



LETTERS

from  Picture News



May 2025

Hello!

Welcome to Summer 1's edition of Letters from Picture News! Doesn't this half term always fly by? This newsletter highlights the variety of news stories schools have explored this (albeit quick!) half term, shares top tips for teaching the news, celebrates our schools, and looks ahead to a fun Summer 2 with more events lined up!



Pack Recap

Let's reflect on some of this half term's news focuses...

Should music be part of every school day?

21st April 2025



Following Ed Sheeran's letter to the government about school funding for music education, this pack focused on the impact of music within the school day. Children discussed their own experience with music, and thought about how we can use our voices to make a change.

Whose job is it to keep our local places clean and tidy?

28th April 2025



Bin worker strikes have been ongoing in Birmingham, so this pack thought about the role we all play within our communities. Children reflected on the strike, reasons for striking, and celebrated the contributions made by important workers to our communities.

Why is peace worth celebrating? VE Day 80th Anniversary

May 2025



This month marks the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The Special Pack covered the meaning of VE Day and the change it signified. The pack also highlighted VE Day celebrations, what life was like during WWII, and the importance of peace today.

What everyday items could be changed to help others?

12th May 2025



Three teenagers from India have been entered in The Earth Prize for their innovation – a fridge that doesn't require electricity to transport medication in remote areas. This inspired children's conversations around invention and inclusivity, considering how we can adapt items to support others.

Awards Season

Education Resources Awards!

The team attended the Education Resources Awards, where we were finalists for two awards!

We were accompanied by the fabulous staff at St Nicholas CE Primary Academy, Boston, who make such a positive difference to their school community. A real privilege to be shortlisted in the School and Supplier Collaboration Award together!



BESA Awards – Finalists!

We're also finalists in three BESA award categories...

- Outstanding Early Years Resource or Service
- School and Supplier Collaboration - with the fabulous St Nicholas CE Primary Academy!
- Women in Education

Meet the Team

To learn more about the people behind Picture News – our new Meet the Team video is for you!

You'll discover why Picture News was founded, its impact, and find out more about our team – the people who create the resources, help with enquiries, and host webinars and training!



3 tips for teaching the news

Start in the morning

Talking about the news in the morning means children have plenty of time to share any further questions, concerns or ideas with you throughout the day about what they've learned. It also creates more opportunities to reflect on or link to the topics you've encountered together!



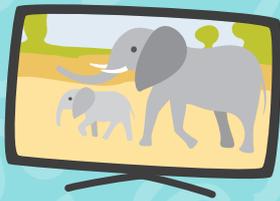
Make it child-led

Following children's lead within news-based learning lets them uncover new interests, opinions and ideas as they relate to what's happening and explore further. You might also like to involve children in running assemblies or discussions about the news – from planning to presenting!



Focus on images

Focusing on imagery related to topical events, alongside written articles or broadcast reports, can make what's happening in the world more accessible and child-friendly. Images offer helpful visual context for children to comprehend events, providing an engaging stimulus for conversations, thoughts and reflection.



You'll find more teaching the news tips in our blog post!

[BLOG >](#)

School Spotlight

VE Day 80th Anniversary

Using the Picture News VE Day 80th Anniversary Special Pack, schools around the country celebrated VE Day and reflected on the importance of peace. Thank you to our schools for sharing how you've marked VE Day this year!



Chloe's trip to Doncaster School for the Deaf

In April, Chloe visited Doncaster School for the Deaf, where she was shown around school, watched Picture News in action with KS2, and joined some interesting discussions in KS3 around deaf awareness. She even had the chance to learn some BSL!

Read Chloe's blog about her visit here.



[CHLOE'S BLOG >](#)

Picture News in action!

In April we headed to Carlton and Faceby Primary School, for a Picture News session with the children about music education. We spotted an impressive British Values display in the hall!



Upcoming Training & Events

Let's look to Summer 2 – we have lots of exciting events and training planned.

Don't just consume the news... create it!

4th June 2025, 4:00pm – 5:00pm



This brand-new webinar is suitable for KS2 teachers, sharing how to find stories from around the world, and which tools to use to produce and edit news content. It will provide inspiration perfect for a post-SATs or end-of-term project.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

How Picture News and global awareness supports SIAMS

11th June 2025, 4:00pm – 5:00pm



One for Church of England schools! We'll be joined by a Picture News school, to talk through how Picture News is used for worship, courageous advocacy and the value of stewardship, to support your SIAMS inspection.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Welcome to Picture News!

1st July 2025, 4:00pm – 4:45pm

Ideal for those new to Picture News, or who are curious to learn more about using the resources in school! Join Katie to explore Picture News resources, their applications and impact, with time for your questions.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

BIG Assembly – Become a News Reporter!

Friday 11th July, 9:30am – 10:15am



Join as a class or whole school for this big live assembly! We'll explore what makes a great news report and share our top tips for creating news content. Journalistic reports created by children will also feature, celebrating what's happening in local areas!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Goodbye!

Many thanks for reading this edition of Letters from Picture News! I hope you have a restful half term break – fingers crossed for some sunshine.

As always, any newsletter feedback is welcome, and in the meantime, you'll find Picture News on social media for more updates and tips!

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