



Picture News For Parents



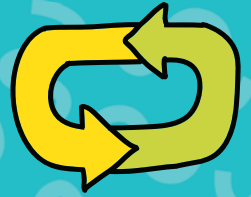
October 2026

Hello!

It's Katie from Picture News here. If you're reading this newsletter, your child's school uses our weekly news resources, so I thought it'd be helpful to fill you in on everything Picture News schools have been up to this half term! Let's get started...

News Recap

Each Picture News resource focuses on a 'Big Question', to encourage deeper thinking and discussion around news stories. Let's look back at some of the topics we've explored this half term...



Learning from Dolly:

What can help us feel hopeful about a new beginning?



Dolly Parton re-recorded a song to raise money for charity, showing how revisiting something from the past can have a fresh impact. Coinciding with the new school year, children considered how they can build on their earlier experiences, take on new challenges, and make a positive difference.

Homelessness:

Do we all have a part to play in helping those in need?



Prime Minister Andy Burnham pledged to offer everyone sleeping rough in England a safe place to stay by Christmas. Children thought about times when people need the help of others, what that help might look like, and why asking for help and telling a safe adult when we are worried about someone can matter.

School Lunches:

Who should decide what we have for school lunch?



News of healthier changes to school dinner rules was the focus of this resource. Children thought about how decisions are made, discussing personal choice and shared responsibility, and the factors schools consider when providing meals.

AI:

Do we need AI wherever we go?



The announcement of the new Meta Muse Charm led to thought-provoking conversations in schools about whether AI is useful and when might we be better off without it. Children discussed AI's potential and limits, and how much technology should play a part in our lives.

Tip!



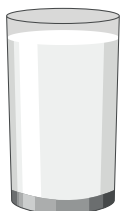
Explore our Discussion Board together at home, to share thoughts on the Big Question and find out what other children say about the stories.

VISIT THE DISCUSSION BOARD



Allergy Awareness Support

The new school year has brought new changes to allergy safety rules for schools across England. To help, we've hosted a range of Allergy Awareness Live Assemblies. The recordings are below, in case you'd like to watch together at home too!



Allergies Live Assembly with the Sadie Bristow Foundation

Clare Bristow and 14-year-old Reuben joined around 1 million children to explore what allergies are, what it's like to experience them, and how we can help keep each other safe.

[REWATCH THE SESSION HERE](#)

Being Allergy Allies! Primary Live Assembly

We explored more about allergies, with interactive quizzes and discussions. We heard from Lucy, who told us what it's like to live with coeliac disease, and shared how her friends and teachers helped to keep her safe.

[REWATCH THE SESSION HERE](#)



Picture News Pioneers!

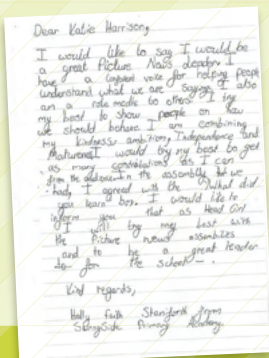
Earlier this term, Picture News founder Katie Harrison led an online session teaching children about how they can become Picture News Pioneers, and lead their own assemblies and discussions in school!

We've been inundated with lovely letters from children, explaining why they'd be good Picture News leaders..

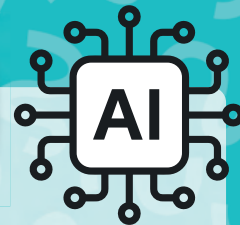
If these letters are anything to go by, we're in safe hands with the next generation of leaders!



Read some of the letters and learn more about why schools are introducing Picture News [Pioneers here!](#)



AI and schools: What's happening?



With news of the first-ever teacher of AI in a Scottish secondary school, and questions of how we can use AI responsibly amid new product launches like the Meta Muse Charm, AI has been an ongoing topic of conversation in and out of the classroom.



With 56% of children aged 8-17 using AI, we've been investigating how AI is impacting children and teachers. **Take a look at our recent post to find out more [here](#).**

This half term, teachers and pupils have talked openly about AI with the help of our Picture News pack. Together we explored the new Meta Muse Charm, and asked children, "Do we need AI wherever we go?"

What did your children think?



Let us know via the Discussion Board [here](#).

Bye for now!

That's all from me for now. I hope you have a wonderful time together during the half term holidays.

Another edition of Picture News for Parents will be published at the end of Autumn 2, but in the meantime you can keep up with all-things Picture News on our socials (linked below).

And as always, any questions or feedback are welcome!

Speak soon,

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