to win the forthcoming presidential election. On page 31, Simon Tisdall analyses the accusations in Bolton's book. As bad as they are, do any of them come as a surprise? **US Spotlight from page 30 →**

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