Picture News Coverage (Monday Assemblies)

Autumn 1 2026

Week	News Story	Focus Question	British Value Link	Protected Characteristics	UN Article
1st September	In a recent survey, 600 parents and 400 six- and seven-year-olds were asked to name the everyday things around them that they find incredible or awe-inspiring.	What do you think makes something a wonder of the world?	Democracy	Religion or belief	
8th September	A church in Kiruna, which is one of Sweden's largest wooden buildings, has been carefully moved 5km to a new location.	What makes a building special?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Religion or Belief	
15th September	Schools in the UK will soon need to give more lessons on democracy, how voting works, and how the country is run.	Why do we vote?	Democracy	Age	
22nd September	Guinness World Records is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. The book was first published in 1955, and is now sold in over 100 countries.	Can anyone break a record if they try hard enough?	Individual Liberty	Age	
29th September	Running charity, parkrun, has announced a new project called parkrun primary, which is bringing junior parkrun events closer to primary schools.	Can sport bring people closer together?	Individual Liberty	Disability	
6th October	Ellie Goldstein, a 23-year-old model from Ilford, has been announced as a contestant on Strictly Come Dancing. She is the first person with Down's syndrome to take part in a full series of the show.	What can we learn from people who prove others wrong?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Disability	
13th October	This year marks the 80th anniversary of the United Nations (UN), an international organisation founded after the Second World War in 1945, to help countries work together and prevent future conflicts.	What makes a good peacekeeper?	Rule of Law	Race	
20th October	The UK government is planning to bring in digital identity cards, which people could keep on their phones or have as a physical card.	Should everyone have an identity card?	Rule of Law	Race	

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27th October	This year's Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to María Corina Machado from Venezuela. The Nobel Prizes are special international awards, given each year to people who have made outstanding contributions to science, literature, and peace.	What makes someone worthy of a Nobel Prize?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Sex	
3rd November	An animal charity, called Redwings Horse Sanctuary, has asked the government to make fireworks quieter to help protect animals and people.	Should fireworks be changed so we protect animals and people at the same time?	Individual Liberty	Disability	
10th November	The 2025 United Nations Climate Change Conference, known as COP30, will be held in Belém, Brazil, from 10th to 21st November.	What would you tell world leaders if you were at COP30?	Rule of Law	Race	
17th November	Nike has revealed a new type of powered shoe called Project Amplify, which uses small motors to boost a person's walking and running movement.	Can technology ever help us too much?	Democracy	Disability	
24th November	McDonald's has changed the colours of its famous Happy Meal box for the first time in the UK, making it white on three sides, so children could colour and design it themselves.	What are some of the different ways we can express ourselves?	Individual Liberty	Religion or Belief	
1st December	On Friday, the Princess of Wales will host her annual carol service, which will bring people together to celebrate kindness, connection, and community.	How important is it for us to feel a sense of togetherness?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	All	
8th December	An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the chest down, is preparing to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski.	How might challenges help us grow?	Individual Liberty	Disability	
15th December	This winter, a charity called Small Acts of Kindness has sourced, packed and distributed over 10,000 'Warm in Winter' gift bags across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.	What does kindness look like?	Democracy	Age	

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5th January	The National Year of Reading 2026 is a special year across the UK, created to help children and grown-ups enjoy reading more.	What role will reading play in our future?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	All	
12th January	Famous online creators have come together at the 1 Billion Followers Summit in Dubai to talk about how their influence affects people around the world.	Can famous people help others make good choices?	Individual Liberty	Age	
19th January	Recently, a new award, called the Jane Goodall Earth Medal, has been created to celebrate people who work to help others and care for the world.	Can awards encourage people to help others and care for the world?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Religion or Belief	
26th January	The Football Association (FA) has published a review looking at behaviour in football across England.	Does how we behave matter as much as how well we play?	Rule of Law	All	
2nd February	A toy company called Mattel has released a new Barbie doll designed to represent people who have autism, with features such as a fidget spinner and noise-cancelling headphones.	Does seeing yourself in a toy or story help you feel like you belong?	Individual Liberty	Disability	
9th February	The government in the UK is considering new rules to help keep children safe online through consultation on whether children under 16 should be allowed to use social media.	Should children have social media?	Rule of Law	Age	

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16th February	A new series of the television programme, Gladiators, has recently returned to screens.	Do gladiators make good role models?	Individual Liberty	All	
23rd February	Scientists at NASA are preparing to send astronauts back to the Moon, as part of a new space programme running over the coming years.	Why do people explore space?	Democracy	Race and Sex	
2nd March	Brynteg School in Wales has said that from September, skirts will no longer be part of the school uniform. Instead, all children will wear trousers or shorts.	Should school uniforms be the same for everyone?	Mutual Respect	Sex	
9th March	During China's Lunar New Year Gala, one of the world's most-watched TV shows, humanoid robots danced and performed kung-fu moves on stage.	How might robots change our daily lives?	Individual Liberty	Religion and Belief	
16th March	This week's news is about Pokémon, which is celebrating 30 years since it was first created.	What makes something fun?	Rule of Law	Age	
23rd March	Athletes from around the world have been competing in the Winter Paralympic Games in Italy.	What makes someone a champion?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Disability	
30th March	The Bank of England, that designs and makes the UK's banknotes, has said that future notes might include British wildlife, such as animals or plants, instead of historical figures.	What should represent a country?	Democracy	Religion and belief	

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21st April	Singer, Ed Sheeran, has written a letter to UK Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, asking for more money to support music education in schools.	Should music be part of every school day?	Democracy	Disability	
28th April	Workers in Birmingham have been on strike (choosing not to work) since January because they don't think the way they are being treated, or their pay, is fair.	Whose job is it to keep our local places clean and tidy?	Mutual Respect	Sex	
5th May	The government has recently announced that a new theme park will be built in the UK, which is due to open in 2031.	What makes somewhere special to visit?	Individual Liberty	Disability	
12th May	Three teenagers from Indore, India – Dhruv Chaudhary, Mithran Ladhania, and Mridul Jain have created a salt-powered fridge.	What everyday items could be changed to help others?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Age	
19th May	A vehicle once used by Pope Francis to wave and greet people—called a popemobile—is being turned into a mobile health clinic for children in Gaza.	Can donating something important be a powerful way to show you care?	Individual Liberty	Religion or Belief	

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26th May	The UK government has launched an online exhibition to show five different designs for a new national memorial for Queen Elizabeth II.	What are some special or meaningful ways to remember someone?	Democracy	Religion or Belief	
2nd June	The UK has a new astronaut currently training with NASA in the United States of America (USA) for the next six months.	How does it feel to be the first to do something?	Individual Liberty	Sex	
9th June	Zoos, aquariums and safari parks in Great Britain will soon have to follow new rules to help them take better care of animals.	What do animals need to be happy and healthy in zoos?	Rule of Law	Disability	
16th June	Big Ocean is a new K-pop band from South Korea, and all three of its members have hearing loss.	What can we learn from people who communicate in different ways?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Disability	
23rd June	Nearly 140 years after it sank, a team of divers has discovered the wreck of a ship called the SS Nantes off the coast of Devon, in southwest England.	Why do people explore the past?	Individual Liberty	Race	
30th June	Taxi company, Uber, wants to test cars in London that can drive by themselves, without a person at the wheel.	Are driverless taxis a good idea?	Democracy	Disability	
7th July	Scientists in Australia have discovered that some of the country's first human beings lived in high mountain caves about 20,000 years ago.	What makes somewhere a good place to live?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Race	
14th July	Yuliia Brykailo, a Ukrainian mother who moved to the Isle of Man after fleeing the war, has written a children's book inspired by her daughter Veronika's experience of settling into a new school.	How can stories help us understand others?	Mutual Respect and Tolerance	Race	