



Picture News For Parents



February 2024 edition

Hello!

Welcome to this first edition of *Picture News for Parents*, a newsletter to keep you updated with Picture News coverage and how children can explore the news in a productive, child-friendly way.

But first, let us introduce ourselves!



What is Picture News?

We make weekly news resources to help schools teach current affairs. We go beyond simply telling children what is happening in the world, to instead find opportunities for discovery, deeper thinking and self-reflection.

A Picture News session uses real-life learning, covering topics including real people and scenarios, to bring the world to the classroom. This helps children learn more about themselves and others: what interests them, what they are passionate about, and what they want to change or act on.

This half term's pack recap



Are emojis an important part of communication?

8th January 2024

This first pack of 2024 explored Teddy Cottle's petition for Apple to change the glasses emoji, also known as the 'nerd' emoji, as he thinks it misrepresents glasses-wearers. This story led to wider thoughts of how we use emojis to communicate and express ourselves.



Is an e-reader better than a book?

15th January 2024

This pack detailed a recent study from the University of Valencia, which found that print reading could boost skills by six to eight times more than digital reading. This news inspired children to debate how they felt about print books versus e-readers, and reflect on the value books bring to our lives.



Is fashion important?

29th January 2024

News of BBC's new programme, *Style It Out*, was the subject of this pack. The contest show requires budding designers to only use second-hand materials, which led us to explore sustainable clothing and the impact fast fashion is having on our environment.



What makes someone inspirational?

5th February 2024

This pack covered the news of Spain's first elected parliamentarian with Down's syndrome, Mar Galcerán. Talk of Mar's election led us to explore the power of pursuing interests despite facing obstacles, and prompted discussions about what traits make someone inspirational.



Picture News & Schools

Our schools share on social media how they're using Picture News resources with children.

Whether it's classroom discussions, sessions led by children, assemblies, PSHE or debate clubs, there are plenty of ways for children to learn about the news in their school setting.

Here are some examples of Picture News in action!



"Picture News is an integral part of our school week. The children really enjoy the resources and show a very mature attitude when discussing the questions posed. Ofsted were impressed by the content of the assembly that they saw and mentioned it in our recent report."

Rosanna O'Hara, Unstone Junior School.



Picture News Take Home

You can keep up-to-date with the topics we cover in the 'Take Home' resource included in every Picture News pack!



Goodbye!



Katie N, Editor

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Thank you for joining me in this first edition of *Picture News for Parents*. This is a new venture for us, so we'd really appreciate any feedback or ideas for what support you'd like to see from Picture News.