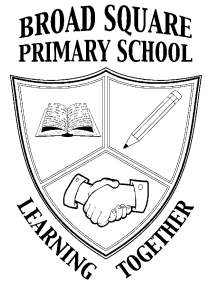




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Tuesday 1st March 2022

How to talk to children about the news

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many children have asked our staff questions about the situation in Ukraine and we know that they will be doing the same at home. It can be difficult to know how to explain and discuss news that might worry children and we wanted to share some information that might help.

The Department for Education have created a post here:

https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/02/25/help-for-teachers-and-families-to-talk-to-pupils-about-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-and-how-to-help-them-avoid-misinformation/?utm_source=1%20March%202022%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

This link will take you to a blog from the Government, helping you to consider how to avoid misinformation and conspiracy theories, and find facts that can be the start of a wider discussion.

First News, a newspaper for children suggests the following:

1 Don't try to turn off the news when there is bad news. Sadly, in the technological world in which we live, adults are no longer in control of how children access information. News comes at us 24 hours a day from dedicated news channels, radio, the internet, and newspaper headlines. Even if you manage to shield your children from all of that, things that happen in the news will be talked about in the school playground or lunch hall. Better that your child is armed with the real facts than hearing exaggerated, second or third-hand versions. Information is better than misinformation.

2 Even if your child doesn't mention bad news, don't assume they are not troubled by it. They may be worrying quietly inside. Explain simply what has happened, taking care not to use sensationalised words that tend to be used by the national press.



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We will reassure them that they are safe in school and you can do the same at home. We will be using resources such as Newsround to help answer children's questions. This is easily accessible to everyone through <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>

As parents, we can all hold our children tighter and focus on the good things that are happening in our lives and the things that we are grateful for as well as discussing things that are concerning.

Newsround has lots of 'Good News' stories to explore together too, showing children that there is good news as well.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or contact the school office.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Corbett





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