

 theday.co.uk/king-has-cancer-whole-world-says-get-well-4



Cheering Charles: According to a recent poll, 60% of Britons think he is doing a good job.

Is the British monarchy a force for good? World leaders have sent messages of goodwill to King Charles after he shared news of his illness.

What's happening?

The news was all over every front page. “Get well soon, Sir. Your country needs you,” read one headline.

On Monday evening, **Buckingham Palace** announced that King Charles III has **cancer**.

Find out more

Charles, who is 75, has been king for less than two years. Doctors spotted signs of cancer in January when he had an operation.

The king decided to share the news with the world to help people understand “all those around the world who are affected by cancer”. There are lots of different types of cancer, but Charles has not said which one he is affected by.

His treatment has already begun. The king is at home. He has stopped going to public events, but he will still meet the **prime minister** every week.

He has been sent messages of support from leaders around the world, including Joe Biden, the **president** of the USA. Even the leader of **Barbados**, which cut ties with the royal family three years ago, sent her support.

Some say it is hard to think of another leader who is supported by so many around the world.

Is the British monarchy a force for good?

Some say

Yes! Prime ministers may change very quickly, but the monarchy provides stability by staying the same. Charles's announcement has brought Britain together, and he has set a good example for others by speaking openly.

Others think

No! A lot of money is spent on the monarchy, but it could be better spent on other things. And it is not fair that the British people cannot choose who their king or queen is.

Some people say

"The wise man should consider that health is the greatest of human blessings."

**Hippocrates (c460 BC – c370 BC),
Greek doctor**

What do you think?

Six steps to discovery

1. Connect

How do you feel about this story? - Would you like to meet King Charles?

2. Wonder

What questions do you have? - For example: How many other countries have a king or queen?

3. Investigate

What are the facts? - Pick out one thing we know for certain and one thing we cannot say for sure from this story.

4. Construct

What is your point of view? - You are asked to protest against the royal family. Think about what you would say.

5. Express

What do others believe? - What are the good and bad things about being a king? Take it in turns to say.

6. Reflect

What might happen next? - Imagine you are invited to tea with King Charles. Make a get-well card to give him.

Glossary

Buckingham Palace - The home of Britain's king or queen.

Cancer - A disease in which some of the body's cells grow in an uncontrollable way. There are lots of different types of cancer.

Prime minister - A prime minister is the head of government in a country with a parliamentary system.

President - In some countries, the leader is called the president.

Barbados - An island nation in the Caribbean. Most of its inhabitants are the descendants of slaves who were traded under British rule.