



EDITORIAL TEAM MEETING **ACTIVITY**

CHOOSING THE NEWS

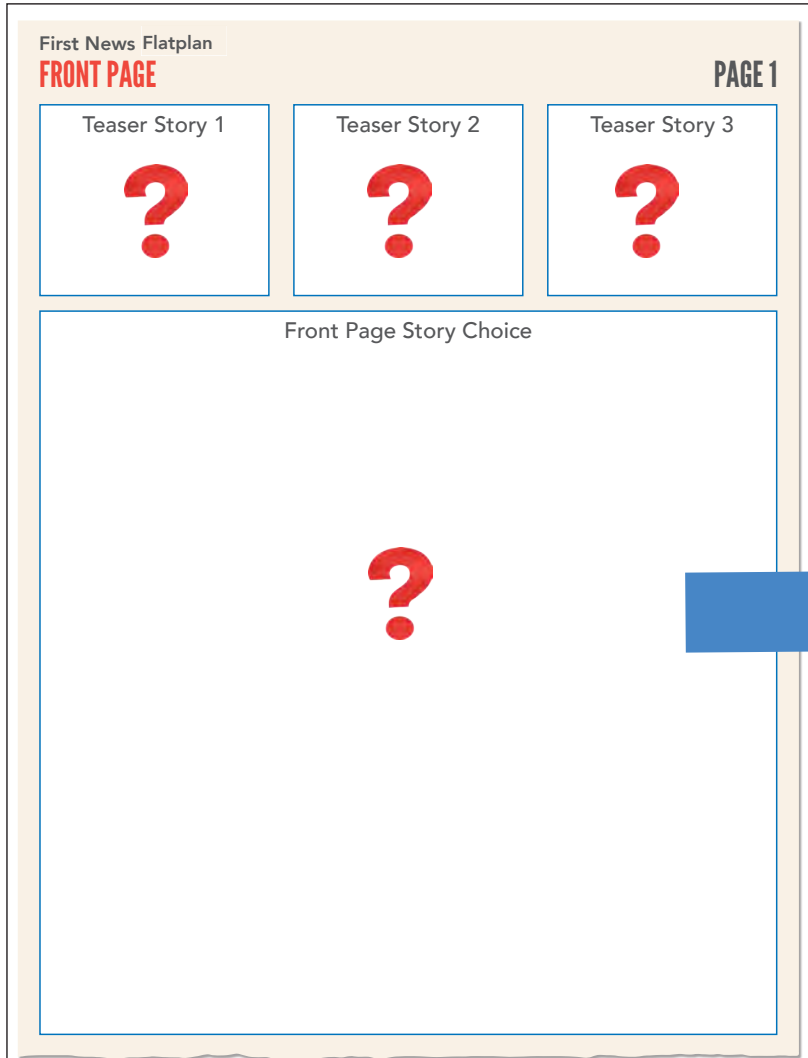
What news story will your editorial team choose to feature on the front cover to lead the week's news?

Learning outcome

To understand how journalists put the news together



FLATPLAN TO PRINTED PAGE: Front page



Cover story



FLATPLAN TO PRINTED PAGE: Page 3

Big News story 1

First News Flatplan

BIG NEWS

PAGE 3

Big News Story 1

Editor's Comment

Big News Story 2

Big News Story 3

3. BIG NEWS



THE Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) have proposed new rules that will fine websites if they don't properly tackle "online harms".

The DCMS report, the Online Harms White Paper, suggests that an independent group could write a rulebook, called a 'code of practice', that would be used to make sure tech and social media companies like Google and Facebook look after their users.

The online harms that the Government want to tackle vary a lot. Some of them break the law, such as websites that allow terrorist content to spread, hate crimes to take place and harassment to happen. Some of the other harms are harder for companies to spot or define, such as cyberbullying and fake news. While the Government doesn't say who should write the new code of practice, or even how it would be enforced, there are a few suggestions as to what it could contain.

It might force social networks to employ fact checkers, and make them produce annual reports revealing how much harmful content has been found on their platforms. Some people say that any kind of restrictions on the internet will hurt freedom of speech, and mean that people can't talk openly on the internet.

The children's charity NSPCC has said that it's about time that tech companies had a legal duty of care over their users. A spokesperson said: "Time's up for the social networks. They've failed to police themselves and our children have paid the price."

Facebook said that it welcomes any new regulations that "support innovation, the digital economy and freedom of speech."

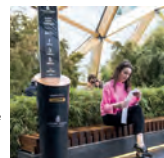
FICTION FOR FREE

THE first short story vending machines in the UK have launched in London.

Short stories that take one, three or five minutes to read can now be printed on demand from machines in Canary Wharf, a business and shopping centre in east London. They're entirely free and will feature several different genres, including children's stories.

As part of the launch, there's a one-minute whodunnit story specially written for the scheme by British writer Anthony Horowitz. Works by famous writers including Lewis Carroll and Charles Dickens will also be available.

The vending machines are already popular in parts of France, the USA and South Korea. Canary Wharf bosses hope the scheme will encourage people to put their smartphones down and get lost in a good yarn. What do you think? Would you like a short story vending machine near you?



FirstNews • Issue 669 • 12 – 18 April 2019

EDITOR'S COMMENT

TWO things we love at First News are news (obviously) and quizzes, which is why we're so excited about our news quiz app, FNQ!

You can download our new app right now for Android and Apple phones and tablets. It's perfect to play with your friends and family, and the more you play, the more points and prizes you can win! You can read more about it on p7 and p26, then just make sure you download it in time to join in the fun this Sunday!



GOOD WEEK FOR...

BUTTERFLIES

LAST year's heatwave might have been tough for a lot of us, but for rare British butterflies it was brilliant! More than two-thirds of British butterfly species were seen in higher numbers last year than in 2017, although overall, it was still an "average year" say butterfly researchers.



BAD WEEK FOR...

PARLIAMENT'S PLUMBING



A WEEK before the UK faces Brexit, a debate in the House of Commons was interrupted on Thursday by a different kind of parliamentary mess – a leak! The debate was forced to finish early while the roof was repaired.

PACKAGING PROBLEMS

RESEARCHERS say that packaging for children's foods is often "confusing" and makes them appear healthier than they really are.

A study has found that many foods marketed towards young people are unhealthy, but appear to have health benefits due to claims made on their packaging.

For example, lots of snacks say they have no added sugar, creating the impression that they are good for you. However, the study found that 40% of products that made this claim were actually "less healthy".

Many companies that use the 'no added sugar' line use concentrated fruit juice to sweeten foods instead of sugar. But when broken down by the body, the natural sugars in these processed fruits have the same effects as normal sugars, and are just as likely to make you gain weight.

The researchers think that health claims on packaging are confusing for parents and may be adding to rising child obesity levels. They said stricter rules for advertising are needed.



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Big News story 2

Big News story 3





FirstNews

THE **WEEKLY** NEWSPAPER FOR **7 TO 14**-YEAR-OLDS

FIRST NEWS EDITORIAL TEAM GUIDELINES

WHAT IS AN **EDITORIAL MEETING**?

In an editorial meeting, the editor and journalists decide what news stories should feature in the week's newspaper and in which section they should go.

HOW DO EDITORIAL TEAMS CHOOSE NEWS STORIES?

They make a judgment based on:

- **The content** of the stories: which stories they think are most **important** for their readers to know about
- **The audience**: which stories they think will be of most **interest** to the readers

OVER TO YOU!

EDITORIAL TEAM MEETING **ACTIVITY**

3rd December 2018

When you **choose the news** you must:

- Follow the editorial guidelines
- Be in agreement as a group
- ALL be able to explain and justify your choice of news stories



EDITORIAL TEAM **CHALLENGE:** STUDY EACH OF THE NEWS STORIES CAREFULLY

CONTENT

Is the news story?

interesting

important

funny

fascinating

serious

AUDIENCE

Will the news story be of interest to

First News readers?

NEWS STORY:

PLATYPUS numbers have been declining in Australia.

The platypus is one of Australia's most beloved creatures, so the news has understandably come as a big worry to many Aussies this week.

According to new research by scientists at the University of NSW, platypus numbers in Australia have dropped by a third over the past 200 years, as a result of land clearing and pollution. Numbers have dropped from around 300,000 to 200,000 over the last two centuries.

Now, experts are calling for the protection status of the native platypus to be reviewed, to help protect it before it's too late.

Is the news story suitable for...

Front page

Big News

Teasers

*Is the story suitable for another **section** of First News?*

Animal News

Science News

Sport

Crazy but true



EDITORIAL TEAM **CHALLENGE:** USE YOUR FLATPLAN TO WRITE YOUR CHOICES

First News Flatplan

FRONT PAGE

PAGE 1

Teaser Story 1	Teaser Story 2	Teaser Story 3
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Front Page Story Choice

First News Flatplan

BIG NEWS

PAGE 3

Big News Story 1	Editor's Comment
Big News Story 2	Big News Story 3

EDITORIAL TEAM MEETING **ACTIVITY**

3rd December 2018 – FRONT PAGE CHOICES

FirstNews
EDUCATION
LEARNING BUILT AROUND GLOBAL NEWS

LEARNING BUILT AROUND GLOBAL NEWS

EDITORIAL TEAM MEETING ACTIVITY

First News Flatplan
FRONT PAGE

PAGE 1

Teaser Story 1
?

Teaser Story 2
?

Teaser Story 3
?

Front Page Story Choice
?

Do you agree with the front page choice made by the First News Editorial Team?

 schools.firstnews.co.uk

 3
CAN SANTA BE FEMALE?

 14
INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE

 19
LOO OF THE YEAR AWARDS

FirstNews
Issue 651 £1.99 7 – 13 December 2018

THE UK'S #1 TITLE FOR KIDS*

NEWS > SPORTS > ENTERTAINMENT > INTERVIEWS > PUZZLES > COMPETITIONS AND MORE

Sir David Attenborough warns world leaders, but...

IS ANYBODY LISTENING?



“The extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon”

“The world’s people have spoken. Their message is clear. Time is running out”

Turn to page 5 to read more of Sir David’s words at the UN climate change conference and to find out about the kids who went on strike for the planet

* First News readership is 2,255,888. Source: Opinion Matters 2016. First News is the widest-read of all children’s publications audited in the UK. First News supports children’s charities – see page 13



EDITORIAL TEAM MEETING **ACTIVITY**

3rd December 2018 – BIG NEWS, PAGE 3 CHOICES

LEARNING BUILT AROUND GLOBAL NEWS

LEARNING BUILT AROUND GLOBAL NEWS

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schools.firstnews.co.uk

3. HEADLINES

FirstNews • Issue 651 • 7 – 13 December 2018



by Ben Pulsford

A ROW has been going on in Newton Aycliffe in County Durham about whether a woman could play Santa Claus in this year's Christmas parade.

It's that time of year again when lots of people are dressing up as Father Christmas for charity events, plays and parades all over the world – but should Santa Claus always be a male role? Great Aycliffe Town Council says yes, after putting the issue to a vote.

The argument began after a woman from Newton Aycliffe offered to take on the role of Father Christmas in the town's Santa Claus charity parade.

But, one of the town's councillors argued against women performing as Father Christmas in the parade. The councillor told *The Times* newspaper: "I have no issue with a Mrs Claus. But Santa Claus being a man is a long-held tradition accepted by the vast majority of society."

Great Aycliffe Town Council's Recreation Committee decided to vote on whether or not the traditionally male role should be made available to women.

Councillors voted against the idea last Wednesday and released this statement: "The Recreation Committee confirmed by resolution that the role of Santa Claus should continue to be a male role."

News of the vote has since hit newspapers and social media and became a nationwide gender debate, with some people arguing that men or women should be able to act as Santa Claus at official events.

What do you think?
Ho ho ho!

POLL OF THE WEEK

Is Santa Claus a man's role?
Cast your vote at firstnews.com/polls

Editor's comment

Nicky Cox MBE

GOOD for David Attenborough!

The TV presenter has been the voice of the people at the UN climate change conference in Poland this week.

He and other environmental experts, like WWF, have been warning the world for many, many years that things need to change.

But our world leaders don't seem to be doing enough. That is why our front page asks: "Is anybody listening?" Maybe write to your MP and demand action...

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A WEIGHT OFF YOUR SHOULDERS



INDIA has set a weight limit on pupils' school bags, to protect them from injury and to help lower stress levels.

The new rules will mean that no pupil in Year 1 or Year 2 at any Indian school will have to carry a school bag weighing more than 1.5kg. That weight limit rises to 5kg for teenagers.

Homework has also been scrapped for younger pupils, so that they don't have to carry heavy books to and from school.

The new rules will come in following successful trials in a handful of states.

It's hoped that the change will help improve the physical and mental health of the country's young people.

Do you think we should do something similar in the UK?

BIG WEEK FOR BREXIT

ON Tuesday (4 December), the prime minister kicked off an epic five days of Brexit discussions in Parliament.

After two years of painful negotiations with the EU, Theresa May now has the very tricky task of persuading MPs that her Brexit deal will be good for the UK. The PM says that her deal "takes back control of our borders, laws and money", but many MPs (even in her own party) disagree.

The problem is a lot of people think that leaving without a deal will be worse. Many remain voters are still asking for a second referendum on Brexit, but the Labour Party is said to be hoping that the Government will collapse, leading to a general election.



Remain supporters protest outside the Houses of Parliament

Good week for...

THIS COUPLE

A young British couple are to be reunited with their engagement ring after accidentally losing it down a grate in New York City, just moments after the proposal! The ring was retrieved by the New York Police Department, who had launched a social media campaign to help the couple find their lost ring.



Bad week for...

CRIMINALS

Forensic scientists in France are close to developing body odour kits that will allow investigators to obtain a criminal's scent from a crime scene and use it to track them down. Their research shows every human has a unique smell that cannot be masked and can be used to identify and track them.

