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# Weekly News Recap

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## Top Stories of The Week

### **Bitcoin Is Hitting All-Time Highs Around the World**

CoinDesk

While bitcoin remains shy of its November 2021 all-time high in US dollar terms, it has already breached record highs in local currencies in many markets around the globe. Indeed, bitcoin hit new highs in local terms in economic powerhouses like China, Japan, the U.K. and India, as well as developing markets like Argentina, Turkey, and Egypt.

### **Gemini strikes deal to return all assets 'in kind' to Earn users instead of historic dollar equivalent**

CryptoSlate

Gemini has reached an agreement to return all assets to Earn users in kind, totaling over \$1.8b in crypto. This settlement surpasses the amount frozen in November 2022 by \$700m. Earn users will receive 97% of their assets within two months, with the remaining 3% disbursed over 12 months pending approval from the Bankruptcy Court. This is particularly positive news for Earn users, especially given the market's significant growth since the issues began.

### **Spot bitcoin ETFs hit record \$673 million daily net inflow, led by BlackRock's IBIT**

Spot Bitcoin ETF inflows have remained strong, and hit a record \$673m on Thursday. Moreover, several large wealth management firms are considering adding spot Bitcoin ETFs to their platforms. BlackRock's IBIT now has over \$10b in AUM, while there have been signs of GBTC outflows slowing.

## Coinbase Adds 2 Software Programs for Ethereum Staking, to Reduce Concentration Risks

CoinDesk

With Ethereum's Geth client commanding a 74% execution client market share and the potential for a large slashing event should there be a major Geth bug while market share remains above 66%, there has been a significant focus on client diversity. To help, major staking service provider Coinbase Cloud announced that it will migrate 50% of its validators from Geth to Nethermind over the next several weeks and will also add support for Erigon in the coming months.

## Hong Kong to roll out a regulatory sandbox for stablecoin issuers, says financial secretary

The HKMA will introduce a regulatory sandbox for stablecoin issuers in the near future, the city's Financial Secretary Paul Chan said. The purpose of the project is to let issuers test out stablecoins in a controlled environment supervised by regulators.

## Uniswap (UNI) price gains 50% after fee-sharing governance proposal

Cointelegraph

Uniswap's UNI token went on a 50%+ run after a proposal from the Uniswap Foundation suggested rewarding UNI holders who have staked and delegated their tokens. A snapshot vote for this proposal will take place on March 1, 2024, and an on-chain vote will be posted on March 8, 2024.

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### Bitcoin

[Bitcoin's Layer-2 Ecosystem is Booming as Fourth Halving Approaches](#)

[Crypto rumor suggests Jeff Bezos sold \\$8.5 billion in Amazon stock to buy Bitcoin](#)

[Bitcoin staking protocol Babylon launches testnet, rewarding NFT passes](#)

[Bitcoin layer-2 staking offers a superior alternative to interest rates](#)

[Bitcoiner wants to plant the orange flag on top of Everest](#)

[Bitcoin-Focused Payments App Strike Rolls Out Services to Africa](#)

[Bitcoin Ordinals Wallets Will Soon Be Showered With Runestones—Here's What You Need to Know](#)

[CME's Bitcoin Futures Open Interest Set New Record at \\$7.7B as BTC Surges](#)

[Satoshi Lore Grows as More Bitcoin Inventor Emails Emerge](#)

[Bitcoin network congestion eases as mempool clears in February](#)

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## Ethereum

[Ethereum devs debate future of account abstraction](#)

[StarkWare Unveils New 'Stwo' Cryptographic Prover That's 'Blazingly Fast'](#)

[Delta upgrade results in fee reduction on Optimism ecosystem chains](#)

[Ethereum's TVL Breaches \\$50 Billion as DeFi Activity Ramps Up](#)

[Total value locked in liquid staking protocol Lido surpasses \\$30 billion](#)

[ENS DAO approves \\$300k settlement to end eth.link domain lawsuit](#)

[Mystery Ethereum whale accumulates \\$411 million ETH in February amid ETF rumors](#)

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## Altcoins

[Ondo To Use Blockchains as Middleware to Trade Traditional Securities](#)

[SynFutures launches V3 on Blast mainnet and unveils points program; plans token launch this year](#)

[IOTA Allocates \\$10 Million To Tokenization Startups In Africa](#)

[Portal Debuts at Lofty \\$2.5B Valuation](#)

[Over \\$3 billion in crypto tokens set to unlock this March, with Arbitrum 'massive' unlock](#)

[Metis Integrates Chainlink's Cross-Chain Interoperability Protocol Amid Restaking Push](#)

[Worldcoin token drops 5% amid Elon Musk's lawsuit against OpenAI](#)

[Brave Wallet launches Native SegWit Bitcoin feature, teases upcoming BRC-20 and Ordinals support](#)

[Floki Developers Plan to Burn \\$11M Tokens, Reducing Supply by 190B FLOKI](#)

[Stake.link adds Arbitrum for LINK liquid staking](#)

[Alvara's ERC-7621 token standard promises a robust framework for crypto indexes](#)

[Merlin Chain's Surging Growth Pushes Bitcoin's DeFi TVL Past \\$2B](#)

[TON Rockets Nearly 40% After Telegram Says Will Share Ad Revenue Via Ton Blockchain](#)

[Solana Foundation announces Renaissance hackathon details with over \\$1 million prize pool for global builders](#)

[DeFi Risk Management Firm Gauntlet Joins Morpho Post Aave Exit](#)

[Arweave launches public testnet for 'hyper parallel' AO protocol](#)

[Uniswap DEX to launch web wallet extension](#)

[Ripple Partners with Axelar for RWA tokenization and cross-chain communication on XRPL](#)

[Pepe Price Prediction as PEPE Soars 50% in 24 Hours – Are Whales Accumulating?](#)

[Hedera teams up with Pyth Network to unlock over 400 real-time data feeds for DeFi developers](#)

[PancakeSwap Reveals 'Affiliate' Initiative to Enable Forks Across Blockchains](#)

[Tornado Cash website, discord offline after community finds malicious code in protocol's backend](#)

[Solana's Parcl reveals its token and up to 8% allocation for its airdrop](#)

[Xai Launching Staking Rewards for Ethereum Gaming Network—Here's How It Works](#)

[LDO Spikes 10% On Fake Revenue Sharing Proposal](#)

[Seeking Yield on \\$37M Ether Treasury, JPEG'd DAO Mulls Airdrop Farming](#)

[Frax Finance Mulls Uniswap-Like Reward Mechanism for Token Stakers](#)

[Pyth Network launches real-time market data on Hedera](#)

[How Hector Network investors are clawing back \\$9m after 'rage quit'](#)

[Avalanche back online after inscriptions mint triggers 6-hour outage](#)

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## Stablecoins

[Tron says USDC's exit was due to lack of demand — but Circle cites 'risk management'](#)

[Finance Protocol Usual Introduces Stablecoin Backed by Real-World Assets](#)

[Coincheck Partners with Circle; USDC's First Japan Listing Close?](#)

[Stablecoin USDC Is Making a Comeback: Coinbase](#)

[PUBG publisher taps Circle to integrate in-game wallet on a new metaverse](#)

[Ethena captures 5% of ether perpetual futures open interest; founder downplays concerns](#)

## Crypto Ecosystem

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[Wormhole goes multichain with native token transfers](#)

[DeFi 'points' farming has reshaped the crypto investment landscape](#)

[Enterprise blockchain platform Crossmint acquires Y Combinator-backed NFT payments infra startup Winter](#)

[Clone launches mainnet and brings "cloned assets" to Solana](#)

[Crypto trading platforms set various records amid banner end to February](#)

[Worldcoin Developer Acquires Solana-Based Digital Wallet Ottr](#)

[Decentralized lending TVL surges to over \\$30 billion for the first since mid-2022](#)

[Blast network TVL plummets 65% losing \\$2 billion in 24 hours post-mainnet launch](#)

[Portofino Technologies Obtains FCA's Approval to Offer Crypto Services](#)

[Kelp tokenizes EigenLayer points, KEP trades at \\$21 million valuation](#)

[Crypto Lender Ledn Now Offers ETH-Backed Loans to Meet Growing Demand](#)

[Solana-based DePIN protocol io.net unveils rewards program ahead of April token launch](#)

[Privacy-focused Aleo says KYC leak is copy and paste error](#)

[Matrixport files for Hong Kong licence days before February deadline](#)

[Singapore grants HashKey OTC in-principle approval for major payment institution license](#)

[Finoa Integrates Centrifuge's Anemoy Tokenized T-Bill Fund into Custodial Wallet System](#)

[Safe and Base Team Up To Promote Ethereum Smart Accounts](#)

[Rarimo introduces ZK-based voting tool for secure, anonymous participation](#)

[Aave's social layer Lens Protocol opens up access for everyone to join and build](#)

[Bankrupt FTX and Alameda move over \\$8 million in assets amid market surge](#)

[Genesis lawyer pushes back against DCG getting 'a cut' of customer recoveries](#)

[DeFi trader rides EigenLayer airdrop hype to secure 40% yield](#)

[US-based OANDA gets green light to offer crypto trading in the UK](#)

[Jae Kwon's firm to launch GovGen as prelude to controversial AtomOne fork](#)

[Social media platform Farcaster ships support for Solana addresses](#)

[EigenLayer partners with Ritual to build AI-enabled DApps](#)

[Canadian Crypto Custody Firm Balance Sees Assets Reach \\$2 Billion Amid Market Recovery](#)

[Binance Labs-backed web3 app store Magic Square acquires token launchpad TruePNL](#)

[Former FTX exec Ryan Salame to be sentenced on May 1](#)

[New Layer 2 Ethereum network soars past \\$128m in deposits in 24 hours](#)

[46% of largest crypto airdrops peaked within 14 days — CoinGecko](#)

[FTX settles dispute, sells European arm for \\$33M](#)

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## NFTs / Gaming / Metaverse

[Ethereum NFT Card Game 'Gods Unchained' Hits iOS and Android](#)

[Ordinals trader gets Bitcoin back after fat-fingered NFT purchase](#)

['Parallel' Ethereum NFT Card Game Set to Open to the Public](#)

[Musée d'Orsay Breaks New Ground with On-Chain Exhibition and NFT Auction](#)

[Solana Gaming Project MixMob Bags Stormtrooper NFT Licensing Rights](#)

[Former PlayStation Boss Shawn Layden Joins NFT Gaming Firm READYgg](#)

[Crypto Gaming Firm Gala Launches GalaSwap Exchange With Token Rewards](#)

[Bitcoin NFTs now dominate trading volume on Magic Eden](#)

[Other Page Brings Enhanced Web3 Profiles to Magic Eden NFT Marketplace](#)

[Bored Ape Game 'Dookey Dash: Unclogged' Will Pay Out Over \\$1 Million in Prizes](#)

[OpenSea NFT Delisting Sparks Retaliatory Move from Game Developers](#)

[Yuga Labs protects NFT royalties ahead of Magic Eden's Ethereum marketplace launch](#)

[Blockchain game Shrapnel to permaban users found playing the system](#)

[Saudi Arabia Rolls Out Metaverse Initiative to Celebrate Cultural Heritage](#)

[Artist Jeff Koons' Sculpture Becomes First 'Authorized' to Land on the Moon, Launches Matching NFTs](#)

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## Mining

[Marathon Digital ready to deploy 'dry powder' in push to double hash rate](#)

[Bitcoin miner reserves held steady in February, despite \\$40B flows to exchanges](#)

[Infrastructure Providers Warn of ASIC Scarcity for Bitcoin Miners](#)

[Bitcoin mining difficulty decreases by 3% as halving approaches in 50 days](#)

[Marathon Digital reveals details for Bitcoin L2 multichain Anduro](#)

[As the Bitcoin Halving Approaches, This Miner Is Trying Something New](#)

[Bitcoin miner consolidation appears imminent as halving looms](#)

[Bitcoin ASIC maker Canaan's revenue stagnant despite crypto bull run](#)

[Bitcoin miner Riot says chip shortage, climate-focused regs are risks to profit](#)

[Texas Blockchain Council and Riot secure win against US energy officials](#)

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## Exchanges

[SEC faces pushback from states over crypto regulations in Kraken case](#)

[KuCoin and Revolut Forge Alliance for Instant Euro-to-Crypto Transactions](#)

[Prominent short-seller Citron targets Coinbase stock after exchange outage](#)

[Coinbase introduces new wallet solutions to simplify on-chain onboarding and empower builders](#)

[Coinbase sees massive \\$1 billion Bitcoin withdrawal](#)

[Nigeria reportedly demands \\$10 billion from Binance in damages: BBC](#)

[Hong Kong ends license application drive for crypto exchanges](#)

[Crypto Exchanges in Nigeria Cease Naira Purchases of USDT and USDC Amid Central Bank Scrutiny: Report](#)

[Binance Targets Traditional Asset Traders With New VIP Program Promotion](#)

[Coinbase Made an Arbitration Case to the U.S. Supreme Court – Again](#)

[Coinbase restabilized after heavy traffic caused \\$0 balance glitch](#)

[Justin Sun says he owns \\$1.6 billion of crypto with bizarre screenshot of HTX wallet](#)

[Coinbase expands asset recovery tool to Polygon and BNB Chain](#)

[Kraken launches institutional arm aiming to cash in on Bitcoin ETFs](#)

[HTX reenters race for Hong Kong crypto license days after withdrawing initial bid](#)

[OKX Launches Crypto Exchange in Turkey, Expanding DeFi](#)

[BitForex website blocks users after apparent \\$57 million hot wallet withdrawals](#)

[Thai SEC proposes to revoke license of troubled exchange Zipmex](#)

[Binance Must Pay \\$4.3 Billion In Federal Case as CZ Awaits Sentencing](#)

[Request Made for Binance's Changpeng Zhao to Surrender Passports Before Sentencing](#)

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## Investment Mgmt

[Digital Asset Manager Onramp Invest Integrates CoinDesk 20 Index for RIAs](#)

[FTX Affiliated Crypto Hedge Fund LedgerPrime Restarts Under New Name  
MNNC Group: Bloomberg](#)

[Vanguard CEO to retire but firm unlikely to change anti-crypto stance](#)

[BlackRock to Launch Brazil's First Bitcoin ETF on March 1](#)

[Traditional Banking Titans Bank of America and Wells Fargo Look to Offer  
Bitcoin ETF Access](#)

[BlackRock's IBIT spot bitcoin ETF crosses \\$10 billion in AUM](#)

[Institutional Investors FOMOing into Bitcoin ETFs as Price Eyes New Highs](#)

[Morgan Stanley fund's filing adds language on investment in spot bitcoin ETFs](#)

[Morgan Stanley Evaluating Spot Bitcoin ETFs for Its Giant Brokerage Platform:  
Sources](#)

[Crypto Investment Firm Deus X Capital in Agreement to Purchase HAYVN for  
Undisclosed Amount](#)

[Fidelity Canada Recommend 1-3% of Crypto Allocation in Portfolios](#)

[ETC Group Launches Ethereum-Tracking ETP on Deutsche Börse Xetra](#)

[New bitcoin spot ETF trading volume sets daily record, besting launch day:  
Bloomberg](#)

[Bitcoin Investment Products Saw Inflows of \\$570M Last Week: CoinShares](#)

[Grayscale is open to M&A-related opportunities, firm's CEO says](#)

[Carlson Group adds 4 Bitcoin ETFs to financial advisers](#)



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## Capital Raises

[Bitcoin staking chain BounceBit secures \\$6M to bring DeFi to BTC](#)

[Pantera Capital invests in decentralized lending protocol Morpho](#)

[Mad Lads' Backpack Exchange closes \\$17 million Series A led by Placeholder VC](#)

[Former Terra, Cosmos developers raise \\$7.5 million for rollup-focused blockchain Initia, targeting Q2 launch](#)

[Arkis Raises \\$2.2 Million To Accelerate Institutional Adoption Of DeFi](#)

[Saturn secures \\$800k for Bitcoin-based decentralized exchange development](#)

[Avail closes \\$27M seed round led by Founders Fund, Dragonfly](#)

[Layer-1 Network Flare Raises \\$35M From Kenetic, Aves Lair](#)

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## Trad Fi / Tech

[Dune Analytics Partners With Cloud Computing Giant Snowflake](#)

[Robinhood Partners With Arbitrum to Ease Layer 2 Access](#)

[US lawmakers advance resolution to get banks in on crypto custody](#)

[Nokia targets 'broader potential of metaverse' in 2030 strategy](#)

[Webull ended crypto offerings due to SEC opposition during past IPO attempts](#)

[Coca Cola HBC to use Solana-based ALL ART verification system for staff qualifications](#)

[St. Regis Aspen Resorts to Tokenize Equity Using Tezos Blockchain](#)

[VanEck launches NFT platform, set to offer split ownership of token-backed watches and wine by March](#)

[Atlanta Federal Reserve Warns Banks About Crypto Risks](#)

[Vitalik Buterin has an open-source solution to Elon Musk's Microsoft OS issues](#)

[MicroStrategy adds 3K BTC as Bitcoin ETFs are poised to surpass gold ETFs](#)

[Google seals AI training deal with Reddit](#)

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## CBDC

[Hong Kong to broaden e-CNY pilot in move to boost cross-border payment efficiency](#)

[How the digital yuan could change the world... for better or worse](#)

[Jamaica is 'Determined' to Bring CBDC to Address Cash Problems: BOJ Governor](#)

[US Fed analysts warn foreign CBDCs and stablecoins could lead to erosion of dollar's role](#)

[IMF urges careful design, slow introduction for Pacific Island digital currencies](#)

[Ted Cruz spearheading anti-CBDC bill over financial privacy, government overreach concerns](#)

[Chinese ministry posts warning about fake digital yuan app](#)

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## Regulatory / Countries

[SEC accuses Terraform Labs of diverting \\$166 million to legal team ahead of court decisions](#)

[US Government Now Owns \\$12 Billion Worth of Bitcoin—Here's Why](#)

[Russia FATF Rating Downgraded Due to 'Insufficient Crypto Regulation'](#)

[BIS issues regulatory recommendations for global stablecoin arrangements](#)

[SEC Faces Mounting Pressure from Lawmakers to Back Off Crypto Industry](#)

[Australia federal court orders travel restraint against former Blockchain Global director](#)

[US gov't moved \\$922 million of seized Bitcoin after BTC price broke \\$60,000](#)

[South Korea's Ruling Party Delays Proposal to Ease Crypto Restrictions](#)

[El Salvador's Bukele Says Value of Country's Bitcoin Holdings Up Over 40%](#)

[IRS taps into strategic hires from private sector to improve crypto tax enforcement](#)

[Elizabeth Warren willing to 'collaborate' with crypto industry \(but reiterates it must follow tradfi rules\)](#)

[Spain's Regulator Flags 3 Crypto Firms Over Unregistered Status](#)

[Lisk partners with Indonesian Ministry to boost Web3 startup ecosystem](#)

[Spanish financial regulator warns investors over 18 unlicensed entities](#)

[Stung by FUD, Hong Kong's web3 dream is in jeopardy](#)

[China's National Prosecutor Takes Action Against Blockchain Cybercrimes](#)

[Russian Parliament Set to Approve Use of 'Digital Assets' in International Payments](#)

[Crypto markets, tokenization and AI remain priorities, says Financial Stability Board ahead of G20](#)

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## Environmental, Social, Governance

[Biotech, AI and climate tech are booming sectors for startups â€” Web Summit Qatar](#)

[Sierra Club says accurate insight into crypto mining firms' energy use is 'urgently needed' in support of federal survey](#)

[Energy-efficient miners in US less likely to be impacted by Bitcoin halving](#)

[Satoshi Anticipated Bitcoin Energy Debate in Email Thread With Early Collaborators](#)

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## Surveys, Hacks, Other Misc

[Darknet market crypto crimes on the rise in 2023, \\$1.7B revenue â€” Chainalysis](#)

[Seneca Hacker Returns \\$5.3M Amid Legal Threats, Keeps \\$1M Bounty](#)

[South Korean Police Arrest 452 People on Crypto-powered Drug Trafficking Charges](#)

[Shido Token Plummets 85% Following Exploit on Ethereum Staking Contract](#)

[Craig Wright to Face New Allegations of Forgery in COPA Trial Over Ontier Emails](#)

[Sam Bankman-Fried uses time in jail to promote Solana](#)

[Serenity Shield Token Fell Victim to Hack: \\$5.6 Million Worth SERSH Stolen](#)

[Sam Bankman-Fried lawyers decry proposed 100 year sentence as 'barbaric,' seeks 78 months](#)

[Man Who Laundered Billions in Bitcoins Says Bitcoin Fog Was a Help: Bloomberg](#)

[Terra Founder Do Kwon's SEC Trial to Start Without Him Amid Extradition Delay](#)

[\\$100 Million Cryptocurrency Scheme Uncovered in Myanmar – What's Going On?](#)

[Hackers exploit MicroStrategy social media to orchestrate \\$440,000 phishing heist](#)

[Blast Ecosystem's 'RiskOnBlast' Rug Pulls \\$1.3M Ether in Apparent Scam](#)

[Do Kwon to challenge extradition to US on fraud charges, his lawyer says](#)

[Blueberry DeFi Protocol Suspends Lending Services After \\$1.3M Exploit](#)

[ZachXBT recovers majority of \\$177K stolen NFT proceeds after 9-month probe](#)

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