



LETTERS

from



Picture News



Hello!

Welcome to our first ever edition of *Letters from Picture News*. We aim to produce this six times a year for all our Picture News teachers, to provide insight, support and updates about everything going on at Picture News HQ! We'd love for this to also provide a community for your thoughts, displays and ideas.

If you have any questions or would like to contact me directly, my emails are always open: katie@picture-news.co.uk.

I will leave you in the very capable hands of our brilliant editor, Katie N!

Katie Harrison.

Pack Spotlight



It's been a busy half term here at Picture News, and as ever, some very eventful news stories have come our way.

These days, news is difficult to avoid, but current affairs can create endless opportunities for children

to learn from what they see happening around them, and explore their own opinions and interests.

Let's look at just a few news stories we've explored this half term.

What can we learn from new adventures?

4th September 2023

This first pack for the new school year explored Thor Pedersen's travels to every country on Earth, without using planes! Thor had just completed his challenge, which took him 10 years to finish – a journey which wasn't without its obstacles and difficulties.

We used this story to explore adventure, and traits such as resilience and commitment. [Learn more.](#)



Is a school more than just a building?

18th September 2023

The start of the school year fell alongside the news of RAAC being discovered in many school buildings across the country.

This pack informed children of the revelation, but led to broader questions of what a school is, and the important sense of community and belonging that can be found in school. [Learn more.](#)



How does change happen?

9th October 2023

This half term has fallen alongside Black History Month, which is held annually in October. Our pack explained what Black History Month is, and focused on this year's theme, 'Saluting our Sisters'. Your pupils explored the work of influential activist, Olive Morris.

We also highlighted other important Black women, and reflected on societal shifts relating to race and equality. [Learn more.](#)



How can we remember things that were important to us?

16th October 2023

The pack outlined the felling of the tree at the Sycamore Gap along Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland, a popular tourist attraction.

This story led to philosophical discussion questions about how we can remember things that are no longer present. We also explored human impact on the natural world. [Learn more.](#)



How-to...



The beauty of a Picture News subscription is (in my opinion!) the resources' many uses within your school setting. Just one resource pack can go a long way in school. This time, we're focusing on **Picture News posters**.

Each week we send you a vibrant poster, with an eye-catching image and 'big' question on it. Pictures can be a powerful tool to spark children's thoughts and communicate a news topic.

Why let these go to waste? Here are some tips for making the most out of your posters (including some examples from subscribers!)

Your Picture News posters



Here's an example of a news-based display, from a subscribed school.

Interchangeable news display

With each pack, you can update your display with new stories, with the poster as the display focal point. For the largest impact, place your display in shared spaces in school, such as corridors or the entrance!

Books

Large floor books or scrapbooks are accessible and provide space for you to display your posters alongside children's responses to the big question.

You could personalise them for your school and children's needs, such as including curriculum links.



Take a look at this example sent to us from a subscriber!

Wallets

We can provide you with a display wallet to house your Picture News posters. This makes the perfect way to show off your posters, and reflect on past discussions.



Poster wall

Create a fun wall of posters for the ultimate impact, as shown here at Picture News HQ!



What we've been talking about recently

I've been loving writing blogs this half term, to give you valuable insights and food for thought about news-based teaching, and topical issues impacting children.

12
OCT 2023

Talking to Children About Toxic Masculinity

This blog will highlight the issue of toxic masculinity, in light of the popularity of controversial social media influencer, Andrew Tate. We will explain the implications for children and...

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28
SEP 2023

Picture News & the Prevent Strategy

Who knew Picture News could contribute to your Prevent Strategy? Here are 3 reasons how. Broad news coverage: Picture News resources prompt pupils to identify and understand topical issues...

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[Read more](#)

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SEP 2023

Why should I teach with the news?

Think current affairs aren't for children? Think again! There are so many benefits to using news-based resources with your pupils, but here are just a few... Enhance children's global...

[READ MORE](#)

[Read more](#)

Upcoming events next half term



Introduction to Picture News

7th November, 4:00pm – 4:30pm

[Learn more](#)



Picture News, British Values, and Protected Characteristics for Children in KS2

14th November, 1:15pm – 2:00pm

[Learn more](#)



Picture News Festive Fun!

8th December, 1:30pm – 2:30pm

[Learn more](#)



Goodbye!

Thank you for reading *Letters from Picture News*, I do hope you enjoyed and gained some valuable insight!

I'd love to hear your thoughts on this new venture for us. Any feedback, or ideas for future newsletters would be greatly appreciated and listened to.

All the very best for the next half term, and I hope you have time for a well-deserved rest during the school break.



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