

Stanhope Barrington C of E
Primary School



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Dear Parent/Carer

2nd March 2022

Re: Ukraine

I am writing to let you know how our school is responding to and dealing with the current situation regarding Ukraine and Russia. On Monday 28th February 2022, I delivered a whole school collective worship during which we acknowledged what is happening and acknowledged that some of our children may have concerns, worries or questions and that this is ok and totally normal.

We have advised all of our children that if they have any concerns, worries or questions, that they should talk to a trusted adult whether that be a parent or relative or an adult in school. We will respond to any questions in an open and honest way but also in a child sensitive and age appropriate way.

In our weekly Team Meeting tonight (2nd March) I will be issuing guidance to all members of staff about 'political impartiality in schools' which has been written by the DfE (Department for Education).

Our older children in Key Stage Two have shown us already this week that they have heard and seen information which is giving them concerns. Whilst I am sure that parents/carers are being mindful of what their children are seeing and hearing, they are picking up information from each other and from social media.

As such, our older children have been shown the CBBC Newsround Q&A resource and we would recommend that this is a validated resource which could be used by parents/carers at home.

In Collective Worship and assemblies, we are talking to our children about how they can be peacemakers (at home, at school and in wider society); we are sharing our thoughts and prayers for those involved in the conflict and the children have been given the opportunity to write down their thoughts, ideas, feelings and concerns on a 'Dove of Peace' which will then be hung on our Tree of Fellowship.

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Staff are reporting to me that they are having some deeply thought-provoking and meaningful discussions with children about the situation in Ukraine and we have all been hugely impressed by the kindness, empathy and compassion shown by our whole Stanhope Barrington family during this time.

If you would like any further information or have any questions or concerns yourself, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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