

Current Affairs Session 2: Juniors, 1st December

In our last Current Affairs session we thought about why it was important for leaders to take an interest in current affairs. Today, we will be thinking about the importance and benefits of playing a role in news making.

Journalism and the Windrush Scandal

Watch these videos:

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/video/2018/apr/17/who-are-the-windrush-generation-video-explainer>

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/video/2018/may/09/the-hostile-environment-made-me-feel-like-an-alien-windrush-victim-video>

Had you heard of this scandal? What other details do you know? Why was David Lammy so angry in the clip? **What was the impact of news reporting on the Windrush Scandal?**

- Sometimes journalists can make a big difference to people's lives by investigating and reporting on truths that the public didn't know about before.
- People with lots of power have a responsibility to use that power fairly. When people are being treated unfairly or when powerful people are doing something wrong, journalists can investigate and reveal the truth about what is happening. This is one way to challenge power.
- This is another reason why news is important - it can bring change and help to restore justice.

Journalism and Diversity

- Journalists are involved in finding stories that deserve attention and writing about them accurately.
- In 2016, 94% of journalists were white and 55% were male. What do you think about this, and what impact do you think this makes?
- We are getting a much narrower type of news because there are fewer reporters in diverse communities writing about different stories.
- What sort of stories might we get if we had reporters from different communities?

Today's session will give us the chance to work as journalists of our own, planning and writing about stories in our community that matter to us. We are going to think about a story we would like to investigate and write about. This can either be something to do with Eastside, school, or our local community. It can be one person's story, or an investigation into something that fascinates you. It doesn't matter – if you think it's newsworthy, then someone else will too.

Your task is to plan and produce a news story, and complete it for homework with page furniture (headline, standfirst, pictures, caption, byline). If you don't know these terms, please look them up.