

What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

26th February - 3rd March 2024



Democracy

As part of a democracy, we have the right to protest. It is one of the ways a group of people can show when they strongly agree or disagree with something and have their voices heard.



**How can you make your
voice heard?**



Let's look at this week's story

In countries across Europe, including Romania, Belgium, France, Hungary, Poland and Greece, tractors have been blocking city streets and motorways as farmers protest against certain European Union (EU) rules. Their concerns include falling incomes, rising red tape, and competition from imports. Both national governments and the EU are now under pressure to stop the demonstrations. One protesting farmer, Hugo Auge from France, told news reporters for CNN that the current system, 'makes a mockery of both farmers and consumers'.



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



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
distraught
distressed
disturbed
fretful
perturbed
troubled
uneasy

overwhelmed

engulfed
inundated
overburdened
overloaded
saturated
submerged
swamped

afraid

alarmed
apprehensive
daunted
fearful
frantic
horrified
petrified
terrified

guilty

ashamed
compunctious
contrite
culpable
penitent
responsible
rueful

jealous

bitter
covetous
desirous
envious
envying
resentful
wary

thankful

appreciative
grateful
gratified
indebted
obliged
relieved

shocked

astonished
astounded
disconcerted
distressed
dumbfounded
horrified
staggered
startled
stunned
surprised

disgusted

affronted
appalled
horrified
repelled
repulsed
revolted
sickened

inspired

activated
encouraged
exhilarated
galvanised
influenced
motivated

embarrassed

ashamed
awkward
chagrined
demeaned
discomposd
humiliated
self-conscious
uncomfortable
uneasy
unsettled

interested

absorbed
captivated
curious
engaged
enthralled
fascinated
gripped
intrigued
riveted

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





Read the information below about the farmers' protests across Europe.

France



Farmers have created blockages in sections of motorways with tractors, leading to a crisis for new Prime Minister Gabriel Attal.

Some of their concerns, such as lots of extra paperwork, only apply to farmers in France. Further concerns also affect other countries, including the increasing cost of fuel, and cheaper food coming in from other countries.

What is happening in some of the countries protesting?



Pictured: Tractors blocking a motorway in France.
Source: SAMUEL ARANDA.

Spain



In big cities, such as Bilbao, large numbers of tractors have been heading to town centres, closing down roads. Agriculture unions have complained about some EU policies. Minister Luis Planas said he respects people's right to demonstrate but urged farmers to remain peaceful.

Greece



Farmers have been blocking roads around the country, insisting they need lower electricity prices, tax-free diesel, and subsidised food for animals, as well as other things.



Discuss the reasons why they have decided to take this action.



Look at the resource below, which shares some more information about protests.

Everyone has the right to protest. It is part of living in a democracy and is one way to have our voices heard. Whilst people protest, they must still follow laws to make sure everyone is kept safe.

There are many different reasons why people choose to protest such as:

- Making sure everyone is being treated fairly
- Taking action to stop war around the world
- Reducing climate change
- Pay and work conditions
- The introduction of new technologies



These people are blowing whistles, using a megaphone and holding placards as they take part in a protest march.

"I joined a protest to stop a tree from being taken down to make room for new buildings. It had lived in our local community for hundreds of years and was important to us. We made placards and banners to let people know our thoughts and sat around the tree and sang."



Edward

Have you ever experienced a protest, either seen it happen or been part of it?



Look at the resource below, which shares some different ways people choose to raise awareness.



Poems or songs

These are often catchy and powerful as they can capture emotions to raise awareness.

Words

The words that once caused me harm,
Just land on an empty shell,
I no longer feel their pain,
I no longer feel alone,
I no longer feel empty,
Because I am nothing.

The words that once gave me hope,
Made me believe,
Encouraged me and supported me,
I felt their kindness,
I felt their love,
Because I am something.

Presentations

These can communicate ideas and messages through speech. Presentations can take place in person, online or through radio or TV.



Leaflets or posters

These can be written and shared in local communities, posted to people's homes or shared on social media.



Letters

Writing letters can raise awareness. They may be sent to a local MP, a local business or people in your community.



Websites

A cause may have its own website to share its message such as RSPCA (an animal welfare charity) or it may use a website such as Go Fund Me to raise awareness and funds.



Hosting events

Organised parties, bake sales, walks, picnics etc can be a fun way to gather people and raise awareness.



Blogs

These can be an effective way of sharing information and connecting with others online. Blogs can be shared with online communities.



Games

Playing a game such as Top Trumps can be used to raise awareness of issues such as litter and waste or unhealthy lifestyles.

Which do you think would be the most effective way to raise awareness?

Do you think it depends on the problem or issue?

Do you think some people may prefer to raise awareness one way more than others? Why?



How can you make your voice heard?

Reflection



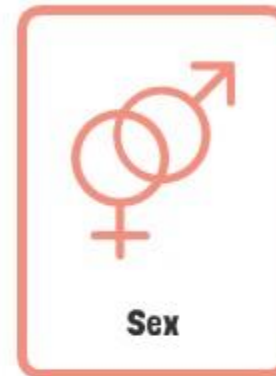
There will be times when we feel that a situation is unfair and to ensure our voice is heard, we need to act.



Protected Characteristics



Our beliefs affect our everyday lives and how we choose to live. If we feel strongly about something and the effect it is having on our lives, we can use our voices. We should never be treated unfairly because of our beliefs.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



Religion and Belief



UN Rights of a Child



We have the right to share freely with others what we learn, think and feel. We can do this by talking, writing, drawing or any other way unless it harms other people.



Useful vocabulary



Agriculture

Farming and the methods that are used to raise and look after crops and animals.

Agriculture unions have complained about some EU policies.

Demonstrations

A public meeting or march protesting against something or expressing views on a political issue.

Both national governments and the EU are now under pressure to stop the **demonstrations**.

Imports

The products brought in from another country.

Their concerns include falling incomes, rising red tape, and competition from **imports**.

Mockery

Makes something or someone appear worthless or foolish.

One protesting farmer, Hugo Auge from France, told news reporters for CNN that the current system, 'makes a **mockery** of both farmers and consumers'.

Red tape

Official rules and procedures that seem unnecessary and cause delay.

Their concerns include falling incomes, rising **red tape**, and competition from imports.

Subsidised

Part of the cost is paid by the government or another organisation.

Farmers have been blocking roads around the country, insisting they need lower electricity prices, tax-free diesel, and **subsidised** food for animals, as well as other things.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

Picture News



How can you make your voice heard?

In countries across Europe, including Romania, Belgium, France, Hungary, Poland and Greece, tractors have been blocking city streets and motorways as farmers protest against certain European Union (EU) rules. Their concerns include falling incomes, rising red tape, and competition from imports. Both national governments and the EU are now under pressure to stop the demonstrations. One protesting farmer, Hugo Auge from France, told news reporters for CNN that the current system, 'makes a mockery of both farmers and consumers'.



- Look at this week's poster image and discuss what you can see. Where in the world do you think it is?
- Read the information found on the assembly resource about the farmers' protests across Europe and discuss the reasons why they have decided to take this action. Do you believe that the action the farmers are taking is an effective way of raising awareness of the issues and their concerns?
- Watch this week's useful video and talk about why you think the story is making international news.
- Have you ever seen or been aware of a protest? Do you know what it was about?
- Can you think of any issues or situations that you didn't think were fair? Did you take any action or tell anyone?
- As well as protesting, can you come up with other ways to explain your point of view? E.g., writing a letter or sharing information online. Do you believe some ways are more effective and impactful than others?

Reflection

There will be times when we feel that a situation is unfair and to ensure our voice is heard, we need to act.

Picture News



KS1 focus

What is protesting?



- Write 'protest' on the board. Have you heard of this before? What do you think it is? Can you use the word in a sentence?
- A protest is when a group of people come together to show other people how they feel. Often, they strongly like or disagree with an idea, event, law etc. Have you ever strongly disagreed with something?
- Look at resource 1, which shares some more information about protests. Have you ever experienced a protest, either seen it happen or been part of it?
- Protesting is one way to have our voices heard and help to make changes. They are planned and organised in advance through meetings. Why do you think a protest needs to be planned?
- Discuss some of the different things people do when they protest e.g., make placards, sit/stand somewhere, sing, chant, shout, march. Do you think these are good ways of protesting? Can you think of anything else a group of people might do?
- Look at some of the reasons why people might protest (including Edward's comment) on resource 1. Which of these do you believe is most important to you? Which are you most likely to protest about? Does everyone agree? Why?
- Often protests cause some disruption, which means they disturb or interrupt other people's day. Do you think causing a disruption helps others listen?

Reflection

Protesting is one way that people can have their voices heard. We live in a democracy, so we all have the right to do this.

Picture News



KS2 focus

What are some of the ways we can raise awareness of important issues?



- Discuss what it means to 'raise awareness'. Have you ever raised awareness? Raising awareness informs other people about a problem or issue.
- There are many different ways people choose to raise awareness. Look at resource 2, which shares some examples. Which do you think would be the most effective way to raise awareness? Do you think it depends on the problem or issue? Do you think some people may prefer to raise awareness one way more than others? Why?
- Can you think of any other ways to raise awareness? If you have raised awareness of an issue or problem before, share what you did and why.
- Focus on the poem on resource 2. What do you think it is trying to inform and educate people about? Do you think it will impact the problem/cause? Has reading it impacted you?
- Everyone is different so how we choose to raise awareness and how we respond to others' ways of raising awareness will be different too. Whether you write a poem, share a presentation or design a poster, you still need to capture people's attention. Discuss effective ways to do this e.g., making sure the message is clear, using pictures and diagrams, use of bold and bright colours, emotive language etc.
- Think about some of the problems or issues that are important to you. Do you want to do something about it? How?

Reflection

By raising awareness of the issues and problems that are important to us, we can inform and educate others, have our voices heard and even bring about change.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Read and research to find out more about food and farming in the UK. Think about:

- What are arable and pastoral farming?
- What food products can a cow produce?
- What is farmed in hilly parts of the UK?
- Where in the UK is salmon often farmed?
- Flat land with rich soil is good for what type of farming? Where in the UK is this common?
- What vegetables, fruits and cereals are farmed in the UK?

Challenge – can you find out which food you eat is produced in the UK and which is imported?

Option 2

Think about a problem or issue that is important to you or something that affects your local area.

- Describe the problem/issue.
- Who does it affect?
- How can you educate and inform more people about it?

Create a plan of action to use your voice and raise awareness of your cause. Consider:

- Will you use one or more ways to raise awareness?
- What clear message do you want to get across to people?
- Who is your target audience?
- What do you want to happen as a result of your plan?
- Do you think you will encounter any problems?
- How might you overcome them?
- How will you know you have raised awareness?



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Find out more about farming by speaking to or writing to a farmer. Perhaps you have a farmer in your school community that you could interview. If not, send a letter or email. Plan some questions, considering the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Animals | • Daily tasks |
| • Crops | • Yearly tasks |
| • Machinery | • Clothing |
| • Number of hours worked | • Equipment |
| • Food | • Hobbies and interests |

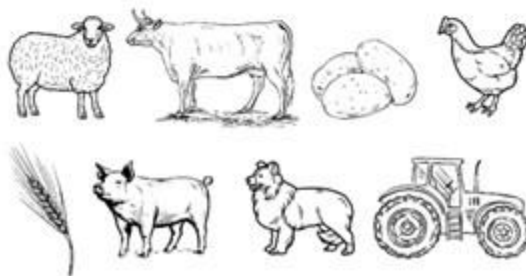
Record your questions using 'what, how, when, why, where' to open them and a question mark to close.

Option 2

Create a farm collage. Think about:

- What will your collage be? A sheep, cow, tractor, barley, potato?
- Will you draw its outline or use a template?
- What materials will you use? Cotton wool, foil, string?
- How will you attach/stick the materials?
- What equipment will you need?

Once you have completed your collage, add them to a whole class farm display!



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-68249099

This week's useful video

Farmer's strikes across Europe
<https://youtu.be/cCsvsggKTbU?si=XIZOqpWpkeHtATIR>

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

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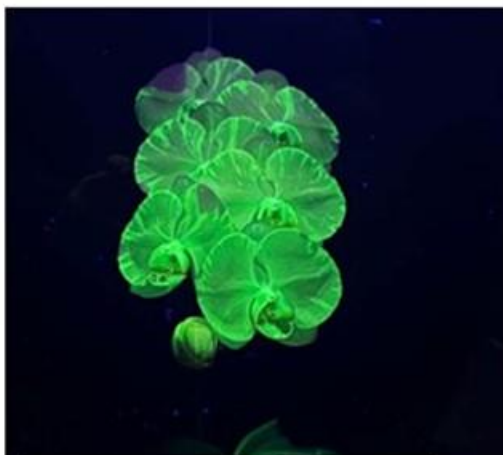
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First Fluorescent Orchid

The world's first fluorescent orchid has been displayed in Tokyo at the Japan Grand Prix International Orchid and Flower Show 2024. The Glowing Phalaenopsis Orchid emits yellow-green fluorescence under black light – not just the petals but the whole plant can be seen to glow! The luminous moth orchid was developed using the gene of a fluorescent plankton by scientists from Chiba University. The flower festival is described as one of the biggest and most extravagant orchid exhibitions in the world, and this year's exhibition will feature more than a thousand different orchid species. To enter the event, visitors will pass under the beautiful 'Orchid Gate' made from 100,000 orchids. As well as exhibiting groundbreaking and beautiful flowers, the show will create a platform for the world's best flower artists to show their skills. At the festival's opening ceremony, Princess Tsuguko of Takamado said, 'I would be glad if this exhibition became an opportunity for people to consider the importance of preserving biodiversity.'



Pictured: The Glowing Phalaenopsis Orchid. **Source:** Flower Show @TheFlowerShow X page.



Pictured: An Orchid. **Source:** Canva.

Britain's Funniest Class

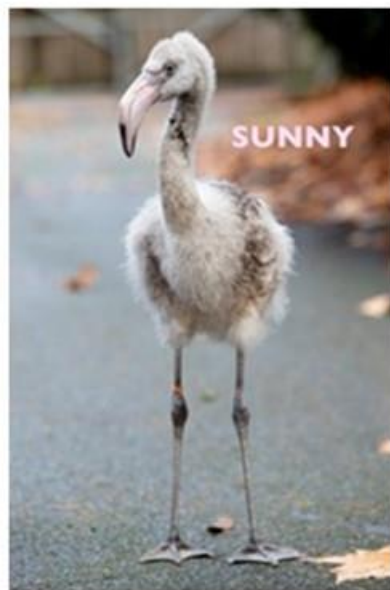


Pictured: How to apply to be named Beano Britain's funniest class. **Source:** Beano @BeanoOfficial X page.

Beano, the world's longest-running comic, has announced its search for Britain's funniest primary school class! The comic posted on X, 'Help Class 2B in their search for Britain's Funniest Class (and teacher)! 🤔 As much as The Bash Street Kids love a bit of hard work (ha!), a little help wouldn't hurt... 🙏 If you think your students have the gift of the gag, enter now.' The well-loved children's comic is celebrating the Bash Street Kids' 70th anniversary with the launch of 'Britain's Funniest Class 2024' competition. Teachers can submit their classes' hilarious gags and jokes via the website before the closing date on 7th March. The most side-splitting entries will then be put to a public vote, resulting in one comical class being named the

funniest in the country! Last year's winner was Greasley Beauvale Primary School, and their headteacher Michelle Bates, encouraged other schools to enter saying, 'The classroom and the school flourished when we rallied together as a team for the common goal of laughter. It was wonderful to see the classroom grow in confidence and creativity.' This year the winners will be rewarded with a whole range of Beano goodies and be drawn into a special edition of the comic. This will be the very first time ever that a whole class of real-life children will be included in the comic book! **Can you get your funny bones moving and think up a giggle-inducing gag? Do you think that your teacher and/or class are funny?**

Flamingo-saving Flight Attendant



Pictured left: Flamingos. Source: Canva. Pictured right: Sunny the flamingo chick. Source: Woodland Park Zoo Facebook page.

Fast-thinking flight attendant, Amber May, received a unique request from one of the people on board the plane she was working on. The passenger, a zookeeper, had a very unusual problem and needed help building a nest! They were transporting rare flamingo eggs from Atlanta Zoo in Georgia, USA, to Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, when their incubator broke. They asked the surprised flight attendant to help them keep the six eggs safe and warm. With hours of flight left to go, Amber came up with a plan – filling rubber gloves with warm water to keep the eggs at the correct temperature, which she refilled as the water inside cooled. Other travellers helped too, sharing their coats and scarves to keep the precious eggs insulated. The idea worked! All six eggs made it safely to

their new home and the chicks hatched last September. There are four females called Magdalena, Amaya, Rosales, and Gonzo and two males, named Sunny and Bernardo. Amber was invited to choose a name for one of the flamingos, and she picked Sunny as it is her granddaughter's name. She and her granddaughter have even been to meet the chicks. 'The flamingo eggs would not have survived in a non-functioning portable incubator for five hours,' said Joanna Klass, a Woodland Park Zoo animal care manager. 'We're so grateful for the creative thinking that led to the safe transport of our precious eggs.'

Did you know that a group of flamingos is called a 'Flamboyance' or a 'Stand'?
Do you know any flamingo facts?

Last week's topic: Should we learn sign language at school?



I like that the option is there for pupils to choose it, but I don't think we should all have to learn all languages.

Bekki

If you know someone deaf, I think you should.

Thibault


I think it's a good idea because we are all different and we should respect others.

Arthur

Yes, I think that everyone should learn at least one other language. Sign language should be an option at school along with others. I would be really interested in learning to sign.

Petra

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

 www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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TAKEHOME



How can you make your voice heard?

In the news this week

In countries across Europe, including Romania, Belgium, France, Hungary, Poland and Greece, tractors have been blocking city streets and motorways as farmers protest against certain European Union (EU) rules. Their concerns include falling incomes, rising red tape, and competition from imports. Both national governments and the EU are now under pressure to stop the demonstrations. One protesting farmer, Hugo Auge from France, told news reporters for CNN that the current system, 'makes a mockery of both farmers and consumers'.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Talk about the actions that farmers across the EU are taking and why you think they chose to block roads as one of their actions.
- > What are some of the other ways you can take action if you don't agree with something?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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