

# What's happening in the news this week?



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

21st-27th March 2022



**Is there still a place for letters in today's world?**



# Let's look at this week's story



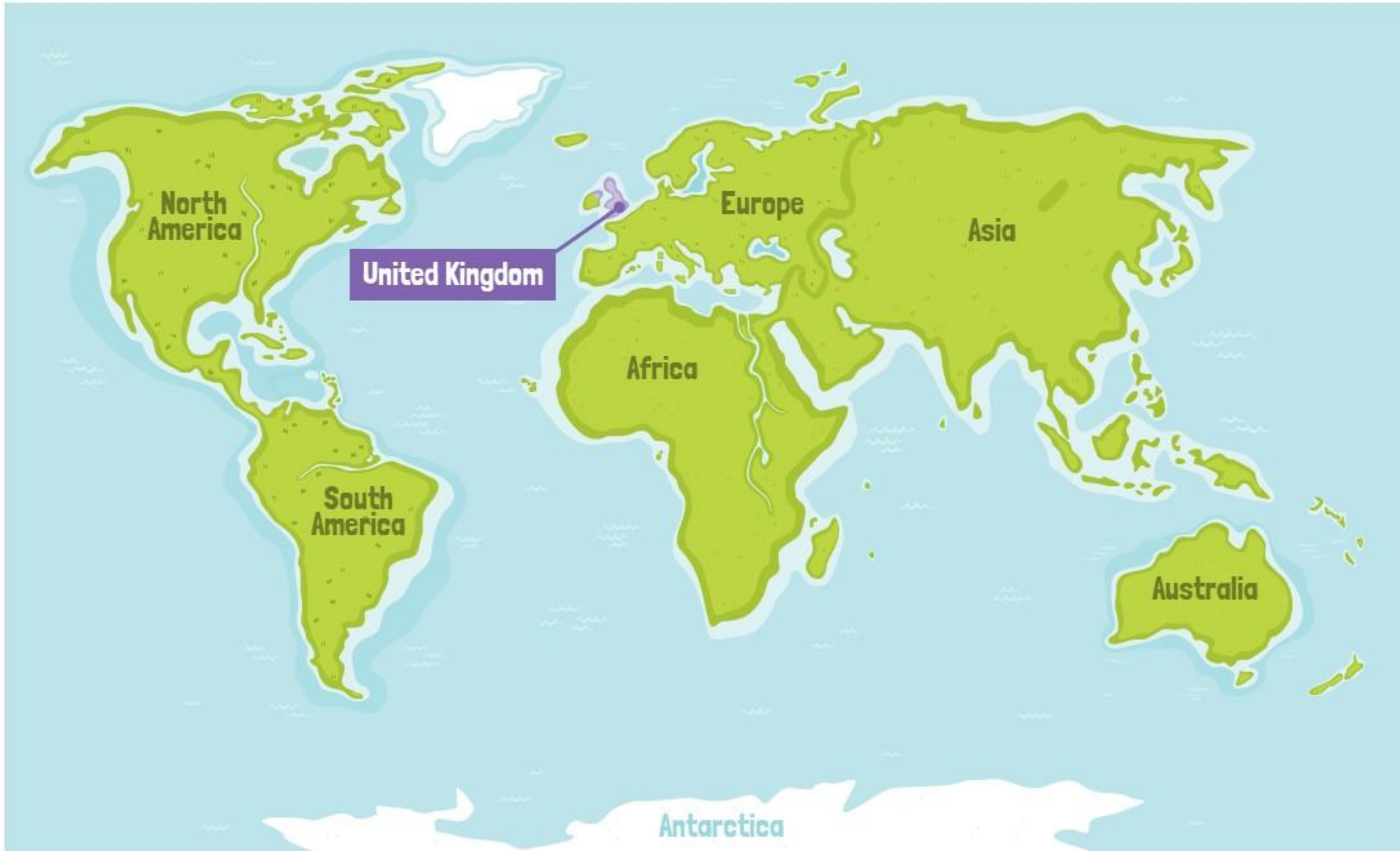
Royal Mail has announced that stamp prices are to go up for both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> class options. The price of a 1<sup>st</sup> class stamp will rise by 10p to 95p on 4<sup>th</sup> April. The cost of a 2<sup>nd</sup> class stamp will increase by 2p to 68p. Royal Mail has explained that prices have had to go up as people are sending fewer letters and its running costs have increased. In a statement it said, "Royal Mail has considered these pricing changes very carefully in light of the long-term structural decline in letter usage".



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



# This week's story looks at events in ...





# How does it make me feel?



<b>sad</b>	<b>angry</b>	<b>happy</b>	<b>confused</b>	<b>excited</b>	<b>worried</b>	<b>shocked</b>	<b>afraid</b>
despondent disconsolate dismal doleful downhearted forlorn gloomy melancholic miserable woeful wretched	aggrieved annoyed discontented disgruntled distressed exasperated frustrated indignant offended outraged resentful vexed	beaming buoyant cheery contented delighted enraptured gleeful glowing joyful	addled baffled bemused bewildered disorientated indistinct muddled mystified perplexed puzzled	animated elevated enlivened enthusiastic exhilarated exuberant thrilled	agitated anxious apprehensive concerned disquieted distraught distressed disturbed fretful perturbed troubled uneasy	astonished astounded disconcerted distressed dumbfounded horrified staggered startled stunned surprised	alarmed apprehensive daunted fearful frantic horrified petrified terrified



## Read through the information found below about Royal Mail and stamps.

### What is Royal Mail?

Royal Mail provides mail collection and delivery services throughout the UK.

Letters and parcels are left in post boxes or are collected from businesses and transported to sorting offices.

Royal Mail owns and maintains the UK's red post boxes, that were first introduced in 1852 and many of which bear the initials of the reigning monarch.

Around 140,000 people currently work for Royal Mail.



**Royal Mail**

### How did it start?

Now over 500 years old, Royal Mail started when King Henry VIII made Sir Brian Tuke the first 'Master of the Posts' in 1516.

Sir Tuke oversaw a system where each town in the country had to have three horses available to transport packets of royal letters and bring back news to the King. This was the beginning of the postal service. It then expanded, opening to the wider public.



**Pictured:**  
A Royal Mail post box.  
There are over 150,000 around the UK!

**Source:** Royal Mail



**Pictured left:**  
Thought to be the world's first ever postage stamp.

From December 1839, letters could arrive at any address in the United Kingdom.

**Source:** Royal Mail

### Think about ...

- When did you last post a card or letter? Who was it to?
- Which would you prefer to receive, a letter or an email? Why?
- Do you think fewer people will post cards and letters as the prices of stamps increase?

**Do you think that stamps are still as important in modern times?**



Resource  
**one**



Look at the resource below, which shares some examples of different letters that we might write.

To tell somebody how much you love and care about them.



To persuade the council to put another set of swings in the playground.



A letter or postcard from holiday to tell someone all about it.

**Can you think of any other times when you might write someone a letter?**

A complaint letter to tell the shop that your new toy arrived damaged.



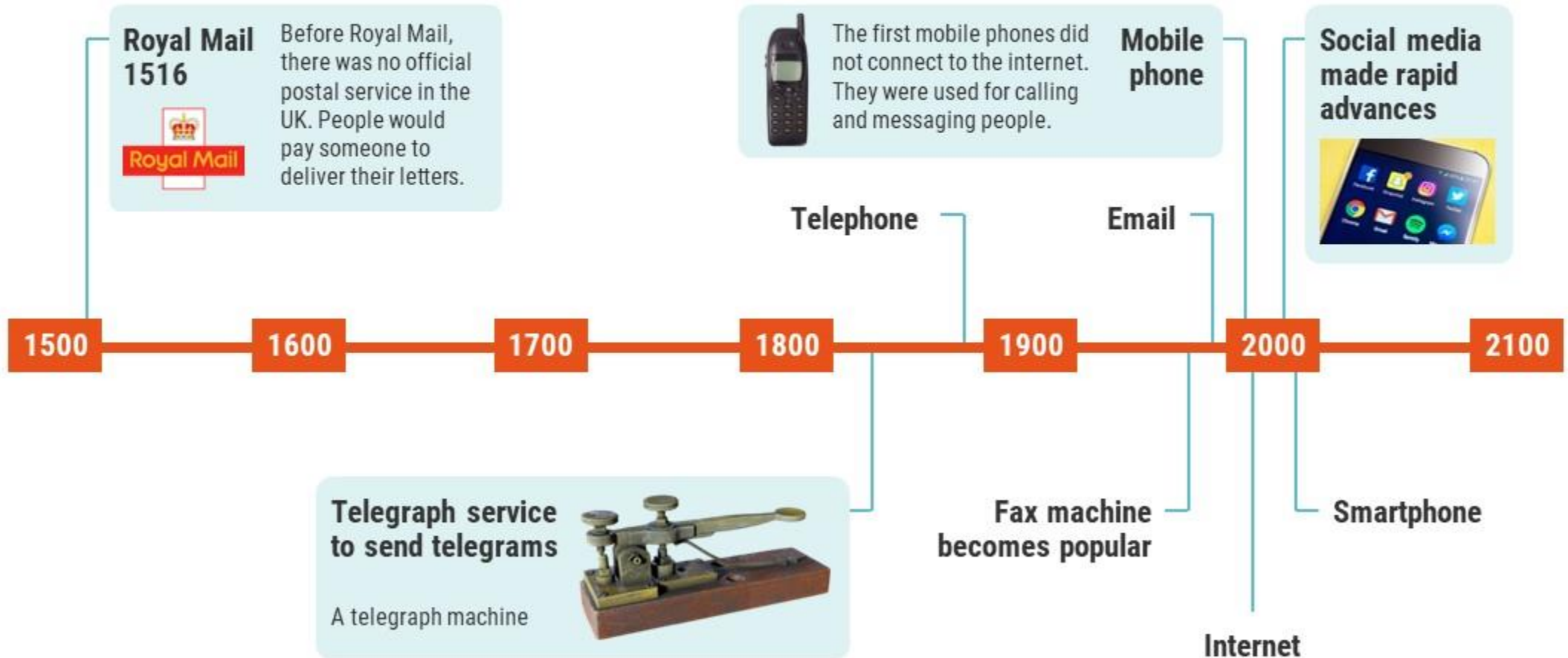
To thank somebody for a gift that they sent.

An invitation to a party.





Look at the resource below, which shares a timeline to show different methods of communication.



Which of these methods have you used before? Are there any you are unfamiliar with?



# Reflection



There are many different ways to communicate with those around us. For some, letters and cards are a special way to reach out to others. With advances in technology, we now also have many other options including e-mail, text and calling.





## Tolerance

We may not always agree when prices increase and items, such as stamps, cost more. We can share how we feel about it but must tolerate and accept that not everyone feels the same.







# UN Rights of a Child



There are many ways we can stay in contact with family members we do not live with all of the time. We can email, message or even write a letter!



# Useful vocabulary



## Advances

**Making progress; developing or improving something.**

With **advances** in technology, we now also have many other options including email, text and calling.

## Campaign

**An organised course of action to achieve a goal.**

Watch this week's useful video, which shows a **campaign** called 'Community Senior Letters'.

## Communicate

**Share or exchange information.**

There are many different ways to **communicate** with those around us.

## Decline

**Become less.**

Royal Mail has considered these pricing changes very carefully in light of the long-term structural **decline** in letter usage.

## Running costs

**The money spent regularly to keep an organisation or system working.**

...people are sending fewer letters and its **running costs** have increased.

## Statement

**Something someone says or writes officially.**

In a **statement** it said...

**Can you use them in your writing this week?**



## Record-breaking cycle attempt

**G**ina Harris is attempting to become the oldest woman to cycle from Lands' End to John O'Groats. The 82-year-old from Birmingham, is preparing to peddle the length of Britain and is raising money for two charities, Women's Aid and Refuge, along the way. She has previously ridden around parts of Europe and the USA

**“ A lot of hard work and practice begins now. ”**

but has called this challenge her last "big one"! She wants to highlight how important physical wellbeing is at any age. Ms Harris said, she was also taking inspiration from those who have completed the challenge before her, Donald Wells, from Hampshire, Laurence Brophy, from south Wales, and Mavis Paterson, from Dumfries and Galloway who were 87, 88 and 81 years old respectively



**Pictured:** Gina Harris  
**Source:** Gina Harris @CyclingGina Twitter page.

when they cycled the 960-miles. She also commented, "I will be riding my old steel touring bike and carrying my luggage, which has a combined weight of more than 30kg, so a lot of hard work and practice begins now."

## UK supermarkets to provide refill stations

UK supermarkets have joined forces to tackle single-use plastic packaging, by forming the Refill Coalition. Major supermarkets, including Morrisons, Marks & Spencer, Waitrose and Ocado along with supply chain solutions company CHEP, are aiming to provide refillable groceries to every UK shopper. They have all signed up to the Refill Coalition, which is planning to make package-free shopping mainstream and therefore reduce the 56.5 billion units of single-use plastic packaging sold every year in the UK. The Refill Coalition said that it would reimagine how the foods that lots of people buy, such as pasta and grains, and household products are supplied. They added, "We're delighted to be joining forces with the mutual objective of reducing single-use plastic packaging. The universal end-to-end solution being developed by The Refill Coalition presents a landmark opportunity for us to make a step change in the commercialisation of refills which we know can play a significant role in the reduction of single-use plastic packaging."



**Pictured:** An Unpackaged refill station at Flourish at Glenavon Farm, where you can stock up on rice, pulses, pasta, nuts, seeds, dried fruit, sweets, coffee beans and more.  
**Source:** Flourish at Glenavon Farm @FlourishGlen Twitter page



# Martian 'flower'

NASA has shared an image captured by its Mars Curiosity rover last month. NASA suggested that we all "Stop and smell the Martian 'flower' 🌸," as the image shows a flower-like rock! NASA explained that the 'flower,' along with the spherical rocks seen to the right, were made in Mars' ancient past, when minerals carried by water cemented the rock. The image was taken on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the 3,396<sup>th</sup> Martian day, or sol, of the mission.

Scientists say that this rock (sized smaller than a penny) and other discoveries that are being captured using the rover's Mars Hand Lens Imager (MAHLI) camera on the end of its robotic arm, are giving them a greater understanding of the history of the Red Planet. Curiosity, which was built by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California, is a car-sized rover designed to explore the Gale crater on Mars and record its findings.



**Pictured:** The image of a flower-like rock captured by the Mars Rover. **Source:** NASA @NASA Twitter page.

Last week's topic:

## How might your life be different if you weren't able to go to school?



You wouldn't know as much as you know today. You wouldn't be able to get a good job and degree like a doctor, lawyer or engineer. With school you could make your own business using that knowledge. Rancia - age 11

I think that our lives would be so different because we wouldn't have the same opportunities to learn and make friends. Alfie - age 9

I think that even if people do not have enough money, governments should make sure that everyone can go to school and have an education so that they can follow their dreams for their future. Lucy - age 10

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

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# TAKEHOME



## Is there still a place for letters in today's world?



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In a statement it said, "Royal Mail has considered these pricing changes very carefully in light of the long-term structural decline in letter usage".

### Things to talk about at home ...

- When was the last time you received a letter or card in the post? Who was it from and how did you feel receiving it?
- Do you often send cards or letters to others? Explain your answer.
- Why do you think fewer people have been sending cards and letters?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

