



Chapel Street Community Primary School

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Headteacher

Mrs Ella Hughes

Wednesday 2nd March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are aware that there is currently a high level of reporting about Russia's invasion of Ukraine. As this is distressing and concerning, we understand children and young people may have questions or be seeking reassurance. We know school is well placed to talk to pupils about the images they are seeing and help them understand the concepts and issues this brings up.

We are aware that there are many ongoing (and previous) conflicts and wars globally and that some of our pupils and families have had first-hand experience of these.

We think it is important to provide our children with the skills they need to manage difficult feelings and understand what is happening in the world. This half term we will be delivering PSHE lessons on war and conflict for the children in Years 1-6 as part of our PSHE curriculum. We will use age appropriate materials (story books and video clips) to support learning.

It is possible your child will come home and ask you questions about this topic. Things to consider when discussing war and conflict with your child:

- Make sure you are feeling calm and use reassuring language, so as not to add to your child's anxiety
- Check what your child already knows/believes about what is happening
- Ask how it makes them feel and actively listen to any concerns they may have
- Be factual and clear up any misunderstandings
- Provide context and reassurance – e.g. this is not happening where we live and there are lots of people that are trying to help
- Make sure you monitor any adult conversations or news stories that children may listen to/watch
- Use age appropriate language to explain what is going on and don't discuss it any further if children seem uninterested
- Encourage compassion and kindness

You may find it helpful to look at the information and resources below.

[Home - CBBC Newsround](#)

[How to talk to children about Russia invading Ukraine in an honest but reassuring way \(inews.co.uk\)](#)

[How to talk to children about what's happening in Ukraine | Metro News](#)

[Talking to Your Kids About War \(verywellfamily.com\)](#)

[UKRAINE: 5 ways to talk to children about conflict | Charity Today News](#)

[talking-to-children-about-war.pdf \(nctsn.org\)](#)

Please speak to your child's class teacher if you feel your child or family needs any additional support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Pilling

