

**What's happening
in the news this week?**



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

24th - 30th April 2023



How do you learn best?

Robert Timothy/BBC



Let's look at this week's story

An educational television programme for young people in Afghanistan has been launched by the BBC. The TV show has been created to help children, who have been banned from going to school in the country, and is aimed at children aged 11 to 16. The Taliban group, who took over the country in 2021, have stopped girls over the age of 11 from attending school. The weekly programme is called Dars, which means 'lesson' in Afghanistan's official languages.

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



How does it make me feel?



sad	angry	happy	confused	excited	worried	shocked	afraid
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

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read the information below about the new Dars TV programme.

What is the new Dars TV programme?

Each episode of the BBC programme will be 30 minutes long and will be shown four times each day on TV, radio and Facebook. The show is aimed at children aged between 11 and 16 and will use the BBC's existing teaching content such as elements of maths, history, science, and Information and Communications Technology from BBC Bitesize. The team also wanted to make the programme feel like home. Afghans are fond of chess, and you often find a chess set in most family homes, so a chess board has been added to the studio.



Sometimes I put myself in their shoes, and I think that if I was in the country and I was a teenage girl who cannot go to school, what should I do? I would be very happy if someone helped me and taught me something.

Aalia Farzan, one of the new presenters of Dars.

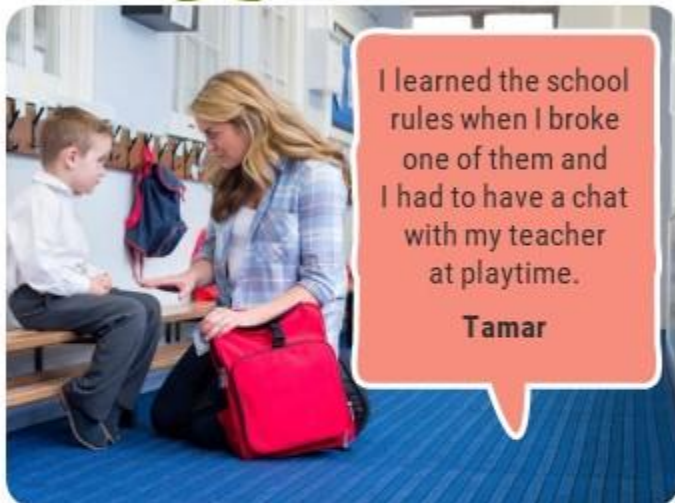


The presenters of Dars: Sahar Rahimi, Shazia Haya, Aalia Farzan, Malaika Ahmadzai.
Source: Robert Timothy/BBC

Do you believe it is a good idea? Who do you think will benefit from it?



Look at the resource below, where some children share their experience of learning.



I learned the school rules when I broke one of them and I had to have a chat with my teacher at playtime.

Tamar



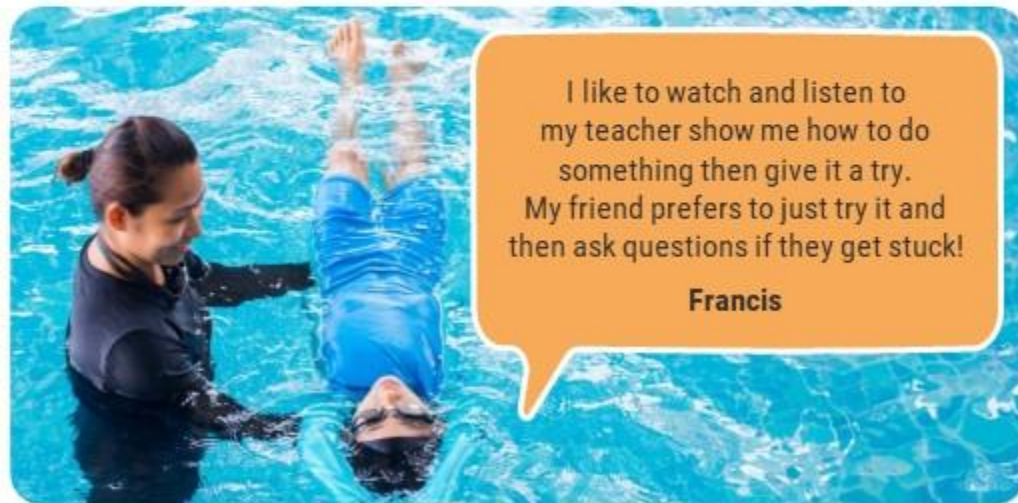
I find repeating something that I am trying to learn every day for a few weeks helps me.

Akshara



Playing games helps me learn my times tables.

Megan



I like to watch and listen to my teacher show me how to do something then give it a try. My friend prefers to just try it and then ask questions if they get stuck!

Francis



When I am learning about an animal in science, I like to copy down information about it so I remember it.

George

Can you think of any other ways we learn? Do you know how you prefer to learn?



Look at the resource below, where some children share information about their school.

Texas, USA

"We don't wear a uniform to school. I arrive on the school bus at 8.30am. We usually begin our school day with math, writing and reading. We have a morning, afternoon and lunch break. My school day ends at 3.30pm. Our school year begins mid-August and we break for summer at the end of May."

Alyssa



Guangdong, China

"I arrive at school at 7am in my school uniform and spend some time reading and doing homework. My lessons start at 8.30am. Each one lasts for about 40 minutes and we learn subjects like Mandarin, Maths, Literature, English and Moral Education. We break for lunch at 11.30am and return to lessons at 1.30pm. The school day finishes at 5pm".

Zhang

Kenya, East Africa

"Our school year begins in January and ends late October/early November. My parents drop me off at school in our car at 7.30am. We begin our lessons, which include learning English, Swahili, Life Skills, Mathematics, Sports and Physical Education, Science, Agriculture. We have a morning break and a lunch break. School finishes at 4pm. I wear a uniform to school."

Daniel



Elementary (primary school) students getting on a school bus in Texas, USA.



Aerial view of modern Chinese School, in Shanghai, China.

How do each of these children's schools compare with yours?



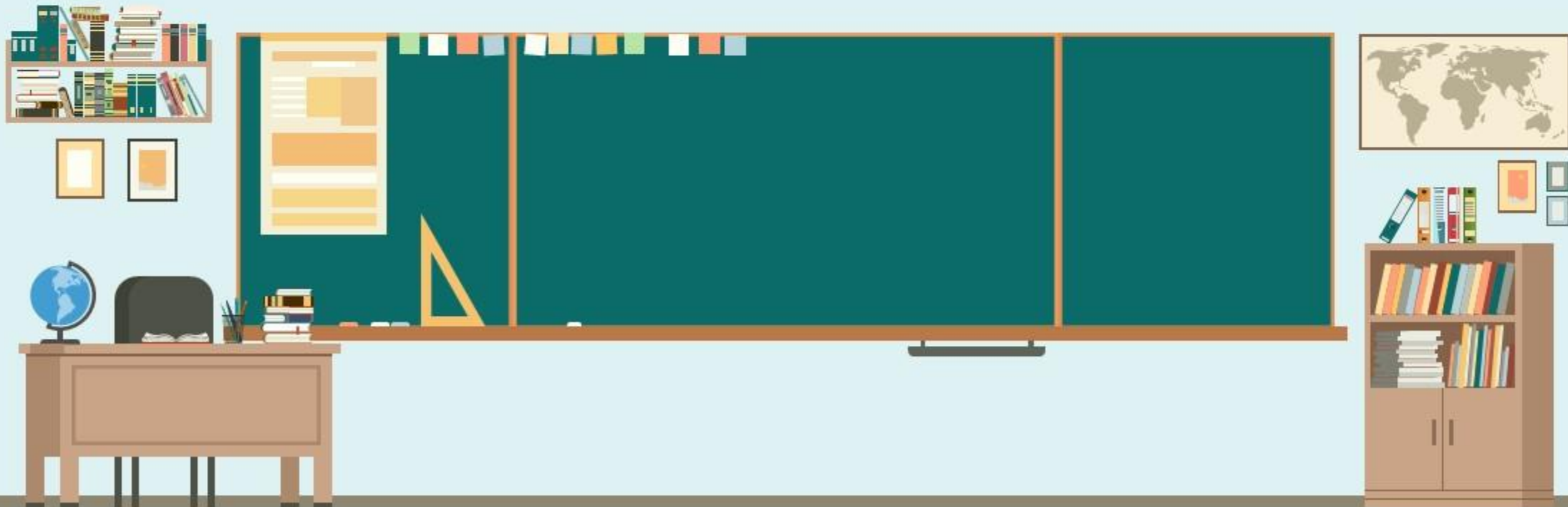
How do you learn best?

Robert Timothy/BBC

Reflection



Receiving an education is something that should not be taken for granted. Having access to school, books and other opportunities to learn is a privilege.





Rule of Law

Different countries have different rules and laws about school and education. In the UK, all children must be provided with an education from age 5 to 18.

Protected Characteristics



In Afghanistan, girls over 11 years of age are not allowed to attend school. Being a boy or a girl should never stop us from doing something or cause us to be treated unfairly.



Sex



Sexual Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender Reassignment



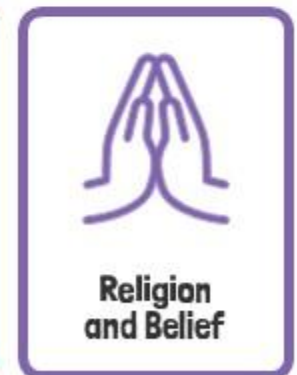
Marriage and Civil Partnership



Pregnancy and Maternity



Race



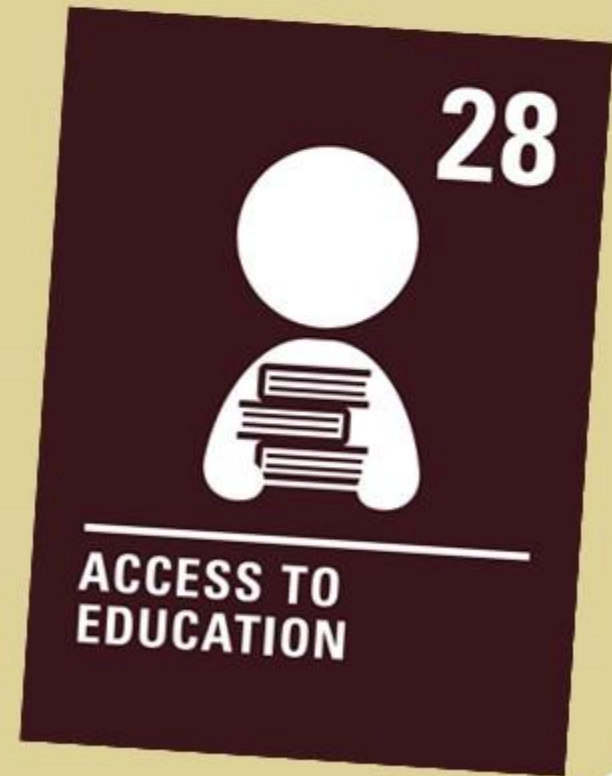
Religion and Belief



UN Rights of a Child



We all have the right to an education. Primary education should be free. Secondary and higher education should be available to every child. We should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level possible.



Useful vocabulary



Banned

Officially or legally prohibited (forbidden).

The TV show has been created to help children, who have been **banned** from going to school in the country, and is aimed at children aged 11 to 16.

Launched

Started or set in motion.

An educational television programme for young people in Afghanistan has been **launched** by the BBC.

Privilege

A special right or advantage.

Having access to school, books and other opportunities to learn is a **privilege**.

Official

Approved by the government or by someone in authority.

The weekly programme is called Dars, which means lesson in Afghanistan's **official** languages.

Reliant

Needing a particular thing or person to continue, work correctly or succeed.

Can you think of any times when you have been unable to learn at school and have been **reliant** on other methods?

Taken for granted

Fail to properly appreciate something.

Receiving an education is something that should not be **taken for granted**.

Can you use them in your writing this week?



How do you learn best?

An educational television programme for young people in Afghanistan has been launched by the BBC. The TV show has been created to help children, who have been banned from going to school in the country, and is aimed at children aged 11 to 16. The Taliban group, who took over the country in 2021, have stopped girls over the age of 11 from attending school. The weekly programme is called Dars, which means 'lesson' in Afghanistan's official languages.



- Look at this week's poster image. Share what you think this week's story could be about.
- Read the information found on the assembly resource about the new Dars TV programme. Do you think it is a good idea? Who do you think will benefit most from it?
- Watch this week's useful video, which explains more about the new programme to support young people, particularly girls, in Afghanistan. How do you feel you would find learning from TV programmes?
- What types of learning do you enjoy most? E.g., through playing, reading, or listening?
- Can you come up with any times when you have been unable to learn at school and have been reliant on other methods e.g., during the coronavirus pandemic with home learning, or when you have been unable to attend school for a long period for another reason? How did you continue learning?
- Describe your experience of school. What is your favourite part of the school day? Which lessons do you enjoy most and why?
- What do you think you would find hardest about not being able to go to school?

Reflection

Receiving an education is something that should not be taken for granted. Having access to school, books and other opportunities to learn is a privilege.



KS1 focus

What are some of the different ways we can learn?



- Write 'learn' on the board? What does it mean? Can you share something you might learn today? Did you learn anything yesterday?
- Learning is gaining knowledge of or understanding something. We come to school to learn. Make a list of some of the things you have learned at school e.g., to read, mix colours, throw and catch, share with others.
- For each thing on the list, share how you learned to do it. There are many different ways we can learn to do something. Sometimes we may not even recognise how we learned to do it!
- Look at resource 1, where some people share their experience of learning something. Can you think of any other ways we learn? Do you know how you prefer to learn?
- Focus on Francis' comment. Do you think you are more like Francis or his friend? What does everyone else think? Do you all agree?
- Tamar learned about the school rules when she made a mistake. Have you ever made a mistake? Did you learn from it? Do you think making mistakes is part of learning?
- Discuss what helps you learn at school e.g., equipment and resources, your teacher, your friends, computers. What do you enjoy learning the most? Is there anything you do not enjoy as much? What do you enjoy learning when you are not at school?

Reflection

Exploring different ways to learn can help us find what suits us most. We are all different so our learning journeys will be different too!



KS2 focus

How do schools vary around the world?



- Think about a typical school day. What time does your day begin/end? What subjects do you learn? When do you have breaks/lunch? Who teaches you?
- A school is a place we go to be educated; to learn. There are many schools all around the world. Have you ever attended or visited a different school? Was it similar to or different from the one you attend now?
- Look at resource 2, where some children share information about their school. How do each of these children's schools compare with yours?
- Every school is different but some countries have rules and laws, which state who has to attend school, how long you must spend in school and what you must learn whilst at school. In the UK, compulsory school starting age is 5 years old. At this age, it is law to either attend school or be provided an alternative suitable education such as home education.
- Discuss how this may vary in other parts of the world. Were you aware that not every child in the world is able to attend school?
- UNICEF states, 'Around the world, children are deprived of education and learning for various reasons. Poverty remains one of the most obstinate barriers. Children living through economic fragility, political instability, conflict or natural disaster are more likely to be cut off from schooling – as are those with disabilities, or from ethnic minorities. In some countries, education opportunities for girls remain severely limited.' How does this make you feel?

Reflection

There are millions of schools worldwide. Each is there to provide an education for its pupils, which varies from school to school and country to country. We all have the opportunity to receive an education, which is not true for every child in the world.



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Write a letter to another school somewhere in the world! When planning your letter, think about:

- Why are you writing?
What are you hoping to find out?
- What is a typical day at school like for you?
What time does it start/finish?
What lessons do you take part in?
- What is your favourite subject?
- How many breaks/playtimes do you have?
What do you do during them?
- What do you eat at lunchtime?
- What is your classroom like?
What resources/equipment do you have?

Send your letter. You may even receive a response!

Option 2

Schools and education has changed throughout time and continues to do so. New curriculums have been introduced and different standards and expectations set. Use this opportunity to interview an adult about their experience at school. Record a set of questions you could ask, including which decade(s) they attended school.

- What is similar about their experience of school to yours?
- What is different?
- Is there anything you can learn from your adult's experience of school?

Share your interview with others in your class and make further comparisons.



KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Make a list of all the subjects/lessons you learn at school e.g., art, science, history, maths. From the subjects listed, choose your favourite. Create a tally chart to record the favourite subject of everyone in your class. Once you have collected all the data, answer the following:

- Which subject is least/most popular?
- How many people like maths best?
- How many more/less people like art compared with PE?
- Can you order the subjects from most popular to least popular?

Challenge – collect the data from another class and compare it. Is the most popular subject the same?

Option 2

Think about a hobby or a skill you have that perhaps not many people in your class know about e.g., an instrument you play, drawings you have created, magic tricks or another hobby you have out of school. As a group, share your skill/hobby and listen/watch whilst others share theirs.

- What have you learned about someone else?
- Is there anything that has surprised you?
- Is there anything you can learn from someone else?
- Can you teach someone in your class more about your hobby/skill or even show them how to do it?
- Do you think learning about each other is important? Why?



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-65130305

This week's useful video

BBC's new programme for young people in Afghanistan, 'Dars' www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/av/65153395

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

This week's vocabulary

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Picturesque Potholes

Andy Conroy, a window cleaner from Brightlingsea in Essex, has come up with an interesting and eye-catching way to bring his town's pothole problems to the local authority's attention. He has started to use children's toys and other props that he sources from local charity shops to take amusing photos of potholes he notices around the small coastal town. The fun pictures are posted on The Hole Picture Facebook page, which describes itself as 'Light hearted reporting on Brightlingsea's Pot Holes and Road Repairs'. Andy says that he hopes his photos will catch the attention of Essex Highways managers and this will lead to the potholes being filled in and the quality of the roads



Pictured: 'Pauper's Pothole' Source: Brightlingsea - The Hole Picture Facebook page.

improved. Discussing how the project started, Andy said, 'Roland Worrall, a trustee at the community centre then posted a photo on Facebook of plastic ducks in a pothole with a caption saying it was lovely to see a young family enjoying the new water feature, and that got the creative juices flowing. We set up a Facebook page and people started liking it. It probably won't get the highways bosses to do anything sooner, but it's been noticed and our county councillor has been in touch. We've got plenty of potholes in Brightlingsea and we're just having a good laugh about it.'

Do you think making people laugh is a good way to catch their attention?



Pictured: 'The Loch Ness Monster on his holidays to the Essex coast' Source: Brightlingsea - The Hole Picture Facebook page.

Ancient stone scoreboard discovered

Archaeologists in Mexico have announced that they have discovered, what they believe to be, an ancient scoreboard for a ball game played by the Maya hundreds of years ago. The 40kg intricately carved stone scoreboard for ancient ball game – pelota, was discovered at the Chichén Itzá site in Yucatán State, Mexico. Chichén Itzá's Twitter page says it means 'at the mouth of the Well of Itzá', is the most visited archaeological site in Mexico,

a magnificent example of the advanced civilization of the Mayan people and the ceremonial centre of the Yucatán. The stone unearthed at the site, which is one of the new Seven Wonders of the World, shows two pelota players with a ball, one wearing a feather headdress and their opponent, who has snakes slithering around their head, wearing typical protective gear for the game. On the stone disc, which is thought to be at least 1,200 years old, the sportspeople are encircled by hieroglyphic writing. 'It is rare to find hieroglyphic writing at this Maya site, and even rarer to find a complete text. This hasn't happened in 11 years', explained archaeologist Francisco Pérez Ruiz, who co-coordinated the dig.



Pictured: Chichen Itza. Source: @ChichenItzaMx Twitter page.

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



Rare oysters return



Pictured: A scientist diving in Loch Ryan.
Source: Centre for Marine Biodiversity and Biotechnology, Heriot-Watt University Twitter page.

Four million rare oysters are being reintroduced to a protected area of the Dornoch Firth in the Scottish Highlands. Researchers say the Dornoch Environmental Enhancement Project (DEEP) will enhance marine biodiversity and improve water quality. European native oysters, also known as the European flat oyster, almost became extinct in the UK with the population reducing to only 5% of what it was in the mid-19th century, likely due to overfishing. The small (5–11cm) molluscs can have such a big impact on their local environment and other wildlife species, that they are referred to as 'ecosystems engineers'. They can improve water quality as one oyster can filter around 200 litres of seawater daily,

removing excess nutrients, phytoplankton and organic matter. The oysters also create reef systems by collecting together in large numbers. This provides a habitat for a range of creatures, including sponges, spiny seahorse and critically endangered European eels. These reefs also create a safe nursery ground for some fish species, including seabass. Professor Bill Sanderson, from Heriot-Watt University, who is involved in the project along with the Marine Conservation Society and Glenmorangie Distillery (who provided the funding), said, 'DEEP has allowed us to demonstrate the many benefits of restoration of long-lost reefs, and carbon storage is yet another exciting outcome of the research for the project.'

Last week's topic:

How do communities support each other in difficult times?

Communities all share the same interest or ideas. Communities help each other in times of need and give each other strength.

Noah



They volunteer to help each other out by doing whatever they can to help. They don't expect anything in return. They do it because they are kind.

Gala

By pulling together and making a plan.

John

Asking each other when they need help, often people find things hard at different times.

Ellie

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

 www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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TAKEHOME



In the news this week

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Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your thoughts on the new TV programme for young people in Afghanistan.
- Thinking about how you learn, what is your preferred way, e.g., by listening, writing, doing?
- In what ways would your life be different without school?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

How do you learn best?



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