



# Picture News For Parents



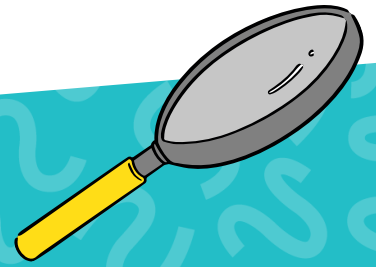
April 2025

## Hello!

This is your spring term edition of Picture News for Parents – a newsletter for families and wider school communities, to learn about the positive impact exploring the news can have on children and young people.

Receiving this newsletter means your child's school uses Picture News, a weekly current affairs resource! We'll reflect on the recent Picture News topics schools have explored, and share our top tips for building children's media literacy at home.

## Picture News Recap!



### Do world leaders have a duty to help other countries?

24th March 2025



Following news of European leaders forming a coalition to support Ukraine, this resource explored world leaders' duty to help other countries. This led to broader discussions about community, and what it means to be there for others.

### Is it important to have a morning routine?

17th March 2025



The UK government announced that from April, 750 schools in England will trial free breakfast clubs. This news led to conversations about morning routines and the importance of breakfast. Pupils thought about how they can best start their day.

### Is it important to feel proud of where you come from?

3rd March 2025



The Times newspaper conducted a survey with Gen Z, including questions about feeling proud about living in the UK. Children discussed their opinions on where they live, and what their home and surroundings means to them.

### Why do we judge people based on their appearance?

24th February 2025



This resource focused on a girls' football team in York, who kickstarted a campaign, 'Girls can have short hair. Get Over It!'. This was a springboard for broader discussions about judging others based on appearances, and how together we can foster inclusivity.

# Supporting children with media literacy



Media literacy means helping children understand the news and other information they see, hear, or read – whether it's on TV, online, in a newspaper, or on social media.

It's about learning to ask questions, think carefully, and decide what to trust.



## Why is it important?

In today's digital world, children may come across lots of messages every day. Some are true, some are opinions, and some might be misleading.

## Building media literacy helps children:

- Tell the difference between facts and opinions
- Ask relevant questions to find out more
- Understand different points of view
- Stay safe and smart online
- Share their own ideas confidently

## Top tips to support media literacy at home!

### Look at news together

Explore different news sources. Talk about the pictures and headlines – do they tell the full story?



### Chat about the news

Ask your child what they've heard in the news. What do they think? What questions do they have?

### Share your values

Talk about what matters to your family and how to treat others with respect – even when people have different views.

### Talk about facts and opinions

Help your child spot what's fact (something true) and what's someone's opinion (what they think or feel).



### Think about the purpose

Is the information trying to inform, entertain, sell something, or persuade us?



### Encourage curiosity

Ask: Who made this? Why did they make it? Can we trust it?

### Be a role model

Show your child how you check information or talk about news in a thoughtful way.

# School Spotlight



Schools bring the Picture News resources to life, with eye-catching displays, insightful discussions and follow-up activities!

Here are some of our favourite examples from schools this half term.

## St Benet's Ouston

Year 6 pupils at St Benet's Ouston had a productive discussion about helping other countries. We love the school's display!



## Roby Park

Year 3 at Roby Park had a thought-provoking class discussion all about making connections with others, after the Princess of Wales shared portraits drawn by herself and her children.

## Holy Spirit Catholic Primary

Year 5 at Holy Spirit Catholic Primary reflected on the big question, 'Why do we judge people based on their appearances?'. Some very insightful ideas shared!



# Take Home



Remember with each Picture News pack schools receive, we include a 'Take Home' resource, to help families and the wider school community engage in weekly news topics and get thinking about the world around us.

**It's a great way to keep up with all things Picture News!**

# Goodbye

I hope you've found this newsletter useful, and that the media literacy tips are helpful for supporting your children to navigate content on and off-line.

As always, any feedback for future newsletters is welcomed. Look out for the next edition at the end of the summer term! In the meantime, follow us on social media for updates on Picture News topics, and more tips for exploring current affairs with children.

Take care!

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