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Friday 11th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers of BJS

As we all know the tragedy in Ukraine is dominating the news just now and rightly so. I know that a lot of you are responding to the situation in a variety of ways. This is a brief update from the school:

- (i) We have been talking about the Ukraine crisis in assemblies. This is a focus on refugees and how people are helping as opposed to discussion about the war and geopolitics. Individual classes are discussing issues raised by children in an age appropriate way.
- (ii) The following link from Save The Children provides some guidance around talking to children about conflict: <u>Ukraine: 5 ways to talk to children about conflict (savethechildren.org.uk)</u>
- (iii) We have a blue/yellow Ukraine mufti planned for Friday 18th March. This is being organised by our Holloway House captains, and an email went home to you yesterday.
- (iv) The school are talking with various people about how we can support their efforts towards helping with the humanitarian crisis. Always happy to hear about more. Info to follow.
- (v) One of our Year 6 girls (Isabella) is organising a cake sale after school on Monday 14th March.
- (vi) On this Saturday there is a cross-community, cross all political groups and parties, united community short vigil/rally as a united show of local support for Ukraine. Simon Taylor, Rector at Busbridge church, is co-leading, including offering a time of reflection and/or prayer. All are welcome: it might be something many wish to attend as I am sure everyone has been affected by what they have seen. The gathering is at the town bandstand at midday on Saturday 12th March. The Rotary Club will be taking financial donations.

It is possible to feel overwhelmed by what is going on, but even a small contribution of help will make a difference. It will also help to show children that even in a dark situation we can do our bit, however small it may seem.

Kinds regards

Richard Catchpole Headteacher









