



LETTERS

from  Picture News



May 2024 edition

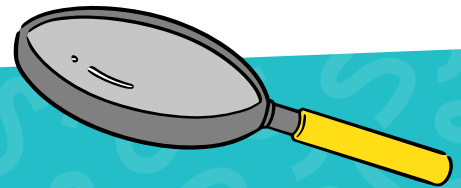
Hello!

Welcome to this May edition of Letters from Picture News. I hope this half term has been kind to you – how is Summer 2 almost upon us already?

This newsletter wraps up the half term, offers tips for teaching with pictures, features special guest thoughts, shares our latest articles and looks ahead to future training opportunities.

Let's get started!

Pack Spotlight



Should everyone be allowed to lead a private life?

8th April 2024

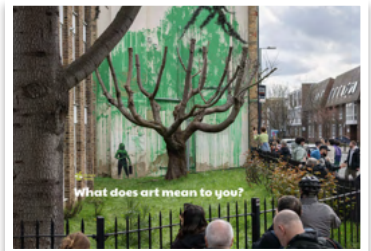
This pack explored privacy in light of recent health news from the Royal Family, including King Charles III and Catherine, the Princess of Wales. This led to wider discussions of the Royal Family's roles and why we may want, or need, privacy.



What does art mean to you?

15th April 2024

Banksy's latest artwork was the pack's focus. This inspired exploration of Banksy's previous artwork that he has shared with the public, alongside discussion of different types of art and how it can have different meanings to us all.



How can shops make sure everyone feels represented?

29th April 2024

Paralympian, Stef Reid MBE, has been in the news after asking Nike to sell individual running shoes for single-leg amputees like her. This pack explored Stef Reid's request, other companies that have made inclusive changes, and how we can be the same as and different from each other.



Can the past help us learn about modern life?

6th May 2024

For this pack, we were looking back in time, following a recent study on Neanderthals that found they may have organised their living spaces in a similar way to us. This prompted deeper thoughts about how Neanderthals experienced the world, and how we can learn from the past.



If you have any suggestions for the type of training or supplemental resources you'd like to see from Picture News, send them to help@picture-news.co.uk

Exciting News



Join our **BIGGEST EVER** live assembly!

Wednesday 3rd July 2024,
9.30am – 10:00am

Let's create the biggest online school assembly with schools nationwide!

We will be joined by special guest, **Paralympian Stef Reid MBE**, to learn all about the journey to become a world-class athlete ahead of the 2024 Olympics and Paralympics.

**SIGN UP
HERE >**

Impact Award 2024



The Impact Awards 2024 are here! Tell us how you have made a difference to your community and beyond to receive a GOLD, SILVER or BRONZE award.

You'll find further details and the award criteria below.

[More details](#)



Teaching with pictures

The clue is in the name – at Picture News, we think teaching with pictures can be incredibly powerful!

Keep reading for some useful conversation prompts when exploring pictures with children.

Using images can help you communicate current affairs in school, especially with visual learners.

Images that depict a story or event are useful stimuli to help children understand what is happening. Photos from news articles or broadcasts can help.

For example, the images could feature relevant people, settings, or portray events unfolding.

Content like this offers context for children to visualise and comprehend what's happening.

Teacher thoughts!

Embracing Play: The Key to Effective Teaching

Early years teacher and leader, **Hayley Winter**, shares the many benefits of embracing play in the early years and beyond, alongside some recent examples of learning through play in her classroom.

[Read More](#)



Here are some thoughts from **John Dabell** about exploring images from the news with children.

News pictures are a rich source of material for grabbing children's attention and then exploring the events behind them, within them and around them. Pictures communicate meaning and can be 'read' in the same way as written or printed text can be.

Looking at a picture and what it says to us will depend on the opinions, beliefs and values we hold. What we see isn't always what others will see and whilst the picture might represent a real-life story, there can be many stories wrapped inside that need bringing out.

**READ
MORE >**



When talking to children about visual content, use open questions such as:

Who is this?

What do you see?

What do you think this is?

What do you think this is?

What could be happening here?

What do you like or dislike about this?



Top tip!

Try asking children these questions both before and after they have encountered the full news story. Do their thoughts and feelings change?

HQ Happenings

Education Resources Award – Winners!

In April the team attended the Education Resources Awards, where we won TWO awards and were highly commended for a third! Thank you so much for your support – we are so grateful.



READ ALL ABOUT IT HERE >

Upcoming next half term

More pupil training and teacher CPD opportunities are lined up!

Practical Ideas for Using Current Affairs within Primary English - Special Guest Emily Weston



Thursday 13th June 2024
4:00pm - 5:00pm

Katie and Emily Weston, a primary English Lead, will explore how Picture News and current affairs can be used within English lessons.

[Register Here](#)

Learning about the British Values for Children in KS1



Monday 1st July 2024,
10:00am - 10:20am

We're welcoming KS1 pupils and their teachers online to learn how we can explore the British Values in school, and find them reflected in our communities.

[Register Here](#)

Picture News Day



Friday 5th July 2024,
9:30am - 2:30pm

It's back! The theme for this year's Picture News Day is percussion music as we explore the current project, the World Percussion Group 2024 Academy. The session includes live online input from the Picture News team, plus a range of activities to complete in your classroom.

[Register Here](#)

Using Current Affairs in the Early Years to Support Speaking and Listening - Special Guest Ruth Swailes



Tuesday 16th July 2024,
4:00pm - 5:00pm

Picture News Early Years Consultant, Lisa, will be joined by Early Years expert, Ruth Swailes, for this webinar! They'll discuss how the news can enhance speaking and listening skills, with time for your questions.

[Register Here](#)

School Spotlight



A huge shout out to Holy Spirit Primary, who shared their enthusiasm for their Picture News sessions on X this half term!



CHECK OUT THEIR VIDEO HERE >

What we're talking about...

British Values Displays

Creating a British Values display in school is a great way to capture learning. This blog shares our tips and advice for making the most out of your board space!

[Read more](#)



Goodbye!

I hope you found this newsletter useful! Be sure to join us for our upcoming events – we'd love to see you there.

Have a restful break and here's to a fun-filled Summer 2.

Katie N, Editor
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In the meantime, catch up with us online for ideas and updates.

