

# LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 9

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## THEME OF News THE WEEK

Dear Students,

Fake news has become a big issue recently. Sometimes, a story might be called fake news (when actually it isn't) by someone, or a group of people, who don't want to accept that the news is true - even if it might be. Calling something fake news, when it isn't really, is a problem as it can mean some people don't know what to believe anymore. Now, more than ever people need news that they can trust and rely on. How can we be confident that the news that we read is the truth?

### WHAT IS FAKE NEWS?

There are two kinds of fake news: **firstly**, false stories that are deliberately published or sent around, in order to make people believe something untrue or to get lots of people to visit a website. These are deliberate lies that are put online, even though the person writing them knows that they are made up. **Secondly**, stories that may have some truth to them, but they're not completely accurate. This is because the people writing them - for example, journalists or bloggers - don't check all the facts before publishing the story, or they might exaggerate some of it. To find out more and see if you can spot fake news go to [www.bbc.co.uk/news/school-report](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/school-report).

### THINK BEFORE YOU SHARE

Many of us like to share news and stories on social media with our friends. We all share things for different reasons. Perhaps it's an interesting story, news about a celebrity that you like, or something that made you laugh. But when you see something you like online, do you check to make sure that it's true before you share it? It's important to make sure that we don't become part of the problem by sharing fake news.



#### Source

Make sure that the story is written by a reputable source. Check the website's 'About' section to learn more about the source.

#### Headline

Always read beyond the headline. If it sounds unbelievable, it very well might be. Be wary if something doesn't add up.

#### Analyse

Make sure you check the facts. Just because you have seen a story more than once doesn't mean it's true. If you are unsure use a fact checking website or other reliable sources to double check.

#### Retouched

Check whether the image looks like it has been changed in some way. False news stories often contain retouched photos or re-edited clips, or they have been used out of context.

#### Error

Many false news stories have phony or look-alike URLs. Look out for mistakes: misspellings, bad grammar, or awkward layouts.

For more information go to [www.sharechecklist.gov.uk/](http://www.sharechecklist.gov.uk/)

### THE DAY

**The Day** is a daily current affairs service for schools. Every weekday, they publish articles and features which are specially designed to help students think about the world around them. Articles are published on the most relevant and stimulating world news, allowing students of ALL ages, abilities and backgrounds to engage critically with national and global issues. Since the closure of schools in March 2020, The Day has launched a free, daily newsletter for parents and guardians to access at home. Sign up here [www.theday.co.uk/home-subscriptions/new](http://www.theday.co.uk/home-subscriptions/new).



### NEWSROUND

For trustworthy, reliable news you can watch **Newsround**, a BBC children's news programme which has run since 4<sup>th</sup> April 1972. It was one of the world's first television news shows aimed specifically at children.

Ricky Boleto, one of Newsround's presenters, praised the programme's continuing relevance. "We don't patronise our audience and we've never shied away from important issues and stories that are difficult to explain," he said. "Today, more than ever, [Newsround] is loved and trusted by kids, parents, and teachers all over the UK". You can catch the daily bulletin here: [bbc.co.uk/newsround/news](http://bbc.co.uk/newsround/news).

### LIBRARIAN'S CORNER

Mrs B, Mrs M and Mrs P are all delighted to share with you the news of the winner of the most recent Carnegie Award ...



We also recommend [www.positive.news](http://www.positive.news) for uplifting news stories from around the world!

### IT'S A FACT?

If you're not sure if a story is accurate or not, speak to an adult you trust about it. Or use **Full Fact** - the UK's independent fact checking charity. They don't take sides in any debate and don't support any political party or campaign. Find them here [www.fullfact.org/toolkit/](http://www.fullfact.org/toolkit/)

