



Prior's Mill C.E. Primary School

Newsletter March 28th/April 4th 2025

Welcome to the Prior's Mill Newsletter - this is shared weekly and will contain key dates and information, paper copies are available at the office 4.04.25

This week we include:

- **Message from Mr Linsley**

- **School Council**
- **Sporting Stars**
- **Musician of the Month**
- **Digital Leaders**
- **Attendance**
- **Worship Theme**
- **Class News**
- **Key Dates**
- **NEW! Picture News (We thought you might like to read 'Picture News' this is shared with children in a class worship every week)**
- **Contact Us**
- **Safeguarding**

In This Issue



Heads Up - Piece of Cake!



Y3 Fundraising Visit to the Beach!

Thank you to all the parents in Y3 who baked and bought cakes to send in for the Y3 bake sale this week it was hugely successful. The children raised enough money to cover the cost of the Transport and little bit extra for a treat while they are there. I would also like to thank staff , parents and pupils for buying the cakes we were well and truly spoilt! I'm extremely proud of Y3 they have become true courageous advocates and I'll share pictures from their beach clean when it happens.

We raised a fantastic £273.55!

Easter Foodbank Donations

If you have any donations for the Easter Foodbank then you can send them in from Monday - all donations will be used within our local community. It has been a lovely day with pupils in non-uniform today all money raised will go to the local foodbank.

M&M Productions - The Little Princess

All children in school enjoyed a performance of the Little Princess today, lots of fun and laughter was had, as the theatre company retold the classic story where the importance of being good and kind no matter what comes your way was brought to life through drama, dance and song.

Red Nose Day

A HUGE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT WITH THE NON-UNIFORM DAY LAST WEEK WE RAISED £165.50

Traffic Advice

The Local Authority have let us know that parking patrols will be operating in our area over the next term looking for vehicles that are left idling as this has a negative impact on air quality. Leaflets are included below.

School Starters September 2025 - If you have a child who is eligible to start Reception in 2025 then please get in touch as we can provide you with the contact details for the admissions team at Stockton Local Authority.

Breakfast Club - Early Adopter Scheme We have been selected by the DFE to be one of the pilot schools for the free Breakfast Club Scheme being put in place by the new Labour Government. This will start after the Easter Holidays and last until the end of the summer term, we are currently working out what the implications are and will be getting in touch with parents soon to gauge interest in the scheme. The scheme will be open to all parents and it will provide free breakfast club provision from 8 -8:30am.

The booking system is now open for the first two weeks back after Easter but closes in today. If you want a space either paid or free please book on as it will help us understand staffing levels. We'll not be able to admit any pupils who are not booked in so please make use of the booking system. If you have any questions please ask the office.

Rumour has it that Newcastle was busy last Saturday, something to do with a trophy?! I'm sure everyone on Teesside and Wearside found other things to do!

I hope everyone has a good weekend and good luck to everyone who represents/supports a team over the weekend!

QUICK REMINDER: KEY DATES

- 7/4/25 Class 12 swimming starts
- 7/4/25 Class 1 Reception Stay and Play 2-3pm
- 8/4/25 Class 10 Racket Skills at Durham University (potential late finish 3.15pm)
- 8/4/25 Class 2 Reception Stay and Play 2-3pm
- 9/4/25 KS1 Easter Breakfast 8.30am
- 9/4/25 Kirkleatham Owl Visit
- 10/4/25 Year 6 'Crown for Christ' Worship 10am
- 10/4/25 Break Up for Easter Holiday

- 11/4/25 PD Day
- 28/4/25 Return to School

The Little Princess Theatre Company!









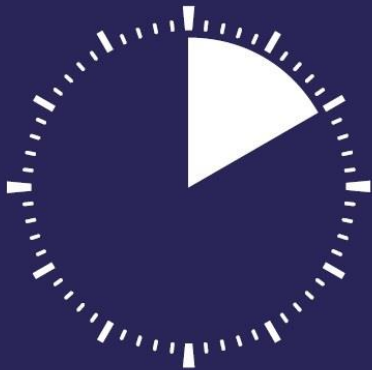




Don't be idle!

Attention Drivers

Avoid idling and help improve air quality, protect our health and save money.



Idling for even

10 seconds

uses more fuel and
creates more pollution
than restarting the
engine.



Idling is bad for your vehicle

When idling, a vehicle's fuel is only partially combusted because the engine isn't at peak temperature.



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Why is Air Quality, Active Travel and Smarter Driving Important?

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council has produced this leaflet to encourage smarter driving and use of alternative methods of transport. The aim is to encourage people to be more active, improve air quality and to cut CO₂ emissions.

Why is this important?

Road vehicles contribute to pollution and climate change as engines burn fuel which produces air pollutants and CO₂. You can reduce these emissions by following the simple advice in this leaflet.

Air Quality and Health

Long-term exposure to pollution can cause poor health for everyone, but particularly for children, older people and those living with pre-existing lung or heart conditions.

Poor air-quality is linked to cardiovascular and respiratory disease, lung cancer, dementia and premature death. It also can make asthma worse, can cause coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath.

High traffic areas and idling cars can increase the levels of pollutants in and around schools and even just short periods of time being exposed to high levels of pollution can impact children's breathing. It is thought this is due to children breathing closer to the source of emissions and their developing lungs.

Improving air quality will have huge benefits for everyone, especially children and young people.

What options are available?

There are many ways in which you can help by considering your transport options. Where possible you should consider:

- 1. Is your journey necessary in the first place?**
- 2. Could you walk instead?**
Walking is a great way to keep fit, protect the environment and save money. See <https://thehubstockton.com/>
- 3. Could you cycle instead?**
Cycling to school or work is fast, environmentally friendly, and it keeps you fit. See <https://thehubstockton.com/>
- 4. Could you use public transport?**
Especially for longer journeys. See <https://www.stockton.gov.uk/public-and-community-transport>
- 5. Could you use environmentally friendly transport, like an electric vehicle?**
See <https://teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/projects/transport/electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure-project/>
See <https://www.zap-map.com/live/>
- 6. Could your school or workplace develop a sustainable travel plan?**



Smarter Driving Tips

If you cannot walk, cycle or use public transport and the use of your vehicle is essential then why not consider these smarter driving tips which will not only save you money on fuel but will also reduce emissions and support the local environment.

- 1. Plan your journey**
Combine errands with other trips, like picking children up from school after your weekly shopping trip.
- 2. Avoid short journeys**
Cold engines use twice as much fuel as warm engines. A catalytic converter takes 5 miles to become effective.
- 3. Remove unnecessary weight**
Carrying extra weight in the boot makes your engine work harder and burn extra fuel. Roof racks and bike carriers also reduce fuel efficiency by affecting the car's aerodynamics.
- 4. Avoid air conditioning**
It uses high energy levels and puts huge demands on fuel consumption.
- 5. Service your vehicle regularly**
It will reduce fuel consumption and lengthen your vehicle's lifespan.
- 6. Check your tyre pressure**
Pumping up is cutting down! You can reduce your fuel consumption by about 2%.
- 7. Try car-share**
Sharing journeys with colleagues and friends means less cars on the road and will reduce the cost of journeys too.
- 8. Switch the engine off**
An idling vehicle uses ½ litre of fuel per hour and increases pollution. If you're stuck in a jam switch the engine off.
- 9. Don't warm the engine**
Idling to heat the engine wastes fuel and causes rapid engine wear.
- 10. Drive at the right speed**
The most efficient speed depends upon the type of car but it's typically 45-50mph where speed limits permit. At 70mph you will use 15% more fuel than at 50mph.
- 11. Change gear at lower revs**
It will save fuel and create fewer emissions. The optimum gear change is at 2000 rpm (petrol) and 2500 rpm (diesel).
- 12. Drive smoothly**
Sharp acceleration and hard breaking wastes fuel, and increases pollution and CO₂ emissions.

Air quality and Sustainable information

For further information about air quality, please phone: 01642 393939

Email:
environmental.health@stockton.gov.uk

You can visit us at:

Municipal Building, Church Road
Stockton-on-Tees TS18 1TW

Open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday
(This is by prior appointment only)

www.stockton.gov.uk



CARE ABOUT YOUR AIR!

Protect the
environment and
children's health,
switch off your
engine when
parked.

- An idling car generates enough emissions to fill 150 balloons every minute. This can lead to poor local air quality, particularly around schools at drop off and pick up times.
- Children breathe more rapidly than adults absorbing more of these harmful emissions.
- Children are especially vulnerable to the effects of air pollution, which can aggravate conditions such as asthma and can be linked to other lung conditions including respiratory infections.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK!



1 - I had the pleasure of a presentation from two Y6 girls this week who wanted to organise a Y6 'Talent Competition' after SATs - I was very impressed by the thought they had put into their presentation and agreed with the idea. I look forward to seeing the show in the Summer Term.

School Council



Mr Farrell has agreed (after some persuasion from the school council) to take part in the Great North Run in September and to raise funds for Guide Dogs for the Blind and our other school charities. We are going to be looking at showing our support by organising a summer fun run.



Hartlepool & Stockton-on-Tees SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP



2 - We have been invited to establish a Children's Safeguarding Council in school. After Easter, Mrs Hanson and Mrs Mackay will work with our School Council representatives to explore the topic set by the Safeguarding Children Partnership. The topic for the next half term is about staying safe in the community. Our School Council will be given the opportunity to ask our KS2 children some questions about feeling safe outside of the home and share their findings with us. All questions and answers will be anonymous.

We are looking forward to working with the Safeguarding Children Partnership with this important topic.

Sporting Stars





3 - Sports Leaders



4 - Fantastic Football Champions! Well done to footballers in Y3/4 who won a competition at Northfield last week!

Musician of the Month



Home Information Sheet - Joni Mitchell



About: Joni Mitchell, born in 1943, is a Canadian-American singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and painter. As one of the most influential singer-songwriters to emerge from the 1960s folk music circuit, Mitchell became known for her personal lyrics and unconventional compositions which grew to incorporate pop and jazz elements. She has received many accolades, including ten Grammy Awards and induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1997.

Genres: Folk, Pop, Jazz and Rock

Active from: 1964-Present

Origin: Fort Macleod, Canada

Digital Leaders -Sharing Kindness Online



5 - Hugo (Y3), Felicity (Y4), Luke (Y5) and Joey (Y6) are the new school Digital Leaders.

Parent guide for this week - Sharing Kindness Online

If there are any apps or online sites that parents would like a fact sheet about then please get in touch and we'll try and provide one.

Any safeguarding concerns can be relayed to:

Mr Linsley - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Huddart - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

As a parent or carer you play a key role in keeping your child safe online. Find out more about commonly used social media platforms at

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides>

10 Ways You Can SHARE KINDNESS ONLINE

Last year, around one in five young people aged 10–15 in England and Wales admitted experiencing online bullying; most commonly being insulted or sworn at, or having hurtful messages sent about them. To someone who's being bullied, the world can seem like a bleak, negative place – but just one kind word can be a ray of hope: a turning point that brightens their day and refreshes their perspective. That's why 'One Kind Word' is the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2021. We're supporting this year's event by bringing you ten top tips for beating online bullying by replacing it with kindness.

1 PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Sometimes a friend or relative might post online about something they're proud to have achieved: maybe an exam they've passed, a new skill they've learned or a task they've completed. Celebrate their hard work and determination by being kind enough to praise them for it publicly.

2 REACH OUT

It's not always easy to tell what kind of mood someone is in just from what they post online. Simply dropping somebody a message to say 'hi', to ask if they're OK or to tell them that you're thinking of them could totally make their day.

3 RECOMMEND FUN THINGS

If there's something you enjoy doing online – perhaps you play a particular game, or you've found a really cool site – share it with someone you think will enjoy it. Even recommending a film or TV show you think they'll like can bring a little happiness to someone who really needs it.

4 OFFER TO HELP

Sometimes you might see a friend or family member posting a question online or asking for help with something they can't do themselves. Don't just ignore it – if you can help, get in touch. Something that's difficult for them might be no trouble for you!

5 POST POSITIVELY

Lots of people seem to go online purely to complain about things or be negative. Just because you're communicating online (and not face to face) doesn't mean you can't be positive, though! Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten someone else's day.

6 SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

If somebody that you know has done something positive or shown kindness themselves, go online and thank them with a message or a post. Expressing your gratitude costs nothing and showing someone that you appreciate them will really make them feel good.

7 BE UNDERSTANDING

Showing empathy towards others is an act of online kindness which often gets overlooked. If you notice that someone you know is upset, drop them a message. Sometimes people just need someone else to listen to them and understand their situation.

8 SHARE INSPIRATIONAL POSTS

When you see something online that inspires you or makes you feel happy, share it with people you know. A spot-on quotation, a beautiful photo or an uplifting video can lift someone's spirits and help them to feel better about life.

9 THINK BEFORE COMMENTING

Thinking before we act can be just as important as acting in the first place. Taking a second to consider what you're saying in advance could stop you from posting something negative, hurtful or offensive – even if you don't mean to. It's better to post positively or not post at all.

10 LIKE, LOVE AND ENGAGE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, don't just scroll past – take the time to like it, love it or leave an appreciative comment! Reacting positively to other people's posts might seem like a small gesture but could mean a lot to them.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with more than 10 years of experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

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Attendance Matters



In accordance with School and Trust Policy any unauthorised absences (that are not subject to exceptional circumstances) will be subject to a fixed penalty notice.

Current School Attendance is 95% this is just below the DFE target of 96%.

We strongly advise that any holiday in term time should be avoided due to the impact of lost learning time on children. Please be aware that leave of absence (holiday) during term time will not be authorised except in exceptional circumstances. It is school policy to refer any unauthorised absence due to holiday to the local authority who may issue a fixed penalty notice. This is a penalty of up to £120 per child, per parent and so can add up to a significant amount. The school does not receive any revenue from fines; the money is paid to the Local Authority. In addition, we now have a new system in school for pupils who are late. Pupils must be escorted to the office in the main building and a form completed by parents/carers to sign the pupils in

and indicate the reason for the lateness. This is for our records and also to avoid pupils becoming distressed.

LATE MARKS ALSO IMPACT NEGATIVELY ON ATTENDANCE PLEASE TRY TO BE ON TIME!

Worship Theme - KINGDOM VALUE (Matthew 13:45-46)



KINGDOM VALUE

Matthew 13:45-46

Play a game of 'What's it worth?' Either play the game on screen, or gather your own objects. The game could be played in several ways, dependant on the ages of your children e.g. order the objects from the least to the most valuable; having a team (like on a quiz show) who try to guess the price, maybe writing their suggestion for each in turn on a whiteboard; a hands-up version where children vote e.g. less than £10, over £1000 etc.; or children just taking a wild guess. However, do not lose the point that it is about VALUE.

I wonder what the word 'value' means?

Tell the parable using one of these <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvQoTXIBVFY> a humorous take

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAZb_WrTQnI up to 1:30

or in your own way

In Matthew 13, Jesus told a parable about something that was very valuable. The pearl is God's kingdom – and when you know that, you can make sense of what Jesus was meaning his listeners to hear. I wonder what you think this parable means? I wonder why the merchant was willing to sell everything for this pearl? I wonder what Jesus was saying about the value of God's kingdom? I wonder what questions this story makes you ask?

Dear God

Thank you for all the things that hold value for us – and the things that are completely price-less! Thank you for this parable of the pearl of great price, a story that helps us to think about the value of your Kingdom. Help us to know how to value one another this week.





Class News



After School Club Crispy Cakes!





















Y3 Cakes!





Mr Linsley had a lovely morning Teaching DT in Year 4!



Cool Carrot Cakes made by Mrs Hitchen and After School Club!































For Science Week in class 3, we learnt about William Kamkwamba from Malawi, who used scrap materials to make a windmill. The windmill produced electricity for his home and led to many more people making windmills for their homes. The children in class 3 made windmills and learnt how to make them propel.









As part of our Careers Week, years 3 and 4 were given the opportunity to chat to real life paramedics about their careers. They even got to explore inside the ambulance.











Key Dates



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Picture News



Primary Picture News Resource England - 24th March - Helping Other Countries





Let's look at this week's story



World leaders from around twenty countries are creating a group or 'coalition'. According to UK Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, they will work together to support Ukraine. Their collective aim is to end the war between Ukraine and Russia. The new group setup follows a difficult meeting between Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelensky, and US President, Donald Trump. The two leaders argued, and the meeting ended without a solution.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



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How does it make me feel?



sad despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	angry aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	happy beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	confused addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	excited animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	worried agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distracted distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	overwhelmed engulfed inundated overburdened overloaded saturated submerged swamped	afraid alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrificed petrified terrified
guilty ashamed compunctious contrite culpable penitent responsible rueful	jealous bitter covetous desirous envious envying resentful rival	thankful appreciative grateful gratified indebted obliged relieved	shocked astonished astounded disconcerted distracted dumbfounded horrificed staggered startled stunned surprised	disgusted affronted appalled horrificed repelled repulsed revolted sickened	inspired activated encouraged exhilarated galvanised influenced motivated	embarrassed ashamed awkward chagrined demeaned discomfited humiliated self-conscious uncomfortable uneasy unsettled	interested absorbed captivated curious engaged enthralled fascinated gripped intrigued riveted

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This week's story looks at events related to ...



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Read the information below, which provides more details about Ukraine's President Zelensky and the new group.

Who is President Zelensky?

Volodymyr Zelensky has been the president of Ukraine since 2019. Before that, he was an actor and comedian. He had no experience in politics before running for president, but believed he could be a great leader.

Who has President Zelensky been meeting with?

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, President Zelensky has had many meetings with leaders from around the world, hoping to end the war. Recently, Zelensky met with US President Trump, but the two leaders didn't come to an agreement. Since then, Zelensky has met with leaders in Europe, including the UK's Prime Minister Starmer, who have said they offer their full support to Zelensky and Ukraine.

Ukraine's President, Zelensky, following the meeting of European leaders on 2nd March.

We are very thankful that we are not alone. These are not just words, we feel it.



Pictured: Zelensky and Trump during their recent meeting.
Source: Pool/Ukrainian Presidential/Planet Pix via ZUMA Press Wire/Shutterstock.

What is the new coalition and how will it work?

About twenty countries are interested in joining a 'coalition of the willing', which means the countries agree to work together with the same goal. In this case, that is to support Ukraine during the war, for example, by sending troops to act as peacekeepers.

Do you think it is a good idea? What do you believe the benefits could be?

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Resource one



Look at the resource below, which shows some different leaders from around the world.



Name:
Sir Keir Starmer.

Role: Prime minister of the UK.

Age: 52.

Fact: He's been in charge since July 2024. Before becoming a politician, Keir was a lawyer.

Pictured: Prime Minister Starmer.
Source: (Keir Starmer on X).



Name:
Donald Trump.

Role: President of the USA.

Age: 78.

Fact: He's been in charge since January 2025, serving as president for the second time. He was first elected in 2017.

Pictured: President Trump.
Source: Gage Skidmore on Flickr.



Name:
Vladimir Putin.

Role: President of Russia.

Age: 72.

Fact: He was first elected in May 2000 and re-elected in 2012. He's also been Russia's prime minister.

Pictured: President Putin.
Source: Andreas Klarmann on Flickr.



Name:
Cyril Ramaphosa.

Role: President of South Africa.

Age: 72.

Fact: He's been in charge since February 2018.

Pictured: President Ramaphosa.
Source: GovernmentZA on Flickr.



Name:
Mette Frederiksen.

Role: Prime minister of Denmark.

Age: 47.

Fact: She's been in charge since June 2019.

Pictured: Prime Minister Frederiksen.
Source: Jacob Henn on Flickr.



Have you been to any of these countries before?
Some of the leaders have been in charge of their country for a long time. Do you think this is a good thing or not? Why?

Have you heard of any of these leaders before? Do you think you would like to be a world leader?

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Resource two



Look at the resource below, which shares some more information about how and why countries work together.

World leaders often join forces, to help each other with problems that affect many countries. Working together can make it easier to keep peace, solve big issues, and support each other when times are tough.

Why work together?

To share knowledge and resources (like medical supplies, food, or technology).

To solve problems that cross borders (like pollution or pandemics).

To help keep peace when conflicts or disagreements arise.



United Nations (UN):
A group of nearly all the world's countries. They meet to discuss and solve global issues, aiming to keep peace and protect human rights.



G20:
A gathering of leaders from 20 major economies, focusing on money matters and ways to help the world's economy grow.



North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO):
A team of countries that promise to defend each other if any member is attacked.

What might happen if countries didn't work together at all?

Which of these organisations do you think is the most important, and why?

Can you name three ways that world leaders work together?

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Do world leaders have a duty to help other countries?

Source: Presidential Press Office (POTUS) on Twitter

Reflection



The work of world leaders will sometimes go beyond their own country. Some issues, such as wars or climate change, affect us all so it is important leaders can work together.



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Media Literacy

What feelings or emotions does the story try to create?



Explanation: Let's explore how this story might try to make readers feel.



Questions to Discuss

- How does the story make you feel? (E.g., hopeful, worried, confused, proud, united)
- What words or phrases in the article are powerful or emotional?
- Why do you think these feelings have been created in the way the story is written?

Reflection

The way a story is written can influence how we feel and what we think. Noticing the emotions in news stories helps us understand the message more clearly and think for ourselves.



Activity

Look at a quote or headline from the story. Underline any words that are strong, emotive, or persuasive.

- What feeling do these words create?
- What other words could have been used that might make us feel differently?

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Democracy

In a democracy, people have a voice, and leaders are chosen to represent their views. World leaders must listen, discuss, and make fair choices for everyone.

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Protected Characteristics



War and conflict can affect people all over the world. We can work together to provide help and support for people during wartime, no matter where they live.



© Picture House 2023



UN Rights of the Child



Children should be protected in times of war and conflict. The decisions of world leaders can help protect children and families who are affected by fighting and keep them safe from harm.



© Picture House 2023

Useful Vocabulary



Collective aim

When a group of people work together to achieve the same goal or improve something.
Their **collective aim** is to end the war between Ukraine and Russia.

Experience

Knowledge a person gets by doing something for a long time.
He had no **experience** in politics before running for president, but believed he could be a great leader.

Invaded

When an army enters a country as part of a war.
Since Russia **invaded** Ukraine in 2022, President Zelensky has had many meetings with leaders from around the world, hoping to end the war.

Peacekeepers

People who aim to calm others down and help in difficult situations. They try to create peace and harmony between those not getting along.
In this case, that is to support Ukraine during the war, for example, by sending troops to act as **peacekeepers**.

President

An elected leader and head of government, who is officially in charge and has many responsibilities.
The new group setup follows a difficult meeting between Ukraine's **President**, Volodymyr Zelensky, and US **President**, Donald Trump.

Solution

When a problem is solved.
The two leaders argued, and the meeting ended without a **solution**.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

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Picture News



Do world leaders have a duty to help other countries?

World leaders from around twenty countries are creating a group or 'coalition'. According to UK Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, they will work together to support Ukraine. Their collective aim is to end the war between Ukraine and Russia. The new group setup follows a difficult meeting between Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and US President, Donald Trump. The two leaders argued, and the meeting ended without a solution.

[Listen](#) [Think](#) [Share](#)

- Look at this week's poster and talk about what you can see. Do you know who any of the people are? What could this week's story be about? The poster shows a meeting, held in London on 2nd March, between Ukraine's President, Zelenskyy, and European leaders.
- Watch this week's useful video, which shows some recent conversations between world leaders. How do the leaders talk to each other? Can you find examples of positive or polite phrases?
- Read the information found on the assembly resource, providing more details about Zelenskyy and the new group. Do you think it is a good idea? What do you believe the benefits could be?
- Talk about some responsibilities of world leaders.
- How important do you feel it is for them to help other countries?
- Can you think of some of the places where you might find leaders in your everyday life? Discuss some of the qualities they have. In their roles, are they required to work alongside other leaders? Do you think it is important for leaders to work well together? Why?

Reflection

The work of world leaders will sometimes go beyond their own country. Some issues, such as wars or climate change, affect us all so it is important leaders can work together.

Picture News



KS1 focus

Who are some of the world leaders in charge today?

[Listen](#) [Think](#) [Share](#)

- Think about the term 'world leader'. What do you think this might mean?
- A world leader is a person in power who makes lots of decisions for their country. What else do you think a world leader might have to do as part of their job? Share your ideas with a partner and make a list together as a class.
- Would you like to lead your country? Why? Do you think it would be an easy or difficult job?
- Can you name any world leaders? If so, where have you heard of them before? Do you know which country they lead? What do you think about their leadership? Do you think they are a good leader, or could they do better?
- Look at resource 1, which shares some information about some of the current leaders from around the world.
- Have you heard of these leaders before? What are your thoughts about any of these leaders? Have you been to any of their countries before?
- Some of the leaders have been in charge of their country for a long time. Do you think this is a good thing or not? Why?
- Some leaders have only recently taken charge. How do you feel about this?

Reflection

There are many different leaders from around the world. They are of different genders, ages, political views and levels of experience. It is their job to make important decisions for their country.

Picture News



KS2 focus

What are some ways that world leaders work together?

[Listen](#) [Think](#) [Share](#)

- Can you think of a time in your own life when you needed help from others to tackle a problem? What happened? What was the solution and how did others help?
- What kind of global problems encourage world leaders to work together? E.g., climate change, conflict, health emergencies.
- Have you heard of organisations such as the United Nations (UN) or NATO? What do you already know? Share your ideas with a partner or group.
- Look at resource 2, which shares some more information about how and why countries work together. What types of support do countries share when they work together? Which do you think is the most important?
- Why do you think leaders often join teams, like the UN, NATO or G20, instead of acting alone?
- Many people believe that keeping world peace is very important. What kind of disagreements might happen between countries? How could working together help solve them?
- Why might some countries be unsure about teaming up or offering help to others?
- What do you think is the biggest benefit of world leaders working together, and what might be the challenges?
- If you could ask a world leader one question about working with other countries, what would you ask and why?

Reflection

Working together, world leaders can achieve greater peace and understanding, creating a happier, safer world for everyone.

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KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Take on roles as leaders from different countries attending a peace or climate summit. You'll need to think about:

- Which country are you from? Prepare name cards and country profiles.
- What will you discuss? (E.g., flooding, conflict).
- What solutions can you think of? (E.g., peace talks, UN support, fundraising).

Take some time to discuss in groups before coming together for your summit. The following sentence starters might be helpful:

- We would like to work with other countries by...
- We suggest that all countries could...
- We think the UN/NATO could help by...
- This issue is important to us because...
- Let's work together to...

Option 2

Write a short persuasive or reflective letter to a world leader (real or imagined) to explain why countries working together is important. Suggest one idea for how to improve cooperation.

- Use a clear structure (e.g., introduction, main points, strong conclusion).
- Use persuasive language to share your point of view (e.g., 'I strongly believe, it is essential that we must work together to...').
- Try using sentence openers to link your ideas (e.g., 'firstly, another reason is, in addition, finally...').

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KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Create a world leader name/D badge. Using the information you have learned from resource 1, choose one of the world leaders (or a world leader from a different country if you wish) and create a name badge for them.

You'll need to:

- Draw a picture of your chosen world leader for the photograph part of the badge.
- Include important information about them, such as their name, country, age.
- Draw their country's flag, making sure you choose the correct colours and shape featured on it.
- Cut out and attach your badge to some string, or make a class display of your world leader badges!

Please share any of your work with us by emailing info@picsturn-news.co.uk or via social media.

Option 2

Create a 'what makes a good world leader' thought shower.

- As a class, think of the qualities that you all feel are important and needed to be a good world leader.
- Write what makes a good world leader in the middle of the board/paper.
- Write your chosen words around the outside and make a thought shower of your ideas.



Picture News



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.com/news/articles/c2017v5nggpo

This week's useful video

Watch leaders try to find peace plan for war in Ukraine <https://vimeo.com/106399827?share-copy#t=0>

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picsturnnews.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

Collective aim

When a group of people work together to achieve the same goal or improve something. Their collective aim is to end the war between Ukraine and Russia.

Experience

Knowledge a person gets by doing something for a long time. He had no experience in politics before running for president, but believed he could be a great leader.

Leader

When an army enters a country as part of a war. Since Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, President Zelenskyy has had many meetings with leaders from around the world, hoping to end the war.

Peacekeepers

People who aim to calm others down and help in difficult situations. They try to create peace and harmony between those not getting along.

In this case, that is to support Ukraine during the war, for example, by sending troops to act as peacekeepers.

President

An elected leader and head of government, who is officially in charge and has many responsibilities. The new group setup follows a difficult meeting between Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and US President, Donald Trump.

Solution

When a problem is solved. The two leaders argued, and the meeting ended without a solution.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT 1 NEWSPAPER 24th - 30th March

Three Eaglets! Happy Bird-Day little ones!

A loved and well-known duo of bald eagles are now proud parents, after their three eggs hatched recently in South California, USA. Jackie and Shadow, the mother and father eagles, have a nest in Big Bear Valley, which is watched by thousands daily via a live stream solar-powered camera. The pair have been inseparable since 2018, when Shadow took the place of Jackie's former mate, Mr B. They have tended to their eggs, waiting eagle-y for them to hatch. The baby eagles, which are called eaglets, emerged one by one and all three little birds are said to be doing well. Only about 50% of the eggs hatch so this is an amazing time getting all three of them to hatch', said Sandy Steers, the biologist who started the



Pictured: Shadow guarding the triplet eggs. **Source:** Friends of Big Bear Valley.

conservation project, 'Friends of Big Bear Valley'. Bald eagles were once at risk of extinction, so three eaglets are a huge cause for celebration, and show that efforts to protect wonderful species like these are so worth it! We'll sure be eagle-eyed to keep watching all their egg-citing adventures! **Watch a news report of the eaglets hatching here!**

Talking Tomatoes? Let's have a ketchup!

Talking plants? That's un-be-leaf-able! But it's true! A recent discovery, by scientists at the Tel Aviv University in Israel, has found that plants create sounds, especially when they are stressed! Clicking and popping sounds were made by the tomato plants that underwent testing. The sounds are too quiet to be detected by the human ear but can be heard with special microphones which record the noises. Scientists used different tests, such as not watering and cutting the plants, and then used special equipment to see if the plants made any noise. 'The stressed plants - both dehydrated and injured - emitted



Pictured: Tomato Plants. **Source:** Camra.

dozens of sounds every hour,' said Dr. Lilach Hadany of the university. They were then compared with plants that were watered and cared for. The discovery is hoped to be able to help farmers. With climate change causing droughts, sound-detecting devices could be used to recognise when crops need more water or extra care. **Have you ever grown tomatoes?**

How can we make connections with others?



We can make connections with each other by doing art, crafts and spreading love. **Had**

Let us know what you think about this week's news

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT 2 NEWSPAPER 24th - 30th March

Brave Bear

Three year-old brown bear, Boki, has been described as 'looking brilliant, happy and healthy' when he woke from semi-hibernation. Keepers at Widwood Trust Kent provided a health update on Boki, following his pioneering brain surgery last October. He became the first brown bear in history to undergo life saving brain surgery! The European brown bear was diagnosed with hydrocephalus, a condition where fluid builds up in the brain. His condition was causing him to have seizures, and they were getting worse. Staff and vets were concerned for his safety and decided to go ahead with the surgery. They have been keeping a very close eye on Boki and are pleased to report positively on his recovery.



Pictured: Boki during his surgery. **Source:** Widwood Kent on Facebook.



Pictured: Boki relaxing in the clear that the region made for him. **Source:** Widwood Kent on Facebook.

He's looking brilliant, happy and healthy and we haven't seen any negative signs from him. All his personality traits are still there - he's still the same old Boki that we love', said head of bears, Jon Forde. Boki did well for his first ever winter sleep. He lost around 30kg - we think a lot of this because he's actually grown while he was asleep, so a lot of energy has been used for that.

Have you ever seen a bear?
Do you know any facts about brown bears?

World's Biggest Underground Thermal Lake

The world's largest geothermally-heated underground lake is in Albania! The lake was discovered in 2021 by Czech scientists. Its size has just been confirmed during an expedition funded by the Neuron Foundation. Monika Rara Vondráková, from the Neuron Foundation, said, 'This achievement underscores the importance of supporting scientists directly in the field, where their expertise and dedication lead to new discoveries. Expeditions like these are vital for advancing science and expanding our understanding of the world around us! The hot lake contains more water than three and a half Olympic



Pictured: Lake Neuron. **Source:** Bolides Neuron on Facebook.

swimming pool! It is 138 metres long and 45 metres deep. Marek Aulay, a caver and scientist in the research team, explained why the study was important, saying, 'It's something that could have a huge impact on understanding underground ecosystems and geological processes. We want to look at other parts of the cave, learn more about the geology and biology of this area.'

Do you know how thermal lakes are heated?

How can we make connections with others?



We can make connections with others by facing your fears and asking people to be your friends and showing kindness towards them. **Eloise**

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TAKEHOME



Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

World leaders from around twenty countries are creating a group or 'coalition'. According to UK Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, they will work together to support Ukraine. Their collective aim is to end the war between Ukraine and Russia. The new group setup follows a difficult meeting between Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and US President, Donald Trump. The two leaders argued, and the meeting ended without a solution.

In the news this week

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your knowledge of world leaders and talk to others at home about them.
- In your opinion, how important is it for world leaders to work together? In what areas do you think they need to work together?
- What about their role in helping other countries – do you feel this is always important?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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Contact Us



If you would like to contact us about anything in the newsletter or need an additional conversation then please don't hesitate to catch me outside on the yard or through making an appointment at the office.

Clifton Avenue, Billingham. Stockton-on-Tees, TS22 5BX

Tel: 01642 650 426

Email: office@priorsmill.org.uk

Visit us on the web at <https://priorsmill.org.uk/>¹

Safeguarding

The school safeguarding policy is on the website and a paper version can also be requested from the office. Safeguarding is at the heart of all we do at Prior's Mill CE Primary School.

Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mr Linsley

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead - Miss Huddart

¹<https://priorsmill.org.uk/>

EMERGENCY HELP DURING THE WEEKEND / HOLIDAYS

During the weekend / holidays, whilst your children are playing outside with friends, we would recommend that your child knows where to go to for help if they need it. This might be a grandparent or family friend, as well as at home. It is important that your child knows how to call the emergency services for help.

We have been advised that you talk to your child about risk-taking behaviour and the potential consequences of any decisions that they make whilst away from home. Give your children the confidence to say “no” to taking part in any risky or anti-social behaviour with their peers.

Of course, we want the children to enjoy the weekend and part of that is becoming more independent from parents; however, we want all our children to return to school fit, well and safe after the weekend.

TEWV Crisis team (CAMHS & Adults) has now changed.

There is a new system and people must call 111- option 2 - this is the 111 Mental Health line & call handlers will transfer to the local crisis team appropriately.

The Children’s Hub is the first point of contact for anyone who has a concern about the welfare or safety of a child or young person.

The Children's Hub

Stockton: 01642 130080

childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk²

Crisis support line

If someone you know, is experiencing a mental health crisis call NHS 111 and select the mental health option.

Billingham & Stockton Borough Foodbank

4-6 West Precinct

Billingham Town Centre

²<mailto:childrenshub@hartlepool.gov.uk>

Billingham TS23 2NH

07583 575522

<https://billinghamstocktonborough.foodbank.org.uk>

info@billinghamstocktonborough.foodbank.org.uk³

If you have any welfare or safeguarding concerns relating to a child in school during term time, please do not hesitate to contact –

Mrs ALLISON HANSON

PUPIL WELFARE & SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Prior's Mill C/E Primary School

Billingham TS225BX

01642 650426

office@priorsmill.org.uk

[School Vision](#)

As an inclusive Church of England primary school, we welcome children and families of all faiths and none to be part of our school family which has a distinctly Christian character and ethos. At Prior's Mill, we encourage everyone to discover, flourish and grow in their talents, nurturing their God given gifts and potential. We work with passion to foster a love of learning, a love of community and personal resilience. Following in the footsteps of Jesus, we are a school where kindness, forgiveness, respect and honesty underpin our words and actions.

Biblical Narrative - The Parable of The Mustard Seed – Mark 4:30-32 (NIV)

“What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.” **School Values**

We give our best - We are kind - We are honest - We are respectful - We forgive

³<mailto:info@billinghamstocktonborough.foodbank.org.uk>