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# Weekly News Recap

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## Top Stories of The Week

### **Starknet's STRK Jumps After Developer StarkWare Agrees to Delay Token Unlocks**

CoinDesk

Starknet, one of Ethereum's most high profile layer 2s, opened its airdrop on Tuesday, with 700m, or 7% of STRK's 10b supply, earmarked for the community. In addition, STRK began trading on exchanges that day. One point of contention, however, was around the lockup for early contributors and investors, as there was a large cliff vesting set for April. However, StarkWare changed the lockup schedule for early contributors and investors to make it more gradual.

### **Circle Axes Support for USDC on Tron, Citing 'Risk Management'**

Decrypt

USDC issuer Circle announced that it was discontinuing support for its stablecoin on the Tron blockchain. Circle stated that it "continually assesses the suitability of all blockchains where USDC is supported" as part of its risk management framework, and that its decision to discontinue support for USDC on Tron "aligns with our efforts to ensure that USDC remains trusted, transparent and safe."

### **AI tokens record double-digit gains as market cap doubles in a month**

Cointelegraph

AI-based crypto tokens and traditional stocks outperformed this week, with AI tokens surging after Nvidia's strong earnings report. OpenAI's announcement of Sora, which creates video from text, also drove enthusiasm for AI tokens. All told, the market cap of AI tokens has doubled over the last month to \$17.8b.

## Japan opens up Web3 investments for local VCs

Cointelegraph

Japan approved a bill allowing limited partnership firms to invest in crypto assets, promoting domestic investments in Web3 startups. The move is expected to boost the emergence of crypto and blockchain startups in Japan.

## Hong Kong's Central Bank Issues Guidance for Firms Offering Crypto Custodial Services

CoinDesk

Hong Kong's central bank issued guidance for firms interested in offering custodial services for digital assets. Among the requirements, the HKMA wants firms to hold clients' digital assets in client accounts segregated from the firm's own assets in the event of an insolvency.

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### Bitcoin

[NFT platform inscribes Nintendo 64 emulator onto Bitcoin](#)

[Stacks \(STX\) price outperforms the market as interest in layer-2 Bitcoin grows](#)

[Bitcoin Inventor Satoshi Nakamoto Emails Revealed in Court](#)

['Fair Value of Bitcoin Is Still Zero,' Say European Central Bank Officials](#)

[Social Network streamlines Bitcoin staking through tech partnerships](#)

[Bitcoin options worth \\$3.7 billion approaching expiration â€“ Deribit](#)

[Bitcoin futures open interest reaches highest level since November 2021](#)

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### Ethereum

[Vitalik Buterin Voices Concern About Complex Layer 2 Solutions](#)

[Vitalik Buterin Floats Idea of AI-Based Code Audits, Ethereum Project Developers Back Him Up](#)

[Polygon, StarkWare Tout New 'Circle STARKs' as Breakthrough for Zero-Knowledge Proofs](#)

[Ethereum spot ETFs may intensify validator concentration risk, says S&P Global](#)

[Optimism Gives \\$41 Million in OP Tokens to NFT Artists in Fourth Airdrop](#)

[Burn Rate Surges Amid Spike In Ethereum On-Chain Activity](#)

[Ether hits \\$3,000 for the first time since 2022 amid spot ETF speculation](#)

[Ethereum Up 28% This Month as Dencun Upgrade Nears, Scaling Networks Surge](#)

[Vitalik Buterin: Verkle Trees Implementation to Benefit Ethereum Stakers and Network Nodes](#)

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## Altcoins

[Injective Introduces 'ERC-404' Port to Capitalize on the Hype Around the Experimental Token Standard](#)

[Uniswap rolls out 'uni.eth' subdomains using ENS infrastructure](#)

[Avalanche confirms block finalization stall, developers currently investigating](#)

[Sushi launches Sushi Bonds offering token discounts and long-term liquidity](#)

[ZCash jumps 15% after Grayscale seeks SEC nod for privacy ETF](#)

[Ondo Finance eyes tokenized treasury expansion amid crypto bull market](#)

[DeFi investors punt nearly \\$1m into new Ethereum hybrid staking protocol offering 10% yield](#)

[Paris Saint-Germain Partners with Chiliz Chain as Blockchain Validator](#)

[Fuel Labs unveils 'Rollup OS' strategy ahead of Q3 2024 mainnet release](#)

[Lido adds 1inch for faster withdrawals of stETH and wstETH](#)

[BNB Chain surpasses 1 million daily active users mark](#)

[Restaking Protocol Kelp DAO Brings Liquidity to EigenLayer Points](#)

[Wormhole to use AMD chips for scaling 'light client' proofs on interoperability platform](#)

[Solana DeFi Tops \\$2 Billion in Value Locked for First Time Since June 2022](#)

[Uniswap Launches v2 Across Six New Chains](#)

[Stellar Starts Phased Rollout of 'Soroban' Smart Contracts](#)

[Avalanche's AVAX Underperforms Ahead of \\$365M Token Unlock](#)

[Gearbox's Leveraged Re-Staking Trade Attracts Over 2,600 ETH in One Day](#)

[Aave Moves To Launch \\$5M Quarterly Incentives Program](#)

[Arweave's AR token hits 18-month high amid rapid growth and innovation](#)

[Team managing \\$900m in DeFi funds mulls new token launch and airdrop](#)

[Solana taps Filecoin for enhanced decentralized data storage and access](#)

[Alameda Research's Worldcoin holdings jump \\$50 million as WLD hits new peak](#)

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## Stablecoins

[Argentina Tops Latin America in Stablecoin Purchases and Holdings: Report](#)

[Collapsed Real Estate-Backed Stablecoin Charts Path to Recovery](#)

[Why Circle's USDC Is Quitting the TRON Network](#)

[Tether won't confirm or deny if it's dropping USDT on Tron](#)

[Rising stablecoin supply shows an influx of capital into the crypto market](#)

[Concerns mount over Ethena USDe's promise of 27% yield following mainnet launch](#)

[Y Combinator Calls For Stablecoin Startups](#)

[Stablecoin Wars Heat Up As Circle Asks Congress To Rein In Tether](#)

[Y Combinator, Startup Incubator Behind Airbnb, Coinbase, and Stripe, Looks to Invest in Stablecoin Finance](#)

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## Crypto Ecosystem

[Privy launches to ease onboarding to consumer crypto apps](#)

[Judge approves FTX plan to sell \\$1B stake in AI startup Anthropic](#)

[DCG files objection to Genesis, NYAG settlement](#)

[You can now deploy your own L3 rollup for \\$50 a month](#)

[FalconX expands into Hong Kong as institutional demand rises](#)

[South Korea's KODA Sees 248% Growth in Crypto Assets Under Custody in Second Half of 2023](#)

[FTX Investors Sue Law Firm Sullivan and Cromwell For Involvement in Crypto Fraud](#)

[Risk Manager Gauntlet Terminates Relationship with Aave, Citing DAO Dysfunction](#)

[Polygon teams up with Animoca Brands, Human Institute to develop palm-based ID verification solution](#)

[Liquid Restaking Protocol Puffer Rakes in \\$1B in Deposits in Just 3 Weeks](#)

[CME to launch euro-denominated micro bitcoin and ether futures next month](#)

[DeFi Devs get real-time Bitcoin ETF data with Pyth Network](#)

[MetaMask boosts security with alerts for 30M users on major chains](#)

[Airdrop farmers are now spamming GitHub in light of Starknet, Celestia distributions](#)

[Celsius distributes \\$2B of crypto to 172K creditors](#)

[Crypto projects have given out 115 billion points so far \(but some still won't say how many\)](#)

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## NFTs / Gaming / Metaverse

[Solana NFTs hit \\$5B in all-time sales volume](#)

[Pudgy Penguins Partners with Unstoppable Domains to Launch .pudgy Domain Names](#)

['Pirate Nation' Studio Reveals Network for Fully On-Chain Games on Arbitrum](#)

[Luxury brand blockchain platform Arianee aims to scale, launches L2 on Polygon](#)

[Kakao's Metabora Joins Gaming Giants Ubisoft, Sega on Oasis Chain](#)

[Arbitrum Foundation funds crypto-related film from Oscar-winning producer](#)

[BAYC co-creator Greg Solana takes up reins as Yuga Labs CEO](#)

[Ronin Adds 'Kaidro' Role-Playing Game Following 'Pixels' Ethereum Token Launch](#)

[Walmart expands availability of Pudgy Toys to 1,100 more stores](#)

[Esports Giant Team Liquid Launching Fan Rewards Platform on Sui](#)

[Sports Illustrated moves NFT ticketing platform to Avalanche](#)

[Forbes buys virtual land in The Sandbox metaverse](#)

[Mumbai Launches Metropolis Metaverse to Showcase Infrastructure Projects](#)

[World of Women NFT Collection to Host Paris Gala Event](#)

[Gaming Tokens Ride Bitcoin, Ethereum Boom to All-Time High Prices](#)

[A trader just made \\$13m selling an early Ethereum NFT collection](#)

[9dcc's First Full NFT Fashion Collection Is Designed for the 'Crypto Mob'](#)

[Pixels Trading Volume Hits \\$1.2 Billion as Ethereum Gaming Token Tops Major Coins](#)

[New WWE Collection Hits the Shelves + More NFT News](#)

[Sotheby's EtherRock Auction Closes Wednesday, Expected to Fetch Over \\$600K](#)

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## Mining

[Texas Blockchain Council including Riot file lawsuit against US Energy Department over Bitcoin miner survey](#)

[The new frontier in Bitcoin mining: Stranded energy utilization and open hash power markets](#)

[Bitcoin Miner Marathon to Start 'Slipstream' to Make Complex BTC Transactions Faster](#)

[Emmer says emergency bitcoin miner survey order was an abuse of power](#)

[Why Finland Could be Europe's Next Crypto Mining Giant](#)

[Bitcoin mining giant Marathon is 'shopping around' for acquisitions ahead of halving](#)

[BitRiver to Build New 100MW Crypto Mining Center in Russia](#)

[Angry Texans fight Bitcoin mine's 80,000 noisy machines in test for industry](#)

[Bitcoin mining difficulty surpasses 80 trillion ahead of halving](#)

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## Exchanges

[Crypto Exchange Kraken Files to Dismiss SEC Lawsuit Against It](#)

[Nigerians turn to VPN as government blocks access to Binance, Coinbase, others](#)

[KuCoin responds to claims of user funds being locked](#)

[Binance accused of manipulating Nigerian Naira as 'glitch' impacts P2P traders](#)

[Coinbase CEO fulfills pledge to sell 2% stake 'now he could sell another 5%](#)

[Bitget Leverages Messi Sponsorship in Battle for Latin America](#)

[Binance faces key regulatory test with Philippines poised to block exchange](#)

[Binance Implements Price Cap for USDT on Nigerian P2P Platform to Comply with Local Regulations](#)

[Former FTX executives Backpack exchange expands to 11 US states](#)

[\\$56M moved from defunct exchange after executives fled: Report](#)

[Coinbase International Exchange hits \\$1 billion in daily trading volume](#)

[AI-generated fake IDs confound crypto exchange KYC measures](#)

[Hong Kong exchange licensing clarity attracts traditional brokerages](#)

[Binance to Discontinue Leveraged Token Trading and Subscription Services](#)

[US prosecutors ask judge to approve Binance plea deal](#)

[FTX secretly used Deltec Bank to create and sell Tether for profit, lawsuit alleges](#)

[Backpack surpasses \\$1B in 24-hour volume, announces Banxa partnership](#)

[Coinbase Commerce Removes Native Bitcoin Payment Support for Merchants  
â€“ Whatâ€™s Going On?](#)

[Bybit Targets European Growth with New Amsterdam Office](#)

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## Investment Mgmt

[Spot Bitcoin ETF cumulative trading volume exceeds \\$50 billion](#)

[Valkyrie CIO anticipates spot Ethereum ETF approval will take 1-2 years](#)

[Bitcoin ETF Price/Flow Correlation is Declining: JPMorgan](#)

[Coinbase urges SEC to approve listing of Grayscaleâ€™s proposed spot ether  
ETF](#)

[Crypto Market Recovery Triggers Increased VC Funding, Renewed Confidence](#)

[Hack VC closes â€“oversubscribedâ€™ \\$150M fund for crypto startups](#)

[Crypto hedge fund Tyr faces allegations of ignoring FTX risk warnings: FT](#)

[Bitwise Bitcoin ETF approved investment option for \\$30 billion advisor network](#)

[Singapore-based VC Firm Farquhar Venture Capital Partners With TZ APAC](#)

[Australians More Likely to Invest in Spot Bitcoin ETFs After U.S. Approval: Study](#)

[Bold BlackRock Ad Campaign Says iShares Bitcoin ETF is â€œProgressâ€™](#)

[Bitcoin ETFs posted \\$2.2B net inflows over the week](#)

[Retail investors are easing back into crypto while VC funding rises for first time in  
1.5 years](#)

[VanEck Fined by SEC for ETF Marketing Blunder](#)

[Grayscale's GBTC outflows reach \\$7B, but data shows it's slowing](#)

[Asian Family Offices Seek to Supercharge Crypto Investments](#)

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## Capital Raises

[Ethereum-based token streaming protocol Superfluid raises \\$5.1 million in strategic funding](#)

[Singularity attracts \\$2.2 million to develop KYC-compliant DeFi platform for institutions](#)

[Helius Secures \\$9.5M Series A Funding to Boost Solana-Based App Creation](#)

[a16z invests \\$100 million in EigenLayer](#) Report

[Bitcoin Zero-Knowledge Rollup Citrea Raises \\$2.7M in Seed Funding](#)

[Startale Labs raises \\$3.5 million from UOB, Samsung in extended seed round](#)

[Franklin Templeton invests in Asian crypto media firm Blockhead](#)

[Modular blockchain developer Inco raises \\$4.5 million, launches first testnet](#)

[AltLayer Raises \\$14.4 Million in Strategic Funding Round for Rollup Solutions](#)

[Web3 Social Media Platform beoble Secures \\$7 Million Seed Funding From Samsung, Hashkey, and Others](#)

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## Trad Fi / Tech

[Jack Dorsey-Led Block Witness High Profits on Bitcoin Sales Via Cash App](#)

[Japanese Mega-firms Mitsubishi UFJ, Rakuten, Mizuho to Launch Security Tokens Offering](#)

[Reddit IPO filing reveals treasury exposure to Bitcoin, Ethereum](#)

[Michael Saylor Not Interested in Selling: 'Bitcoin Is the Exit Strategy'](#)

[eBay lays off 30% of Web3 and NFT staff](#) report

[Switzerland's PostFinance Starts Offering Crypto in Partnership With Sygnum](#)

[Mastercard's Latest Crypto Loyalty Scheme Aims to Plug Google Pay Gaps](#)

[OpenAI valuation crosses \\$80 billion following latest deal, Sora launch](#)

[Digital Bank is Taking on Coinbase with a New Crypto Trading Platform](#)



[Turkey releases first-phase digital lira project evaluation report](#)

[ECB Addresses Banking Industry's Concerns on Digital Euro](#)

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Regulatory / Countries

[Frankfurt to Host New EU Money Laundering Watchdog Tasked With Monitoring Crypto](#)

[Nayib Bukele's party takes supermajority in legislature amid voter fraud allegations](#)

[South Africa to Start Work on Stablecoin Regime, Will Start by Considering Use Cases](#)

[England's Law Commission Seeks Views on Draft Legislation to Label Crypto as Property](#)

[Turkey's Legislators Meet Stakeholders to Discuss Crypto Regulation, Pledge Security and Innovation in Draft Law](#)

[Texas company mounts court challenge to SEC crypto authority](#)

[Top SEC crypto lawyer leaves to join pro-crypto firm, regulator facing new lawsuit](#)

[Pro-XRP John Deaton officially launches Senate bid to replace Elizabeth Warren, campaign funded via Coinbase](#)

[Hong Kong sees surge in crypto license applications](#)

[Turkey's Upcoming Crypto Rules Will Protect Users While Fostering Innovation, Lawmaker Says](#)

[Nigeria's tech agency pushes for AI integration for enhanced security](#)

[Hong Kong Doubles Down on Stablecoin, OTC Rules Promise](#)

[Crypto advocacy group calls on Senate Banking Chair not to support Elizabeth Warren's AML bill](#)

[Swiss prosecutors raid Tyr Capital over allegations of mishandling FTX exposure "reports"](#)

[UK minister eyes stablecoin, staking legislation in next 6 months: Report](#)

[How European regulators are jockeying to attract crypto ventures before MiCA goes live](#)

[Honduras Tightens Crypto Regulations, Prohibits Bank Transactions and Holdings](#)

[North Korea's Lazarus hackers embrace new mixer after Tornado Cash, Sinbad sanctions](#)

[South Korean ruling party pledges 2-year delay for crypto tax as elections loom](#)

[South Korea's ruling party considers allowing spot bitcoin ETFs in election pledges: report](#)

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## Environmental, Social, Governance

[Blockchain and Humanitarian Aid](#)

[Is the DOE Crypto Mining Data Request an Opportunity for Energy Innovation or for Political Opportunists?](#)

[Coinbase's Philanthropic Arm Donates \\$3.6 Million to Brink for Bitcoin Development](#)

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## Surveys, Hacks, Other Misc

[LockBit Ransomware Gang Broken Up After Taking \\$120 Million in Bitcoin](#)

[Court-appointed insolvency firm takes over HectorDAO after \\$2.7M hack](#)

[DeFi protocol Blueberry pauses lending following mystery exploit](#)

[Axie Infinity co-founder loses \\$9.7M in 3,248-ETH wallet hack](#)

[Terra Founder Do Kwon to be Extradited to the US, High Court Decides](#)

[Sam Bankman-Fried Ditches Legal Team, Moves Forward with Ex Celsius CEO's Lawyers](#)

[Alex Mashinsky waives right to "conflict-free representation" after concerns about lawyers](#)

[First Photo of Sam Bankman-Fried Released, Former Fellow Inmate Tells Biden to "Free Sam"](#)

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